

# Spring 2025



Lifelong Learning  
COLLABORATIVE

## MONDAY MORNINGS

Monday mornings  
Zoom Videoconference  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM  
10 weeks  
Mar 17-May 19  
Fee: \$55  
Class size limit: 20

### Open Studio Art on Zoom Coordinator: Kathy Webster

**NOTE:** An Open Studio painting class is offered at Temple Beth-El on Tuesday AM.

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

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

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

**Coordinator:** Kathy Webster has been a Plein Air painter since joining LLC and started Open Studio to continue painting through the rest of the year. Kathy has coordinated many LLC courses .

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### Absurd Comedies, Volume II Coordinators: John Brezack, Judith Nudelman

Everyone needs a laugh, especially during these tense times and following a contentious presidential election year. If you are a fan of Mel Brooks' iconic movies or love the off-beat vibe of the Coen Brothers or maybe prefer the outright zaniness of Woody Allen or Peter Sellers, then you will want to participate in this class. This is a continuation of the course that we coordinated this past Fall. This semester's selections are from some of the craziest, thought-provoking, hilarious, and just plain funny movies of the past 50 years. They poke fun at the normal conventions of society and stop and make you look through a slightly bent prism at our world. Movies may include *Young Frankenstein*, *Big Fish*, *Black Klansman*, and *Married to the Mob*.

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

**Resources/Expenses:** Films are available on Amazon Prime, Netflix, Tubi, Kanopy and other streaming services; some with a small fee. Check your library, too.

**Coordinators:** John Brezack is retired from running a medical products manufacturing company in MA. He loves comedy and funny movies and is well-acquainted with the history of American comedies. Judith Nudelman is an almost-retired family practice physician. She also shares a love for quirky comedies and humorists.



**Cover photography, "Lift Off," was taken by Martha Nielsen in our Cell Phone Photography class last summer. Martha has been a member of LLC for eight years and has taken nine photography classes and several music and literature classes.**

**If you would like to enroll in a course but know you will miss more than two classes, please consider waiting until another session.**

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 (\$40 yearly). You must be a member to participate in classes.

Many of our classes fill on the first day of registration. To avoid disappointment, we suggest that you register early at [lifelonglearningcollaborative.org](http://lifelonglearningcollaborative.org).

This is LLC.

Come learn with us!

## TUESDAY MORNINGS

Tuesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 10

### Open Studio Art at the Temple

Coordinator: Susan Van Horne

**NOTE: The art room at Temple Beth-El is up a flight of stairs with no elevator. An Open Studio painting class is offered on Zoom on Monday AM.**

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

**Format:** Members will join together in the art space at Temple Beth El each week, bringing their own painting supplies and working independently on their own work. The session will end with all sharing their work followed by a gentle critique.

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

**Coordinator:** Susan Van Horne has been a plein air and studio painter since joining LLC over six years ago. Susan has coordinated previous LLC art courses.

Tuesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 20

### Israel: A Nation Reborn

Coordinators: John Adams, Stephen Kaplan

The rebirth of Israel has resulted in the most successful nation state to emerge in the post-World War II era. We will review a half century process and the competing visions of a Jewish homeland, culminating in an area of settlement (Yishuv), declaring its independence on May 14, 1948, as the State of Israel. The focus will be on the challenges that characterize Israel's multicultural citizenry as it has developed a unique judiciary sensitive to a multi-religious community, a modern universal health care delivery system, an impressive military, cooperative living arrangements, world class academic centers and a global reputation for creativity ("Start-Up Nation"). Additionally, we will consider the impact of the armed conflicts and treaties that have shaped today's Middle East.

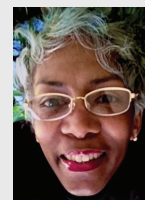
**Format:** Class members will give presentations and lead discussions on topics related to the evolution of the nation as they seek to develop an understanding of the State and the Israeli people.

**Resources/Expenses:** *Israel: A Concise History of a Nation Reborn* by Daniel Gordis is available in paperback on Amazon and other online sources for about \$15. Additional paperback recommendations are *The Zionist Idea* by Arthur Hertzberg and *The Israel-Arab Reader* edited by Walter Laqueur and Dan Schueftan.

**Coordinators:** Stephen Kaplan is a retired physician, professor and Dean of Medicine who has coordinated LLC courses in the past. John Adams is retired from the US Army as a Brigadier General, having served 30 years on active duty, and is a newcomer to Providence and LLC.

***"What I love about LLC is that it really does indulge my lifelong learning interests and creativity. And I love the social aspect of it."***

LLC member Susan Baugh, Providence



Registration opens Monday, January 27 @ 9 AM.

## TUESDAY MORNINGS

Tuesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 20

### Whodunit? Match Wits with the Masters of Detection

Coordinator: Stuart Einhorn

Sherlock Holmes, Miss Marple, Sam Spade, Perry Mason, and Inspector Rebus. Do any of these names ring a bell? This is just a sampling of the fictional detectives that we will bring to life every week in this course. From the brilliant and eccentric to the deceptively unlikely to the tough-guy private eyes, their methods may vary but they always get their man, or woman. We travel from the genre's inception in 1844 to the present day, sampling each era while noting the changes in how the stories are being told and perhaps how the crimes have changed as well. Prepare to be tantalized, perplexed and amazed.

**Format:** Each participant is encouraged, but not required, to make a short presentation. The presenter will give a brief bio of the author and lead a class discussion about the story prompted by pre-prepared questions.

**Resources/Expenses:** *Detective Stories* (Everyman's Library Pocket Classic Series). This short story anthology is available from Amazon new at \$19.30 and used from Thrift Books for \$9.47.

**Coordinator:** Stuart Einhorn has been a member of LLC for over five years. During this time, he has co-coordinated a number of short story courses of various genres. He loves to incorporate his backgrounds in literature, book restoration and art presentation into his classes whenever possible.

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Tuesday mornings

Zoom Videoconference

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 20

### Smorgasbord: Films about Food and Wine

Coordinators: Helen Hawkins, Nancy Maddocks

Food and wine sustain us and bring us joy! Our ten movies will run the gamut: soup to nuts, highbrow to lowbrow, funny, elegant, zesty, and hopefully with "a long finish." Our films have been shot in Denmark, France, California, India, Japan, Israel and Africa. Bring your appetite and prepare to spend some quality time in the kitchen in the near future!

Our movies: *Harvest Season, Julie & Juliet, The Lunchbox, Waitress, Blind Ambition, Sideways, Breaking Bread, The Taste of Things, Big Night, and Babette's Feast.*

**Format:** Each week we will watch the scheduled film at home and discuss it in class. Two class members will sign up for each movie, each leading the discussion for one segment of class. It is hoped that they will coordinate so they do not repeat the same material. Any slide presentation must be limited to 20 minutes. An easier option would be to send questions out to the class ahead of time to prepare people for a lively discussion.

**Resources/Expenses:** Films are available on Amazon Prime, Netflix, Kanopy and other streaming services, all for a minimal membership fee. The Ocean State Library system also carries a limited number of eight of our films, if you have a working DVD player.

**Coordinators:** Helen Hawkins is happily retired from Special Education and college administration. She thoroughly enjoys good movies and debating their merits with others. Nancy Maddocks was a documentary film editor for 23 years, working on a variety of projects for the government and museums. Later she became a school library media specialist. She has never lost her enthusiasm for documentaries.

Tuesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 20

### A Burning World: How Escalating Wildfires Are Contributing to Climate Change and Human Upheaval

Coordinators: David Evans, Nick Miles

As the Earth continues to warm from a variety of factors, massive wildfires are accelerating the trend by injecting unprecedented amounts of heat-trapping carbon gasses into the atmosphere. Thousands of people, lucky enough to have escaped these fires, have lost their homes and businesses. More important, the planet has lost tens of millions of acres of life-sustaining forests. In this course, we'll explore the science behind wildfires and how to fight them, the human impacts and climate effects of some of the more significant fires, and the growing risk of conflagrations in our own back yards.

**Format:** This course will follow the traditional LLC collaborative model. Class members will be asked to "own an hour" which they can manage in a wide variety of ways.

**Resources/Expenses:** The course will be built around the 2023 book *Fire Weather* by John Vaillant, available in bookstores and online for \$15.95.

**Coordinators:** Nick Miles joined LLC ten years ago and has coordinated a number of courses. Dave Evans taught science in Providence Public High Schools for thirty years. He is co-coordinating his first LLC course.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

Tuesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 16

### The Greatest Music You've Never Heard

Coordinator: Ronald Pearl

We are familiar with the great names in classical music – Bach, Mozart, Debussy, Brahms; the list goes on. But there is an abundance of wonderful music that lies just below these iconic names, and it is well worth exploring. This course will focus on great music, but by composers who may not be familiar to many of us. No musical experience is required, just a willingness to listen and an openness to expanding one's own playlist. A few names who will be on the list: Ades, Moravec, Rautavaara, Ran, Lang, Korvits, Gorecki; there are many more.

**Format:** Each class, two participants will make a presentation on one of these names – some bio, but mostly selections of music that will invite further exploration. A few weeks before class begins, a list of possible names will be sent from which to choose.

**Resources/Expenses:** The only requirements are curiosity and internet access.

**Coordinator:** Ronald Pearl is a retired music professor and has coordinated several other Music courses for LLC.

Tuesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El & the field

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 20

### Cell Phone Photography Club

Coordinators: Ellen Fingeret, Margaret Lawrence, Elizabeth Siftar

The Cellphone Photography Club welcomes new and continuing members! If your cell phone has become your favorite camera come join with other LLC'ers as we experiment with, and enjoy, cell phone photography and photo editing. Going on photo shoots together, sharing our photos with a congenial group, learning from each other, and learning about genres of photography such as street, landscape, and architecture are all creative instructive, social and fun. Our tools are our cell phones (Apple or Android) and any editing app. Perhaps you have tried the editing app that comes with your phone, and would you like to learn more? This is your opportunity.

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

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

**Coordinators:** Ellen Fingeret, Margaret Lawrence, and Liz Siftar are enthusiastic cell phone photographers and photo editors.

Tuesday afternoons

Private Home in Providence

1:00-3:00 PM

9 weeks

Apr 1-May 27

Fee: \$50

Class size limit: 20

### The Collapse of Election Polling

Coordinator: Robert Sandy

**MANDATORY WAIVER: Since LLC does not maintain insurance for off-site courses held outside of the Temple, participants must sign a waiver to participate. Look for the waiver link in your registration confirmation email.**

Three days before the 2024 election, a prominent pollster released an Iowa poll showing Harris 3 percentage points ahead. Trump won Iowa by 13 points. Based on that poll's 3% margin of error, the 16-point difference was impossible. One prominent pollster's mistake doesn't mean the polling industry is wrecked. Yet, Trump's 2016 victory, then the narrow margin of Biden's win, and then Trump's big second win, were not predicted by the polls. Writing before the 2024 election, Professor Michael Bailey (*Polling at a Crossroads*) described polling as now in a critical moment. This course will help you understand why the predictions failed. Polling uses statistical modelling that requires certain assumptions to hold, at least approximately. These assumptions, once reasonable, are now ridiculously far off. As much as 99% of those contacted now refuse to be polled. Respondents often lie about their preferred candidate. Both the refusals and the lying tilt poll results, because they are related to which candidate the voter prefers. Each known violation of an assumption requires an adjustment. Many pollsters simply do not reveal the details of their fixes, making it difficult to assess the credibility of their poll. Some polls are not even meant to provide the public with accurate information. Campaigns sometimes release their private polls hoping to influence the election or appeal to donors. Private pollsters tend to be the most secretive about their methodology. This course aims to make sense of this mess and explain what it will take to get us out of it.

**Format:** Class members will make presentations from a list of topics provided by the Coordinator.

**Resources/Expenses:** Suggested reading: *Polling at a Crossroads* by Michael A. Bailey available online in paperback for \$24.00. The Coordinator will provide a list of online resources.

**Coordinator:** Robert Sandy taught statistics courses at the undergraduate and graduate level for 37 years. He has coordinated courses titled *Concerts and Conversations*, *Introduction to Battery Electric Vehicles*, and *Jewish Style Breads and Rolls* at LLC.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

Tuesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-2:15 PM (Note 1.25 hr length)

6 weeks

Apr 1-May 6

Fee: \$35

Class size limit: 14

### The Alexander Technique

Coordinators: Roz Moulton, Mara Sokolsky

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

The Alexander Technique is a form of self-care that addresses posture, balance and pain relief. It teaches you to think about how you move and carry yourself with the least amount of strain. You don't need any particular physical skills for this class, just an open and curious mind.

**Format:** There will be discussion, question and answer time, and learning Alexander 'directions' that apply to how you sit (at a computer, in front of the TV, with a book), walk and do other daily activities. You will be asked to be aware of some of your movements during the week.

**Resources/Expenses:** Mara will provide the names of some Alexander books, links to articles and YouTube videos you may wish to review. There will be an optional lying-down section each week that requires a yoga mat or towel.

**Coordinators:** Roz Moulton is a certified teacher of the Alexander Technique. She graduated in 1991 from the three-year teacher training program at the American Center for the Alexander Technique in New York City. Roz taught individual lessons and group classes in New York and New Jersey. She currently teaches the Alexander Technique in Warren. Roz is also a former modern dancer and choreographer. Mara Sokolsky came to the Alexander Technique because of chronic lower back pain. She trained in London at the School of Alexander Studies from 1977-1980. She has had private practices in Boston, New York, and now Providence. She has lectured about the Alexander Technique at Massachusetts General Hospital, Tufts Dental School, Mt. Sinai Medical School, and the Miriam Hospital.

Tuesday afternoons

Zoom Videoconference

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 20

### Let's Talk About Cars

Coordinators: Chuck Nickles, Joe Petteruti

Do you enjoy talking about cars? Then this course is for you! We're open to all kinds of "car talk" – e.g., how to buy a car, the benefits of hybrid vs. electric vehicles, the vehicles of the 1930's AKA "Rolling Sculpture," favorite cars of the 1950's with their "tail fins," "muscle cars" – and many more depending on class members' interests. The coordinators will provide sample topics and ask participants to choose one of those topics or choose their own – for example, you might talk about your favorite iconic car or a car that you owned.

**Format:** Each week a group member will choose a topic. After briefly presenting it, they will pose questions and lead a discussion. The coordinators will act as moderators to ensure that all viewpoints are heard. We'll welcome PowerPoint presentations, photos, articles from automotive magazines (*Car & Driver*, *Motor Trend*, *Consumer Reports*), and your very own car memoirs.

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

**Coordinators:** Chuck Nickles and Joe Petteruti have both coordinated popular LLC courses in the past. Joe has been a member of LLC for over twelve years. His family was in the car business in Providence from 1924 to 1986! Chuck is a retired physics instructor and an MGB enthusiast for many years. He's worked on just about every part of the MG – brakes, clutch, carburetors, wiring, and body. His biggest challenge was breaking down the engine, boring the cylinders, then reassembling and driving it off!

## TUESDAY LATE AFTERNOONS

Tuesday late afternoons

Temple Beth-El

3:15-5:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 18-May 20

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 35

### Scrabble Social Group

Coordinators: Sandy Pankiw, Tracey Zeckhausen

Do you have fond memories of playing Scrabble in your past? Now is your chance to get back in the game. Are you someone who has always loved the game but doesn't have people to play with? With this group, you'll be guaranteed two games per week with different people each week. All levels are welcome.

**Format:** LLC provides boards and Scrabble dictionaries. Players draw a colored 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 RSVP to the weekly email, so we know whether to expect you. Please plan to arrive around 3 PM to help us get set up so we can begin play by 3:15. The Coordinators and other past players will be on hand for rules clarification and other questions. Those who wish to may gather afterwards at a nearby restaurant for dinner and conversation.

**Resources/Expenses:** All supplies are provided. There are no expenses.

**Coordinators:** Tracey Zeckhausen has loved the game of Scrabble since she began playing with her grandmother, mom, and great aunts at a young age. She is a retired communications professional who enjoys many different word games. She has coordinated the group for the past several sessions. Sandy Pankiw also loves Scrabble and joined the group to meet new people when she moved to the Providence area.

## WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Wednesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 19-May 21

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 14

### Reading Plays Aloud: Families

Coordinator: Wendy Salkind

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

Playwrights enjoy writing about families whose character dynamics and values mirror the culture surrounding them. This semester we'll read primarily realistic plays by a group of American and one English writer, all of whom are highly skilled at using imagery, characterization and language to reflect particular

dysfunctions in contemporary society. Their plays reveal the dangerous, often deadly impact of long held family secrets. The playwrights are Beth Henley, Sam Shepard, Lynn Nottage, and Tracy Letts.

**Format:** Each class is spent reading aloud half a play and discussing scenes. No class presentations are required. Outside of class, participants are expected to read the play and the assigned articles or reviews of past theatre productions. Class discussions will focus on the play's style, action, characterization, language, and contemporary parallels to each play. Everyone is expected to participate in discussions.

**Resources/Expenses:** The plays can be found used from BetterWorldBooks.com, Alibris.com, Abebooks.com, and Thriftbooks.com. The total cost of the five plays should be about \$30. Each of the plays is also available from a local branch of the public library. Many weeks prior to class, a list of plays and editions will be emailed to each participant.

**Coordinator:** Wendy Salkind is a retired university professor of Theatre and an actor. This will be her fifth time coordinating a *Reading Plays Aloud* course.

Wednesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 19-May 21

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 16

### Paint Like a Woman, 19th and 20th Century Women Artists, Part Two

Coordinators: Susan Van Horne, Kathy Webster

**NOTE:** This is a repeat of a previously offered class with all new artists.

Female artists had only limited access to education and professional opportunities prior to the twentieth century; they were not permitted to train and develop crucial skills that male artists acquired in academies and museum schools. Nonetheless, women have made significant contributions to the art world over the past century, breaking barriers and challenging conventions. As the twentieth century progressed, more women artists enrolled in schools and began to gain acceptance into the mainstream. They may not

always have received the recognition they deserved, but there's no doubt they have left a lasting impression. Join us as we learn about some of these women whose talent was recognized and respected, learn their style and technique, and then, at home, paint a work influenced by the artist. Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Lee Krasner, as well as some lesser-known artists, will be discussed.

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

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

**Coordinators:** Kathy Webster has coordinated many painting classes, from *Open Studio* to *Plein Air Painting*, and *Painting with the Masters*. Susan Van Horne has coordinated *Open Studio* as well as *Plein Air Painting*. Both coordinators offered *Paint Like a Woman* last spring.

Wednesday mornings

Zoom Videoconference

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 19-May 21

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 15

### Writing a Memoir (Zoom)

Coordinators: Diana Grady, Ruth Mills

**NOTE:** Another session of *Writing a Memoir* is offered in-person at Temple Beth-El on Thursday PM.

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

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

**Resources/Expenses:** None.

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

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

### Wednesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 19-May 21

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 16

### Hot Topics

Coordinators: Hugh Campbell, Lee Golden

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

or *The Wall Street Journal* – or both – along with other news sources they might want to look into. Any medium will do, paper or electronic, if the topics are timely, and hot. Some of the topics presented recently include the American Presidential Election, Artificial Intelligence/ChatGPT, Ethics and the Supreme Court, and Politics of the U.S. Debt Limit.

**Format:** Each week one member of the group will choose one article on a current hot topic. After briefly presenting it to the group, they will pose the questions and lead the discussion. The coordinators will act as moderator of the session and help ensure that all viewpoints are heard.

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

**Coordinators:** Hugh Campbell and Lee Golden have successfully coordinated this very popular course many times in the past.

### Wednesday afternoons

#### Temple Beth-El & Zoom

#### Videoconference Hybrid Class

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 19-May 21

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 10 (8 TBE & 2 Zoom)

### LLC Knits

Coordinator: Doris Briggs

Join LLC knits for spring knitting now that the weather is warming. Join us for a tutorial for an Emotional Support Chicken or pick a project that interests you. Time will be provided to discuss all projects; the only requirement is you know basic knitting.

**Format:** Together we will work on our projects one stitch at a time. Classmates will work on their projects at home, and we will meet weekly for a sit and knit. This is a hybrid class held in-person and on Zoom Videoconference.

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

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

## THURSDAY MORNINGS

### Thursday mornings

#### Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 20-May 22

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 30

### Theater Conversations

Coordinators: Kathy Webster, Mike Webster

**Note:** Our first play, *Between Riverside and Crazy*, closes March 9, so please see it before then.

Join our popular Theater Conversations course as we attend a wide variety of plays, discuss them, learn from each other, and enjoy visitors from some of the productions! We will feature *La Tempestad* at Trinity Rep, *Hamlet* and *Between Riverside and Crazy* at the Gamm Theatre, *Fat Ham* at the Wilbury Theater Group, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* and *Legend of Georgia McBride* at the Burbage Theatre Company, and a combination of two Greek plays at Brown/Trinity MFA.

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

**Expenses:** Total expenses of about \$130 for most dates, including special Trinity group rate.

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

**Class calendar available at [lifelonglearningcollaborative.org/calendar](https://lifelonglearningcollaborative.org/calendar).**



## THURSDAY MORNINGS

Thursday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

8 weeks

Mar 20-May 8

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 20

### Short Stories by 20th Century Native American Authors

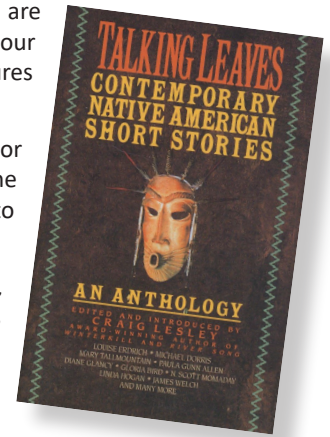
Coordinator: Patricia Becker

There is a power in short story telling, a power that will be evident in this sample of short stories by Native American authors. Their stories will acquaint us with varying shared aspects of indigenous tribal cultures which generally include respect for tribal elders, for history and tradition, for a closeness to the natural and spiritual worlds, and for the value of storytelling. The stories are by both familiar authors as well as authors less well-known. All will enhance our appreciation of the complexity and richness of the varying indigenous cultures they represent.

**Format:** Participants will lead the class discussion of a story of choice, providing a brief biography of the author and structuring the discussion with 5 or 6 questions prepared ahead of time. These questions are to be sent to the coordinator 4-5 days before class for distribution to class participants. Use of video, PowerPoint, or other venues to enhance the discussion is welcome, but not expected.

**Resources/Expenses:** The source book is *Talking Leaves: Contemporary Native American Short Stories, An Anthology*, 1991, edited by Craig Lesley. The book can be ordered at local bookstores for \$24 or obtained used online at sites that support local bookstores, including Abe's Books for \$7.50 or Better World Books for \$5.40.

**Coordinator:** Patricia Becker, an emerita professor from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, has coordinated a number of short story classes for LLC.



Lifelong Learning  
COLLABORATIVE

## REGISTRATION POLICY

**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.

**PHOTO AND VIDEO PERMISSION.** As LLC expands its efforts to attract new members, the Marketing Committee will occasionally seek to gather images and comments of members for use in promotional materials. By registering for an LLC class, you give permission for your image and/or comments to appear in photographs and videos taken during the class, to be used by LLC in any medium, including online and in print. Any photos/videos of in-person or Zoom classes will be made only with advance permission of the course coordinator(s), and videos will be short excerpts only.

**REGISTRATION PAYMENT.** Registration is accepted online (Visa/MasterCard) through our secure payment portal. Many of our classes fill on the first day of registration. To avoid disappointment, we suggest that you register early.

**ENROLLMENT LIMITS.** 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.

**CLASS WAITING LISTS.** A waiting list will be formed after a class fills up. Members will not have to pay the registration fee to be put on the waiting list. If a space becomes available, members on the waiting list will be contacted in order via email giving them the option to register. If the member has in the meantime elected to register for a second choice of class, they may transfer out of that class into the waitlisted class.

**REGISTRATION CONFIRMATIONS.** Confirmation of registration will be sent by email. If you do not receive confirmation immediately after registering, contact us at [info@lifelonglearningcollaborative.org](mailto:info@lifelonglearningcollaborative.org). We are not responsible for registration errors or registrations that did not submit.

**CLASS CANCELLATION.** 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.

**WITHDRAWALS FROM A CLASS.** 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.

**COURSE FEES FOR COORDINATORS.** Coordinators do not register or pay for the courses they coordinate. They must, however, be paid members of LLC.

**GUEST POLICY.** Guests are welcome in LLC classes one time only, with the advance approval of the Coordinator(s). There are no auditors.

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

## THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

Thursday afternoons

Temple Beth-El & Block Island

1:00-3:00 PM

9 weeks

Mar 20-May 8 (plus an optional day trip to B.I. the week of May 12)

Fee: \$50

Class size limit: 20

### Block Island, Then and Now

Coordinators: Pat Nickles, Kate O’Kula

Join us for a deep dive into Block Island’s geology, ecology, sociology, and rich cultural history. Be introduced to locals with stories to tell. Learn about the island’s earliest development, Native peoples’ settlements, the arrival of Europeans, current fishing, farming and tourism industries, and the impact of wars, storms, and development. Block Island is located 12 miles off the coast of RI and consists of ten square miles in land area. About 1,400 people live on the island year-round. How are they impacted by the droves of summer visitors and seasonal residents who dramatically multiply the island’s population? What are the islanders’ main concerns going forward regarding impacts on natural and man-made resources? **NOTE: The class will end with an optional full day tour of the island the week of May 12th. The cost of the tour with ferry fees and parking will be between \$50-\$80 per person.**

**Format:** Your coordinators will select island guest speakers and set up telephone, Zoom, or in-person interviews. Participants will be asked to make a presentation, conduct an interview, or lead a discussion from the topics shown in the syllabus.

**Resources/Expenses:** Participants should purchase a copy of Steve McQueeney’s book *Block Island: From the Glaciers to the Wind Farm*. It is available from several Block Island sources for about \$25 including shipping, and there are a few copies available through the library system. Participants will need access to the Internet.

**Coordinators:** Pat Nickles, a retired town planner has coordinated previous LLC reading and writing classes. Kate O’Kula is a retired social work administrator and consultant and co-coordinated her first LLC course in Fall 2024.

Thursday afternoons

Temple Beth-El & Zoom

Videoconference Hybrid Class

1:00-3:00 PM

7 weeks

Mar 20-May 8 (No class Apr 10)

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 22 (14 TBE & 8 Zoom)

### Ticket to the Opera: Short and (NOT) Sweet

Coordinators: Penny Backman, Linda Shamoan, Penney Stein

A challenging proposition: can an opera engage us, tear at our hearts, tickle our funny bones in about an hour? Does the music soar? Do the characters come alive? Are we swept away by tragic stories of passion, lust, betrayal and revenge? Do they make us laugh at human foibles and flaws? All in such a short time (from the operatic point of view). Join the challenge as we consider seven short operas – some “chestnuts” from the repertoire, others less known, and see whether in opera, it doesn’t have to be long to be good.

**Format:** Participants are encouraged to give short presentations and lead discussions about the operas we will be viewing. PowerPoint is NOT necessary. Class members will view the operas independently. This is a hybrid class held in-person and on Zoom videoconferencing.

**Resources/Expenses:** The coordinators will designate specific online performances for each opera for viewing. Some will be on YouTube (free). Others can be obtained from Metropolitan Opera on Demand for \$4.95 each or by monthly subscription (\$14.95/month).

**Coordinators:** Penny Backman, Linda Shamoan (technical assistance), and Penney Stein are all opera aficionados and have coordinated this class many times in the past.

Thursday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

10 weeks

Mar 20-May 22

Fee: \$55

Class size limit: 15

### Writing a Memoir (In-person at Temple Beth-El)

Coordinators: Diana Grady, Lorraine Kaul, Ruth Mills

**NOTE: Another session of Writing a Memoir is offered on Zoom on Wednesday AM.**

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

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

**Resources/Expenses:** None.

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

## FRIDAY MORNINGS

### Friday mornings

#### Zoom Videoconference

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

8 weeks

Mar 21-May 9

Fee: \$95

Class size limit: 18

### Get Fit at Home

Instructor: Adam Stone / Coordinator: Sam Shamoan

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

Are you still sitting around since the Coronavirus lockdown, or do you just need some motivation? Join us in a personalized exercise course to help you get back on your feet with increased stamina, strength, agility, flexibility, and overall health.

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

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

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

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

### Friday mornings

#### Temple Beth-El & Fox Point

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

8 weeks

Mar 21-May 9

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 20

### Explore Fox Point, Meet Jane Jacobs, and Co-Lead a Walking Conversation

Coordinators: Barbara Barnes, Gayle Gifford, Beverly Pettine

**NOTE: Class members need to be able to walk in an urban setting where sidewalks and pathways may be uneven. One goal of this class is for members to co-lead one public walking conversation in a festival called Jane's Walk on May 2-3. Before registration, please check your calendar to confirm that you can participate in the festival on those dates.**

Do you know the Fox Point neighborhood in Providence? Waysides in India Point Park and murals along Wickenden, Brook, and Gano Streets tell part of the story. More can be told in the stories of the Irish, Portuguese, Cape Verdeans, and Azoreans who have lived and worked here since the 19th century. Fox Point is the kind of urban neighborhood that journalist and city activist Jane Jacobs championed in the 1960's and 70's. Since 2007, her work and writing have been celebrated in cities worldwide during the first weekend in May when "walking conversations" take place. Providence is one of those cities. And you can be part of those conversations. In this class you will explore Fox Point's 18th-21st century history, and, with classmates, you will learn how to facilitate a walking conversation – the kind that Jane Jacobs always envisioned.

**Format:** Classroom discussion; guest lectures; walking conversations in Fox Point.

**Resources/Expenses:** Coordinators will recommend websites, YouTube film and bibliography (books can be found in local libraries and on Amazon).

**Coordinators:** Barbara Barnes was a tourism manager in Providence for 25 years. At LLC she has been a class coordinator, committee leader, and board member. Gayle Gifford coordinated the popular library course last spring, is a consultant to nonprofits, and has participated in many Providence Jane's Walks. Beverly Pettine taught 3rd grade and was a teacher/interpreter at Hornbine School in Rehoboth and a walking tour guide in Providence.

**In Lights, Camera, Action: Unforgettable Fashion on the Silver Screen (Fall 2024)** Karen Borger and Jill Tobak conducted a live interview with no less than Elizabeth Taylor herself (graciously played by Ronnie Golden Engle, Fashion Stylist/Proprietor of the Salons of Beauty at RGE in Warwick, RI). The presentation shed light on the importance of a screen legend who not only dazzled in beautiful costumes over a long career but also made an enduring contribution as a pioneer in the critical cause of international AIDS research.



# Come learn with us!



Lifelong Learning  
COLLABORATIVE

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