

THE GILDER LEHRMAN  
INSTITUTE of AMERICAN HISTORY

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**LEADING POLITICAL ECONOMICS WRITER TO SPEAK ON CALVIN COOLIDGE**

**WICHITA, Kan.**— On March 1, Amity Shlaes, syndicated columnist, bestselling author, and director of the Four Percent Growth Project at the George W. Bush Institute will lead a community forum entitled “Calvin Coolidge: The President Who Said ‘No’ and Led The Country To Prosperity.”

Underwritten by the Fred and Mary Koch Foundation, the forum is sponsored by the New York-based Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. The event is free and open to the public. The evening begins with a reception at 5:30 p.m. followed by Shlaes’ presentation. It will be held at the Hyatt Regency Redbud Ballroom at 400 West Waterman in Wichita, Kansas. Seating is limited and online reservations are required no later than February 23 at [www.wichitaforums.com](http://www.wichitaforums.com).

Since 2005, the Fred and Mary Koch Foundation has partnered with the Gilder Lehrman Institute to underwrite professional development teacher seminars and Saturday Academies for Wichita area schools.

According to Susan Addington, community relations manager for the foundation, “This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Calvin Coolidge’s presidency, his economic beliefs and leadership during one of the most prosperous eras in our country’s history.”

Shlaes is the author of the bestselling books “The Forgotten Man: A New History of the Great Depression” and “The Greedy Hand: Why Taxes Drive Americans Crazy.” She was formerly a columnist for the *Financial Times* and a member of the editorial board of the *Wall Street Journal*, specializing in economics. She teaches in the MBA program at New York University’s Stern School of Business and is a commentator for *Marketplace*, the American Public Media radio show. In 2009, she was the winner of the Manhattan Institute’s Hayek Prize. In 2002, she was co-winner of the Frederic Bastiat Prize, an international prize for writing on political economy.

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Founded in 1994, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History promotes the study and love of American history. The Institute's focus on original source documents and archives provides a unique opportunity for people to experience heritage and history, and learn how many of those lessons apply in today's world. The Institute serves teachers, students, scholars, and the general public. It helps create history-centered schools, organizes seminars and programs for educators, produces print and electronic publications and traveling exhibitions, sponsors lectures by eminent historians, and administers a History Teacher of the Year Award in every state through its partnership with Preserve America. The Institute also awards the Lincoln, Frederick Douglass and George Washington Book Prizes, and offers fellowships for scholars to work in the Gilder Lehrman Collection. The Institute maintains two websites, [www.gilderlehrman.org](http://www.gilderlehrman.org) and the quarterly online journal [www.historynow.org](http://www.historynow.org).

Established in 1953, the Fred and Mary Koch Foundation focuses on non-profit organizations that enhance the quality of life in Kansas. The Foundation directs its support toward organizations involved with the arts and art education, environmental stewardship, human services, enablement of at-risk youth and education. Fred and Mary Koch, the donors for whom the foundation is named, shared a passion for education and a love of the outdoors. Mary Koch (1907 - 1990), a 1929 graduate of Wellesley College, was widely recognized and known for her contributions to the arts. Fred Koch (1900 - 1967), graduated from MIT in 1922 and co-founded what is now Koch Industries, Inc. in 1940.

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