

# Spring 2024



Lifelong Learning  
COLLABORATIVE



## MONDAY MORNINGS

Monday mornings  
Zoom Videoconference  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM  
10 weeks  
Mar 18-May 20  
Fee: \$40  
Class size limit: 20

### Open Studio Art

Coordinators: Susan Van Horne, 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:** Members will work independently and will submit a photo of their work weekly for Zoom sharing and critique. The class may decide to focus on a painting subject or style each week. 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.

**Coordinators:** Susan Van Horne has been a plein air and studio painter since joining LLC over six years ago. Kathy and Susan have coordinated many LLC courses. Kathy Webster has been a Plein Air painter since joining LLC and started Open Studio to continue painting through the rest of the year.

## TUESDAY MORNINGS

Tuesday mornings  
Temple Beth-El  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM  
8 weeks  
Mar 19-May 14 (No class Apr 23)  
Fee: \$45  
Class size limit: 20

### Overlooked No More: Remarkable People Now Remembered

Coordinators: Stuart Einhorn, Mark Guyer

Who invented an e-reader in 1948? Who was the first Black woman VP candidate? Mr. Rogers' mentor? Mr. First? The Chinese "Joan of Arc?" Bollywood's "Marilyn Monroe?" Who were Myers and Briggs? No obituary for any of these people appeared in the *NY Times* when they died. Now, *Overlooked No More* is a fascinating *NYT* feature that publishes obituaries of people whose noteworthy and oftentimes remarkable accomplishments have gone unsung. Not surprisingly, many of the overlooked were women and people of color. Since 2018, *Overlooked* has presented "better-late-than-never" obituaries to try to rectify the previous omissions. Some of the subjects' achievements were important, some fascinating, some quirky; all are interesting.

**Format:** Each class member will lead a discussion of one or more persons of their choice. Discussion leaders are encouraged to look at their subjects' lives through the lens of the times in which they lived and the larger societal issues that are raised. A lively discussion of why these formerly unsung individuals deserve to be analyzed and celebrated will surely follow.

**Resources/Expenses:** *Overlooked No More* is available on the *New York Times* website which requires a membership which is currently available for \$1.00 per week with cancellation at any time. Class members are also welcome to use other sources that have collected the obituaries of interesting but obscure people.

**Coordinators:** Stuart Einhorn is retired from a career in the arts and manufacturing. He has coordinated two previous LLC courses on short stories. Mark Guyer is a former official at the NIH. He has coordinated several LLC courses, none of which had to do with biological research.

We're pleased to offer Zoom courses and in-person courses this semester. COVID vaccination is a mandatory requirement for attending in-person classes. By the act of registering for an in-person class you will be attesting to being vaccinated. Masks are optional in the Temple and classrooms. We'll keep current with trends and regulations and may change as needed. Zoom is easy and free to class members. If you have not used Zoom, [click here for a helpful introduction video](#).



*Cover photograph, "Springtime, College Hill, Providence," was taken by Linda Shamoon in our iPhonography class last spring. Linda has been a member of LLC for twelve years, and in that time has co-coordinated over twenty courses including this spring's Artificial Intelligence class and Cell Phone Photography Club. Since starting in LLC's iPhonography class, Linda is now an enthusiastic – and talented – cell phone photographer and photo editor. She currently heads our Digital Technology Committee.*

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 (\$35 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.

## TUESDAY MORNINGS

Tuesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

9 weeks

Mar 19-May 21 (No class May 7)

Fee: \$50

Class size limit: 16

### Why is Everyone Talking at Once? Learning About Opera Through its Ensembles

Coordinator: Jonathan Shiff

From the Rosenkavalier trio and the Rigoletto quartet to the Meistersinger quintet and the Lucia sextet, some of the most memorable moments in opera occur when several characters are singing about their feelings at the same time. We will use these ensembles as a jumping-off point to learn about a number of Italian, French, German and other operas. Each week there will be YouTube listening/viewing assignments – sometimes just the ensembles themselves, sometimes the entire scene or act in which they appear. Presenters will place each excerpt in context and also fill us in on further aspects of the opera. No musical knowledge or prior experience with opera is necessary.

**Format:** Weekly listening/watching assignments. Each participant will be asked to present one of the operas, following guidelines in the syllabus. Among the possible topics to be covered are: the genesis of the opera, its literary sources, collaboration between composer and librettist, problems with censorship, theater managers, singers, public and critical reception, post-premiere revisions, etc.

**Resources/Expenses:** Nothing to buy. Texts and translations will be provided. Internet access is required.

**Coordinator:** Jonathan Shiff has participated in several LLC classes, and this will be his fourth outing as coordinator. Jonathan has degrees in music and a Ph.D. in Italian Renaissance Literature from UC Berkeley. He has been an avid opera-goer for 50 years.

Tuesday mornings

Temple Beth-El & Zoom

Videoconference Hybrid Class

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 19-May 21

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 14 TBE & 7 Zoom

### AI: The End of Humanity or the Beginning of a Better Future?

Coordinators: Bob Kemp, Karen Stein, Linda Shamoon

What's AI (Artificial Intelligence) and what will it mean for us humans? Accurate disease diagnostics in a nanosecond, safe autonomous vehicles, robot crop harvesters, super-smart administrative assistants, personal robot housemaids, etc. Or: Deep fake videos disrupting election campaigns; robots taking over the battlefield or the factory; bots with minds that their creators don't understand or control? As AI permeates our lives, we had better understand its impacts on individuals, communities, and global society. We will focus on the ethical, social, legal, business, and economic implications of AI technologies. We will navigate beyond alarming headlines to gain a nuanced view of the current and future uses, development, and regulation of AI systems.

**Format:** A mix of discussion and presentations, plus sharing our responses to applications (apps) powered by AI. Two types of presentations: 1) Overviews of areas that will be transformed by AI, such as medicine, military, education, law enforcement, personal privacy, 2) Intros and how-to's for currently available AI-powered apps such as ChatGPT, Bing, Bard, Dall-E, Duolingo. We will use and discuss the featured apps. This is a hybrid class. For more info, [click here](#).

**Resources/Expenses:** No anticipated resources or expenses.

**Coordinators:** Bob Kemp, a retired attorney, has tracked recent AI developments. He co-coordinated *Huckleberry Finn*, *Frankenstein*, and other popular LLC courses. Linda Shamoon, a retired URI professor, taught courses on writing in electronic environments, and is currently chair of LLC's Technology Committee. Karen Stein was a professor of American Literature and of Women's Studies at URI. She and Linda co-coordinated LLC's popular poetry classes for several semesters.

(Course description co-authored and edited by ChatGPT.)

Registration opens Monday, January 29 @ 9 AM.

## TUESDAY MORNINGS

Tuesday mornings  
Zoom Videoconference  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM  
10 weeks  
Mar 19-May 21  
Fee: \$40  
Class size limit: 20

### “Connections” on the Big Screen (Section 1: Tuesdays on Zoom)

Coordinators: Helen Hawkins, Nancy Maddocks

**NOTE:** This course is also offered in-person at Temple Beth-El on Thursday afternoons (Section 2).

This time we are mixing it up: some feature films and some docs! We will find connections through iPhones, surrogacy, archeology, childhood bonds, robotics, games, troubled teens, sustaining Art, and non-binary issues. The films are all winners and will provoke robust discussion in class, leaving you to ponder the big questions long after class has wrapped up. Our movies: *Writing with Fire*; *Puzzle*; *The Dig*; *Past Lives*; *Made in Boise*; *Juno*; *I’m Your Man*; *Mars One*; *Every Body*, and *American Symphony*.

**Format:** Each week we will watch the scheduled film at home and discuss it in class. Two class members will collaborate on presenting one movie, each leading the discussion for one segment. Every class member will be a discussion leader. Questions may be sent out ahead of time to help the class focus on particular aspects of the movie or an alternate class exercise may be offered. A slide presentation is not required. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** Films are available on Amazon Prime, Netflix, Kanopy and other streaming services. A small fee may be charged by these platforms. The library also carries some of our films.

**Coordinators:** Helen Hawkins is happily retired from Special Education and college administration. She thoroughly enjoys screening movies for her classes, and anticipating the discussions they will provoke. Nancy Maddocks was a documentary film editor for 23 years, working on a variety of projects for the government and museums. Later she became a school library media specialist. She has never lost her enthusiasm for documentaries.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

Tuesday afternoons  
Temple Beth-El & in the field  
1:00-3:00 PM  
10 weeks  
Mar 19-May 21  
Fee: \$55  
Class size limit: 20

### Cell Phone Photography Club

Coordinators: Ellen Fingeret, Margaret Lawrence, Linda Shamoon

Is your cell phone your favorite camera? Do you fuss over those photos, editing and enhancing them? If so, join with LLC’ers who are experimenting with and enjoying cell phone photography and photo editing. It’s creative, instructive, social, and fun. Our activities: Going on photo shoots together, sharing our photos with a congenial group, and learning about genres of photography, such as nature, night, black and white, or other types. Our tools: Our cell phones (Apple or Android) and any editing app (i.e., Snapseed, Apple Photo, etc.). Familiarity with a photo editing app is necessary.

**Format:** Three activities: (1) Three photo shoots, locales TBD on day #1, may involve car ride; (2) Three photo sharing sessions at Beth-El; (3) Three presentations or guest lectures at Beth-El. Everyone is expected to help with club tasks: Choosing photo shoot locales, creating photo slideshows, emailing notices; help with presentations. Ten weeks, Day #1 is organizational.

**Resources/Expenses:** No text. Participants share links to online materials that enhance our photo and editing skills, but familiarity with an editing app is necessary.

**Coordinators:** Ellen Fingeret, Margaret Lawrence, and Linda Shamoon learned about cell phone photography in LLC’s Photography class. They are now enthusiastic cell phone photographers and photo editors.

Tuesday afternoons  
Temple Beth-El  
1:00-3:00 PM  
10 weeks  
Mar 19-May 21  
Fee: \$55  
Class size limit: 18

### World Music

Coordinator: Ronald Pearl

This course will focus on non-western cultures, specifically the music of India, Iran, Indonesia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and possibly Peru/Ecuador. Our goal will be to gain an understanding of these musical cultures, and to learn how to more effectively listen and enjoy them. We will examine ways in which they parallel and intersect our own musical traditions, and the manners in which we have been influenced by them. Like the music of the west, none of these cultures have flourished in isolation, and the links between musical styles, and the forces which drive them, will emerge. By the end of the course the vast world of music will hopefully be a little bit more knowable.

**Format:** Each week we will discuss the previous assigned listening. Reactions and responses will vary, and it will be valuable to share how we take in these new sound worlds. There will be one or two participant presentations each session covering an instrument or possibly significant performer. The rest of the class will cover the next listening playlist, with information on how to approach it. No musical knowledge is necessary, and no experience with non-western music is required. Curiosity and an open mind are all that is needed!

**Resources/Expenses:** All assigned listening selections will be on YouTube.

**Coordinator:** Ronald Pearl is a classical guitarist and composer with over forty years of professional activity. A professor of Music, he recently retired from Loyola University Maryland, where he taught for 27 years.

## TUESDAY LATE AFTERNOONS

Tuesday late afternoons

Temple Beth-El

3:15-5:15 PM

10 weeks

Mar 19-May 21

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 36

### Scrabble Social Club

Coordinators: Tracey Zeckhausen, Sheila Zompa

Do you have fond memories of playing Scrabble in your past? Now is your chance to get back in the game! Join us for a fun time and meet new friends! All levels are welcome.

**Format:** LLC provides game boards and Scrabble dictionaries. Players draw a stick to determine where to sit. This allows us to get to know each other better! You don't need to attend every week, but you do need to register and RSVP each week to participate. Please plan to arrive at 3:00 PM, if possible, to help set up the tables as we start playing at 3:15. Tracey will be on hand for documentation and rule clarification. Join us afterwards, if you wish, for supper at various nearby local restaurants.

**Resources/Expenses:** We have Scrabble dictionaries on hand for your reference. All other supplies provided. There are no expenses.

**Coordinators:** Tracey Zeckhausen and Sheila Zompa love Scrabble and have previously coordinated the Scrabble Club.

## WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Wednesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 20-May 22

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 14

### Reading Aloud: Contemporary Plays

Coordinator: Wendy Salkind

Take a breath, jump in and join others as we take turns reading aloud some of the most compelling, award-winning plays of the past 20 years. These 5 writers take on many of the pivotal topics of our time: racism, ageism, live vs. virtual art, economic inequities, and of course, love. The complexity of the writing lends itself to lively class discussions. The Playwrights will include Ellis Childress, Ahad Akhtar, David Hare, Lynn Nottage, Stephen Adly Guirgis and time permitting, Anna Deveare Smith.

**Format:** No presentations are required. We'll take 1 1/2 to 2 classes to read aloud and discuss each play.

Note: Because this is a collaborative and participatory class, where readings will be assigned for some classes, attendance is critical. If you know ahead of time that you will miss two or more classes, it would be best to take the course another time.

**Resources/Expenses:** The plays will need to be purchased individually, and can be found used from Alibris.com, Abebooks.com, Thriftbooks.com and Amazon.com. The total cost of the five plays should be no more than \$30. Most of the plays are also available from your local public library.

**Coordinator:** Wendy Salkind is a Professor Emerita of Theatre at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. As an actor, she performed in the plays of Beckett, Pinter, Shakespeare and Chekov, among others, and collaborated with a composer on solo performances based on writings of Gertrude Stein. Since her recent move to Rhode Island, she has thoroughly enjoyed taking and Coordinating LLC courses.

Wednesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 20-May 22

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 20

### How Great Structures Go Up – And Sometimes Fall Down

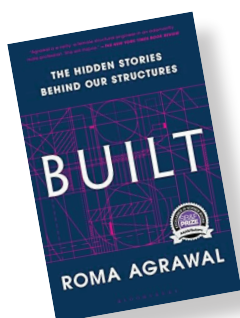
Coordinator: Art Norwalk

We'll examine the engineering feats that have produced some of the most famous and/or important structures throughout history (e.g. Great Wall of China, Big Dig), and some of the most notable failures (Kansas City hotel walkway collapse). Using the award-winning book *Built* by structural engineer Roma Agrawal as a guide, we'll explore the evolution of construction and meet some of the visionaries who created new materials and processes.

**Format:** Each participant will lead a class session taking an "engineering for non-engineers" look at one project or prominent engineer chosen from a list provided by the coordinator. No technical background is required.

**Resources/Expenses:** *Built: The Hidden Stories Behind our Structures* by Roma Agrawal is available used for \$6.00 and up at online sources.

**Coordinator:** Art Norwalk is a retired marketing communications consultant who has coordinated several LLC courses.



**Class calendar available online at**  
**[lifelonglearningcollaborative.org/events](http://lifelonglearningcollaborative.org/events)**



## WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Wednesday mornings

Regency Plaza Apartments

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 20-May 22

Fee: \$20

Class size limit: 11

### Write On, Write On: A Writing Workshop

Coordinator: Sheila K Lawrence

Whether you're a published author or new to the writing scene, you've come to the right place. In this class, we will tackle rudimentary lessons in effective writing, dip our toes in the fiction writing waters and try our hands at a variety of genres. The possibilities are endless. So, come on! Join us for ten weeks of self-discovery through poetry, fiction, non-fiction, screen writing, essays and more. In this class, we will explore various genres in-class and at home with writing challenges and prompts. In addition, we will learn effective communication techniques for clear and precise writing.

**Format:** Participants will write at home and in class and then read their work in class.

**Resources/Expenses:** Suggested reading: *Bird by Bird: Some Instruction on Writing and Life* by Anne Lamott available used for \$1.50 and up; *On Writing Well* by William Zinsser, available for \$5.00 and up, and *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft* by Stephen King available for \$5.00 and up, all available used from online sellers. Required: *Elements of Style* by Strunk and White ... "a very good book for anyone who wants to write anything," is available used for \$1.50 and up from online sellers.

**Coordinator:** Sheila K Lawrence is an author, a former journalist and an avid reader. She has led LLC classes in writing, photography, and theater arts.



Wednesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 20-May 22

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 16

### Paint Like a Woman: 19th and Early 20th Century Women Artists

Coordinators: Susan Van Horne, Kathy Webster

Prior to the early 1800's, men dominated the art world with women only beginning to gain recognition later. Women artists began to enroll in academy schools and thus began their acceptance into the mainstream. Join us as we learn about some of these women whose talent was finally recognized and respected, learn their style and technique and then at home, paint a work influenced by the artist. Mary Cassatt, Rosa Bonheur, and Berthe Morisot are among the artists we will discuss.

**Format:** Each week, a member of the class will introduce us to one of our listed artists during the first 40 minutes, focusing on the artist's style and techniques. After that, we will view paintings done by the class based on the previous week's artist's work.

**Resources/Expenses:** Expenses vary based on painting supplies needed.

**Coordinators:** Kathy Webster has coordinated many painting classes, from Open Studio to Plein Air and Painting with the Masters. Susan Van Horne has coordinated Open Studio as well as Plein Air Painting.

### 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 turned away from a course 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.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

### Wednesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 20-May 22

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 16

### The Folly of War – A Study Through Films

Coordinators: Rick Keogh, Bob Schnare

War is hell. Sometimes unavoidable, always regrettable. The tragedy is compounded when hubris, bullheadedness and foreseeable blunders are introduced into the mix. *The Folly of War* examines military blunders throughout history via films, many of which have Academy Awards or other prestigious film prizes.

**Format:** Sixteen films (two per week) will be offered for discussion. Participants will each take a film, give a presentation, and open the floor for discussion. Questions for discussion for class members will be sent out prior to classes whenever feasible.

**Resources/Expenses:** Most films are available for streaming. Info on locations will be provided. Also, most are available on DVD for borrowing from the state public library system, or from their Kanopy streaming service.

**Coordinators:** Rick Keogh is a retired college librarian. He holds a B.A. degree in history, an M.A. in history and an M.L.S. He is also a film aficionado. Bob Schnare is the retired director of the Naval War College Library and has previously co-coordinated LLC history courses with Rick Keogh.

### Wednesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

9 weeks

Mar 20-May 15

Fee: \$50

Class size limit: 14

### Beautiful Black and White Photography

Coordinators: Tom Backman, Rob Pearlman

**Note:** Registrants should have a solid knowledge of how to operate your camera, and your post processing editor.

Are you a photographer who would like to learn more about making black and white photos? Please join our introductory course on black and white digital photography. This course is open to photographers of all skill levels who use either a cell phone camera or a digital camera. Some of the topics we will cover are a brief history of black and white photography and some of its giants, identifying the elements of a strong

black and white photo and how to identify them in a color photo and on a photo shoot, global and local editing techniques, structures and shapes, shadows and silhouettes in black and white photos, portraits and more!

**Format:** Each class will have a short tutorial presented by the Coordinators on a selected topic. Participants will be expected to work on their photos outside of class and be prepared to discuss them in class for comments and feedback. A bibliography of books, articles and links will be provided for further study.

**Resources/Expenses:** No additional expenses are anticipated.

**Coordinators:** Tom Backman has been a photographer for many years having led several LLC photo courses and is a photographer for WaterFire. Rob Pearlman bought his first camera many years ago as an afterthought on assignment to India. It has given him a way to connect with people everywhere in a way that otherwise would not have been possible.

### Wednesday afternoons

Zoom Videoconference

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 20-May 22

Fee: \$40

Class size limit: 16

### Hot Topics

Coordinators: Hugh Campbell, George Champlin, Lee Golden

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*. Some of the topics presented last session were: Recent bank failures, Artificial Intelligence/ChatGPT, Ethics and the Supreme Court and Politics of the U.S. debt limit.

**Format:** Each week one member of the group will choose one article on a current hot topic. After briefly presenting it 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:** Hugh Campbell, George Champlin and Lee Golden have successfully coordinated this very popular course many times in the past.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

Wednesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 20-May 22

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 15

### The Genius of August Wilson: The Century Cycle

Coordinator: Howard Berkowitz

August Wilson, one of America's greatest playwrights, has written a cycle of 10 plays, each one set in a different decade of the 20th century, each one focusing on the lives and struggles of Black Americans during that particular decade. They are stunningly good plays and Wilson himself is a most fascinating playwright. We'll be reading a play a week.

**Format:** Participants will be expected to read that week's play at home and come ready for a lively discussion. In addition, each person will be asked to provide a brief analysis of some of the historical events and issues that might have impacted the racial dynamic of one of the decades corresponding to our list of plays. The list of plays and decades will be available soon after class registration. There is a plan afoot to see Trinity's production of *Fences* this semester.

**Resources/Expenses:** *Wilson's Century Cycle* (10 plays) are available on Amazon for under \$5.00 a play and are also readily available in libraries or online.

**Coordinator:** Howard Berkowitz taught Upper School English and Humanities for 40 years in Independent Schools (Cranbrook, MI; Park School, MD). He has also taught Continuing Education courses from 1982-2019 through various organizations. He lives in Providence with his wife, Jessica Rowe, and Karma, his cuddly cat.

Wednesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 20-May 22

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 10

### LLC Knits

Coordinator: Doris Briggs

Join LLC Knits and make a knitting project such as socks, mittens or a project of your choice. Up for a challenge, try a color work hat, scarf, or cowl. Time will be provided to discuss all projects, if desired. 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.

**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.

## THURSDAY MORNINGS

Thursday mornings

Zoom Videoconference

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 21-May 23

Fee: \$40

Class size limit: 20

### Elemental: How Five Elements are Changing the Climate and Our Lives

Coordinators: Chuck Nickles, Nina Wang

**NOTE: Science background is not required.**

Many of us have felt challenged trying to get our heads around the climate problem and what to do about it. The climate crisis affects us, our food sources, water, and all life on earth. It is also affected by humans, so are all these connected? Recent LLC Webinar guest, Stephen Porder's new book *Elemental* explains the interactions of living organism and climate by tracking the five elements: Hydrogen, Nitrogen, Carbon, Oxygen and Phosphorous. He calls these elements Life's Formula. In this course we'll examine

these complex relationships. Our goal is to gain an understanding of cause and effect in earth's ecosystem. We'll also be looking at solutions for effectively dealing with climate change, including switching to alternative sources of energy and more sustainable food choices.

**Format:** Participants will read about 30 pages of the text for each class and review some recommended websites. Each person will make a presentation on some aspect of how climate and/or the environment have been and are affected by life on earth. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** *Elemental, How Five Elements changed Earth's Past and Will Shape Our Future* by Stephen Porder of Brown University is available for \$18.00 and up, used, from online book sellers. A list of websites for each topic will be provided for each week.

**Coordinators:** Chuck Nickles has coordinated a variety of science focused classes and is a retired college Physics lecturer. Nina Wang has been a member of LLC for five years. Her college teaching experiences were in statistics and research methods. Her current interests are in climate change, gardening, nature, and connecting people in her neighborhood.





## THURSDAY MORNINGS

Thursday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 21-May 23

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 30

### Theater Conversations

Coordinators: Kathy Webster, Mike Webster

Join our popular Theater Conversations course as we attend plays, discuss them, learn from each other, and enjoy visitors from the productions! We will feature *Fences* at Trinity Rep, *Doubt* and *12th Night* at the Gamm, *The Wolf Play* at the Wilbury Theatre Group, *Collective Rage in Five Betties* at the Burbage Theater Company, and *Alabaster* at the Brown/Trinity MFA program.

**Format:** Participants will attend a performance of each play. Each class member is expected to present material or lead a short, lively class discussion on aspects of a play, including production features, themes, the playwright's background and intent as well as the director's interpretation. Actors or other members of the theater companies will join the class on several occasions to enrich our understanding of the plays and the production process.

**Resources/Expenses:** Total expenses of \$120 for most dates, including a special group rate at Trinity are anticipated.

**Coordinators:** Kathy and Mike Webster are active supporters of our local theater companies and have coordinated this course for many years.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

Thursday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 21-May 23

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 20

### "Connections" on the Big Screen (Section 2: Thursdays In-person at Temple Beth-El)

Coordinators: Helen Hawkins, Nancy Maddocks

**NOTE:** This course is also offered on Zoom on Tuesday mornings (Section 1).

This time we are mixing it up: some feature films and some docs! We will find connections through iPhones, surrogacy, archeology, childhood bonds, robotics, games, troubled teens, sustaining Art, and non-binary issues. The films are all winners and will provoke robust discussion in class, leaving you to ponder the big questions long after class has wrapped up. Our movies: *Writing with Fire*; *Puzzle*; *The Dig*; *Past Lives*; *Made in Boise*; *Juno*; *I'm Your Man*; *Mars One*; *Every Body*, and *American Symphony*.

**Format:** Each week we will watch the scheduled film at home and discuss it in class. Two class members will collaborate on presenting one movie, each leading the discussion for one segment. Every class member will be a discussion leader. Questions may be sent out ahead of time to help the class focus on particular aspects of the movie or an alternate class exercise may be offered. A slide presentation is not required.

**Resources/Expenses:** Films are available on Amazon Prime, Netflix, Kanopy and other streaming services. A small fee may be charged by these platforms. The library also carries some of our films.

**Coordinators:** Helen Hawkins is happily retired from Special Education and college administration. She thoroughly enjoys screening movies for her classes, and anticipating the discussions they will provoke. Nancy Maddocks was a documentary film editor for 23 years, working on a variety of projects for the government and museums. Later she became a school library media specialist. She has never lost her enthusiasm for documentaries.

Thursday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 21-May 23

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 16

### Writing a Memoir

Coordinators: Diana Grady, Ruth Mills

Have you always wanted to write your life's story but never seem to get started? This class is devoted to encouraging you to take those steps. You will have an opportunity to share your stories with your fellow writers. Classmates will provide encouragement and suggestions. Writing a memoir provides a way to save your family stories for those who will someday be grateful that you did. Sharing these stories can help us connect with others who have similar experiences. Finally, memoir writing may have a therapeutic effect as you revisit painful or complicated events from your past.

**Format:** Members are expected to participate in writing and sharing approximately 1,200 words about every other week. Optional writing prompts will be available to those who want them.

**Resources/Expenses:** None.

**Coordinators:** Diana Grady taught English Language Arts for 40 years in the Swansea School System and Writing Enhancement in the Gomes Elementary School in New Bedford. She has participated in the Memoir Class for many semesters. She is the editor of *The Lark* and is a veteran class coordinator at LLC. Ruth Mills has taught English at the high school level and has participated in or co-coordinated the Memoir Class for many semesters.

**Recording Policy:** LLC does not permit recording of classes due to the resulting inhibition of free and comfortable exchange of ideas and opinions. Any exceptions must be approved by the LLC President.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

Thursday afternoons

Community libraries of Providence

1:15-3:00 PM (Note start time)

10 weeks

Mar 21-May 23

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 14

### A City-wide Campus in Nine Neighborhoods: Discover Providence at its Community Libraries

Coordinator: Gayle Gifford

**"Bad libraries build collections, good libraries build services, great libraries build communities."**

Libraries are so much more than books: they are mirrors into the communities they serve. Come explore the many ways the contemporary library serves and builds its community. We'll meet weekly onsite at each one of the nine libraries which make up the Community Libraries of Providence. You'll get an insider view of each unique library, explore its history and contemporary challenges, and learn more about the people and needs of Wanskuck, Smith Hill, Mt. Pleasant, South Providence, Washington Park, Elmwood, Fox Point, Olneyville and the Summit/Mt. Hope neighborhoods.

**Format:** Each week the class will take place at a different member library. We'll receive a tour and overview of that library from the library manager. One or two class members will facilitate a discussion about some aspect of libraries or about the neighborhoods that particular library serves. The course will start and end at Rochambeau Library and move around the city to the other eight libraries. In the last class, we will process together all that we've learned.

**Resources/Expenses:** Article on the history of Providence libraries by Patricia Raub will be distributed to participants. No expenses anticipated.

**Coordinator:** Gayle Gifford is a library enthusiast and long-time Providence resident. In addition to working with libraries and other community nonprofits through her consulting, Gayle teaches workshops throughout New England and taught for over a decade at Brown University in the Master of Public Humanities Program.

Thursday afternoons

Zoom Videoconference & 3

photowalks

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Apr 4-May 23

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 15

### Intentional Camera Movement (ICM) Photography: A Basic Introduction

Coordinators: Sally Barker, Donna Parker

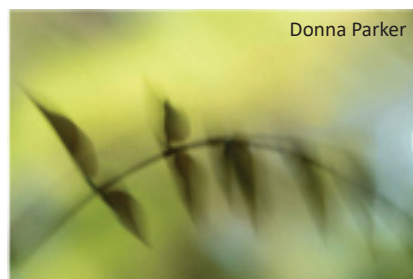
In this class, we will learn how to get started with ICM and to practice intentional camera movement techniques. "The goal of ICM is to create only an impression of the subject and not necessarily to render all the detail...It is a technique that leaves space for the viewer's imagination to fill in the blanks and interpret what they see in front of them in the image" (Julia Anna Gospodarou.) This class will allow you to experiment and have fun interpreting your subjects in new and different ways. The group photo shoots will take place in Providence and Roger Williams Park, offering wonderful environments and a rich opportunity to explore ICM photography techniques using a variety of subjects (including trees, water, animals, abstract/ details, flowers, and people).

**Format:** The first session will be an overview of techniques and how to begin taking ICM images. The additional sessions will discuss using trees, architecture, water, abstracts and more. A review of your images will take place during the second hour of the class. Participants will be given weekly assignments consisting of reading, videos and group photo shoots. Classes will consist of a discussion of photo topics and sharing/critiquing of individual photos from the weekly assignments. There will be five Zoom conferencing classes (see box on page 2 for more information) and three group photo shoots that will take place in Providence and Roger Williams Park.

**Requirements:** Participants should be familiar with basic cellphone and/or camera photo taking functions, emailing images, and basic post-processing functions.

**Resources/Expenses:** Your camera or camera phone. (You may also want a polarizing and/or a 6-stop neutral density filter, and a charger for your cellphone). There may be a small fee if locations need to be changed.

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



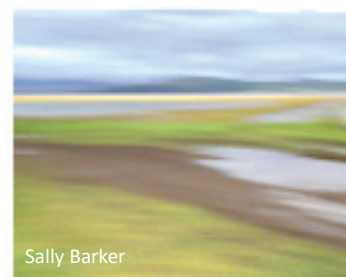
Donna Parker



Donna Parker



Sally Barker



Sally Barker

Examples of Intentional Camera Movement (ICM) Photography

## FRIDAY MORNINGS

Friday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

8 weeks

Mar 22-May 17 (No class Apr 26)

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 18

### Being Human: Anthropologists Who Shaped the Way We Think About Human Nature

Coordinator: Donna Kerner

Are humans different from other animals? How did our species evolve? Is our behavior determined by nature (genetics) or nurture (culture)? Why are cultures different from each other? Does the language we speak determine how we think? How are race, ethnicity, and culture related? Join us in exploring how these big questions about what it means to be human were answered by some of the most innovative thinkers of the twentieth century: Margaret Mead, Ruth Benedict, Jane Goodall, Louis and Mary Leakey, Franz Boas, Zora Neal Hurston, Bronislaw Malinowski, Edward Sapir and Benjamin Lee Whorf.

**Format:** We will cover one of these topics per week. The Coordinator will provide reading and film suggestions and class members will choose an anthropologist to focus on. The plan is to have two facilitators for each class focusing on complementary aspects of the scholar's work as it pertains to the particular topic under discussion.

**Resources/Expenses:** Our suggested reading will include *The Anthropological Lens: Harsh Lights, Soft Focus* by James Peacock, which is available used online for \$5 & up.

**Coordinator:** Donna Kerner is a cultural anthropologist who has lived much of her life in East Africa and the South Pacific conducting field research. Her research interests include: Gender and Famine; Education and Class Mobility; Material Culture and Memory; and Entrepreneurship/Micro Finance. She is Professor Emerita at Wheaton College where she taught for thirty-three years and held the William Isaac Cole Endowed Chair.

Friday mornings

Zoom Videoconference

10:00-11:00 AM (Note 1 hr length)

8 weeks

Mar 22-May 10

Fee: \$95

Class size limit: 18

### Get Fit at Home

Instructor: Adam Stone / Coordinator: Sam Shamoon

**NOTE:** This is a repeat of a popular course that has been offered many semesters. Participation in this class is at your own risk. Registrants will receive a waiver to sign upon registration.

Are you still sitting around since the Coronavirus lockdown, or do you just need some motivation? 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.

**Resources/Expenses:** You will need a set of exercise bands, dumbbells and one or more knee bands, all available locally or from Amazon.

**Instructor:** Adam Stone is the owner of STONEFIT, an independent Rhode Island based personal training company.

**Coordinator:** Sam Shamoon, an accomplished LLC coordinator, has been Adam's student for the last several years and is delighted with the results.

Friday mornings

Temple Beth-El (Apr 5) & locations throughout Providence/Pawtucket

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

7 weeks

Apr 5-May 17

Fee: \$30

Class size limit: 20

### Beyond the Gallery and the Art Museum: Public Art and the City

Coordinators: Barbara Barnes, Joan Hausrath, Beverly Pettine

Providence and Pawtucket might be small cities, but they are cities that embrace the arts. Public art can provide a sense of awe and the unexpected. It can create a sense of space and allow us to walk into history. And public art today shows that artists represent populations that are more diverse, inclusive and resilient than ever. Through a series of urban walks and visits to art spaces in both cities, we'll look at public art through the lens of several local artists as well as creative organizations such as Gallery Night Providence, AS220, Avenue Concept, Pawtucket Public Art, and Rhode Island Latino Arts. Robert McBride, artist and founding member of the Rockingham Arts and Museum Project in Bellows Falls, Vermont has

stated, "Public art, often temporary, is important. Art makes a difference." Join us to discover what a difference public art can make as we spend time in two Rhode Island cities this Spring.

**Format:** Group visits to art sites, art studios, and walking tours.

**Resources/Expenses:** None.

**Coordinators:** Barbara Barnes and Beverly Pettine have led walking tours in Providence for over 30 years and together have led several walking tours for LLC. Barbara has been a class coordinator, committee leader, and board member at LLC for many years. Joan Hausrath is a printmaker and Professor of Art Emerita from Bridgewater (MA) State University where she taught art history and studio art for more than 30 years. Her studio is located in Pawtucket where she also actively advocates for public art.



## FRIDAY AFTERNOONS

Friday afternoons

Zoom Videoconference

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 22-May 24

Fee: \$40

Class size limit: 20

### The History and Culture of Ancient Persia

Coordinator: Bob Martin

The kings of Persia's Achaemenid Dynasty created one of the largest and most influential empires in history, rivaling China, Egypt and Rome. Although depicted by Greek and Roman writers as barbarians, these kings established a culturally sophisticated and well-governed nation that helped shape the modern world. Our text, *Persians: The Age of the Great Kings*, by Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones offers a thorough rebuttal of the traditional Western image of Persia. [Click here to view the course syllabus.](#)

**Format:** Class members will give presentations and lead discussions on topics that they will select from a list prepared by the coordinator. Presentations will be strongly encouraged but not required. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** *Persians: The Age of the Great Kings* by Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones is available for \$18 and up from online booksellers. Other readings will be articles downloadable from the Web at no expense.

**Coordinator:** Bob Martin has coordinated many LLC courses, such as *The Epic of Gilgamesh and the Culture That Created It*, and *Lost Enlightenment: Central Asia's Golden Age*.



**Come learn with us!**  
**In-person or at home.**



*We understand that some LLC members may have difficulties with mobility and may use wheelchairs, walkers, or canes. Some members may have difficulty with hearing or vision. Those members should notify the coordinator and arrive early for the first class to discuss what priority seating accommodations can be made.*

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**Learn.  
Discover.  
Enjoy.**