2020 MARK O. HATFIELD

Lecture Series

Erika Lee  September 8, 2020
Henry Louis Gates, Jr.  October 27, 2020
Evan Thomas  January 12, 2021
Joanne B. Freeman  March 16, 2021

Sandra Day O'Connor, on the cover of First
As a student of history, I’ve always enjoyed looking back at the past, but, truth be told, I have never been more focused on the future than I am today.

I wish that the future without coronavirus would get here now. NOW!

I wish that we could all be together at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall for the Hatfield Lecture Series, to listen and learn from fascinating speakers and to enjoy each other’s company.

Until that future arrives, I know the mission of the Oregon Historical Society to preserve our state’s history and make it accessible to all is more important than ever. Teachers and students need our help, and thanks to your generous support, OHS is providing lesson plans to share Oregon’s complex history in virtual classrooms. For learners of all ages, we are providing free public programs that provide historical context and perspectives on the present.

While I can’t stand by you in person, I take heart in the fact that you are standing beside me metaphorically and virtually. I know that, like me, you believe in the importance of coming together to better understand our past so that we can foster a better tomorrow for all Oregonians.

One more wish: I wish I could personally say to each of you, “Thank you. Thank you for supporting the Oregon Historical Society in these historically challenging times.”

To better days ahead,

Kerry Tymchuk
OHS Executive Director
For twenty-two years, the Oregon Historical Society’s Mark O. Hatfield Lecture Series has earned a reputation for hosting America’s most prominent historians, biographers, and public officials. The series began at the suggestion of Senator Hatfield, and continues as a tribute to his legacy of public service and an opportunity to share stories of the people and events that have shaped American history. Past speakers include notable historians David McCullough and Doris Kearns Goodwin, late broadcast journalist Cokie Roberts, and authors Isabel Wilkerson and Jon Meacham.
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Erika Lee
September 8, 2020 • 7pm • Zoom

One of the nation’s leading scholars on immigration and Asian American history, Erika Lee teaches American history at the University of Minnesota, where she is a Regents Professor, the Rudolph J. Vecoli Chair in Immigration History, and the Director of the Immigration History Research Center. She is the author of four notable books, including most recently, *America for Americans: A History of Xenophobia in the United States* and the award-winning *The Making of Asian America: A History*.

Lee also founded and directs the Immigrant Stories Digital Storytelling Project, which works with recent immigrants and refugees to create, preserve, and share their immigration stories through a free multi-lingual web app and publicly accessible archive.

She is also an active public intellectual and is a frequent news commentator and consultant. She is a recipient of the Andrew Carnegie Fellowship (also known as the nation’s “brainy award”) and is the Vice President of the Organization of American Historians.
Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
October 27, 2020 • 5:30pm • Zoom

Henry Louis Gates, Jr., is the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and director of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University. Emmy Award–winning filmmaker, literary scholar, journalist, cultural critic, and institution builder, Professor Gates has authored seventeen books and created fourteen documentary films. Host of the popular show *Finding Your Roots*, Professor Gates is one of the United States’ most influential cultural critics and is both an eloquent commentator and formidable intellectual force on multicultural and African American issues.

In 2019, he released the *New York Times* bestseller *Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow*. This book is a profound new rendering of the struggle by African Americans for equality after the Civil War and the violent counter-revolution that re-subjugated them, as seen through the prism of the war of images and ideas that have left an enduring racist stain on the American mind.

He has received 54 honorary degrees, from institutions including the University of Pennsylvania, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, New York University, and Howard University. In 2006, he was inducted into the Sons of the American Revolution after he traced his lineage back to John Redman, a Free Negro who fought in the Revolutionary War.
Evan Thomas

January 12, 2021 • 7pm
Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall and/or Zoom


For 33 years, Thomas was a writer, correspondent, and editor at _TIME_ and _Newsweek_, including ten years (1986–1996) as Washington bureau chief at _Newsweek_, where he wrote more than one hundred cover stories and at the time of his retirement in 2010 was editor-at-large. He has appeared on many TV and radio talk shows, including _Meet the Press, CBS Morning News, Morning Joe_, and _The Colbert Report_. The author of dozens of book reviews for the _New York Times_ and the _Washington Post_, Thomas has taught writing and journalism at Harvard and Princeton, where, from 2007 to 2014, he was Ferris Professor of Journalism.
Joanne B. Freeman

March 16, 2021 • 7pm
Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall and/or Zoom

Joanne B. Freeman, a professor of history and American studies at Yale University, is a leading expert on early American politics and culture. The author of the award-winning *Affairs of Honor: National Politics in the New Republic* and editor of *Alexander Hamilton: Writings* and *The Essential Hamilton*, readers know Freeman best for her expertise in dirty, nasty politics.

Her most recent book, *The Field of Blood: Violence in Congress and the Road to Civil War*, explores the impact and legacies of physical violence in the U.S. Congress in the decades leading up to the Civil War.

Long committed to public-minded history, she has been a historical advisor for writers, documentary filmmakers, the National Park Service, and a playwright; Lin-Manuel Miranda used her work in writing Broadway’s *Hamilton*. She was also the historical advisor for the immersive exhibit on Hamilton that opened in Chicago in April 2019, produced by the play’s creators.

A co-host of the popular American history podcast *BackStory*, she is a frequent commentator on PBS, NPR, CNN, the BBC, and MSNBC. She has written for the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *Atlantic Magazine*, among other publications. The winner of multiple teaching awards at Yale, her online course, *The American Revolution*, has been viewed by hundreds of thousands of people in homes and classrooms around the world.
Thank You, Members!

Your support as members helps the Oregon Historical Society provide incredible digital history resources to educators, students, and learners of all ages. Bringing these tools to our community is more important than ever as teachers take their classrooms online and navigate distance learning.

Through this global pandemic, the staff at the Oregon Historical Society have come together to add archival footage and photographs to our digital collections, published new entries to The Oregon Encyclopedia, and printed on-time issues of the *Oregon Historical Quarterly* — continuing a 121-year tradition of scholarly analysis and discovery.

Your continued support makes it possible for OHS to provide historical context, knowledge, and perspective about our past, now and into the future. **If you are able to renew your membership as planned or become a member if you are not already, share our content on social media, or make a gift, we would be deeply grateful.**

Not a member? Join today at 503.222.1741 or ohs.org/join.
We are living through a truly historic era — a time when careful study of historical evidence reveals patterns and habits of human behavior that are not solely relegated to the past. This discussion between two nationally renowned historians promises to offer valuable insights, informed by years of scholarly analysis of the past, into the meaning of news stories that fill our screens and newspaper pages. As historians, Dr. Lee and Dr. Nichols rely on archival institutions like OHS to conduct their research, and are graciously giving their time and expertise for free to support this program to sustain OHS’s important work.
Reflection Roundtable

White Supremacy in Oregon History

Presented by Dr. Karen Gibson, Dr. Darrell Millner, and Dr. Carmen Thompson, moderated by Justice Adrienne Nelson

Thursday, October 29, 2020
5:30pm – 6:30pm • Zoom

In the days following each lecture, we invite patron and reserved level ticket holders to be our guests at private, topic-specific virtual roundtable discussions with local historians. Following Henry Louis Gates, Jr.'s, lecture on October 27, please join us for a conversation among three leading scholars. This conversation will bring an Oregon perspective to the topic of white supremacy, which is central to Professor Gates's book, Stony the Road.

If you are a general level ticket holder and would like to upgrade your ticket, please email info@portland5.com. OHS will send a link via email to join the event the morning of the discussion.

Ticket revenue from the Hatfield Lecture Series has a significant impact on our work, and in this moment when COVID-19 has reduced or threatened multiple revenue sources, your support helps OHS continue to meet the new needs of our community. Thank you to our sponsors, series subscribers, and ticket buyers for your loyal support.
The Oregon Historical Society preserves our state’s history and makes it accessible to everyone in ways that advance knowledge and inspire curiosity about all the people, places, and events that have shaped Oregon.