

## **SUMMER 2022 "ENCORE" CLASSES**

**June 7 – July 28, 2022**

**All Classes are from 10:30 AM to Noon**

**There are two links for all classes throughout the summer: Auditorium, Classroom 15-17. Click on the appropriate link below to join a class no earlier than 15 minutes before its start.**

**Alternatively, you can enter a class by going to <https://zoom.us/> and selecting "JOIN A MEETING." You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the passcode. Also, you can attend classes via phone by dialing 1-929-205-6099. You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the password.**

### **FOR ALL AUDITORIUM CLASSES:**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84152954768?pwd=c0ZVbm5IRGEvbG9WWH NxbFI4YnRwdz09>**

**Meeting ID: 841 5295 4768**

**Passcode: 252525**

### **FOR ALL MEETING ROOM 15-17 CLASSES:**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82513720307?pwd=a21sdmNOaWpyN1g0Um xTbDRXQ0RDQT09>**

**Meeting ID: 825 1372 0307**

**Passcode: 252525**

## **TUESDAY JUNE 7**

**NEW: Sandy Kessler on Abraham Lincoln**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Abraham Lincoln on Civic Education**

**Sandy Kessler believes that the sorry state of civic education in America today is partly responsible for the existential political crisis that our country now faces. The class will consider Abraham Lincoln's thoughts on civic education in order to shed light on how we might best address this problem. The reading for the class will consist of a draft of an essay Sandy is currently writing on this topic.**

**Presenter: Sandy Kessler**

## **THURSDAY JUNE 9**

**Course: MOVERS & SHAKERS**

**Room: Room 15-17**

**Subject: What Makes It Irving Berlin?**

**Irving Berlin was a master craftsman of the American popular song. His music defined and dominated 20<sup>th</sup> century popular music for over 60 years.**

**In this presentation, Ellie Schaffer will first review Berlin's early life and characteristics that differentiate him from other early American Songbook composers. She will then discuss four features in his "musical toolbox" that both define a Berlin song and make them delightful and timeless. We will listen to many songs along the way.**

**As Berlin invites us in his 1911 international hit, Alexander's Ragtime Band, "C'mon and hear!"**

**Presenter: Ellie Schaffer**

## **TUESDAY JUNE 14**

**Course: NOBEL PRIZES**  
**Room: Auditorium**  
**Subject: The Nobel Peace Prize**

**We will begin with a look at the state of war around the world-- now preoccupied with the attack on Ukraine. We will then discuss the founder and origins of the prize, the selection criteria for Nobel Peace Prize laureates, the nomination process, and the Norwegian Nobel Committee. Then we will examine how the Peace Prize has evolved since 1901, discuss criticisms and controversial awardees, and highlight several Peace Prize laureates.**

**Presenter: Laura Lopez**

## **THURSDAY JUNE 16**

**Course: PRESENTER'S CHOICE**  
**Room: Auditorium**  
**Subject: A Life In Dance**

**Ze'eva Cohen will discuss and screen two short legacy films about her professional life as a dance artist and educator. She will first focus on her holistic approach to teaching dance and choreography to nondancers and dancers at Princeton University, where she built a dance program over 40 years.**

**She will then address the making of the film, "Ze'eva Cohen Creating a Life in Dance." The film is a model of how an artist can survive in the dance world by carving out a unique and independent path for herself.**

**In 2015, the film was screened at the Dance Camera Festival at the Walter Reade Theater at Lincoln Center, and later, in the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art.**

**Presenter: Ze'eva Cohen**

## **TUESDAY JUNE 21**

**Course: MYTHOLOGY**

**Room: Room 15-17**

**Subject: Ancient Gods and the Cycle of Life**

**The Gods of Creation, Reproduction (Sex/Sexuality) and Death reigned supreme in ancient worlds. But who were they? How did they dictate why and how the universe began, and then define how humans procreate and then depart this world? And how do ancient myths continue to shape and define our contemporary ways of life?**

**Presenters: Mary Ann Donnelly, Sheryl Harawitz, Jennifer Jolly, Donna Ramer**

## **THURSDAY JUNE 23**

**Course: CLASSIC ROCK ALBUMS**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Classic Rock Albums' Second Annual Salute to Songwriters**

**Songwriting is an intensely personal, delicate and mysterious process. In this session, we will explore the songs and histories of several exceptional songwriters. Our songwriters include artists from the early years of rock 'n' roll such as Sam Cooke and Dion and some exceptional folk artists, such as Kate & Anna McGarrigle and Danny O'Keefe.**

**Please note this is a new presentation, not based on any previous session of Classic Rock Albums. Last summer's salute to songwriters was so much fun, we decided to do it again. Please join us.**

**Presenters: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter**

**TUESDAY JUNE 28**

**Course: LITERARY HEROINES**

**Room: Room 15-17**

**Subject: Jo March from Louisa May Alcott's 'Little Women' and Frankie Addams from Carson McCullers' 'The Member of the Wedding'**

**This encore presentation will look at two young literary heroines: Jo March and Frankie Addams.**

**Frankie Addams is the main character in the Carson McCullers' novella, The Member of the Wedding. This is a coming-of-age story of a 12-year-old tomboy living in a small southern town who feels disconnected from the world, looking for a way to belong. Her closest companions are the family's African American maid, Berenice Sadie Brown, and her six-year-old cousin, John Henry West.**

**It has been described as "a marvelous study of the agony of adolescence" whose author uses lyrical, fresh prose to create an outsider you've either met or felt like yourself.**

**Carson McCullers was described by Joyce Carol Oates as "the poet of freakiness—the feeling of being in a body not your own, neither female nor male, but some indefinable, teasing mixture of both that is most keenly felt in adolescence."**

**When Louisa May Alcott lifted her pen after writing the last line of Little Women, she never would have believed this piece of autobiographical fiction would remain in print for over 150 years after its 1868 publication. Alcott's masterpiece is a 19<sup>th</sup> century time capsule that still draws young readers. It has never been out of print, and still ranks as one of the most beloved favorites of young adult books.**

**Over the years, Jo March has fed the ambitions of writers as diverse as Gloria Steinem, J.K. Rowling and Hillary Rodham Clinton.**

**You will hear about Louisa Mae Alcott's life as well as view film clips of our heroine, Jo March, as she has been portrayed through the decades.**

**Presenters: Lois Klein and Mary Ann Donnelly**

**THURSDAY JUNE 30**

**Course: SLAVERY'S ROLE IN U.S. CAPITALIST DEVELOPMENT**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: African American Lives: Resistance and Rebellion in the Antebellum and Post-War South**

**So often when slavery is discussed, it's in terms of the slaves as victims, and certainly they were, --- BUT they were not simply docile people who were lashed by the whip and sold out from their families. They were also people who fiercely fought back. Despite extremely harsh repression and the overwhelming odds against success, the desire for liberty never died. This presentation will explore different forms of antebellum rebellion, the role of slaves during the Civil War, and black lives in the immediate post-Civil War era.**

**Presenter: Toni Dickenson**

**TUESDAY JULY 5 - NO CLASS**

**THURSDAY JULY 7**

**Course: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE**

**Room: Room 15-17**

**Subject: Revisiting the British Empire**

**In this presentation we will look back at the Rise and Fall of the British Empire, revisiting some of the aspects we covered, and attempt to give an overall view of its impact. There will be an opportunity to discuss these and review the more interesting areas covered.**

**Presenter: Judy Hampson**

**Co presenters: Jennifer Jolly and Donna Ramer**

**TUESDAY JULY 12**

**Course: ANTISEMITISM, PAST, PRESENT, FACTS, MYTHS**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Antisemitism in the Art World**

**Anti-Jewish hatred has pervaded Western art and popular culture for centuries. Perceptions and misunderstanding of Jews throughout history have been manifest in objects—from fine arts and crafts for the elite, to everyday toys, knickknacks and household items for the rest. These objects promoted negative attitudes and stereotypes about Jews.**

**Antisemitic art, art objects, and anti-Jewish propaganda have existed from the Medieval to the modern era, created and distributed throughout Europe, Russia, and the United States. In the 1930s and 1940s, Nazi propagandists' use of feature films, newsreels, toys, and games helped intensify negative stereotypes of Jews with deadly consequences. Portrayed as second-class citizens, they were increasingly characterized as “degenerates, criminals, and racially inferior corrupters of German society.” Some of the same beliefs are still prevalent in Western countries today.**

**The root causes of why the public saw the Jew as “the incarnation of all evil,” and why they accepted the Hitlerian and even earlier persecutions and destruction of Jewish life remains an unresolved and continuing question, the subject of hundreds of treatises and explorations. I will not try to answer those questions.**

**This presentation is a walk through that history. It is important to bring this subject into the light of today. Just in case you are lulled into thinking this was yesterday, it is not.**

**Presenter: Marian Friedmann**

**THURSDAY JULY 14**

**Course: MOVERS & SHAKERS**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Jeff Bezos and the Rise of Amazon**

**Love him or hate him, Jeff Bezos has shaken our world and moved us in ways we never imagined. The creation of [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), the online “everything store”, has changed the way we shop, read and work, and dealt a deathblow to retail stores, as we abandoned them for the convenience of shopping online. But it is Bezos’ plans for saving earth that may really rock our world since they involve moving us to man-made space colonies!**

**Join Beth Callender for a look at the life of Jeff Bezos, his rule-breaking business philosophy and his space ambitions. Beth will also look at how Amazon became a \$1.2 trillion business, its impact on our world, and how Bezos spends his \$140 billion personal fortune (including his \$38 billion divorce).**

**Presenter: Beth Callender**

**TUESDAY JULY 19**

**Course: SCIENCE & SCIENTISTS**

**Room: Zoom Only**

**Subject: Animal Cognition**

**Many people understand and appreciate the intelligence of primates - since they're our close relatives. Some also understand the intelligence of whales and dolphins, and of elephants, because they're mammals like us. However, most people don't realize the cognitive abilities of birds, which are much more distant relatives of ours, and of octopuses, which are relatives of clams - how could a relative of clams be intelligent??**



**This talk will cover studies of animal cognition, focusing on the surprising cognition of octopuses and birds.**

**Presenter: Judy Weis**

**THURSDAY JULY 21**

**Course: FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**Room: Zoom Only**

**Subject: Gender Imbalance**

**There are 70 million more men in the world than women. This presentation, which is not the same as the one previously conducted by Ellen Gottfried, addresses the foreign policy implications of that gender imbalance.**

**Presenter: Ellen Gottfried**

**TUESDAY JULY 26**

**Course: ARTISTS & THEIR WORKS**

**Room: Zoom Only**

**Subject: From The Gates of Paradise to The Gates of Hell**

**In the early 1400s, Lorenzo Ghiberti created a set of bronze doors based on biblical passages for the Baptistery of the Duomo in Florence. These were so beautiful that Michelangelo dubbed them "The Gates of Paradise." Four centuries later Auguste Rodin created another set of doors in Paris based on Dante's Inferno that he named "The Gates of Hell," This talk will focus on the history of both these doors and their immense influence on the art world.**

**Presenter: Susan Diehl**

**THURSDAY JULY 28**

**Course: ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY**

**Room: Zoom Only**

**Subject: Shakespeare: War & Peace**

**By focusing on speeches from Henry V, this presentation will explore Shakespeare's attitude toward war and peace. To facilitate our understanding, Roy Clary will read aloud a number of speeches. Film clips of several speeches from Henry V starring Laurence Olivier will also be shown. There will be time for discussion.**

**Presenter: Roy Clary**