

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

September 29 – October 2, 2025
This Is an A Week

There are three links (given in red below) for all classes for 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.

AUDITORIUM

Meeting ID: 899 9142 8608

Passcode: 252525

ROOM 15-17

Meeting ID: 890 4628 0269

Passcode: 252525

ROOM 27

Meeting ID: 874 2995 4279

Passcode: 252525

Also given are meeting IDs and passcodes for the three meeting rooms. If you don't have Zoom installed, you can still enter a class using your browser by clicking on

<https://zoom.us/join>

and typing in the Meeting ID for the room of your class along with the passcode.

In addition, you can attend classes on your phone by dialing 1-929-205-6099. You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the passcode.

NOTE: All classes are conducted at 25 Broadway and are listed as either Hybrid or In-person only. 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 29 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **ACROSS THE UNIVERSE**
Subject: Astronomy: A History Of Calendars—Past, Present, and Future
Presenter: Marion Schultheis
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Michael Hamburg**, Marion Schultheis
Tech Support: **Pete Weis**, Bob Reiss, Tamara Weinberg

Five thousand years ago, your ‘calendar’ might have been a shadow on a stone, the curve of the Moon, or the rising of a bright star at dawn. Today, we check our phones. But the story of how we’ve measured time is as fascinating as it is cosmic. Astronomy: A History Of Calendars—Past, Present, and Future traces how astronomy shaped calendars, astrology, and the zodiac—revealing how humanity’s need to keep time has always been guided by the stars.

Course: **IT AIN’T JUST ROCK ‘N’ ROLL**
Subject: Latin Music
Presenter: Steve Koenig
Room: Auditorium
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Steve Koenig**, Wayne Cotter, Mary Ann Donnelly
Tech Support: **Victor Brener**, Michael Wellner, Wayne Cotter

Pérez Prado, Celia Cruz, Los Ángeles Azules, João Gilberto, Ruben Blades, Los Toreros Muertos, Ana Gabriel, Shakira, Santana. From NYC throughout the Americas, the music we call “Latin” is so diverse it covers sounds and forms ranging from mambo, rumba, rock en Espanol, reggaetón, ranchera, cumbia, baladas, and let’s not forget salsa. We’ll savor the sauce (“salsa”) from many of these.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 @ 12:10 -12:50 PM

Course: **NOONTIME MEDLEY**
Subject: The Met HD Operas
Presenters: Andrea and Sheryl
Room: 15-17
Format: In-Person only
Coordinators: **Sheryl Harawitz**, Andrea Irvine

We will introduce you to *The Metropolitan Opera’s 2025-26 Live in HD Series* by focusing on three new operas. It’s a chance to hear great music, learn about the stories behind the

operas, and enjoy conversation about how timeless tales are transformed on stage. We'll also share details on purchasing HD tickets.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **PROFILES IN COURAGE**
Subject: Liz Cheney and Cassidy Hutchinson
Presenter: Wayne Cotter
Room: Auditorium
Format: **Hybrid (To Be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Wayne Cotter**, Tracey Barrett Lee, Ken Sasmor
Tech Support: **Michael Wellner**, Victor Brener, Wayne Cotter

Courage was in short supply on January 6, 2021, as well as during the hearings that followed. However, two courageous women, representing two different generations, stood out from their Republican colleagues.

Liz Cheney was a high-ranking Republican member of Congress serving at the U.S. Capitol when a violent mob laid siege to the building on January 6. Later that year, she served with distinction as Vice Chair of the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack.

Cassidy Hutchinson, a life-long Republican, was only 24 when she found herself a behind-the-scenes witness to Donald Trump's attempt to overturn the results of a court-affirmed presidential election. Moreover, she became the pivotal witness before the January 6th Select Committee, despite intense pressure on her not to cooperate.

In this session, we'll profile these two women and dig deep into their courageous battle to uphold the rule of law.

Course: **THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV**
Subject: Read Part II (Books 4-6)
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Sheryl Harawitz**, Andrea Irvine, Ellie Schaffer, Ellen Shapiro

Passions erupt beyond the Karamazov household. Dmitri's reckless pursuit of Grushenka and clashes with his father spiral toward violence. Ivan sharpens his skeptical vision, setting up his confrontation with faith and morality. Alyosha, guided by Father Zosima's teaching, steps into the lives of the townspeople, where a sick child's suffering pierces him with compassion. These chapters widen the novel's canvas to include townspeople, servants, and seekers, complicate the scene, showing the pull of belief, doubt, humiliation, and love.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **ART AND PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE**
Subject: Traditional Chinese Architecture
Presenter: Bob Reiss
Room: 27
Format: **Hybrid (To Be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Debbi Honorof**, Sharon Katz, Victor Brenner
Tech Support: **Victor Brenner**, Bob Reiss, Pete Weis

Chinese architecture is the embodiment of an architectural style that has developed over millennia in China and has influenced architecture throughout East Asia. Since its emergence during the early ancient era, the structural principles of its architecture have remained largely unchanged except for diverse decorative details. Starting with the Tang dynasty, Chinese architecture has had a major influence on the architectural styles of neighboring countries such as Japan, Korea, Vietnam, and Mongolia. See if any traditional Chinese practices would well serve contemporary western architecture.

Course: **SUPREME COURT**
Subject: Transgender Medical Care
Presenter: Bob Belfort
Room: 15-17
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Michael Wellner**, Bob Gottfried
Tech Support: **Steve Chicoine**, Michael Wellner

More than half the states have adopted laws prohibiting health care providers from furnishing transgender medical care to minors. Earlier this year, in a case called *United States v. Skrmetti*, the Supreme Court upheld one of these laws, rejecting claims that it violated the Constitution's Equal Protection Clause. This session will explore the development of transgender youth treatment in the U.S., the political backlash to this treatment, the legal arguments in the *Skrmetti* case and the implications of the Court's decision.

Course: **THEATERWORKS**
Subject: Scene Rehearsals and Presentations
Presenters: Mary Beth Yakoubian, Yona Rogosin, Ruth Ward, Wayne Cotter, Bob Shick
Room: Auditorium
Format: In-Person Only

Coordinators: Art Spar, Mary Ann Donnelly, Ruth Ward, Arlynn Greenbaum
Tech Support: Tamara Weinberg, Wayne Cotter, Martha Drezin

We will complete the three-class cycle of developing scenes from “Anne of the Thousand Days” directed by Mary Beth Yakoubian and “On Golden Pond” directed by Yona Rogosin. Ruth Ward, Wayne Cotter and Bob Shick will continue developing their improvisational scenes. An active discussion will follow each scene. Planning will take place for new projects beginning in October. New members are welcome.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 @ 12:10 – 12:50 PM

Course: DÉJEUNER FRANÇAIS
Subject: Two Magnificent Paris Opera Houses
Presenter: Ze’eva Cohen
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: Ruth Ward, Donna Basile

Les deux magnifiques Opéras de Paris

Dans cette présentation, nous visiterons, découvrirons et discuterons et les deux plus grands opéras de Paris: l'Opéra Garnier et l'Opéra Bastille. Nous examinerons leur architecture extérieure et intérieure, ainsi que leur fonction au fil de leur histoire.

The two magnificent Paris Opera Houses

In this presentation we'll visit, discover, and discuss the two major opera houses of Paris: The Garnier, and the Bastille. We'll be looking at their exterior and interior architecture, as well as their purpose as related to their time in history.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: HISTORY OF NEW YORK CITY
Subject: Art and Culture in the Gilded Age
Presenter: Susannah Falk Lewis
Room: Auditorium
Format: Hybrid (To be Recorded)
Coordinators: Ilene Winkler, Susannah Falk Lewis, Penelope Pi-Sunyer, Michael Wellner
Tech Support: Tamara Weinberg, Pete Weis, Ilene Winkler

Having New York as the financial capital was not enough for the wealthiest leaders of this City, they also wanted it to be the cultural and artistic center of the country. We will look at some of the major cultural institutions they created — the Academy of Music (now gone), the Metropolitan Opera, Carnegie Hall and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. They also changed the landscape of the City with Beaux Arts buildings and the creation of great parks. The richest people created great public works to benefit the City, but also to show off their own wealth and importance. We will take a look at the achievements of this era as well as the conflicting motives of their creators.

Course: MORAL TALES FOR OUR TIMES
Presenter: Sandy Kessler
Room: 15-17
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: Lynnel Garabedian, Sandy Kessler
Tech Support: Bob Reiss

In our next class, we will consider the life of Socrates as it appears in Plato's *Apology*, *Crito*, and the "death scene" from the *Phaedo*. Socrates, the first great political philosopher, was tried, convicted, and executed for corrupting the young and disbelieving in the gods of the city of Athens. In addition to discussing these texts, we will consider what Plato's Socrates has to teach us about self-awareness, critical thinking, and freedom of speech in our politically fraught times.

Course: CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP
Subject: A Little Romance
Presenter: Donna Ramer
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only (**Note: This class ends at 3:00 p.m.**)
Coordinators: Helen Saffran, Judy Hampson, Donna Ramer
Tech Support: None Assigned

A simple sentence or two of subtle or "light" romance can add multiple layers to any genre of writing by building emotional depth and character development. This week, we'll experiment with a few ways to incorporate a little romantic banter or flirtatious glances between characters to add warmth and connection but doesn't overwhelm the integrity of the style or plot.

As always, the class begins with a 10-minute writing response to a prompt, which you can choose to read aloud or not. You may bring in writing you have done at home in any prose genre, poetry, essay or short play and the group will offer constructive responses. Writing that is read in class should be under 750 words, but longer pieces can be serialized and read over consecutive classes. Please bring in 15 copies of at-home writing to share with the class. At a loss for a topic? Try: *Unsent Messages* or *The Dog Park Encounter*.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **SHAKESPEARE: THE COMEDY OF ERRORS**
Room: 27
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: Roy Clary, Jim Brook, Ellie Schaffer
Tech Support: Bob Reiss

The class will read aloud and discuss Act II. Discussion will include Luciana's belief that "men are the masters of their females." Such a statement reflected contemporary sermons. Discussion will include how Shakespeare presented different views of the relationship between the sexes over the course of his career. In addition, we will note the differences between the two sets of identical twins depicted in the play. Video clips from a film starring Judy Dench and Roger Rees will be shown.

Course: **TIME: THE WONDER OF IT**
Subject: Biological Clocks – Time Inside Our Bodies
Presenter: Marion Schultheis
Room: Room 15-17
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: Andrea Irvine, David Bartash, Marion Schultheis
Tech Support: Tamara Weinberg

We all live by the clock on the wall (or on our phone), but our bodies keep their own time. They run on internal clocks that shape daily life and aging. In this talk, we'll peek inside at the biological clocks that keep us ticking – like the circadian rhythm that tells us when to wake up, eat and nap, and regulate sleep, hunger, and energy. Then we'll explore biological clocks, which reveal how old our bodies truly are (maybe younger or older than the number of candles on our birthday cakes). These clocks offer new insights into health and longevity.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1 @ 12:10 – 12:55 PM

Course: **Book Club**
Book: The Granddaughter
Author: Bernhard Schlink
Presenter: Shirley Ranz
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: Jan Goldstein, Susannah Falk Lewis, Joan Vreeland

We'll be discussing *The Granddaughter* by Bernhard Schlink, which explores the profound effects that history and world events can have on intimate family relationships. Kaspar, a Berlin bookshop owner, discovers that his late wife had to abandon an infant daughter in order to escape East Germany and join him in the West. The novel follows Kaspar's search for the daughter and their attempts to connect despite vast ideological differences.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **CINEMA QUEST: CURRENT & CLASSIC**
Films : 1. Shoshana (Marian Friedmann)
2. North By Northwest (Kathy Cook)
3. When Fall Is Coming (Leslie Goldman)
Room: Auditorium
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Howard Salik**, Marian Friedmann, Vince Grosso
Tech Support: **Michael Wellner**, Bob Reiss, Tamara Weinberg

If you Google “JustWatch” and the name of the film, you’d know that all three films are streaming on Apple or Amazon. Don’t miss these highly rated films!

Shoshana - Marian Friedmann

In 1930s Tel Aviv, a British police officer and a Jewish woman become romantically involved amidst the political turmoil surrounding them. With British control over Palestine precarious and conflict inevitable, everyone is forced to choose a side.

North By Northwest – Kathy Cook

A Madison Avenue advertising man is thrust into the world of spies when he is mistaken for another man. Foreign spies try to eliminate him, but just before that, he is framed for murder. Trying to escape, he boards the 20th-century limited, and he meets the attractive Eva Kendall.

When Fall is Coming – Leslie Goldman

A woman is enjoying a peaceful retirement in Burgundy near her friend. She awaits her grandson on school vacation, but an unfortunate mistake overturns these plans.

Course: **TIMELESS WRITINGS: THE ILIAD**
Subject: Books 14 and 15
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Sheryl Harawitz**, Mary Ann Donnelly, Judy Hampson, Andrea Irvine

Greetings mortals. This week our focus shifts to Zeus's bedroom high on Mount Olympus. Hera, determined to tilt the war, turns to cunning and desire. With Aphrodite's magic girdle, she plots, and Zeus succumbs to lustful passion. While the king of the gods lies in bed, the battlefield below burns with violent passion of its own. The Greeks surge forward under Poseidon's hand — until Zeus awakes, furious, and unleashes vengeance. Even for immortals, love and power collide, and those lower on the totem pole pay the price.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1 @ 2:45 PM

Course: **SOLE MATES**
Format: In-Person Only
Room: Gather by elevator 7th Floor @ 2:45pm.
Coordinators: **Andrea Irvine, Marian Friedmann**

And we're off again for a walk along the Hudson River - ending at a "rest" spot for refreshments, food, socialization. Up to you how far you walk and lots of help with transportation options.

All welcome - no signups, no commitments - fresh air and community.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

Quest is Closed – Yom Kippur

CULTUREQUEST

The Town Hall

Friday, October 10, 2025, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

(In-person tour)

Founded in 1921, The Town Hall has been the host to over a century of landmark performances. It was founded by The League for Political Education, a group of suffragists, seeking to build a space where the people could be educated. The Hall was designed by renowned architects McKim, Mead, and White to reflect the democratic principles of the League. Noted political activists who have appeared there include Margaret Sanger, famously arrested on The Town Hall's stage during a public meeting on birth control, Emma Goldman, Eleanor Roosevelt, Coretta Scott King, Norman Mailer, and Joseph McCarthy. Legendary performers include Pablo Casals, Paul Robeson, Andres Segovia, Billie Holiday, Sergei Rachmaninov, Sammy Davis, Pete Seeger, and countless others. Come and hear some of the untold stories embedded in this hallowed hall.

- **When:** Friday October 10, 2025. Please arrive by 10:45. The tour will begin promptly at 11:00 AM
- **Where:** Town Hall 23 W. 43rd St, NYC
- **Cost:** \$10.00
- **To Reserve:** Send an email ASAP to bobreiss42@gmail.com with **Town Hall** in the subject line

The tour is limited to 25 participants. We will have a waitlist. You will be advised by return email if you are registered for the tour. If registered, please leave a check for \$10.00, made out to Quest Lifelong Learning, in the CultureQuest mailbox in the office no later than Tuesday, September 30 at 2:30 PM. Zelle payment is also accepted. If you pay through Zelle, send it to Quest's Zelle email address, q25broadway@gmail.com, before Tuesday, September 30 at 2:30 PM. Please note CultureQuest Town Hall tour when sending Zelle payment.

Note: Please sign up only if you intend to come. Anyone who does not show without canceling will be placed on a waitlist for future CultureQuest trips. Thank you for your understanding.

Lunch (Optional): Location To Be Announced