

**PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Chagrin Arts kicks off Chautauqua-in-Chagrin™ Series with a focus on understanding racial inequity on June 12**

CHAGRIN FALLS, OHIO – Chagrin Arts kicks off its 2018 *Chautauqua-in-Chagrin™* Lecture Series on Tuesday, June 12 with “Understanding Racial Inequity,” a presentation led by the Racial Equity Institute of Greensboro, North Carolina. The program is presented in partnership with Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools, and will take place from 7:00 – 8:30 PM at the Chagrin Falls United Methodist Church, located at 20 S. Franklin, St., Chagrin Falls, Ohio. Tickets are \$20-\$25 for adults and \$5 for students age 25 and younger. Tickets may be purchased by phone at (440) 247-9700 or online at [ChagrinArts.org](http://ChagrinArts.org)

The focus of this year’s *Chautauqua-in-Chagrin™* Series is “Let’s Talk: Exploring Moral and Ethical Issues Surrounding Race, Medicine, Cybersecurity and Free Speech.” For the June 12 program, Racial Equity Institute organizers will use stories and data to present a perspective that racism is fundamentally structural in nature. By examining characteristics of modern-day racial inequity, the presentation focuses on the nature and impact of systemic racism. The program will conclude with an open Q&A period from the audience.

"The topics of racial equity, acceptance, and social justice are critically important for the development of our future leaders," said Robert Hunt, Chagrin Falls Schools Superintendent. "This is an excellent opportunity to support the ongoing conversations that families are having around these topics."

Additionally, the Chagrin Falls Library will host its Young Explorers Program at the Chagrin Falls Library at 100 E. Orange St., Chagrin Falls, Ohio. The June 12 program focuses on “Recreation,” one of the four pillars of the Chautauqua Movement and is open to children in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The program will begin at 4:00 PM at the library with an afternoon of fun and fitness with Chagrin Falls Yoga. Participants should wear comfortable clothing. The Young Explorers Program is free of charge but registration is required by calling (440) 247-3556.

**Understanding Racial Inequity**

Presented in Partnership with Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools  
Tuesday, June 12  
7:00 PM | Chagrin Falls United Methodist Church – 20 S. Franklin St.

Racial Equity Institute organizers use stories and data to present a perspective that racism is fundamentally structural in nature. By examining characteristics of modern-day racial inequity, the presentation focuses on the nature and impact of systemic racism.

**Speaker:**

The Racial Equity Institute (REI) –Based in Greensboro, NC, REI is a team of trainers, organizers and institutional leaders whose work is devoted to creating racially equitable organizations and systems.

**MORE**

## **ABOUT THE RACIAL EQUITY INSTITUTE**

Established in 2007, The Racial Equity Institute (REI) is an alliance of trainers and organizers that is committed to bringing awareness and analysis to the root causes of disparities and disproportionality in order to create racially equitable systems. Even 50 years after significant civil rights gains, the impact of race continues to shape the outcomes of all institutions. REI trainers and organizers help individuals and organizations develop tools and processes to challenge patterns of institutional power and to grow institutional equity.

REI's work is largely aligned with that of similar anti-racist training programs, with which they collaborate. Their aim is to contribute to a larger movement comprised of many actors formulating actions designed to advance justice and equity. Their approach builds on the work of the larger anti-racist movement and includes refinements and innovations based on our senior trainers' many years of experience in organizing projects, trainings, and consultations across the United States.

REI's approach is designed to help participants understand that racism has institutional, systemic, and cultural manifestations that do not require the intention of individuals. They see institutionalized racism as the root cause of disparate social and economic outcomes and believe that effective interventions must address the social systems themselves. More information about the Racial Equity Institute can be found at [RacialEquityInstitute.org](http://RacialEquityInstitute.org)

## **ABOUT CHAGRIN FALLS SCHOOLS**

Chagrin Falls Schools strives to provide an educational experience that empowers the approximately 1,900 students of the district to maximize their potential. We work in partnership with our parents and community to provide exceptional educational and extracurricular opportunities. Located 20 miles east of Cleveland and founded over 160 years ago, the scenic village of Chagrin Falls is the heart of the Chagrin Falls Exempted Village School District which is comprised of Chagrin Falls, Chagrin Falls Township, South Russell, Bentleyville, and some sections of Russell Township, Bainbridge Township, and Moreland Hills. The district has four schools: Gurney Elementary (PS-3), Intermediate School (4-6), Middle School (7-8), and High School (9-12). The average graduating class size is 158, and 94% of graduates continue to college. There were five National Merit Semi-Finalists and five Commended Students in the Class of 2018. All grade levels have one to one technology with Chromebooks. One of the jewels of the district is the new Innovation Center on the 7-12 campus that offers students a place to research, collaborate, and create.

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## ***Upcoming Programs in the Chagrin Arts 2018 Chautauqua-in-Chagrin™ Lecture Series***

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### **Understanding Racial Inequity**

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**Tuesday, June 12**

7:00 PM | Chagrin Falls United Methodist Church – 20 S. Franklin St.

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Speaker:

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**MORE**

## **Moral and Ethical Issues in Medicine**

**Tuesday, June 19**

6:30 PM | Chagrin Falls United Methodist Church – 20 S. Franklin St.

Moral and ethical issues in healthcare have an impact on both patients and providers. Panelists will respond to questions relating to end-of-life care, use of addictive drugs, defensive medicine and more. The format of this program will be strictly Q&A.

Speakers:

James W. Campbell, MD, MS—Chair, Geriatrics Department and Co-Medical Director of MetroHealth’s Accountable Care Organization; Medical Director of the Jennings Center for Older Adults in Brecksville and Garfield Heights; Professor of Family Medicine at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

Laura Hoeksema, MD, MPH—Associate Medical Director, Cleveland Clinic Hospice; Associate Fellowship Director, Hospice and Palliative Medicine; Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine

Susannah Rose, PhD—Director of Research, Office of Patient Experience, Center for Bioethics, Cleveland Clinic; Assistant Professor, Case Western Reserve University

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## **Cybersecurity**

**Tuesday, July 10**

6:30 PM | Chagrin Falls United Methodist Church – 20 S. Franklin St.

The reality is that if you use a computer, your identity and personal information is at risk. Who are these digital criminals? How do they attack? How can one defend themselves from hackers and digital criminals?

Speaker:

Scott Klososky—International Speaker and Author; Former CEO of three successful startup tech companies and Principal at consulting firm Future Point of View; Author of “Did God Create the Internet?”

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## **Freedom of Speech**

**Tuesday, July 17**

6:30 PM | Chagrin Falls United Methodist Church – 20 S. Franklin St.

In America, the concept of free speech is questioned in print, in conversation, on college campuses, television and social media. How has the interpretation of freedom of speech changed during our lives?

Speaker:

Paul Haridakis—Professor, College of Communication and Information, Kent State University

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## **SERIES SUBSCRIPTION - INCLUDES ENTRY TO LECTURES ON ALL FOUR EVENINGS**

\$72/ General Seating

\$92/ Preferred Seating

**MORE**



**INDIVIDUAL TICKET PRICES – INCLUDES ENTRY TO LECTURE ON ONE EVENING**

\$5/ Students (ages 25 and under)

\$20/ General Seating

\$25/ Preferred Seating

**TO PURCHASE TICKETS**

Tickets for the program may be purchased by phone at (440) 247-9700; or online at [ChagrinArts.org](http://ChagrinArts.org).

**TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For more information about Chagrin Arts, *Chautauqua-in-Chagrin™* or to schedule an interview, call Chagrin Arts at (440) 247-9700.

**ABOUT CHAGRIN ARTS**

Chagrin Arts is a community 501(c)(3) organization whose goal is to enrich life through the presentation of inspiring performances and stimulating conversations. The organization's most visible programs are its *Chautauqua-in-Chagrin™* series and the *Performing Arts Series*.

Chagrin Arts receives support for *Chautauqua-in-Chagrin™* from the Ohio Arts Council, Huntington Bank, Chagrin Valley Times, the Inamori Center for Ethics and Excellence at CWRU, and Electronic Merchant Systems.

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**ATTACHED PHOTOS**

1. RacialInequity\_StockPhoto