

# Summersession 2023



Lifelong Learning  
COLLABORATIVE



## MONDAY MORNINGS

Monday mornings

Zoom Videoconference

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

5 weeks

Jul 17, 24, 31 & Aug 14

Temple Concert: Tues, Aug 22

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 40

### All That's Jazz: Ragtime, Blues, Swing, Bebop & More

Artist: Clay Nordhill / Coordinator: Sam Shamoon

Listen and Learn – what could be easier and more fun? This is the next installment of LLC's very popular class on the history of American jazz. If you took this course before, you will enjoy it again! We will hear music and musicians not covered previously as well as some favorites from past courses. Hear historic recordings, learn about inspiring performers and composers as well as younger players who are influencing jazz today. The course ends with a concert in the meeting hall at the Temple by Clay and his Jazz group. Don't miss it!

**Format:** Listening, lecture and discussion (no presentations required). This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box below for more information).

**Artist:** Clay Nordhill, a very accomplished Rhode Island based jazz guitarist and composer, will lead the course. Clay is a graduate of URI with a focus on Jazz Performance. He has performed at the Newport Jazz Festival as well as at venues throughout the Northeast. He has spent the last nine months on tour with the national company of *Annie*.

**Coordinator:** Sam Shamoon has coordinated this class since it's inception.

Monday mornings

Zoom Videoconference

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

8 weeks

Jun 26-Aug 21 (No class Jul 3)

Fee: \$35

Class size limit: 20

### Current Decisions Summer 2023

Coordinators: Dennis Flavin, David Hansen

Join our annual examination of the important domestic issues, programs, policies, and political trends facing our nation in 2023. International issues are covered in the winter course Great Decisions. As always, there is never a lack of interesting, complicated, and controversial topics to analyze and discuss. This year is no exception with the debt ceiling crisis, latest Supreme Court decisions, the abortion controversy, mass shootings, and so many more. Beyond these, we plan to examine broader issues such as the fracturing of the Republican Party, the politicization of our court system, the loss of confidence in the Supreme Court, and the inability/unwillingness of Congress to legislate for its citizens. We welcome class members' input

into the selection of topics since there are no assigned texts nor readings. While we never seem to make great decisions, we have always enjoyed great presentations and discussions, which are the essence of LLC classes.

**Format:** Individual and team presentations are encouraged to provide a background for class discussion. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box below for more information).

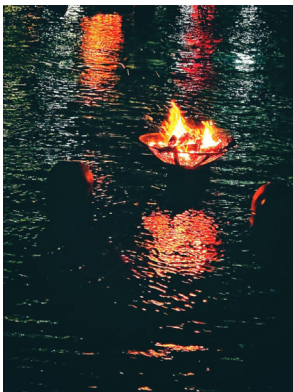
**Resources/Expenses:** Presenters may suggest materials on the topics for class members to review. There are no anticipated expenses.

**Coordinators:** Dennis Flavin and David Hansen have coordinated this course and the Great Decisions course for several years. They strongly support the collaborative learning style with open, animated discussion and debate.

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, and classrooms will be at less than full capacity. 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](#).



**Due to increased Temple costs and other expenses, we are forced to raise our course fees. Thanks for your understanding!**



**Cover photography, "WaterFire Fingerprints," taken by Mel Shelly in our iPhonography class (Fall 2021). Mel has been a member of LLC for ten years. In that time, he has taken many classes on theater, literature, and the arts.**

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.

**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.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

Tuesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El & in the field

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Jun 27-Aug 15 (3 Temple meetings)

Fee: \$25

Class size limit: 20

### Cell Phone Photography Club

Coordinators: Ellen Fingeret, Margaret Lawrence

Do you enjoy taking pictures with your cell phone and then turning them into professional looking photographs by using the phone's powerful editing capabilities? Do you do a lot of photo editing and want to share your work with other enthusiastic photographers who also edit a lot? Join LLC's Cell Phone Photo Club this summer.

**Note: Familiarity with an editing app is a prerequisite.**

**Format:** We will meet three times during the term at Temple Beth-El (June 27, July 25, and August 15) to share unedited and edited versions of our photos and discuss the techniques that we have used to create the finished version. We will have a challenge theme or a project for each gathering, but no organized field trips and no formal instruction in editing tools. Club members are expected to help with emailing photos and notices, and with assembling photo slideshows.

**Resources/Expenses:** There is no text. Participants may share links to online materials that enhance our photo and editing skills.

**Coordinators:** Ellen Fingeret began her cell phone photography journey in the LLC iPhonography class and has enjoyed enhancing her photography as well as editing skills. Margaret started cell phone photography in LLC's iPhonography class. She is now an enthusiastic cell phone photographer and photo editor.

## TUESDAY LATE AFTERNOONS

Tuesday late afternoons

Temple Beth-El

3:15-5:15 PM

8 weeks

Jun 27-Aug 22 (No class Jul 4)

Fee: \$25

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.

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

*Coordinator Tracey Zeckhausen was the LLC Scrabble champion for the spring and summer '22 semesters. Here she is wearing the Special Scrabble Crown! Tracey is co-coordinator of the summer Scrabble Club with Sheila Zompa.*



Registration opens Monday, May 22 @ 9 AM.

## WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Wednesday mornings

Temple Beth-El & in the field

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

6 weeks

Jun 28-Aug 2

Fee: \$20

Class size limit: 17

### Be A Flâneur This Summer: Come Walk With Us

Coordinators: Barbara Barnes, Beverly Pettine

The French describe a flâneur as one who seems to be “a cool observer of urban society, a connoisseur of the street.” We invite you to stroll and discover five urban spaces this summer. Our walks will take us to four Providence locations: India Point Park, Brown University, Swan Point Cemetery, and the Valley neighborhood of Farm Fresh and the Steel Yard, as well as to the Rumford National Register Historic District in East Providence. Thoreau, Jefferson, Beethoven, and Tolstoy were all said to be flâneurs. You could be a flâneur, too.

**IMPORTANT:** We will be walking in urban settings which have some curbs, uneven surfaces, and tree roots. Please wear sturdy footwear and walk with caution.

**Format:** The June 28 class meets at Temple Beth-El. All other classes take place outdoors, and we will meet at a different location each week – addresses and parking info to be provided. During the first hour of each class, participants will stroll, observe, and discover the neighborhood under study. In the second half of each class, three class members will be asked to share their research about the landscape, people, or architecture that have made the neighborhood notable. NOTE: There will be no access to presentation technology for these sessions.

**Resources/Expenses:** No expenses are anticipated. Research resources can be found online or at the public library. Recommended websites or book titles will be shared by the coordinators.

**Coordinators:** Barbara Barnes and Beverly Pettine have led walking tours in Providence for over 30 years. Together they have led several walking tours for LLC. Barbara has been a class coordinator, committee leader, and board member at LLC for many years.

Wednesday mornings

Multiple sites throughout RI

10:00 AM-1:00 PM

8 weeks

Jun 28-Aug 16

Fee: \$20

Class size limit: 25

### Plein Air Summer 2023

Coordinators: Mary Snowden, Susan Van Horne, Kathy Webster

Join us in an enjoyable group Plein air experience in an outdoor face to face format. Both newcomers as well as the experienced will have an opportunity to spend time exploring their inner artist. The class will include painting (in any medium), pastels, and drawing. If you have never held a paintbrush, you are welcome to give it a try. And if you are a working artist, just creating in nature is an inspiration.

**Format:** Classes will be held weekly in a plein air settings in various convenient locations throughout Rhode Island. Students will participate in a critique of their work weekly.

**Resources/Expenses:** Students will use their own art supplies; once enrolled specific details will be provided. Costs will vary based on supplies on hand.

**Coordinators:** Mary Snowden is a lifelong painter and retired Art Professor with great creative gifts and an impressive ability to teach and help students learn. Susan Van Horne has been a Plein air and Open Studio painter for many years. Kathy Webster has been a Plein air painting student since 2010.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

Wednesday afternoons

Zoom Videoconference

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Jun 28-Aug 16

Fee: \$35

Class size limit: 20

### Anxiety: Why Don't You Just Relax?

Coordinators: John Dacey, Tom Kraig

Anxiety, defined as fearfulness with no clear object, is burgeoning in the world today. The percent of people in the US who are suffering from a form of anxiety has increased from 19 to 30% in recent years and anxiety in college aged students has risen to as high as 60%. It is also known that anxiety leads to depression which has increased throughout the world and is of great concern to many. This course will help you to spot various manifestations of anxiety. It will also introduce you to some of the major interventions that can help to reduce or even eliminate it. Join us as we explore the current status of anxiety in the world and what can be done about it.

**Format:** The coordinators will begin week one with an overview of anxiety and a presentation on simple phobias. Each following week, two participants will work in pairs, presenting and leading a discussion on one of seven phobias. These are social phobia; separation anxiety; generalized anxiety disorder; agoraphobia; panic disorder; compulsive and obsessive disorder; and post-traumatic disorder. Each team will lead the discussion of the basics of the syndrome, the standard treatment and other related information during the two hour session. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** The text, *Why Don't You Just Relax*, written by John Dacey is available on Amazon for \$4.25.

**Coordinators:** John Dacey has a doctorate in psychology from Cornell University. He has taught the subject for over 50 years at Boston College and is a retired licensed psychotherapist. Tom Kraig is a retired attorney who will be assisting the coordinator with Zoom application.

## THURSDAY MORNINGS

Thursday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

6 weeks

Jun 29-Aug 10 (No class Jul 6)

Fee: \$35

Class size limit: 20

### Surreal and Bizarre: Short Stories by George Saunders and Haruki Murakami

Coordinators: Stuart Einhorn, Lily Traves

Join us as we read short stories by George Saunders, one of America's most revered and imaginative writers. Saunders' stories are somewhat surreal, somewhat appalling/shocking and some with a dash of obscenity. Haruki Murakami's stories are as surreal as it gets. A city run by cats, a talking monkey obsessed by sex, and one story about the marriage between a frozen man (literally) and his wife. These authors will make you gasp, laugh, cry, and marvel at such imagination!

**Format:** Each participant will choose a short story and lead a one-hour session beginning with an overview of the author and his work, followed by discussion questions based on that selection.

**Resources/Expenses:** *The Tenth of December* by George Saunders is available on Amazon, new for \$10.95 and less for used. The Murakami stories will be photocopied and distributed in class.

**Coordinators:** Stuart Einhorn has been an LLC member for 3 years. His concentration in graduate school was American fiction. Lily Traves has been an LLC member for over 10 years and has enjoyed many courses in literature, technology, and art appreciation. She co-coordinated a course on David McCullough's *The Greater Journey*.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

Thursday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Jun 29-Aug 24 (No class Jul 6)

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 20

### Can a Children's Book Change the World? Diversity through the Lens of Children's Picture Books by Black Authors and Illustrators

Coordinator: Diana Grady

Can a children's book change the world? Black children need books that reflect their heritage and help them understand the world – so believed Lucille Clifton, American poet, writer, and educator. Join us as we look at books by Black authors and illustrators and discover how children of all backgrounds can better understand Black history and Black lives.

**Format:** Each week, a student will lead a discussion on an author or illustrator from a coordinator provided list. There will be two presentations each week and all will be expected to present. Discussion will focus on a set of core questions: How has the author/illustrator depicted Black lives? What seems to be the focus of the author's/illustrator's work? How has the author/illustrator shown mood and theme? In your opinion, what provides a greater impact in each book this week: text or illustrations? As the course goes on, students will consider the following: Have the images changed over time? If so, why have these changes occurred? What have you learned about the value of the work by the authors and illustrators explored in class? Short YouTube videos will be presented in some of the sessions.

**Resources/Expenses:** Picture books are available through the library system. The coordinator will also provide copies of books and other resources such as articles.

**Coordinator:** Diana Grady, M.Ed in Literacy, taught English Language Arts at the middle school level and Writing for Enrichment and Fluency at the elementary level. She is a firm believer that you are never too old to enjoy picture books.

Thursday afternoons

Zoom Videoconference

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Jun 29-Aug 24 (No class Jul 6)

Fee: \$35

Class size limit: 15

### Visions of Dante's *Inferno*

Coordinators: Linda Guccione, Sidney Okashige

Dante Alighieri's 14th century epic poem, *The Divine Comedy*, has had an enduring impact for over 700 years. 160 years after its completion, the Italian Renaissance painter, Sandro Botticelli, began a project to illustrate *The Divine Comedy* "...to bring to life the magical lines of the commedia." Botticelli was not the only artist to be inspired by Dante's vivid images in words; artists such as Dore, Blake, Rodin, and Delacroix were similarly inspired. This course will not be a study of *The Divine Comedy* as literature. Focusing on the *Inferno*, this course will look at how Botticelli and other artists translated Dante's words into images.

**Format:** Each 1-hour block of class will cover one of the Circles of Hell with a participant discussing/comparing a Botticelli illustration and a work by another artist for that circle. The coordinators will assign the artworks to be discussed. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** It is strongly recommended that you read the *Inferno* in translation or a prose version or, at least, a good description of the *Inferno* and the various Circles of Hell. (You can find these on the internet.) Participants are required to view the video, *Botticelli Inferno*, available to rent for \$4 or less on streaming services. Another strong recommendation is the book by Joseph Luzzi, *Botticelli's Secret: The Lost Drawings and the Rediscovery of the Renaissance*. The book is widely available for about \$15 to \$20 online.

**Coordinators:** Linda Guccione is a docent at the RISD Museum and has coordinated courses on Italian art and the Etruscans for LLC. She is a long-time independent student of Dante's *Divine Comedy*. Sidney Okashige has coordinated various courses for LLC for over 10 years.



## FRIDAY MORNINGS

### Friday mornings

#### Temple Beth-El & multiple nearby sites

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

8 weeks

Jun 30-Aug 18

Fee: \$20

Class size limit: 16

### Forget Plymouth Rock – It All Started Right Here: The Real American Origin Story

Coordinator: David Weed

Would you like to know the American origin story from the perspective of the Massasoit Ousamequin and all of the indigenous people who welcomed the Pilgrims in early 1621? They were the leaders of the Pokanoket Nation, an alliance of sixty tribes in Sowams or “the Land of the Clearing” from today’s Providence to Bristol, RI. By identifying and visiting indigenous and colonial sites in Sowams, the Tribe’s ancestral homeland, we will study the events leading up to and following King Philip’s War (1675-76) and the devastating transition of power from an ancient indigenous nation to an English colonial confederation.

**Format:** The first session will take place at Temple Beth-El, but all subsequent sessions will be held at outdoor and indoor locations throughout East Bay RI and nearby Massachusetts. The first half of each session will include a tour, and the second half will provide a member presentation. Class members will be expected to give a presentation and/or lead a discussion on topics that they will select from a list prepared by the coordinator. Some walking on uneven terrain will be required in two of the eight sessions.

**Resources/Expenses:** Nathaniel Philbrick’s *Mayflower, A Story of Courage, Community, and War* (available at Amazon, new for \$11.81 and used from \$4.81 and up, or through Ocean State Libraries). More information is available online at [www.SowamsHeritageArea.org](http://www.SowamsHeritageArea.org).

**Coordinator:** Dr. David Weed serves as the Coordinator of the Sowams Heritage Area Project. He has identified over fifty locations that reveal the history of the Pokanoket Tribe and 17th century colonial settlement and authored an extensive website on the topic.

### Friday mornings

#### Zoom Videoconference

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

8 weeks

Jun 30-Aug 18

Fee: \$80

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 several semesters.

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

**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.

### 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.



**Learn.  
Discover.  
Enjoy.**