

FALL 2023 CALENDAR

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
A Week	Labor Day	5-Sept	6-Sept	7-Sept
B Week	11-Sept	12-Sept	13-Sept	14-Sept
A Week	18-Sept	19-Sept	20-Sept	21-Sept
B Week	Yom Kippur	26-Sept	27-Sept	28-Sept
A Week	2-0ct	3-0ct	4-0ct	5-0ct
B Week	Columbus Day	10-0ct	11-0ct	12-0ct
A Week	16-0ct	17-0ct	18-0ct	19-0ct
B Week	23-0ct	24-0ct	25-Oct	26-0ct
A Week	30-0ct	31-0ct	1-Nov	2-Nov
B Week	6-Nov	7-Nov	8-Nov	9-Nov
A Week	13-Nov	14-Nov	15-Nov	16-Nov

Quest Closed. Thanksgiving Week

B Week	27-Nov	28-Nov	29-Nov	30-Nov
A Week	4-Dec	5-Dec	6-Dec	7-Dec
B Week	11-Dec	12-Dec	13-Dec	14-Dec

Cover Photo: ©Susan Rosenberg Jones

FALL 2023 SCHEDULE Week Monday Wednesday Thursday Tuesday Morning Rock & Roots Foreign Science & Quester's 10:30 - 12:00 Affairs **Albums** Choice Scientists World of The Great Contemporary Shakespeare Gatsby Poetry Theater Wonderful **Books Out Loud** (A) Lunch Folk Music & Afternoon Cinema Quest: History of Comedy Medicine 1:00 - 2:30Central Mellow Rock Current & Classic Tocqueville's The Scarlet Across The Contemporary Democracy in Letter Universe **Short Stories** America Creative Writing Acting Workshop Workshop I Week Wednesday Monday Tuesday Thursday Morning Classical Fascinating Artists and NYC and 10:30 - 12:00 Non-Fiction Its Environs Music Their Works Wonderful Upheaval in Toni Water **Books Out Loud** American Values Morrison (B) Science Clubhouse Lunch Distinguished Construction: Afternoon Harlem **Guest Lecture Great Plays** Beyond Bricks & 1:00 - 2:30Renaissance Series Mortar Explorations in Film for Sixties Philosophy & Thought Literature

Mexico: South

of The Border

Poets'

Workshop

COURSES BY CATEGORY

ART & MUSIC

- Artists & Their Work
- Classical Music
- Folk Music & Mellow Rock
- Rock & Roots Albums

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

- Comedy Central
- Distinguished Guest Lecture
- Foreign Affairs
- Quester's Choice
- Upheaval in American
 Values

HISTORY & PHILOSOPHY

- Construction: Beyond Bricks & Mortar NEW
- Explorations In Philosophy & Literature
- Fascinating Non-Fiction
- Harlem Renaissance
 NEW
- History of Medicine NEW
- Mexico: South of Our Border NEW
- NYC and Its Environs:
 People, Places, Things
- Sixties
- Tocqueville's Democracy in America NEW

LITERATURE

- Contemporary Poetry
- Contemporary
 Short Stories
- The Great Gatsby NEW
- The Scarlet Letter NEW
- Toni Morrison
- Wonderful Books
 Out Loud NEW

PERFORMING ARTS

- Cinema Quest:
 Current and Classics
- Film for Thought NEW
- Great Plays
- Shakespeare
- World of Theater NEW

SCIENCE

- Across the Universe
 NEW
- Science & Scientists
- Science Clubhouse
- Water

SOMETHING EXTRA

- Art Talks
- Book Chats
- Book Group
- Déjeuner Français
- Italian Conversation NEW
- Jazz at Noon NEW
- Lunchtime Spanish
- Music of the Heart
- Sole Mates

WORKSHOP

- Acting Workshop I
- Creative Writing
- Poets' Workshop

ACROSS THE UNIVERSE NEW

Coordinators: Michael Hamburg, Vickie Costa

This voyage is perfect for anyone who has ever wondered what the universe is, where it came from, and where it is heading. Beginning with the most current developments, we will begin right here on Earth, soar through the Solar System, touch the stars and continue on towards the farthest reaches of the observable universe. Prior knowledge or any technical expertise in math or science is not required. Just bring your questions and a sense of wonder.

ACTING WORKSHOP I

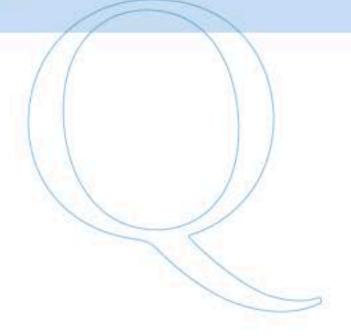
Coordinators: Roy Clary, Panny Mitchell, Art Spar

The class will perform theater exercises and improvisations. Members will also work on monologues and scenes. Emphasis will be on the importance of relationships and being able to relate to objects in order to achieve a greater reality in creating a character.

ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK

Coordinators: Linda Downs, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss, Ellen Shapiro

This is an art history course that explores the lives and work of artists throughout the world. The course prompts discussion of style, meaning, media, and aesthetics as well as philosophical, social, and political issues. These may include their public reception and the lasting influence of the work under consideration. The theme of the Fall semester is "Art on Walls." We will explore the prehistoric Lascaux cave art of France; Michelangelo's Sistine Ceiling at the Vatican; the Mexican Muralists: Rivera, Siqueiros, Orozco and Charlot; a selection from over 300 New York Subway Murals; the graffiti art of Jean-Michel Basquiat and Banksy; and awesome Artificial Intelligence Art.



CINEMA QUEST: CURRENT AND CLASSIC

Coordinators: Howard Salik, Marian Friedmann, Bobbie Gold, Vince Grosso

Join lovers of current releases and classic movies as the films, their casts, directors, storylines, scripts, and more are discussed and critiqued. Members attending the class will participate in the review, sharing and comparing their opinions with fellow Questers and the reviewers. Presenters will either choose from the top 100 Hollywood and foreign classic films or noteworthy films currently in theaters and /or streaming now. Get ready to explore the very best of yesterday and today from Hollywood, to Film Festivals around the world.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Coordinators: Sol Makon, Peter Dichter, Pete Weis

Over the centuries, classical music has constantly evolved. Historically, the changing social and political fabric has been the catalyst to produce innovation and transformation of classical musical content and presentation. We will explore these musical achievements by examining distinctive musical styles, genres, composers, etc. They continuingly materialized, from the 16th century through to the 21st century. Presentations will provide greater insight and appreciation of classical music.

COMEDY CENTRAL

Coordinators: Wayne Cotter, Leslie Goldman, Vince Grosso, Michael Wellner

You never know what to expect at a Comedy Central class. It could be a session on New Yorker cartoons or a live interview with a top-shelf television comedian. We cover silent comics such as Charlie Chaplin as well as streaming sensations, like the award-winning Ted Lasso show. In other words, this class explores everything that has made Americans laugh over the past 100 years.

CONSTRUCTION: BEYOND BRICKS & MORTAR NEW

Coordinators: Andrea Irvine, Marion Schultheis, David Bartash

Birds do it. Bees do it. Even educated Questers do it. What is it? It's Construction. At its broadest, Construction is the creation of something complex out of multiple components. Of course, it is a Building. But it can be so much more. A piece of music; a theory; a spider's web; even a lie. So join our presenters as they expand their creativity and discover what construction means to them.

CONTEMPORARY POETRY

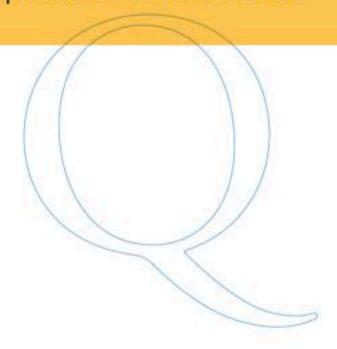
Coordinators: Ellen Rittberg, Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Frieda Lipp

This course will cover poets currently producing compelling poetry as well as poets from the latter part of the 20th century. We will explore different poetic forms and some schools of poetry such as the New York School, the Language Poets, Cave Canem and others.

CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES

Coordinators: Nancy Richardson, Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp

This long-running class discusses short stories from all over the world. At each class, two members volunteer to choose and present a story, copies of which are made available to everyone. The presenters give a brief background about the author, an even briefer background of the story and then open the class for discussion.



CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

Coordinators: Helen Saffran, Judy Hampson, Donna Ramer

Creative Writing offers both in-class exercises and an opportunity to share your prose, poetry, plays and essays written at home for comment and critique in a congenial atmosphere. The three coordinators alternate facilitating classes, bringing their different styles of presenting to the various aspects of writing. Each class begins with a ten-minute writing warmup inspired by a prompt, such as ice cream, a favorite teacher, a memorable photograph. Other in-class writing might be related to the specific topic of the day, such as dialogue, openings, the senses, vivid description, or character development. All genres of writing — science fiction, romance, mystery, memoir, comedy — are welcomed.

DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES

Coordinators: Arlynn Greenbaum, Bob Reiss, Karen Levin, Estelle Selzer

The bimonthly Guest Lecture Series enhances the Quest program experience by inviting recognized experts in their fields to present on varied subjects. Past presentations have included discussions on global policy and political science, literature, theater arts, social science, and music.

EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY& LITERATURE

Coordinators: Larry Shapiro, Steve Allen

For each session, we will read an essay, classic short story, or excerpt from a play. Each reading is selected for the stimulating ideas that it presents and its insights into social relations and human nature, promoting lively and enlightening discussions.

FASCINATING NON-FICTION

Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward

At each session, the presenter will tell you about a book you always wanted to read or about a book you never heard of but will be glad you now have. Selections range from transit maps to Mt. Everest expeditions, American politics, Western women's diaries, young Ernest Hemingway, Black migration, the sinking of the Lusitania, Frank Sinatra, American restaurants, the evolution of mankind. Every semester, an eclectic array of fascinating non-fiction awaits its audience.

FILM FOR THOUGHT NEW

Coordinators: Jane Lubin, Ellen Gottfried

In this course we will see the best of contemporary short documentaries, dramas, comedies, and film excerpts. Films are selected both on their artistic merit and the probability of producing a lively discussion.

FOLK MUSIC & MELLOW ROCK

Coordinators: **Bob Gottfried**, Jill Altman

Each class will be devoted to one or two Folk/Rock artists or groups. We will learn about the artists and listen to and sing along with them. Artists include James Taylor, Carole King, Joni Mitchell, Billy Joel, Carly Simon, Rod Stewart, Sonny and Cher, and Simon and Garfunkel.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Sandy Frank, Glenn Johnston

Each Foreign Affairs class will explore issues of global importance, international relations, or our national interests abroad. Each presenter will select a topic of importance, present the history of the issue, and facilitate class discussion.

GREAT PLAYS

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Wayne Cotter, Frieda Lipp

Great Plays' offers Quest members an opportunity to direct and perform staged readings of noteworthy plays from around the world for their fellow class members. Following each play, the audience is encouraged to share their insights and observations. Who knows? Great Plays could bring out your inner thespian!

HARLEM RENAISSANCE NEW

Coordinators: Richard Byrd, Stuart Parker, Ilene Winkler

The Harlem Renaissance was a period of great change in America, and the African-American community in particular. The presentation will show the impact the Harlem Renaissance had on the artistic, social and political terrain. The presentations will highlight such figures as Langston Hughes, Zora Neal Hurston, Claude Mckay, Augusta Savage, Duke Ellington, Lois Mail Jones, Romare Bearden, Alain Locke, Jean Toomer, Jessie Fauset, Josephine Baker, and activists such as Marcus Garvey, W.E.B. Dubois, A. Phillip Randolph, Hallie Quinn Brown, and Mary McCloud Bethune.

HISTORY OF MEDICINE NEW

Coordinators: Karen Cullen, Donna Ramer, Michael Wellner

We interact with the medical world all the time, from our daily vitamin pill, to annual check-ups, to the occasional surgery or perhaps even treatment for a serious illness. To help us better understand this critical aspect of our lives, this course will look at the development and history of several different medical topics, such as the 1918 flu epidemic, the current Covid pandemic, governmental and social policies, genderspecific diseases and conditions, and even the financial side of medicine (to include medical insurance and all its ramifications).

MEXICO: SOUTH OF OUR BORDER NEW

Coordinators: Tamara Weinberg, Harriet Dubroff, Joyce Sabella

To visit Mexico is to be surrounded by color and music. A fascinating blend of butterflies and beaches, murals and museums, pyramids and ancient temples, Mexico is rich in history, culture, and natural beauty. This course will explore many aspects of our southern neighbor including literature, art, dance, and cuisine (which was awarded UNESCO cultural heritage status!). We will also cover tourism and history through archaeological sites.

NYC AND ITS ENVIRONS: PEOPLE, PLACES, THINGS

Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss

New York City is a tapestry. It is a 400-year development of immigration, architecture and technology. Originally, the City was just the tip of Manhattan. Then, it was the whole island, in 1898, five diverse boroughs, and today a region that reaches beyond city lines. The course investigates all the features of this amazing city: its neighborhoods and infrastructure; its history and features, its pieces and their relationships to the whole.

POETS' WORKSHOP

Coordinators: Judith Winn, Judy Hampson, Helen Saffran

This workshop provides an opportunity to express your thoughts through the creative act of writing poems. You do not need prior experience in this medium. Participants share their writing with other members of the class and through constructive comments, develop their personal writing styles.

QUESTER'S CHOICE

Coordinators: **Bob Gottfried**, Vince Grosso, Hedy Shulman, Mary Beth Yakoubian

What's your personal passion?
Chances are you will find it in Quester's
Choice, a course featuring a broad
variety of subjects. Each class will be
led by a member willing to do both the
deep dive and then share their knowledge with us. So, join us as we journey
through the endless array of topics and
themes in Quester's Choice.

ROCK & ROOTS ALBUMS

Coordinators: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter

Explore the roots and branches of Rock: rock, reggae, soul, blues, punk, folk, new wave, country, and metal. Each session will focus on one album by a band or solo artist and be enriched by related tracks.



SCIENCE & SCIENTISTS

Coordinators: Jim Brook, Steve Allen, Judy Weis

The dictionary defines science as "any system of knowledge that is concerned with the physical world and its phenomena and that entails unbiased observations and systematic experimentation." In general, science involves a pursuit of knowledge covering general truths or the operations of fundamental laws.' This course covers a wide range of scientific topics - and the stories of the women and men who have in the past or are now engaged in the pursuit of knowledge about the world in which we live. No prior acquaintance with the subject of any class is required. An active interest will do. Presenters are committed to making the class understandable to all.

SCIENCE CLUBHOUSE

Coordinators: Steve Allen Jim Brook, Marion Schultheis

This discussion group is a place where new developments in science can be explored and where members can bring questions about any scientific issue and all can participate in finding answers. Our scope is broad — not just the physical and life sciences, but also psychology and cognitive science, medicine, social sciences, and any field of study which relies upon evidence. Ethical, political, and social issues related to science are also discussed.

SHAKESPEARE: THE WINTER'S TALE

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Jim Brook, Ellie Schaffer

The class will read aloud and discuss The Winter's Tale. It is one of Shake-speare's most daring and outlandish plays. Something of an emotional roller coaster, it mixes tragedy, comedy, trickery, and romance. Its excesses include one of the most bizarre stage directions of all time, "Exit pursued by a bear." The Folger Library Edition is the preferred text.

SIXTIES

Coordinators: Richard Byrd, Diane Reynolds

As we delve further into the Sixties the course will include the people, places, and events, which helped define this era. Presenters will have the option to choose a topic which they feel exemplifies this period in U.S. We will cover issues that reflect the tenor of the times and the various organizations like The Black Panther Party, The Young Lords, The Weathermen, The Republic of New Africa, The American Indian Movement, the gay liberation movement, etc. We will also discuss individuals such as Angela Davis, George Jackson, Abbie Hoffmanand Radical attorneys such as William Kunstler.

THE GREAT GATSBY NEW

Coordinators: Lynnel Garabedian, Sandy Kessler

F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel, "The Great Gatsby", written a century ago, has long since been revered as an American classic. Set in the early 1920's when American society was recovering from World War I and rapidly changing, the drama of its love story is told against the backdrop of prosperity, Prohibition, suffrage for women, a relaxation of moral standards, and a desire to just have fun. Fitzgerald is credited with coining the phrase "the Jazz Age" to describe the era and its response to the new exuberant jazz music. However, "The Great Gatsby" includes serious universal themes of class conflict and the corrupting influence of wealth and power on the American dream.

TOCQUEVILLE'S DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA: A CLASSIC FOR OUR TIME NEW

Coordinators: Sandy Kessler, Ellie Schaffer

Alexis de Tocqueville's Democracy in America (1835;1840) is considered one of the greatest commentaries ever written on American life. In our class, we shall examine those parts of the Democracy that are most relevant to America today. Topics to be considered include Tocqueville's views on our national character, the role of religion in our national life, the greatest threats to our freedom, the resources we have to preserve our freedom, and the tasks of statesmanship. We shall also examine those parts of the Democracy where Tocqueville's analysis of America seems to have fallen short.

THE SCARLET LETTER NEW

Coordinators: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga, Susan Keohane

Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804–1864)
American novelist and short story
writer was born into an established
old New England family. Much of his
writing reflects on the dark world of his
ancestors during 17th century Puritan
Boston. In *The Scarlet Letter*, one of his
most famous novels, Hester Prynne, a
victim of this society, is condemned to
wear the scarlet embroidered letter A
on her breast, as punishment for
her adultery.

TONI MORRISON: THE LEGEND

Coordinators: **Donna Ramer**, Sheryl Harawitz, Tamara Weinberg

Through two of her books — Jazz and Song of Solomon — we'll traverse Toni Morrison's winding road into African mythology and mysticism, race and racism, the legacy of slavery, relationships, love and desire, violence and trauma that are a critical path as her characters search for identity.

UPHEAVAL IN AMERICAN VALUES

Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Maureen Berman, Terri Hicks

Each week's class will focus on one (or more) different important social and political issues having a major impact on the state of our democracy and our country's future. Among the topics discussed to date have been the future direction of the Supreme Court, media polarization, social inequality, immigration, free speech, and the whole "woke" culture. The bulk of time in each class is devoted to a lively and informative class discussion.

WONDERFUL BOOKS OUT LOUD (A) AND (B) NEW

Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward

In this class, participants will have the pleasure of reading out loud and discussing Maya Angelou's "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings." A chronicle of an African-American girl growing up in the rural south in the 1930s. All are most welcome — to read out loud, to question, to comment, or to just listen and enjoy. As a full-length book cannot be read aloud and discussed in seven sessions, this course will meet every week.

WATER

Coordinators: Judy Weis, Pete Weis

Water is something we interact with every day. We wash in it, cook with it, put our waste into it, swim in it. When it freezes, we skate, ski or sled on it. "Bad weather" usually involves it. Too little and there's a drought, too much and there's a flood. Our bodies are mostly made of it. It was essential in the development of human civilization. Lots of plants and animals live in it. Life in water is very different from on land. Although this class started as mostly science, it is interdisciplinary and will include the arts, literature, law, and history.

WORLD OF THEATER NEW

Coordinators: Yona Rogosin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Panny Mitchell, Nan McNamara

Theater has been present for 2,500 years and today Questers are fortunate to live at its epicenter. We will address the history of theater and the national, racial and cultural characteristics that can be found in the works of major playwrights and traditions. This includes experimental and those considered uniquely African American. At each session, Questers will give mini-reviews of current productions.

SOMETHING EXTRA

CULTUREQUEST

Madeleine Brecher

The popular 'CultureQuest' program offers tours of art galleries and current museum exhibitions as well as other enriching experiences throughout the New York area. The events take place every month on selected Fridays. There are several in-person or virtual programs offered to Quest members each Fall and Spring semester. The in-person events are followed by a relaxing lunch to enjoy good food and conversation.

LUNCHTIME SPANISH

Ellen Rittberg, Rosemary Feal, Bob Hartmann

Up your Spanish game or just enjoy the pleasure of speaking and learning about sundry people, places and things in cultures where Spanish is spoken—all while speaking Spanish. Short presentations are followed by activities and conversations. It's not necessary to speak Spanish fluently to attend. Everyone is friendly and eager to help those who may feel their Spanish is rusty.

SOCIAL EVENT

Lois Cardillo, Marcia Friedland

The Social Committee hosts gatherings at 25 Broadway so that members may socialize in a casual & fun atmosphere outside of the classroom.

BOOK CHATS

Kathy Cook

Kathy is returning with "Not Your Typical Book Group." A monthly noon-time meeting where members share & discuss their current favorites, afterwards Kathy sends us the selections. Great opportunity for readers who are seeking new authors or simply enjoy talking about books in a relaxed, fun environment.

ART TALKS

Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine

We are continuing our monthly noontime get-together, where members give short talks on works of Art that have inspired, challenged or baffled them. A great compliment to your noontime food consumption.

BOOK CLUB

Jan Goldstein, Susannah Falk Lewis, Joan Vreeland

The Quest Book Club reads a wide cross-section of novels by both new and more established authors, from this country and abroad, across a range of genres. The books chosen are not always what you yourself might ordinarily pick up — think of it as a chance to discover something you didn't know you liked! We meet each month, in-person, during lunchtime.

SOMETHING EXTRA

SOLE MATES

Marian Friedmann, Andrea Irvine
Now entering our second year, Andrea
and Marian will again lead us outside
for a brisk walk or a leisurely stroll along
the Hudson River — ending up at a cafe
for those that want to linger, have a bite,
drink, socialize. Meet every two weeks
at 2:45pm — details always in NWAQ.
No signups, no commitments, just
serendipity, fun and a healthy heart.

ADVENTURES IN DINING

Frank Montaturo

Step out of your familiar neighborhood and explore with Frank the extraordinary gastronomical options, available everywhere in our city. With the emphasis on Queens, menus are preselected, price is moderate and all inclusive, except for drinks & dessert. Frank continues to create a joyous way to socialize and dine — a perfect combination.

MUSIC OF THE HEART

Frank Montaturo

Members are invited to submit a piece of music that "speaks to your heart." Class will have two presenters. Each presenter will speak of the personal emotional significance of the piece and then we will listen together. There will be time for a brief discussion.

ITALIAN CONVERSATION NEW

Richard Elrauch

The format will be open and relaxed, purely conversational, with correction only if participants request it. The goal is to practice and improve conversation skills in Italian and might include occasional readings and specific topic discussions. The group's content and configuration could develop according to the participants' suggestions. Come ti sembra? (How does that sound? / "How does that seem to you?") Bene?

DÉJEUNER FRANÇAIS

Ruth Ward, Donna Basile

Quel beau rêve — parler français à d'autres Questers pendant le déjeuner ! Si vous parlez un peu français, rejoignez-nous pour des conversations sur des sujets choisis par nos participants, qui présenteront des mini-leçons et animeront des discussions sur des thèmes d'intérêt personnel et général. Bonne idée, n'est-ce pas ? À bientôt !

JAZZ AT NOON NEW

Richard Byrd, Stuart Parker

Jazz is a never-ending source of enjoyment. We'll combine our lunch with inspiring music. Whether it is a favorite musician, a jazz band, an instrument, or just one piece that stirs us, it will propel us into our afternoon class charged by the sounds we heard.

Founded in 1995 by a small group of active retirees, Quest is an all-volunteer, peer-learning center for anyone in the Tri-state area who is retired or semi-retired.

Members benefit by

- Learning & developing new interests
- Exchanging ideas

- · Meeting new people
- · Social activities

Below are a few of the 40+ courses, workshops and activities we offer each semester. We're always seeking new programs so let us know your passion and we'll work with you to bring it to life.

- Contemporary Issues
- Literature & Poetry
- Performing Arts
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Science

- Acting
 - Languages
 - Music & Art
 - Writing Workshops
 - Discussion Groups
 - Book Club

- · Adventures in Dining
- Museum Tours
- Travel
- Social Activities (on-site & off)
- SoleMates Walking
- Special Events

There is also our Distinguished Guest Lecture Series, and our annual literary and arts magazine, *QReview*. We keep members in the know through our monthly *QNews*, *NWAQ* (weekly listing of classes), and two email communities.

No matter how you choose to participate, you will find that Quest provides a rewarding experience to enrich your intellectual and social lives.

For more information and to schedule a visit to sample our classes, contact us at:

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