

Librarian's Shelf by Kelli Keyes

Dan Holtz at CPL

Through the dedicated hard work of the Friends of the Library, we have the privilege of Dr. Dan Holtz coming to the Columbus Public Library. An amazing character, Dr. Holtz will be presenting a program on Sunday, September 23 at 2 p.m. A professor of English at Peru State College for nearly four decades, Dr. Holtz will put on a well-versed show that he has demonstrated hundreds of times at numerous locations of note.

Dr. Holtz is a native Nebraskan who enjoys sharing insights about some of the many things that make Nebraska unique. He has performed his singing and storytelling at the State Capitol, Bob Devaney Sports Center, Chimney Rock, Fort Robinson, and many other famous locations across the state. In 1999, Dr. Holtz performed on the Millennium Stage at Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. for "Nebraska State Day". The Flatwater Highway Band accompanied him, and together they recorded a new CD titled "All Original, All Nebraska", which he is making available at the program for \$10 each. Dr. Holtz has also made an appearance in 2004 on the television show "Wheel of Fortune", where he was a bonus round winner.

Dr. Holtz has served in many capacities, which have enriched him with the history of Nebraska. He is a past President of the Nebraska State Historical Society Board of Trustees, and is a member of Nebraska 150 Foundation. Dr. Holtz helped to orchestrate the Sesquicentennial commemoration in 2017. He is also a recipient of the Nebraska State College System Teaching Excellence Award as well as the Addison E. Sheldon Memorial Award for the preservation and interpretation of Nebraska history.

With this much accreditation, you will be in for a treat at his presentation for the library. Dr. Holtz knows history, people, and events, and enjoys commemorating these parts of Nebraska. As he accompanies himself with a guitar and harmonica, Dr. Holtz sings historic folk songs, as well as some of his own original music. In between songs, he tells stories about pioneers on the overland trails, Pony Express riders, and Native Americans. Dr. Holtz even tells of more recent events, such as the blizzard of 1948, and Nebraska's pioneer female pilot Evelyn Sharp.

Dr. Holtz was originally scheduled to do a program in April of this year, but because of the snow and cold, his program was cancelled. The Friends of the Library were able to reschedule with Dr. Holtz and he has generously made room in his busy schedule to come back September 23 at 2 pm to the auditorium at Columbus Public Library. Make sure to attend this momentous event provided for your pleasure by the Friends of the Library. Bring your friends and family and enjoy learning about Nebraska.

To broaden your cultural experience, on Saturday, October 6 at 2 pm, Lev Shekhtman of Omaha comes to the library to serenade us with Russian Folk music on his accordion. Shekhtman is a professional accordion player originally from Belarus on the other side of the world. He has performed for over twenty-five years. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to experience the sound of Russian folk music at the Columbus Public Library.

Also, on October 25, from 5 -7 pm, the library is partnering with the Downtown Business Association for the Downtown Trick or Treat event. We will have treats at the library, and at Frankfort Square we will have a booth for kids to enjoy a fun craft that they can take home with them. In the event of bad weather, we will set our craft booth up in the Children's Room at the library. Enjoy a night out with the family and make some great memories! Hope to see you there!