



ROBERT H.  
**JACKSON**  
CENTER

Fall 2024



305 E. Fourth Street, Jamestown, NY 14701  
716.483.6646

[roberthjackson.org](http://roberthjackson.org)

## Dear Friends OF THE JACKSON CENTER,

Summer and Fall at the Center have been full of energy and excitement – interns, programs and exhibits, and new faces. We continue to assess who we are, how our work should adapt to global challenges, questions, and information, and what resources and talents we need to achieve our mission. I deeply appreciate the time and effort my colleagues and Board members devote to ensuring we are elevating everything we do.



When you receive this newsletter, we will have recently closed our two temporary exhibits – *Voices and Votes: Democracy in America*, the Smithsonian traveling exhibit, and *The Story of Our Participation*, the companion exhibit we created to showcase the region’s unique contributions to our democracy experiment. During those six weeks, more than 1,000 visitors experienced the exhibits, participated in programs, and shared their thoughts.

We specifically asked to host these exhibits this fall to incorporate them into our Constitution Day programming and to highlight active participation in the democratic process in the run-up to the election. I have been using a line from one of Jackson’s U.S. Supreme Court opinions repeatedly this year – “It is not the function of our Government to keep the citizen from falling into error; it is the function of the citizen to keep the Government from falling into error.” (*American Communications Assn. v. Douds* (1950)).

We must continue to have hard conversations, raise our voices, work in our communities, and participate in all levels of government to ensure we are shaping a world in which we want to live. The Jackson Center’s mission and work have never been more vital, and we know we could not do it without your support. Thank you for being on this journey with us.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristan".

Kristan McMahon - President

## A WORD FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends,

I am continually inspired by the dedication and passion of everyone who contributes to the mission of the Robert H. Jackson Center. As Board Chair, I have the privilege of seeing firsthand how your involvement helps bring our programs to life and sustain the important work we do.



This fall, the Center’s programming has been particularly special. The success of our partnership with the Smithsonian and the Museum Association of New York on the *Voices and Votes: Democracy in America* exhibit is a testament to our commitment to fostering informed, engaged community members. It’s a powerful reminder of the central role that democracy plays in our lives—and how essential it is to protect and nurture it.

I am also deeply moved by the Center’s ongoing efforts to engage the public in meaningful ways, from the recent naturalization ceremony that celebrated new citizens to the Community Conversations that offer a platform for public dialogue on democracy. These initiatives reflect Justice Jackson’s lifelong dedication to justice, fairness, and equality.

As we move toward the holiday season, I encourage you to stay involved with the Center’s upcoming events, especially our Founders Day celebration. It’s an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the Center’s origins and renew our shared commitment to preserving Justice Jackson’s legacy for generations to come.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together, we are helping to shape the future by preserving the lessons of the past.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julia Craighill".

Julia Craighill - Board Chair

# South African Justice and former Prosecutor receives Heintz Award

Richard J. Goldstone was awarded the Heintz Humanitarian Achievement Award at a reception and dinner at the Robert H. Jackson Center August 25. The event kicked off the 16th Annual Humanitarian Law Roundtable (IHLR).

From August 1994 to September 1996, Goldstone was the chief prosecutor of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

Judge Goldstone, who addressed the roundtable remotely via video message, said he was deeply honored to receive this award and particularly meaningful for three reasons. “First, it is associated with the Jackson Center and the Nuremberg Trials that gave birth to modern humanitarian law. The second reason is the distinguished people who have received this award over the years; it is a great privilege to follow them. Perhaps most meaningful to me is that it is an honor by my peers and dear friends.”

He continued that despite the best work of the assembled experts in international humanitarian law, contradictory policies of the United States’ administrations and their ambiguous support, due to politics and zealous protection against the prospect of a United States citizen being charged, is harmful to the mission of international justice.

“It is for this reason that hurdles have been placed in the way of a special trial for the crime of aggression in Ukraine. Some of



*The International Humanitarian Law Roundtable (IHLR) meets annually at the Robert H. Jackson Center as they begin their conference.*

you present at this dinner have been working ceaselessly to support such a tribunal. It is in this context we must continue to value and with the staunch and unwavering support given to international criminal justice by all of you who assemble each year in Chautauqua... It is now crucial that support should not flag, and indeed that it should go from strength to strength,” said Justice Goldstone.

The Joshua H. Heintz Award for Humanitarian Achievement is given to an individual who demonstrates compassion, vision, and dedication in pursuit of international humanitarian justice. The award honors efforts to limit the effects of armed conflict, to protect people and culture, and to ensure judicial processes are developed and enforced.

The award’s benefactor, Joshua H. Heintz, practiced law for more than 31 years before retiring. The award is indicative of Mr. Heintz’s lifelong passion for creating avenues for institutions of higher

education to serve the community at large.



*Richard J. Goldstone is a former Chief Prosecutor for Yugoslavia and Rwanda and retired Justice in South Africa’s Constitutional Court.*

The IHLR brings together prosecutors and judges from international courts and tribunals as well as international humanitarian law practitioners, scholars, and students each year for lectures and discussion groups. The Roundtable was cosponsored by Case Western Reserve University School of Law, the American Bar Association, PILPG, American Red Cross, and the American Society of International Law. 🌐

# Summer Interns

Each year the Robert H. Jackson Center casts a wide net to colleges and law schools across the country to find a diverse and intellectually curious group of interns to join the Center for 10 weeks in the summer.

## Maddy Russell

A junior at Middlebury College from Winter Park, Florida, Maddy is



pursuing a joint major in History and English. While at the Center this summer, she researched the ICTR and women in international law for an upcoming exhibit and helped record stories for the Center's oral history project.

My favorite part of the internship was witnessing the vibrance of the Center's connection to the community. Whether gathering stories from residents for our upcoming exhibit or listening to the Supreme Court lecture at Chautauqua, it was amazing to see how the center continues to spread Robert Jackson's legacy and promote civic engagement and education in Jamestown.

I learned that the most powerful work a nonprofit can do is foster community, and the Center continuously makes space for those to learn about and discuss the ideals of Robert H Jackson. Most importantly, I was able to see how this work isn't limited to just the physical Center, but it extends to the broader New York community and across the world via the internet. It was an honor to contribute to that work, and I will try to continue that work wherever my future takes me. It was an amazing summer, and I'm so thankful to those who made it possible!

## Chautauqua Reflection

This summer, the theme of the first week of Chautauqua Institution's Lecture Series was the Evolution of the Modern Presidency. Jon Meacham, a renowned Presidential Biographer, was the first speaker. Meacham, who has written biographies of George H.W. Bush, Andrew Jackson, and most recently, Abraham Lincoln, gave us the historical background of our Presidents' imperfections, as well as a reminder that the president, like all of us, has the power (and choice) to do good and bad. He then transitioned into a discussion of the three qualities that, to him, have characterized our best presidents: curiosity, candor, and empathy.

It is because it is so unstable that I believe candor to be the hardest, but most important, ideal for Presidents to strive for. For so many reasons, we cannot get full transparency from our presidents, but we do not have to mistake the impossible quest for full honesty to be pointless. As Charles McCrary, a scholar in American religion, said recently, "In public societies, we play roles and we wear masks. To be sincere does not mean to be maskless," instead it means "wearing a mask that looks just like what's under it." The truth is that we never know what the President is truly like behind closed doors. But, Meacham argues, if Presidents believe in curiosity, constitutional order, and empathy, we can see, in their appearances and statements,

enough candor to keep trust in them – and, most significantly, in what they do when we are not watching.

## Nick Farrelly-Jackson

A rising second-year student at the Institut D'Études Politiques in Grenoble, also known as Sciences Po Grenoble, Nick studies International Politics, though he will be spending next year at George Washington University.



He also interns virtually with the US Department of State throughout the school year to help prepare diplomats for postings in Francophone countries.

During my time at the Jackson Center, I spent my time researching notorious Nazis from World War 2, the International Criminal Court, and Donald Trump's potential 2025 policies, all of which provided new information and skills I had not known before. From the Nazi research, I learned about how pervasive the Nazi ideology was throughout the fabric of German life. I had known about the top players like Goring, Himmler, and Heydrich, but at the Jackson Center, I was exposed to the crimes of Nazis such as Ley, Funk, and Brunner, which went to how extensive the Nazi regime was embedded into Germany.

Overall, the Jackson Center has given me the ability to gain new knowledge into key areas of

*continued on page 5*

continued from page 4

politics and law both domestic and abroad. It has also allowed me to refine my research skills through my research projects, and my argumentation through the discussion between interns and Kristen on Supreme Court cases and other matters of modern relevance.

### **Chautauqua Reflection**

On Wednesday, June 26, we attended the Chautauqua Lecture on the American Presidency given by Andrew H. Card Jr. Secretary Card had experience serving in the White House under three different presidents: Ronald Reagan as Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, George H.W. Bush as Secretary of Transportation, and George W. Bush as Chief of Staff, where he was a key person in the White House reaction and response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Secretary Card discussed the question ‘What does it mean to be engaged in democracy?’. He reminded us that we live in a pluralistic society, that there is no one way or the highway, and that in a democracy we do not have the luxury of demanding a certain outcome. He said to be engaged in a democracy one must listen to the opposition and seek compromise instead of surrendering to the fringe ideas of either party. This, he explained, was necessary for democracy to function properly, as democracy thrives through consensus as opposed to insurmountable differences. He also stated that the greatest threat to democracy is mob rule and that emotion should not dictate results in Congress. He explained how mob rule reached

the House of Representatives in the debacle related to the ousting of Kevin McCarthy and the subsequent chaos that ensued. And for the Presidency, he states it is important to remember that the President serves the entire nation, not just those who elected him.

Card’s lecture was particularly fascinating for me because he was able to provide firsthand insight into what it was like to work for three different Presidents, which provides an unrivaled view into the inner workings of the White House. To be able to hear about his interactions with each President and his assessment of their characters through his experiences with them is truly impressive considering how few people have worked with three different Presidents, and three Presidents who all were tasked with great issues which greatly affected the direction of our nation.

### **Jude Gotschall**

*is a native of Brooklyn, New York, and a rising junior at Allegheny College, in Meadville, Pennsylvania, where they are pursuing a double major in Political Science and Theater.*



*They were introduced to Jackson through long-time school ties with the Center.*

If there was one thing I took away from my time at the Jackson Center this summer, it’s the importance of community and connections. From the Center’s docents to folks we met in DC, the people we met this summer showed me the strength of the

Center’s community. Everyone we met was unbelievably friendly and welcoming, and they were all excited to meet us. For me, it really demonstrated the sheer impact that the Center’s community has on the success of its work.

### **Chautauqua Reflection**

We were a little weary starting day 4 of our week at Chautauqua, largely due to the sheer mass of information we’d absorbed so far that week. But with the cool breeze blowing through the amphitheater as the clouds began to part for the day, Melody Barnes walked out onstage, ready to capture our attention with her presentation “The American Presidency and its Great Expectations.” Barnes asked us to consider a number of points. First, the purpose of the President should be to exercise the powers of the Office to protect or ‘touch’ their constituents with their action. Secondly, one of the President’s greatest assets is the bully pulpit, referring to the use of media and prominence of the office to foster the public’s trust in them as an individual and as the President. Finally, Barnes emphasized Congress’ significant role in the Executive branch’s efficiency, stating that Congress is essential, as both the President’s adversary and collaborator.

What stuck with me as I reflected on the presentation was Barnes’ reflections on the role of communications media in the political world, particularly the Oval Office. As she mentioned, the first televised presidential debate set the precedent for the relationship the Presidency now has with communications media, and how politicians would utilize it

continued on page 6

continued from page 5

thereafter. Without the broadcast of “the Great Debates” between President Nixon and then Senator John F. Kennedy, Nixon likely would’ve won the 1960 election, and American history would’ve been vastly different. That significance that visual media now holds on our perception of the Presidency left me thinking.

## Andrew Jin

*A rising junior at New York University majoring in Anthropology and Sociology, he spent most of the summer researching the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and recording stories for the upcoming exhibit, “Voices and Votes: Democracy in America.”*



The Jackson Center has offered us a unique platform to critically examine our beliefs in justice and politics with those who share a similar passion. During the week at Chautauqua, we reflected upon some of the most contentious issues pertaining to the executive branch, from the danger of presidential emergency power to the shifting dynamics between the President and Congress due to the rise of factions. While researching for our new exhibit on international law, we carefully looked at the challenges and criticisms of the international tribunals and assessed whether they hold merit. Every other week, we engaged in thoughtful and occasionally heated discussions over Supreme Court opinions and the upcoming presidential election.

All in all, this internship is about

voicing what you believe in and examining whether these beliefs hold ground. It is about honing your critical thinking skills through reflections, discussions, and research. Over the past two months, I was frequently defending, abandoning, modifying, or adopting new beliefs. My biggest takeaway from this experience is to remain curious and humble. There is still a great deal for me to learn.

## Chautauqua Reflection

While our founding fathers granted Congress immense power through the Constitution, in today’s America, it is the president who wields the most substantial power. This argument was made in Friday’s lecture by David French, an opinion columnist for the New York Times. During his lecture, French tackled three questions on presidential power: How dangerous is a powerful president? How and why did the president become so powerful? What can we do about it?

I was particularly intrigued by one of his reasons for the rise of presidential power, which is that over the course of American history, members of Congress have begun to view themselves less as members of the legislative branch and more as members of their political parties. In other words, their loyalty to factions outweighs their loyalty to Congress. And with presidents having evolved into heads of political parties, this loyalty more or less extends to their president. As a result, congressional members are willing to relinquish power traditionally held by Congress to the president, as long as the

president is on their team.

One of the first concepts we learned in U.S history class is checks and balances. The system is designed to ensure that no one branch of government would dominate the others. When the president overreaches, Congress is supposed to push back. However, what if Congress frequently fails to push back because a significant portion of its members are more loyal to their party than to their constitutional responsibilities? The consequences are straightforward and detrimental – an overpowering president and an unstable democracy.

## Kehui Yan

*is a senior at New York University majoring in Sociology and minoring in Law*



*and Society. Born in China and raised in California, she learned about Jackson in the Human Rights & Culture class at NYU and became curious about his experiences and accomplishments.*

During my ten weeks at the Robert H. Jackson center, I learned about the life of Robert H. Jackson thoroughly, not only as the famous chief prosecutor of the United States at the Nuremberg trials, but as a smart, diligent, assertive individual who worked his way from Jamestown to the realm of law and international justice. It remained shocking to me each time when I thought of the fact that he never went to college but managed to acquire so much knowledge on his own.

continued on page 7

continued from page 6

As I was working on the Mary Williard reading list, I felt that I could see Jackson, in his teenage years, holding thick books in his hands and reading under candle-light, hungry of devouring all possible knowledge available to him.

I greatly enjoyed reading all kinds of Jackson's writings, no matter if they were court opinions, political speeches, or other articles on various topics. Jackson had amazed me with the ingenious application of metaphors and the unique rhythms which his sentences flowed. He has proved how a person uses rationality in his close examination of implications of legal issues and demonstrated critical thinking for each specific court case.

### **Chautauqua Reflection**

Following Jon Meacham's lecture on the characteristics of the president, I began to wonder, what about the power of the president? On the second day, Elizabeth Goitein, the senior director of the Brennan Center for Justice's Liberty & National Security Program, who served as counsel to Senator Russ Feingold, chairman of the Constitution Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and as a trial attorney in the Federal Programs Branch of the Civil Division of the Department of Justice, showed up at the assembly.

Elizabeth Goitein began the lecture with two things: first, the lecture is going to be on presidential emergency power; second, people have often described her lectures to be "scary and clear".

Emergency power is unforeseen, conferred on the government

during the times of emergency in which amending the law would take too long. The unpredictability of emergency and the requirement of immediate actions together build up fear internally and externally. Externally, citizens are scared of the threatened national security if the government is too weak and acts too late. Internally, there is the lingering fear of an over-powerful president dictating the country. Intertwining, external and internal fear have shaped our conflicting perceptions on the power of the presidency. Our fear lies not only in the power that the president currently holds, but also in the potential power which has yet been invoked by the president.

Nevertheless, Goitein's lecture delivered more inspiration than fear to me. She pointed out that since the US constitution does not include any special regime for emergencies, how the court interprets constitutional power is crucial. In circumstances of emergency, despite the midst of panic, the judges in the Supreme Court stand as objective evaluators of presidential power and guards against fear. As an intern at the Robert H. Jackson Center, I was reminded of Justice Jackson's dissent in *Korematsu v. United States*. Despite the immense fear after the attack of Pearl Harbor

and strong urges for internment of Japanese-Americans to ensure national security, in the dissenting opinion against the court's holding, Justice Jackson wrote that "once a judicial opinion rationalizes such an order to show that it conforms to the Constitution, or rather rationalizes the Constitution to show that the Constitution sanctions such an order, the Court for all time has validated the principle of racial discrimination in criminal procedure and of transplanting American citizens." Justice Jackson's mind was not free of fear. He recognized the fear of external threat, but he was also afraid of the implications of the court's decision, so he stood firm with the founding father's constitutional principle and held that once racial discrimination during emergency times is rationalized, "the principle then lies about like a loaded weapon, ready for the hand of any authority that can bring forward a plausible claim of an urgent need." 🇺🇸



The interns spend a week in Washington D.C. with President McMahon every year. They escaped the sweltering heat of day (and bonded) by taking Metro to the Library of Congress.

# Jackson Lecture on the US Supreme Court

By Maddy Russell, 2024 Summer Intern

Chautauqua Institution and the Robert H. Jackson Center welcomed professor and writer, Kate Shaw as the speaker for the 20th Annual Robert H. Jackson Lecture on the Supreme Court of the United States, Monday, July 29, 2024 in Chautauqua Institution's Hall of Philosophy.

To the packed audience of summering Chautauquans, she highlighted the connection with Jackson and current Chief Justice John Roberts, not only in lineage (Chief Justice Rehnquist was clerk to Jackson, and Roberts to Rehnquist earlier in their respective careers) but in Robert's use in *Trump v. United States* of Jackson's concurring 1955 opinion in *Youngstown*, which for decades it stood as a declaration of both judicial independence and also the limits on Presidential Power, she said.

Shaw said *Trump v. United States* drew heavily on two precedents: *Nixon v. Fitzgerald*, which held that ex-presidents were immune from civil suits by people unhappy with presidential policy, and Jackson's concurring opinion in *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co v. Sawyer*. However, she argued that the majority's opinion twisted Jackson's words to support an unprecedented level of presidential immunity – one that Jackson himself may not have endorsed.



Law professor Kate Shaw speaks to an overflowing crowd at Chautauqua Institution's Hall of Philosophy July 29.

On April 9, 1952, President Truman issued an executive order directing the commerce secretary to take possession of the steel mills. The steel mill owners argued that this action was unconstitutional and sought to challenge it in court.

"Many, many judges have pointed to Jackson and *Youngstown* as the North Star in cases involving executive power and this case is no exception. *Youngstown* is the first Supreme Court case chief justice Roberts cited in his majority opinion in *Trump v. United States* and he cited it in total 10 times.

Jackson's concurring opinion devised three categories, or 'zones,' for evaluating the constitutionality of presidential actions. The first and second include expressly given powers and Zone three encompasses powers that congress has sought to restrict, and this area is where executive power is

lowest. Since congress had taken actions against the power of the president to seize property determined that Truman's action was in zone three, and therefore unconstitutional.

Shaw argues that the problem with the majority's opinion is that it uses these zones to support the idea that a President is immune from oversight when using his expressed Article II powers (items that would fall in zone one), even when he acts against the expressed or implied will of congress. For example, President Trump's dealings with the Justice Department would be considered an area of absolute immunity because the Constitution vests exclusive prosecutorial decision-making in the executive branch.

For other powers that are not explicitly stated in the constitution, such as Presidential speech and the bully pulpit, Roberts relies on zone two to suggest that these

*continued on page 10*



continued from page 9



Jackson scholar John Q. Barrett, Kristan McMahon and the summer interns with speaker, Kate Shaw.

fall under presumptive immunity. In Shaw's view, this greatly reduces the ability of the other branches to challenge presidential actions, especially as the power of the executive continues to grow. This is an issue that Jackson worried about in his own time, as he states in Youngstown, "I cannot be brought to believe that this country will suffer if the court refuses to further aggrandize the presidential office already so potent and so relatively immune from judicial review."

Ultimately, Shaw believes that using Jackson's Youngstown opinion to support presidential immunity betrays it and misrepresents Jackson's views.

"The opinion subverts the separation of powers the opinion purports to rely on Jackson's Youngstown concurrence but it fundamentally betrays it it creates the opinion creates a permission structure for lawlessness," she said.


"I'm not by nature alarmist but I think this opinion displays a court acting fundamentally at odds with core constitutional values. But the court is just one institution; its betrayal of those core values only heightens the urgency of the rest of our institutions safeguarding them. The opinion does not have to be the last word on these questions," she concludes.

Shaw is a constitutional, administrative and legislation law professor at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School. She previously worked in the Obama White House Counsel's Office and served as law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens.

Her academic work focuses on executive power, the law of democracy, the Supreme Court, and reproductive rights and justice with work appearing in many law review journals as well as national newspapers and magazines.

She is a co-host of the Supreme Court podcast *Strict Scrutiny*, a contributor with ABC News, a Contributing Opinion Writer with the *New York Times*, and a Public Member of the Administrative Conference of the United States.

Chautauqua's previous Jackson Lecturers are Geoffrey Stone (2005), Linda Greenhouse (2006), Seth Waxman (2007), Jeffrey Toobin (2008), Paul Clement (2009), Jeff Shesol (2010), Dahlia Lithwick (2011), Pamela Karlan (2012), Charles Fried (2013), Akhil Amar (2014), Laurence Tribe (2015), Tracey Meares (2016), Judge Jon O. Newman (2017), Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella of Canada's Supreme Court (2018), Donald B. Verrilli, Jr. (2019), Ruth Marcus (2020), Melissa Murray (2021), Reva Siegel (2022), and Justin Driver (2023).

This lecture is sponsored in part by the Arnold and Jill Bellowe Family Foundation, as well as donors to the Robert H. Jackson Center. 

# Constitution Day

## Civil rights icon's daughter and Institute's leader promotes vigilant citizenry to avoid repeating past mistakes

### *Korematsu Institute President speaks on Constitution Day*

Dr. Karen Korematsu returned to speak at the Robert H. Jackson Center for Constitution Day observances on September 17 in the full Carl Cappa Theatre. An audience of more than 200 area students and other community members learned about her father's life, defiance to exclusion orders during World War II, and eventual expunging of his conviction 40 years later.

Korematsu is the Founder and President of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute and the daughter of the late civil rights icon, Fred Korematsu and speaks nationwide advocating for civil liberties, social justice, civics, and ethnic studies education.

During her address, she described the Korematsu decision as "one of the worst Supreme Court in U.S. history," highlighting the continued relevance of her father's fight against injustice.

This year marks the 80th anniversary of *Korematsu v. United States*, a landmark 1944 U.S. Supreme Court case that upheld the arrest of Fred Korematsu because he defied a military order to exclude himself, as well as other American citizens of Japanese descent from the U.S. West Coast.

The Court ruled in a 6-3 decision that the exclusion order



*The Cappa Theatre was filled to capacity to hear Dr. Korematsu speak during Constitution Day observances September 17.*

was permissible executive action. The dissent, written by Jackson, argued that the exclusion order violated personal liberties and equal protection guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment. They stated that there was no evidence of disloyalty among the affected population to justify such restrictions. It is widely criticized today for setting a precedent that government practices of racial discrimination are permissible during wartime.

Dr. Korematsu shared the story of her father's arrest for defying military orders excluding Japanese-Americans from military zones on the U.S. West Coast established under Executive Order 9066. He briefly became a fugitive and was eventually arrested.

Despite arrest, conviction and a decision against him at the US Supreme Court, Dr. Korematsu emphasized her father's perseverance: "He had never given up hope after more than 40 years that his



right and wrong, that's why his legacy lives on." Fred Korematsu's conviction was overturned on November 10, 1983.

Throughout the engagement she encouraged the audience, especially the students, to broaden their education, remain vigilant against misinformation, and engaged in civic life. She stressed the importance of considering diverse cultural perspectives when approaching societal issues.

Constitution Day is sponsored in part by the Chautauqua Abstract Co., Fessenden Laumer & DeAngelo, and the Randall J. Sweeney Education Fund. 🇺🇸

# Voices and Votes:

## Democracy exhibit opens for brief stay during state-wide tour



The Smithsonian's traveling exhibition of *Voices and Votes: Democracy in America* wrapped up its tenure at the Center October 18 after educating and delighting hundreds of visitors.

The *Voices and Votes* exhibition is adapted from *American Democracy: A Great Leap of Faith* currently on display at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. *Voices and Votes* includes historical and contemporary photographs, educational and archival video, engaging multimedia interactives, and historical objects like campaign souvenirs, voter memorabilia, and protest material. The Center is the fourth site to host the exhibit since it opened at Preservation Long Island in March. It continues at seven more sites through 2025.



# Programming News

## A Tradition of Community Conversations



Training held by Humanities New York for staff and community partners to become facilitators for future Community Conversations at the RHJC.

Continuing a tradition of both the Saturday Night Club, in which Jackson and many of his contemporaries participated, as well as conversations the Center has convened, Joe Murphy from Humanities New York guided a conversation with community members as part of the

Humanities Discussion series, “A New Agora for New York: Museums as Spaces for Democracy,” on September 24. This particular conversation used the text of Jackson’s 1940 speech, *The*

*Federal Prosecutor*, as its touchstone. In the *Federal Prosecutor* speech, Jackson explains the awesome power and great responsibilities that prosecutors have and encourages them to be mindful and judicious in how they wield that power.

The ability to talk with each other, especially on topics on which there is not agreement, is a muscle all of us need to strengthen. These community discussions are designed to make everyone feel welcome, regardless of where they sit on the political spectrum, whether they’ve read the piece in advance, and how challenging they may have found such conversations in the past. Currently, these are the only programs that are not recorded and do not enable remote participation to foster openness and trust among the participants. We look forward to continuing and expanding these conversations. 🗣️

## Korematsu program held at George Washington University

Approximately 180 law students and other members of the public watched two mock trials. First, a reenactment of October 1944 U.S. Supreme Court oral arguments in the Korematsu case; the second, a mock civil case being litigated by a contemporary “Fred Korematsu”

who is subjected to an order to leave his home and report to a location from which he will be sent to a detention center. 🗣️

To watch on C-SPAN2, go to <https://bit.ly/Kat80> or scan the code here:



## Elizabeth Hosier Hired as Director of Programs



Elizabeth Hosier

In August, The Robert H. Jackson Center selected Elizabeth Hosier as the inaugural Director of Programs, responsible for designing and

curating educational programs, workshops, lectures, and events in alignment with the Center’s mission of promoting of democracy and human right though the life

and principles of Robert H. Jackson.

This role includes identifying target audiences, tailoring programs to meet their needs, overseeing event logistics, and monitoring performance.

Hosier is a native of Panama, New York and graduated from Canisius College with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Adolescent Education and earned a Master of Science in Adolescent Literacy at St. Bonaventure University. She is the former Director of

Visitor Experience at the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum near Pittsburgh and saw the organization through a period of change, moving to a new 21,000 square foot space full of new exhibits and programming.

“Staff expansion, including for the first time a dedicated Director of Programs, are part of organizational and programmatic investments in the strategic plan of Jackson Center,” says Kristan McMahon, Center President. 🗣️

# Thank You

*It is with with bursting hearts we say fair winds and following seas to members of our leadership who are rolling off the board of directors this year.*



**John Q. Barrett** is a law professor at St. John's University in New York City, where he teaches courses in Constitutional Law, Criminal Procedure and Legal History. He has served on the board for two separate terms, the current since 2015. He will continue to serve as Elizabeth S. Lenna Fellow at the Center and participate on the Center's Programming Committee to identify the institution's yearly theme, speakers and educational initiatives.



**John LaMancuso** is a Partner and serves as the Chairman of Lewis & Lewis, P.C. in Jamestown, and is widely recognized as one of western New York's best lawyers representing individuals, businesses and municipal clients across the region. He served as the President of the Jamestown Bar Association. With more civic commitments than we can list, as well as a thriving family life, we cannot say we blame him for making a little more room in his schedule!



**Leah Weinberg** is a third generation Weinberg at Weinberg Financial Group and a Certified Financial Planner. She joined the Center's leadership in 2020 and served as Chair of the Board for three years.

*Best wishes and many thanks for their years of service to the Center.* 🇺🇸

# Welcome Aboard!

*We are happy to announce the addition of four new board members some of whom have deep ties to Chautauqua County and appreciation for the legacy of Robert H. Jackson, as well as the importance of the Center as an institution devoted to promoting international humanitarian law:*



**Nancy Gay Bargar** was raised in Jamestown, New York and has devoted her life to community service. She is passionate about public policy and has served on many nonprofit boards and as a Chautauqua County Legislator for ten years. She was also a Southern Tier reporter for WBFO, the region's public radio provider. Her family and Jackson's family had business and social connections around Chautauqua Lake.



**Matt Ewalt** currently serves as senior director of events and live journalism at The Texas Tribune in Austin and is responsible for

programming across Texas aimed at fostering civic engagement and democratic participation. He joined the Tribune in March 2023 after working at Chautauqua Institution in Western New York in various roles, most recently as Vice President and Emily and Richard Smucker Chair for Education.



**Phil Nalbhone** has spent most of his career as a Wall Street analyst and executive in the health care field, supporting corporate development, investor relations, and strategic communications for biomedical firms across the country. A native of Jamestown, New York, he is a graduate of

Jamestown High School and St. Lawrence University.



**Marney Cheek** is a lawyer and partner at Covington & Burling LLP with expertise in public international law, investment, and international trade. She serves as both counsel and advocate before numerous international arbitral tribunals and courts, including the International Court of Justice. She currently represents the Government of Ukraine in its landmark cases before the International Court of Justice adverse to the Russian Federation. Marney attended Harvard Law and previously clerked for Judge Richard Roberts of the US District Court of DC. 🇺🇸

# Development

## Spotlight Theatre Improvement

The Cappa Theatre has long served as the heartbeat of the Robert H. Jackson Center, hosting countless educational programs, thought provoking lectures, and community events. With a seating capacity of over 180, it has served not only as a crucial venue for our mission-driven activities but also as a valuable community resource for small theatrical productions, and film screenings.

As we look to the future, we recognize the need to enhance this vital space to better serve our growing audience, evolving programming needs, as well as the needs of our community partners. We're excited to announce a renovation project that will breathe new life into the Cappa Theatre, ensuring it remains a state-of-the-art facility for years to come.

### Our planned improvements include:

- Elevating the production capabilities of the space by installing new technology and systems – from a new projector, lens, and motorized theater screen to new sound equipment, a digital console and control systems, as well as assistive listening systems for those who are hearing impaired.
- Retrofitting all lights to LED and enhancing overall lighting for improved visibility and safety.
- Installing a new sound-minimizing and more energy efficient exterior emergency door.



- Installing wood floor on the stage to provide flexibility in use of space.

Upgrading the production capabilities of the space will ensure greater inclusion, increased safety and cost efficiencies, and enhanced programming to attract more diverse events and compelling thought leaders. These improvements will allow us to share higher quality recordings (both for the offsite experience as well as for archival purposes) and allow us to do a much better job in conveying the memorable experiences we want our visitors to have.

We estimate the total cost of these improvements to be about \$500,000.

As we seek to revitalize the Cappa Theatre, we're reaching

out to dedicated supporters like you. Your contribution, no matter the size, will play a crucial role in bringing this vision to life.

By supporting this project, you're not just investing in a building – you're investing in the future of civil discourse, education, and community engagement. You're helping to create a safe space where ideas can flourish, where history can come alive, and where our community can gather to learn, debate, and grow together.

To make a donation or learn more about the renovations, please contact (716) 483-6646. Together, we can ensure that the Cappa Theatre continues to be a beacon of knowledge and a testament to Justice Jackson's enduring legacy. 🇺🇸

# Requesting your support!

As we reflect on the current year at the Robert H. Jackson Center, we are reminded of the incredible support and dedication of our community of donors, volunteers, and friends like you. Your involvement and generosity has been instrumental in enabling us to honor Justice Jackson’s enduring legacy and expand our reach, impact, and programming. Nothing warms my heart more than to see our theater packed with students paying close attention to programs designed to broaden their understanding of our justice system.

We rely on your gifts to sustain our day-to-day operations and support our diverse array of FREE programming. From educational offerings and thought-provoking exhibits to community outreach and engaged discussions, our efforts to promote justice, human rights, and the rule of law depend heavily on our Annual Fund. By contributing to the Fund before December 31, you ensure that we can continue

offering these vital programs and services that inspire and educate individuals of all ages.

When considering your gift, if you’re 70 ½ or older, you could use your Qualified Charitable Distribution. You can transfer funds directly from your retirement account meeting your Required Minimum Distribution which excludes the gift from your adjusted gross income. This means you can reduce your tax liability while supporting the Jackson Center at the same time – a win-win situation. Best to consult your tax advisor when considering any tax impacting action.

Also, if you have a Donor Advised Fund (DAF), you can recommend a grant to the Jackson Center at any time. A DAF is a smart and effective way to manage your charitable contributions, acting much like a charitable savings account. While you already received your tax deduction at the time of your contribution to your DAF, those funds need to be recommended

by you so they can get to work benefitting our programs now.


Transfer of appreciated securities is another way of contributing. Our staff are always ready to assist you in working with your broker and it’s a very easy, yet meaningful way to support the mission.

I am enthusiastic about the future of the Robert H. Jackson Center, and trust you are equally invested in our success. Every gift, no matter the size, brings us closer to achieving our vision.

If you wish, donate online at [roberthjackson.org](http://roberthjackson.org). or call us to discuss options.

Many of us prefer to write a check and drop it in the mail. Whatever your preference, every gift will be acknowledged with gratitude.

*Thank you for your consideration and support!*

Donald Wertman, Doctor of Humane Letters, h.c.  
Development Committee Chair 

## Our Priorities

*In addition to our annual fund, we have ambitious plans that extend beyond the immediate. As outlined in our strategic priorities for 2021-2028, we are committed to strengthening the Center’s foundation and enhancing our visitor experience. This includes significant investments in programs, exhibits, a new website (launching soon!), and facility enhancements to ensure the Center remains a dynamic and engaging destination for all who seek to learn from Justice Jackson’s legacy.*

### Our goals are clear:

- Organization & Program Investments: To expand our educational reach and enrich our offerings.
- Enhance the Visitor Experience: To update and enhance our exhibits; invest in technology and our website; and maintain

and improve our physical spaces, including the renovation of our beloved Cappa Theater.

- Sustain the Future through Endowment: To secure our growth and long-term sustainability by ensuring future funds are available to refresh programs, exhibits, and spaces.

To date, we have made substantial progress, with over \$4.37 million in commitments. However, we still have a long way to go to fully realize these goals. Your contribution today helps lay the groundwork for our strategic priorities.

For more information, contact (716) 483-6646. 



ROBERT H.  
**JACKSON**  
CENTER

305 E. Fourth St.  
Jamestown, NY 14701

716.483.6646

[roberthjackson.org](http://roberthjackson.org)

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 409  
JAMESTOWN, NY

## Upcoming Events

**Founders Day - Tuesday, December 10**  
***“It’s a Wonderful Life - a Live Radio Play,***  
***featuring Ron Orbach and Julia Niles***

**December 20, 7pm      December 21, 7pm**  
**December 21, 2pm      December 22, 2pm**

Tickets are now on sale at [mtapresents.com](http://mtapresents.com).

**1A Day - Saturday, January 11**  
**Doors Open - Saturday, January 25**  
**Jackson Day in Warren - Thursday, February 13**

## Living Voices

***Hear My Voice - January 14th & 15th***  
***Right to Dream &***

***Homefront/Warfront - February 5th & 6th***

***The New American - March 19th & 20th***  
***Within the Silence - April 9th & 10th***  
***Through the Eyes of a Friend - May 14th & 15th***

Please visit [roberthjackson.org](http://roberthjackson.org) for the latest program announcements.

To receive notifications of upcoming programs subscribe to our email list at [roberthjackson.org](http://roberthjackson.org).

### BOARD:

Julia Craighill  
Chair

Sam Morgante  
Vice Chair

Andrew Neyman  
Treasurer

Kathy Burgeson  
Secretary

#### Board Members

Arthur N. Bailey

Nancy Bargar

Lana Benatovich

Hon. Stephen Cass

Marney Cheek

Matt Ewalt

Charles Gustafson

Michael Hill

Phil Nalbone

Chris Olsen

Don Wertman

### STAFF:

Kristan McMahon  
President

Tina E. Downey, CFRE  
Director of Development

Elizabeth Hosier  
Director of Programs

Sherry Schutter  
Operations Manager

Kenny Macdonald  
Communications Support