

# **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**September 25 - 29**

**This is a “B” Week**

**There are three links for all classes throughout the semester: Auditorium, Classroom 15-17, and Classroom 27. 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 (*click on “AUDITORIUM” below*):**

**AUDITORIUM**

**Meeting ID: 813 5977 7119**

**Passcode: 252525**

**FOR ALL MEETING ROOM 15-17 CLASSES (*click on “ROOM 15-17” below*):**

**ROOM 15-17**

**Meeting ID: 893 8196 3761**

**Passcode: 252525**

**FOR ALL MEETING ROOM 27 CLASSES (*click on “ROOM 27” below*):**

**ROOM 27**

**Meeting ID: 834 6569 8593**

**Passcode: 252525**

**PLEASE NOTE: All classes are conducted at 25 Broadway and are listed as either “Hybrid” or “In-person.” “Hybrid” classes are available to members attending at 25 Broadway and to members attending from home via Zoom. “In-person only” classes are presented solely at 25 Broadway with no Zoom option.**

# Monday, September 25, Yom Kippur, Quest is Closed

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## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course:** **ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Subject:** Michelangelo's Frescoes in the Sistine Chapel

Michelangelo was already well-known as a superb sculptor when in 1503 the new pope, Julius II, asked him to paint a set of frescoes on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Papal Palace. Having had no previous experience with fresco painting and busy working on a huge sculpture, the artist tried to politely refuse. Julius demanded that he cease all other work and commit himself to painting the Sistine Chapel ceiling. After four years, Michelangelo had created what is considered to be one of the greatest artistic achievements of human civilization.

**Presenter:** Lynnel Garabedian  
**Coordinators:** Linda Downs, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss, Ellen Shapiro  
**Tech Support:** Susan Diehl, Ellen Shapiro, Bob Reiss

**Course:** **WATER** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** 27  
**Subject:** Antarctica: The Frozen Realm – Part 2

Antarctica is a continent without a country. It's a mesmerizing landscape of ice-choked seas, mountains, rugged coastlines, and mammoth glaciers. It's a land in constant flux, transformed by the weather and its violent storms. It's a remote place with stark beauty. You may know that Antarctica is the coldest place on Earth, but did you know it's the world's largest desert or the highest, whitest, and

**windiest continent on Earth? Were you aware that the dashing tales from the Heroic Age of Exploration are packed with adventures of daring and extreme courage? Please join us to discover some of the hidden gems of this white continent.**

**Presenters: Sandy Frank & Glenn Johnston (presenting remotely)**  
**Coordinators: Judy Weis, Pete Weis**  
**Tech Support: Pete Weis, Steven Chicoine**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.**

**Course: SE HABLA ESPAÑOL (Spanish conversation) (In-person only)**  
**Room: Classroom 19**  
**Subject: Getting to Know You**

**In this class we will get to know each other a little better. Participants will ask and answer guided questions of their partner about their name, their pets, and their favorite things. Then they will share what they've learned with the class. If your Spanish is rusty, come and deoxidize.**

**Conociéndote: En esta clase nos haremos amigos para conocernos un poco mejor. Los participantes harán y responderán preguntas guiadas a su pareja sobre su nombre, sus mascotas y sus cosas favoritas. Luego compartirán lo que han aprendido con la clase. Si tu español está oxidado, ven y desoxídalo.**

**Presenter: Ruth Ward**  
**Coordinators: Ellen Rittberg, Bob Hartmann, Ruth Ward**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: FILM FOR THOUGHT (In-person only)**  
**Room: Auditorium**  
**Subject: Award Winning Short Films**

**We continue with 3 or 4 award winning short films for viewing and discussion.**

**Presenters: Jane Lubin, Ellen Waldman**  
**Coordinators: Jane Lubin, Ellen Waldman**  
**Tech Support: Michael Wellner, Wayne Cotter**

**Course: HARLEM RENAISSANCE (Hybrid)**  
**Room: 15-17**  
**Subject: Art During the Harlem Renaissance:**

**The great impetus in 20<sup>th</sup> century Black American art occurred during the period known as the New Negro Movement that was centered in Harlem, in the 1920's and 1930's, known as The Harlem Renaissance. It began with what is called, The Great Migration, the migration of blacks from the rural south to the urban north, as well as a Caribbean migration to New York early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, seeking economic and individual independence and opportunity. In addition, prominent and influential writers, philosophers, artists, musicians, dancers, etc. who had established themselves in Europe, now returned to Harlem, as a moral imperative, and created an intellectual and cultural outpouring in all of the arts. And in all of the arts, the encouragement was to educate and be Black Centered. From this period of the Harlem Renaissance, there emerged positive impact on all of American society.**

**Presenter: Sondra Gordon**  
**Coordinators: Richard Byrd, Ilene Winkler, Hedy Shulman, Stuart Parker**  
**Tech Support: Steven Chicoine, Ilene Winkler**

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**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: FASCINATING NON-FICTION (Hybrid)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: The Advantages of Forgetting**

**Forgetting: The Benefits of Not Remembering by Scott Small  
A Primer for Forgetting: Getting Past the Past by Lewis Hyde**

**NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

**Forty percent of the U.S. population develops memory problems beginning at age sixty-five. The aging process, injury, and trauma, both individual and national, contribute to various forms of forgetting. Forgetfulness then brings fear of irreversibly losing agency as a full functioning person.**

**According to two authors - a scientist and a philosopher/essayist - there are essential positive aspects of forgetting. There are important physiological, psychological and ethical issues that actually require forgetting in order to maintain our individual equilibrium and national peace.**

**Two new books focus on the advantages of forgetting: Forgetting: The Benefits of Not Remembering by Scott Small presents the latest neurological research related to dementia, PTSD, and autism spectrum disorder; and A Primer for Forgetting: Getting Past the Past by Lewis Hyde delves into the importance of the subject of forgetting in mythology, ancient and contemporary history as well as the creative process.**

**Presenter: Linda Downs**

**Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward**

**Tech Support: Bob Reiss, Wayne Cotter**

**Course: UPHEAVALS IN AMERICAN VALUES (In-person only)**  
**Room: 15-17**  
**Subject: 2024 Election Update**

**We're just a little over a year away from the 2024 Elections that, one could argue, will likely have a major impact on the future of American democracy. In this class, we'll provide a primer to the facts, figures, and issues that have traditionally played a role in the outcome of elections. But we'll also focus on the wildcards that may also impact 2024 election results: state legislators seeking to interject themselves into national elections, unreliable polling, initiatives to make it more difficult for citizens to cast their votes, among them. The "age factor," already one of the most hotly debated issues of the 2024 Presidential election, will be discussed and debated among class members.**

**We'll also provide ideas, actions, and resources for those who want to be more involved in the election outcome.**

**Presenter: Maureen Berman**  
**Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Maureen Berman, Terri Hicks**  
**Tech Support: Steven Chicoine, Michael Wellner**

**WEDNESDAY, September 27th @ NOON – 12:50 P.M.**

**NEW MEMBERS MEETING (In-person only)**

**Room 19**

**This meeting, the first in a series of four, begins our introduction to and overview of the Quest experience**

**At the meeting you will:**

- **Meet Donna Ramer, President of Quest and Chair of the Membership Committee**
- **Meet Pam Gemelli, Chair of the Coffee Committee and former Chair of New Members Committee**
- **Meet the members of the New Members Committee**

- **Be able to ask questions about any aspect of Quest's activities.**
- **Engage with other new members.**

**Who is invited:**

**Fall and Spring 2023 new members**

**Co-chairs: Susan Keohane and Renee Woloshin**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURER SERIES (Hybrid)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Title: A Conversation with Anna Quindlen**

**Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author Anna Quindlen will be our Kenneth Leedom/Peter Cott Memorial Guest Lecturer this Fall. We all fondly remember her columns for the *New York Times*, which were collected in *LIVING OUT LOUD* and *THINKING OUT LOUD*.**

**Quindlen is the author of nine novels including *OBJECT LESSONS, ONE TRUE THING, BLACK AND BLUE, RISE AND SHINE* and *ALTERNATE SIDE*. Her memoir, *LOTS OF CANDLES, PLENTY OF CAKE*, published in 2012, was a *New York Times* bestseller. Her book *A SHORT GUIDE TO A HAPPY LIFE* has sold more than a million copies.**

**The format will be an on-stage interview conducted by Arlynn Greenbaum, followed by audience questions.**

**Please join us for this special presentation.**

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

**Tech Support: Bob Reiss, Wayne Cotter**

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**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: NYC AND ITS ENVIRONS (Hybrid)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: The Rockaways**

**In the 1830's, the Rockaways became popular as a summer retreat for wealthy New Yorkers. During the 20th and 21st centuries, there have been many changes, while continuing to be a beach destination for all. Hear about "New York's Playground"**

**Presenter: Joan Vreeland**

**Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss**

**Tech Support: Paul Golomb, Ilene Winkler**

**Course: SCIENCE CLUBHOUSE (In-person only)**

**Room: 15-17**

**Subject: A book report on *Entangled Life* by Merlin Sheldrake**

***Entangled Life* is a fascinating account of the many roles that fungi play in the world. The close symbiosis between fungi and plants is fundamental to the evolution of life on land, and to the continued survival of plants. But that's just part of the story – we'll also hear about their devastating impact on the health of different species, their ability to convert other organisms into their slaves, their role in psychedelics, and much more.**

**As always, we look forward to lively and wide ranging discussions of this and whatever topics pop up!**

**Presenter: Steve Allen**  
**Coordinators: Steve Allen, Jim Brook, Marion Schultheis**  
**Tech Support: Steve Chicoine**

**Course: **WONDERFUL BOOKS OUT LOUD (B WEEK)** (*Hybrid*)**  
**Room: 27**  
**Subject: *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings***  
**Chapters 11, 12 and 13**  
**By: Maya Angelou**

**NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

**In today's class, we will read about one of the most traumatic events of Maya Angelou's childhood. Eight-year old Maya and her brother Bailey, currently living in Arkansas with their grandmother, have been sent to St. Louis to live with their mother. But, Maya decides St. Louis is a foreign country and she "didn't come to stay." The only person who gives Maya some comfort (other than brother Bailey) is her mother's boyfriend. Catastrophic result: he rapes her. In retaliation, Maya's uncles murder him. Feeling responsible for having caused a death, Maya resolves to stop talking. Unable and unwilling to cope with her moroseness, the family sends Maya and Bailey back to Stamps, Arkansas. A blessing in disguise? Come join us for the full discussion of this pivotal event in Maya Angelou's life.**

**Presenter: Harriet Finkelstein and The Class**  
**Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward**  
**Tech Support: Ruth Ward**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: CONSTRUCTION BEYOND BRICKS AND MORTAR** (*In-person only*)  
**Room: 15-17**  
**Subject: JS Bach's Goldberg Variations**

Published in 1741, the **Goldberg Variations** is an epic, unique keyboard masterpiece revered worldwide. Its proper title is “Aria with diverse variations, for a harpsichord with two manuals, Composed for Music Lovers to Refresh their Spirits”.

Join us to refresh **YOUR** spirits, and gain understanding of this monumental work, that's a journey through the universe of every human quality, except imperfection!

**Presenter: Arlene Hajinlian**  
**Coordinators: Andrea Irvine, Marion Schultheis, David Bartash**  
**Tech Support: Ilene Winkler, Steve Chicoine**

**Course: EXPLORATIONS IN LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room: 27**

What impact on our reading of a work of literature (or seeing a film, or listening to a piece of music, or looking at a work of visual art) does biographical knowledge about the work's creator play? Should we consider trying to first encounter a work without knowing who the creator is? If we formed a critical judgement of the work, how much could that critical judgment be changed if we later learned who the creator was? What if it turned out that the creator was an AI (Artificial Intelligence)?

Prior to the class, we will distribute an essay by Claire Dederer, "What Do We Do With the Art of Monstrous Men?", through QuestBusiness.

**Discussion leader:** Steve Allen  
**Coordinators:** Larry Shapirro, Steve Allen  
**Tech Support:** Larry Shapiro

**Course:** **POETS' WORKSHOP** (*In-person only*)

**Room:** 19

**(Note: This class ends at 3 p.m.)**

**Write a poem using the cue word "contemplation" or a word of the poet's choice. Authors will read their poems and bring copies of each poem to the class for a second reading by a classmate. A discussion of the poem will follow.**

**Coordinators:** Judith Winn, Judy Hampson, Helen Safran  
**Tech Support:** None Assigned

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 @ 2:30 P.M.**

**Course:** **SOLE MATES** (In-person only)

**Room:** Gather in the lobby by elevators on 7th floor at 2:45 p.m.

**Marian & Andrea will lead us on an Autumn walk along the Hudson. We will proceed to Battery Park and then head North. It is up to you how far you walk - lots of transport in the Oculus Train Station with option of ending at a 'watering hole' for good cheer before heading home.**

**No signups – No commitments just serendipity - community and a healthy heart. A great way to end a week of Questing.**

**Coordinators:** Andrea Irvine, Marian Friedmann

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**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29th 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**CultureQuest**

**The Gilded Age: “THE HEYDAY OF HIGH SOCIETY TOUR”**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023**

**(In-person walking tour)**

**Fans of The Gilded Age are eagerly awaiting the second installment of Julian Fellowes’ sumptuous period drama on HBO Max. The tale of opulence, scandal, and secrets is poised to grace the screen once again this September – delivering a lavish end to summer and welcoming the start of a bumper season for film and TV.**

**We invite you to join us on CultureQuest’s “Gilded Age Tour.” It takes you back through the history of the American Industrial Revolution and explores the lives and dynamics of the titans of American business including: John Jacob Astor, Cornelius Vanderbilt, John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, and J.P. Morgan.**

**Discover their inspiring rise to great fortune and power, the dynamics of the empires they built, and the power struggles between them. Get to know the high times and intimate details of their personal lives. On this tour, you will travel through millionaire’s row to see some of their lavish mansions, elite private social clubs, and museums that house treasures of the self-made American royalty. Points of interest will include: The Metropolitan Club, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Carnegie, Frick, and the Duke Mansions.**

**PLEASE JOIN US**

**WHEN: Friday, September 29, 2023, 11:00AM to 1:00 PM - Please arrive by 10:45 AM.**

**WHERE: North side of the fountain in front of the Plaza Hotel - Rain or shine!**

**TO RESERVE: Send an email ASAP to Dena Kerren ([dena@kerren.us](mailto:dena@kerren.us)).**

**COST: When you are confirmed, please put a check made out to Quest for \$15 in an envelope marked CultureQuest Gilded Age Tour and place it in the CultureQuest mailbox in the Quest office by September 22nd. We expect a quick sellout. The tour is limited to 20 persons.**

**Important Note—Please sign up only if you intend to come. We will have a wait list. Anyone who doesn't show or fails to cancel will only be placed on future wait lists when they sign up to attend another CultureQuest tour.**

**Thank you for your understanding.**

**LUNCH (Optional): Serafina, 2178 Madison Ave. 79th Street**