



NEBRASKA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

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N E W S R E L E A S E

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NHC adds 14 new programs to resource center

The Nebraska Humanities Council has added 14 programs to the Humanities Resource Center since publication of its catalog in 2009. These additions address a number of important historical and contemporary issues, some quite seriously and some with a bit of fun.

Author **Jeff Barnes** presents “To Live and Die on the Plains,” a look at how early settlers met their end on the Platte River Road. Barnes uses rarely seen historic maps, paintings, photographs and other images to tell tales of tragedy from the days of the pioneers.

Living history re-enactor **Darrel Draper** appears as “Theodore Roosevelt: Rough Rider President,” portraying the 26th president of the United States and his life after the presidency.

Charlotte Endorf, an independent scholar and author, dispels myth to reveal the truth in “The Life and Legacy of Annie Oakley.”

Moshe Gershovich, professor of history at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, offers “Confronting Genocide: What Can We Learn from the Past?” “Land of the Extreme West: Deciphering Morocco” and “Israel and Palestine: Making Sense of a Never-Ending Conflict.”

Nancy Gillis, director of the John G. Neihardt Historic Site, examines why and how the two decades before and after the American Civil War brought tremendous changes in the foods, clothing, housing, family structure, gender roles, land control and political relationships of the Plains tribes, with “The Plains Tribes and the Homestead Act.”

Independent scholar **Yvonne Hollenbeck** presents a trunk show of about 30 quilts spanning 135 years in “Patchwork of the Prairie.” The stories behind both the quilters and the quilts themselves are shared and accompanied with some of Hollenbeck’s own cowboy/cowgirl poetry.

Independent scholar **Barbara Johnson** discusses how the “Stained Glass Windows of Nebraska” were produced; the role of immigrants in designing, producing, and bringing these works of art to Nebraska; and some of the most interesting meaning and detail in religious, educational, governmental, commercial, and residential settings.

In “Westward to Promontory,” Union Pacific Railroad historian **Don Snoddy** tells the story of the construction of the railroad using the photographs of John Carbutt, William Henry Jackson, and Andrew Jackson Russell. Snoddy also offers “Union Pacific—Advertising for the Masses,” tracing the history of passenger service on the Union Pacific, including advertising for land grant sales, long distance vacations and business travel.

With “The History of Trick Roping and the Wild West Show,” independent scholar **Joan Wells** uses the vanishing folk art of trick roping to bring the color and history of the Old West alive.

Spoken word artists **The Wordsmiths** present “The Journey of Spoken Word,” that part of the African oral tradition by which familial stories, history, traditions, morals and values, hopes and dreams, pain and tragedy are relayed through cleverly woven poems and stories. In that tradition, The Wordsmiths also offer “A Tribute to MLK.”

Speakers Bureau programs are available to any Nebraska non-profit organization for a small processing fee. For details about programs or to book a speaker, visit www.nebraskahumanities.org and click on Speakers & Resources or call NHC at (402) 474-2131.