



News Release

Contact:

Ann Obenchain

ann.obenchain@chautauqua.com

303.952.1645

New Executive Director Selected

Andrea McGimsey to lead Colorado Chautauqua Association

BOULDER, Colo. (January 19, 2016) – The Colorado Chautauqua Association (CCA) Board of Directors, stewards of the Colorado Chautauqua National Historic Landmark, have announced the selection of Andrea McGimsey (“Un-dráy-uh Mc-Jim-Zee”) of Leesburg, Virginia as the association’s new executive director.

Ms. McGimsey most recently served as executive director of Oatlands Historic House and Gardens, a National Trust Historic Site, overseeing preservation, sustainability, education and fundraising programs. McGimsey also served on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors in northern Virginia. Previously she worked for the Piedmont Environmental Council on smart growth and environmental protection, and she worked at America Online and Dow Jones & Company in interactive media.

Ms. McGimsey is a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and New York University. She is a former professional stage actress and director.

"Andrea’s multi-faceted experience and dedication to preservation, sustainability, community, and education really impressed us during this process," said Susan Osborne, president of the CCA Board of Directors. "We are enthusiastic that her work at CCA will help forward Chautauqua’s legacy and further enhance its status as a community and national jewel."

McGimsey has been a frequent visitor to Boulder and looks forward to joining the community.

"It is an honor to join the strong and dedicated team at the Colorado Chautauqua Association, caring for such a beautiful and historic site. The Colorado Chautauqua is a local and national treasure, and I look forward to fulfilling the new strategic plan which was completed in November."

The selection of McGimsey concludes a 16 week process by the board. McGimsey replaces Susan Connelly who stepped down in November after serving as executive director for 12 years.

###

The Colorado Chautauqua Association is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that preserves, perpetuates and improves the site and spirit of the historic Chautauqua, enhancing its community and values through cultural, educational, social and recreational experiences. The chautauqua experience is based on lifelong learning, love of nature, voluntary simplicity, and music, oration and the arts. Historic significance, traditions, cultural relevance, respite and enrichment are among the community benefits provided by the Colorado Chautauqua. CCA serves as the steward of historic Chautauqua. It leases from the City of Boulder and has full responsibility for preservation and use of 26 acres of

Chautauqua Park, home to many public buildings, gardens and 99 cottages, 58 of which are available for rental through the Association. The Colorado Chautauqua was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006. The Colorado Chautauqua Association is a Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) Tier II organization. For more information about the Colorado Chautauqua and the CCA visit www.chautauqua.com or www.facebook.com/coloradochautauqua.

For access to historic or event photos, or to arrange interviews with executive director Andrea McGimsey, please contact Ann Obenchain at ann.obenchain@chautauqua.com or 303.952.1645.