

2021 SUMMER SPEAKER SERIES



American History Told Through Mexican American Eyes

Tuesday, June 8, 6:30pm Presented by Jose Francisco Garcia

Learn the story of how historical events tie Americans in general to the Spanish experience in the Americas. A quick study to help understand the relevance of Cinco de Mayo, Mexican Independence Day, Hispanic Heritage Month, Dia de los Muertos, Dia de los Ninos and other commemorations crossing over to American mainstream culture.



Becoming American: Swedish Pioneers in Nebraska

Tuesday, June 22, 6:30pm Presented by Lauren Riedesel

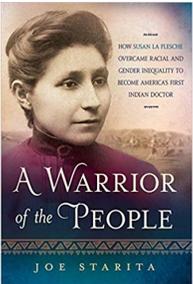
In the latter half of the 19th century, Swedes were among the largest groups that emigrated to Nebraska. They caught “Amerikafeber” and came to claim their “free land,” full of hope and promise. Learn about the Swedish immigrant experience, which shares much in common with Czechs, Germans, and other European ethnic groups immigrating in the 19th century.



Marking Nebraska: Our (mostly) Hidden Historical Monuments

Tuesday, July 6, 6:30pm Presented by Jeff Barnes

Author/photographer Jeff Barnes shares the stories of Nebraska’s lesser known historical monuments, placed far off the beaten path. This is our state’s “hidden history,” with long-forgotten stories and rarely seen landscapes, such as the impact of glaciers on our community monuments, or how Nebraska’s first marker nearly went to the bottom of the Missouri and – once placed at its permanent site – still disappeared for fifty years.



A Warrior of the People

Tuesday, July 20, 6:30pm Presented by Joe Starita

On March 14, 1889, Susan La Flesche received her medical degree—becoming the first Native American doctor in U.S. history. She earned her degree thirty-one years before women could vote and thirty-five years before Indians could become citizens in their own country. Come hear the story of this fragile but indomitable Indian woman who by the age of 26 became the doctor to her tribe.



Women and the Westward Movement

Tuesday, August 10, 6:30pm Presented by Marci Broyhill & Teresa Kay Orr

Sisters, Marci and Teresa give voice to obscure women and their vital, unique roles during the Western Movement. The sisters incorporate original narrative poetry, music, props, and PowerPoint creating an educational and entertaining presentation. The women highlighted include mothers who save their families from financial ruin, a barmaid who becomes a respected member of the community, an outlaw’s wife, and more.



A Century of Suffrage: The History of Women as Voters

Tuesday, August 24, 6:30pm Presented by Dianne Bystrom

Celebrate American women’s right to vote by tracing the milestones of the suffrage movement in the United States and Nebraska, leading to the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920.