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## **Free Creative Connections Program to Highlight Local and Historic Thanksgivings**

**November 9, 2009 – SPRINGFIELD, OH** - The Springfield Arts Council and the Clark County Historical Society will present “On the Way to the First Thanksgiving” on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at 7:30 PM as the second program in the 2009-2010 Creative Connections Series. The program is presented admission-free at the Heritage Center of Clark County, 117 S. Fountain Ave. in downtown Springfield.

Enjoy history told with humor and drama as storyteller Rand Whipple weaves a tale of what *really* happened “On the Way to the First Thanksgiving.” If you didn’t know that the Mayflower was almost blown up halfway across the Atlantic, or how John Howland fell overboard on his way to America, or what the pilgrims ate, then this informative and entertaining show is for you. The Springfield News Sun’s Tom Stafford will host a special pre-show discussion, “Thanks for the Memories,” beginning at 7:00 PM.

The Creative Connections Series connects unique performances with events of cultural and historic significance in the Springfield/ Clark County area. Additional Creative Connections programs include:

• **Wednesday, February 24, 2010 – 7:30 PM –**

**Screening of “Chaplin” starring Robert Downey, Jr. – hosted by Chaplin expert Dan Kamin. Pre-show discussion - “The Silents in Springfield” at 7 PM with News-Sun’s Andrew McGinn.**

• **Wednesday, April 21, 2010 – 7:30 PM –**

***Mad River Theater Works* production of “Inventing the Future”  
Pre-show Heritage Center Tour highlighting Springfield inventors at 7 PM**

“*On the Way to the First Thanksgiving*” and “*Special Screening of Chaplin*” are partially supported by a grant from Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour, a program developed and funded by The Heinz Endowments; the William Penn Foundation; the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency; and The Pew Charitable Trusts; and administered by Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation.

The Ohio Arts Council helped fund “*Inventing the Future*” with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.

All Creative Connections programs are presented admission-free by the Springfield Arts Council and The Clark County Historical Society. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. For additional information, visit [springfieldartscouncil.org](http://springfieldartscouncil.org) or call 937-324-2712.

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