

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

This is a “B” Week

*(Note: See information at bottom about the upcoming
CultureQuest museum tour)*

MONDAY, September 28

No classes – Yom Kippur

**TUESDAY, September 29 @ 10:30
A.M. – NOON**

Course: ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK

Subject: Wassily Kandinsky

Wassily Kandinsky's (1866 – 1944) creation of abstract work followed a long period of development and maturation of intense thought based on his artistic experiences. He called this devotion to inner beauty, fervor of spirit, and spiritual desire, inner necessity; it was a central aspect of his art.

Presenter: Bob Reiss

Coordinators: Linda Downs, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss

Course: WOMEN'S VOICES

At age 29 Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, known as AOC, became the youngest woman ever to serve in the US Congress. She represents New York's 14th congressional district, covering eastern Bronx, parts of north-central Queens, and Rikers Island. A member of the Democratic Socialists of America in Congress, she advocates a progressive platform that includes Medicare for All, a federal jobs guarantee, the Green New Deal, and abolition of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Join us to understand her working-class roots and determination to make this country more just.

Presenter: Ruth Ward

Coordinators: Sandra Abramson, Diane Reynolds

**TUESDAY, September 29 @ 12:15 -
1:15 P.M.**

The Quest Book Club meets once a month in the B week. Our first meeting will be Tuesday, September 29 at 12:15 p.m. We will be reading and discussing *The House in Paris* by Elizabeth Bowen. (Our other fall book club meetings will be October 27 and December 8.)

**TUESDAY, September 29 @ 12:30 -
1:30 P.M.**

The Quest Lunchroom is up and running on Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 - 1:30. Stop by to talk and meet in small groups, with or without lunch, to chat, to share what you are doing.

**TUESDAY, September 29 @ 2:00
P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

Course: CONVERSATIONS EN FRANÇAIS

If you speak French, join us for conversations on subjects of interest to our participants. In this course, which is conducted in French, members will have the opportunity to present mini-lessons and to lead discussions on topics of their choice. We will use breakout rooms to facilitate conversations in pairs, who will then share highlights of their talk with the group. This week Donna Basile will lead a discussion on Social Networks and Adolescents.

Coordinators: Ruth Ward and Donna Basile

**WEDNESDAY, September 30 @
10:30 A.M. – NOON**

Course: FASCINATING NON-FICTION

Subject: *The Bonus Army: An American Epic*

By Paul Dickson and Thomas B. Allen

NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED

Early in the summer of 1932, at the height of the Depression, some 25,000 World War I veterans – whites and blacks together - descended on Washington, D.C. from all over the country to demand the bonus promised them eight years earlier for their wartime service. Fearing violence after the Senate defeated the "bonus bill", tanks rolled through the streets on July 28th to evict the bonus marchers. The march ultimately transformed the nation, inspiring Congress in 1944 to pass the GI Bill of Rights, one of the most important pieces of social legislation in our history, which helped create America's middle class. How relevant is the epic story of the Bonus Army to 2020?

Presenter: Harriet Finkelstein

Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Jane Lubin, Bob Reiss

**WEDNESDAY, September 30 @ 2:00
P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

SPECIAL "ENCORE" PRESENTATION

The following session is a replay of the session that was presented live on Wednesday, September 16. *Please be advised that since this is a replay, you will not be able to ask questions or be seen live on camera.*

Course: **DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES**

Kenneth Leedom/Peter Cott Memorial Lecture

Subject: REPLAY - Meg Wolitzer author of *The Female Persuasion*

Meg Wolitzer is an award-winning, best-selling novelist whose works explore gender politics, motherhood, sexuality and the life of the artist. Her most recent novel, **THE FEMALE PERSUASION**, is a coming-of-age story about power and influence, ego and loyalty, womanhood and ambition. Some of her other novels include **THE INTERESTINGS**, **THE 10-YEAR NAP**, **THE UNCOUPLING**, **SLEEPWALKING** and **THIS IS MY LIFE**.

In 2017, her novel **THE WIFE** was made into a highly praised, award-winning motion picture starring Glenn Close as the wife of a famous writer. Meg has also written several popular young adult novels, including **BELZHAR**. She is a faculty member of the MFA program at Stony Brook Southampton, and lives with her family in New York City. In this session, she discusses the craft of writing and “Why Fiction Matters in a Non-Fiction World.”

Please join us for this special repeat presentation.

Coordinators: Arlynn Greenbaum, Arlene Hajinlian, Bob Reiss, Estelle Selzer

THURSDAY, October 1 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

Subject: THIS JUST IN – PART 2:

We will examine the latest developments over the past year in the exploration *beyond* our Solar System. Not all solar systems look like ours. We will look at the latest findings about planets around other stars and the implications for finding a second Earth or at least some bio-signatures. And we will learn more about neutron stars, black holes, and gravitational waves.

Our very understanding about the creation of galaxies and superclusters is now undergoing careful review. In fact, as we start discussing the very beginning of the universe, we learn that maybe we got it wrong. There will be ample images and videos offering a spacefarer's view of our destinations, as well as time for questions.

Presenter: Michael Hamburg

Coordinators: Michael Hamburg, Steve Allen

Course: POINT OF VIEW

Join us for an interactive discussion class in which the class coordinators bring in short opinion pieces taken from current publications (editorials, op-ed pieces, reviews, etc.) for discussion that day. We will all have opportunity to comment and argue our viewpoints.

The articles chosen for this session are listed in the following order:

"Trump's Middle Eastern Mirage" - Will there be a Saudi surprise?

"The Sacklers Could Get Away With It" - Will the family that made a fortune on the opioid epidemic face justice?

"Waking Up in 2030" - What will our world be like in 10 years?

"New York, A City Left on its Own" - Failed by the federal government and by leaders close to home.

If time allows Bob Hartmann will read a brief editorial -- "Electoral College Is a Bulwark Against Fraud."

Presenter: Bob Hartmann

Coordinators: Barbara Gordon, Bob Hartmann, Terri Hicks

Following are links to the articles to be read in advance:

<https://nyti.ms/35PJmN2>

<https://nyti.ms/32Hlh9N>

<https://nyti.ms/387Zj0r>

<https://nyti.ms/2RDcsXO>

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1:30 P.M.**

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**THURSDAY, Oct.1 @ 2:00 P.M. –
3:30 P.M.**

Course: MEMORABLE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Subject: “Fighting Bob” La Follette

Robert La Follette (1855-1925) was a United States Senator, Governor, Representative and presidential candidate who left an enduring progressive legacy that included championing the direct election of senators, child labor laws, environmental protections and women’s suffrage. Under his leadership Wisconsin became a model for national good government.

La Follette led the opposition to American entry into World War I, a stance that earned him vicious attacks from all sides. In response, he gave a speech in defense of dissent in wartime that is considered, by many, to be the greatest speech ever

delivered in the US Senate. In 1955 a Senate committee headed by John F. Kennedy named him one of the most outstanding senators in the nation's history.

Presenter: Toni Dickenson

Coordinators: Ellen Gottfried, Bob Gottfried

Course: EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY

Subject: *Good Neighbors: The Democracy of Everyday Life in America*

By Nancy L. Rosenblum

We'll discuss the author's ideas about being a neighbor in good times and bad, and what is distinctively American about the way we go about it. "Nancy Rosenblum is singular among philosophers in using her formidable analytical gifts to help us understand the gritty, personal questions we ordinary humans face every day—and she thereby respects what is extraordinary in all of us."—E.J. Dionne Jr.

A copy of the reading was sent out via Quest Business on September 18 and will be resent September 25.

Presenter: Larry Shapiro

Coordinators: Steve Allen, Larry Shapiro

CultureQuest Museum Tour

Friday, October 9th, 1:15 – 2:15

**The Freer Gallery, Asian Art Museum, Smithsonian
Institution, Washington, D.C.**

**HARMONY IN BLUE AND GOLD: THE PEACOCK
ROOM**

The Peacock Room is the quintessential interior decoration of the Anglo-Japanese style in the Gilded Age. It was created by the artist James McNeill Whistler and architect Thomas Jeckyll in 1876 – 1877 as the dining room in the London townhouse of Frederick Richards Leyland, a ship owner. On the completion of the project Leyland was so shocked at the outcome that it led to a lawsuit, Whistler’s bankruptcy, Jeckyll’s death, and the room’s deconstruction and storage. In 1904 the American industrialist and art collector, Charles Lang Freer, bought the Peacock Room from Leyland’s heirs and had it installed in his Detroit mansion. In 1919 Freer donated it to the gallery he established in his name in Washington, D.C. , and it was put on view there in 1923. The Peacock Room continues to fascinate art lovers and artists alike. It lives on in an exact 2014 reproduction by the artist Darron Waterston as the centerpiece of his installation titled, “Uncertain Beauty” at MassMoCa. This will be an interactive virtual tour and there will be an opportunity to ask the guide questions.

40 participants

TO SIGN UP FOR THE VIRTUAL TOUR:

Contact Linda Downs (ladowns18@gmail.com) with your email address and full name to sign up for the tour. Put “Peacock Room” in the subject line. The first 40 people to sign up will receive a link to join the tour several days before the date of the tour.

