

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

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STAMFORD

WINTER / SPRING
2026



LEARNING IN RETIREMENT INC.

c/o Temple Beth El
350 Roxbury Road
Stamford, CT 06902
203.350.9752

www.lirstamford.org



Learning in Retirement

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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.

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 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 where you can find the latest LIR Catalog.

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

WINTER SPRING 2026

February 17 – Eblast and W/S 2026 catalog is available on the LIR website and – Registration begins
All classes are 10:30 – 11:30 AM + Q&A, unless otherwise noted

MARCH

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY
2 PURIM	3 PURIM	4 SOCIAL HALL #301 - The Studio Museum in Harlem – Serdar Arat	5	6
9 SOCIAL HALL #101- Important lessons learned serving 34 years in public / elected office - Fmr US Rep. Christopher Shays	10	11 # 302 - From Palace to Parliament: How An Indian Princess became a <i>Badass</i> Woman Way Ahead of Her Time – Diane Stone	12 #401 - Tech Tips for Apple Watch – Maggie Kopec Max. 10 participants	13
16 SOCIAL HALL #102 - <i>How Did I Get Here From There?</i> – James Lapine	17 SOCIAL HALL #201 - An Important Topic - Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh	18 #303 - <i>Love's Journey Home</i> - A Memoir - Gabi Coatsworth	19	20
23 #103 - Matisse and Picasso: Artistic Revolution through Rivalry – Darby Cartun	24	25 #304 - Newspaper Production Technology – 50 Years of Revolutionary Change - Rob Rosenthal	26	27 #501 - Four years of Russia's War against Ukraine: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead – Dr. Olena Lennon

APRIL

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY
30 SOCIAL HALL #104 - Jazz Concert – Pete Malinverni	31 #202 - Beyond Basic: Advanced Tech Tips for iPhone – Maggie Kopec & Brian Mahoney Max. 15 participants	1 PASSOVER	2 TBE Closed PASSOVER	3 TBE Closed GOOD FRIDAY
6 EASTER MONDAY SOCIAL HALL #105 - US Rep. Jim Himes		8 TBE Closed	9 TBE Closed PASSOVER	10 #502 - From Screen to Stage: Creating Musical Theatre from Film - Nancy L. Meyer

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

WINTER SPRING 2026

APRIL (continued)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRI
13 SOCIAL HALL #106- Harp Performance – Lisa Tannenbaum	14 #203 - Orthodox Jews of Crown Heights - Ira Berger	15 #305 - Cutting The Cord – Brian Mahoney	16	17 #503 - Cyber Security: Lessons from the Front Lines – Andrew Tannenbaum
20	21 #204 -Conservation of Sharks in New York (Not the Ones on Wall Street) - Jake LaBelle	22 #306 - Intelligence Threats To The Us – 30 Years In The CIA – David Hunt	23	24 SOCIAL HALL #504 - Mozart in Paris, 1778: Ambition, Tragedy, and the Birth of Maturity - Dr. Gil Harel
27	28 #205 - Mark Twain in CT - Mike Allen	29 #307 - Six More Game Changing Decisions of the Supreme Court Impacting Tribal Rights – Stephen Pevar	30 #402 - FIELD TRIP: Mather Homestead, Darien, CT Minimum 10 - Maximum 20 participants	1 SOCIAL HALL #505 - A NEW Important Topic - Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh

MAY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURS.	FRIDAY
4 #107 - Hitchcock: Strangers on a Train to Psycho - Foster Hirsch	5 SOCIAL HALL #206 - Election 2026 – Tom Gardner	6 #308 - FIELD TRIP: Malcolm Pray Achievement Center and Auto Museum Banksville, NY Minimum 10 - Maximum 25 participants	7 #403 - S.W.A.K. Sealed with a Kiss - Helane Rheingold	8
11	12 #207 - The History of the Blues: From Bessie to Basie to Bonnie (Raitt) - Brian Torff	13	14 #404 - Hate Speech, Free Speech and Academic Freedom: What's a University to do? - Issac Kamola	15 SOCIAL HALL #506 - Tradition Renewed: Fiddler on the Roof's Enduring Legacy and the Bold Revivals Reshaping 2026 - Dr. Gil Harel
18 #108 - Orchestra Composers of Color-Their forgotten History – Zachary Kampler	19 SOCIAL HALL #208 - STOLEN! Art Theft & Consequences – Serdar Arat	20 #309 - Cabaret - Dan Egan	21 LIR ENDS	22
25 MEMORIAL DAY	26	27	28	29

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

PERFORMANCE

Live Music and Learning at LIR Stamford



P E T E M A L I N V E R N I

Jazz Concert

Monday, March 30 at 10:30 AM

Ever wondered how a Jazz performance works? How do the musicians know what's going to happen, and when? Who decides? Do they ALL decide? Pianist and recording artist **Pete Malinverni** shares his insights on the process of Jazz improvisation in an engaging and accessible program. Pete is a full professor in the Jazz Studies program at SUNY Purchase, where he served as Chair for twelve years. Sure to be an engaging and elucidating experience!

NYC pianist/composer/educator **Pete Malinverni's** art proves that *passionate* music is indeed the universal language, and his performances are characterized by an exciting blend of music building on the rich history of Jazz, always with the essential communication between artists and listeners at front of mind. Pete's audiences consistently feel well-served.

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



PERFORMANCE

*Live Music and Learning
at LIR Stamford*



Eras Tour of The Harp

Location:

Temple Beth El
350 Roxbury Road
Stamford, CT 06902

Monday, April 13 at 10:30 AM

Performing:

Lisa Tannebaum

Renown for her “expressive musicality and creativity”(New York Times), Lisa Tannebaum, harpist, has captivated audiences worldwide as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral artist.

Join **Lisa Tannebaum** for *Eras Tour of the Harp*, where she'll take you on a musical journey. This concert showcases the harp's incredible versatility through a selection of timeless and contemporary pieces. Get ready for a morning of beautiful music that spans centuries and styles.

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



WINTER SPRING 2026 CLASSES

All classes are 10:30 – 11:30 AM + Q&A, unless otherwise noted

#301 - THE STUDIO MUSEUM IN HARLEM



WEDNESDAY - MARCH 4

TUITION \$10.00

After closing in 2018 for construction, the Studio Museum reopened in November 2025 in its glorious new building. Since its modest beginning in 1968 to serve the creative life of the local community, The Studio Museum soon went beyond local, even national boundaries, to serve people of African origin and art of African inspiration across the globe. As we explore the history, art and the artists of the SMH, we will also answer the question of what happened to the glorious Harlem Renaissance of the 1930s.

Serdar Arat is an Emeritus Professor of Art from Concordia College and a working artist.

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



MONDAY – MARCH 9

**COMPLEMENTARY SESSION
REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Former US Rep. Christopher Shays represented the 4th 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.

#302 - FROM PALACE TO PARLIAMENT: HOW AN INDIAN PRINCESS BECAME A BADASS WOMAN WAY AHEAD OF HER TIME



WEDNESDAY - MARCH 11

TUITION \$10.00

The life story of a princess in India who became first, the Maharani of Jaipur and then a member of the Indian Parliament is an astonishing one. In her journey from palace to politics, to Parliament, Gayatri Devi was truly a woman way ahead of her time.

Join Fairfield Lifelong Learners instructor **Diane Stone** as we explore Gayatri Devi's incredible life and how Diane "MET" her in India.

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

#401 - TECH TIPS: **APPLE WATCH**



THURSDAY – MARCH 12

TUITION 10.00

Did you get an Apple Watch for the holidays? 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.

#102 – **HOW DID I GET HERE FROM THERE?**



MONDAY – MARCH 16

TUITION \$10.00

James Lapine worked as a photographer, graphic designer, and teacher before finding his way into the theater at the age of twenty-five. He has gone on to be nominated for twelve Tony Awards, winning on three occasions. He has also been awarded the Pulitzer Prize along with his frequent collaborator, the legendary Stephen Sondheim. His book *Putting It Together* was on the *New York Times* bestseller list and he will read from his recently finished memoir *How Did I Get Here From There?* which will be published in 2027.

#201 - **AN IMPORTANT TOPIC**



TUESDAY - MARCH 17

TUITION \$10.00

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

#303 - LOVE'S JOURNEY HOME - A MEMOIR



WEDNESDAY - MARCH 18

TUITION \$10.00

CT Books prize winner **Gabi Coatsworth**, a Fairfield County author, writes books about love, resilience and second chances. Her first memoir, *Love's Journey Home – A Memoir* tells of her courtship with her husband-to-be, dealing with his deepening alcoholism, their separation, and her return upon learning he was suffering from cancer. It ends with the realization that it's never too late for a second chance. This presentation is not a book reading; rather, it is an open dialogue with the audience about experiences with family obligations, being a successful business woman, compromise, forgiveness and grieving, and the value of writing about them both for

the writer and the reader.

#103 - MATISSE AND PICASSO: ARTISTIC REVOLUTION THROUGH RIVALRY



MONDAY - MARCH 23

TUITION \$10.00

Matisse and Picasso were mutual admirers and friends as well as rivals. The two differed in country of origin, personality, point of view regarding artistic style, and life perspective. What each had in common was an indefatigable belief in his own extraordinary talents. Art historian **Darby Cartun** will explore, through artwork, analysis and historical anecdotes, the rivalry that propelled each artist to experiment and be fearless.

#304 - NEWSPAPER PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY – 50 YEARS OF REVOLUTIONARY CHANGE



WEDNESDAY - MARCH 25

TUITION \$10.00

The daily printed newspaper looks very much as it did 150 years ago. Yet, every aspect of its production, every tool used in its creation, has undergone multiple generations of radical change. This “show-and-tell” discussion walks you through many of those generations and into a paperless future.

Rob Rosenthal, a Stamford resident and frequent audience member at L.I.R. presentations, retired at the end of 2022 after spending nearly fifty years in the newspaper technology business. He was the architect and lead programmer of a computer system that handled editing and typesetting for over 200 newspapers worldwide including The Stamford Advocate, The Greenwich Time, The Wall Street Journal and newspapers in England, Canada, South Africa, Sweden and Columbia.

#501 - FOUR YEARS OF RUSSIA'S WAR AGAINST UKRAINE: TAKING STOCK AND LOOKING AHEAD



FRIDAY - MARCH 27

TUITION \$10.00

This class examines four years of Russia's full-scale war against Ukraine, assessing its military, political, economic, and humanitarian impacts. We will analyze how the war has evolved and explore potential trajectories for Ukraine, Russia, and the broader international order.

Olena Lennon Ph.D., is an Adjunct Professor of National Security at the University of New Haven. An Eastern Ukraine native, and a former Fulbright scholar, she also serves as an election observer with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and has completed several election observation missions in Eurasia.

#104 - PERFORMANCE: JAZZ CONCERT – WHAT'S GOING ON UP THERE?



MONDAY – MARCH 30

TUITION \$10.00

Ever wondered how a Jazz performance works? How do the musicians know what's going to happen, and when? Who decides? Do they ALL decide? Pianist and recording artist **Pete Malinverni** shares his insights on the process of Jazz improvisation in an engaging and accessible program. Pete is a full professor in the Jazz Studies program at SUNY Purchase, where he served as Chair for twelve years. Sure to be an engaging and elucidating experience! See **page 5** for more information.

#202 - BEYOND BASIC TECH TIPS FOR APPLE iPhone USERS



TUESDAY – MARCH 31

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 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.

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

#105 - CURRENT STATE OF THE US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



MONDAY – APRIL 6

TUITION \$10.00

Due to sudden changes in the Congressional schedule, LIR will open this session for registration later in the semester. We will email everyone when the registration opens.

Congressman Jim Himes - <https://himes.house.gov/home>

This session will be from 10:30-11:15 AM

Participants may email questions to lirstamford@gmail.com

A Board Member will read the submitted questions to the Congressman during the Q&A

#502 - FROM SCREEN TO STAGE: CREATING MUSICAL THEATRE FROM FILM



FRIDAY – APRIL 10

TUITION \$10.00

Hollywood has produced movies of successful musicals for ages (think: *Sound of Music*, *West Side Story*, *Mama Mia*, etc.), but how does a funny film become a musical comedy hit? And why do it? Master teaching artist, theatre director, performer, improvisational comedy troupe member, and author **Nancy Limbacher Meyer** will explore a bit about the process different “book writers” take to transform what worked or didn’t work in a movie to make a musical.

#107 – PERFORMANCE: ERAS TOUR OF THE HARP



MONDAY – APRIL 13

TUITION \$10.00

Renown for her “expressive musicality and creativity”(New York Times), Lisa Tannebaum, harpist, has captivated audiences worldwide as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral artist.

Join **Lisa Tannebaum** for *Eras Tour of the Harp*, where she'll take you on a musical journey. This concert showcases the harp's incredible versatility through a selection of timeless and contemporary pieces. Get ready for a morning of beautiful music that spans centuries and styles. See **page 6** for more information.

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

#203 - ORTHODOX JEWS OF CROWN HEIGHTS

TUESDAY - APRIL 14

TUITION \$10.00



In 2019 **Ira Berger's** book *The Bell in the Crown* was published showing rare glimpses into the rituals and lifestyles of the Chabad community in the Crown Heights district of Brooklyn. He will share and discuss some of the highlights from that collection as well as his work depicting Jewish life in Williamsburg and the Hudson Valley, and religious diversity both in New York City and the Hudson Valley. He has been privileged to have been welcomed into those fascinating communities and to have had the opportunity to create a photographic chronicle of their cultural activities and events. Retired *People* magazine photo editor **Ira Berger** is a working journalist.

#305 - CUTTING THE CORD



WEDNESDAY – APRIL 15

TUITION \$10.00

Have you wanted to cancel your cable TV subscription and wondered what you could save? Do you wonder how you can navigate streaming the programs and movies you want to watch? Learn from fellow LIR member **Brian Mahoney's** first-hand experience how to “cut the cord” and enter the streaming world. See page 21 for more information.

#503 - CYBER SECURITY: LESSONS FROM THE FRONT LINES



FRIDAY – APRIL 17

TUITION \$10.00

Join **Andrew Tannenbaum**, a seasoned cybersecurity lawyer, as he shares real-world stories from his work helping some of the world's largest companies navigate ransomware attacks and data breaches. Andrew will translate lessons learned from the front lines into simple, actionable steps you can take to protect yourself, your family, and your personal information in everyday life.

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

#204 – CONSERVATION OF SHARKS IN NEW YORK (NOT THE ONES ON WALL STREET)



TUESDAY - APRIL 21

TUITION \$10.00

When you see the words “shark” and “New York” in the same sentence, thoughts tend to be drawn to hostile takeovers on Wall Street or back-alley brawls from West Side Story. Not many know that the waters surrounding New York City are home to several globally threatened and endangered shark species, including the critically endangered sand tiger shark. Humans have been aware of these seasonal residents of New York for hundreds of years, with shark remains being found in shell and bone middens of the Lenape people prior to European colonization, Dutch settlers selling sharks in fish markets in the 1600s, and recreational shark fisheries in Jamaica Bay making national news by the late 1800s. Despite a long and often-published history of sharks in New York waters, our collective memories are short. Today, we know little about the sharks of New York. The New York Aquarium and Wildlife Conservation Society have housed sharks at the aquarium since at least the early 1900’s and since 2012 have been studying the movements and migrations of sharks that live in New York waters so we can better

protect these magnificent and ancient ocean predators.

Marine Scientist **Jake LaBelle** works as a research coordinator and researcher for the WCS’s New York Seascape Program. He specializes in shark research and conservation.

#306 – INTELLIGENCE THREATS TO THE US – 30 YEARS IN THE CIA



WEDNESDAY – APRIL 22

TUITION 10.00

David Hunt will discuss an Ally’s 30-year program to steal American commercial and tech secrets, relay anecdotes from six field tours and comment on Putin/Ukraine with historical observations of the Russian character relevant today.

David Hunt is a former senior CIA operations officer with 32 yrs. service and six field tours: Italy, Vietnam, Somalia, Norway, France and New York City.

504 - MOZART IN PARIS, 1778: AMBITION, TRAGEDY, AND THE BIRTH OF MATURITY



FRIDAY – APRIL 24

TUITION \$10.00

In 1778, the 22-year-old Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart embarked on an arduous journey to Paris with his mother, hoping to escape the provincial constraints of Salzburg and secure fame and patronage in Europe’s musical capital. Amid financial hardship, hostile intrigue among French musicians, and the devastating death of his mother, he encountered both rejection of his operas and unexpected triumphs with symphonies and instrumental works. **Professor Gil Harel** returns to discuss how this ill-fated yet transformative trip marked the painful end of his adolescence and forged the independent, resilient composer who would soon revolutionize music.

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

#205 - MARK TWAIN IN CT

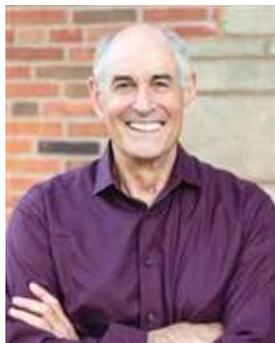


TUESDAY – APRIL 28

TUITION \$10.00

Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) spent a quarter of his life in Connecticut. He wrote several of his classics while in Hartford, including *Tom Sawyer* 150 years ago this Spring. Twain spent his final two years in Redding where he experienced both great joys and sadness. Long-time public speaker, radio journalist and history podcast host **Mike Allen** returns to LIR to share Mark Twain's fascinating life story in CT.

#307 - SIX MORE GAME-CHANGING DECISIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT IMPACTING TRIBAL RIGHTS



WEDNESDAY – APRIL 29

TUITION \$10.00

The Supreme Court has decided nearly 300 cases involving American Indian tribes and their members. This session examines six of them. **(We will be examining six *different* cases than we did in the last session.)** **Stephen Pevar**, author of *The Rights of Indians and Tribes* and an instructor at Yale Law School, will present the facts of each case, one at a time, and the audience will then discuss how they think the case was decided. This session is fun, interactive, and informative. Can you guess all six correctly!

#401 - FIELD TRIP: MATHER HOMESTEAD, DARIEN, CT



THURSDAY – APRIL 30

TUITION \$10.00

For more information regarding this field trip see page 22
Minimum 10 - Maximum 20 participants

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

#505 - A NEW IMPORTANT TOPIC



FRIDAY - MAY 1

TUITION \$10.00

Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh, professor of Political Science at Southern Connecticut State University, defers his choice of topic until near presentation time when he will select an important current event. **This will be a different topic than the March 17th lecture.**

#107 - HITCHCOCK: STRANGERS ON A TRAIN TO PSYCHO



MONDAY - MAY 4

TUITION \$10.00

Foster Hirsch will discuss Alfred Hitchcock's Hollywood movies from *STRANGERS ON A TRAIN* in 1951 to *PSYCHO* in 1960. Alfred Hitchcock directed a series of masterpieces including *REAR WINDOW*, *THE WRONG MAN*, *VERTIGO*, and *NORTH BY NORTHWEST*. The lecture will explore the themes and styles of Hitchcock's master collection as well as its continuing influence. Mr. Hirsch is the author of *Hollywood And The Movies Of The Fifties: The Collapse Of The Studio System, The Thrill Of Cinerama, And The Invasion Of The Ultimate Body Snatcher - Television*, published by Alfred Knopf.

#206 - MIDTERM ELECTIONS



TUESDAY MAY 5

TUITION \$10.00

Tom Gardner of *Born To Run The Numbers* will give his data-supported thoughts on the current national political environment, to set the context for the upcoming 2026 midterms, which will be just six months away. He'll also do a deep dive into the midterms themselves, assessing the odds of the Democrats flipping the Senate and the House.

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

#308 - FIELD TRIP: MALCOLM PRAY ACHIEVEMENT CENTER AND AUTO MUSEUM



WEDNESDAY – MAY 6 **TUITION \$15.00**
Minimum 10 participants - Maximum 25 participants

For more information regarding this field trip see page 23

#402 - S.W.A.K. SEALED WITH A KISS



THURSDAY – MAY 7 **TUITION \$10.00**

Art Educator **Helane Rheingold** will lead a discussion of thirteen of the most famous “kisses” throughout art history from the first in 1305 to Pablo Picasso’s vision in 1966.

#207 - THE HISTORY OF THE BLUES: FROM BESSIE TO BASIE TO BONNIE (RAITT)



TUESDAY – MAY 12 **TUITION \$10.00**

Professor of Music and Music Program Director at Fairfield University, **Professor Brian Q. Torff** will present a history of the blues as it has impacted American life and culture, from slave songs to electric blues covering major artists from Bessie Smith to Bonnie Raitt.

403 - HATE SPEECH, FREE SPEECH AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM: WHAT'S A UNIVERSITY TO DO?



THURSDAY – MAY 14

TUITION \$10.00

Campus speech controversies have become increasingly hot flash points in American politics. This stems from a general confusion, or politicized distortion, of the difference between academic freedom and free speech. This talk draws upon recent examples of campus controversies to ask: What are the primary differences between academic freedom and free speech? What is the purpose of First Amendment protection? And how is this the same or different from the purpose of higher education?

Dr Isaac Kamola is a professor of political science at Trinity College, Hartford, CT.

#506 - TRADITION RENEWED: FIDDLER ON THE ROOF'S ENDURING LEGACY AND THE BOLD REVIVALS RESHAPING 2026



FRIDAY – MAY 15

TUITION \$10.00

As *Fiddler on the Roof* enters its seventh decade, its timeless exploration of faith, family, and cultural upheaval continues to resonate amid global migrations and identity debates, with recent revivals like the Olivier-winning West End production touring the UK and Ireland through 2026 infusing fresh choreography and diverse casting to highlight contemporary themes of resilience and belonging. From Cincinnati Opera's innovative 2025 staging blending musical theater with operatic grandeur to Signature Theatre's bold reimagining in its 2025-2026 season, these productions challenge audiences to revisit Tevye's balancing act between old-world traditions and modern disruptions in profoundly

new ways. **Professor Gil Harel** returns to uncover how these revivals not only honor the show's groundbreaking Tony-winning origins but also propel its cultural impact forward, fostering dialogues on Jewish heritage, assimilation, and the universal quest for home in an ever-shifting world.

#108 - ORCHESTRA COMPOSERS OF COLOR-THEIR FORGOTTEN HISTORY



MONDAY - MAY 18

TUITION \$10.00

Zachary Kampler, music director and conductor, will discuss the music of composers of color from across several centuries that deserves to be in the orchestral canon but was sidelined along the way. Contemporaries of Mozart and Shostakovich are just some of the composers explored in this lecture.

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

#208 – STOLEN! ART THEFT AND CONSEQUENCES



TUESDAY – MAY 19

TUITION \$10.00

Art thefts create sensational stories and celebrity status around thieves and artworks alike, and result in the continuous loss, destruction, and damage of scores of masterpieces. Although some are recovered, restored, and placed back on public view, many more are permanently lost to us, while increasing security measures can severely limit our viewing experience and access to art. We will explore these and other questions as we experience some of the most important stolen artworks.

Serdar Arat is an Emeritus Professor of Art from Concordia College and a working artist.

#309 - CABARET



WEDNESDAY - MAY 20

TUITION \$10.00

Join **Dan Egan** to explore the Kander and Ebb musical *Cabaret* (1960) which has enjoyed success on stage, in revival, and on film. It's continued appeal across generations reinforces the idea that popular entertainment of the sort holds up a mirror to society, asks probing questions about how we face - or ignore - issues that do not go away remains relevant. **Dan Egan** returns to LIR to celebrate the musical riches and continued impact of this landmark musical, most recently revived last year with Eddie Redmayne in London and New York.

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

SPECIALTY CLASS

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



THURSDAY – MARCH 12

TUITION 10.00

Did you get an Apple Watch for the holidays? 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**

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 Fall 2025 SEMESTER.

#202 – BEYOND BASIC IPHONE CAMERA AND PHOTO EDITING APPLE IPHONE USERS

TUESDAY – MARCH 31

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

Learn 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**

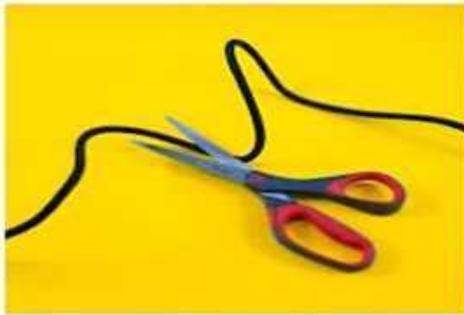
To Register or for Catalog updates go to: <https://www.lirstamford.org/>

SPECIALTY CLASS

#305 - CUTTING THE CORD

WEDNESDAY – APRIL 15

TUITION 10.00



Have you wanted to cancel your cable TV subscription and wondered what you could save ? Do you wonder how you can navigate streaming the programs and movies you want to watch? Learn from fellow LIR member **Brian Mahoney's** first-hand experience how to “cut the cord” and enter the streaming world.

Brian will discuss the following:

- What is the financial opportunity?
- The “Gear”
- Streaming services
- What do I watch? How to replace?
- Replacing TV channels and entertainment
- My choices / Other choices
- Managing streaming services
- Resources



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

Field Trip

#402 - FIELD TRIP: MATHER HOMESTEAD, DARIEN, CT



THURSDAY – APRIL 30 - 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM – TUITION \$10.00
Minimum 10 - Maximum 20 participants

Join LIR on a field trip to the Mather Homestead

The Mather Homestead, a National Historic Landmark in Darien, CT was built in 1778 and belonged to seven generations of Mather descendants. A docent led tour will take us through the history of the house and family from the Revolution to the present.



For more information about the Homestead see their website:
<https://www.matherhomestead.org/>



MODERATE -This is a slightly more active field trip 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.

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 & time information as well as carpooling as necessary for those needing transportation.

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

Field Trip

#308 - FIELD TRIP: MALCOLM PRAY ACHIEVEMENT CENTER AND AUTO MUSEUM



WEDNESDAY – MAY 6 -10:00 AM -11:30 AM TUITION \$15.00
Minimum 10 participants - Maximum 25 participants

The Malcolm Pray Achievement Center is located in Bedford, NY and houses a collection of antique and collectible automobiles spanning over 100 years of automotive history.

The Pray Family Foundation Inc. continues the work of Malcolm Pray through the Malcolm Pray Achievement Center. Malcolm Pray's passion for automobiles and his journey as an entrepreneur continues to inspire young people, families, and youth groups through innovative programs.

For more information about the Museum visit their website:
<https://prayachievementcenter.org/>

Join LIR on a field trip to the Museum.

EEASY- this field trip includes a museum gallery and walking for short distances over relatively level terrain, possibly with a few steps.

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 & time information as well as carpooling as necessary for those needing transportation.



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

WINTER SPRING 2026 CLASSES



Learning in Retirement

c/o Temple Beth El

350 Roxbury Road, Stamford, CT 06902

203.350.9752 • 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
MAR 4	#301 - The Studio Museum in Harlem – Serdar Arat SOCIAL HALL	10.00	
MAR 9	#101 - Important lessons learned serving 34 years in public/elected office – Fmr. US Rep. Christopher Shays SOCIAL HALL	COMP.	
MAR 11	#302 - From Palace to Parliament: How An Indian Princess became a <i>Badass</i> Woman Way Ahead of Her Time – Diane Stone	10.00	
MAR 12	#401 - Tech Tips for Apple Watch – Maggie Kopec Max. 10 participants	10.00	
MAR 16	#102 - <i>How Did I Get Here From There?</i> – James Lapine SOCIAL HALL	10.00	
MAR 17	#201 - An Important Topic - Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh SOCIAL HALL	10.00	
MAR 18	#303 - <i>Love's Journey Home - A Memoir</i> - Gabi Coatsworth	10.00	
MAR 23	#103 - Matisse and Picasso: Artistic Revolution through Rivalry – Darby Cartun	10.00	
MAR 25	#304 - Newspaper Production Technology – 50 Years of Revolutionary Change- Rob Rosenthal	10.00	
MAR 27	#501 - Four years of Russia's War against Ukraine: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead – Olena Lennon	10.00	
MAR 30	#104 - Jazz Concert - Pete Malinverni SOCIAL HALL	TBD	
MAR 31	#202 - Beyond Basic: Advanced Tech Tips for iPhone – M. Kopec & B. Mahoney Max. 15 participants	10.00	
APR 6	#105 - US Rep. Jim Himes - an Eblast will be sent when Registration opens for this session - SOCIAL HALL	10.00	
APR 10	#502 - From Screen to Stage: Creating Musical Theatre from Film – Nancy L. Meyer	10.00	
APR 13	#106 - Harp Concert – Lisa Tannebaum SOCIAL HALL	10.00	
APR 14	#203 - Jews of Crown Heights – Ira Berger	10.00	
APR 15	#305 - Cutting The Cord – Brian Mahoney	10.00	
APR 17	#503 - Cyber Security: Lessons from the Front Lines – Andrew Tannenbaum	10.00	
APR 21	#204 - Conservation of Sharks in New York (Not the Ones on Wall Street) – Jake LaBelle	10.00	
APR 22	#306 - Intelligence Threats To The Us – 30 Years In The CIA – David Hunt	10.00	
APR 24	#504 - Mozart in Paris, 1778: Ambition, Tragedy, and the Birth of Maturity – Dr. Gil Harel SOCIAL HALL	10.00	
APR 28	#205 - Mark Twain in CT - Mike Allen	10.00	
APR 29	#307 - Six More Game Changing Decisions of the Supreme Court Impacting Tribal Rights – Stephen Pevar	10.00	
APR 30	#402 - FIELD TRIP: Mather Homestead, Darien, CT Minimum 10 - Maximum 20 participants	10.00	
MAY 1	#505 - A NEW Important Topic - Dr. Kevin Buterbaugh SOCIAL HALL	10.00	
MAY 4	#107 - Hitchcock: <i>Strangers on a Train to Psycho</i> – Foster Hirsch	10.00	
MAY 5	#206 - Mid-Terms – Tom Gardner SOCIAL HALL	10.00	
MAY 6	#308 - FIELD TRIP: Malcolm Pray Achievement Center & Auto Museum, Banksville, NY 10-25 participants	15.00	
MAY 7	#402 - S.W.A.K. Sealed with a Kiss - Helane Rheingold	10.00	
MAY 12	#207 - The History of the Blues: From Bessie to Basie to Bonnie (Raitt)- Brian Torff	10.00	
MAY 14	#403 - Hate Speech, Free Speech and Academic Freedom: What's a University to do? - Isaac Kamola	10.00	
MAY 15	#506 - Tradition Renewed: Fiddler on the Roof's Enduring Legacy and the Bold Revivals Reshaping 2026 – Dr. Gil Harel SOCIAL HALL	10.00	
MAY 18	#108 - Orchestra Composers of Color-Their forgotten History – Zachary Kampler	10.00	
MAY 19	#208 - STOLEN! Art Theft and Consequences – Serdar Arat SOCIAL HALL	10.00	
MAY 20	#309 - Cabaret – Dan Egan	10.00	
YOUR TOTAL			

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