



# Spring 2021



Lifelong Learning  
COLLABORATIVE

## MONDAY MORNINGS

Monday mornings

Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 15-May 17

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### Open Studio Art

Coordinator: Kathy Webster

Are you an artist (or budding artist) who enjoys learning from others and wants to keep improving this spring? Please join us for a casual meeting of artists who will independently pursue the paper/canvas medium of their choice using acrylics, oils, watercolor, pastel or by drawing. There will be no instruction, just camaraderie and informal sharing by all.

**Format:** Students will work independently and will submit their work weekly for Zoom sharing and critique. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box below for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** No expenses required other than supplies you want to use.

**Coordinator:** Kathy Webster is a summer Plein Air painter since joining LLC. Kathy has co-coordinated many LLC courses.

Monday mornings

Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 15-May 17

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### Science Now

Coordinators: Kathleen O'Connell, Mickey Rosenberg

How does the human immune system work, and how will doctors harness its power to defeat Covid-19? What is a fusion reactor, and is the one being developed now at MIT your grandchild's and the Earth's best shot at survival? What secrets of the Universe will the soon to be launched James Webb telescope reveal? Can we grow coral reefs in the lab, transplant them and save the Oceans? Are you an independent thinker wanting to exercise those last working synapses? Someone who does not need to be spoon-fed and is ready to explore and present a current subject in Science? Kathleen and Mickey have been impressed with the ability of LLC participants to do the deep dives, bring up gems and present and discuss them with eager classmates.

**Format:** We will designate broad areas of Science for each class. Each participant will pick areas for exploration and presentation, selecting pages or sections from the book that you want the class to read. You may also share internet articles and discussion questions before class. We may have visiting professors from Brown, MIT or Harvard. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box below for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** *The Science Book: Everything You Need to Know About the World and How It Works* (National Geographic) is available on Amazon, in paperback, used for \$3.38 and up.

**Coordinators:** Kathleen O'Connell is a retired Industrial Chemist, and relatively new to LLC. She will be coordinating her first course on Travelogues this winter. Mickey Rosenberg is a retired Physician, and a member of LLC for 4 years. He has coordinated classes in Astronomy and *New Yorker* Fiction Podcasts.

Due to Covid-19, our Spring courses will be conducted exclusively via Zoom. You will note that we have reduced course fees to reflect our lower operating costs using Zoom.



Zoom is easy and free to class members. A Zoom Task Force has been created to help navigate this new distance learning environment. A task force member is available to assist first-time Zoom users prior to your first class. To request assistance, email us at [info@lifelonglearningcollaborative.org](mailto:info@lifelonglearningcollaborative.org) and a Zoom Task Force member will contact you.



**Cover artwork, "Colt State Park" (acrylic on canvas), painted by Susan Van Horne. A member of LLC since 2017, Susan has participated in several art courses including Plein Air, Open Studio Art, and Painting with the Masters. Price available upon request.**

We are an independent, not-for-profit collaborative lifelong learning organization in Rhode Island, offering a program of affordable courses that cover a wide gamut of interests; trips and cultural events; as well as the opportunity to volunteer, serve on committees, coordinate a course and otherwise help shape the future of lifelong learning in our area.

Our annual membership is low (\$25 yearly). You must be a member to participate in classes.

Many of our classes fill within the first few days of registration. To avoid disappointment, we suggest that you register early. For quickest service, register online at [www.lifelonglearningcollaborative.org](http://www.lifelonglearningcollaborative.org) or see registration form.

Learn.  
Discover.  
Enjoy.

This is LLC.

## MONDAY AFTERNOONS

### Monday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 15-May 17

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### Documentary Films Go Rogue!

Coordinators: Helen Hawkins, Becky Randolph

As school children, we were all subjected to documentaries which were dry, joyless, and sleep-inducing. Things have changed! Doc filmmakers are branching out, expressing the truth in myriad forms. They work independently, under tight budgets, often using handheld cameras, and signing on little-known actors. Our ten movies represent the astonishing diversity within this genre. We will explore sources of funding, cost of production vs. box office take, where do profits end up, social responsibility, and what the takeaway really is for ten films: *The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill*, *The Mayo Clinic: Faith, Hope, and Science*, *51 Birch Street*, *Up the Yangtze*, *Wordplay*, *Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry*, *Man on Wire*, *Honeyland*, *Dick Johnson is Dead*, and *The Biggest Little Farm*.

**Format:** Each week we will watch the listed film at home, and then discuss it in class. Members will be asked to lead the discussion on either “content” (the basics of the film) or “bonus” (anything extra) for the film. Film clips, articles, and questions may be sent out ahead of time, which will help the class delve more deeply into the movie. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** The films are available on Amazon Prime and other streaming services and may be at your local library.

**Coordinators:** Helen Hawkins, M.S., is a retired Special Education teacher. She has also held positions at several colleges and universities. Movies continue to play a major role in her life. Becky Randolph, M.S., CIH, DSP is a retired industrial hygienist. She is relatively new to Rhode Island and walks everywhere.

## TUESDAY MORNINGS

### Tuesday mornings

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 16-May 18

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### Six Innovations That Made the Modern World

Coordinators: Chuck Nickles, Becky Randolph

**NOTE:** This is a repeat of a popular previously offered course.

Today students may be carrying more computing and communications power in their back pockets than was ever thought possible by their grandparents. We can see images on the internet hundreds of light years away. We control the environment inside our homes with a touch of a button. So many wondrous innovations surround us. So how did we get here? Let's explore some of the basic innovations that make up part of our modern technology. What's basic? We'll consider six fundamental areas of innovation

covered in the text: Glass, Cold, Sound, Clean, Time and Light. By the end of this course, participants should have a basic understanding of the science applied in the various innovations discussed. Just as important is the interaction of people and these innovations as they work their way into daily life, and how these innovations have changed human behavior throughout society and our world view.

**Format:** Participants will read about 40 pages for each class. Each person will make a presentation on a particular innovation they choose and, with the assistance of the coordinator, lead a lively discussion. The presentation may be about a specific discovery that led to the innovation, about the historical background, or about how the innovation affected other developments and human behavior. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** The text, *How We Got to Now: Six Innovations that Made the Modern World* by Steven Johnson, is available used on Amazon for \$1.57 and up. A list of additional resources will be provided.

**Coordinators:** Chuck Nickles is a retired physics lecturer. Before that he worked in industry on automated precision measurement systems. He also worked for an electric utility as a rate analyst and energy conservation specialist. Becky Randolph, M.S., CIH, DSP is a retired Industrial Hygienist. She is relatively new to RI and walks everywhere. Becky is leading the LLC Zoom Task Force.

Registration opens Monday, January 25 @ 9 AM.

## TUESDAY MORNINGS

### Tuesday mornings

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 16-May 18

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### Yes We Can! When American Democracy Works and When It Doesn't

Coordinators: Norma Rossi Mead, Eugene Mihaly

Join us as we explore why we as a nation rose to meet critical challenges and why, too, we failed at other moments in our history. These examinations will give us insights into what lies ahead for our future. America started out as the grand experiment in Democracy. Certainly, those intrepid souls who worked on framing our constitution had many doubts, but they persevered and ultimately worked through profound differences and agreed on a document that has served us well for more than two centuries. We shall look at other major moments when our government – Congress and the Executive – together grappled with

seemingly insoluble problems – and solved them. To name a few: Lincoln's team of rivals; the Civil Rights Act of 1964; the Food Stamp Program of 1977; Social Security Reform of 1983 and the 21st Century Cures Act of 2016. And then, in contrast, there are the moments when we, as a nation, failed, such as the rationale for and conduct of the Iraq War.

**Format:** Each session will set the scene on a major topic, tracing how we got there and determining key and possible determinants of the outcome. Participants are expected to lead a discussion on a topic from a list we will provide or one of their own choosing. We will provide a list of key points to be covered. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** There is no required textbook. We will provide a list of suggested readings and online research sources. Access to the internet is essential.

**Coordinators:** Norma Rossi Mead had careers in training and development and marketing and public relations. Gene Mihaly, a Ph.D, was a university professor of political science and international business. Both are experienced LLC coordinators.

### Tuesday mornings

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 16-May 18

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 15

### Another Time, Another Place: Lessons for Today from Four Historical Fiction Novels

Coordinators: Barbara Barnes, Joan Hausrath, Paul M. Wortman

Are you a history buff? Do you love to read novels depicting interesting historical events that transport you to another time and another place? Then join us as we visit historical events that resonate across time with important lessons for today. We will visit an American Muslim woman, her family and community from 1976 to the present living in a Chicago suburb fighting for acceptance and assimilation in *The Beauty of Your Face* by Sahar Mustafah; then we journey with three women to an Australian penal colony in the 1840's in *The Exiles* by Christina Baker Kline; we return to contemporary America in "a biting satire on

racism and culture" with *Interior Chinatown*, winner of the 2020 National Book Award for Fiction by Charles Yu. Finally, we will travel to North Dakota in the early 1900's with Louise Erdrich in *Tracks* as Native Americans fight for their very survival after being uprooted from their land.

**Format:** Each week, class members will read approximately 100 pages. Class members will be expected to lead one discussion during the semester, covering the history of the period and posing eight questions (in advance) for the class to discuss. Small articles that illuminate the history may be circulated in advance by email. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** The four novels are available online with prices ranging from used for \$1.00 to new up to \$20.00.

**Coordinators:** Paul M. Wortman, Ph.D. is Professor Emeritus in Psychology from Stony Brook University where he taught a similar course in their retirement learning community for ten years. Barbara Barnes is an LLC Board Member who has previously coordinated two LLC classes: Rhode Island History Up Close and Personal (2018) and Rediscovering the Magic of Children's Literature (2019). Joan Hausrath, M.F.A. is Professor Emeritus in Art and Art History from Bridgewater (MA) State University.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

### Tuesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 16-May 18

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 12

### Painting with the Masters

Coordinator: Mary Snowden

What do the Masters have to teach us about painting? Join us as we study well known landscape painters and apply those lessons on canvas, creating an artwork based on each artist. Although this is a repeat of the class of Spring 2020, the master painters we work with this year will be different, such as Edward Hopper, Chelsea Bentley James and Paul Gauguin. Working from the masters may inspire you to try some new approaches and techniques. This class is limited to oil and acrylics.

**Format:** This course will begin with an overview of all of our artists, followed by a weekly focus on one artist. Each week, we will select an artist and the student will choose an image to paint, creating an artwork in the style of that artist at home to share the following week. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** There will be expenses associated with buying art supplies. A supply list will be sent to those enrolled.

**Coordinator:** Mary Snowden is Professor Emeritus at California College of the Arts in San Francisco, where she taught painting and drawing for over 40 years. She has led numerous classes at LLC. For a more complete bio, check out Mary Snowden on Wikipedia.



## TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

### Tuesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 16-May 18

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 30

### Israel: A Nation Reborn

Coordinators: Marilyn Kaplan, Stephen Kaplan

Join us as we attempt to understand how and why the most hated country in the world is also among the most beloved. Following a supportive vote by a nascent United Nations General Assembly, David Ben-Gurion issued The Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel on May 14, 1948. It had been 2,000 years since an independent Jewish homeland existed in the world and there were many challenges to be overcome. We will study the remarkable history and achievements involved in creating a multi-racial, multi-cultural, religiously tolerant society in the face of intense international scrutiny. Topics may include: the emergence of the state; its economy and system of governance; multiple wars; the rise of Palestinian nationalism; the issue of the "occupation" and the Peace Process.

**Format:** Class participants should read the text prior to the beginning of the class and are expected to choose one of the following three options: (1) A 10-20 minute oral presentation on a suggested or approved topic or individual followed by class discussion. (2) Participation in a debate or performance on a suggested topic or individual. (3) Leading a class discussion on one of the suggested topics (researching the topic, developing and distributing discussion questions and additional relevant material in advance of the discussion date). This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** The highly acclaimed National Book Award winner, *Israel: A Concise History of a Nation Reborn* by Daniel Gordis, is available from Amazon in paperback, used for \$15.44 and up. An additional bibliography will be provided by the coordinators.

**Coordinator:** Stephen Kaplan is a retired academic physician/professor with a lifelong interest in history who previously coordinated LLC courses on Jewish history and literature. Marilyn Kaplan has Masters Degrees in teaching and history and has coordinated several LLC courses.

### Tuesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Mar 16-May 4

Fee: \$25

Class size limit: 12

### Photo Storytelling

Coordinators: Tom Backman, Elaine Sandy

"A photo is worth a thousand words" is a saying we all have heard. But not every beautiful and technically correct photo portrays an engaging story. But how do you create photos that tell a compelling story? If this is a skill that interests you, then this class is for you. We will focus on the building blocks that make engaging photo stories and photo essays, beginning with exploring a story's components, and then applying this to the individual photograph. We will then expand what we have learned to telling a story through a sequence of photos. Class will end with each student presenting their own photo story/essay.

**Format:** Each week each student will submit a series of photos to the class for discussion and critique. Photos from any digital camera or cell phone will work. In fact, the cell phone might be the best camera to use in some situations. Some students may be asked to present a short lesson to the class. The student is expected to understand the basic operations of their camera, have a computer with internet access, and be able to upload their jpeg photos to the class coordinators. The student should also have a basic understanding of good photo composition and fundamental post processing skills. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** There will be no extra expenses. Readings and YouTube videos will be sent in preparation for lessons and discussion.

**Coordinators:** Both Tom Backman and Elaine Sandy are avid amateur photographers who have worked together leading several LLC Snapix photo classes.

### Tuesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-2:30 PM (Note 1.5 hr length)

10 weeks

Mar 16-May 18

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 16

### Peeling the Tangerine, Calming the Restless Mind

Coordinator: Susan Glogovac

During these challenging times, are you experiencing unsettling emotions that make it hard to find peace and ease? Does your mind dwell too often on how things were in the past or worry about what might happen in the future? Do you long to calm your restless mind and stay more grounded in the present moment? In this class, we will explore together a variety of mindfulness practices, such as mindful eating and sitting and walking meditation, in the tradition of Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh. These help us stop so we can be more present to life as it unfolds in and around us. They offer us a pathway for healing and

transformation. Our weekly home practices will help us explore them further and keep a journal of our experiences. In class discussions, we will reflect together on ways to calm our restless minds. **NOTE: This class is a repeat of the popular course offered in previous semesters.**

**Format:** The coordinator will introduce mindfulness practices and relevant readings, followed by direct experience and discussion. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** There are no additional expenses. Various resources will be recommended for those wishing to learn more.

**Coordinator:** Susan Glogovac has been practicing meditation for more than 25 years. She is ordained in Thich Nhat Hanh's Order of Interbeing and has been invited to be a Dharma teacher in the Plum Village tradition. She enjoys sharing mindfulness practices with those who want to be more present to life in and around them.

## WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Wednesday mornings

Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

8 weeks

Mar 17-May 5

Fee: \$25

Class size limit: 22

### Global Health: A Right? An Entitlement? Available for All?

Coordinators: Ruth Levy Guyer, Frank Schaberg

**NOTE:** The coordinators welcome participants who have not previously engaged in medical ethics discourses as well as those who joined them during the past two years in their bioethics courses.

This first quarter of the 21st century has included dazzling advances in medical care for only some individuals. Why is access to healthcare not a basic human right? How is human wellbeing affected by ecosystems and climate change? Why did a worldwide pandemic catch the world off guard, and why is the US not a leader in remediation and containment efforts? How is it possible that chemicals and biologicals

remain weapons of mass destruction rather than tools for mass salvation? How do structural biases baked into hospitals and other institutions foster racism, sexism, ageism, and discrimination against immigrants, the poor, and people of color? Who has responsibility to promote the common good? When will scientific truths be prized again? Can healthcare be equitably provided to all? How might civil discourse be restored in the US and opposing viewpoints reconciled? What could each of us do to advance constructive change?

**Format:** The syllabus will include links to online materials appropriate for each session. Each participant is encouraged to volunteer to do one half-hour presentation based on assigned resources. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** There is no text and there are no anticipated expenses.

**Coordinators:** Ruth Levy Guyer is co-director of Arts and Ethics in Palliative Care at Brown Medical School and a member of the Miriam ethics committee. Frank Schaberg, a retired surgeon, helped patients and families deal with serious illness, surgical risks and benefits, and healthcare and end-of-life decisions.

Wednesday mornings

Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

8 weeks

Mar 17-May 5

Fee: \$25

Class size limit: 25

### Abstract Thinking

Coordinators: Patricia Bisshopp, Roberta Segal

Join us as we escape traditional thinking with new concepts and fresh perspectives. Taking a trip through history, we will explore the innovative ideas that have advanced the thinking of the time through the arts, religion and societal norms. In some cases, we will “meet” the individuals who altered our journey through readings.

**Format:** The class will participate through discussion and presentations are suggested, but not required. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** There are no expenses required. Readings will be available on the internet.

**Coordinators:** Roberta Segal, an artist, has coordinated many courses at LLC, and is known as an out-of-the-box thinker. Patricia Bisshopp is a lover of the arts and music and has taken LLC courses for a decade.

Wednesday mornings

Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 17-May 19

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 15

### The Weird and Wonderful World of H.P. Lovecraft: Cosmic Gothic and the Cthulhu Mythos

Coordinators: Tom Gidley, Mary Beth Maitoza

Howard Phillips Lovecraft (1890-1937), the well-known American author of horror and weird fiction, lived most of his life in Providence. His past residences and grave site are located there; thousands of his manuscripts and letters are stored at Brown University's Hay Library. Besides his many short stories, he is known for his creation of the Cthulhu Mythos involving supernatural, pre-human and extraterrestrial elements. Together we will explore the best of Lovecraft's tales and ask why Joyce Carol Oates, Stephen King and Guillermo del Toro consider Lovecraft as an influence.

**Format:** Each week, two students will present and conduct a discussion on a short story selected from the class list or on a related HPL topic. All members are also expected to join in discussions. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** Class members may choose to read either of the anthologies: *H.P. Lovecraft: Tales*, Peter Straub, Editor, Library of America, available at Amazon for \$28 or used \$10, or *The Complete Fiction of H.P. Lovecraft*, Chartwell Classics, 2016, available at Amazon for \$14.99, or to read stories at either of these online sources: [hplovecraft.com/writings/texts](http://hplovecraft.com/writings/texts) or [dagonbytes.com/thelibrary/lovecraft](http://dagonbytes.com/thelibrary/lovecraft).

**Coordinators:** Tom Gidley is a retired lawyer and has taught at the college level. He recently coordinated a course on the poetry of Robert Frost for LLC. Mary Beth Maitoza taught English at both the high school and college levels, has coordinated an LLC Roman Literature course and has volunteered as a Rhode Island Historical Society Lovecraft Walking Tour guide for over 15 years.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

### Wednesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 17-May 19

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 22

### Weimar Germany: Promise and Tragedy

Coordinator: Rick Keogh

How did the progressive democracy of Weimar Germany evolve into the authoritarian Nazi regime of the 1930s? Between 1918 and 1933, Germany lived under a progressive regime, one of the most politically enlightened systems in the world and experienced a renaissance in cinema, art, literature and architecture. But economic instability and political upheaval threatened the Weimar Republic and contributed to its downfall. Join us as we explore the highs and lows of this extraordinary era in German history and try to understand how it led to the rise of Adolf Hitler.

**Format:** Class members will be expected to provide a 10-20 minute presentation, which may utilize a combination of YouTube videos, slides or PowerPoint, followed by class discussion. Distribution of questions for class discussion prior to each class will be encouraged. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** Eric D. Weitz's *Weimar Germany: Promise and Tragedy*, Weimar Centennial Edition is available from Amazon, used, in paperback from \$12.96 and up. An additional bibliography will be emailed to the class, as well as lists of any pertinent films, documentaries and other resources.

**Coordinator:** Rick Keogh, a retired college librarian, holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in history as well as library science. He is a film aficionado and had led previous LLC classes on history and films.

### Wednesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 17-May 19

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 30

### Genius and Anxiety: How Jews Changed the World, 1847-1947

Coordinators: Bob Kemp, Lois Kemp

In a hundred-year period, a handful of men and women changed the way we see the world. Many of them are well-known – Marx, Freud, Proust, Einstein, Kafka. Others, less prominent, also deserve to be remembered for their enduring contributions: Karl Landsteiner (blood transfusions), Paul Ehrlich (chemotherapy), Rosalind Franklin (x-ray crystallography and the structure of DNA) and Michael Curtiz (director of *Casablanca*). In his brilliant survey, writer Norman Lebrecht addresses the question: What do these people have in common? What connects them with Gershwin, Modigliani, Martin Buber, and

Sarah Bernhardt, and what accounts for the disproportionate influence of people who in 1847 made up less than a quarter of one percent of the world's population? Join us as we journey through time with Lebrecht as he attempts to unravel this enigma.

**Format:** Participants will read the text and lead a discussion of any of the remarkable individuals whom Lebrecht explores with nuance and humor. Participants are encouraged to use supplementary materials and media they feel will bring additional life to their selected person. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (refer to the box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** *Genius and Anxiety: How Jews Changed the World, 1847-1947*, by Norman Lebrecht. is available from Amazon in paperback, used, for about \$16 and up.

**Coordinators:** Bob Kemp, a retired attorney, has always been interested in the written word and the world of ideas. Lois Kemp is a retired reading specialist and a lifelong lover of literature and art.

### Wednesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 17-May 19

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 10

### LLC Knits

Coordinator: Doris Briggs

Join LLC Knits and make a comfort knitting project such as socks, mittens or a project of your choice. Time will be provided to discuss all projects. The only requirement is that you know knitting basics.

**Format:** Together we will work on our projects one stitch at a time. Classmates will work on their projects at home and we will meet weekly for a sit and knit. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** Expenses will vary based on the cost of materials and supplies.

**Coordinator:** Doris Briggs is a happily retired Registered Nurse who has been knitting for many years. Her interests include knitting samples for a yarn shop, spinning fiber, weaving, and other endeavors. Doris has coordinated all of our previous knitting classes.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

### Wednesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 17-May 19

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 25

### The Wonderful World of Hal Prince

Coordinators: Pat Moriarty, Pam Romano, Arthur Richter

What could be better, after experiencing “The Wonderful World of Stephen Sondheim,” than tackling Hal Prince, the other Broadway giant? Hal Prince died at 91 in 2019. His remarkable career is the perfect companion piece to Sondheim. Prince won a record 21 Tony awards. Please join us for this remarkable journey. Take a minute, [watch this video](#) and we are sure you will be “buying your ticket” to our class this spring. This will give you a preview of what we will all discover together in The Wonderful World of Hal Prince.

**Format:** Class members will work in teams of two for presentations on musicals and operas. There is no assigned reading for the class. Classmates will watch the assigned productions in their home.

**Resources/Expenses:** Many documentaries and books are available as well as internet sites for gathering information on each of the plays. The plays are accessible through multiple online sites for nominal fees.

**Coordinators:** Pat Moriarty and Pamela Romano, both retired Educators, and Arthur Richter, a retired Importer – all long time members – have joined together once again after having coordinated many successful LLC courses such as “Making a Difference,” “Made in Rhode Island,” “Marc Chagall” and “The Wonderful World of Stephen Sondheim.”

### Wednesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 17-May 19

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 16

### Hot Topics

Coordinators: George Champlin, Lee Golden, Ed Mehlman

Do you enjoy talking with others about news of the day, hearing what they think is important, and why? If so, you'll enjoy Hot Topics. We expect probing and exciting sessions that look at current items in the news. Members of the class take turns selecting a hot topic of the week – one that will stir discussion – and presenting key material to the class. The person presenting the topic gets things rolling with a few questions to stimulate discussion. Don't be surprised if at times the discussions become intense and controversial. Class members should plan to read the *Providence Journal* and either *The New York Times* or *The Wall Street Journal* – or both – along with other news sources they might want to look into. Any medium will do, paper or electronic, if the topics are timely, and hot.

**Format:** Each week one member of the group will choose one article on current hot topics. After briefly presenting these to the group, they will pose the questions and lead the discussion. The coordinators will act as moderators of the session and help ensure that all viewpoints are heard. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** Participants will need access to Internet and will share articles drawn from newspapers, journals, magazines, and/or news releases with the group by email. No expenses are anticipated.

**Coordinators:** George Champlin, Lee Golden and Ed Mehlman have successfully coordinated this very popular course many times in the past.

## WEDNESDAY LATE AFTERNOONS

### Wednesday late afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

3:15-5:00 PM (Note the time)

10 weeks

Mar 17-May 19

Fee: \$20

Class size limit: 10

### Fiction Writing Critique Group

Coordinator: Mary Ball Howkins

Join a group of fiction writers. We'll help you mold character, plot, description and narrative structure into fiction! Gather with writers who conjure tales of far away and nearby, who love telling stories and have many to tell. In an intimate and supportive group, learn how to hone your writing, explode it into something brand new, or extract it sentence by sentence from your imagination with cheers and encouragement from others. No judgments allowed – only constructive assessment to urge you on to finding and asserting your writer's voice.

**Format:** Two participants will submit a story or chapter online to class members by the Monday before the Wednesday class meeting date. Class members will prepare comments, suggestions, and editing corrections by that Wednesday and be ready to discuss those comments in the class meeting. The two persons submitting will be expected to ask for specific feedback when emailing the story or chapter to others so that the class will have some direction while reading and commenting. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** There are no required resources or anticipated expenses.

**Coordinator:** Mary Ball Howkins has coordinated many LLC courses and is an active writer of fiction, an international wildlife volunteer, and art historian.



## THURSDAY MORNINGS

Thursday mornings

Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### Racism in America II: 1950s Through the Present

Coordinators: Sheila Brush, Mark Guyer

This course will bring a new perspective to the events and leaders of the American civil rights and social justice movements in our lifetimes. It will provide the historical context and self-awareness that we need to more fully understand the reality and impact of racism in our country today. Guided by readings and guest speakers, we'll explore what Ibram X. Kendi has called America's "duel and dueling history of racial progress and the simultaneous progression of racism... the antiracist force of equality and the racist force of inequality marching forward, progressing in rhetoric, in tactics, in policies." By framing questions and suggesting resources, the course can serve as a starting point for LLC members who want to continue

learning about this subject. It will build on the Winter 2021 LLC class Racism in America I, but attendance in the Winter course is not required or necessary to participate fully in the Spring course.

**Format:** The course will be organized chronologically, and participants should plan to read suggested resources before each class. Classes will feature guest speakers, short oral presentations by class members and discussion. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** Most resources will be online readings and videos. Class participants must have access to the Internet. Limited expenses are anticipated.

**Coordinators:** Sheila Brush and Mark Guyer have both coordinated several LLC classes in the past. Together, they coordinated the Winter 2021 class Racism in America I.

Thursday mornings

Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 18

### Fourteen Lines with Rhymes and a Twist: The Art of the Sonnet

Coordinators: Chris Rose, Linda Shamoon, Karen Stein

*"Sonnet," I said, "your depth and breadth and height  
are less than a breadbox. Your flat metric feet  
march out of step with now. You're obsolete;  
still you persist. Free verse zooms in flight  
in weightless jets; but you are poured concrete,  
rigid and set. So, face this and accept defeat.  
Go, gentle sonnet, into that last goodnight."*

*"You think to write me off?" replied the sonnet.  
"Child, I'm historic; revered with the sons of Priam.  
But where did you get this bee inside your bonnet?  
Whence such ill will toward such a form as iamb?"*

*I know I'm out of style, so I forgive you.  
Despise me; castigate me; I'll outlive you."*

Sonnet Sonnet by June B. Carter

The sonnet: Monument of praise, field of play, chamber of sudden change. Sonneteers cross boundaries of time, style, religion, nationality, and race. We will read sonnets from ancient to modern, including those by Shakespeare, Keats, Hopkins, Yeats, Frost, Rich and Collins, exploring how poets use imagery, metaphor, passion, reason, rhyme, meter and form to engage minds and overwhelm our hearts.

**Format:** Class members will lead discussions about sonnets suggested by the coordinators. Discussion leaders will provide brief historical context for the poet, plus questions to help us delve into the selected poems. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** *The Penguin Book of the Sonnet*, ed. Phillis Levin is available at Amazon, new \$25 and used from \$5.87.

**Coordinators:** Linda Shamoon, Chris Rose and Karen Stein have coordinated two popular LLC poetry courses. Chris initiated LLC's popular poetry discussion group at Providence's Rochambeau Library. Linda and Karen are retired URI professors; Karen taught American literature and Women's Studies; Linda taught writing and rhetoric.

## THURSDAY MORNINGS

### Thursday mornings

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### The Modern World: Global History Since 1910

Coordinators: Art Norwalk, Robert Siminski

This course offers an opportunity to explore the American Century – the hot and cold wars, the political, economic and social transformations – from two perspectives. We will conclude with the end of the Cold War and the demise of the Soviet Union with all that promised for our 21st century. This completes a course begun by Dave Gagnon two years ago.

**Format:** In preparation for each class, we'll watch segments of an online course, "The Modern World Part Two: Global History Since 1910," (free on Coursera) where University of Virginia historian Philip Zelickow

brings clarifying perspectives to the massive events of the period. Each week, two or three class members will each lead a discussion of a person, event or idea related to the video. Using online resources like Wikipedia and YouTube, participants are encouraged to share facts and insights that do not appear in the video course. The coordinators will suggest possible topics for these explorations but will welcome additional ideas from participants. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** The online course is free, and thousands of photos and videos can be downloaded or linked from the internet. Therefore, no costs are anticipated.

**Coordinators:** Robert Siminski is a retired educator and public school superintendent. Art Norwalk is a retired marketing communications consultant and former journalist.

### Thursday mornings

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### The Short Stories of Flannery O'Connor

Coordinators: Patricia Becker, Lenore Piper Bunting

Join us in exploring stories from *The Complete Stories of Flannery O'Connor*. She is identified as a Southern Gothic writer whose stories focus on "the South's history of slavery, racism, fear of the outside world, violence, a fixation with the grotesque, and a tension between realistic and supernatural elements" (Bridget Marshall, "Defining Southern Gothic", 2013). "More than a great writer, she's a cultural figure: a funny lady in a straw hat, puttering among peacocks, on crutches she likened to 'flying buttresses' and apparently, with a habit of bigotry..." ("Reckoning with Flannery O'Connor's Racism," *The New Yorker*, by Paul Elie).

**Format:** We will read and discuss two stories each week. Participants are expected to lead the discussion of their chosen story. Active class participation is expected. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** *The Complete Stories of Flannery O'Connor* is available online in paperback, used from \$5.89 and up.

**Coordinators:** Lenore Piper Bunting is a retired attorney and has coordinated several other LLC classes. Patricia Becker is a retired University of Wisconsin-Madison professor who co-coordinated the O.Henry Prize Stories course last winter and coordinated literature classes in the LLC equivalent in Madison.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

### Thursday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 15

### The Costs of War: Retrospectives from Our Lived Experiences

Coordinator: John Eng-Wong

The celebration of war is built into the American landscape. Public memory places prominently feature a WWII Museum, multitudes of war memorials, and preserved warplanes, ships, and battlefields. These tend to place martial glory at the front of public awareness. Is there space for public discussion of the costs of war? This course searches for entry points to such conversation. In text, in film, and through local commentators we'll explore the legacies of WWII and the Vietnam War (our generation's seminal war experiences) focusing on what ultimately shapes our view of American defense and global security missions and their costs. The "costs of war" meme comes from a project housed at Brown University

focused on the so-called Global War on Terror. This course and the Brown project gesture ultimately to the 2020 US Defense and Security budget of \$750,000,000,000. As we talk about this, we might also ask: what can we do about it?

**Format:** Classes will be based on readings, films, or guest speakers. Class members will be expected to provide one presentation that helps to trigger and organize discussion. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** *The Violent American Century: War and Terror Since World War II* (2017), is available on Amazon, paperback, \$4.00 and up. The films, *The Best Years of Our Lives* and *Hearts and Minds*, are available from local libraries or on various platforms for a minimal fee.

**Coordinator:** John Eng-Wong is a lapsed historian whose career centered on international education exchange. In retirement he has transitioned to a research-oriented life that examines the exchanges between China and the world, especially the evolution of foodways along this axis. He is new to the themes in this course and looks forward to being a fellow learner.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

### Thursday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### On Writing a Memoir

Coordinators: Deb Chorney, Pat Nickles

We all have memories of our younger selves – good, bad, funny, not so funny. If you have a desire to write down some of those memories to share with your children or grandchildren for them to read one day, this is the class for you.

**Format:** Working on your own at home you will write two typed pages or less about your life or your life aspirations. Our Zoom class each week (see box on page 2 for more information) will serve as an opportunity to share your writing by reading your typed pages to class members. The class will be a safe,

non-critical environment. The class will not critique your writing nor your life. No previous writing experience is needed, only a desire to write. Members are expected to participate in writing and sharing.

**Resources/Expenses:** There are no required resources or anticipated expenses.

**Coordinators:** Deborah Chorney has led multiple memoir classes for LLC in the past as well as classes in the *Outlander* series. Pat Nickles is a retired city planner and novice potter with no writing experience or expertise.

### Thursday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 15

### Beyond the Snapshot: Finding Your Photographic Vision

Coordinators: Tom Amsterburg, Sally Barker, Donna Parker

Every photographer follows a path in search of his or her creative vision. Developing a vision that is uniquely yours is one of the most exciting and rewarding aspects of photography. For many photographers, this journey is an ongoing, ever-evolving process influenced by many factors. In this course, we will explore how to start the journey to find your photographic vision. We will look at what or who inspires you, examine great photographers who motivate you and discuss how to begin to find your unique vision and style. Specific topics covered will include: incorporating mindfulness, content of the photograph, composition, context, abstraction, color and light. We will also examine black and white photography and

how to use photographic techniques to realize your vision. The course is open to photography enthusiasts of all levels. **Requirements:** Any type of camera may be used for this course, including DSLR (or mirrorless) cameras, mobile phone, and/or iPad.

**Format:** Participants will be given weekly homework assignments consisting of readings, YouTube videos, and individual photo shoots with photo submissions (via email). Class will consist of a discussion of different photo topics and sharing/critiquing of individual photos from the weekly assignments. Photo shoots will be done on your own and details of the shoots will be communicated once registered. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** None, other than your camera and access to a computer or iPad, although it is possible that a photo shoot will require an entrance fee (to be agreed to in class). It is suggested (but not required) that you purchase: *The Little Book of Contemplative Photography* by Howard Zehr (available in paperback online for less than \$2.00, used or Kindle format on Amazon).

**Coordinators:** Tom Amsterburg, Sally Barker and Donna Parker have coordinated highly successful photography classes many times in the past and are avid and experienced photographers.

### Thursday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Mar 18-May 6

Fee: \$25

Class size limit: 15

### August Wilson's Twentieth Century Plays

Coordinators: Martha Cussler, Carole Marshall

When August Wilson died in 2005 at the age of 60, his *New York Times* obituary described his ten plays chronicling the African-American experience in the 20th century as “a landmark in the history of black culture, of American literature and of Broadway theater.” Together the ten plays logged nearly 1,800 performances on Broadway and won numerous awards, including two Pulitzer Prizes. Based on ease of access we have chosen to read and discuss seven of the ten plays: *Gem of the Ocean*, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *The Piano Lesson*, *Fences*, *Two Trains Running*, and *Radio Golf*.

**Format:** We will read a play each week and share our responses to the craft and content of Wilson's playwriting. Participants will be expected to make brief presentations on topics listed in the syllabus that further illuminate each play's historical contexts. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** The plays are available in paperback, used, for \$7.00 or less on Amazon or abebooks.com. As backup, we will post links to a PDF version of each play on the LLC class page, but these are truly a last resort because they make for difficult reading. There are a very few copies in the Ocean State Library System, but not of every play.

**Coordinators:** Martha Cussler is an active LLC member and a retired educator. Carole Marshall is a writer and retired educator. Martha and Carole are both experienced LLC course coordinators.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

### Thursday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### Ancient Ireland – Out of the Mist

Coordinator: Tim Walsh

The Irish have a proud heritage, which this course aims to better explain and understand. Irish history spans more than three millennia of which the first third, henceforth referred to as “ancient Ireland,” is often masked by the mists of time. Join us as we study the origins of the Irish from Neolithic times to the arrival of the English. Some of the topics we will study include the Druids, Celts, Saints, Heroes, Vikings and a number of the oldest architectural remains in the world (1,000 years older than Stonehenge and the Great Pyramid).

**Format:** Class members will be expected to provide a 10-20 minute oral presentation followed by class discussion, or to develop and distribute discussion questions and additional relevant material prior to leading a class discussion. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** *In Search of Ireland: The Origins of the Irish from Neolithic Times to the Coming of the English* is available used, from Amazon, in paperback for \$6.78 and up and *How the Irish Saved Civilization: The Untold Story of Ireland's Heroic Role From the Fall of Rome to the Rise of Medieval Europe* is available used, from Amazon, in paperback from \$1.00 and up.

**Coordinator:** Tim Walsh has coordinated four LLC courses on Irish history and literature, along with courses on Moby Dick, Don Quixote and the High Age of Antarctic Exploration.

## FRIDAY MORNINGS

### Friday mornings

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

10:00-11:00 AM (Note time)

8 weeks

Mar 19-May 7

Fee: \$80

Class size limit: 18

### Get Fit at Home

Instructor: Adam Stone / Coordinator: Sam Shamoon

Have you been sitting around during the Coronavirus lockdown? Join us in a personalized exercise course to help you get back on your feet with increased stamina, strength, agility, flexibility, and overall health.

**Format:** Our instructor, Adam Stone, will lead you through effective, safe, and functional exercises and offer individual feedback to ensure you employ proper techniques that are appropriate for Seniors. NOTE: The coordinator will record each Zoom session (see box on page 2 for more information) and email a link to each class member. This is for your own use only and not to be distributed anywhere. You will only see the instructor, not yourself or any class member. The purpose is so you can practice the moves on your

own time and pace. ALSO NOTE: Participation in this class is at your own risk. Registrants will receive a waiver to sign after registration.

**Resources/Expenses:** You may wish to purchase exercise bands or dumbbells available locally.

**Instructor:** Adam Stone is the owner of STONEFIT, an independent Rhode Island based personal training company. Sam Shamoon, an accomplished LLC coordinator, has been Adam's student for over a year and is delighted with the results.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOONS

### Friday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference Class

1:30 AM-3:30 PM (Note time)

12 weeks (Note length)

Mar 19-Jun 4

Fee: \$35

Class size limit: 15

### Mongols, Khans, and Mughals: How the Mongols Shaped Eurasian History

Coordinator: Bob Martin

Genghis Khan should be Exhibit A in any historian's argument for the Great Man Theory of history. Thanks to his unique and visionary leadership, the rise of the Mongol Empire changed everything. Their conquests swept away dozens of empires and kingdoms and replaced them with the largest contiguous empire in history. Far from being merely marauding hordes, the Mongols were agents of political, economic, and cultural change who shaped the future of China, Russia, Iran, India, and all of Europe, as well as numerous lesser states.

**Format:** Participants will read weekly selections of text from prominent historians and will be encouraged, but not required, to make presentations of 15-20 minutes in length. Active participation in class discussions is expected. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

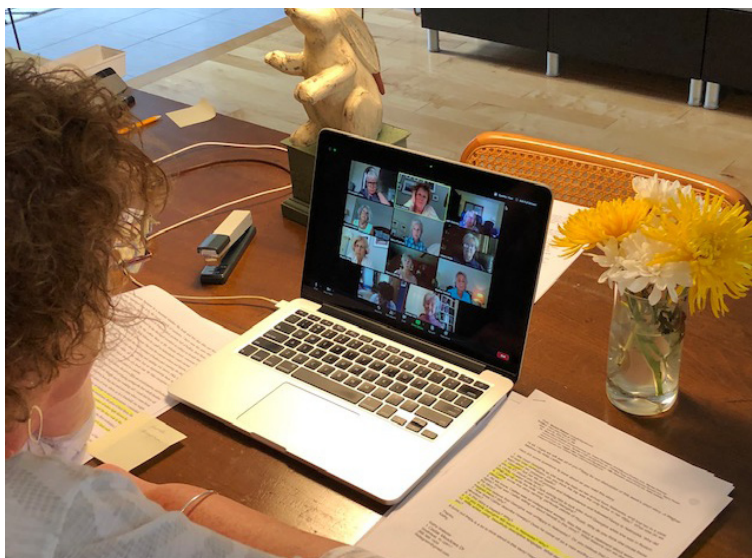
**Resources/Expenses:** The main text will be *The Mongol Conquests in World History* by Timothy May (2012), which ranges from an account of Genghis's early years in the 12th century to the Empire's several successor regimes which lasted for centuries. Used copies and a Kindle version are available from Amazon for less than \$30.00. A variety of journal and magazine articles will supplement the text, copies being supplied online by the coordinator.

**Coordinator:** Bob Martin has coordinated LLC courses on the History of India, the Silk Roads, and the Ottoman Empire, as well as Early Women Artists, and Short Stories by Women Writers.

## REGISTRATION POLICY

1. Lifelong Learning Collaborative (LLC) classes are filled on a “first come/first served” basis up to the enrollment limit. Enrollment limits will include coordinators. No exceptions will be made to the enrollment limits.
2. No registration is accepted until payment is received.
3. Date/time of registration will be determined by the postmark of registrations sent in by mail.
4. Online registration is recommended. Because mailed registrations will not be processed before 2 PM on the day registration opens, spaces are not guaranteed if the class fills up prior to 2 PM. There are no exceptions.
5. A waiting list of up to four people will be formed after a class is full. People will be offered the opportunity of registering for an alternative course in lieu of remaining on the waiting list. When a waiting list is full, applicants will be encouraged to register for another course.
6. Coordinators need not register or pay for the courses they coordinate. They must, however, be paid members of LLC.
7. The registrar will send, on a daily basis, by email or USPS (for members without email) acknowledgment of registration.
8. LLC reserves the right to cancel classes with fewer than ten participants. The decision will be made jointly by the Coordinator and the Curriculum Committee chair. Those registered in cancelled classes will be given the opportunity to sign up for other classes or to receive a full refund.
9. If a registrant withdraws from a class for any reason, a refund, minus a \$10 administrative fee, will be issued up to one week before the start date of the class. No refunds will be issued after that time unless there are extreme extenuating circumstances. REQUESTS FOR REFUNDS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING (email [info@lifelonglearningcollaborative.org](mailto:info@lifelonglearningcollaborative.org)). Refund requests made through the Coordinator(s) will not be honored.
10. Those on the waiting list who are not accepted into the class of their choice can choose another class or receive a full refund.
11. Guests are welcome in LLC classes one time only, with the advance approval of the Coordinator(s). There are no auditors.

**Learn. Discover. Enjoy.**  
**At home.**







**Learn.  
Discover.  
Enjoy.**