

## **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**October 16 - 19, 2023**

**This is an A 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 passcode.**

**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, October 16 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course: ROCK AND ROOTS ALBUMS (Hybrid)**  
**Room: Auditorium**  
**Subject: The Greenwich Village Folk Scene of the 1960s**

**The Rock and Roots Albums class departs from its regular approach this week to offer this special session. In this presentation, four of us will profile the legendary Greenwich Village folk clubs from the early-to-mid sixties. We'll also listen to and discuss many of the musicians who began their careers playing in these clubs.**

**As a bonus, Bruce Pollock, author of the recently published book "The Bleecker Street Tapes: Echoes of Greenwich Village," will be on hand to share unique stories and insights. Over the years, Bruce has conducted interviews with scores of musicians from that era, such as Richie Havens; Buffy Sainte-Marie; and Peter, Paul and Mary. Many of these interviews are included in his latest book.**

**So, join us as we listen to some unforgettable music and share memories with our four presenters.**

**Presenters: Wayne Cotter, Mary Ann Donnelly, Steve Koenig, and special guest Bruce Pollock**  
**Coordinators: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter**  
**Tech Support: Victor Brener, Michael Wellner**

**Course: THE GREAT GATSBY (In-person only)**  
**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**The reading assignment for this week is Chapters 3 to 5. After some information about the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment which prohibited the sale of alcohol, we will return to Chapter 3 where Nick attends a party at Gatsby's house. He hears stories about Gatsby and observes his lavish lifestyle, but what is it that greatly surprises Nick when he finally meets his host? Nick makes a list of the people who attended Gatsby's parties.**

**Do you see any difference in the names from East Egg and West Egg? Gatsby befriends Nick warmly and after taking him to lunch in the city, introduces him to Meyer Wolfsheim.**

**What shocks Nick about Wolfsheim?**

**Discussion Leaders: Lynnel Garabedian, Sandy Kessler  
Tech Support: Bob Reiss**

**MONDAY, October 16 @ NOON – 12:45 PM**

**Course: LUNCHTIME ACTIVITY (In-person only)  
Room: Classroom 15-17  
Subject: Jazz at Noon**

**We will take you into the wondrous terrain of Jazz. Stu will present two versions of the classic Black and Blue - one version will be by Ethel Waters, the other by Louis Armstrong. Rica will present Abbey Lincoln performing Throw it Away live. Richard will present two selections - Ethel Waters singing Taking a Chance on Love + Jazz Violinist Regina Carter's version of Eddie Harris's Listen Here.**

**Bring your lunch and settle in for some great jazz.**

**Presenter: Richard Byrd, Rica Fujikira, Stuart Parker  
Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine**

**MONDAY, October 16 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Course: COMEDY CENTRAL (Hybrid)  
Room: Auditorium  
Subject: Dick Gregory**

**Who was the multi-faceted Dick Gregory? A comedian, civil rights leader, business owner, entrepreneur, vegetarian activist, writer of best**

**sellers, and presidential candidate. Popular among southern Black communities in the 1950s and in the ubiquitous comedy clubs of the 1960s, this satirist transformed cool humor into a barbed force for civil rights, protesting racial injustice in the U.S. as well as the war in Vietnam. In the 1970s he devoted himself to protest and fasting in the name of various social causes, health regimens and even conspiracy theories. Finally, as an elderly speaker, author, and cultural icon, he promoted a spiritual life. Come and view the kaleidoscopic transformations of this pioneering public figure who sought out the beauty in humanity regardless of race, religion, or creed.**

**Presenter: Ruth Ward**

**Coordinators: Wayne Cotter, Leslie Goldman, Vin Grosso, Michael Wellner**

**Tech Support: Michael Wellner, Ellen Shapiro**

**Course: THE SCARLET LETTER (In-person only)**

**Room: Classroom 27**

**In chapters 6 through 9, we will focus on the force of Puritan society on the lives of the three main characters, Dimmesdale, Chillingworth, and most especially on Hester. The focus on the potential conflict between Hester and the community peaks when Hester is summoned to the Governor’s Hall where the magistrates will decide whether they will deprive the mother of her child. We note the irony in this chapter as the community forces Dimmesdale to come to plead for Hester and her “Elf-Child” while Chillingworth, the “Leach” looks on.**

**Coordinators: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curringa, Susan Keohane**

**Tech Support: Steven Chicoine**

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**TUESDAY, October 17 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course: FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Hybrid)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Papua New Guinea**

**Why Papua New Guinea, you ask? Let me count the “why’s.” It’s a megadiverse paradise with an astounding mix of flamboyant cultures and more than 800 distinct languages. You’ll spot weird and wonderful wildlife, witness spectacular festivals . . . and did you know that the United States and PNG recently signed a new defense cooperation agreement? Our current administration is putting a greater emphasis on the Pacific region as part of its global outreach. In truth, Papua New Guinea is pretty much an unknown quantity to the North American senior citizen. Please join us so you can learn WHY this island nation is truly a LAND APART!**

**Presenter: Madeleine Brecher**

**Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Sandy Frank, Glenn Johnston**

**Tech Support: Michael Wellner, Victor Brener**

**Course: WORLD OF THEATRE (In-person only)**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: African American Theatrical Traditions and Playwrights**

**The Minstrel Show was the United States' first original contribution to popular theater and the first widespread popular entertainment in the U.S. Introduced during the first quarter of the 19th century, it was performed by touring professional groups and by amateur groups, many of which performed well into the twentieth century. In spite of the difficult political and cultural issues it raised, The Minstrel Show is an important part of our artistic, political and social history.**

**Presenter: Nan McNamara**

**August Wilson is rightly recognized as “Theater’s Poet of Black America.” He is the recipient of numerous Pulitzer Prizes, Drama Desk Awards, Outer Critic Awards for off-Broadway productions, and Tonys for the series of plays he wrote known as “The Pittsburgh Chronicles” or “The Century Cycles.” His plays have been presented throughout the U.S. This session examines, within an historical perspective, Wilson's vision, his plays and his influence, providing you with a fascinating appreciation of his work.**

**Presenter: Sandy Gordon**

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

**Tech Support: Tamara Weinberg, Ellen Shapiro**

**TUESDAY, October 17 @ NOON – 12:45 PM**

**Course: DEJEUNER FRANCAIS. (In-person only)**

**Room: Classroom 19**

**L’Aven Armand fait partie des plus belles grottes de France et du monde. Elle est située au cœur du Parc National des Cévennes et des “Causses et Cévennes,” territoire inscrit au patrimoine Mondial de l’Unesco. Elle a plus de 400 stalagmites, et la plus élevée est la plus grande stalagmite connue au monde. Nous allons explorer cette grotte ensemble en regardant de belles images de ce trésor national.**

**Aven Armand is one of the most beautiful caves in France and in the world. It is located in the heart of the Cévennes National Park and the “Causses et Cévennes,” a territory listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There are more than 400 stalagmites, and the highest with its 30 meters is the largest stalagmite known in the world. We will explore this cave together looking at beautiful pictures of this national treasure.**

**Presenter:** Donna Basile  
**Coordinators:** Ruth Ward, Donna Basile

**TUESDAY, October 17 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **FOLK MUSIC AND MELLOW ROCK** (Hybrid)  
**Room:** Classroom 15-17  
**Subject:** Joni Mitchell

**When Joni Mitchell was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997, they didn't know what niche to put her in. They couldn't decide if she was a jazzer, a folkie, a pop singer, a rock singer, or what? She is all of that and more, a poetic songwriter and innovative musician. After listening to works from her vast repertoire, you can decide if she is "articulate enough" on an "intellectual level" to compete with the "Masters of Rock n' Roll."**

**Presenter:** Mary Ann Donnelly  
**Coordinators:** Bob Gottfried, Jill Altman  
**Tech Support:** Michael Wellner

**Course:** **ACROSS THE UNIVERSE** (In-person only)  
**Room:** Classroom 27  
**Subject:** Race to the Moon

**It's been over 50 years since Apollo 11, for humanity to take that "Next Giant Leap". Space & astronomy are truly having their moment with new discoveries & developments happening all the time. As technology develops it gets easier to look farther and farther afield yet sometimes looking at what we can see in our own backyard can be just as satisfying, especially because what we discover locally is more accessible to investigate. This is definitely the case with our local companion . . . the Moon.**

**Something of a new lunar race is underway, but the motivations differ. What is behind the stampede to the Moon now? Lunar Mining, Lunar Bases, Colonization, Nations and Treaties will be covered.**

**Presenter: Vickie Costa**  
**Coordinators: Michael Hamburg, Vickie Costa**  
**Tech Support: Pete Weis, Tamara Weinberg**

**Course: CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP (In-person only)**  
**(NOTE: This class runs until 3 PM)**  
**Room: Classroom 19**

**Subject: En Titled**

**We often don't think about the importance of the title of our short stories, plays, novels and even presentations, but they're the siren's call that lure readers and audiences to our written works and presentations. In fact, did you know that Hemingway's Fiesta was renamed The Sun Also Rises and Margaret Mitchell's Tomorrow is Another Day was renamed Gone with the Wind? In this workshop, we'll dig a little deeper into how we can create alluring titles to capture others as well as ourselves.**

**As always, we'll start with a 10-minute exercise using a prompt and leave time to share our prose, poetry or short script written at home. Reminder: Prose pieces should not exceed 750 words and plays should be about five minutes. Need some inspiration? How about building on the theme of our last workshop on memoir and write about one of your life's experiences? And please bring 15 copies of your at-home writing to share with the group.**

**Presenter: Donna Ramer**  
**Coordinators: Helen Saffran, Judy Hampson, Donna Ramer**  
**Tech Support: None Assigned**



**WEDNESDAY, October 18 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course: QUESTER'S CHOICE (Hybrid)**  
**Room: Auditorium**  
**Subject: "Hurt People" Hurt People: Origins of Narcissism and Today's Society**

**For years, both as a psychologist and a psychotherapy patient, I have been puzzled and curious about the complexity of the narcissistic personality...And one main notion that seems to surface and re-surface is that people who were hurt in their childhood tend to grow up and hurt people in their adulthood.**

**You may have known or have worked for someone who was harsh, fault-finding, demanding, and critical beyond what the situation called for in order for their needs of power, control, prestige or wealth to be met. You may have seen characters on television who were ruthless, unfeeling, cruel, judgmental, and disparaging.**

**Come join me on a journey to explore this universal personality type as I share stories from my life, my practice, with current TV clips.**

**Presenter: Elaine Martin**  
**Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Vince Grosso, Hedy Shulman, Mary Beth Yakoubian**  
**Tech Support: Steven Chicoine, Tamara Weinberg**

**Course: SHAKESPEARE (Hybrid)**  
**Room: Classroom 15-17**  
**Play: A Winter's Tale**

**The class will read aloud and discuss Act III. This Act contains Shakespeare's most famous stage direction: "Antigonus exits pursued by bear." The class will discuss how such an action might be staged. We will note how issues in the play (written in 1610) reflect the English audience's concerns with the responsibilities of monarch, the relation**

between royal authority and the will of the people, and what actions might be brought to bear on the actions of a criminal king. We will take a close look at the trial of Hermione, the words of the Oracle, and the death of the young Prince.

**Coordinators: Roy Clary, Jim Brook, Ellie Schaffer**

**Tech Support: Ellie Schaffer**

**WEDNESDAY, October 18 @ NOON – 12:45 PM**

**Course: ITALIAN CONVERSATION (In-person only)**

**Room: Classroom 19**

This is an informal, all-inclusive Italian conversation group. Those with any competence or even interest in La Bella Lingua are welcome. Ability to communicate in Italian is not necessary. Bilingual material will be offered to stimulate conversation, but structure and process will be guided by group consensus. There is one requirement for participation: the innate ability to say "buongiorno" with a smile.

**Coordinator: Richard Elrauch**

**WEDNESDAY, October 18 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Course: CINEMA QUEST (Hybrid)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: One Classic and Two Current films**

***OTHER PEOPLE'S CHILDREN* – Reviewer: GALE SPITALNIK**

**French New Wave**

**Streaming: PRIME, VUDU**

**Rotten Tomatoes: 92/99**

**Trailer: [https://youtu.be/As11q4VM\\_Jw](https://youtu.be/As11q4VM_Jw)  
(1 hour 44 Minutes)  
(2022-2023)**

**Rachel is 40 years old with no children and loves her life: her high school students, her friends, her ex, her guitar lessons. When Rachael falls in love with Ali, she becomes attached to Leila, his 4-year-old daughter. She tucks her into bed, cares for her, and loves her like her own. But to love other people's children is risky.**

***LOST HORIZON* – Reviewer: BETTY FARBER  
Streaming: PRIME, APPLE, VUDU  
Rotten Tomatoes: 93/82  
Trailer: <https://youtu.be/BQ7g3HOGENS>  
(2 Hours 4 Minutes)  
(1937)**

**A fantastic drama follows a group of plane-crash survivors who have landed in the mythical Shangri-La, a valley hidden deep within the Himalayas mountains. Rescued by followers of the High Llama, the outsiders grow to love the remote paradise. However, a British writer and a diplomat suspect the crash was no accident, leading to a surprising revelation.**

***MONICA* – Reviewer: LOIS KLEIN  
Streaming: PRIME, APPLE, VUDU  
Rotten Tomatoes: 84/98  
Trailer: <https://youtu.be/os8xbNzqA2I>  
(1 hour 54 Minutes)  
(2022-2023)**

**The film is an intimate portrait of a woman who returns home to the Midwest for the first time in 20 years to take care of her ailing mother. Through the themes of abandonment, aging, rejection, acceptance,**

and forgiveness, we get to know Monica and her world of pain, fear, and courage.

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

**Tech Support:** Michael Wellner, Tamara Weinberg

**Course:** **TOCQUEVILLE'S DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA: A CLASSIC FOR OUR TIME** (In-person only)

**Room:** Classroom 15-17

In our class this week we will finish our discussion of Tocqueville's views on the political utility of religion and then turn to his discussion of American slavery and of sexual equality in the early 19th century America. As always, we will first try to understand his thoughts on these matters and then consider their relevance to American life today.

**Presenter:** Sandy Kessler

**Coordinators:** Sandy Kessler, Ellie Schaffer

**Tech Support:** Ellie Schaffer, Ellen Shapiro

**THURSDAY, October 19 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **SCIENCE AND SCIENTISTS** (Hybrid)

**Room:** Auditorium

**Subject:** Fibonacci and the Fibonacci Numbers

Leonardo Pisano, perhaps the greatest European mathematician of the Middle Ages, is now referred to simply as Fibonacci. This presentation will explore his life and singular accomplishments and in particular the Fibonacci sequence of numbers and its amazing properties.

**No mathematics beyond elementary school arithmetic ( $5 + 8 = ?$ ) will be necessary to follow the goings on. You can bring along a calculator, but you certainly won't need it. I will bring the pineapple.**

**Presenter: Jim Brook**  
**Coordinators: Jim Brook, Steve Allen, Judy Weis**  
**Tech Support: Pete Weis, Tamara Weinberg**

**Course: CONTEMPORARY POETRY (Hybrid)**  
**Room: Classroom 15-17**  
**Subject: William Carlos Williams**

**William Carlos Williams was a poet and a doctor. His medical practice supported his family but also provided a colorful panorama of people in the throes of life, death and every malady and joy in between. He healed these people if he could and wrote about them because he could. He is known for a stripped-down writing style that discards poetic flourishes in favor of a simple focus on things: "No ideas but in things." In our class, we will ponder these things and see if we can find some truth in them.**

**Presenter: Martha Drezin**  
**Coordinators: Ellen Rittberg, Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Frieda Lipp**  
**Tech Support: Ilene Winkler**

**Course: WONDERFUL BOOKS OUT LOUD (Hybrid)**  
**Room: Classroom 27**  
**Subject: I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, chapters 19-21 by Maya Angelou**

### **NO ADVANCED READING REQUIRED**

**In the chapters we'll read together on October 19, all of Black Stamps crowds into the Store and out on to the porch to listen to Momma's radio as Joe Louis defends his World Championship title against a white opponent. Bailey shows signs of wanderlust, and a new interest in the**

**bodies of girls. At a Fish Fry, the Black Community's counterpart to a county fair, Maya makes her first friend, a girl prettier and more confident than she is. Come February, Maya receives her first Valentine. Can the sentiments it expresses be genuine? Dare she confide in her new friend?**

**Presenters: Larry Shapiro and The Class**

**Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward**

**Tech Support: Ruth Ward**

**THURSDAY, October 19 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Course: HISTORY OF MEDICINE (Hybrid)**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: The Privatization of American Healthcare: An Historical and Ethical Perspective**

**The privatization of U.S. healthcare demonstrates how medicine as an art, a science and a profession has morphed into a giant, unregulated business that continues to increase the cost of medical care. Almost 20% of our GDP is used for healthcare and yet our outcomes, as measured by life expectancy, infant mortality, etc., are exceeded by other industrialized nations that spend far less and insure all residents.**

**Come hear guest speaker Dr. Cheryl Kunis, a distinguished nephrologist, bioethicist, professor and health care activist, discuss the development and current state of health insurance and Medicare/Medicaid in the U.S. Dr. Kunis will address how profit-motivated health care players, such as the private insurance companies behind Medicare Advantage, the corporations building huge hospital conglomerates, and the private equity companies buying doctors' practices and emergency rooms-- along with rapidly advancing technology and pharmaceutical pricing-- have led to an uncontrollable upward spiral of unsustainable healthcare costs without improved quality of care or racial equity. When and how will this bubble implode?**

**Presenter:** Guest Speaker Dr. Cheryl Kunis  
**Coordinators:** Karen Cullen, Donna Ramer, Michael Wellner  
**Tech Support:** Pete Weis, Ilene Winkler

**Course:** **CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES** (Hybrid)  
**Room:** Classroom 27

**Stories to read for Thurs, October 19 at 1 pm**

1. ***A Real Durwan* by Jhumpa Lahiri**  
**Presenter: Nancy Richardson**

**Jhumpa Lahiri (born 1967) won the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for her debut short-story collection *Interpreter of Maladies*, which includes this story that recounts the daily lives of a stair sweeper in Calcutta, and the families in the building. where the stair sweeper works and lives in the stairwell. (A Durcan is a doorkeeper.)**

2. ***P's Parties* by Jhumpa Lahiri**  
**Presenter: Anita Hunter**

**Story (published in New Yorker in 2023) by Pulitzer Prize winning author Jhumpa Lahiri, is set in Rome where Lahiri went to live- and learn Italian well enough to write in it. The story is about the mid-life marriage of an empty-nest couple, and the husband/narrator's obsession with another woman he encounters at one of P's parties. Written by Lahiri in Italian, she declined to translate it into English herself!**

**Links for the two stories have been sent in a separate email to all Questers via QuestBusiness.**

**A few printed copies of the stories will be available in the A-week box in the lunchroom,**

**Any questions, please email Nancy at [nancyrye@earthlink.net](mailto:nancyrye@earthlink.net)**

**Coordinators:** Nancy Richardson, Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp  
**Tech Support:** Ruth Ward, Michael Russo

**Course:     **ACTING WORKSHOP I (In-person only)****

**Room:       Auditorium**

**Members of the class will present assigned monologues in a fun and creative environment.**

**Coordinator:     Roy Clary, Panny Mitchell, Art Spar**

**Tech Support:   None**

## **CULTUREQUEST**

### **THE WHITNEY MUSEUM OF ART EXPLORE TWO SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS**

**Ruth Asawa Through Line  
Henry Taylor: B-Side**

**Friday, October 27 – 10:00 AM To 11:30 AM  
(On-Line Only with Whitney Docent Linda Sweet)**

#### **RUTH ASAWA THROUGH LINE**

**The wire sculptures of Ruth Asawa (1926 – 2013) are well known to those who frequent The Whitney Museum. Asawa's suspended wire sculptures have captivated viewers since the 1950's. Born on a truck farm in northern California, subjected to a Japanese-American internment camp in 1942, studied at the Milwaukee State Teachers College and at the Universidad de Autosome de Mexico. Her interest in becoming a teacher was abandoned as she became aware of the racial hostility she could face in the classroom. From 1946 to 1949 she studied with Joseph Albers and became acquainted with many of the young modernists at Black Mountain College. There she began to realize her strength as an independent artist through drawing. In the 1950's she**



**began developing wire sculpture with a wire-crochet technique she learned in Mexico. Ruth Asawa Through Line” explores Asawa’s daily drawing practice. “Organized by the Whitney and the Mesnil Collection, this presentation reveals the complexity and richness of the materials and processes she experimented with, emphasizing the foundational role that drawing played in developing her distinct visual language.”**

#### **HENRY TAYLOR: B-SIDE**

**Henry Taylor is primarily known as a portrait painter who uses both traditional and found objects to paint on. He was born in 1958 in Ventura, California. and studied at Oxnard College with James Jervois who became his mentor. In 1995, after working for ten years as a psychiatric technician in the Camarillo State Mental Hospital and studying at the California Institute of the Arts, he received his Bachelor of Fine Art degree in 1995. Henry Taylor has exhibited his work widely, but this is his first retrospective. His work has been compared to the spirit of the Harlem Renaissance both celebrating and documenting Black American life and addressing issues of social justice.**

**WHEN: Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM**

**COST: Free**

**WHERE: Use The Auditorium Link**