

# Big Muddy Speaker Series in Kansas City

## Salvation via the big muddy Canoeing the Great Plains *A Missouri River Summer*

Presentation by  
Patrick Dobson, PhD

Tired of an unfulfilling life in Kansas City, Missouri, Patrick Dobson left his job and set off on foot across the Great Plains. After two and a half months, 1,450 miles, and numerous encounters with the people of the heartland, Patrick arrived in Helena, Montana. He then set a canoe on the Missouri and asked the river to carry him safely back to Kansas City, hoping this enigmatic watercourse would help reconnect him with his life.

Patrick will discuss his new book *Canoeing the Great Plains: A Missouri River Summer* and a journey undertaken nearly 20 years ago that proved to be transformative. He learned to trust himself to the flows of the river and its stark, serenely beautiful countryside – and to a cast of characters he met along the way.



Patrick Dobson is a writer, historian, and ironworker with a PhD in history. Patrick teaches American history and literature at Johnson County Community College.

**FREE & open to the public!**  
**Tuesday,**  
**May 26, 2015**  
**6:00 p.m. Social Hour**  
**7:00 p.m. Presentation**

### Westport Coffee House Theatre

4010 Pennsylvania  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
816-756-3222

<http://westportcoffeehouse.com/>

### For more info

[www.bigmuddyspeakers.org](http://www.bigmuddyspeakers.org)

or

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