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RCTC provides accessible, affordable, quality learning opportunities to serve a diverse and growing community

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For program information, please phone 507-280-3157

Supported by Rochester Community and Technical College

Letter from the Board Chair



With two LIFE Advisory Board terms and one year as President coming to an end, I marvel at the progress our program has made. LIFE continues to provide classes and day trips of high quality and interest which contributes to our pattern of growth. Of course, LIFE as we know it, is due both to the endless energy and administrative skills of our Director, Chrisanne Pieper, and to the efforts and dedication of our volunteer Advisory Board. Thank you to outgoing Board members Carol Kamper, Darlene Kelly, and Pat Farrell. Great work guys and gals and a BIG thank you on behalf of our membership!

Looking ahead to Fall, I cannot wait to sign up for classes as diverse as Prohibition, Japanese Foreign Policy, The Homeless, Bee-keeping, Immunizations, the French Revolution and more. Adding in Fall trips, a movie and a Harvest Dinner Party means LIFE is GOOD. So, gather up your friends and join the LIFE community for some schooling and socializing.

Wishing us all a great year,
Brenda Dicken
LIFE Board Chair



Colleen Arnold
Janet Bartz
Jane Callahan
Pat Farrell
Jane Hallman
Judy Haugen
Chad Israelson
Carol Kamper
Darlene Kelly

**LIFE Advisory
Board Officers**
Brenda Dicken
Chair
Pamela Haase
Vice Chair
Frank Iossi
Secretary

Walt Menning
Judy Pease
Pixy Russell
Julie Stenehjelm
Chuck Stupca
Steve Troutman
Bill Wiktor
Mary Wilson

Registration Information



Cost / LIFE Membership

All individuals participating in LIFE classes are required to either be LIFE members or pay an increased fee as a non-member. Membership for the year is **\$25** per person and is in effect August 1 through July 30 each academic year. An additional fee is charged per course or event. Anyone is welcome to join. The only prerequisite is an active interest in learning. There are no educational requirements, no term papers, no tests—everyone succeeds!

All ages are welcome! Gift Certificates are Available!

Faculty

Various courses are led by professional educators, community leaders, and peer volunteers.

Location

LIFE holds classes in comfortable classrooms at the Heintz Center, 1926 College View Drive S.E., in Rochester. The parking is free and very accessible. Small class sizes promote friendly exchanges and quality instructor contact.

Registration

To register for any of the activities in this catalog either

- * Return the registration form by mail to LIFE, 851 - 30th Avenue S.E.-Box 50 Rochester, MN 55904-4999 – **CHECK PAYMENT TO 'RCTC LIFE' REQUIRED.**
- * Bring registration to the LIFE Office at Heintz Center, 1926 Collegeview Rd SE, Rm. HC107 —**CHECK PAYMENT TO 'RCTC LIFE' REQUIRED.**
- * **Online registration is now available for LIFE members only with credit card payments!! Please call (507) 280-3157 for more information.**

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Class refunds: will only be given **5 business days prior** to the class start date—a \$5 processing fee will be charged. **Trip Refunds:** There will be a 10% processing fee for trips canceled prior to the “no refunds after” date. There will be no refunds for trips after the “no refunds after” date. In the event that a class is canceled due to low enrollment or instructor conflict, refunds will be processed in full. **If Rochester Public Schools or RCTC classes are canceled due to weather, all LIFE classes are canceled—look for cancellations on KTTC.** We make every effort to reschedule classes canceled by the weather. LIFE annual membership fees are non-refundable.

Contact Information:

(507) 280-3157
chrisanne.pieper@rctc.edu

One-Day Trips for LIFE Members



Thursday, September 12, 10 am-5:30 pm—"SimpleGifts with Billy McLaughlin Presents: The Young and the Rest" at the Ives Auditorium in Bloomington leaving from RCTC Regional Sports Center

Wednesday, October 2, 8:30 am-5 pm—Destination: La Crosse, WI leaving from RCTC Regional Sports Center

Thursday, October 3, 8 am-4 pm—"Gloria--A Life!" the St. Paul History Theatre leaving from RCTC Regional Sports Center

Wednesday, October 30, 10 am-5:30 pm—"Ripcord" at the Ives Auditorium in Bloomington leaving from RCTC Regional Sports Center

Wednesday, November 6, 10:30 am-6 pm—"A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder" at the Old Log Theatre leaving from RCTC Regional Sports Center

Tuesday, December 3, 3-11 pm—"The Chenault Duo" at Northrop Auditorium at the U of M leaving from Northrop School

Thursday, December 5, 2:30-9 pm—"Concordia Moorhead Christmas Concert" at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis leaving from Northrop School

Wednesday, December 11, 9:30 am-5:30 pm—"Mamma Mia!" at the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre leaving from RCTC Regional Sports Center

Thursday, December 12, 10 am-5 pm—"Beyond the Rainbow: Garland at Carnegie Hall" at the St. Paul History Theatre leaving from RCTC Regional Sports Center

Sunday, December 15, 4:15-11 pm—"THE BAND'S VISIT" at the Orpheum Theatre leaving from Northrop School-

Wednesday, December 18, 10 am-5:30 pm—"Christmastide—The Celtic Sounds of SimpleGifts with Billy McLaughlin" at the Ives Auditorium in Bloomington leaving from RCTC Regional Sports Center

Friday, December 20, 9:30 am-5:30 pm—"A Magical Medora Christmas" at the Ives Auditorium in Bloomington leaving from RCTC Regional Sports Center

Fall 2019 RCTC LIFE Classes



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ONE-DAY BUS TRIPS

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PLEASE NOTE:
LIFE MEMBERSHIPS
ARE RENEWED EVERY AUGUST.
MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE IN JULY.

ROUTE 3 for City Bus

Literature



Great Books

The Great Books group meets monthly, on first Thursdays, for the academic year. It remains one of the best “bargains” at LIFE!! You pay one fee in the fall for the entire year! Although we seldom have many openings, we do enjoy having new members! Currently our regular reading is taken from both classical and current literature as provided by the respected Great Books Foundation. Participants are responsible for purchasing the materials ordered by the LIFE staff.

Facilitators: Bob Morse, Marita Heller, Betty Spitzmiller

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415 **Session(s):** 4

Date(s): Thu, Sep. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5

Time(s): 10 am-Noon

Member Fee: \$40 **Non-Member Fee:** \$50



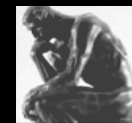
Invite a friend to try RCTC LIFE!

All ages are welcome.

Bring a friend to any two-hour class for *free*!

Good for ONE class per new participant!

Humanities and the Arts



Christmas Songs & Carols: An Interactive History

Did you know that “All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth” was inspired by the lisps of songwriter Donald Gardner’s second-grade students? In this interactive class, we’ll explore the music, text, and history of popular Christmas songs and carols, both sacred and secular. From Prudentius (the Roman poet who wrote “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”) to Pierpont (author of “Jingle Bells” and uncle of J.P. Morgan), from the classic (Meredith Wilson’s “It’s Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas”) to the questionable (“Do They Know It’s Christmas,” recorded by Band Aid), we’ll discuss history, interpret lyrics, and sing some favorite songs and carols along the way. Christmas treats will be served!



Instructor: Travis Beck, Director of Music

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Thu, December 19 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Drawn to music at a young age, Travis Beck started piano lessons at age 5 and began playing for his church’s worship services at age 13. A native of Nashua, IA, he once filled in for his childhood piano teacher at the historic Little Brown Church and played for seven weddings over New Years’ Eve and New Years’ Day. His education includes a B.A. in Church Music from Wartburg College and a Masters in Sacred Music from Luther Seminary. He currently serves full-time as Director of Worship, Music, & Arts at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Rochester, MN and is also a facilitator and consultant, helping groups and congregations work through challenges and achieve their goals. When he’s not busy working, Travis reads non-fiction, watches superhero movies, brews French press coffee, and makes soap. He lives in Rochester with his wife, Samantha, and their daughter, Nora.

History



Totalitarianism

The 20th Century saw a rise in a new type governing dogma, Totalitarianism. Be it Soviet Communism, Italian Fascism, or German Nazism find out how Totalitarian regimes seized and maintained power as well as the common threads found in what was thought to be disparate ideologies.



Instructor: Chad Israelson MA

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Tuesday, December 10 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Chad Israelson received his BA from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and his MA from the University of Nebraska. Israelson has taught at RCTC since 1996. He has also taught at UW-La Crosse, Augsburg, and Winona State. Chad won "Teacher of the Year" in 2003, 2011, and 2012. Chad recently coauthored the book "The Political World of Bob Dylan: Freedom and Justice, Power and Sin." Chad is on the RCTC LIFE Board.

Community



When Republicans were Progressive

A history of a remarkable political party that saw government as a practical tool for creating conditions in which individuals can thrive and why its practices are needed today. Barnes and Noble will have books on hand at Apache Mall prior to this presentation.



Instructor: Dave Durenberger, Lori Sturdevant, Authors

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Tue, September 10 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Dave Durenberger was elected to serve Minnesota in the U S Senate after the death of Hubert H Humphrey and the appointment of his wife Muriel. Dave was the longest serving Republican Senator from Minnesota in modern times and second to Humphrey in length of service. While best known for his work in health policy reform, Dave also served as chair of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and as author of much of the environmental legislation and the gender and disability rights legislation during his service with Presidents Carter, Reagan, Bush 41, and Clinton. On retirement in 1995 he joined the faculty at the Opus College of Business at St. Thomas and chaired its National Institute of Health Policy. Much of the rest of his legislative career is covered in the book he wrote with Lori Sturdevant in 2018 "When Republicans Were Progressive." Lori Sturdevant, an editorial writer and columnist for the Star Tribune, has written several books on Minnesota history.

Humanities and the Arts



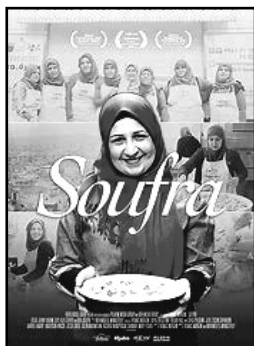
Fall Movie—"Soufra"

Taken from the Arabic word for feast, "Soufra" chronicles the story of Mariam Shaar who transcended the limitations of life in an impoverished refugee camp to launch a successful catering company. South of Beirut, Lebanon is a 68 year old refugee camp housing refugees from Palestine, Syria and Iraq. Many have lived in this camp their entire lives--Mariam Shaar is one of them. Now, Mariam has pulled the women of this camp together to do what has never been done before. They started with a small kitchen from a micro-loan. With nearly insurmountable political odds against them-- they look to start the first refugee food truck. Their journey is one of many ups and downs but it is the community that is built, their sense of hope and how they see themselves that makes this a moving, touching film about their journey. Mariam has been known as 'the crazy lady' and now she will show just how crazy she is! Screenings of this production are charged a fee so there is a cost to attend.

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Wed, September 11 Time(s): 1-3 pm Session(s): 1

Member Fee: \$3 Non-Member Fee: \$5



Humanities and the Arts



Messiah

George Frideric Handel made and lost two fortunes creating opera in his adopted city, London. With his career stalled, he thought of returning to his native Germany. Then an invitation from Ireland sent him into a creative paroxysm that led to the creation of his greatest work, "Messiah," debuted in Dublin. We'll explore how he wrote it and its meaning.



Instructor: Maestro Jere Lantz

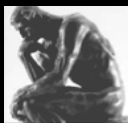
Location: Kellogg Middle School Rm. 115 Music, 503 17th St NE

Date(s): Monday, December 2 Time(s): 6-7 pm Session(s): 1

Member Fee: \$6 Non-Member Fee: \$9

Looking back on having spent a third of a century at the helm of RSOC, Jere Lantz wonders both that it has been so long and that it has been so much fun. Throughout the hundreds of concerts he has led in Rochester, Lantz has shown his acumen for imaginative programming and his ability to deliver dynamic and stirring performances. In addition to his leadership in Rochester, Maestro Lantz has served in Minnesota as Music Director of the Minneapolis Pops Orchestra, Minneapolis Chamber Symphony, Kenwood Chamber Orchestra, St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra, and Minnetonka Choral Society. In addition to conducting in regions as widespread as Europe, Asia and Latin America, Lantz has led ensembles from coast to coast, including major symphonies throughout the U.S. Jere Lantz's commitment to telling "the story behind the music" shines through in his program notes for hundreds of programs as well as innumerable appearances in person and through media. Sought for his understanding of music and its role in today's world, he has served as an advisor to the Minnesota State Arts Board, American Composers Forum, Minnesota Public Radio and the Conductors Guild of the League of American Orchestras. Having assumed the additional role of President/CEO of the RSOC, Maestro Lantz is committed more than ever to the success of good musicians.

History



Academy of Our Lady of Lourdes

Where did the Franciscan Sisters of Rochester reside before Assisi Heights? This class will answer that question. Beginning in 1877, the old academy and mother house on West Center Street grew to occupy a full city block. Eventually the sisters required even more space, and Assisi Heights was opened in 1955. The class will explore in detail the evolution and growth of this lost building, so important in the history of our city.



Instructor: Ken Allsen

Location: Heintz Center H1415

Date(s): Wed, November 20 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Ken Allsen is a freelance architectural historian, author and artist. He has taught LIFE classes for a number of years covering topics in architectural and local history.

Current Affairs



Turkey: Partner in Crisis

Turkey appears to have descended into a nearly perpetual crisis marked by authoritarianism at home and reckless behavior in the region and with its Western allies, especially the United States. What is really going on, where did the present problems come from, and what is the outlook?

Instructor: Ambassador Ross Wilson

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100 **Session(s):** 1

Date(s): Friday, September 13 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Ambassador Ross Wilson is a distinguished senior fellow at the Atlantic Council and visiting lecturer in international affairs at George Washington University. Over the course of a thirty-year career in the U.S. Foreign Service, he served as American ambassador to Turkey in 2005-08 and to Azerbaijan in 2000-03. Elsewhere overseas, he held assignments at the U.S. Embassies in Moscow and Prague and consulate general in Melbourne, Australia. In Washington, Ambassador Wilson was principal deputy to the ambassador-at-large and special advisor to the Secretary of State for the new independent states of the former Soviet Union in 1997-2000. He served as deputy executive secretary of the State Department for Secretaries Baker, Eagleburger, and Christopher; chief of staff to Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick; chief U.S. negotiator for the Free Trade Area of the Americas and in the State Department's offices dealing with the USSR and Egypt. In 2010-2014, Wilson was director of the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center, where he led the Council's work on the former Soviet states, Turkey, and regional energy issues and organized the Council's annual Energy and Economic Summit in Istanbul. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota and master's degrees from Columbia University and the US National War College. He is a recipient of the president's Meritorious Service Award.

Current Affairs



Trade and U.S. Foreign Policy

The Trump Administration has made trade reform -- via the renegotiation of trading arrangements with other countries near and far -- a centerpiece of his nationalist agenda. What has been the role of trade in the United States and in US foreign policy and what issues will be key as new trading arrangements get negotiated and brought forward for approval?

Instructor: Ambassador Ross Wilson

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Friday, September 13 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Ambassador Ross Wilson is a distinguished senior fellow at the Atlantic Council and visiting lecturer in international affairs at George Washington University. Over the course of a thirty-year career in the U.S. Foreign Service, he served as American ambassador to Turkey in 2005-08 and to Azerbaijan in 2000-03. Elsewhere overseas, he held assignments at the U.S. Embassies in Moscow and Prague and consulate general in Melbourne, Australia. In Washington, Ambassador Wilson was principal deputy to the ambassador-at-large and special advisor to the Secretary of State for the new independent states of the former Soviet Union in 1997-2000. He served as deputy executive secretary of the State Department for Secretaries Baker, Eagleburger, and Christopher; chief of staff to Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick; chief U.S. negotiator for the Free Trade Area of the Americas and in the State Department's offices dealing with the USSR and Egypt. In 2010-2014, Wilson was director of the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center, where he led the Council's work on the former Soviet states, Turkey, and regional energy issues and organized the Council's annual Energy and Economic Summit in Istanbul. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota and master's degrees from Columbia University and the US National War College. He is a recipient of the president's Meritorious Service Award.

History



French Revolution and Napoleon

The events that enveloped France and Europe in the 18th and 19th Centuries marked a turning point in the history of Western Civilization and impacted the entire world. Come and learn what caused the French Revolution, Napoleon's rule in France, and the results of this period that reverberated for the 200 years since they culminated.



Instructor: Chad Israelson MA

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1403

Date(s): Tuesday, November 19 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Chad Israelson received his BA from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and his MA from the University of Nebraska. Israelson has taught at RCTC since 1996. He has also taught at UW-La Crosse, Augsburg, and Winona State. Chad won "Teacher of the Year" in 2003, 2011, and 2012. Chad recently coauthored the book "The Political World of Bob Dylan: Freedom and Justice, Power and Sin." Chad is on the RCTC LIFE Board.

Current Affairs



Headliners

LIFE “Headliners” is a discussion group where people gather to listen, to learn, and to engage in an open and thoughtful exchange of ideas, opinions, and information. It is a place to flex the brain, to find gratification in being acknowledged for what you know, and to be humbled by the knowledge of others. Please bring current newspaper/magazine topics you would like to discuss.



Instructor: Steve Frytak

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Monday, November 18 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$5 **Non-Member Fee:** \$10

Stephen Frytak is a retired Mayo Medical Oncologist. Steve currently serves on the Learning Is ForEver (LIFE) Board.

www.learningisforever.net

Current Affairs



Rwanda--Is Past Prologue?

In 1959 the small African nation exploded with internal civil strife causing the loss of thousands of lives. Again in 1994 long simmering inequalities caused a civil war with a loss of more than 1 million lives. During the civil war western nations continued to harvest valuable minerals on a weekly basis while failing to adequately respond to the violence. What options were available? Did the US ignore the threat to innocent civilians in Rwanda? Has Rwanda become the new normal for foreign conflicts?

Instructor: Judge LaJune Thomas Lange (retired)

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Mon, September 16 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

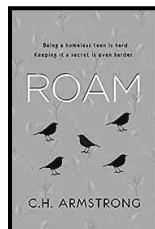
Judge LaJune Lange, a retired State of MN Trial Court Judge, is an internationally-recognized expert in Human Rights and International Development conducting assessments and programs in Qatar, Tanzania, Rwanda, Brazil, Malawi, Norway, Kenya, the Caribbean and other parts of the world. She is the founder and President of the LaJune Thomas Lange International Leadership Institute, she develops legal, health and education programs while facilitating economic and intercultural exchange. Currently, she serves as Honorary Consul for South Africa, representing South Africans in Minnesota fostering partnerships and economic development. She also serves the Board of Regents of her alma mater, Augsburg College; and has served as an adjunct professor of civil and human rights at William Mitchell College of Law. She is also a senior fellow with the Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice. Lange provided her expertise in constitutional development and the rule of law as a United Nations Development Program (UNDP) advisor during the Nigerian elections, provided intervention during the election crisis in Kenya, and is the first American Judge invited to participate in a judicial education program in Morocco.

Community



ROAM: An Author's Journey to Giving the Homeless Community a Face

An estimated 6,000 Minnesota youth are homeless on any given night, and nearly half of those youth are under the age of eighteen. In her 2019 novel, *Roam*, Rochester author, C.H. Armstrong, gives a face to homelessness through the lives of a fictional family living in their van in a Walmart parking lot. In this presentation, Armstrong will discuss the people and places in Rochester that inspired her novel, and offer insight into ways we can assist those in our community, as well as how to help heal the isolation that often leads to homelessness.



Instructor: C.H. Armstrong, Author

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415 **Session(s):** 1

Date(s): Tue, September 17 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon

Member Fee: \$5 **Non-Member Fee:** \$10

C.H. Armstrong is a 27-year resident of Rochester. A 1992 graduate of the University of Oklahoma, she holds a B.A. in Journalism/News Communications with a minor in History. A 2014 writing assignment for Rochester Women magazine, and featuring the organizer of a local soup kitchen, piqued her interest in Rochester's homeless community and led to the inspiration for the characters featured in Roam. Armstrong is also the author of The Edge of Nowhere, an historical fiction title set in Oklahoma during the one-two punch of 1930s Great Depression and Dust Bowl, and was inspired by her grandmother's struggle, widowed and alone, with fourteen children during the era.

Travel Adventures



Touring the French Riviera, Corsica, Tuscany, Elba and Rome

Travel with us through pictures and commentary about our 3-week tandem bicycle trip to Nice, Monaco, Corsica, Elba and Italy (Tuscany, Rome, Pompeii and Herculeum). Traveling on a small ship, and cycling through the mountainous terrain of these countries we saw each destination up close and personal; experiencing the culture, historical sights, amazing views, and delicious foods and wine. If you have been, are planning to go, or just want to experience it through pictures without having to physically train for a bike trip, come and enjoy the ride!



Instructor: Julie and Dean Stenehjem

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Thu, November 14 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Julie and Dean are natives of Rochester and have been tandem riding for 17 years. Recently they have branched out to adventure trips that are out of the Midwest and in other countries. Julie taught Kindergarten for 35 years in the Rochester Public Schools and is now retired. Dean had a 34 year career with the YMCA and now works in fundraising/development with the Samaritan Bethany Foundation.

Literature



Eudora Welty--Art for Understanding Ourselves and Others

Eudora Welty's work has placed her among America's preeminent authors, the first living writer to be published in the "Library of America" series. Known primarily for her short stories, her novels are also highly acclaimed; her last, "The Optimist's Daughter," won the Pulitzer Prize. A lifetime resident of Jackson, Mississippi, Welty had a happy home life and a good education, but the focus of most of her art is on the marginalized people, white and black, whose stories she witnessed and understood. Toni Morrison observed that Welty wrote "about black people in a way that few white men have ever been able to write. It is not patronizing, not romanticizing -- it's the way it should be written." The same could be said about her poor white characters. In her essay, "Must the Novelist Crusade?", Welty says, "The character we care about...we may not approve or agree with -- that's beside the point. But he has got to seem alive. Then and only then, when we read, we experience or surmise things about life itself that are deeper and more lasting and less destructive to understanding than approval or disapproval." We will discuss "A Worn Path," "Where Is the Voice Coming From?" and "The Whistle."

Instructor: Vaunceil Kruse MAE

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Wed, November 13 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Vaunceil Kruse, MAE, taught AP English in a small, diverse high school in Illinois. After retirement she was Communications Coordinator for NAMI Wisconsin. Since moving to Rochester she has worked as a Mayo Clinic volunteer.

History



Minnesota's Wild and Woolly Prohibition Days

In 1920, Minnesotans, along with the rest of the country, were plunged into what many called "The Great Experiment." PROHIBITION. The manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcohol was outlawed by the Volstead Act. Parents became bootleggers, kids smuggled illegal alcohol, and outlaws became celebrities. When Congress passed the 18th Amendment, supporters believed it would create a better, stronger nation. Instead it began an era of lawlessness, when famous gangsters like Al Capone rose to fame. After an agreement between bootlegging gangsters and the police, St. Paul became a "gangster haven." As gangsters grabbed the headlines, everyday Minnesotans quietly set up their own stills and speakeasies, producing the, what many considered, the best corn liquor in the nation. Many were busted and went to jail, some at Leavenworth Penitentiary in Kansas. Why take the risk? Producing moonshine for sale was one way



Instructor: Arn Kind

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Wed, September 18 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$19 **Non-Member Fee:** \$29

Arn Kind has been an educator for 40 years, both in the classroom, teaching grades 4 through 12 and through his presentations to young people and adults of all ages. He is a member of the First MN Volunteer Infantry Regiment; a reenactment group based out of Ft. Snelling. Because this group is noted for its authenticity, they have appeared in many documentaries and historical feature films such as The Blue and the Gray, North & South, Glory, Gettysburg, Dances With Wolves, and Gods and Generals. Arn brings this authenticity to his presentations. A very important part of Arn's presentations are the artifacts, uniforms and equipment that students will be able to observe, handle, and interact with as part of their hands-on experience in living the history.

Health and Science



Vaccinations: Public Health Triumph, Public Relations

At the end of this two hour seminar, participants will be able to describe the success of vaccinations as a public health intervention, relate the effort made nationally to uphold this success, and list the reasons why vaccines are far safer than prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, and vitamins and minerals. The seminar will include three didactic presentations, each followed by a robust question-and-answer formatted discussion.



Instructor: Robert Jacobson MD

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Thu, September 19 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Robert Jacobson is a primary care pediatrician and Professor of Pediatrics at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He is the medical director of the immunization programs for both adults and children for the primary care practices in Rochester as well as in Southeast Minnesota Mayo Clinic Health System and the medical director for the Population Health Sciences Program at Mayo Clinic. He conducts research investigating how to improve vaccine coverage as well as teaches medical students, residents, and clinicians. He and his wife Renée have lived in Rochester since 1989, and they have raised four well-vaccinated children.

Nature and Ecology



Source of the Mississippi River

What is the true source of the Mississippi? How many explorers have searched for it? How did it affect the Border between Canada and colonial United States? Who finally determined the source and how was that decision made?



Instructor: Don Borcharding

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Wed, November 13 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Don Borcharding is a licensed Professional Engineer and Surveyor in Minnesota and Iowa. He is a graduate of Iowa State University, retired as President of Yaggy Colby Associates, Past President of the Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors, Emeritus.

History



The FIRST Gilded Age

Between the Civil War and the turn of the 19th century

- anti-immigration sentiments became strong
- corrupt business practices were rampant
- partisan politics was bitterly divisive
- distrust of and scorn for politicians was common
- economic inequality was accelerating
- white nationalism was rampant and increasingly virulent
- restrictions on voting rights took various forms
- a decline in public health and longevity emerged

Sound familiar? Come and find out how American's dealt with these conditions that dominated the last third of the 19th century, a period of rapid growth, as well as a time of great changes that continue to define who we are today.



Instructor: Bob Beery PhD

Location: Heintz Center H1100

Date(s): Tuesday, November 12 Time(s): 1-3 pm Session(s): 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21

Bob Beery, Ph.D., is a retired educator with degrees from the University of Minnesota. He was Curriculum Director with the Rochester Public Schools and worked on national and state curriculum- development projects. His professional publications deal with the teaching of history and social studies. In retirement, he has served as an adjunct faculty member at the U. of M., WSU, RCTC, and Saint Mary's University.

History



Minnesota's Headline Murders 1900-1910

Extra! Extra! Retired BCA agent Shannon will talk about ten sensational stories of murder and justice at the dawn of the twentieth century in Minnesota's Headline Murders! 1900-1919. Shannon will share his well-researched and compelling tales from the front pages of Minnesota's past. This class is for any true crime fan. Please try to read the book prior to class--this is not a requirement.



Instructor: Patrick Shannon, Author

Location: Heintz Center H1415 Session(s): 1

Date(s): Thu, September 19 Time(s): 10 am-Noon

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

The author is retired special agent in death investigations and narcotics for the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, so he knows what he's writing about as he details 10 murders and their aftermaths. It begins with the murder of a young millionaire in a prestigious downtown Minneapolis hotel in 1901. Fran Hamilton, a direct descendant of Alexander Hamilton, was charged with the crime. In 1905, a West Seventh Street butcher in St. Paul was murdered in midday. The chief of police took command of the investigation, "which proved most interesting in the techniques police used to track down and eliminate suspects," Shannon writes, adding "I want the readers to feel the joys and frustrations of living in Minnesota in the first part of the twentieth century."

Literature



LIFE Book Group

September's book will be "Beneath a Scarlet Sky: A Novel" by Mark Sullivan. October's will be "Before We Were Yours: A Novel" by Lisa Wingate. November's book is "Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World-and Why Things Are Better Than You Think" by Hans Rosling and Anna Rosling Rönnlund. December's read will be "Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder, and One Man's Fight for Justice" by Bill Browder. Note: The December session meets on the second Friday.

Facilitator: Steve Troutman

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Fri, Sep. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 13

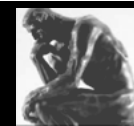
Time(s): 10 am-Noon **Session(s):** 4

Member Fee: \$10 **Non-Member Fee:** \$20



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Humanities and the Arts



When We Began

The Rochester Symphony was founded during the fertile post-World War I period when music was headed in countless diverging directions. Edward Elgar's "Cello Concerto" summarized English romanticism. Frenchman Darius Milhaud visited the jazz clubs of Harlem and came up with his "La Création du Monde" (The Creation of the World). And Igor Stravinsky launched his concert career with a suite to his magical ballet "The Firebird."



Instructor: Maestro Jere Lantz

Location: Kellogg Middle School Rm. 115 Music, 503 17th St NE

Date(s): Monday, November 11 **Time(s):** 6-7 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$6 **Non-Member Fee:** \$9

Looking back on having spent a third of a century at the helm of RSOC, Jere Lantz wonders both that it has been so long and that it has been so much fun. Throughout the hundreds of concerts he has led in Rochester, Lantz has shown his acumen for imaginative programming and his ability to deliver dynamic and stirring performances. In addition to his leadership in Rochester, Maestro Lantz has served in Minnesota as Music Director of the Minneapolis Pops Orchestra, Minneapolis Chamber Symphony, Kenwood Chamber Orchestra, St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra, and Minnetonka Choral Society. In addition to conducting in regions as widespread as Europe, Asia and Latin America, Lantz has led ensembles from coast to coast, including major symphonies throughout the U.S. Jere Lantz's commitment to telling "the story behind the music" shines through in his program notes for hundreds of programs as well as innumerable appearances in person and through media.

History



Harvest Dinner: How the World's Fairs Changed Your Life

From the first world's fair in 1851 in London to the next one in 2020 in Dubai, these global exhibitions have become the greatest change agent in history. Every time you plug your phone into a wall socket, flick on a television, get an X-ray, lick an ice-cream cone, ride an elevator, use a touchscreen, pack something in a Louis Vuitton suitcase, or drink a glass of burgundy, you're doing something that originated at or was popularized at a world's fair. Dinner will be Airline Chicken, Wild Rice Blend, Seasonal Roasted Vegetables, House Salad w/ Champagne Vinaigrette, Fresh baked Dinner rolls w/butter, harvest dessert, coffee/tea. Dinner is at 6 pm, the presentation begins at 6:30 pm. **Registration deadline: November 1.**



Instructor: Charles Pappas

Location: Rochester International Event Center (by the airport)

Date(s): Thursday, November 7 **Time(s):** 6-8 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$29 **Non-Member Fee:** \$39

Charles Pappas has covered the expo industry for Exhibitor magazine in Rochester since 2002, and is its de facto historian. Previously, he was the investigative reporter for Yahoo Internet Life, a columnist for Alexa.com, and a technology writer for Small Office Computing, Home Office Computing, and other publications. His books include "Flying Cars, Zombie Dogs, and Robot Overlords," a probe of how world expos and trade fairs shaped history, and "It's a Bitter Little World," a revel in the neon language of film noir.

History



JFK's Assassination: The Mystery and Legend

Where were you when JFK was assassinated? After 50 years, this event still sparks discussion and controversy. Join us for a balanced discussion of one of the pivotal events of the 20th century.



Instructor: David E. Jones

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415 **Session(s):** 1

Date(s): Mon, September 23 **Time(s):** 10-11:30 am

Member Fee: \$10 **Non-Member Fee:** \$15

David Jones, a resident of Minneapolis, has been presenting on historical topics to a wide range of audiences since 1996. He has made more than 750 presentations to over 20,000 people. He is a native of St. Peter, MN and a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College.

Current Affairs



Making Sense of the World

We become overwhelmed by the daily news. Changes in national and world events, wars, terrorism, technology, climate, issues over democracy and capitalism, nuclear and cyber threats, security, privacy and immigration. There are trends in 2019 which allow us to see the relationships between these threats and opportunities for our families, our communities, and world. Todd will cover the national and international shifts which define the present and future.

Instructor: Todd Lefko

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415 **Session(s):** 1

Date(s): Tue, September 24 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

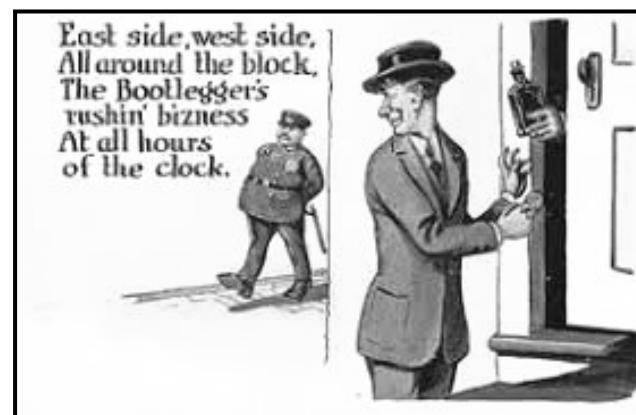
Todd Lefko is the President of the International Business Development Council, an import-export firm. He has homes in Minnesota and Moscow and has worked in Russia for more than 25 years. His weekly articles appear in "Rossiske Vesti," a Russian political newspaper, and he is a contributor to "Rusya-Al Youm," the Russian Arabic Television channel for the Middle East. He has lectured at universities in Russia, China, Belarus, Germany, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan. Mr. Lefko has also taught urban affairs and sociology at the U of M, and political science, international relations, political philosophy, political campaign management, leadership, organizational development, and public administration at other MN colleges. He is one of the founders and current treasurer of Global Volunteers, and has worked in villages in Jamaica, Mexico, and Guatemala.

History



Prohibition: A Grand Misadventure

In 1920, the United States entered a period during which the manufacture, sale, and transportation of intoxicating liquors was banned. As it turned out, the U.S. also entered a period of lawlessness and corruption, unequaled in its history.



Instructor: David E. Jones

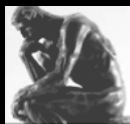
Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415 **Session(s):** 1

Date(s): Mon, November 4 **Time(s):** 10-11:30 am

Member Fee: \$10 **Non-Member Fee:** \$15

David Jones, a resident of Minneapolis, has been presenting on historical topics to a wide range of audiences since 1996. He has made more than 750 presentations to over 20,000 people. He is a native of St. Peter, MN and a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College.

Humanities and the Arts



Philosophy of Sex and Gender

This course will provide a short introduction to some recent philosophical ideas (and debates) regarding gender, sex, and the relationship between the two. We'll also consider the importance of these issues in areas such as the philosophy of science, social and political philosophy, and biomedical ethics.



Instructor: Brendan Shea PhD

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Friday, November 1 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Brendan Shea, PhD, is an Instructor of Philosophy at RCTC. He also serves as a Resident Fellow at the Minnesota Center for Philosophy at UM-Twin Cities, and as a Public Member on the Institutional Biosafety Committee at Mayo Clinic. Brendan has published numerous articles and book chapters concerning ethics, the philosophy of science, the history of philosophy, and other issues. He currently lives in Rochester with his wife Anne.

Current Affairs



Global Volunteers

Global Volunteers is the "Granddaddy of the volunteer vacation movement" according to USA Today. The co-founder Michele Gran will discuss the unique approach of Global Volunteers, which is based on the idea that volunteers of every age can address hunger, health, poverty and educational issues at the community level around the world. Since 1984, almost 35,000 Global Volunteers have worked in over 200 communities in 35 countries on six continents teaching English, building schools, health clinics and water systems, caring for children, supplying pregnant women and new mothers with gardens and building personal relationships and experiences for all participants. Working in Special Consultative Status with the United Nations since 1999 and UNICEF since 2008, the vision has remained that international volunteers focused upon waging peace and promoting justice through working toward better lives for children women and communities make a difference. Michele will describe the story.

Instructors: Michele Gran and Todd Lefko

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Tue, September 24 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Michele is Global Volunteer's co-founder and Senior Vice President. She manages the organization's marketing strategy and external messages. She earned a Master's Degree in Liberal Studies/International Communications and a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism. Before joining the staff in 1990, she worked as a public relations consultant, and held communications manager positions at various departments in Minnesota State Government, and in non-profit organizations. Michele also has led over 50 Global Volunteers teams. She chairs the board Succession Planning committee.

Community



How to Scam the Scammer

Current trends in Frauds and Scams as reported to the Rochester Police Department. Examples of scams seen are: Craig's List Scams, Romance Scams, Granny Scams, hacking into accounts, Malware scams, Gift card scams, and problems of online banking.



Instructor: Darrel Hildebrant, Rochester Police Department
Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100
Date(s): Wed, September 25 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1
Member Fee: \$5 **Non-Member Fee:** \$10

The Mayor appointed Darrel to represent Rochester on the MN Citizens Corps Council, part of the MN Dept. of Public Safety, to respond to counter-terrorism and natural disasters in Minnesota. He was chosen as one of six individuals from Minnesota to receive the first training for Community Emergency Response Teams by FEMA at the Grissom Reserve Air Force Base in Peru, IN. Darrel has received a two letter of Commendations from the Chief of Police, Roger Peterson, the Mayor's Medal of Honor and the "MN Volunteer of the Year" from AARP MN. Darrel also received a Distinguished Service Award from MN Attorney General, and the "MN Crime Prevention Team of the Year" from the MN Crime Prevention Association. In 2019 Chief of Police Franklin presented Darrel a letter of Recognition for his work in Crime Prevention.

Humanities and the Arts



Woven Art: Textiles in Russian Culture

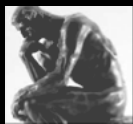
Textile creation combines environmental considerations, necessity, and aesthetics. The variety that results is especially evident in the geographical expanses of the Russian political influence. Sampling the wealth of textile designs not only explores the cultural variety but also shows the ways in which textiles become art. Exploring this theme gives some background to the upcoming fall exhibit at The Museum of Russian Art.



Instructor: Carol L. Veldman Rudie
Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415
Date(s): Thursday, October 31 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1
Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

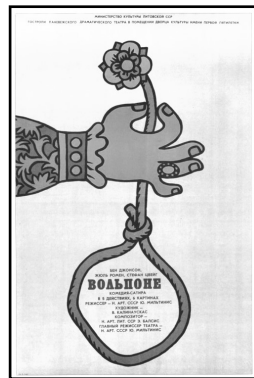
Carol Veldman Rudie is the lead docent and the coordinator of outreach education at The Museum of Russian Art in Minneapolis. She regularly leads classes and speaks on topics of Russian art. A former college teacher, she has done PhD work at the University of Minnesota in English literature and art history.

Humanities and the Arts



The People's Papers: The Poster Tradition in the Soviet Context

A long communication tradition rooted in inexpensive flyers and broadsheets developed into a robust Soviet poster tradition. Varying design principles made these posters valuable artifacts of the purposes and tastes of the time. Both the history and the aesthetics of this messaging medium become background for the upcoming fall exhibit at The Museum of Russian Art.



Instructor: Carol L. Veldman Rudie

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Thu, October 31 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Carol Veldman Rudie is the lead docent and the coordinator of outreach education at The Museum of Russian Art in Minneapolis. She regularly leads classes and speaks on topics of Russian art. A former college teacher, she has done PhD work at the University of Minnesota in English literature and art history.

Current Affairs



Japanese Domestic Politics: Why Would Anyone Want to Take This On?

Japan is faced with complex domestic challenges that will require fundamental changes in public attitudes and government policy. In this first session, we will analyze Japan's demographic changes, economic restructuring and the changing views of work, rural depopulation, and the current state of energy politics after Fukushima.



Instructor: Richard Leitch PhD

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415 **Session(s):** 1

Date(s): Thu, September 26 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Dr. Richard Leitch earned his BA in East Asian Studies from Colby College in 1985, and went on to earn an MA in Asian Studies from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign after a two year career on Wall Street. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from Illinois in 1995, where he was the recipient of the Harriet and Charles Luckman Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching, and the College of Liberal Arts Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Graduate Assistant. He has been a member of the Political Science Department at Gustavus since 1996, where he teaches courses in International Relations, Comparative Politics, Asian Politics, Environmental Politics, and the Politics of Poverty. In 2000 he received the Swenson-Bunn Award for Teaching Excellence at Gustavus, and in 2008 the Edgar M. Carlson Award for Distinguished Teaching. In 2012 he was included in The Princeton Review's The Best 300 Professors. His research interests include Japanese domestic politics and foreign policy, and he is the co-author of Japan's Role in the Post-Cold War World.

Current Affairs



Japanese Foreign Policy: We're Still Here!

The so-called “pivot to Asia” of U.S. foreign policy announced during the Obama administration was an admission that China had already assumed primacy over Japan in US views of the region. But that does not mean Japanese foreign policy is insignificant. In this second session, we will think about Japan-China, Japan-North Korea, Japan-South Korea, and Japan-Russia relations.



Instructor: Richard Leitch PhD

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Thu, September 26 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

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History



Oktoberfest for LIFE--The History and Process of Beer Making

Come learn about how beer first appeared on our planet and the evolution of that product into what we know today as beer. Also, you will learn about how beers are made and as an extra treat, do some tasting of some beers and match up some foods that pair well with the beer you are tasting. A supply/food fee of \$20/pp will be collected the night of class.



Instructor: Ann Fahy

Location: Ground Rounds Brewing Company,
4 Third Street SW

Date(s): Wed, October 30 **Time(s):** 6-8 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$9 **Non-Member Fee:** \$13

Ann has 25+ years of experience in the brewing field. She was one of the first female Brewmasters in the U.S., receiving her certificate from Siebels Institute in Chicago. She worked at Coors Brewing in a variety of roles, including process control, engineering, International Brewing and International Marketing. With Coors she traveled to the UK, Spain, Japan and Korea as the brewer working with other breweries to make Coors internationally. One of her accomplishments was to be appointed as an honorary man in Korea so that she could complete the engineering tasks she was assigned. She then was hired by Guinness to be their International Director of Quality and there had the great opportunity to work in Ireland, Spain, Africa, Jamaica and the Far East. Her desire to create great Guinness across the globe led to the award winning collaboration between brewing operations and marketing to create the “Perfect Pint” campaign which is still in use today to ensure consistency across Guinness brewing operations and distribution. Her final role was with Scottish Courage Brewing LTD as Director of the largest brewery in Britain – Berkshire Brewery. The brewery no longer stands since the London real estate market created a situation where the land was more valuable than the beer brewed on the land.

Nature and Ecology



Owls Through the Ages and Around the World

What is it about owls that captivates us? Nearly every culture throughout history around the world holds owls in special regard. Most people loved them or feared them; they weren't ambivalent about owls. Americans are no exception. Join International Owl Center Executive Director Karla Bloem to explore owls on six continents through early cave art, mythology, modern witchcraft and more, and find out why cultural views around owls are so important to understand. We'll also take a trip around the globe with Mini Hooston, the International Owl Center's traveling mascot, to highlight some of the great work currently being done to conserve owls and the people who are making it happen. One of the Center's live ambassador owls will assist with the presentation.



Instructor: Karla Bloem, Exec. Director

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1403

Date(s): Tuesday, October 29 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Karla Bloem is the founder and Executive Director of the International Owl Center. She acquired Alice the Great Horned Owl to use in educational programs in 1998 and began studying Great Horned Owl vocalizations in 2004. Karla is now the world authority on their vocalizations and has given presentations in The Netherlands, Germany, Argentina, Italy, Portugal and South Africa. Alice's popularity led Karla to create the International Festival of Owls, the first full-weekend, all-owl event in North America that has served as the inspiration for similar festivals in Italy, Nepal and India. Karla and Alice testified before the Minnesota House and Senate environment committees to successfully gain protection for Great Horned Owls in 2005. Karla received the Brother Theodore Voelker Award from the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union in 2001 and was awarded a Bush Leadership Fellowship in 2008. She has assisted several authors and filmmakers and has appeared on Animal Planet and the CBC's "The Secret Life of Owls."

History



Ojibwe Seasonal Life

Learn the traditional ways of the Ojibwe in early Minnesota. They moved seasonally to follow food and resources to live straight from nature. This dramatically different way of life helps us compare our modern lifestyles and impact upon the environment. This program can also include fur trade history by addressing the Europeans who came for work and exploration. Fur trade presentations include manufactured goods such as kettles, blankets and fire starters that traders brought from around the world. We explore this global business that influenced both white and native cultures. While Mercedes is not American Indian, it is important to learn about the many cultures that shape Minnesota's past and present.



Instructor: Mercedes Tuma-Hansen

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100 **Session(s):** 1

Date(s): Fri, September 27 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

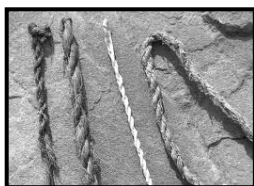
Teaching American Indian history and the environment, Mercedes Tuma-Hansen presents programs at schools, parks, museums, and as a public speaker. Starting at the Minnesota Historical Society, she developed a national award winning museum education program. Now she has over 15 years of living history experience. Teaching about everyday life in the past and letting people try their hand at skills like birchbark basket making, net making, processing wild nuts, and creating traditional art with a modern twist gives people an opportunity to experience history. These programs engage participants in history by connecting the past to our modern lives.

History



Basswood and Flax Cordage

In this hands-on class you will learn how to create cordage from the inner bark of the basswood tree and fibers from flax plants. Cordage is rope, string, or twine made by twisting plant fibers together. Simple as it sounds, over generations different cultures have discovered how to harvest plants and process them through many steps to create rope to tie their worlds together. In this class, participants will learn about the history and science of cordage and get to experiment with several plant fibers to make enough cordage for a bracelet or necklace to take home.



Instructor: Mercedes Tuma-Hansen

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Fri, September 27 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Teaching American Indian history and the environment, Mercedes Tuma-Hansen presents programs at schools, parks, museums, and as a public speaker. Starting at the Minnesota Historical Society, she developed a national award winning museum education program. Now she has over 15 years of living history experience. Teaching about everyday life in the past and letting people try their hand at skills like birchbark basket making, net making, processing wild nuts, and creating traditional art with a modern twist gives people an opportunity to experience history. These programs engage participants in history by connecting the past to our modern lives.

Nature and Ecology



Mike Lynch's "Minnesota Starwatch Program"

Make the stars your old friends as we watch the great celestial show in the skies over Rochester. We'll have giant telescopes aimed at Saturn, Jupiter, star clusters, galaxies, and other great celestial treasures. We'll also check out constellations like The Big Bear, Cygnus the Swan, Pegasus the Winged Horse, and some of their great stories behind them. Along with visual telescopes we'll have a telescope astronomical camera system to really see distant celestial targets on a video screen. You'll get a great handout package with user-friendly star maps and constellation charts, websites, a telescope-buying guide, and more! Mike Lynch is a meteorologist at WCCO Radio and has been hosting star watch parties and teaching astronomy classes for over 48 years. He also writes a weekly stargazing column for the St. Paul Pioneer Press and is the author of the books; "Mike Lynch's Minnesota Star Watch" and "Stars, a Month by Month Tour of the Constellations." Both books will be available for purchase, at a discount. Super cool glow in the dark star shirts will also be available for purchase. Even if it's the cloudy you'll learn a lot, have a great time! You're invited to bring lawn chairs!

Instructor: Mike Lynch, WCCO Radio Meteorologist

Location: Bamber Valley School Playground,
2001 Bamber Valley Rd SW

Date(s): Fri, October 25 **Time(s):** 6:30-8:30 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$12 **Non-Member Fee:** \$15

Mike Lynch is a meteorologist at WCCO Radio and has been hosting star watch parties and teaching astronomy classes for over 48 years. He also writes a weekly stargazing column for the St. Paul Pioneer Press and is the author of the books; "Mike Lynch's Minnesota Star Watch" and "Stars, a Month by Month Tour of the Constellations."

Nature and Ecology



Mike Lynch's "Minnesota Starwatch Program"

Make the stars your old friends and learn how to enjoy the great celestial show in the skies over the Rochester. Learn how to find great Autumn constellations like The Big Bear, Cygnus the Swan, Pegasus the Winged Horse, and some of the celestial treasures among them like Saturn, Jupiter, star clusters, galaxies, and more. You'll also enjoy some of great constellation mythological soap operas stories. Mike will bring along giant telescopes for daytime "land gazing." Along with visual telescopes he'll have his telescope-astronomical camera system. You'll get a great handout package with user-friendly star maps and constellation charts, websites, a telescope-buying guide, and more! He writes a weekly stargazing column for the Rochester Post Bulletin and is the author of the books; "Mike Lynch's Minnesota Star Watch" and "Stars, a Month by Month Tour of the Constellations." Both books will be available for purchase at a discount. Super cool glow in the dark star shirts will also be available for purchase. Even if it's cloudy you'll learn a lot and have a great time! Make the Stars Your Old Friends!

Instructor: Mike Lynch, WCCO Radio Meteorologist

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Friday, October 25 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$12 **Non-Member Fee:** \$15

Mike Lynch is a meteorologist at WCCO Radio and has been hosting star watch parties and teaching astronomy classes for over 48 years. He also writes a weekly stargazing column for the St. Paul Pioneer Press and is the author of the books; "Mike Lynch's Minnesota Star Watch" and "Stars, a Month by Month Tour of the Constellations."

History



Generals Patton and MacArthur: World War I, II and After

Generals Patton and MacArthur loomed large in U.S. military history, with their leadership in World Wars I and II, and MacArthur in Korea; and their controversial political influence as well.



Instructor: Tom Ostrom, Professor Emeritus, RCTC

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Mon, September 30 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Ostrom is a retired RCTC instructor of geography, history and anthropology; a former member of the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve; an author of books on naval and coast guard history; and a political commentator on KROC-AM Radio. He has taught several LIFE classes.

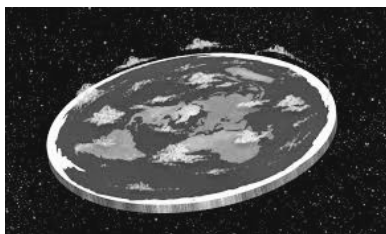
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Nature and Ecology



Flat Earth!...Wait, what!?

Due to the popular and easily accessible Internet, the idea that the Earth is flat is gaining momentum. “Celebrities” are saying they believe the Earth is flat during interviews. A popular singer set up a GoFundMe page to raise money to send a satellite into space to prove the Earth was flat. A regular individual risked his life by launching himself in a home-made rocket to prove the Earth was flat. Mayo High School Planetarium Director, Paul Larson coordinated a world-wide science experiment in July 2018 in order to collect data to be used to determine the shape of the planet Earth. Visit the Planetarium to see the results of the experiment, and learn how to investigate a scientific question about the natural world around you. Does the data show the Earth is round like a ball or round like a pancake? Come find out. Please enter through door #6 at Mayo High School.



Instructor: Paul Larson, Planetarium Director, AS, BA, M.Ed.

Location: Mayo High School Planetarium - 1420 11th Ave SE

Date(s): Mon, Sep 30 **Time(s):** 10-11:30 am **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$7 **Non-Member Fee:** \$9

Paul is the Planetarium Director for Mayo High School. Mr. Larson came to Rochester from the St. Cloud State University Planetarium, in St. Cloud, Minnesota, after spending three years as their lead presenter. During the summers of 2013 and 2014, he spent 12 weeks in Huntsville, Alabama, working with NASA on two internships.

History



D-Day, June 6, 1944: Operation Overlord

World War II was a cataclysmic event in world history and its bloodiest conflict. Over 60 million people would lose their lives over the six years of the war. Over 16 million Americans fought in the war. This program will focus on the events of June 6, 1944, forever after known as D-Day. On this date the Allied nations launched Operation Overlord, the invasion of France. It was a massive surprise attack, launched in the worst weather. It involved the largest fighting force ever assembled - 2.8 million men standing by, off the coast of Nazi-occupied France. But it began with a few thousand intrepid young American, British and Canadian soldiers who would parachute out of the sky, behind enemy lines or wade through heavy surf into a hail of bullets on the beaches of Normandy, and somehow punch a hole through the tough German defense line; a formidable part of Hitler's Atlantic Wall. This invasion was very costly in terms of human lives, but it would be the beginning of the end of the Nazi occupation of France and would eventually spell the end of Adolf Hitler's dream of world conquest.

Instructor: Arn Kind

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1106

Date(s): Thursday, October 24 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$19 **Non-Member Fee:** \$29

Arn Kind has been an educator for 40 years, both in the classroom, teaching grades 4 through 12 and through his presentations to young people and adults of all ages. Arn is a member of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry Regiment; a reenactment group based out of Fort Snelling. Because this group is noted for its authenticity, they have appeared in many documentaries and historical feature films such as The Blue and the Gray, North & South, Glory, Gettysburg, Dances With Wolves, and Gods and Generals. Arn brings this authenticity to his presentations. A very important part of Arn's presentations are the artifacts, uniforms and equipment that students will be able to observe, handle, and interact with as part of their hands-on experience in living the history.

Nature and Ecology



Honey Bees, Beekeeping, Pollination and Bee Research

This talk starts with the fascinating biology and social structure of honey bees. Then goes on to the importance of honey bees as pollinators and then beekeeping as a hobby or career is discussed. Finally the research at the U of M is summarized. Discussion of other native pollinating bees can be discussed.



Instructor: Gary Reuter, Apiculture Technician, U of M

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Wed, October 23 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Gary holds the position of Scientist in Apiculture at the University of Minnesota. He has been at the U of MN since 1993. His responsibilities include field management of the 150 University honey bee colonies, raising and evaluating queens for out breeding program, repair and construction of beekeeping and research equipment, data collection and assistance with data analysis, laboratory work, computer input and programming, and teaching short-courses in Honey Bee Management and Queen Rearing. He does presentations at various beekeeper meetings about research results, honey bee management and disease as well as talks to pesticide applicators, growers and the general public. Gary has been a Sideline beekeeper since 1984. He is past president of the Wisconsin Honey producers and past president of the Minnesota Hobby Beekeepers Association.

Nature and Ecology



World War II on Alaska Soil: terrain and weather, battles, impact

They boarded planes in California for the Pacific battlefields. On the way they were told that their Pacific destination meant the Aleutian Islands where the Japanese came to wage war on the steep, volcanic, foggy "Birthplace of the Winds". In August 1943 they learned the weather, logistical challenges and terrain was their biggest enemy. Skip ahead 50 years to learn how these "footprints" impacted the soldiers, the ancient villages, the wildlife, and the wild land; from first-hand accounts by Melonie Shipman, is the former Education Coordinator for the Wildlife Refuge that manages these former battlegrounds.



Instructor: Melonie Shipman

Date(s): Tue, October 1 **Time(s):** 10-11:30 am

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415 **am Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$10 **Non-Member Fee:** \$15

Combine dressing up as a World War II soldier in the Aleutian Islands, working with Native culture-keepers at a seal harvest, leading nature hikes, sneaking up on shorebirds, presenting over 20 nature-related slide programs and you will have a small bit of Melonie's, the Traveling Naturalist's, professional background and experience. Add to this personal experiences with wild nature from the grey whales of Baja, Mexico to dog sledding vacations to sea kayaking expeditions in remote locations. Melonie has been a handler for the Iditarod, a wolf pup care assistant, and a polar bear study participant. She brings a diverse and personal variety of firsthand information and stories to her programs.

Nature and Ecology



Loosey Goosey – Aleutian Canada Goose, fox farming, endangered species recovery

It began in the 1750's with fox farming on the Aleutian Islands. "Fox come, birds go," said the Alaska Natives. Among those birds was one of the smallest subspecies of Canada goose. It would take over 30 years of dedicated efforts including hunting bans, habitat preservation, capturing border collies and captive breeding to bring the species back from near-extinction. On March 19, 2001, the Aleutian Canada goose was officially delisted becoming only the twelfth species removed from the list of threatened and endangered species due to recovery. As Education Coordinator for the Alaska Wildlife Refuge which spearheaded the recovery, Melonie was there to celebrate and to learn first-hand the challenges, sorrows, and joys of working with Endangered Species.



Instructor: Melonie Shipman

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Tuesday, October 1 **Time(s):** 1-2:30 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$10 **Non-Member Fee:** \$15

Combine dressing up as a World War II soldier in the Aleutian Islands, working with Native culture-keepers at a seal harvest, leading nature hikes, sneaking up on shorebirds, presenting over 20 nature-related slide programs and you will have a small bit of Melonie's, the Traveling Naturalist's, professional background and experience. Add to this personal experiences with wild nature from the grey whales of Baja, Mexico to dog sledding vacations to sea kayaking expeditions in remote locations. Melonie has been a handler for the Iditarod, a wolf pup care assistant, and a polar bear study participant. She brings a diverse and personal variety of firsthand information and stories to her programs.

History



The Cuban Missile Crisis

Thirteen Days in October of 1962 the world held its breath as the United States and the Soviet Union came close to risking a nuclear confrontation. The crisis was triggered by the placement of intermediate ballistic missiles on the island of Cuba, 90 miles off the coast of Florida by Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev. Once discovered, President John F. Kennedy had no choice but to demand their removal but the key question of how to do that would be pivotal in avoiding a further escalation and potential conflict with the Soviet Union. Join us for a close look at how this crisis was averted and what we can learn from it today!



Instructor: Bennett Smith MS

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Wed, October 23 **Time(s):** 3:15-5:15 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Bennett Smith is an instructor in history and political science at North Iowa Area Community College. He is also an instructor in various lifelong learning programs including the NIACC Lifelong Learning Institute; the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Iowa State University and the LIFE program at Rochester Community and Technical College in Rochester, Minnesota. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in speech communication and a Master of Arts degree in history from Iowa State University. He has also done graduate work at the University of Iowa in Social Foundations of Education. He is from Clear Lake, IA and currently serves on the Clear Lake City Council.

History



Thinking about Serbia

Once a mighty empire in the 14th century, Serbia is now a land-locked Yugoslav successor state knocking at the door of the European Union. This course surveys the long history of this Balkan people and thinks about its future both in the Balkans and in Europe as a whole. ***Fee includes lunch if you register before October 15.***

Instructor: Thomas Emmert PhD, Smithsonian Historian

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415 **Session(s):** 1

Date(s): Tue, October 22 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon & 12:30-2:30 pm

Member Fee: \$35 **Non-Member Fee:** \$45

Thomas Emmert, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus at Gustavus Adolphus College, is an historian of Russia and Eastern Europe. Professor Emmert received his B.A. in history from St. Olaf College and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Russian and Balkan history from Stanford University. He has had visiting appointments at the University of Zagreb, the University of Minnesota and Stanford University. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, he has been awarded research fellowships from the Fulbright Program, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the National Council For Eurasian and East European Research. His publications include "Serbian Golgotha: Kosovo, 1389" (1990) and, most recently, "The Scholars' Initiative: Confronting the Yugoslav Controversies"(2009), a collaborative project of scholars from around the world dedicated to providing an objective analysis of what happened to Yugoslavia at the end of the 20th Century. For 38 years Professor Emmert taught popular courses in Western Civilization, the Balkans, Imperial and Modern Russia, the Ottoman Empire, and a highly regarded seminar on Stalin for senior history majors.

Current Affairs



The European Union: Background and Current Issues

The European Union is one of the most important international organizations in the world, and yet we rarely think of it this way. One often hears that it is ineffective and slow. We will examine these assumptions by means of a discussion that will focus on the origins, development and current dilemmas facing the EU in an era of political realignment.



Instructor: Thomas Wolfe PhD, Dept of History & Institute for Global Studies, University of Minnesota

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Friday, October 4 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Thomas C. Wolfe is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Minnesota. He is affiliated faculty with the Department of Anthropology, the Institute for Global Studies, and the School of Journalism and Mass Communications. He is a student of 20th century modernity and the uses of the past in contemporary societies. Geographic and cultural Interests range from Russia/Soviet Union to Europe, the US, and ancient civilizations. Current research project involves the history of the European Union. Particularly important to his research and teaching is the role of media in the constitution of knowledge and the formation of disciplines and worldviews.

Current Affairs



Prospects for U.S.-China Trade

The methods we use to measure the values of imports and exports give an inaccurate picture of our trade balance. Our trade deficit with China, which has a “socialist market economy,” has received much attention and has led to a tit-for-tat tariff war. What are the prospects for reforms in China’s economy and for fairer trade? This is a 2019 Great Decisions' topic.



Instructor: Mark Canning

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1106

Date(s): Mon, October 7 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

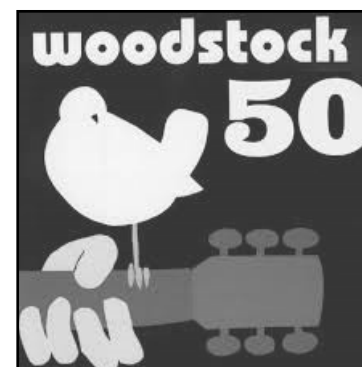
Mark Canning was born in Munich of American parents but grew up in Minnetonka. (His dad was the Managing Editor of the Star). After graduation from college in 1977, he went overseas and only moved back last spring. Most of those 41 years were spent with the State Department as a diplomat. He lived in, and had to study the languages of, Poland, South Africa, Zambia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Korea, and China. He also worked as a college lecturer and radio news announcer (Taiwan), soldier (Korea) and student (London, the Soviet Union). Mark retired from the State Department on April 1, 2018. Since then he has taught Chinese at Concordia College, given lectures on North Korea, been a panelist at Twin Cities Public Television, and mentored an exercise for the Army War College based on the North Korean nuclear talks. Mark is married and has four grown kids who grew up overseas, but now live in the Twin Cities. He loves cycling and has raced on four continents.

History



Woodstock's 50th Anniversary

Fifty years ago music festival in upstate New York gave rise to the concept of the Woodstock Generation. This class will examine the myths (it wasn't at Woodstock) and realities (several hundred thousand people attended), as well as putting the event, music, and aftermath into historical and cultural context. Get out your beads and come celebrate the 50th anniversary of Woodstock.



Instructor: Chad Israelson MA

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Monday, October 21 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Chad Israelson received his BA from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and his MA from the University of Nebraska. Israelson has taught at RCTC since 1996. He has also taught at UW-La Crosse, Augsburg, and Winona State. Chad won “Teacher of the Year” in 2003, 2011, and 2012. Chad recently coauthored the book "The Political World of Bob Dylan: Freedom and Justice, Power and Sin." Chad is on the RCTC LIFE Board.

History



Civil War in Minnesota--The Dakota War of 1862

The Dakota War of 1862 remains the most significant and tragic event in Minnesota history. Learn about the complex causes of this war, what happened during the six week war and what happened to the Dakota people and settlers in the aftermath. Many photographs and the narration will introduce you to key people from both sides involved in the conflict as well as many of the sites associated with the war. Two of the six battles that involved federal troops are considered Civil War battles.



Instructor: Lanny Witter

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Wed, October 16 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Lonnie has given previous LIFE presentations on the Civil War and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. He is retired from IBM and is a member of the History Center and Civil War Round Table. Several trips to many of the Dakota War sites, membership in the Wood Lake Battle Field Preservation Association, and many readings will provide the background for presenting the Dakota War story.

Current Affairs



Studying Schools Around the World

In an ideal world, a nation's education system would prepare all of the nation's children for independent adulthood and a productive, fulfilling life. But the truth is that education systems, in different nations and cultures in different ways, define success and reward a relatively small group most likely to succeed, while leaving many, many others with few opportunities and no clear way forward. What can we learn about the strengths and weaknesses of our education system by looking at the ways other countries prepare their children for adulthood and citizenship?

Instructor: Mark Canning

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Monday, October 7 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Mark Canning was born in Munich of American parents but grew up in Minnetonka. (His dad was the Managing Editor of the Star). After graduation from college in 1977, he went overseas and only moved back last spring. Most of those 41 years were spent with the State Department as a diplomat. He lived in, and had to study the languages of, Poland, South Africa, Zambia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Korea, and China. He also worked as a college lecturer and radio news announcer (Taiwan), soldier (Korea) and student (London, the Soviet Union). Mark retired from the State Department on April 1, 2018. Since then he has taught Chinese at Concordia College, given lectures on North Korea, been a panelist at Twin Cities Public Television, and mentored an exercise for the Army War College based on the North Korean nuclear talks. Mark is married and has four grown kids who grew up overseas, but now live in the Twin Cities. He loves cycling and has raced on four continents.

Community



Rochester's New Police Chief-Collaborative Community-Oriented Policing

Chief Franklin will talk about leading a 21st Century Policing agency. He will outline the history of law enforcement and discuss where law enforcement, as a profession, is headed. He will highlight several of the new community collaborative initiatives that have been implemented by the Rochester Police Department and how these efforts impact the community it



Instructor: Chief Jim Franklin

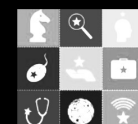
Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Tue, October 8 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$5 **Non-Member Fee:** \$10

Chief Jim Franklin was sworn in as Rochester's Chief of Police on July 26, 2018. He is the 19th Chief Executive in the City's 164-year history leading the agency's 206 employees including both sworn and civilian staff. Chief Franklin is a graduate of Metropolitan State University, St Paul, Minnesota, where he earned his Masters of Public Administration. He is also a graduate of the Police Executive Research Forum-Senior Management Institute for Police, Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command, and the Naval Postgraduate School's Executive Leaders Program. Chief Franklin is a dedicated law enforcement executive committed to community/problem-oriented policing and Intelligence-Led Policing activities. His focus is on building relationships within the community in order to effectively identify root causes of crime and fostering partnerships to work collaboratively to solve community problems. This proactive problem-solving approach cultivates building stronger communities, increases community trust and involvement, and reduces the prevalence of and fear of crime within our community.

Personal Interest



Wine: Old World vs New World

Have you ever wondered what the difference is between California and French Chardonnay? Does Cabernet from Washington really taste different than Cabernet from Bordeaux? How do I even begin to decipher where to look on a restaurant wine list and find something new that I will fall in love with? Join us as we explore the world of wine by regions and compare and contrast single varietals and blends to help decipher the intricacies of what you are tasting and why. A supply/food fee of \$35/pp will be collected the night of class.



Instructor: Tessa Leung

Location: Ground Rounds Brewing Company, 4 Third Street SW

Date(s): Wed, October 16 **Time(s):** 6-8 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$9 **Non-Member Fee:** \$13

Tessa is Ground Rounds Brewing Company's founding partner and CEO. She started her working life as a nurse, but quickly realized that making food, teaching about wine and brewing beer was much more fun. Inspired by her Grandma "Jewelbox," a business owner and baker in St. Charles, MN, Tessa has launched restaurants, a brewing company, a wine shop, and two catering companies over the past 13 years and has 1,000 more ideas she'll continue to pursue. Unless the job of "World Ambassador of Champagne" becomes available. In that case, she hitting the road! Guided by her mom's advice to always be honest, remember that everyone deserves a fair shake and work hard, Tessa gives 110% to operating GRBC and training and mentoring its staff. On the rare occasion that she's not at GRBC, Tessa and her husband, Nelson, enjoy cooking and eating (of course!) and exploring the world with Cortado, the duck-eating, cheese-loving, world-traveling wonder pup.

Travel Adventures



Running the Iditarod Sled Dog Race: Preparation, the Experience, and Life Lessons from the Trail

The Iditarod is a 1000 mile sled dog race run in Alaska from Anchorage to Nome. This talk will describe the amazing dogs that run the race, preparation for running the race, insights into the experience of running the race, and reflections on life lessons learned.



Instructor: Cindy Gallea

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Tuesday, October 15 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$13 **Non-Member Fee:** \$21

Cindy is a 67 year old nurse practitioner, dog musher, and mother of 2 adult sons. Cindy began running sled dogs recreationally in 1987 while living in northern Minnesota. After completing her Masters of Nursing degree in 1990 at the University of Washington, Cindy and her family moved to Montana where they developed their sled dog team and participated in multiple races in Minnesota and Montana. Cindy ran her first Iditarod in 1998. Since then, she has competed in a total of 15 Iditarod races, finishing 12 of the races. Her most recent Iditarod was in 2019. In 2010, Cindy moved back to Minnesota to be closer to her elderly parents. She continued to train and race sled dogs, although the snow in Minnesota is not quite like Montana. She works in Oncology at Mayo Clinic. Her passions are her family, her work as a nurse practitioner, running sled dogs, (and politics!).

History



FDR: My Life Changer

External effects on an individual can contribute greatly to his character and leadership characteristics. Such was the case with one of our country's greatest presidents, Franklin Roosevelt. Learn how a mid-life battle with polio in addition to the strong influences of five women throughout his life helped shape the man who led our country through a great depression and world war. Q & A will follow the presentation.



Instructor: Gary Stamm

Location: Heintz Center H1100

Date(s): Tuesday, October 8 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Gary Stamm has entertained and informed people from coast to coast with his portrayal of our 32nd President. His uncanny resemblance and capture of the personality of FDR coupled with his extensive knowledge of the man all team to leave audiences feeling that they have been in the presence of the individual many historians judge to be the greatest person of the twentieth century.

History



Nurse Eleanor Maher--On Wings of Angels

Eleanor Maher, a World War I nurse, takes the audience on a journey through time. Eleanor will relate true tales of heroism and self-sacrifice during times of great conflict. The inspirational tales transport the listener from the American Revolution to the mid-twentieth century Vietnam War.



Instructor: Jessica Michna

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Wed, October 9 **Time(s):** 1-2:15 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$10 **Non-Member Fee:** \$15

Jenny Appleseed--Lost Lore and Tall Tales

Meet Jenny Appleseed, the fictional sister of “Johnny Appleseed,” as she takes you on a journey through American Folklore. Along the way you will meet such memorable characters as Rip Van Winkle, Pecos Bill, Paul Bunyan, and of course, John Chapman.



Instructor: Jessica Michna

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Wed, October 9 **Time(s):** 6:30-7:45 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$10 **Non-Member Fee:** \$15

Jessica Michna, a recipient of the Presidential Service Center’s Distinguished Service Award, has become widely known for her riveting portrayals of First Ladies, notable women of history and fictitious characters. Jessica’s performances are compelling and emotionally enthralling. Audiences laugh along with her humorous anecdotes. They share in her tears as she relates how the horrors of war have impacted families. She has a powerful effect on an audience.

Travel Adventures



"Into the Backlands"

According to Philosopher Joseph Campbell, in childhood we are introduced to the enchantment of legends and fairytales—to heroes and villains; to treacherous journeys and untold perils; to strange and exotic lands promising treasures to be claimed; and to venerable sages and sacred kings who guide travelers in their harrowing quests. These tales often involve a “call to adventure” wherein the hero or heroine must take risks, encounter dangers, and endure unimaginable challenges and sacrifices that ultimately lead to personal transformation. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy issued his own call to adventure with the formation of the Peace Corps. A few months later a teenage boy from Southern Minnesota dairy farm, believing he had the skills, character, and fortitude to meet the president’s calling, applied and was selected for a project in Brazil; one of the youngest volunteers in history. He would be sent to a small, remote village in the vast interior and backlands of Brazil; experiencing the risks, dangers and challenges.

Instructor: Ken Flies

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Mon, October 14 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

In addition to “Into the Backlands” Ken is the co-author of the memoir “Retrieving Isaac & Jason,” published by Hiawatha Press in 2012 and a collaborator on the novel Whispering Pines by Elliott Foster. Retrieving Isaac and Jason was acquired for republishing and distribution in 2019 by international publisher Calumet Editions. Ken is the author of numerous essays and stories on rural America and the American Civil War. He is a past recipient of the Editor’s Choice Award of the National Library of Poetry. Ken, in addition to being a pioneer Peace Corps Volunteer in 1962, is a founder of the Rural America Writers’ Center and the former Rural America Arts Partnership. Ken has been an accomplished national and international business and social entrepreneur involved in the start-up and development of more than an dozen companies and organizations domestically and internationally.

History



The Confederacy Last Hurrah

On December 15-16, 1864 Minnesota soldiers fought at the Battle of Nashville, the last major battle of the Civil War. Famous Southern Historian Wiley Sword called this “the decisive battle of the Civil War.” After this battle, with the destruction of the famous Confederate Army of Tennessee, one of the Confederacy two great Armies, there were no more large scale battles in the Civil War. On the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society’s website, a description of the battle states, “the Confederate Army of the Tennessee was defeated by U.S. Minnesota troops.” This is a major testimony to the Minnesotan when one realizes that there were but four Minnesota regiments engaged in the battle, verses by comparison, Illinois with 40 infantry and artillery regiments at Nashville and Ohio 35. In this battle Minnesotans suffered over 98 men killed or mortally wounded and 300 total casualties, fully ten percent of all Union casualties. This was the greatest number of Minnesotans killed in any battle in the history of all American wars. The efforts of the Minnesotans at Nashville is memorialized in Howard Pyle’s famous painting which hangs in the Governor’s Suite at the MN Capitol.

Instructor: Ken Fliés

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Monday, October 14 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Ken Fliés is the current President of the Twin Cities Civil War Roundtable and a past member of the Rochester and Hiawatha Valley Roundtables and was on the Governor Task Force celebrating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Ken is also a member of the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society and had lectured and written extensively on the Civil War. He has strong family ties to the Civil War with numerous relatives engaged in regiments from Minnesota, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Iowa. Both of his maternal grandfathers, five generations removed, perished in the Civil War, one in the infamous Andersonville Prison and one with the 10th Minnesota in Tennessee.

Current Affairs



U.S. and Mexico: Partnership Tested

The United States and Mexico have a long, intertwined history, with both countries prominently featured in each other’s politics and agendas. The war on drugs, immigration and trade issues have taxed the relationship over the years. What impact will new leadership in both countries have on this crucial partnership? This is a 2019 Great Decisions' topic.



Instructor: John Harrigan PhD

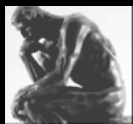
Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Thu, October 10 **Time(s):** 10 am-Noon **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

John Harrigan has been a popular Great Decisions speaker on Latin America issues. He served as a Foreign Service Officer in Brazil where he became fluent in Portuguese and familiar with Spanish. He earned his Ph.D. from Georgetown University, then moved to Hamline University where he chaired the Political Science department for six years and later served as Assistant Dean of Liberal Arts. He did presentations for Great Decisions 2012 topic of Mexico and Transborder Issues. Aside from Great Decisions, John is a novelist who writes historical thrillers. His most recent is CROSSHAIRS ON CASTRO which weaves an assassination plot around the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. Approaching publication is GOODBYE BOBBY, a thriller built around Robert Kennedy and the Vietnam War.

Humanities and the Arts



Meet the Author: John Harrigan

John will discuss his historical thrillers! John's interest in these critical moments of our past stems from his experience as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer and later as a Professor of Political Science at Hamline University.



Instructor: John Harrigan

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1415

Date(s): Thursday, October 10 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

His passion, says Minnesota novelist John Harrigan, is to bring our past to life for the reading public. His first novel, "THE PATRON SAINT OF DESPERATE SITUATIONS," weaves a mystery around the plane crash that killed Minnesota Senator Paul Wellstone. The second, "THE JEEPTOWN SOCK HOP" brings you back to the home front during the Korean War. "CROSSHAIRS ON CASTRO" is a thriller that puts you in the middle of the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. And coming out next year will be "GOODBYE BOBBY," that will bring you back to Bobby Kennedy in the tumultuous Spring of 1968 and a fictional attempt to bring an early close to the Vietnam War.

Literature



Reading and Discussion of the novel "Dream Country"

Pick up a copy of the critically-acclaimed novel "Dream Country," an epic Minnesota family saga that takes place over two continents and over 200 years, and then come to a reading and discussion about some of its themes and ideas with author Shannon Gibney. "Dream Country" won a 2019 Minnesota Book Award, and is available anywhere books are sold and at area libraries.



Instructor: Shannon Gibney MA, MFA

Location: Heintz Center Rm. H1100

Date(s): Friday, October 11 **Time(s):** 1-3 pm **Session(s):** 1

Member Fee: \$15 **Non-Member Fee:** \$25

Shannon Gibney is a writer, educator, activist, and the author of "Dream Country" (Dutton, 2018) and "See No Color" (Carolrhoda Lab, 2015), which both won the Minnesota Book Awards in Young Peoples' Literature in 2019 and 2016, respectively. Gibney is faculty in English at Minneapolis College, where she teaches writing. In October 2019, University of Minnesota Press will release "What God is Honored Here?: Writings on Miscarriage and Infant Loss By and For Native Women and Women of Color," which she co-edited with writer Kao Kalia Yang. At Indiana University's Graduate Creative Writing Program, Shannon honed her understanding of the basic elements of story-writing. She was in Bloomington from 1999 to 2002, and earned an M.A. in 20th Century African American Literature, as well as her M.F.A.