



# Renaissance Institute SPRING 2025

Lifelong Learning



NOTRE DAME  
OF MARYLAND  
UNIVERSITY



# EXPLORE. DREAM. DISCOVER.

Trying something new can take you to places you've never investigated. Pursue your painting or history passion. Join a writing workshop. Discover new developments in science and technology.

**K**eeping the minds, bodies, and spirits of adults age 50+ flexible since 1989, the Renaissance Institute is a lifelong learning community housed on the main campus of Notre Dame of Maryland University.

Renaissance Institute offers two semesters of noncredit courses, many of which are designed and led primarily by the members themselves, supplemented by excellent outside instructors. As a member, you may take as many classes as you wish from our varied catalog of offerings and, when ready, share your acquired knowledge by teaching courses on subjects you are passionate about. Course topics have included literature, public affairs, philosophy, history, music, art, languages, qigong, film, science, computers, yoga, acting, and more.

We also offer member-sponsored activities and travel opportunities. Past trips have included Costa Rica, the Canadian Maritimes, the Grand Tetons, and the Southwest U.S.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Take as many Renaissance Institute courses as you like each registered semester included in your membership fee
- Member Sponsored Social Events During Semester Breaks
- Access the Notre Dame/Loyola library, dining hall, and fitness center
- Receive a Notre Dame ID card that can be used for student discounts
- Apply for an Amazon Prime Student account using your Notre Dame student email account
- Free parking accessible to the NDMU campus
- Free download of Microsoft Office 365

**COST:** \$265 for the Spring Semester

**DATES AND TIMES:** Dates and times will be as stated in the catalog. Spring 2025 classes will host some offerings by remote delivery via Zoom and others in person on the Notre Dame of Maryland University Campus.

**MORE INFORMATION:** [todea@ndm.edu](mailto:todea@ndm.edu), [sadams@ndm.edu](mailto:sadams@ndm.edu)



**Tuesday**

**First 6 Week Classes**

**Feb 4 – March 11**

**9:15AM – 10:30AM**

**1. Hamlet: A Fresh Look – Part II  
(Limit 24)**

**Campus**

Instructor: George Kessler

Although we will explore the second half of Hamlet this semester, a recap of the first half to start will allow those who did not take Part I to join seamlessly. The course comprises scenes read in class, much discussion, many slides and video clips, and some surprises. So far, most have survived. The goal remains to mine new insights into an oft-studied gem while allowing the joy of the Shakespeare experience to take us where it may.

*Emerging from the mean streets of Baltimore, I achieved a Baltimore City Public Schools diploma. After 45 years of teaching in the city, I am striving to maintain the barest thread of dignity.*

**2. Female Blues Belters of the 1920's**

**Campus**

Instructor: Seth Kibel

For much of the 20th century, blues was most readily identified with men wielding guitars. But during the blues craze of the 1920's, it was women, belting out the blues in front of a large band. We'll examine the careers of some of the key figures of this era, including "Ma" Rainey, Bessie Smith, Alberta Hunter, and Ethel Waters. Audio and video, along with performances from the instructor, will make this course lively as the music itself, albeit less bawdy.

*Seth Kibel is one of the Mid-Atlantic's premier woodwind specialists, working with some of the best bands in Klezmer, Jazz, Swing, and more. His most recent recording, "Clown with A Stick," was released in May 2023 on the Azalea City Recordings record label.*

### 3. Creating the Roaring Twenties

**Campus**

Instructor: Ed Berkowitz

This six-week course will examine the lives of some interesting people who helped to create the Roaring Twenties. Among the disparate subjects will be Babe Ruth, William Faulkner, George Gershwin, Al Smith, and Henry Ford. No outside reading. Lecture and discussion.

*Ed Berkowitz, Professor Emeritus of History at George Washington University, has taught Renaissance courses on politics and American culture and sung with the Renaissance Singers.*

## 4. If Women Wrote the Bible

**Zoom**

Instructor: Betty Loafmann

Ever wondered what the women who are often named but never quoted in either the Old or New Testament would have told us about the exodus or meeting Jesus. We will never know for certain, but some of what we do know about their world will help us extrapolate their wisdom and add women's wisdom to the words we already have. Men are welcome to join this venture.

**Textbook: Bible recommended**

*Betty was ordained as a minister in 1968. Since then, she has combined her theological education with her belief in the value of women to help others expand their appreciation of biblical wisdom. Betty has taught a variety of other courses in the past 12 years.*

## 5. Memory Pictures/Writers' Workshop – Part 1 (Limit 16)

**Zoom**

Instructor: Elizabeth Fanto

Writers will write on self-selected topics in and out of class; respond to mini lessons on fiction, non-fiction and poetry models; share their efforts in response groups; and revise works as they choose. Beginning writers are welcome.

*Elizabeth is a graduate of TSU, with a B.S. in Education and a Master's in English. She taught high school English and Creative Writing in BCPS, and sponsored Dulaney's Sequel literary/art magazine for six years. She has taught RI writing classes for over 21 years. She was editor of Reflections magazine for 6 years.*

## 6. Spanish Is Fun – Intermediate – Part 1 (Part 1 and Part 2 Required)

**Zoom**

Instructor: Judy Frumkin

Spanish is Fun will be taught on Zoom and will include a lot of participation. We will discuss sports, shopping in different types of stores, living in the city and different beliefs and superstition. Grammatical structures that we will discuss include both past tenses, different types of pronouns, and comparisons. Culture will be infused in the course material and outside readings and videos will be included.

**Textbook: Spanish Is Fun Book 2**

*Judy has been a high school Spanish teacher for over 40 years, 30 of them in the school system in Baltimore City. I have also taught on the college level and taught at RI for several years, ending about five years ago. I am also currently teaching Spanish via Zoom in my community (Leisure World in Silver Spring). I received my BA from American University and my MA from Coppin State University. I also studied for two summers in Spain.*

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*Alina Kurbiel, a signature artist with the Baltimore Watercolor Society, hails from Silesia, Poland, where she earned her Master's degree. After a career in Maryland's tech industry, she transitioned to traditional art, focusing on watercolors, ink, and pencils. Her approachable, creative teaching style welcomes artists of all levels.*

## **8. Qigong – Stretch, Breathe Deeply, Calm Your Mind-Part 1 Zoom**

Instructor: Pamela Tanton

Qigong (pronounced chee gung) is an ancient Chinese system of breath and movement. And here's the thing--it's also a lot of fun and it's super relaxing. In class, we do standing and seated movements, and if you want to sit the entire time, that's okay too. All you need to do is follow the teacher. We learn the movements in a sequence and practice the sequence many times, so that you can really get the feel of it in body and mind. Qigong can reduce anxiety, lower blood pressure, help balance.

*Pamela has been teaching qigong since 2004, and she's been teaching at Renaissance since 2018. She is a graduate of Goucher College. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, watching figure skating, gardening on her balcony, and taking long walks in nature.*



**11:00AM – 12:15PM**

**9. Making Sense of the World of Investments –  
For the Novice (Limit 20)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Beth Volk

Managing your money can be overwhelming. This class is a primer that provides the 'back-story' on the world of investments. It covers the basics of bonds, stocks, mutual funds, and working with investment professionals. While at times the subject is a bit technical, it is practical information delivered in plain English. The goal is to make you feel more conversant and confident when dealing with your finances and financial advisors. This in-person class is a mix of lectures and discussion.

*Beth Volk used her BA Business Administration, Gettysburg College and MBA, University of Virginia in a 20-year career in the investment business as a fixed-income corporate bond analyst and strategist advising institutional clients and mutual fund advisors. After changing careers, she participated in a local investment club guiding its overall investment strategy and researching potential stocks for purchase.*

**10. From Fiber to Fabric: A Brief History of Textiles**

**Campus**

Instructor: Ivy Allgeier

Fabrics have a rich and dynamic history, dating back to the first civilizations, influencing not only fashion but culture, chemistry, and mathematics. In this part lecture/part workshop we will explore the journey from fiber to fabric examining the tools, history, and impact on civilizations throughout the world. Participants will engage in making cloth, from fiber to fabric!

*Ivy Allgeier recently retired from a career in education. She has been involved in fiber arts for over 20 years. Ivy is a knitter, spinner, weaver and hooker (of rugs)!!!*

## 11. Renaissance Singers – Part 1

**Campus**

Instructor: Nancy Heinold

The Renaissance Singers is a four-part harmony choir. Anyone who enjoys singing is invited to participate. Music is provided and there are no auditions. Everyone is welcome. This is not a sing-along or a choir singing renaissance music. We perform a variety of musical genres.

*Nancy has been the conductor of the Renaissance Singers for 10 years. She has been an organist and choir director of an Episcopal church for 45 years and has been involved with music all her life.*

## 12. Jane Austen - So Much More Than Cute

**Zoom**

Instructor: Betty Loafmann

All of Jane's stories are so much deeper than just cute love stories. She was a wise and careful observer of the changes England was experiencing. We will explore all the social and political issues Austen raises in her books. With these insights, the books become treasures you will value and read again and again.

*Betty joined Jane Austen Society in 2010 and has been attending seminars every year since then. Her admiration for Jane includes teaching in costumes of the regency period. Betty has taught a variety of courses over the past several years and invites her classes to get into vigorous discussions.*

## 13. New Yorker Roundtable – Part 1

**Zoom**

Instructor: Brian Young

The New Yorker Roundtable is a discussion group of articles in recent issues of the magazine. Each week, 4-5 articles are assigned for reading. The articles generally include investigations, profiles, short stories, poetry and book reviews. The class is a lightly moderated discussion of these articles concentrating on the content, writing style, and how the reader has been affected by the material. Participants raise their hand to speak and are called on in turn.

**Textbook: Acquire New Yorker Magazine by subscription**

*Brian comes to the Renaissance Institute after a career in the aerospace industry where he was a program manager. He has been offering the Roundtable for the last 6 years.*

## **14. Spanish Is Fun – Beginning – Part 1 (Part 1 and Part 2 Required)**

**Zoom**

**Instructor:** Judy Frumkin

Spanish is Fun will be taught on Zoom and will include a lot of participation. We will discuss health, dates, the body, weather, homes, food and location. Grammatical structures will include different uses and formations of verbs, idiomatic expressions and talking about what participants like and don't like. Culture will be infused in the course as well as outside readings and videos.

**Textbook: Spanish Is Fun Book 1 (preferably 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> edition)**

*Judy has been a high school Spanish teacher for over 40 years, 30 of them in the school system in Baltimore City. I have also taught on the college level and taught at RI for several years, ending about five years ago. I am also currently teaching Spanish via Zoom in my community (Leisure World in Silver Spring). I received my BA from American University and my MA from Coppin State University. I also studied for two summers in Spain.*

## **15. Freedom of Movement – Part 1**

**Zoom**

**Instructor:** Linda McGill

This class is a type of yoga class that creates a new freedom of movement, it works on strengthening the posture, core and helping the body feel stronger and better aligned using simple movements, breath and relaxation. Other benefits include relieving neuromuscular pain, regaining voluntary control of habitually tight muscles, improving coordination, balance, flexibility, while increasing self-awareness and mindfulness. This class can be done in your bed.

*Linda McGill is a Roland Park native of 34 years. She is a certified 500 hr ytt Yoga & Meditation Teacher.*

## 16. Introduction to Islamic Art – Part 1 (Limit 45)

**Zoom**

Instructor: Sarah Slingsluff, PhD

This course introduces students to the art and architecture of the Islamic world and seeks to give participants a taste of many cultures and traditions. Through lecture and discussion, we will explore what makes something an "Islamic" art object. Perfect for novices and art lovers alike—together we will look at a variety of media including ceramics, manuscripts, metalwork, wood, and jewelry. The class will adjust to participants' individual interests as well as provide a general overview.

*Sarah Slingsluff received her Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh in Islamic Art History. Her specialty is the art and architecture of al-Andalus (modern-day Spain). Currently Sarah works at the Walters Art Museum. Prior to working at the Walters, Sarah taught high school in Baltimore for 10 years.*



**1:15PM – 2:30PM**

**17. Missionaries, Martyrs and Mensches: Jesuits Who Made a Difference – Part 1**

**Campus**

Instructor: Fr. Steve Spahn, S.J.

This lecture and discussion class will survey the lives and impacts of a variety of Jesuits over the past five centuries with an eye to their relevance to our lives and world today. These are men whose work and witness embodied the Jesuit ideals of finding God in all things and living a life of freedom and detachment—from the exploits of St. Francis Xavier in 16th century Asia to Fr. Greg Boyle's transformative work with ex-gang members in Los Angeles today.

*A member of Loyola University's Jesuit Community, Fr. Spahn teaches theology and directs Ignatian retreats and programs. He is a native of Colorado, the youngest of ten children and a proud alumnus of several Jesuit schools (Georgetown, Fordham, and Boston College).*

**18. Acting Improvisation – Part 1 (Limit 18)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Natalie Pilcher

This class will be a fun, relaxed setting to explore your improvisational acting chops. If you've always wanted to see what this acting thing is all about or you're an "old hand"—either way, you'll have fun tapping into your creative imagination. This is a no-pressure way to enjoy collaborating in theatre games such as: One Minute Professor, A-B Scenes, and The Bench Game. You will be introduced to the basics of comedic improv as we create a safe space to delve into unscripted dramatics.

*Natalie Pilcher is an actor, director, teacher, and playwright. Between acting at Theater Project, Allenberry Playhouse, and other theatres, she taught at Catonsville Community College, Peabody Preparatory, The St. Paul's Schools, and Oldfields. She directed productions at these schools and Krieger-Schechter Day School, Jemicy, The Maryland School for the Blind, and more. Natalie was previously an Artist in Residence for the Maryland State Arts Council.*

## 19. Nia – Part 1

**Campus**

Instructor: Rebecca Donnelly

Nia is a low-impact fusion fitness class. What is that? It is a combination of dance arts, martial arts, and healing arts all rolled into one class. The music is most often some sort of world music and you will have a chance to move every part of your body.

*Rebecca has been practicing Nia since 2014 and holds a Black Belt in the Nia technique. She also is the owner of a healing studio and practices acupuncture there.*

## 20. Walks in the Walters

**Zoom**

Instructor: Sheila Vidmar

A series of Zoom presentations concerning the art and objects at the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore. “Exploring” the galleries via Zoom, we can examine, discuss, and compare paintings, sculpture, and objects. We can also compare and contrast things that are not near each other in the museum, or not often on view. Our goal will be to have some fun, hone observation skills, and gain deeper appreciation of art of different times, different cultures, and different regions.

*Sheila Vidmar retired from a career as an attorney and became a volunteer docent at the Walters Art Museum in 2013. In addition to touring in the galleries, she enjoys developing online presentations to showcase the Walters.*

## 21. Poetry Workshop – Part 1 (Limit 18)

**Zoom**

Instructor: Susan Marshall

In Poetry Workshop, we present a poem each week to be shared and gently critiqued by fellow members. A suggested assignment is presented for each week which may or may not be followed, as the poet decides.

*Susan Marshall earned both her B.A. and her Master’s degree from NDMU. She has coordinated the Poetry Workshop for several years.*

## 22. Winter & Wonder: A Film Course – Part 1

**Zoom**

Instructor: Amanda Joyce

This course will explore the themes of Winter and Wonder. Films featuring Winter will examine it as a key element in the plot, the sense of place, or the mood. Films featuring Wonder will explore the larger question of what creates a sense of wonder: a spiritual awakening, a catastrophe, a journey, an act of love—or perhaps an invasion from outer space? All cinematic eras will be covered, with a one-hour presentation, and a class discussion to follow.

*Amanda Joyce has taught film classes at Renaissance for several years. She has a particular interest in the history and evolution of the film industry and enjoys experiencing all types of films: the good, the bad, and the strange.*

The background of the page features a large, light blue circular logo for Renaissance Institute. The logo contains the text "RENAISSANCE INSTITUTE" around the top inner edge, "RI" in large letters in the center, and "1989" at the bottom. The text is in a serif font.

**Tuesday**

**Second 6 Week Classes**

**March 25 – April 29**

**9:15AM – 10:30AM**

## **23. History of Sex**

**Campus**

Instructor: Jennifer Liles

Lectures regarding the history of sex within society from the Victorian Period to now, exploring the roles of men and women, LGBTQ+ as well as societal norms and how they shaped the society we live in today.

*Jennifer Liles is a Public Historian who focuses on public history, looking at the way society has changed and where our traditions emerge and change. She often researches subjects and people who are not discussed and often not known, to bring forth a history of the area in which we live and share our local histories of the common people of our community.*

## **24. Photography as an Art Form**

**Campus**

Instructor: David Lavine

When photography was invented in 1839, commentators thought it would be the ideal medium for the literal documentation of places and people. But others like the American Alfred Stieglitz saw it differently. Through the manipulation of lenses, lighting, and choice of subject matter, they found that they could make images inspired by their imaginations. In this course, we will see how photographers turned the medium on its head and made it into creative expression.

*David received a bachelor's in history from the University of Delaware in 1967. After service in the Navy, he used the GI bill to study photography at the Maryland Institute College of Art. David received a Master of Fine Arts in 1977. He worked as a freelance photographer, and he is an adjunct professor at Anne Arundel Community College. David's work has been shown in local galleries.*



## 25. Imprisoned Without Trial: Japanese Incarceration in WWII

**Zoom**

Instructor: Dennis Kato

Anti-Asian violence: A modern-day occurrence? Not at all. Fear, hatred and racism toward the Chinese and Japanese began in the mid 1800's culminating with the incarceration of nearly 125,000 Japanese in WWII, two thirds of whom were US citizens. From the perspective of a third generation Japanese American, we shall discuss how the camps came to being, camp life, post camp life, and today's implications of racial hatred that continues.

*Dennis Kato is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and is a third generation Japanese American. He and his wife have visited all ten incarceration camp locations as fifteen members of his immediate family were incarcerated. Over ten years of research have culminated in lectures nationwide and several articles and interviews have been conducted.*

## 26. The American Story through the Lens of Museum Exhibits **Zoom**

Instructor: Marvin Pinkert

For 32 years Marvin Pinkert led teams producing more than 100 exhibits at 3 museums: Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry, National Archives Experience, and the Jewish Museum of Maryland. He will share little known stories from the Declaration of Independence (signed starting on August 2 not July 4) to Shaq's shoes (at the Bush Library), stopping along the way for a Jewish hero of Fort McHenry, the Civil War's international impact, and Harry Houdini's final act.

*Marvin Pinkert has led exhibit development teams at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry, the National Archives, and the Jewish Museum of Maryland. Marvin has taught several courses at Renaissance in the past.*

## 27. Memory Pictures/Writers' Workshop – Part 2 **Zoom** (Limit 16)

Instructor: Elizabeth Fanto

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## **28. Spanish Is Fun – Intermediate – Part 2 (Part 1 and Part 2 Required)**

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## 30. Qigong – Stretch, Breathe Deeply, Calm Your Mind –

**Zoom**

### Part 2

Instructor: Pamela Tanton

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**11:00AM – 12:15PM**

## **31. The Pre-Raphaelites – Great Britain's First Modern Painters**

**Campus**

Instructor: Christine Bentley

The Pre-Raphaelite movement began during the early Victorian era when artists began challenging the standards held by the British art establishment. Their work continued to evolve throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries, and we will see their influence on the Arts and Crafts and Aesthetic Movements. They are known for their love of nature, attention to detail, innovative use of color and methods of painting as well as the incorporation of current social and medieval themes in their work.

*Christine Bentley, LCSW-C worked as a clinical social worker for 33 years prior to retirement. She has taught at Osher, CCBC and the Renaissance Institute since that time. Her focus in teaching is in the areas of art, history and historic personalities.*

## **32. History of Charles Street: Its People, Places, and Things** **Campus**

Instructor: Ruth Mascari and Trish Bentz

Wondered about the beautiful homes along the Charles Street corridor—builders, architects, histories? What's been lost to new construction? What about institutions—schools, churches, hotels, apartments? Take a stroll, horse and buggy, cable car, trolley, or one of those newfangled automobiles. Traveling directs and commands our lives, influencing the day's activities, we can miss so much. Let's look behind the curtain at the people, places, and things of this premier thoroughfare, Charles Street.

*Ruth Mascari: MA in history and preservation. Former Chairman Baltimore County Landmarks Commission and Baltimore County Historic Trust. She has written numerous publications and news articles relating to Baltimore County/City history.*

*Patricia Bentz: After leaving the corporate world, worked at promoting historic preservation for 17 years. She is excited to learn as much from you as you may from her.*



### 33. Renaissance Singers – Part 2

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*A member of Loyola University's Jesuit Community, Fr. Spahn teaches theology and directs Ignatian retreats and programs. He is a native of Colorado, the youngest of ten children, and a proud alumnus of several Jesuit schools (Georgetown, Fordham, and Boston College).*

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## **40. Historic Jonestown: Baltimore's Oldest, Most Unique, Immigrant Settlement**

**Campus**

Instructor: [Bev Rosen](#)

In this 6-lecture course, we will learn about the landscape, people, stories and overlooked landmarks of Jonestown through four centuries of epic change. Settled as a separate town, it became the second leading immigrant port with 1.2 million diverse immigrant groups who contributed to Baltimore's economy, culture, and civic pride. We will learn about the 18th and 19th century landmarks, vestiges of immigrant life, the Jones Falls history, many "firsts", urban decline. and 21st century rebirth.

*Bev Rosen, M.A. in History, MSW, MBA, is a historian whose lectures workshops, national presentations and walking tours have delighted 100's of students, visitors, members of Academic Learning Institutes, Universities, the Jewish Museum, the Maryland Center for History and Culture, and Baltimore Heritage. Her area of expertise is the history of Jonestown, and she conducts multi-lecture courses and walking tours on this topic.*

## **41. Nia – Part 2**

**Campus**

Instructor: [Rebecca Donnelly](#)

Nia is a low impact fusion fitness class. What is that? It is a combination of dance arts, martial arts, and healing arts all rolled into one class. The music is most often some sort of world music, and you will have a chance to move every part of your body.

*Rebecca has been practicing Nia since 2014 and holds a Black Belt in the Nia technique. She also is the owner of a healing studio and practices acupuncture there.*

## 42. Winter & Wonder: A Film Course – Part 2

**Zoom**

Instructor: Amanda Joyce

This course will explore the themes of Winter and Wonder. Films featuring Winter will examine it as a key element in the plot, the sense of place, or the mood. Films featuring Wonder will explore the larger question of what creates a sense of wonder: a spiritual awakening, a catastrophe, a journey, an act of love—or perhaps an invasion from outer space? All cinematic eras will be covered, with a one-hour presentation, and a class discussion to follow.

*Amanda Joyce has taught film classes at Renaissance for several years. She has a particular interest in the history and evolution of the film industry and enjoys experiencing all types of films: the good, the bad, and the strange.*

## 43. Poetry Workshop – Part 2 (Limit 18)

**Zoom**

Instructor: Susan Marshall

In Poetry Workshop we present a poem each week to be shared and gently critiqued by fellow members. A suggested assignment is presented for each week which may or may not be followed, as the poet decides.

*Susan Marshall earned both her B.A. and her Master's degree from NDMU. She has coordinated the Poetry Workshop for several years.*



Tuesday Classes (3/25 – 4/29 / 2<sup>nd</sup> 6 Weeks)







**Thursday**

**First 6 Week Classes**

**Feb 6 – March 13**

**9:15AM – 10:30AM**

## **44. Revisiting a Classic: Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream**

**Campus**

**Instructor: Maggie Ward**

This popular play is often taught to children as an introduction and yet the play ends with a speech by Puck that is an apology for giving offense. What does this play say about love and how we treat those we love, that could possibly give offense? We will explore this and other pressing issues through class discussion, video, lecture, and some in-class reading. Join us for a magical journey to a world of runaway lovers, disgruntled fairies. and even a love-sick donkey!

**Textbook: The Bantam edition is available on Amazon for \$5.99. On-text is available if you prefer to read on screen.**

*Maggie Ward taught English and Theater at a local private high school for 45 years. In addition, she directed numerous high school theater productions including two productions of A Midsummer Night's Dream!*

## **45. Great Decisions 2025 – Part 1 (Limit 28)**

**Campus**

**Instructor: Tim Casey**

Discussion of Foreign Policy topics that have and will have a major impact on the US and the world. The course is prepared by foreign policy experts in each of the fields. Class will have a video (20 minutes) and class discussion. Class participation is required. A Briefing Book is optional, but adds significantly to topic content and understanding. Briefing Book Fee is \$35 and available in RI Office.

**Textbook: Great Decisions 2025 Briefing Book is optional.**

*Tim Casey has corporate management and international experience and is an RI member for 5 years.*

## **46. Mistakes Were Made: A Review of Issues Leading to Wrongful Convictions**

**Campus**

**Instructor:** Paula Junghans

Since 1989, in the US there have been 3596 exonerations of wrongfully convicted individuals, who collectively served more than 32,000 years in prison. The course will review issues arising in these cases, including false confessions, erroneous eyewitness identification, DNA and other forensic evidence, and ineffective assistance of counsel. Format will be lecture/discussion.

*Paula M. Junghans has been a trial lawyer in the federal and state courts of Maryland and other jurisdictions since 1976. She graduated from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland and the University of Maryland School of Law and is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.*

## **47. The Other Side of History - Part 1**

**Campus**

**Instructor:** John Meredith

This Course explores the social, cultural, economic, and religious realities that dominated human lives, from the prehistoric times through the Middle Ages, using a series of 30-minute videos presented by Professor Robert Garland from Colgate University. We will show 2 videos per class with time for discussion. Part 1 will cover the time from the Roman Empire through the Roman settlement in Britain. The course will continue as Part 2 in the second six weeks taking us through the Medieval Period.

*John Meredith is a retired dentist and has been a member of the Renaissance Institute since 2015. He has had a lifelong interest in history and has led courses in Civil War history, music, and science.*

## 48. Poetry By Chance

**Campus**

Instructor: Joan Hellman

Want to discover your poems? This poetry workshop uses "chance" techniques to help writers find the hidden poems they are eager to express. Each session involves searching, creating, and sharing the thoughts we find in our hearts. Bring a notebook, or laptop for creating the poems!

*Joan has degrees in English, American Literature, and Developmental Reading. She taught at Syracuse University, Northern Illinois University, and Community College of Baltimore County. At present, although she still has trouble keeping a checkbook, she works in Financial Aid at CCBC and is enjoying retirement. She is always writing!*

## 49. Open Studio for Prose Writers – Part 1 (Limit 15)

**Hybrid**

Instructor: Amanda Joyce, Saul Lindenbaum, Sheila Scriggins

This is a prose writing course for committed writers who want to give and receive in-depth feedback. Students are encouraged to bring their short stories, memoirs, essays, or book chapters to class for reading and gentle critique. This is a safe space for writers to refine works in progress or try new things. Class size is limited to 15. This is a hybrid course, presented on campus and via zoom.

*Amanda Joyce, Saul Lindenbaum, and Sheila Scriggins are long-time members of the Open Studio group. They previously presented this course in the 2023 Fall Semester and the 2024 Spring Semester.*

## **50. Optimal Aging - How to Maximize Longevity, Independence, and Quality of Life**

**Zoom**

**Instructor:** Marquis Sanabraais DPT

Old doesn't equal weak! Societal messaging rarely accentuates the importance of proper strength training for individuals over 50. This leads to frailty, falling, and lack of independence. Learn how to optimize your strength, longevity, and quality of life (yes, even if you have pre-existing conditions.) Through proper strength and balance training you can combat arthritis, frailty, chronic illness, and disability. This course will consist of 6 Zoom lectures + a short discussion period afterwards.

*Dr. Marquis Sanabraais is a Doctor of Physical Therapy and USA weightlifting coach at Summit Physical Therapy in Hampden. He has a passion for empowering his client's health through a proactive approach centering around safe, appropriately dosed strength training, nutrition advice and cardiovascular conditioning. In his free time, you will likely find Marquis on a trail, in the gym, or at a local coffee shop.*

## **51. Leadership in Turbulent Times**

**Zoom**

**Instructor:** Betty Loafmann

Based on the book of the same name by Doris Kerns Goodwin, we will study the actions taken by Lincoln, T. Roosevelt, F. Roosevelt, and L. Johnson when America was facing threats to our existence AND compare them to actions taken by current politicians in recent years. This course will add further analysis to the material we covered last year.

**Textbook: Rec- DKG Leadership in Turbulent Times**

*Betty has studied political history for years and taught such courses as Jon Meacham's Search for The Soul of America, Life of Theodore Roosevelt, I'm Right/You're Wrong, and They Are Not the Enemy. As much as Betty enjoys talking, she is even more found of enthusiastic discussions.*

## **11:00AM – 12:15PM**

### **52. Three Plays by Ibsen (Limit 12)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Stephen Sutton

Henrik Ibsen is often considered the Father of Modern Drama. We will read, examine, and discuss three of his better-known plays: Hedda Gabler, A Doll's House, and The Wild Duck, labeled Social Problem Plays. And, problems abound from pistols to bordellos, love and forgery, alcoholism and deceit. A caution: these are not happy plays; however, most important to social and theater history.

*Steve is a retired high school English and theater teacher. He loves stories and how they are told.*

### **53. Stained Glass in Baltimore (Limit 20)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Linda Rabben

This lecture/discussion course will feature a talk by the author of a social history of stained-glass decoration in Baltimore, presentations by local stained-glass makers on their lives and work, a visit to a nearby church to view stained-glass windows, and a showing of a documentary film about stained-glass makers at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC.

**Textbook: "Through a Glass Darkly," \$30**

*Linda Rabben is an associate research professor of anthropology at the University of Maryland and the author of books on human rights and related subjects. Since moving to Baltimore in 2021 she has researched, written and published "Through a Glass Darkly: The Social History of Stained Glass in Baltimore." This course is her third offering at the Renaissance Institute.*

## **54. Urban Policy in U.S. Cities**

**Campus**

Instructor: Susan E. Baer

This in-person course provides an interesting introduction to urban policy and administration in the United States using limited lecture and more class discussion. Students will read and discuss material on important topics that include city government structure, community development, housing, and race, place, and power in U.S. cities.

*Susan Baer earned her Ph.D. in Government and Politics at University of Maryland, College Park. After completing a post-doc at Indiana University, Bloomington, she taught in Wisconsin and California where she earned tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Most recently, Susan taught as an online lecturer for the University of Kansas. She has published many journal articles and book chapters.*

## **55. Warriors, Queens, and Intellectuals: Great Women Before 1400 (Part 3)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Page Campbell

Step back in time and view history through the stories of 12 women who changed the world with their ideas, leadership, and sacrifices. This is one of the Great Courses, presented via DVD, with two 30-minute lectures shown each class session, leaving time for discussion. The lecturer is Professor Joyce E. Salisbury of the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay. It is not a prerequisite to have taken Part 1 and/or Part 2 of this course, as each woman's story stands on its own.

*Page Campbell has presented a number of courses at R.I., including Parts 1 and 2 of this course.*



## **56. Views of the News – Part 1**

**Hybrid**

**Instructor:** Hollis Jackson

During our discussions, members are invited to share opinions, concerns and critiques of current items in the news. Members are encouraged to read a wide range of sources to deepen our discussions. Polite discourse is the idea.

*Hollis Jackson was a social worker for over 40 years. She has an MSW from University of Maryland and an MS. Ed in counseling from University of Miami.*

## **57. Chair Yoga – Part 1**

**Hybrid**

**Instructor:** Linda McGill

Staying seated means that even those who aren't flexible can safely do the exercises. This is an excellent way to loosen and stretch painful muscles, reduce stress, and improve circulation while lowering blood pressure, protecting joints, and building strength and balance. We will also do some poses at the end of class standing, using the chair as a prop. We will focus on moving with the breath, and start and end class with a meditation, leaving you feeling peaceful and grounded.

*Linda McGill is a Roland Park native of 34 years. She is a certified 500 hr ytt Yoga & Meditation Teacher.*

## **58. Ukulele Class – Part 1 (Part 1 and Part 2 Required)**

**Zoom**

**Instructor:** Ray Forton

Experience the simplicity, fun, and joy of making music playing the ukulele. This is an ongoing class, and beginners are welcome and encouraged. The course will include some history of the instrument, basic music theory, learning to read chord charts, strumming patterns, playing simple melodies and songs.

*Music should bring great joy, or at least a few laughs and a good time to both players and listeners. A 22-year career as a public-school music educator has taught me the importance of joy in learning music.*

**12:45PM – 2:45PM**

**59. Watercolor Basics (Limit 15)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Joan Elisabeth Reid

If you want to brush up on your watercolor skills or try it for the first time, this is the course for you. In this workshop, we will explore basic watercolor techniques, practice mixing colors, use shadow and light and value to create three-dimensional forms, explore composition, and review basic concepts of perspective. Students will work from objects, fruits, and flowers or their own choosing and/or from photographs they have taken.

*Joan Elisabeth Reid has worked in watercolor for over twenty years in response to travel, nature, daily life, poetry, and, yes, food. She has taken a watercolor course through the Worcester Art Museum as well as watercolor workshops in Mexico, Brittany, and Provence. Before retiring, she worked in the museum field and was registrar at the Walters Art Museum 1995-2017.*

## **1:00PM – 3:00PM**

### **60. Movies in the Afternoon (Limit 25)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Vickie Lapicki and Ted Walman

In this 6-week course, the instructors will exhibit selected films covering different genres. Films run the gamut from older classics to contemporary cinema. Each class starts with Ted providing a brief summary of the film including title, year made, plot summary, actors, actresses, and director. The film is then featured with "closed captions". After the film concludes, the instructors will provide additional background.

*Ted Walman is a retired optometrist and has a great love of movies. He leads a social group which attends movies at least twice a month.*

*Vickie Lapicki takes great pleasure in sharing the experience of film with the members of Renaissance.*

### **61. Noir vs. Noir – Part 1 (Limit 18)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Marshall Highet

In this course, we will look at text-based detective novels from the early 20th century (The Maltese Falcon, etc.). We will study how these texts like to blur the line between good guys and bad guys, exulting when one turns into the other with just the right pressure. We will also examine how stylistic choices in the film versions of these texts change the meaning and message.

*Marshall Highet is a professor and writer. Spare Parts—her YA sci-fi novel—was published in 2014 and has an educational bent, with science as its foundation. Hold Fast, written with Bird Jones, is a swashbuckling adventure with historical facts holding it up. Blue-Eyed Slave, co-authored with Bird Jones, came out in 2022. Currently living in Baltimore, Marshall's newest venture is brewing her own kombucha. Website: <https://www.theothersideofthefire.com/>.*

## **62. For Your Listening Pleasure - Form and Structure in Music - Part 1**

**Campus**

**Instructor: Robert Weisser**

For all music lovers, whether novice or those who know music in more depth, you will enhance your enjoyment of music by discovering the forms and structures that are inherent in great compositions. You will learn what to listen for and hear things you may not have heard before. We will conclude with a focus on Beethoven's Heroic 3rd Symphony.

*Robert dropped out of Yale to join a rock band in the '60s. His love of music led him to Peabody, earning a bachelor's and master's in music, focusing on composition. He headed the upper school music department at Bryn Mawr School for 6 years before attending Hopkins and becoming a computer programmer. He continues to study, write, and play music in retirement. Currently he is a student at UMBC where he is a novice member of a viola da gamba ensemble.*

**1:15PM – 2:30PM**

### **63. Kaleidoscope**

**Campus**

Instructor: Vivian Appel

A 6-week course will bring together 6 speakers who will each present talks about their areas of expertise or special interests. Topics may range from cutting-edge cancer research, medical insights, art history, literature, drama, or any subject of keen interest to the presenters. Questions and discussions will be encouraged.

*Vivian is a retired lawyer who for the last 15 years of her career was Family Court Administrator in Pennsylvania. She plays golf and mahjong and is developing her skills as a sewist. Vivian is an avid traveler, is planning two weeks in southern France, and her third trip to eastern Africa.*

### **64. How Horrible We Are! (Limit 20)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Whitney Jacobs

Ever wonder whether the people you know are really who you think they are? Think about Lady Macbeth, Hamlet and Cruella deVille. Did their peers suspect who they were? Did their parents raise them to be murderers and killers of puppies? Humans can be horrible. Come join a group of wonderful people to discuss great characters. We will read and discuss six short books. Each book has one or more characters about whom you might think, “How horrible we are!”

*This class has been offered several times in recent semesters.*

Thursday Classes (2/06 – 3/13 / 1st 6 Weeks)

## 65. Ballet Basics – Part 1 (Limit 20)

**Campus**

Instructor: Susan Sklar

This course is designed to use the technique of classical ballet for the purpose of improving strength, flexibility, coordination, posture, range of motion and balance. Tap into your creative spirit, cultivate musicality, and experience the joy of movement.

*Susan Sklar received her ballet training at various local studios, Goucher and the University of Maryland. She has performed in productions of Giselle, Swan Lake, La Bayadere, and The Nutcracker. She has been dancing all her life and loves sharing her passion with a "new generation" of dancers.*

# Thursday

## Second 6 Week Classes

March 27 – May 1



Thursday Classes (3/27 – 5/01 / 2nd 6 Weeks)

**9:15AM – 10:30AM**

**66. Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra: Power and Passion at Play (Limit 22)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Marianna Russell

Antony and Cleopatra is a sublime and lavish spectacle of Shakespeare's later period. Refusing to be categorized, the play swings between history, tragedy, and comedy: transporting us back and forth between Egypt and Rome; feasting us with gorgeous language; and offering us the most captivating female character in the canon. The class will include readings, lecture, discussion, and video of past productions.

**Textbook: Antony and Cleopatra, Signet Edition**

*Marianna Russell graduated from Notre Dame's Continuing Education Program with a B.A. in English and went on to receive an M.A. in Liberal Studies. She has an abiding interest in Shakespeare and British Literature and served as a Docent at the Folger Shakespeare Library for 10 years.*

**67. The Other Side of History - Part 2**

**Campus**

Instructor: John Meredith

This Course explores the social, cultural, economic, and religious realities that dominated human lives, from the prehistoric times through the Middle Ages, using a series of 30-minute videos presented by Professor Robert Garland from Colgate University. We will show 2 videos per class with time for discussion. Part 2 continues from Part 1, taking us to through the Medieval Period.

*John Meredith is a retired dentist and has been a member of the Renaissance Institute since 2015. He has had a lifelong interest in history and has led courses in Civil War history, music, and science.*

## 68. Great Decisions 2025 – Part 2 (Limit 28)

**Campus**

Instructor: Tim Casey

Discussion of Foreign Policy topics that have and will have a major impact on the US and the world. The course is prepared by foreign policy experts in each of the fields. Class will have a video (20 minutes) and class discussion. Class participation is required. A Briefing Book is optional, but adds significantly to topic content and understanding. Briefing Book Fee is \$35 and available in RI Office.

**Textbook: Great Decisions 2025 Briefing Book is optional, \$30.**

*Tim Casey has corporate management and international experience and is an RI member for 5 years.*

## 69. Open Studio for Prose Writers – Part 2 (Limit 15)

**Hybrid**

Instructor: Amanda Joyce, Saul Lindenbaum, Sheila Scriggins

This is a prose writing course for committed writers who want to give and receive in-depth feedback. Students are encouraged to bring their short stories, memoirs, essays, or book chapters to class for reading and gentle critique. This is a safe space for writers to refine works in progress or try new things. Class size is limited to 15. This is a hybrid course, presented on campus and via zoom.

*Amanda Joyce, Saul Lindenbaum, and Sheila Scriggins are long-time members of the Open Studio group. They previously presented this course in the 2023 Fall Semester and the 2024 Spring Semester.*

## 70. Why We Love Louise Penny's Three Pines

**Zoom**

Instructor: [Betty Loafmann](#)

When Louise Penny created her mystery series, locating it in an imaginary village called Three Pines, near Quebec, she created a place her readers love. Many readers even claim that discovering the murderer is almost secondary to enjoying the people and the dinners in the village. Is this because she has touched a place in us? As her stories move out of Three Pines, we react. Why? Through lots of discussion, we will explore our relationship with Three Pines.

*Betty is a devoted mystery reader and member of the RI mystery book club. She has taught a course of mystery books as a genre of literature and tried writing a mystery. She has taught several other courses about other fields such as history, politics and religion. She maintains loving Louise Penny is no mystery.*

## 71. Introduction to Chinese Imperial Architecture (Limit 30) **Zoom**

Instructor: [Eugene Michael Geinzer, S.J.](#)

We can understand people 12 time zones away—who are so different and yet intimately tied up with us by studying their architecture. We shall examine by PowerPoint lectures six principle types of Chinese Imperial Architecture, one type each week. Let us 1) Enter through their Gates (Pai Fang); 2) walk their Roadways (chedao); 3) Cross their Bridges (qiao); 4) Enjoy their Gardens (huayuan); 5) Understand what their Pagodas (fota) signify; 6) Admire and enter their Temples (simiao).

*Eugene Geinzer, SJ, is a cabinet maker and an architect who studied Chinese Architecture all over China from 2006-2018. He taught ceramics and drawing at Georgetown 1975 - 1983; 3-D Design and Woodworking at Loyola Chicago 1983 - 2000; Indigenous Chinese handicrafts and architecture at The Beijing Center for Chinese Studies 2006 - 2018; American Domestic Architecture at St Joseph's University 2020 - 2023. Now he resides at Loyola Maryland.*

**11:00AM – 12:15PM**

**72. Three Short Novels by Willa Cather (Limit 14)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Stephen Sutton

In a return to Willa Cather's world of the prairies, we will read and discuss her novels, *A Lost Lady*, *The Professor's House*, and *Lucy Gayheart* (possibly substituting *O! Pioneers!*), spending 2 class sessions on each novel. These are not her best-known works, yet they contain themes that are important to her writing. Each contains the contrast of isolation and loneliness to that of belonging in a community.

*Steve is a retired high school English and theater teacher. He loves stories and how they are told and spent his own junior high and high school years living in a small town on the prairie.*

**73. The History of Abortion in the United States**

**Campus**

Instructor: Barbara Blumberg Ressin

Abortion is, in many cases a divisive issue. It has a complicated history, and one that starts in the 1600s. Many Americans might be surprised about how the Puritans viewed abortion, and how it was handled. Our journey will take us from the Puritan era, through the colonial period, the Revolutionary War years and so forth. We'll learn when, why, and how abortion was made illegal and the ramifications. What ultimately caused Roe, and life in post-Roe America will be discussed as well.

*Graduated with a BS in education from Towson University, taught 3 years in a Baltimore City School, 25 years at a private school, adjunct faculty member at Community College of Baltimore County, (Essex, Hunt Valley, Owings Mills campuses), adjunct faculty member at Towson University, under Osher, Oasis under Johns Hopkins in Montgomery County, adjunct faculty member at Florida Atlantic University, and various churches and synagogues around the county.*

## 74. Even More Topics in Jazz Music

**Campus**

Instructor: Bob Jacobson

Classes will mainly be guided listening/viewing sessions on the following topics: crossover hits (from jazz to the pop charts); classic improvised solos; comparing players performing the same tunes; comparing vocalists singing the same songs; jazz played on unusual instruments; and "blindfold tests" with local jazz radio hosts.

*Bob Jacobson is a mostly retired social worker who is still active as a semi-professional musician on saxophones, clarinet, and flute. He has taught three R.I. courses on jazz and the Baltimore music scene. Bob was vice president of the Baltimore Jazz Alliance for 12 years.*

## 75. Views of the News – Part 2

**Hybrid**

Instructor: Hollis Jackson

During our discussions, members are invited to share opinions, concerns, and critiques of current items in the news. Members are encouraged to read a wide range of sources to deepen our discussions. Polite discourse is the idea.

*Hollis Jackson was a social worker for over 40 years. She has an MSW from University of Maryland and an MS. Ed in counseling from University of Miami.*

## 76. Chair Yoga – Part 2

**Hybrid**

Instructor: Linda McGill

Staying seated means that even those who aren't flexible can safely do the exercises. This is an excellent way to loosen and stretch painful muscles, reduce stress, and improve circulation, while lowering blood pressure, protecting joints, and building strength and balance. We will also do some poses at the end of class standing, using the chair as a prop. We will focus on moving with the breath, and start and end class with a meditation, leaving you feeling peaceful and grounded.

*Linda McGill is a Roland Park native of 34 years. She is a certified 500 hr ytt Yoga & Meditation Teacher.*

## 77. End of Life and Spirituality

**Zoom**

Instructor: Patsy Kuo Eisenstein

This course blends my esoteric background in death and end-of-life studies with the expertise of two friends: a grief educator and an emotional fitness coach. It will guide participants on a journey to explore their inner relationship with death, helping them gain confidence in managing their relationships. The approach is both grounded and contemplative. My hope is to create a joyful and supportive environment for this important work.

*Patsy Kuo Eisenstein, a Yogi (one who lives by the principle of yoga philosophy) and a network host of an international online community called A New and Ancient Story. My focus in life today is to love and to serve. I regularly host online conversations with many allies and friends for others. I especially find meaning and aliveness in contemplating death. I hope for you to join us.*

## 78. Greenland – The Cold War and a Warming Climate

**Zoom**

Instructor: Paul Bierman

Greenland and the arctic are ground-zero for climate change today. In the 1950s and 1960s, the polar region was a battlefield for Cold War science. In 6 weeks, I'll use lectures, vintage films, and discussion to cover the basics of climate change, explain why the poles are warming so quickly, and tell the story of the American militarization of the arctic including the history of Camp Century, a US base inside the Greenland Ice Sheet. I'll focus on people who made this happen and their lives.

**Textbook: When the Ice is Gone, WW Norton, ISBN: 978-1-324-11030-9**

*For 30 years, Paul Bierman has been a Professor of Environmental Science at the University of Vermont where he teaches introductory Climate Change and Earth Hazards classes. Paul is a geologist and environmental historian who has studied Greenland since 2008. He has authored three textbooks and a popular book, When the Ice is Gone, W.W. Norton, 2024.*

## **79. Ukulele Class – Part 2 (Part 1 and Part 2 Required)**

**Zoom**

Instructor: Ray Forton

Experience the simplicity, fun and joy of making music playing the ukulele. This is an ongoing class, and beginners are welcome and encouraged. The course will include some history of the instrument, basic music theory, learning to read chord charts, strumming patterns, playing simple melodies and songs.

*Music should bring great joy, or at least a few laughs and a good time to both players and listeners. A 22-year career as a public-school music educator has taught me the importance of joy in learning music.*

## **80. Biographies of Stage and Screen Dancers**

**Zoom**

Instructor: Maxine Stitzer-Hodge

This class features biographies of six female dancers who have achieved acclaim for their contributions to stage and screen entertainment. You will meet choreographer Agnes deMille, dancers Gwen Verdon and Chita Rivera, stage and screen stars Rita Moreno and Shirley MacLaine, and the historic entertainment icon Josephine Baker. Professional documentaries will be used when available. Otherwise, format will be power-point lectures with film clips of performances and interviews.

*I have a lifelong interest in dance of all types—a joyous art form whether viewed or practiced. Since retiring from an academic research career in 2019, I have myself danced in local senior performance venues and expanded my interest by developing classes about the history of dance. I previously taught a class about history of tap dance. Now I would like to share what I have learned about other legends in the dance world.*



**1:00PM – 3:00PM**

**81. Noir vs. Noir – Part 2 (Limit 18)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Marshall Highet

In this course, we will look at text-based detective novels from the early 20th century (The Maltese Falcon, etc.). We will study how these texts like to blur the line between good guys and bad guys, exulting when one turns into the other with just the right pressure. We will also examine how stylistic choices in the film versions of these texts change the meaning and message.

*Marshall Highet is a professor and writer. Spare Parts—her YA sci-fi novel—was published in 2014 and has an educational bent, with science as its foundation. Hold Fast, written with Bird Jones, is a swashbuckling adventure with historical facts holding it up. Blue-Eyed Slave, co-authored with Bird Jones, came out in 2022. Currently living in Baltimore, Marshall's newest venture is brewing her own kombucha. Website: <https://www.theothersideofthefire.com/>.*

**82. For Your Listening Pleasure - Form and Structure  
in Music - Part 2**

**Campus**

Instructor: Robert Weisser

For all music lovers, whether novice or those who know music in more depth, you will enhance your enjoyment of music by discovering the forms and structures that are inherent in great compositions. You will learn what to listen for and hear things you may not have heard before. We will conclude with a focus on Beethoven's Heroic 3rd Symphony.

*Robert dropped out of Yale to join a rock band in the '60s. His love of music led him to Peabody, earning a Bachelors and Master's in Music, focusing on composition. He headed the upper school music department at Bryn Mawr School for 6 years before attending Hopkins and becoming a computer programmer. He continues to study, write, and play music in retirement. Currently he is a student at UMBC where he is a novice member of a viola da gamba ensemble.*

## 1:15PM – 2:30PM

### **83. Friends of the Devil**

**Campus**

Instructor: John Russell

A less than academic romp through man's attempts to bargain with the Evil One. Examples will be drawn from theology, history, literature, music and the visual arts. Along the way we may encounter Job, Faust, Gods' Man, Daniel Webster, Stanley Moon, Aleister Crowley, and other sympathetic friends of the Devil (both classical and rock) . . . or maybe not. Remember, you can't trust Satan to keep his word.

*John has taught a variety of courses at RI mainly dealing with history, poetry, and journalism (obituary). He swears that he is under no contract with or obligation to a higher or lower power (depends on your point of view) for the content of this course.*

### **84. Ballet Basics – Part 2 (Limit 20)**

**Campus**

Instructor: Susan Sklar

This course is designed to use the technique of classical ballet for the purpose of improving strength, flexibility, coordination, posture, range of motion, and balance. Tap into your creative spirit, cultivate musicality, and experience the joy of movement.

*Susan Sklar received her ballet training at various local studios, Goucher and the University of Maryland. She has performed in productions of Giselle, Swan Lake, La Bayadere, and The Nutcracker. She has been dancing all of her life and loves sharing her passion with a "new generation" of dancers.*

## 85. Twentieth Century Baltimore: 1900-1960

**Zoom**

Instructor: Jack Burkert

The story of Baltimore in first half of the 20th century, its people, the events, leaders, entertainment, life in Baltimore from 1900 to 1950. this power point/lecture series documents how Baltimore evolved, grew, matured, and met the opportunities and challenges of the years.

*Jack Burkert, Baltimore native is a 1969 honors graduate of the University of Maryland. A lifelong educator, Jack's career spans work with Baltimore city schools, Penn State University, private employers in Washington and New York, and in his own consulting firm. His book, Twentieth Century Baltimore, is the foundation document for this program.*



## 2024 Award Winners for Dedication and Leadership at RI



*“Come for the classes, stay for the Friendships.”*

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