

Revised: 10/14/2025

# FALL 2025

## LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

c/o Temple Beth El  
350 Roxbury Road  
Stamford, CT 06902  
203.350.9752  
[www.lirstamford.org](http://www.lirstamford.org)





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### **Officers:**

**President:** Maggie Kopec  
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**LEARNING IN RETIREMENT, INC.** is a non-profit, volunteer-operated organization that provides education and enrichment for retired and senior citizens.

### New this Semester:

**LIR is honored to be the recipient of the 2025 STAMFORD ARTS AND CULTURES grant which will be used for an event this semester.**

### Continuing this Semester:

- Please enter TBE through the **glass doors only**. This is the entrance off the parking lot. If the classroom is used for lectures, you can choose to walk up the stairs or take the elevator.
- **Glass doors** will be open from 10-10:20 a.m. Please come early so you can socialize and pick your seats. Doors will be locked at 10:25 a.m.
- **Refreshments are not served** but you're welcome to bring your own beverage.
- Classes will consist of a lecture from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 AM followed by Q&A until noon.
- **Masks optional**. We will follow the State Health Department guidelines.
- **Walk-ins for classes will be allowed, but will be charged \$15, which must be paid by check.**
- **Walk-ins will not be permitted for field trips.**

### Registration:

- Go to our website [www.lirstamford.org](http://www.lirstamford.org) to view our full current catalog and to connect to our online registration.
- When ready to enroll – or see a picture and professional bio of the presenter – click the Registration link.
- After enrolling for classes wait for your Registration Confirmation email from LIR.
- You will receive reminders the day before and the day of each class.

### Inclement Weather:

- If Stamford schools are closed due to weather, LIR does not meet and classes will be rescheduled.
- If Stamford Public Schools have a delayed opening LIR will have classes as scheduled.
- Check Cable Channel 12 for information or News 12 online:
- <https://connecticut.news12.com/school-closings-closings-delays-and-early-dismissals-41390324>
- You will receive an email from **LIR Info** when a cancelled class has been rescheduled.

### Security:

- Temple Beth El (TBE) doors are now locked at all times and those entering must ring to be admitted.
- LIR will have someone at the glass doors to admit participants 20 minutes prior to scheduled classes (10 – 10:20 a.m.)

**Please do not arrive prior to 10 a.m.**

- The glass doors will be locked at 10:25 a.m.
- Everyone is encouraged to arrive on time since latecomers disrupt the TBE office staff.

### Handicapped Accessibility:

- There are no stairs when entering TBE through the glass doors.
- An elevator is available if the lecture is in the upstairs classroom.
- A wheelchair is available if necessary.

### General:

- There are no waiting lists when classes are fully subscribed.
- **There are no refunds for missed classes.**
- **Refunds are only available when LIR cancels or reschedules a lecture.**
- You will be notified **by email** if a class is rescheduled or cancelled.
- If registration for any class is too large for our classrooms the lecture will be moved to the social hall.

### Communication:

- Please leave phone messages at 203.350.9752.
- Check our website, [www.lirstamford.org](http://www.lirstamford.org) where you can find the latest LIR Catalog.

# FALL 2025

**AUGUST 25** – The Fall 2025 Catalog is available for download and Registration begins.  
**All classes are in the TBE classroom and are from 10:30 – 11:30 AM + Q&A, unless otherwise noted.**  
**Online Registration closes at midnight the night before each class or field trip.**


## SEPTEMBER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY
<b>1 Labor Day</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4 LIR begins</b> <b>#401-The Musicals of Stephen Schwartz</b> – Zachary Kampler	<b>5 SOCIAL HALL</b> <b>#501-An Update from the Attorney General</b> - AG William Tong
<b>8 #101-The Academy under Assault— Universities and the Battle for Academic Freedom</b> - Dr. Isaac Kamola	<b>9</b>	<b>10 #301-The British East India Company- How a Corporation conquered and colonized India</b> - Sunil Saksena	<b>11</b>	<b>12 SOCIAL HALL</b> <b>#502-Violin Concerti Through The Ages</b> - Dr. Gil Harel
<b>15 #102-Six Game Changing Decisions of the Supreme Court Impacting Tribal Rights</b> – Stephen Pevar	<b>16</b>	<b>17 #302-British Intelligence in WWII</b> - Diane Stone	<b>18 #402-Tech Tips 1.0</b> - Maggie Kopec & Brian Mahoney	<b>19 #503-Performing for the Powerful - The Influence of the Monarchy on Elizabethan and Jacobean Entertainment</b> – Michael Langlois
<b>22 #103-Revisiting Ragtime</b> - Dan Egan	<b>23 Rosh Hashanah</b>	<b>24 Rosh Hashanah</b>	<b>25 #403-Tech Tips 2.0</b> - Maggie Kopec & Brian Mahoney	<b>26 #504-Sacred Spaces</b> – Dr. Julie TelRav
<b>29 #104-Film Noir</b> - Foster Hirsch	<b>30 #201-History and Conservation Benefits of the NY Aquarium</b> - Leigh Ann Clayton	<b>OCTOBER</b>		
		<b>1 Yom Kippur</b>	<b>2 Yom Kippur</b>	<b>3 #505-Tech Tips: Using Apple Watch</b> - Maggie Kopec

## OCTOBER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY
<b>6 #105-The Historic Triangle</b> – Muriel Ashley	<b>7 Sukkot</b> <b>#202-Field Trip: Bronx Zoo</b> - LIR docents Joanne Zammit & Joan Tosh <b>10:00 AM -3:00 PM</b>	<b>8 Sukkot</b>	<b>9 #404-Conversations With Art: The Golden Age of Dutch Painting-Genres And Still Lives</b> - Helane Rheingold	<b>10 #506-Tech Tips: Advanced Photography &amp; Editing</b> - Maggie Kopec & Brian Mahoney
<b>13 Columbus Day</b>	<b>14 Simchat Torah</b>	<b>15 Simchat Torah</b>	<b>16 SOCIAL HALL</b> <b>#405-An Important Topic</b> - Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh	<b>17 #507- Tariffs, Immigration, Taxes and Federal Spending: Implications for the Economy and Financial Markets</b> - Larry Kantor

### OCTOBER (CON'T)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY
20	21	22 <b>SOCIAL HALL</b> #303-Upcoming Elections -Tom Gardner	23	24 <b>SOCIAL HALL</b> #508-PERFORMANCE: Around the World in 80 Minutes - Orchestra Lumos Quartette 
27 #108- Field Trip: Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum <b>11:00 AM -12:00 PM</b>	28 <b>SOCIAL HALL</b> #203-Caravaggio 2025/Rome - Serdar Arat	29 #304-The History and Current State of American Public Opinion: Does the Vox Populi Matter? - Prof. Susan Herbst	30 #406- <i>The Devil Made Me Do It Murder Case</i> - Mike Allen	31

### NOVEMBER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY
3	4 Election Day	5 #305-The Greatest Athletes in Connecticut History - Bob Huessler	6 <b>SOCIAL HALL</b> #407-Important lessons learned serving 34 years in public/elected office- Former US Rep. Chris Shays	7 <b>SOCIAL HALL</b> #509-Stephen Sondheim's Unconventional Brilliance - Dr. Gil Harel
10 #109-More Remarkable Women - Alice Look	11 <b>Veteran's Day</b> #204-Soul and the Legacy of Aretha Franklin - Brian Torff	12	13	14 #510-Immigrant experience - Jean Meyer & Amy Ewing
17	18 <b>SOCIAL HALL</b> #205-A <b>NEW</b> Important Topic - Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh	19	20	21 <b>LIR Ends</b> #511-The Middle East: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow - Hamish Lutris
24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving	28



Learning in Retirement, INC.  
**Recipient of a SACC Grant**  
For the project



## *Live Music and Learning at LIR Stamford*

LIR Stamford is proud to announce we've received a Stamford Arts & Culture grant. The SACC supports the Stamford community initiatives that promote the understanding of history, literature, art, and other humanities fields. With their help, and in partnership with Stamford's Orchestra Lumos, we bring you

# *Around the World in 80 Minutes*



**A Concert for Small Spaces**

**Friday, October 24 at 10:30 AM**

### **Location:**

**Temple Beth El**  
350 Roxbury Road  
Stamford, CT 06902

### **Performing:**

Sebu Sirinian, *violin*  
David Steinberg, *violin*  
Laura Mount, *viola*  
Sarah Carter, *cello*



### **Concert Highlights include:**

**Giacomo Puccini** *Chrysanthemums*  
**Harold Arlen** *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*  
**George Gershwin** *Lullaby for String Quartet*  
**Lennon/McCartney** Beatles arrangements  
**W. A. Mozart** Allegro from *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* \*

Take your seats \*\* for a musical grand tour. Enjoy the sights and sounds from Old Vienna to *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*. This concert makes no apologies for making you smile and you enjoy the nostalgia of the *Wizard of Oz* and the Beatles, the folk music of Denmark and Hungary and Mozart's evergreen *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*. What's not to love?

**Tuition: \$10.00**

**Visit our website to download the LIR catalog and to Register.**

Go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

Or scan the QR code

\*Artists and works subject to change

\*\* There will be no intermission during this performance.



# FALL 2025 CLASSES

All classes are 10:30 – 11:30 AM + Q&A, unless otherwise noted  
All classes are in the TBE classroom unless otherwise noted on the Calendars (pages 3-4)

## #401 - THE MUSICALS OF STEPHEN SCHWARTZ



**THURSDAY – SEPTEMBER 4**

**TUITION \$10.00**

**Zachary Kampler**, music director and conductor, will discuss the work and career of Stephen Schwartz, the composer, lyricist, director of *Godspell*, *Pippin*, *Wicked* and more.

## #501 - AN UPDATE FROM THE CT ATTORNEY GENERAL



**FRIDAY – SEPTEMBER 5**

**TUITION \$10.00**

**CT Attorney General William Tong** will provide an update on current issues affecting the community that his office is addressing.

## #101 - THE ACADEMY UNDER ASSAULT - UNIVERSITIES AND THE BATTLE FOR ACADEMIC FREEDOM



**MONDAY – SEPTEMBER 8**

**TUITION \$10.00**

For decades, right-wing think tanks, media outlets, and politicians manufactured a culture war against academic institutions. The Trump administration is doubling down on these attacks - freezing and cutting funding, criminalizing student protest, and demanding changes to how academics operate - all in the interest of dictating what gets taught on campus. This talk maps the rhetorical strategies that began with accusations of “political correctness” in the 1990s, followed by indignations over campus free speech, critical race theory, and diversity efforts, and leading to today's accusations of rampant campus antisemitism. **Dr Isaac Kamola** follows the trail of Conservatives’ examining the contours and effects of this manufactured moral panic, followed by suggestions on how to fight back. Dr. Kamola is a professor of political science at Trinity College, Hartford, CT.

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To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

### **#301 - THE BRITISH EAST INDIA COMPANY- HOW A CORPORATION CONQUERED AND COLONIZED INDIA**



**WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 10**

**TUITION \$10.00**

The East India Company became the most powerful corporation in history, controlling half the world's trade and ruling an entire country. It had its own private army which, at its peak, numbered 200,000 soldiers, more than twice the size of the British army itself. **Sunil Saksena** will tell the amazing story of how this company, led by a band of opportunistic, greedy, and ruthless adventurers, managed to rule an entire subcontinent from a boardroom in the city of London.

### **#502 - VIOLIN CONCERTI THROUGH THE AGES**

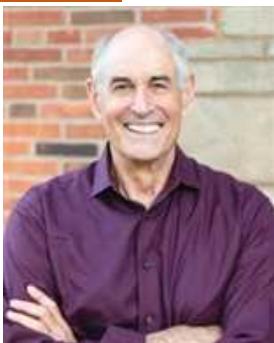


**FRIDAY – SEPTEMBER 12**

**TUITION \$10.00**

**Professor Gil Harel** will discuss how the violin concerto evolved from the baroque era's virtuosic displays, and reached an early apotheosis in the works of JS Bach. In the Classical period, Mozart's five violin concerti balanced lyrical elegance with technical brilliance, and in doing so, set a new bar for the form. The Romantic era emphasized emotional depth as well as increasing technical demands, exemplified in the works of composers including Mendelssohn and Brahms. In these later concerti, composers pushed the soloist's expressive range as well as their virtuosic capabilities.

### **#102 - SIX GAME-CHANGING DECISIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT IMPACTING TRIBAL RIGHTS**



**MONDAY – SEPTEMBER 15**

**TUITION \$10.00**

The U.S. Supreme Court has decided nearly 300 cases impacting the rights of Indian tribes and their members. This course will discuss six of them in an interactive, entertaining way. **Steve Pevar**, author of *The Rights of Indians and Tribes*, will explain the facts of each case, one at a time, and ask the audience to guess how the case was decided. Mr. Pevar will then explain what the Court decided and will use a PowerPoint with selected quotations from the decision. Guess all six correctly!

### #302 - BRITISH INTELLIGENCE IN WWII



**WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 17**

**TUITION \$10.00**

In the spy world, truth is more incredible than fiction, James Bond notwithstanding. In this class, Lifelong Learners instructor **Diane Stone** will recount the masterful achievements of WWII British intelligence that advanced the Allied success over Nazi Germany 80 years ago. Ms. Stone will chronicle the plots, schemes and tactics used to gain information from captured Nazi officers, describe how they built the codebreaker organization and created the hoax that led the enemy off the trail of the invasion of Sicily, a story that became the Tony-winning Broadway musical, *Mincemeat*.

### #402 - TECH TIPS FOR APPLE iPhone USERS 1.0



**THURSDAY – SEPTEMBER 18**

**TUITION \$10.00**

For best individual help in this class, registration is **limited to a minimum of 12 – maximum 15 participants.**

**PLEASE NOTE – THIS IS THE SAME CLASS THAT WAS OFFERED DURING THE FALL 2024 SEMESTER.**

Make the most of your iPhone. Learn how to use the Contacts features to store and recall important information. Learn how to find and sort your photos into albums to share with friends and relatives. Learn how to use Calendar to store and recall events, places and notes so you don't need a paper calendar again. Small class size (maximum of 15) for hands on instruction and individual attention. Bring your fully charged phone with you. Taught by **LIR Board members.** See page 17 for more information.

### #503 - PERFORMING FOR THE POWERFUL - THE INFLUENCE OF THE MONARCHY ON ELIZABETHAN AND JACOBAN ENTERTAINMENT



**FRIDAY – SEPTEMBER 19**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Blood and Magic: A Look at Jacobean Theatre and Its Echoes in Modern Entertainment: Shakespeare's works span the reign of two monarchs: Queen Elizabeth I and King James. As England transitioned from Elizabeth to James, the theatre saw radical transformations stylistically and thematically. Hear from Shakespeare and his contemporaries, and discover the shifts that occur in popular entertainment as societies change their leadership. This lecture then asks the larger question: "Are those same forces at work in society today?" Using a unique blend of monologue performance and lecture, **Michael Langlois** offers insights to classic works in a way that no lecture alone can provide. He has lectured from Connecticut to California on topics ranging from Shakespeare to using one's passions to create exciting events.

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To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

### #103 - REVISITING RAGTIME



**MONDAY – SEPTEMBER 22**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Set in the early 20th century, *Ragtime* tells the story of the cultural and personal intersection of three groups: African Americans, White upper-class suburbanites, and Eastern European Jewish immigrants. Each group struggles to adapt to a changing America. Their worlds are connected through narration from historical figures such as J. P. Morgan, Henry Ford, Booker T. Washington, Emma Goldman, Harry Houdini, and Evelyn Nesbit. The Lincoln Center Theater is opening a revival of *Ragtime* this fall (September, 2025) starring Joshua Henry as Coalhouse Walker, Jr. The musical is based on the 1975 novel by E.L. Doctorow, with music by Stephen Flaherty, lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, and a book by Terrence McNally. Join **Daniel Egan** to explore this complex and spectacular show -- and how its impact and resonance have changed since the first Broadway run in 1998.

### #403 - TECH TIPS FOR APPLE iPhone USERS 2.0



**THURSDAY – SEPTEMBER 25**

**TUITION \$10.00**

For best individual help in this class, registration is **limited to a minimum of 12 – maximum 15 participants.**

**PLEASE NOTE – THIS IS THE SAME CLASS THAT WAS OFFERED DURING THE W/S 2025 SEMESTER.**

Explore Messages (texts). Learn about sending and receiving message, attachments and special effects.

Set up Emergency information on your iPhone.

Use Wallet to store important documents.

Use Apple Pay.

Small class size for hands on instruction and individual attention. Bring your fully charged phone with you. Taught by **LIR Board members**. See page 18 for more information.

### #504 – SACRED SPACES



**FRIDAY – SEPTEMBER 26**

**TUITION \$10.00**

In this course we will be looking at synagogues as sacred spaces. We consider their potential for the creation of ritual, tradition and spirituality, but also for the more “mundane” functions of building community and facilitating social connection. College educator, **Dr. Julie TelRav** has focused her research on social, cultural and communal environments, ranging from Jewish architecture to urban spaces.

## **#104 - FILM NOIR**



**MONDAY– SEPTEMBER 29**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Amazon lauds **Foster Hirsch's** 1983 book, Dark Side of the Screen as “the most thorough and entertaining study” of film noir “ever published.” With his endless reservoir of knowledge, Dr Hirsch will lead us through the dread, paranoia, steaminess, double-crossers and menacing cityscapes of film noir. Camera angles, lighting effects, and story lines that characterize the genre come to life. The back story of directors and actors are here. A Professor of Cinema at Brooklyn College for over 40 years, Dr Hirsch has written over 14 books on film. He is a cultural treasure who knows more about movies than, well, just about anyone.

## **#201 – HISTORY AND CONVERSATION BENEFITS OF THE NY AQUARIUM**



**TUESDAY – SEPTEMBER 30**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Come learn how the New York Aquarium is meeting the Wildlife Conservation Society's mission and vision. The Aquarium has a unique place in WCS, and within NYC. Let's explore current work, ongoing changes, and developing opportunities. NYA was founded on animals, science, exploration, and sharing. Our foundation remains pivotal as we grow our voice for ocean

conservation. **Dr. Leigh Ann Clayton** is Director of the Wildlife Conservation Society's New York Aquarium. PHOTO CREDIT: Julie Larsen – Dr. Clayton with Bruiser the California sea lion.

## **#505 - TECH TIPS: USING APPLE WATCH**



**FRIDAY – OCTOBER 3**

**TUITION \$10.00**

**Did you get an Apple Watch for your birthday or other special occasion? Let's explore what you might do with it!**

Join us for a *hands-on* session about using your Apple Watch – with and without your iPhone.

**For best individual help in this class, registration is limited to a maximum of 10 participants.**

This class will be taught by **LIR Board Member Maggie Kopec**. See page 19 for information on the topics that will be covered.

## #105 - THE HISTORIC TRIANGLE OF VIRGINIA



**MONDAY – OCTOBER 6**

**TUITION \$10.00**

A scenic 23-mile road connects three Virginia towns critical to the early history of the United States. The parkway offers a tranquil drive through woodlands, connecting the towns of Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Yorktown, known as the “Historic Triangle.” On this road, visitors can explore living history museums, archaeological sites, historic buildings, and colonial life. Certified tour guide **Muriel Ashley** will take you “on the tour,” bringing events and figures to life. She’ll explain life during the colonial period and the significance of these towns to The Revolution.

## #202 - FIELD TRIP: BRONX ZOO WITH OUR OWN LIR DOCENTS



**TUESDAY– OCTOBER 7**

**TUITION \$30.00**

**Tour with Docents Joanne Zammit and Joan Tosh:**

**10:00AM -3:00 PM** Registration is **limited to a minimum 6 - maximum**

**of 22 participants.** See page 21 for more information

## #404 - CONVERSATIONS WITH ART: THE GOLDEN AGE OF DUTCH PAINTING-GENRES AND STILL LIFES



**THURSDAY – OCTOBER 9**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Over the course of the 17th century the Dutch nation became one of the wealthiest and most powerful in the world. This new prosperity allowed for great advances in the Arts and Sciences. Art Educator **Helane Rheingold** will lead a discussion about how middle-class Dutch people embraced subjects less common than the previous century, among them Genre Scenes and Still Lifes.

## #506 - ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY AND EDITING FOR APPLE iPhone USERS



**FRIDAY – OCTOBER 10**

**TUITION \$10.00**

For best individual help in this class, registration is **limited to a minimum of 12 – maximum 15 participants.**

**PLEASE NOTE – THIS IS THE SAME CLASS THAT WAS OFFERED DURING THE W/S 2025 SEMESTER.**

Make the most of your iPhone. Learn how to Go beyond “point and shoot” to know what your iPhone Camera can do in a small class size (maximum of 15) for hands on instruction and individual attention.

Bring your phone with you. Taught by LIR Board members Brian Mahoney and Maggie Kopec. See

**page 20 for more information.**

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To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

### #405 - AN IMPORTANT TOPIC



**THURSDAY – OCTOBER 16**

**TUITION \$10.00**

**Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh**, professor of Political Science at Southern CT State College, defers his choice of topic until near presentation time when he will select an important current event.

### #507 - TARIFFS, IMMIGRATION, TAXES AND FEDERAL SPENDING: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ECONOMY AND FINANCIAL MARKETS



**FRIDAY – OCTOBER 17**

**TUITION \$10.00**

US Presidents typically get too much credit and blame for the state of the economy. The business cycle is alive and well, determined mostly by the behavior of hundreds of millions of households and businesses both here and abroad, as well as exogenous factors such as weather, OPEC and systemic health issues. Policy also plays a role, although monetary policy usually has a bigger influence than anything the Administration does. But there are exceptions, and President Trump's tariffs clearly fit the bill: The changes have been so extreme that they are having significant impacts on financial markets and the economy. The plunge in immigration will also have notable effects. The direction is clear: these policies will raise prices and reduce output and employment.

The magnitudes, however, are not; tariff changes of this size have not been experienced in our lifetimes, and where they will end up and how long they will be maintained is far from clear. **Larry Kantor** is currently an operating partner at Atlas Merchant Capital, a private equity firm.

### #303 - WHERE ARE WE FOR THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS



**WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 22**

**TUITION \$10.00**

**Tom Gardner** of *Born To Run The Numbers* will share his thoughts on the political scene, the upcoming 2025 elections, the 2026 mid-terms and beyond.

### **#508 - AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 MINUTES**



**FRIDAY – OCTOBER 24**

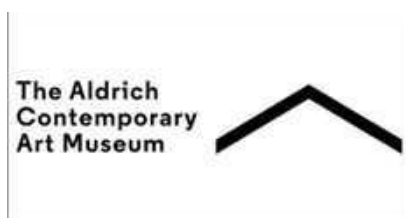
**TUITION \$10.00**

## **A Concert for Small Spaces**

See **page 5** for more information



### **#108 - FIELD TRIP: ALDRICH CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM** **E**



**MONDAY – OCTOBER 27**

**TUITION \$23.00**

**11:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

**ENROLLMENT IS LIMITED: MAXIMUM 24 PARTICIPANTS.**

See **page 22** for more information

### **#203 - CARAVAGGIO 2025 / ROME**



**TUESDAY – OCTOBER 28**

**TUITION \$10.00**

**Serdar Arat**, an Emeritus Professor of Art from Concordia College and a working artist will discuss Baroque artist Caravaggio, whose work was honored this past summer with the special Caravaggio 2025 exhibition in Rome. It included paintings on loan from the Kimbell Art Museum (Fort Worth, Texas), the Wadsworth Atheneum (Hartford, Conn.), The Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York), and the Detroit Institute of Arts (Detroit). Caravaggio's work is often described as revolutionary, cinematic, soulful, dark... His personality was difficult, violent, unstable... His life was marred with fights, a murder, prison, running for his life. All the while, receiving patronage,

major commissions and creating masterpieces, during a life cut short, ending in mysterious circumstances. Profoundly influential in his day, as well as for centuries to come, we will follow Caravaggio's trail across Italy, visiting his major works in their original sites, comparing his revolutionary style with Mannerism, which he emphatically replaced.

### #304 - PUBLIC OPINION—DOES IT REALLY MATTER? THE IMPACT OF PO ON POLICY AND POLITICIANS.



**WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 29**

**TUITION \$10.00**

In private correspondence and The Federalist Papers, the Founders wrote extensively about public opinion. They worried whether Americans could live up to their constitutional duties and pondered the general competency of the public to uphold and value democracy. As the population grew and became less agrarian, the “industry” of public opinion -- polling, market research, public relations -- developed. The industry exploded in the 1930s, a critical moment in the formation of modern democracy. In this talk **Prof. Susan Herbst** explores critical periods, ending with a discussion of contemporary public opinion – how we measure it and whether it really matters in the chaotic political world of today.

### #406 - THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT MURDER CASE



**THURSDAY – OCTOBER 30**

**TUITION \$10.00**

An 11-year old boy who emitted chilling screams and utterances during supposed demonic fits, exorcisms performed by church officials, and witnesses to paranormal events culminated in Arne Johnson fatally stabbing his landlord Alan Bono multiple times with a knife. Johnson was charged with first-degree murder in what became the "Devil Made Me Do It" case. Johnson's defense claimed he was not responsible because he was possessed by a demon at the time of the stabbing. Long-time public speaker, radio journalist and history podcast host **Mike Allen** covered this 1981 Brookfield murder case and appeared in the Netflix special on it. He'll reveal what he saw in this spooky tale.

### #305 - THE GREATEST ATHLETES IN CONNECTICUT HISTORY



**WEDNESDAY – NOVEMBER 5**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Connecticut may be a small state geographically but it has produced an extraordinary number of exceptional athletes. Name the sport and the chances are good that a Connecticut native has left his or her imprint upon it. From multi-sport stars such as Bobby Valentine to Olympic gold medalists like Dorothy Hamill, we'll examine their stories, explore the communities that nurtured them and rank them in order of impact and legacy. **Bob Huessler** is a Connecticut-based sportscaster who has covered events in the state and in the New York City market for over 35 years. He is the longtime voice of Fairfield University.

## #407 - IMPORTANT LESSONS LEARNED SERVING 34 YEARS IN PUBLIC/ELECTED OFFICE



**THURSDAY – NOVEMBER 6**

**TUITION \$10.00**

**Former Us Rep. Christopher Shays** represented the 4<sup>th</sup> District in Connecticut from 1987 to 2009 in the United States Congress. After Congress, Shays Co-chaired the Commission on Wartime Contracting, then served as a Distinguish Fellow in Public Service at the University of New Haven, and later as a Resident Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School, Institute of Politics.

## #509 - STEPHEN SONDHEIM'S UNCONVENTIONAL BRILLIANCE



**FRIDAY – NOVEMBER 7**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Sondheim is often credited with “reinventing the American musical.” During this program **Professor Gil Harel** will discuss his unconventional brilliance using examples from various shows, focusing on 1984’s *Sunday In The Park With George*. Framed with an innovative score (which often serves as a musical reflection of the fragmented, layered pointillist painting technique), Sondheim’s daring narrative spans a century which tackles the difficult relationship between the artist and the outside world. His unconventional approach-blending complex lyrics with non-linear storytelling and thematic ambiguity-reflect a brilliance that helped to cement his legacy.

## #109 - MORE REMARKABLE WOMEN: RECLAIMING THEIR STORIES



**MONDAY – NOVEMBER 10**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Remarkable women changed our world but most people don’t know who they are. **Alice Look** returns to talk about more remarkable women. She is a former journalist and television executive for A&E, History and Lifetime and a co-founder and executive producer of the *Remarkable Women Project*. She is the author of *Remarkable Women: Reclaiming Their Stories*. You’ll be fascinated to learn who they are. And perhaps you know a remarkable woman too!

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To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

## #204 - SOUL AND THE LEGACY OF ARETHA FRANKLIN



**TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 11**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Professor of Music, composer and bassist **Brian Q. Torff** will trace the evolution of Soul music from its gospel roots to the ground-breaking crossover work of Ray Charles, James Brown and Sam Cooke. The incredible life of the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin will be presented from her early gospel roots in her father's church to super stardom while representing women and freedom in the bold light of American popular music.

## #510 - THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE: THE NEW AMERICANS-ASSIMILATING IN TODAY'S USA



**FRIDAY – NOVEMBER 14 TUITION \$10.00**

This class will cover the different types of immigrants and their reception in Stamford, in CT, and in the US at large under administrations with differing priorities. Co-chairs **Amy Ewing** and **Jean Meyer** will also introduce as examples the stories and pictures of some of the newcomers Stamford Interfaith Refugee Settlement (SIRS) has welcomed and supported towards self-sufficiency.

PHOTO: SIRS co-chairs Amy Ewing and Jean Meyer at the airport greeting a newcomer, October 2024.

## #205 - A NEW IMPORTANT TOPIC



**TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 18**

**TUITION \$10.00**

**Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh**, professor of Political Science at Southern CT State College, defers his choice of topic until near presentation time when he will select an important current event.

## #511 - THE MIDDLE EAST: YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW



**FRIDAY – NOVEMBER 21**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Although much of the Middle East is arid and seemingly barren, millions of people have made it their home since Humans first walked out of Africa thousands of years ago. It has witnessed the rise and fall of empires, has been the source of the Judeo-Christian Tradition, and is now a critical geo-political region, situated over an immense supply of oil and religious dynamism. It has been the focus- for better and worse- of significant western engagement for decades, and is in the midst of realignment with the Abrahamic Accords, as well as playing host for the United Nations Climate Summit

later this year. Exploring these issues to clarify and imagine the future is **Hamish Lutris**, scholar with a lifetime interest and study of the Middle East.

# SPECIALTY CLASS

**PLEASE NOTE – THIS IS THE SAME CLASS THAT WAS OFFERED DURING THE WS 2025 SEMESTER.**

## **#402 - TECH TIPS FOR APPLE iPhone USERS 1.0**

**THURSDAY – SEPTEMBER 18**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Make the most of your iPhone.

### **Learn how to:**



Identify who is calling/emailing/messaging you. Use Contacts to make your life easier!

Never miss a birthday or bill payment again, and other Calendar uses.

Find, organize and share your Photos.

Deal with QR codes

**For best individual help in this class, registration is limited to a minimum of 12 – maximum 15 participants.**

**Bring your fully charged phone and charger with you for this hands-on class.**



This class will be taught by **LIR Board Members – Brian Mahoney and Maggie Kopec**

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To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

# SPECIALTY CLASS

**PLEASE NOTE – THIS IS THE SAME CLASS THAT WAS OFFERED DURING THE WS 2025 SEMESTER.**

## **#403 - TECH TIPS FOR APPLE iPhone USERS 2.0**

**THURSDAY – SEPTEMBER 25**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Make the most of your iPhone.

### **Learn how to:**



Explore messages (texts). Learn about sending and receiving message, attachments and special effects.

Set up emergency information on your iPhone.

Use wallet to store important documents.

Use Apple Pay.

**For best individual help in this class, registration is limited to a minimum of 12 – maximum 15 participants.**

**Bring your fully charged phone and charger with you for this hands-on class.**



This class will be taught by **LIR Board Members – Brian Mahoney and Maggie Kopec**

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To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

# SPECIALTY CLASS

PLEASE NOTE – THIS IS THE SAME CLASS THAT WAS OFFERED DURING THE WS 2025 SEMESTER.

## #505 - TECH TIPS: USING APPLE WATCH



**FRIDAY – OCTOBER 3**

**TUITION \$10.00**

**Did you get an Apple Watch for your birthday?  
Let's explore what you might do with it!**



Join us for a hands-on session about using your Apple Watch – with and without your iPhone.

- See your Apple Watch apps.
- Use SIRI with your Apple Watch.
- Change your watch face.
- Make/receive calls/messages.
- Use timers and alarms.
- Pay with Apple Watch.
- Monitor your health – heart rate, ECG, exercise.

For best individual help in this class, registration is **limited to a maximum of 10 participants.**

**Bring your fully charged phone and watch.**

This class will be taught by **LIR Board Member –Maggie Kopec**



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To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

# SPECIALTY CLASS

**PLEASE NOTE – THIS IS THE SAME CLASS THAT WAS OFFERED DURING THE WS 2025 SEMESTER.**

**#506 – BEYOND BASIC IPHONE CAMERA AND PHOTO EDITING APPLE IPHONE USERS**

**FRIDAY – OCTOBER 10**

**TUITION \$10.00**

Make the most of your iPhone.

**For iPhone users only; assumes basic familiarity with iPhone camera and photos**

## **Learn how to:**



Use iPhone camera and photo editing

Go beyond “point and shoot” to know what your iPhone camera can do

Use photo composition techniques like the 2/3s rule

Manage photos and understand iPhone photo editing capabilities

**For best individual help in this class, registration is  
maximum 15 participants.**

**Bring your fully charged phone and charger with you for this hands-on class.**



This class will be taught by **LIR Board Members – Brian Mahoney and Maggie Kopec**

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To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

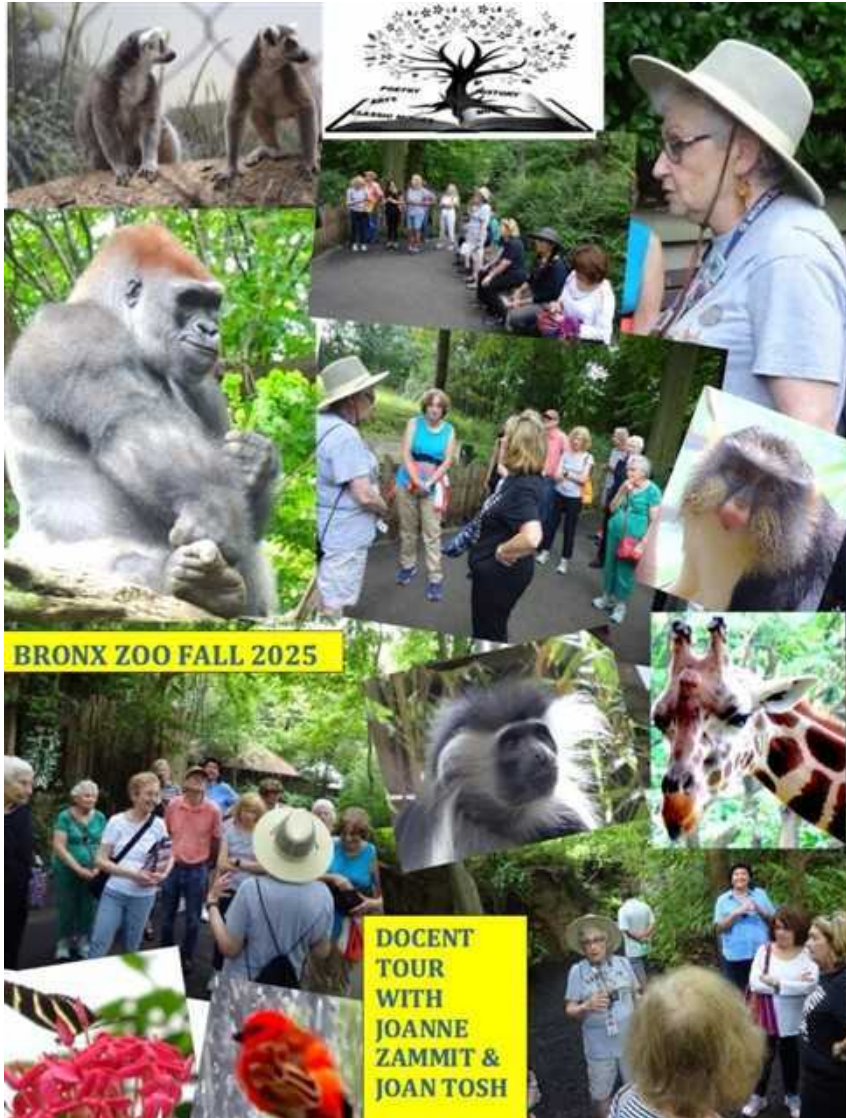
# Field Trip

## #202 - FIELD TRIP: BRONX ZOO WITH DOCENT **M**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7 - 10:00-3:00\***

**TUITION \$30.00**

**MINIMUM 10 PARTICIPANTS - MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT IS LIMITED TO 22 PARTICIPANTS.**



The best way to visit the historic park is with someone that knows it well. LIR members as well as Bronx Zoo Docents, **Joanne Zammit and Joan Tosh** will accompany you in small groups to enhance your experience.

The admission fee is for the Total Experience Ticket and tour which will include a visit to some of the following exhibits: the award-winning Congo (gorilla) exhibit, Tiger Mountain, Madagascar, the Children's Zoo and petting area, the Bug Carousel, the sea lions, birds of prey, penguins, reptiles and giraffes. The zoo is 265 acres with several thousand animals. Docent decisions as to which exhibits to visit will depend on interest, time, weather, and availability of animals. Docents will include the history of the zoo as well as information about the Wildlife Conservation Society's work around the world to save endangered animals.

**The admission fee does not include the \$22.00 parking fee**, paid when entering the Park's lot. We recommend that passengers divide the fee equally. Participants should bring lunch or purchase it at the park. **Picnic areas and tables for boxed lunches are provided throughout the park. Please abide by the posted rules in exhibits where food and drink are prohibited.**

Please be aware that group tickets will be purchased in advance by the group leader/instructor and are non-refundable.

**M**MODERATE -This is a slightly more active excursion involving an increased amount of physical activity such as substantial walking over uneven terrain, climbing stairs or extended periods of standing. Comfortable, sturdy shoes are recommended.

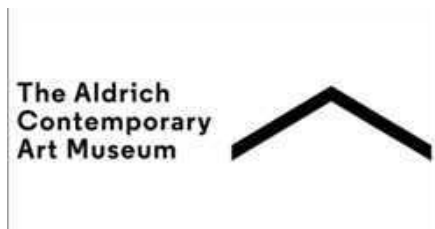
**Field Trip participants will be contacted prior to the trip with meeting place & time information as well as Carpooling as necessary for those needing transportation.**

**\*This trip will take place Rain or Shine, admission is non-refundable. Activities after the Docent tour will be decided by each carpool.**

To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

# Field Trip

## #108 - FIELD TRIP: ALDRICH CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM **E**



**MONDAY –OCTOBER 27**

**TUITION \$23.00**

**11:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

**ENROLLMENT:– MAXIMUM 24**

Join us for a docent led tour of the **3 current exhibitions** at the Aldrich Museum.

Our tour will take place at 11:00 AM before the museum opens at 12 PM after which participants will be able to visit the exhibitions and the sculpture garden at leisure:

**June 8, 2025 to January 11, 2026**

– Nickola Pottinger: *fos born*

**June 8, 2025 to January 11, 2026**

– Zak Prekop: *Durations*

**October 19, 2025 to May 10, 2026**

– Uman: *After all the things*



****E** EASY-** this field trip includes a museum gallery.

**YOU MUST *CLICK* THE WAIVER BOX WHEN YOU REGISTER FOR A FIELD TRIP.**

**Field Trip participants will be contacted prior to the trip with meeting place, carpooling & time information.**

We will organize lunch at a local restaurant for those interested. This will be a separate cost. Details to follow once registration for this Field Trip is complete.

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To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>




## Learning in Retirement

c/o Temple Beth El  
350 Roxbury Road, Stamford, CT 06902  
203.350.9752 • [www.lirstamford.org](http://www.lirstamford.org)

### REGISTRATION WORK SHEET – (Do not mail this form)

All classes are in the TBE classroom and are from 10:30 – 11:30 AM + Q&A, unless otherwise noted.

Online Registration closes at midnight the night before each class or field .

DATE	CLASS	TUITION	TOTAL
SEPT 4	#401-The Musicals of Stephen Schwartz – Zachary Kampler	10.00	
SEPT 5	#501-An Update from the Attorney General - AG William Tong - <b>SOCIAL HALL</b>	10.00	
SEPT 8	#101-The Academy under Assault-Universities and the Battle for Academic Freedom - Dr. Isaac Kamola	10.00	
SEPT 10	#301-The East India Company- How a Corporation conquered and colonized India – Sunil Saxena	10.00	
SEPT 12	#502-Violin Concerti Through The Ages - Dr. Gil Harel - <b>SOCIAL HALL</b>	10.00	
SEPT 15	#102-Six Game Changing Decisions of the Supreme Court Impacting Tribal Rights – Stephen Pevar	10.00	
SEPT 17	#302-British Intelligence in WWII – Diane Stone	10.00	
SEPT 18	#402-Tech Tips 1.0 - Maggie Kopec & Brian Mahoney - <b>Maximum 15</b>	10.00	
SEPT 19	#503-Performing for the Powerful - The Influence of the Monarchy on Elizabethan and Jacobean Entertainment – Michael Langlois	10.00	
SEPT 22	#103-Revisiting <i>Ragtime</i> – Dan Egan	10.00	
SEPT 25	#403-Tech Tips 2.0 - Maggie Kopec & Brian Mahoney - <b>Maximum 15</b>	10.00	
SEPT 26	#504- Sacred Spaces - Dr. Julie TelRav	10.00	
SEPT 29	#104-Film Noir – Foster Hirsch	10.00	
SEPT 30	#201-History and Conservation Benefits of the NY Aquarium – Leigh Ann Clayton	10.00	
OCT 3	#505-Tech Tips: Using Apple Watch - Maggie Kopec - <b>Maximum 10</b>	10.00	
OCT 6	#105- <i>The Historic Triangle</i> of Virginia– Muriel Ashley	10.00	
OCT 7	#202-Field Trip: Bronx Zoo – LIR docents Joanne Zammit & Joan Tosh <b>Maximum 22 10:00-3:00PM</b>	30.00	
OCT 9	#404-Conversations With Art: The Dutch Masters – Helane Rheingold	10.00	
OCT 10	#506-Tech Tips: Advanced Photography & Editing - Maggie Kopec & Brian Mahoney - <b>Maximum 15</b>	10.00	
OCT 16	#405-An Important Topic – Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh - <b>SOCIAL HALL</b>	10.00	
OCT 17	#507- Tariffs, Immigration, Taxes and Federal Spending: Implications for the Economy and Financial Markets - Larry Kantor	10.00	
OCT 22	#303-Where are we in the upcoming elections – Tom Gardner - <b>SOCIAL HALL</b>	10.00	
OCT 24	 #508-PERFORMANCE: Around the World in 80 Minutes - Orchestra Lumos Quartette - <b>SOCIAL HALL</b>	10.00	
OCT 27	#108-Field Trip: The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum <b>Minimum 6 - Maximum 12 – 11:00-2:00 PM</b>	23.00	
OCT 28	#203-Caravaggio – Serdar Arat - <b>SOCIAL HALL</b>	10.00	
OCT 29	#304-The History and Current State of American Public Opinion: Does the Vox Populi Matter? - Prof. Susan Herbst	10.00	
OCT 30	#406-“ <i>The Devil Made Me Do It</i> ” Trial – Mike Allen	10.00	
NOV 5	#305 - The Greatest Athletes In Connecticut History – Bob Huessler	10.00	
NOV 6	#407-Important lessons learned serving 34 years in public/elected office - Former US Rep. Chris Shays - <b>SOCIAL HALL</b>	10.00	
NOV 7	#509-Stephen Sondheim’s Unconventional Brilliance - Dr. Gil Harel - <b>SOCIAL HALL</b>	10.00	
NOV 10	#109-More Remarkable Women – Alice Look	10.00	
NOV 11	#204-Soul and the Legacy of Aretha Franklin – Brian Torff	10.00	
NOV 14	#510-Immigrant experience - Jean Meyer & Amy Ewing	10.00	
NOV 18	#205-A <b>NEW</b> Important Topic – Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh - <b>SOCIAL HALL</b>	10.00	
NOV 21	#511- The Middle East: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow - Hamish Lutris	10.00	

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