



Humanities Lecture Series **2010**

The series runs throughout the year on the third Sunday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Blue Rose Theater, Lawler Exhibit Center, except for June, July, and December. Admission is \$3 for Museum members, \$5 for adults, free for children 17 and under. Seating is limited, please call 928/445-3122 to reserve your seats.

January 17 Norm Delucchi, M.B.A., “Five Cent Ride Down Gurley: The Prescott & Mt. Union Railway”

Delucchi takes a look back to 1906, when the Prescott & Mount Union Railway’s (aka Prescott’s streetcar) final extension to Fort Whipple was completed. Construction on Prescott’s one and only streetcar line started in 1903 and the line was all but closed by 1910.

February 21 Tom Collins, Ph.D., with Jody Drake, Education Curator, “Arizona’s Army Belle: Carrie Wilkins and Her Lovelorn Suitors”

Carrie Wilkins (1852-1923), daughter of Lt. Col. John D. Wilkins and his wife Caroline, resided at Fort Whipple between 1874 and 1878, captivating the heart of practically every young unmarried officer she met. Dr. James Cheston Worthington, a suitor whose numerous letters are filled with anecdotes about his tortured relationship with Miss Carrie, brings her vividly to life in his colorful and humorous prose. He also entertainingly describes his rivals—including Capt. Charles Porter and Lt. Henry Kingsbury—and General August V. Kautz’s wife Fannie, who reigned over Fort Whipple and guarded her “court favorites” jealously. Carrie became famous after Lt. Charles King wrote a popular 1882 novel based loosely on her life, but her real life contained even more drama than the novel. This Readers Theatre and PowerPoint presentation offers memorable portraits of the famous Army belle and her lovelorn suitors.

March 21 T. J. McMichael, “Aldo Leopold: A Chautauqua.”

Meet famed ecologist and environmentalist Aldo Leopold (1887-1948), author of *The Sand County Almanac*, in this lively Chautauqua performed by T. J. McMichael. Leopold’s writings are credited with reshaping modern thought about conservation and land stewardship.

April 18 Amy Ilona Stein, Ph.D. and Howell Davis Usher, M.A., “The Worst Journey in the World: A Cheeky Reflection of Thirty Years of Colorado River Adventures”

Environmental historian Amy Stein with partner and environmental scientist, Grand Canyon River guide Howie Usher present the phenomenon of commercial river trips in historical and cultural perspective.

May 15

John P. Langellier, Ph.D., "Fredric Remington and the Buffalo Soldiers in Arizona"

Today, the names of Frederic Remington and buffalo soldiers are well known, but in the 1880s both the artist and these Black troopers were far from household terms. Learn how the early work of this artist and his efforts to capture the exploits of the African American cavalymen in the Arizona territory helped create a legend.

August 15

Robert Kravetz, M.D., "Prescott and the White Plague"

From the 1880s on, a steady westward stream of "lungers, consumptives, phthisics, coughers, hackers, invalids, valetudinarians, sanitarians, asthmatics, rheumatics, white plagues, pukers, and walking death" made their way to Arizona seeking the healing properties of warm, dry air to recover their health. Prescott played a significant role in treating the many "Healthseekers" who came to the Arizona Territory for their tuberculosis in the late 19th century. The history of the "white plague," past and present, will be discussed. Emphasis will be on the contributions of Arizona citizens and sanitariums.

September 19

Sandra Lynch, Ph.D., "Beasts! Savannah South of the Snow"

It was a "Land of Giants"—a time when mammoth elephants, not skyscrapers, towered over the landscape. It was a time when your house cat's ancestor's—ate our ancestors! The "Land of Giants" was as close to Sharlot Hall Museum as Prescott Valley. But then, it resembled an African savanna, a colder, wetter, and far more dangerous place than Kenya. BEASTS! The reasons why all Native American religions are founded in a belief that rocks are sacred, that caves are sacred. These elements could more surely save your life than could a prayer. Philosophers say, "that which we most fear—become our gods."

October 17

Ricardo Carreras, Ph.D., "Mexican Traditions of the Day of the Dead: Iconographic Myths, Legends, Essences, and Factuality"

The coincidental dates of Halloween celebrations in the U.S. and Day of the Dead celebrations in Mexico have in common the proximity of their calendar dates, and nearly nothing else. In Mexico, these celebrations have a shared thread of similarity across the different geographic areas of the country; however, each region offers a unique interpretation of the spiritual and magical meanings of the myriad of symbols, customs, beliefs, and auras that surround the colorful imagery of this most famous of Mexican festivities. This presentation will enable listeners to join a spirited journey into the realm of the evanescent, and yet, corporeal dichotomies of one of the essential traditions of Mexican surrealism.

November 21

"A Room with a (Southwestern) View: Mary Colter, Fred Harvey, and the Opening of Tourism along the Santa Fe Railroad"

In a period when a female architect was almost unknown, Colter was hired by Harvey to design hotels and buildings along the Santa Fe Railroad, notably in Winslow and the Grand Canyon. Using motifs and artifacts from neighboring Native American tribes, this duo created a tourist draw that encouraged travelers to stop, linger, and enjoy the view.