

Gertrude Polk Brown Speakers (1993 – 2024)

2024

Jonathan Eig, *KING: A Life*

Jeffrey Rosen, *The Pursuit of Happiness*

Evan Thomas, *Road to Surrender: Three Men and the Countdown to the End of World War II*

2023

Ron White, *On Great Fields: The First Definitive Biography of General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain*

Beverly Gage, *G-Man: J. Edgar Hoover and the Making of the American Century*

Katherine Howe, *Vanderbilt: The Rise and Fall of an American Dynasty*

Karen Tumulty, *The Triumph of Nancy Reagan (rescheduled from 2022)*

2022

Garrett M. Graff, *Watergate: A New History*

Ronald C. White, *Lincoln in Private: What His Most Personal Reflections Tell Us About Our Greatest President*

2021

James Oakes, *The Crooked Path to Abolition: Abraham Lincoln and the Antislavery Constitution*

Rick Perlstein, *Reaganland: America's Right Turn 1976-1980*

David Michaelis, *Eleanor*

Fredrik Logevall, *JFK: Coming of Age in the American Century*

2020

H.W. Brands, *The Zealot and the Emancipator: John Brown, Abraham Lincoln, and the Struggle for American Freedom*

Susan Berfield, *The Hour of Fate: Theodore Roosevelt, J.P. Morgan, and the Battle to Transform American Capitalism*

David W. Blight, *Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom*

Caroline Fraser, *Prairie Fires – The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder*

Elaine Weiss, *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*

Steve Inskeep, *Imperfect Union: How Jessie and John Fremont Mapped the West, Invented Celebrity, and Helped Cause the Civil War*

2019

Evan Thomas, *First: Sandra Day O'Connor*

Rick Atkinson, *The British Are Coming: The War for America, Lexington to Princeton, 1775-*

1777 (The Revolution Trilogy)

Tony Horwitz, *Spying on the South: An Odyssey Across the American Divide*

H.W. Brands, *Heirs of the Founders: The Epic Rivalry of Henry Clay, John Calhoun and Daniel*

Webster, The Second Generation of American Giants

William I. Hitchcock, *The Age of Eisenhower: America and the World in the 1950s*

2018

Liza Mundy, *Code Girls: The Untold Story of the American Women Code Breakers of World War II*

Robert Dallek, *Franklin D. Roosevelt: A Political Life*

2017

Mark Bowden, *Hue 1968: A Turning Point of the American War in Vietnam*

Stephen Kinzer, *The True Flag: Theodore Roosevelt, Mark Twain, and the Birth of American Empire*

2016

Jeffery Rosen, *Louis D. Brandeis – American Prophet*

Steve Inskeep, *Jacksonland*

2015

Aaron David Miller, *The End of Greatness*

2014

Danielle Allen, *Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality*

Walter R. Borneman, *American Spring: Lexington, Concord, and Road to Revolution*

2013

James McPherson, *War on the Waters: The Union and Confederate Navies, 1861-1865*

Rick Atkinson, *The Guns at Last Light: The War in Western Europe, 1944-1945*

2012

Evan Thomas, *Ike's Bluff: President Eisenhower's Secret Battle to Save the World*

Larry J. Sabato, *Historically Speaking: Larry J. Sabato's Crystal Ball*

2011

Adam Goodheart, *1861: The Civil War Awakening*

Melvin I. Urofsky, *Mr. Brandeis of Louisville*

2010

Gary Gallagher, "The Confederate Nation: Waging a War and Dealing with Defeat"

Timothy Weiner, *Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA*

2009

H.W. Brands, *Traitor to His Class: The Privileged Life and Radical Presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt*

Gordon S. Wood, *Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different*

2008

Walter Borneman, *Polk: The Man Who Transformed the Presidency and America*

Harold Holzer, *Lincoln Runs For President: New York, Kentucky and the Campaign of 1860*

2007

Rick Atkinson, *The Day of Battle: The War In Sicily And Italy*

David Nasaw, *Andrew Carnegie*

2006

Martin Sherwin, *American Prometheus*

Michael Sandel, *Explore the Moral Divide*

2005

Steve Coll, *Ghost Wars*

Dr. Harm de Blij, *Geography Behind History: Four Challenges for the 21st Century*

2004

Henry Wiencek, *An Imperfect God: George Washington, His Slaves, and the Creation of America*

Robert Dallek, *An Unfinished Life: John F. Kennedy, 1917 - 1963*

2003

Dayton Duncan, *Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery*

Rick Atkinson, *An Army at Dawn*

2002

Dr. Geoffrey Kemp, *Is Peace Possible? The Deadly Struggle for the Middle East*

Stephen Kotkin, *Armageddon Averted: The Soviet Collapse 1970-2000*

2001

Laurence Leamer, *The Kennedy Men: 1901-1963*

David McCullough, *Letters of John Adams*

2000

David Kemp, *Freedom from Fear: The American People in Depression & War 1929-1945,*

John Keegan, *First and Second World Wars*

1999

William C. Davis, *Lincoln's Men*

David Broder, *The Political Scene: 2000 and Beyond*

1998

James Tobin, *Ernie Pyle's War*

Michael R. Beschloss, *The Use of Presidential Power to Determine the Course of History*

1997

James M. McPherson, *For Cause and Comrades: Why Men Fought in the Civil War*

Doris Kearns Goodwin, *No Ordinary time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II*

1996

Stephen Ambrose, *Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West*

Robert Massie, *The Romanovs: The Final Chapter*

1995

Bob Simon, *The Media's Influence on Our Perception of Historical Events*

David McCullough, *Truman*

1994

Doris Kearns Goodwin, *Meet the Roosevelts*

David Eisenhower, *The War in Europe – Plus 50*

1993

David Halberstam, *The Fifties: America Then and Now, Postwar America to the Next Century*

Shelby Foote, *The Civil War: A Narrative*