



Course Descriptions, Spring Term 2017

Monday: 10 AM – Noon: Shakespeare At The Opera

Over 200 operas have been based on the plays of William Shakespeare. Many have been performed once or twice and then been consigned to the trash bin, some unjustly. Others have become part of the canon. With videos, sound recordings and texts this class will explore 4 plays and the operas (and an occasional ballet) they have spawned: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (with examples from Purcell and Britten), *Romeo and Juliet* (Bellini and Gounod), *Othello* (Rossini and Verdi) and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* aka *Falstaff* (Nicolai, Salieri, and Verdi). Guest artists will include (in alphabetical order) Roberto Alagna, Judi Dench, Joyce DiDonato, Placido Domingo, Margot Fonteyn, Anthony Hopkins, Kevin Kline, Helen Mirren, Anna Netrebko, Rudolf Nureyev, Diana Rigg, and many more. Some familiarity with the 4 Shakespeare plays is recommended.

Tom Gruenewald: April 17 – May 29 at Geer (7 sessions)

Tuesday: 10:00 AM – Noon: Let's Talk Modern Poetry

“Poetry explains depths of thought and feeling that civilization requires for its survival”. In a discussion group format we will consider some poems by about fifteen twentieth century poets, including TS Eliot, eecommings, Richard Wilbur, William Stafford, Mary Oliver, James Dickey, Billy Collins and others.. Participants may read their favorite poems from poets included or may contribute supplementary information about them. An outline will be provided later, and, though no texts are required, I recommend *100 Essential Modern Poems* by Joseph Parisi and *How to Read a Poem and Fall in Love with Poetry* by Richard Hass. Both books are available on Amazon or by order from Oblong Books.

Maura Wolf: April 18 – May 23 at Geer (6 sessions)

Wednesday 10:00 AM - Noon: Alexander Hamilton

In this course we will examine Hamilton's early life, his role during the Revolutionary war, his writings on the United States Constitution issues and the duel with Burr on the Hudson that ended his remarkable life. In our analysis of Hamilton and his contributions to the United States we will find many connections with issues in the news today.

David Bayersdorfer: April 19 – May 10 at Geer: (4 sessions)

Friday: 10:00 AM – Noon: Native Americans and Broken Treaties

The westward expansion of Americans from the 17th century to the present has been labeled by historians as “Manifest Destiny”. Manifest for whom? From a Native American perspective, it could well be renamed “Broken Treaties, Inc.” In this course we will use documentary films to examine this tragic feature of American history. Cherokee, Sioux, Lakota Indian tribes and others were forced from their land onto reservations, against their will and at great expense to them, their families, and their traditions.

Larry Rand: April 21 – May 26 at Geer (6 sessions)

Taconic Learning Center

Registration Form for Spring Term 2017 Courses

Please use this form to register for TLC courses and submit by April 1, 2017

(Please don't wait! The earlier the better)

Name of 1st student in household: _____

Name of 2nd student in household: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

E-mail address student 1: _____

E-mail address student 2: _____

Please check here if you would be willing to be a Course Manager or Co-Manager: ____

Student 1	Student 2	Course Title
_____	_____	Shakespear & Opera (Geer/Monday/10 AM) Tom Gruenewald: April 17 – May 29 (7 sessions)
_____	_____	Let's Talk Modern Poetry (Geer/Tuesday/10 AM) Maura Wolf: April 18 – May 23 (6 sessions)
_____	_____	Alexander Hamilton (Geer/Wednesday/10 AM) David Bayersdorfer: April 19 – May 10 (4 sessions)
_____	_____	Native Americans (Geer/Friday/10 AM) Larry Rand: April 21 – May 26 (6 sessions)

Please Mail to TLC, PO Box 1752, Lakeville, CT 06039

Questions? Call 860-364-9363

**Note: Even better, you can register online by going to
www.taconiclearningcenter.org**

**At this site, you can also verify your mailing address, email address,
telephone number and membership status. And save a stamp!
And expenses for TLC.**