

THE 150 FORWARD PLAN

CHAUTAUQUA’S MISSION

Chautauqua Institution is dedicated to the exploration of the best in human values and the enrichment of life through a program that explores the important religious, social, and political issues of our times; stimulates provocative, thoughtful involvement of individuals and families in creative response to such issues; and promotes excellence and creativity in the appreciation, performance, and teaching of the arts.

Vision

Chautauqua aspires to create an informed, engaged, and renewed public that fosters and actively contributes to a more civil society, nationally and within the various communities represented by its individual constituents and partners.

Shared Values

- Multigenerational and multidisciplinary engagement through the arts, education, religion, and recreation
- The dignity and contributions of all people
- Dialogue to achieve enhanced understanding that leads to positive action
- The serenity, tradition, safety, and ecology of Chautauqua’s historic Grounds and surroundings
- A balance between Chautauqua’s heritage and the need to innovate

Overarching Goal (10 Years)

Convene diverse perspectives and voices to discover and advance the most important, relevant conversations and experiences of our time during the summer assembly season and year-round, on the Grounds of the Institution and beyond.

Key Objectives (3–5 Years)

- Optimize the Summer Assembly Season on the Chautauqua Grounds to Provide a First-Class Experience Around the Arts, Education, Religion, and Recreation
- Expand Chautauqua’s Convening Authority Year-Round to Broaden its Impact Beyond the Summer Assembly Season
- Drive the Implementation of a Comprehensive, Science-Based Approach to Improving the Health and Sustainability of Chautauqua Lake and Elevate its Conservation as the Centerpiece of the Region’s Economic Prosperity
- Grow and Diversify Revenue to Address Critical Needs, Increase Financial Resiliency, and Fund Chautauqua’s Future

Cross-Cutting Imperatives (1–3 Years)

- Strategic Partnerships
- Mobilization of Technology
- Labor and Talent Solutions
- Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA)

Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation

With these priorities established, the Institution will then assess and deploy existing and new resources, structures and investments that are aligned with the direction outlined in 150 Forward. Detailed operational plans and corresponding metrics-based monitoring and evaluation tools, integrated into Chautauqua’s multi-year budgeting process, will enable leadership and staff to assess the impact of current and prospective activities and make adjustments and corrections as necessary. This approach will also allow for transparency and information sharing across the organization, empowering staff at all levels to contribute to and understand their roles and responsibilities with regard to operational plans, benchmarks, measures of success, and outcomes. A standard reporting framework and protocol will be created for ongoing Board of Trustees oversight and a new Board committee will be formed to conduct ongoing, comprehensive assessment of plan performance. President Michael E. Hill will annually present a 150 Forward Status Report to the Chautauqua Community. This approach to plan implementation, monitoring, and evaluation will, itself, build institutional capacity for the future.