

Bios of Young Chautauqua Coaches

Susan Marie Frontczak (Portrays Eleanor Roosevelt, Marie Curie and Mary Shelley)

A storyteller and speaker for over 20 years Susan Marie Frontczak began representing Marie Curie in 2001. She has since given over a hundred presentations as Marie Curie at universities, conferences, schools, libraries, and theaters across the U.S. and abroad. In portraying Maria Sklodowska-Curie, Susan Marie pays homage to their shared Polish heritage. Susan, like Marie, enjoyed school, and promotes awareness that academic excellence can lead to outstanding achievement. Marie Curie's perseverance in purifying a grain of radium from a ton of pitchblende, in part, inspired Susan to major in Engineering, in which field she worked for fourteen years before pursuing full time writing and presenting in 1994.

Mary Jane Bradbury (Portrays Jeanette Rankin, Augusta Tabor and Martha Maxwell)

Mary Jane Bradbury, M.A. Speech Communication, has been an actress, speaker, educator, and author in Colorado for over 20 years. She is an Artist in Residence and performing artist for Young Audiences of Colorado and has written and produced heritage event programs for Four Mile Historic Park in Denver. She currently serves on the board for the Colorado Coalition for Women's History. Her passion for history and artistic skills make her historic character presentations entertaining and provocative, leaving the audience informed, enlightened and interested in finding out more about our collective heritage.

John Stansfield (Portrays Enos Mills and Charles Fox Gardiner)

Storyteller and author of a Mills biography, John Stansfield began following the tracks of Muir and Mills and exploring the West in 1960 and has never stopped. His book, *Writers of the American West: Multicultural Learning Encounters*, received a Colorado Authors' League Award and was a finalist for the Colorado Book Award in 2002. With a Master of Arts in Teaching degree, Stansfield has taught elementary grades and now teaches on the adjunct faculty of the University of Colorado--Colorado Springs. The Wilderness Society presented him an Environmental Heroes Award in 2004 for his ongoing work to protect Colorado's wild places.

Richard Marold (Portrays Franklin D Roosevelt and William Scott Stratton)

Richard Marold has taught history on both the secondary and college levels. He holds a MA in Humanities from Penn State University and has portrayed FDR throughout his home state of Colorado as well as before educational and professional groups nationwide.

Jack Van Ens (Portrays Jonathan Edwards and Thomas Jefferson)

Jack R. Van Ens received his Master of Divinity in 1972, his Master of Theology in 1976 and his Doctorate of Ministry in 1984 from the Princeton University/Seminary. He is currently the president and CEO of Creative Growth Associates where he instructs and leads educational, business and religious non-profit groups.

Aaron Vieyra (portrays Cesar Chavez)

Aaron Vieyra is developing the character portrayal of Cesar Chavez. Aaron brings cultural heritage and a great deal of acting experience to the scholarship of storytelling.

Jim Walsh (portrays Michael Mooney, Leadville miner, composite character)

Professor Walsh teaches American History at the University of Colorado at Denver with an emphasis on Immigration and Labor History. He holds a B.A. from Duke University, an M.A. from the University of Colorado at Denver and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in American History at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Jim directs his own theater company in Colorado in addition to teaching, and works as a Humanities Scholar and Young Chautauqua Coach for Colorado Humanities.