



# LIRA NEWSLETTER

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION  
Office of Community and Cultural Affairs – UMass Lowell  
Member of Road Scholar Institute Network  
Tel.: (978) 934-3135 Web: [uml.edu/community/LIRA](http://uml.edu/community/LIRA)



September 2021

Vol. 28 No 3

## *LIRA Fall Convocation*

**Hear about the fall Schedule**

**Sign up for classes**

**Where:** Your choice! Join on Zoom from the comfort of your own home OR Be there in person at Coburn Hall!

**When:** Thursday, Sept. 9

**Time:** 10 a.m. - noon



## From the President

I would like to extend a hearty welcome to all our new LIRA members and a warm welcome back to all returning LIRA members. As of this writing, UML will be fully open and meeting in person for all classes and events. The University has recently posted the following guidance for members of the community: "Consistent with [new guidance issued by federal and state public health officials](#), face coverings will be required for all faculty, staff, students, vendors and visitors beginning Monday, Aug. 16 in nearly all indoor common spaces, including classrooms, instructional laboratories, meeting rooms, work areas, break rooms, hallways, elevators, restrooms and campus buses and shuttles. Face coverings are not required outdoors. An FAQ with additional information, including medical exceptions, is available [here](#)." To check UML Covid opening status online please follow this link: <https://www.uml.edu/alert/coronavirus/returning/all2021.aspx>.

The LIRA Fall Convocation will be **Thursday, September 9, 2021**, from 10:00 am to noon at Coburn Hall, room 255, 850 Broadway St, Lowell, in the large meeting room. **This will be a hybrid event.** We will meet in person and host a concurrent Zoom session for those who are uncomfortable or unable to attend. Parking for the convocation will be available in the Wilder Street lot. We will be selling parking passes for \$80.00 per car—so bring your checkbook. Since we are asking people to wear masks at the meeting, we will only provide coffee, tea and water. This will be a BYOS (Bring Your Own Snack) meeting.

At Convocation, we ask that people bring donations to the UML Food Bank. See the list of most needed items elsewhere in this Newsletter. We have scheduled Rich Doria, Assistant Director, Student and Family Support Services, to speak about the UML Food Bank.

Classes begin on Monday, Sept 13, and will continue on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings (10:00 a.m.—noon) and afternoons (1:00—3:00 p.m.) for approximately 8 sessions. Wednesdays we will meet from 10:00 a.m. - noon unless we are going on a field trip, in which case the hours will be listed separately. All field trips will be to nearby venues with plenty of parking, so members can drive themselves or go by carpool. Read the schedule carefully, as some classes will be Zoom only and some are hybrid where we will

have an in-person session at University Suites Room 106 and a simultaneous Zoom session.

For all new members and anyone else who is interested, we will have a new member orientation class on Monday, Sept 13 at 1:00—3:00 p.m. At this session, we will go over LIRA's guiding principles, how we operate, where to find information and a host of tidbits that we hope you will find useful. See the class schedule in this newsletter for more information about the class and how to attend.

I am pleased to announce that Laura Boerman has offered to edit the member news section of the LIRA Newsletter. If you have any member news you would like published, please contact Laura at [laura\\_boerman@yahoo.com](mailto:laura_boerman@yahoo.com).

*Peter Sebelius*

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## Membership Renewal 2021 – 2022

LIRA membership dues are \$125 (\$200 for couples) for the year July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022, and are due by August 15, 2021. If you haven't already paid your dues for this year, please do so now! All dues must be received before the start of classes. Please note that only paid members can attend classes during the regular season. A portion of the dues (\$100 for an individual and \$150 for a couple) is tax deductible. The University will send each member a receipt for tax purposes; the remaining portion of the dues is returned to LIRA for operational expenses.

A convenient payment method is by credit card on the [LIRA website](#). Click "Join LIRA" on the left side menu and then click "Join or renew online." You will receive an immediate acknowledgement and a receipt after filling out the form.

If you would rather pay by check, use the LIRA application form printed in this newsletter. For couples, you may submit one form for the two of you. Send the form(s) and check to the Alumni Office, as stated on the renewal form. Again, if you haven't already done so, please mail your check NOW to ensure the University receives it by the start of classes.

We look forward to seeing you in the next academic year.

*Bonnie Heines, Membership Chair*

# DONATE TO THE UMASS LOWELL FOOD PANTRY AT CONVOCATION

School will start soon for UML students. Many students rely on financial aid, work-study jobs, and other part-time jobs to pay for room and board. Sometimes, that just isn't enough. A recent survey of undergraduates by the Student Government Association at UMass Lowell found 16 percent of undergraduates struggle with food insecurity. Fortunately, they can now get help. In September 2016, UMass Lowell opened the Navigators Food Pantry for any member of the campus community. Ending student hunger has become a cause for the entire UMass Lowell campus, including the Learning in Retirement Association.

Many of the items in the centerpieces at Convocation will be donated to the Food Pantry. Members will need to bring their own snacks to Convocation rather than something to share. We are also asking members to bring something from the following list to add to our donation to the pantry:

- Laundry Pods (about 10 in a plastic bag)
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Toothpaste
- Shelf-Stable Milk
- Cereal
- Snack foods like crackers with peanut butter or cheese, granola bars, cookies, nuts, etc.

If you cannot attend the Convocation in person or wish to donate money at any time during the year, there are several other ways to contribute.

Amazon Wish List link. If ordering these items, they will be delivered directly to the pantry.

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y0VI18GOBIEV?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y0VI18GOBIEV?ref=wl_share)

Also, you can donate money directly to the UML Food Bank:

<https://securelb.imodules.com/s/1355/lowell/forms/forms.aspx?sid=1355&gid=4&pgid=893&cid=2172&dids=461&bledit=1>

*Debbie Sebelius*

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## Scholarship Fund Annual Auction

In the past, we have held an auction at the LIRA Holiday Party in December as a way of raising money for LIRA's Scholarship fund. Usually, this has been a "Consumable Auction" in which all donated items can be consumed, i.e., you eat it, drink it, do it or use it up.

Last year, we asked LIRA members to simply donate to the scholarship fund and we raised a substantial amount of money that way, but we recognize the auction is a good way to connect with one another and it provides a fun activity for the party. As of this writing, however, we are unsure of the status of the Holiday Party and are considering making some changes to the auction, whether the party is in person, on Zoom, or a hybrid of both. We will have more information about this as December approaches and will keep you posted.

Thank you to everyone who has donated in past years and we hope to continue to provide an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of some UML students in the future.

*Sheila Pariseau*



## 2021 LIRA Scholarships

This year the LIRA Executive Board has agreed to award six \$1500 scholarships to six UMass Lowell junior or senior students (full-time through May 2022) with grade point averages of 3.0 or above and who have taken part in community service activities.

Generous contributions from LIRA membership in the past have made these awards possible and we will solicit contributions when the fall semester gets underway. The Scholarship Fund also receives donations from membership fees: \$20 from individual members and \$30 from couples. When we can meet in person, money from the holiday raffle, a portion from refreshments and other gifts during the year help fund the Scholarships.

LIRA will award certificates to the scholarship recipients. The university will deposit each \$1500 scholarship directly into the students' accounts. Remember, if you have relatives who meet these qualifications, they can apply for a scholarship as long as they are students at UMass Lowell.

Sincere thanks from the Scholarship Committee for your help in making the scholarships possible. Co-Chairs: Janet Redman and Deanne Sferrino, Margie Berenson, Alan Kent, John Mamalis and Barbara Murch.

*Janet Redman*

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## Lowell Cemetery Tree Excursion 🍁

LIRA held its first in person meeting in over a year on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Lowell Cemetery. Jim Martin, chair of the Chelmsford Tree Commission and consulting arborist, walked us around the Lowell Cemetery identifying and describing the large variety of trees located there. It is hard to say if people were more excited about the trees or simply the opportunity to greet their LIRA friends in person after more than a year of Zoom meetings. The weather that day was excellent, which made the day that much more memorable.

*Peter Sebelius*



## Tanzania and Rwanda: A Photographic Tour

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, LIRA member Becky Bronson, her husband Dave and son Andy took 47 LIRA members on a fascinating photographic tour based on the Safari they took to Rwanda and Tanzania during December 2019 and January 2020.

The trip started in Zanzibar Island in Tanzania where they spent two days and visited Stone Town, followed by a boat ride to Prison Island. They then left for the Tanzania mainland. Their safari traveled in the Serengeti, stopping at various comfortable tent camps where they stayed overnight. The tent camps moved about every 6 months to track the migration of the animals. The first day, they went on a drive to see the animals at night. They spent much of the time in Tanzania in the Ngorongoro Crater, a large volcanic caldera and part of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. The crater is filled with many kinds of animals. Becky took many of the photos she showed us using an iPhone. Becky and Dave put together a slide show and videos set to music showing us the many animals they encountered. The safaris in the Serengeti traveled in Toyota Land Cruisers, which would sometimes get stuck in the mud. They saw many varieties of birds, along with impalas, elephants, gazelles, giraffes, water buffalo, wildebeests, lions, hippos, zebras, and other wildlife.

After a week in Tanzania, they flew to Rwanda where they spent 3 days. They started off in Rwanda by visiting the Genocide Museum in Kigali. Following that, they took a drive into the mountains where they went on a Gorilla Trek, with Dave having a close encounter with a teenage gorilla.

The program ended with lots of questions from an enthusiastic LIRA audience.

*Bob Hanlon*

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## The Hudson River Valley

On July 28, LIRA member Bruce Magnuson, who grew up near Albany, NY, presented a fascinating program about the Hudson River Valley. His use of videos really added to the value of his program. Bruce starting off describing the geography of the river and the valley. He then described how the Ice Age shaped the land and discussed the different Indian tribes that populated the valley at the time of the arrival of Europeans. He talked about the voyages of Henry Hudson and the Dutch settlers and then described the Patroon system where large tracts of land with fishing, hunting, mining, and other rights were granted by the Dutch West India Company to those who could bring 50 settlers over 15 years of age to what was then known as New Netherland (now New York). Bruce also talked about his hometown of Guilderland and what happened during the Revolutionary War in the valley. He described the making of the Erie Canal and its contribution to the settlement of the valley and then talked about writers who wrote about the valley and the painters of the Hudson River School. Additionally Bruce described some of the mansions of the Gilded Age in the valley, such as Roosevelt's Springwood estate in Hyde Park and described some of the other places to visit, such as the Culinary Institute of America, West Point, and the Storm King Art Center. Bruce then gave some tips to those who might want to visit about driving to Poughkeepsie and using that as a base of operations as they explore up and down the valley. At the end, the LIRA audience expressed their appreciation for a very informative program.

*Bob Hanlon*

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## Video interview with Mary Jane Cryan

Last year, Mary Jane Cryan, the sister of LIRA member Kathryn-Hicks gave a talk to LIRA about the village of Vetralla. She recently sent Kathryn this video in which she talks about her village. If you saw her Zoom presentation last year, you might be interested in watching this.

Project Tuscia interview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ehY3YyZRfg>

## For Diehard Fans of Meaningful films: LIRA's film discussion group returns!



With the return of the LIRA's Film Discussion Group, there is plenty to get you interested as we push forward to the end of the year. The film discussion group meets once a month on selected Fridays. Our film topics will continue to be diversity according to LIRA inclusion statement where we learn about culture, ethnicity, sex, gender identity, color, beliefs, and ability.

Starting in September, we have scheduled four movies. We will publish where to find these movies from the library or streaming services and their trailers so you can screen them before the discussion.

September 24, 2021: *The Danish Girl* led by Carolyn Walsh

October 22, 2021: *Mississippi Burning* led by Kirk Frazee

November 12, 2021: *One Hundred Foot Journey* led by Marie Gleason-Tada

December 10, 2021: *One Night in Miami* led by Bob Hanlon

Do you have a favorite film about diversity that you would enjoy leading and discussing with some great friends? We can also help you with selecting a film. Let us hear from you as Marie-Anne and I are planning for the 2022 Winter and Spring sessions. To be a leader is easy and we are here to help. Come have some fun with us!

Carol Valcik [valcikca@gmail.com](mailto:valcikca@gmail.com)

Marie-Anne Fernando [ma.dewarren@comcast.net](mailto:ma.dewarren@comcast.net)

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## Photo Contest Winner!

Congratulations to **Sheila Pariseau** who correctly identified the people in this photo. Sheila won \$25.00 from LIRA!



Diane Baker, Debbie Sebelius, Richard Grove, Susan Lemire, Carol McCarthy, Suzanne Gamache  
At the MRT 2019

## Next Contest: Fine the Hidden Icons!

Buried somewhere in this newsletter are the following icons: 🍏 🍁 🍠 🗨️  
Find them and send an email to [beckybronson241@gmail.com](mailto:beckybronson241@gmail.com) telling me which article each one is in!  
A winner will be picked randomly from all correct entries and awarded a prize of \$25.00 from LIRA!



## Get to Know... Jim Pope

Jim Pope, a man with a variety of talents and interests, moved to Lowell with his wife Sally Coulter in 2015.

Soon after arriving in Lowell, they heard about and joined LIRA. Jim enjoys meeting LIRA members and attending many of the LIRA sessions, especially the ones devoted to math and science. Jim has taught two classes for LIRA members. In 2019, during the spring semester, he presented "The EU and the Euro" and in the fall, "Trade: Theory, Practice, and Reality." This fall he is scheduled to teach a course on the German election.

Jim grew up in Illinois and earned his undergraduate degree in Economics from the College of Wooster in Ohio, a Master of Economics degree from Northwestern University in Illinois, and a Ph.D. in Business Administration from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC.

Education has always been important in Jim's life. He was a professor of economics at Guilford College in Greensboro NC, at Old Dominion University in Virginia, and at the University of Toledo in OH. He has also served as Dean of the Business School at Shippensburg University, in PA, Dean of the University of Toledo, in Toledo, OH, and Rektor at the European Business School near Wiesbaden, Germany.

Jim's teaching experiences took him abroad. In 2003-2006, he taught for two weeks each May in the MBA program at Leiden University, the Netherlands. From 2006 to 2018, Jim taught either one or two weeks each in the fall and spring at the Cooperative University of Baden-Württemberg in Bad Mergentheim, Germany, depending upon his University of Toledo schedule before he retired.

Jim served in the Air Force for 5 years during the Vietnam war as a logistics officer. He learned to fly and earned a pilot's license but was stationed in the US at a "desk job."

Jim has a daughter and son, of whom he is very proud. His daughter, Jennifer, earned a PhD in business and teaches marketing at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, MI. She also teaches at the Cooperative University of Baden-Württemberg in Bad Mergentheim, Germany. Jim's son, Jay, lives in Hollywood, CA where he is a Grip, the person who sets up, rigs, and strikes lighting equipment on a movie set. The Grip is also responsible for keeping equipment organized, and sometimes equipment maintenance. A Grip's name appears in the credits at the end of a film.

Jim has a variety of interests. He enjoys traveling and exploring other countries. Besides the Netherlands and Germany, his travels have taken him to India, France, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Croatia, and about 35 other countries. Before the pandemic, his last trip was to Greece, visiting Athens and Santorini.

Many mornings you can find Jim in the pool at the YMCA where he trains for swim meets. He is a member of the New England Masters, a US National Masters Swim Club. Jim enjoys all strokes but says he is best at the back stroke. He usually swims for 2 hours, 6 days/week and often makes a video to send to his swim coach,



a friend in Toledo. There are 2 main swim meets each year, but this year they have postponed competition because of Covid. Jim hopes to compete in national championships that will resume next year in San Antonio, TX and Richmond, VA.

Being involved with Rotary International is an additional interest of Jim's. He is a member of the Rotary Club in Lowell, and has been a member of clubs in Toledo, Westford, and Bad Mergentheim, Germany and often visits Rotary meetings when he is traveling. Jim says that Zoom has allowed him to stay involved with Rotary Chapters and friends throughout the world.

Recently Jim became involved in local politics. He is a member of the Lowell Election Commission which manages and conducts all municipal, state, and federal elections for the City of Lowell.

*Esther Wikander for the Highlight Committee* 🍏

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## **Auroras: Nature's Light Show/Sunlight Symphonies**

On June 16<sup>th</sup> Kelly Beatty, Senior Editor for Cambridge-based *Sky & Telescope* magazine, delighted us with not one, but two of his excellent talks explaining the science and wonder of astronomy. He has presented to LIRA several times over the years and never fails to capture our interest and educate us!

### **Auroras: Nature's Light Show**

In this talk, Kelly explored the fanciful explanations for these dancing curtains of light, how powerful bursts from the Sun create them, and when/where you're most likely to see an auroral display. He summarized how people have watched displays of the "Northern Lights" in awe for centuries while presenting their explanations for these phenomena. Some cultures thought these colorful curtains of light arose as sparks created by the tail of an arctic fox or from epic battles in the night sky. The Sámi of northernmost Europe call it "the light you can hear." Through clearly explained diagrams and actual photographs, Kelly helped us understand the scientific causes of these beautiful displays.

### **Sunlight Symphonies**

In this topic, Kelly presented a wide variety of visual effects in the sky, which most of us have seen but perhaps not understood, along with explanations of how and why they occur. Have you ever wondered why the daytime sky is blue, or what causes a rainbow? What is happening when you see a halo around the Sun or Moon? The Sun interacts with our atmosphere in wonderful ways — occasionally colorful and often completely unexpected. This presentation took us through the veritable zoo of atmospheric phenomena that you can see in a daytime sky — from Sun pillars at dawn to the "Belt of Venus" at dusk. Here again, Kelly's use of simple diagrams and unique photographs enabled us to achieve a much better understanding of the science behind these sunlight symphonies.

*Jim Rutter*





## From the Editor

It's been a crazy year and thankfully, LIRA has survived and, even better, thrived. When I took over the job of editing the newsletter a year ago, I had no idea what I was doing, and I could never have done it without the help of an experienced team. Thanks so much to:

Marge Nardini, who is responsible for the beautiful layout.

Charlotte Evans, who manages the calendar.

Bob Hanlon, who prepares the class schedules.

Diane Baker, who prepares the Art and Music Schedule.

Of course, this is a group effort that begins with you, the contributors. Keep those articles coming! Suggestions, new ideas, comments, or criticisms are always welcome.

This year, we have introduced a few new features to the newsletter and I welcome your feedback. To help LIRA members get to know one another, each issue will have a "Get to know..." article featuring one randomly selected member. Thanks to the members of the Highlight sub-committee: Sheila Pariseau, Stan Powers and Esther Wikander for making this happen.

We also have a recent addition to the newsletter team. Laura Boerman will be our Member News Coordinator. This is an important part of the publication. While the bulk of the newsletter focuses on events and classes, it is also a vehicle to keep us all connected. If you know of anyone who is sick or in need of support and feel it would be appropriate for the LIRA community to know, please send that information to [Laura\\_boerman@yahoo.com](mailto:Laura_boerman@yahoo.com). Good news is welcome as well—let Laura know about milestone events happening in your life!

The newsletter is on our website at <https://www.uml.edu/Community/LIRA/Newsletters>. We will NOT send a hard copy to you unless you have requested it in the past. The newsletter comes out four times a year on the first of March, May, September and December. An email will be sent to all LIRA members when the newsletter is on the website, usually by the first of the month.

The website is updated four times a year. Occasionally, we run into a few problems with updating that are beyond our control and the newsletter will not be there on the first of the month. We try our best to get it to you on time! Thanks again to everyone for their support. The best way YOU can show your appreciation to them is to READ THE NEWSLETTER!

*Becky Bronson*



## Our Members at Work

The following is a list of all the members that make our organization run. I think they deserve a round of applause for all their hard work! They are always receptive to having new volunteers; please speak to any one of the members if you would like to be on a committee. Note that these are the committees as they stand as of September 2021. A big THANK YOU also, to those that served on committees last year but are not continuing this year.

*Becky Bronson*

### Executive Council

#### Officers

President, Peter Sebelius  
Vice President, Lynn Tyndall  
Treasurer, Steve Buccieri  
Secretary, Susan Lemire

#### Members-at-Large

Jim Rutter  
Carol Valcik

#### Committee Chairs

Curriculum, Bob Hanlon  
Membership, Bonnie Heines  
Publicity, Bob Fesmire  
Hospitality, Debbie Sebelius  
Newsletter, Becky Bronson  
Scholarship, Co-chairs: Janet Redman,  
Deanne Sferrino  
Telephone Tree, Co-chairs: Judy Miller, Carol  
McCarthy

### Committees

#### Curriculum Committee

Bob Hanlon, Chairperson  
Sally Coulter  
Bob Fesmire  
Suzanne Gamache  
Richard Grove  
Lisa Hertel  
Susan Lemire  
Bruce Magnuson  
Nancy Pitkin  
Beverly Rudeen  
James Rutter  
Peter Sebelius  
Bob Stevens  
Carol Valcik

#### Membership Committee

Bonnie Heines

#### Publicity Committee

Bob Fesmire

#### Scholarship Committee

Janet Redman, Deanne Sferrino: Co-chairs  
Margie Berenson  
Alan Kent  
John Mamalis  
Barbara Murch

#### Auction Committee

Sheila Pariseau

#### Hospitality

Debbie Sebelius

#### Telephone Tree

Judy Miller  
Carol McCarthy

#### Newsletter Committee

Becky Bronson, Editor  
Marge Nardini, Layout and Reproduction  
Charlotte Evans, Distribution and Calendar  
Laura Boerman, Member News

#### UMass Lowell Website

Marie Gleason-Tada

#### Facebook Page

Bob Fesmire

#### UMass Lowell Liaison

Patty Coffey, Director of Community  
Relations

# Links to LIRA Recordings of Summer Intersession Classes

*Note: these are saved for 120 days. If you want to view them later, you can download them*

## **Jun 9: Tanzania and Rwanda; A Photographic Tour**

<https://zoom.us/rec/share/ffBrvaQ6f7HIvBWOV1REIi4ho1CPrBGIXdSWeaIgr8Buo6kKUFgHUVyOx9z-CNI5.wqu60czHDLTrAnk2>

## **June 16: Sunlight Symphonies and Auroras**

**(Note you have to download the file to see the entire video!)**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/m4s0ryu8exfps7v/AAA2ndcyubYCGkCMFq1R7Xria?dl=0>

## **June 23: Ancient Time Keeping**

[https://uml.zoom.us/rec/share/cjxjsCuNO5f3FANuFADd\\_8V70-8Hi58bDfjFhr16LLtcyE0ilGUpyBGX1BCtgN4.E8cxczCZpTdzi9vl](https://uml.zoom.us/rec/share/cjxjsCuNO5f3FANuFADd_8V70-8Hi58bDfjFhr16LLtcyE0ilGUpyBGX1BCtgN4.E8cxczCZpTdzi9vl)

## **June 30: Earth Satellites**

[https://uml.zoom.us/rec/share/qLu9wyEPb-h2StB-cNB\\_ulcemvKShh1E\\_TIqqbcrRD8aiP96hIRGNcVEuuzvIYT3.UW2Qd9khKrE21mPA](https://uml.zoom.us/rec/share/qLu9wyEPb-h2StB-cNB_ulcemvKShh1E_TIqqbcrRD8aiP96hIRGNcVEuuzvIYT3.UW2Qd9khKrE21mPA)

## **July 7: Central Banker Talks about Global Macroeconomics**

[https://uml.zoom.us/rec/share/YUAGwjNH-u4\\_VejYOVrwFfwDXS5yMLG4nHrl1Iad8mC1MSxWiSOIGNCwoZMe9HKi.EQw2ga2IBArHzJVa?startTime=1625666564000](https://uml.zoom.us/rec/share/YUAGwjNH-u4_VejYOVrwFfwDXS5yMLG4nHrl1Iad8mC1MSxWiSOIGNCwoZMe9HKi.EQw2ga2IBArHzJVa?startTime=1625666564000)

## **July 14: Cambridge Analytica**

[https://uml.zoom.us/rec/share/O0dJjrFyIP9v9Okio9Ok650EB4WkSr8fX6KxVdGMT5sxXAE8lfXnpVJQ\\_u9uVEudi.97p-IM2raKJHzd4E](https://uml.zoom.us/rec/share/O0dJjrFyIP9v9Okio9Ok650EB4WkSr8fX6KxVdGMT5sxXAE8lfXnpVJQ_u9uVEudi.97p-IM2raKJHzd4E)

## **July 21: Revolutionary Photography**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/ODWXgXIUEuS6JQOsnC1g23t4XUMclIMUyfUPk9gaQOW9rVhl\\_K4YB42IZPrUCWs.zQkkj6\\_kPXzXY2N-](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/ODWXgXIUEuS6JQOsnC1g23t4XUMclIMUyfUPk9gaQOW9rVhl_K4YB42IZPrUCWs.zQkkj6_kPXzXY2N-)

## **July 28: Hudson River Valley**

[https://studentuml-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/peter\\_sebelius\\_uml\\_edu/EaUE8JkvtxdAjQBEKSo3jxIB6XJqG9n3dkrQYVBYaQPcSA?e=MJa0uQ](https://studentuml-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/peter_sebelius_uml_edu/EaUE8JkvtxdAjQBEKSo3jxIB6XJqG9n3dkrQYVBYaQPcSA?e=MJa0uQ)

## Newsletters on Website

The newsletter comes out four times a year on the first day of the following months—March, May, September and December. Everyone can read the newsletter online if you have access to a web browser. Those members that do not have email will have a hard copy sent to them automatically. At the time of this writing, the print services at the university are closed, so those members that requested a hard copy will not be receiving one.

The on-line newsletter is just like the printed one, only better—it's in color! This policy will help us save substantial printing and mailing costs to the university as well as a few trees.

The website for the newsletter is: [www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters/](http://www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters/)

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The next newsletter will be out on December 1, 2021; the deadline for news items is **November 15, 2021**. Please remember that coordinators are now responsible for getting someone to write an article about their program if you want something to appear in the newsletter. Articles may be submitted at any time before the deadline. Any format is acceptable, but if you have Microsoft Word and can use Verdana Font, size 10, that is preferred. Please email articles to: [beckybronson241@gmail.com](mailto:beckybronson241@gmail.com)

*Becky Bronson*

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### **Newsletter Committee**

<a href="mailto:becky.bronson@penfield.fm">Becky Bronson, Editor</a>	<a href="mailto:becky.bronson@penfield.fm">becky.bronson@penfield.fm</a>
Marge Nardini, Layout & Reproduction	<a href="mailto:mnard1008@verizon.net">mnard1008@verizon.net</a>
Charlotte Evans, Calendar & Distribution	<a href="mailto:chrsnave@aol.com">chrsnave@aol.com</a>
Laura Boerman, Member News	<a href="mailto:laura_boerman@yahoo.com">laura_boerman@yahoo.com</a>

#### **Highlight subcommittee:**

Sheila Pariseau	<a href="mailto:spariseau10@gmail.com">spariseau10@gmail.com</a>
Stan Powers	<a href="mailto:stanandjan@me.com">stanandjan@me.com</a>
Esther Wikander	<a href="mailto:emwikander@gmail.com">emwikander@gmail.com</a>



# LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

University of Massachusetts Lowell

Lowell, Massachusetts 01854

## Fall 2021 Schedule

**Please note that some programs will only be offered via Zoom. You will see these marked as "Zoom only" in the schedule below. The remaining programs will be offered in a hybrid format with the ability to attend in person or via Zoom. Please stay tuned to LIRA communications as class formats may change as conditions warrant.**

**Please note that UMass Lowell now requires students, faculty, staff, and visitors to wear face coverings indoors while on campus regardless of vaccination status. UML currently requires students, faculty and staff to be vaccinated and encourages all visitors to be vaccinated.**

### MONDAY

#### **Women in History: 1600 to the present**

Presenter: Professor Michael Pierson

**Four Mondays**, 10 a.m. – Noon: Sept. 13,20,27, Oct. 4

This course surveys the history of women in the British North American colonies and United States from 1600 to the present. It examines women as a distinct group and the things that have brought them together, as well as the divisions among women that have limited their abilities to unite. The history of American women includes many topics from social practice and gender ideologies to economics and law. We will be particularly interested in the emergence and growth of women's public presence in all aspects of American life, on their political activism before and after the vote, and on the strategies employed by women who worked for a more just and equal society. Along the way, we will enjoy lively discussions and be able to share our ideas and experiences.

Day 1: Women in the Colonial and Revolutionary eras.

Day 2: Women and the emergence of "Civil Society" (1790-1865).

Day 3: Progressive Era women and the campaign for the vote (1865-1920).

Day 4: Emancipation is more than Equality, and we don't even have that (1920-2020).

Coordinator: Bob Hanlon\*

*This course will be Zoom only*

#### **LIRA New Member Class**

Presenter & coordinator: Peter Sebelius\*

**One Monday**: Sept. 13: 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

New to LIRA? Now what do you do? Come to the LIRA New Member class to learn all about LIRA. This class will cover everything you need to know to get the most out of your LIRA membership and to inform you about the good things your LIRA membership does for the local community and for UML. You will meet several members of the Executive Council who will explain the breakdown of your membership dues, how to make best use of the LIRA Website, how classes are organized and conducted, how field trips are organized, how to get involved in book and video discussions and, most important, what you can do to help us reach our organizational goals.

## **Legacies of 1620 and the Mayflower: Native Americans in New England**

Presenter: Professor Christoph Strobel

**One Monday:** Sept. 20: 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

The story of the Mayflower and the creation of Plymouth Colony in 1620 maintains a strong hold on the American imagination and popular culture. America's founding myth depicts the establishment of the Puritan settlement, celebrated at Thanksgiving, as the point of origin of the country. The history of the indigenous peoples on whose lands the English moved are too often a marginal or a neglected part of the founding myth of New England and America. Our workshop will not attempt to provide a comprehensive history. Rather, by focusing on a few select case studies, historic sketches, and biographies from throughout New England, we will explore the complex story of Native Americans in the region. We will pay close attention to how the experience of indigenous peoples is representative of other regions in the United States, but also how New England had divergent developments. While this workshop will not turn a blind eye to the impact that colonization, disease, dispossession, and racism had on the lives of indigenous peoples in New England, it will also emphasize Native American resistance, adaptation, and survival under often harsh and unfavorable circumstances.

Coordinator: Susan Lemire\*

## **Abolitionist movement in Lowell Ma.**

Presenter: Professor Robert Farrant

**One Monday:** Sept. 27: 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Watch and discuss *The Contradiction*, with UMass Lowell Professor Robert Farrant. It is a just-released 40-minute documentary focused on the extraordinary anti-slavery and underground railroad efforts in Lowell before the Civil War. Farrant and local historian and community educator Maritza Grooms visited several sites in downtown Lowell where abolitionist activity occurred and where freedom seekers operated businesses. While Lowell's mills were heavily dependent on Southern cotton produced by enslaved people, many workers, religious leaders, small business owners, and even some mill overseers opposed the institution of slavery and actively supported freedom seekers. The film was produced by former Lowell Telecommunications Executive Director Wendy Blom and edited by former LTC News Director Caroline Gallagher.

Program Coordinator: Susan Lemire\*

## **The Universe: From Then to Now**

Presenter: Professor Robert Gamache

**Four Mondays:** 10 a.m. – noon: Oct. 18, 25, Nov. 1, 8

This course will include topics such as the Big Bang, the creation of elementary particles leading to atoms and molecules, the surprising formation of life on Earth, and where we are in 2021. Prof. Bob Gamache will lead us through the earliest moments of the formation of the universe, to a greater understanding of how something came from nothing to evolution, and humankind's role as stewards of our planet.

Week 1. From nothing to something - creation of space-time and stuff.

Week 2. What is the universe filled with, and what keeps it all together and apart?

Week 3. The wonder of self-replication from bacteria to current life forms.

Week 4. Where are we in this adventure?

Coordinator: Suzanne Gamache\*

*This course will be Zoom only*

## **Experiencing Hubble: Exploring the Milky Way**

Facilitator: Chris Geggis\*

**Four Mondays:** 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.: Oct. 18, 25, Nov. 1, 8

One of the wonders of our night sky is the band of stars stretching from horizon to horizon: the Milky Way, our home galaxy. Among the telescopes studying the Milky Way, none has provided a sharper optical view of its stars, star clusters, and nebulae than the Hubble Space Telescope. This course focuses on exploring and understanding our Milky Way Galaxy through the most remarkable Hubble images of its stars, star clusters, nebulae, and galactic environment. Each of the lectures is centered on a specific image from Hubble's third decade whose individual scientific story ties into a better understanding of the galaxy as a whole.

Coordinator: Peter Sebelius\*

## **TUESDAY**

### **The Scandalous History of the Masquerade Ball**

Presenter: Susan de Guardiola

**One Tuesday,** 10 a.m. – noon: Sept. 14

Renowned in its early days as an opportunity for licentious behavior, the masquerade or fancy-dress ball was also an opportunity for comedy, cross-dressing, and conspicuous consumption long predating today's wilder Halloween celebrations. Social dance historian Susan de Guardiola will trace the history of the masquerade from its bawdy 18<sup>th</sup> century heyday to the ballrooms of Jane Austen's era and across the Atlantic to New York in the Gilded Age, accompanied by a lively parade of images and stories of actual masquerades of bygone days.

Coordinator: Lisa Hertel\*

*This program will be Zoom only*

### **Stained Glass Windows - Making Them, Commissioning Them, and Enjoying Them**

Presenter: Professor Virginia Raquin

**One Tuesday,** 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Sept. 14

Stained glass has been an important part of buildings since the eleventh century. We will begin with an explanation of how they are made, a process that has changed little over the centuries. We will then view well-known examples, including the cathedrals of Canterbury, England, and Chartres, France and important people who sponsored the windows. The modern world, especially in the Boston area, allows us to see American glass of the opalescent era, such as that of John LaFarge and Louis Comfort Tiffany. The session will be structured with plenty of time for feedback. Raquin is a former professor who has written a number of books on historic stained glass.

Coordinator: Lisa Hertel\*

*This program will be Zoom only*

### **A brief history of Freemasonry**

Presenter: Walter Hunt

**One Tuesday,** 10 a.m. – noon: Sept. 21

Freemasonry is the oldest and most distinguished fraternity in the world, with a documented history of over three hundred years, and - according to some accounts - origins that date back considerably farther. It is not a secret society by any reasonable definition, as its emblems are well known and are displayed in and on public buildings; but it has often been held to be a part, or even the mastermind, of one or another global conspiracy. The truth is far more prosaic, and this talk will provide some background for what the Fraternity is and does, and why it is still relevant and useful today.

Coordinator: Lisa Hertel\*

*This program will be Zoom only*

### **The Dark Side of Mill Girl life**

Presenter: Associate Professor Bridget Marshall

**One Tuesday**, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Sept. 21

In 1848 in Manchester, New Hampshire, twenty-two-year-old Sarah Furber, a mill worker at the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company, died during a botched abortion after becoming pregnant by a married man twice her age; Dr. John McNab, who performed the abortion, then packed Furber's body in box, took it to Boston, and attempted to sell it as a dissection specimen to Oliver Wendell Holmes for ten dollars. This is just one of many horrifying stories of the darker side of industrialization. The exploitation of workers (especially female workers) was a reality across New England (and elsewhere) as communities were transformed by industrialization. This session will discuss several stories of the terrible toll on workers' bodies, looking at the cases of Sarah Furber, Sarah Maria Cornell (a Fall River factory girl murdered by a minister), Berengera Caswell (a former Lowell factory girl whose body was found in a river in Saco, Maine), as well as cases of industrial accidents that maimed and killed workers. We'll look at how the stories of these workers were represented in poetry, fiction, journalistic accounts, and illustrations to consider.

Coordinator: Susan Lemire\*

### **The Stamp Act and the British Colonies**

Presenter: Associate Professor Abby Chandler

**One Tuesday**, 10 a.m. – noon: Sept. 28

The passing of the "Stamp Act" by the British Parliament in 1765 led to multiple responses from British colonists. Some wrote pamphlets, in support or opposition to the Stamp Act, while others penned editorials for their local newspapers. Riots and demonstrations exploded in communities along the eastern seaboard. Governors alternately derided, cajoled, or, in two cases, supported colonial antipathy towards the Stamp Act. By taking a colony-by-colony approach to the Stamp Act crisis, this talk examines the political beliefs which both fused and divided British North America on the eve of the American Revolution

Coordinator: Susan Lemire\*

*This program will be Zoom only*

### **Pirates of the Mediterranean**

Presenter: Assistant Professor Jane Sancinito

**One Tuesday**, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Sept. 28

The Ancient Greeks invented the word for "robbers at sea": pirates. They lived on the edges of a massive sea and knew the dangers of the deep very well. From the time of Ancient Egypt through to the coming of the Vikings, new kinds of pirates continually preyed upon the weak and the powerful alike, stealing and raiding and disrupting ancient trade and travel. In this presentation, we will look at the ancient world from their perspective and ask why people turned to piracy, what they did to make a living, how they survived attempts at suppression, and why they captured the ancient imagination in the same way they do today.

Coordinator: Susan Lemire\*



## **Understanding the U.S. Government**

Facilitators: Gail Kerr\* and Peter Sebelius\*

**Four Tuesdays**, 10:00 a.m. – noon: October 12, 19,26, November 2

In prior years we studied the Constitution and the Federalist Papers. These provided insight to what the writers of the Constitution had intended for the role of the U.S. Government. We also explored how most changes since then, through amendments, executive orders and states' powers were a result of changing societal norms and economic power. Now let us take a dive into how the U.S. Government and its three branches are organized, how they are supposed to function and how they actually function. What was the planned role of political parties and is that reality in 2021? We will also look at the fourth estate (the media) and its influence on the politics of the day vs. other significant influences that impact citizens and legislators. Finally, we will glimpse research on political parties, polarization, partisanship and their causes, and the current state of polarization of the country

Coordinator: Peter Sebelius\*

## **Discovering New England Stone Walls**

Presenter: Kevin Gardner

**One Tuesday**, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Oct. 19

Kevin Gardner explains how and why New England came to acquire its thousands of miles of stone walls, the ways in which they and other dry-stone structures were built, how their styles emerged and changed over time, and their significance to the famous New England landscape. Kevin's informal talk covers a few of the main topics of his book about New England stone walls, *The Granite Kiss*. During his presentation, Kevin occupies himself building a miniature wall or walls on a tabletop, using tiny stones from a five-gallon bucket. Copies of the *Granite Kiss* will be available for sale as well as copies of his most **recent book, Stone Building – How to Make New England Style Walls and Other Structure the Old Way**. There will be an opportunity to ask questions about your own projects!

Coordinator: Susan Lemire\*

## **The Sad, Curious Death of Mary Ann Birmingham**

Presenter: Joe Orfant

**One Tuesday**, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m., Oct. 26

This is the true story of the death by poisoning of young Mary Ann Birmingham in 1861. It's a sad and complicated tale of betrayal, deceit and scandals revealed, and its scope encompasses fugitive slaves, the Underground Railroad and fringe medical practices. The Birmingham family was living on Tanner Street in Lowell at the time of her death but the range of the story reaches from Philadelphia to Canada. Her presumed husband was the prime suspect in her death, and another major character is her father, multi-racial Samuel Till Birmingham an "Indian Physician" of astonishing accomplishment and his own set of mysteries.

Coordinator: Susan Lemire\*

## **Pushing the Envelope – A History of The United States Post Office Through Stamps**

Presenter: Henry Lukas, Education Director at the Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History, Regis College, Weston. MA

**One Tuesday:** 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Nov. 2

By viewing images of vintage US postage stamps, learn about the history of the US Post Office from the first letters carried on the Boston Post Road to the current postal controversies.

Hear about the expansion of the Post Office after the Revolution, controversies over the post and slavery, the introduction of home delivery, mail orders, the short-lived Pony Express, the carrying of mail by railroads, buses and trollies, the start of Parcel Post, the dead letter office, airmail week, V-mail during World War II, the start of zip codes, postal strikes, the introduction of Forever and personalized stamps and the impact of email on the PO's financial situation. See images of the many creative ways mail has been carried including rockets, dog sleds, camels and mules in the Grand Canyon. Also see worldwide stamps about Covid.

Coordinator: Peter Sebelius\*

## **Wednesday**

### **Art & Music**

**Seven Wednesdays**, 10 a.m. – Noon: Sept. 15, 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27

See below.

## **Thursday**

### **Great Decisions**

**Eight Thursdays**, 10 a.m. – noon: Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov 4, 11

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD and meeting in a discussion group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Two weekly two-hour sessions explore each topic in depth. Great Decisions topics for the fall are: the Korean peninsula, struggles over the melting Arctic, Persian Gulf security issues, and the role of the WHO in a pandemic. If you do not have a copy of the Great Decisions 2021 Briefing Book you can order one by sending a \$25 check payable to "LIRA Inc" to Steve Buccieri, 63 Abbot Street, Andover, MA 01810. He will mail you a copy of the book.

Coordinator: Richard Grove\*

*This Course is Zoom only*

## German Elections 2021

Two Thursdays, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Sept. 23, Oct 7

Presenter: Jim Pope

The German national elections are scheduled for 26 September 2021. This will be the first time in almost 20 years when Angela Merkel will not be contending for Chancellor (no term limits in Germany).

The course will be in two sessions (four hours). One session will be before and one session after the elections.

The first session on Sept. 23 will cover:

- The German government
- German political parties
- How Germans vote
- The parties and candidates in this election
- The issues in this election

The second session on Oct. 7 will cover:

- The results of the elections
- Winner and losers
- How the results are decided
- How coalitions are formed
- Who is likely to be Chancellor

Coordinator: Sally Coulter\*

*This program will be Zoom only*

## The Irish Identity: Independence, History and Literature

Facilitators: Kimball and Beverly Rudeen\*

**Four Thursdays:** 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Sept 30, Oct. 14,21, Nov. 4

This video course from The Great Courses is presented by Dr. Marc C. Conner. LIRA students enjoyed Professor Conner's classes on Shakespeare last year. We are bringing back his wealth of knowledge of Irish history and literature. The course explores the Irish identity from the Celts to the twentieth century struggle for political independence. Professor Connor weaves his love of Irish literature throughout this course to tell his story of Ireland, its history and literature. This will be a four-week class.

## Enid Rocha Interview

Facilitator: Dorothy Brown\*

**One Thursday,** 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Oct. 28

Enid Rocha is a 91-year-old black woman who has lived an extraordinary life. She has been recognized by the NAACP for her accomplishments and service. Enid has met both Martin Luther King and Malcom X. She is also a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority that includes Kamala Harris, Michelle Obama and Robin Roberts. Learn what it was like to teach school in the south in the 50's and 60's and still be mowing your lawn at age 91.

Coordinator: Bob Hanlon\*

This is a Zoom only program\*

## Friday

### Book Discussions

Coordinator Sheila Pariseau\*

**Four Fridays**, 10 a.m. – noon: Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17

*Please note that all book discussions will be Zoom only.*

**Sept. 17, 2021:** *The Code Breaker: Jenifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race* by Walter Isaacson, 2021, 539 pages. Non-Fiction.

Discussion Leader: Richard Grove\*

**Oct. 15, 2021:** *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride, 2020, 370 pages. Fiction.

Discussion Leader: Steve Buccieri\*

**Nov. 19, 2021:** *My Antonia* by Willa Cather, 1918, First Edition, 272 pages. Fiction.

Discussion Leader: Karen Naka\*

**Dec. 17, 2021:** *You Never Forget Your First: a biography of George Washington* by Alexis Coe, 2020, 261 pages

Discussion Leader: Susan Lemire\*

### Film Discussions

Coordinator: Carol Valcik\*

**Four Fridays**, 10 a.m. – noon: Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Dec. 10

The following films can be checked out from your local public library or viewed through streaming services. *Please note that all film discussion meetings will be Zoom only.*

**Sept. 24, 2021:** *The Danish Girl*

Discussion leader: Carolyn Walsh\*

**Oct. 22, 2021:** *Mississippi Burning*

Discussion Leader: Kirk Frazee\*

**Nov. 12, 2021:** *The Hundred-Foot Journey*

Discussion Leader: Marie Gleason-Tada\*

**Dec. 10, 2021:** *One Night in Miami*

Discussion Leader: Bob Hanlon\*



# **Art & Music Fall 2021**

## **Wednesdays, 10 a.m. – Noon**

### **Wednesday, Sept. 15, – The Museum of Printing**

This in person guided tour covers the rich history of the graphic arts, printing, typesetting technology, and printing craftsmanship, starting 500 years ago in the foundry era. The Museum contains hundreds of antique printing, typesetting, and bindery machines. Printing has changed dramatically during the last 200 years, from letterpress printing to photographic and electronic technologies. We will hear the stories of these changes using one of the world's largest collections of printing and typesetting hardware and ephemera. Also see the evolution of office communication, from Mimeographs, Graphotypes, and Addressographs, plus a large collection of typewriters. There are also two art galleries with rotating exhibits.

We will meet at the museum located at 15 Thornton Ave., Haverhill, MA 01832 at 10 a.m. Free parking at the museum. Senior admission \$8 at the door. LIRA will be the only visitors in the museum during our tour, however, to protect all LIRA members, please wear a mask during this event.

LIRA tour coordinator: Bob Fesmire\*

### **Wednesday, Sept. 22 – American Heritage Museum**



At the American Heritage Museum, you explore America's conflicts, beginning with the Revolutionary War to today. You'll discover, and interact with, our heritage through the History, the national effort developing new technologies of warfare, and the Human Impact of America's fight to preserve the freedom we all hold dear. The cost is \$18.00 per person, and you may pre-purchase tickets online or at the door. Our tour will begin at 10:00 am and there is parking.

Carpool: Meet at Drum Hill Hannaford parking lot. We will leave there at 9:15 am sharp!

Directions: Take 495 South to exit 70 E, (Route 117) in Bolton. Take Long Hill Road and Main Street to 568 Main Street, Hudson. It is a long driveway!

Coordinator: Nancy Pitkin\*

## **Wednesday, Sept. 29, - The Discovery of a Masterpiece**

Mallory Mortillaro serves as the Curator of Collections for the Hartley Dodge Foundation in Madison, NJ. While she was cataloging the artwork housed inside of the Hartley Dodge Memorial, she uncovered a masterpiece that had been lost to the art world since the 1930's. After a year of research, the piece was authenticated as an official work by Auguste Rodin. Mallory will share the story of how a simple art cataloging project evolved into a search for a mysterious piece's provenance and became one of the biggest art finds in recent history.

Coordinator: Peter Sebelius\*

*This will be a Zoom only program*

## **Wednesday, Oct. 6, - Condominium Law**

We have all heard of the collapse of the condominium in Surfside Florida in which 98 people died. What lessons can we learn from that for us who own or are considering buying a condominium?

Join condominium law expert Edmond Allcock as he leads us through all the financial and legal aspects of condo living including.

- Fiduciary duty and responsibility
- Insurance
- Reserves and reserve studies
- Engineering Studies
- Assessments
- Association Loans
- Value
- Building Inspections
- Legislation

Coordinator: Bob Hanlon\*

*This will be a Zoom only program*

## **Wednesday, Oct. 13, - The Merrimack: River at Risk**

The Merrimack River is the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution in America. During the 19th century, mills in cities such as Manchester, New Hampshire, and Lowell, Massachusetts, harnessed the power of the river to become the largest manufacturing plants in the world. Merrimack once was heavily polluted as a result of industrial growth, but, thanks to the Clean Water Act of 1972, the Merrimack has been cleaned up considerably over the last 50 years.

More than 80 percent of the Merrimack watershed is still undeveloped and largely forested. Unfortunately, development is causing programs for the river. In 2016, The Merrimack was named one of the most endangered rivers in the United States by the nonprofit American Rivers.

Join experts from the Forest Society as you view their film, The Merrimack: River at Risk. There will be time for discussion after the film with members of the Forest Society available to answer your questions.

Coordinator: Bob Hanlon\*

*This will be a Zoom only program*

### **Wednesday, Oct. 20, - Lowell Chamber Orchestra**

Can you write your life story in music? There is no better example than Dmitri Shostakovich's 8th chamber symphony for writing a musical autobiography. From writing his name in musical notes to expressing the different stages of his existence under the Stalinist regime, Shostakovich writes a work of music that it's not only about him, but about the feelings of an entire country. In this presentation by the Lowell Chamber Orchestra, you will learn in great detail the different musical techniques, the multiple stories, and the reason why this has become such a popular piece that the original string quartet was expanded to the symphony you will hear. It all takes place at Middlesex Community College's brand new Academic Arts Center, a state-of-the-art facility designed for presentations such as this one. The presentation will include an explanation of the different sections of the work, a performance of the piece, and time for questions.

The Lowell Chamber Orchestra is Lowell's first and only professional orchestra, providing concerts free of charge to the population, with the hopes of breaking down the socio-economic barriers and allowing anyone to experience the best performances of classical music.

The MCC Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center is located at 240 Central Street, Lowell, MA. Visitor Parking is available at the Early Garage located at 135 Middlesex Street.

Coordinator: Bob Hanlon\*

### **Wednesday, Oct. 27, - History UnErased**

History UnErased is a Lowell-based education nonprofit bringing LGBTQ history into the mainstream curriculum--across the nation--to ensure all students, today and beyond, learn a more complete story of America and a more empowering reflection of who "We the people" includes, promoting genuine understanding and equality for all LGBTQ people. Join History UnErased for an interactive and engaging multimedia presentation for a sample of Intersections and Connections LGBTQ-inclusive curriculum presented through the lenses of race and gender--from Jamestown to the 21st century! History UnErased's curriculum reflects over seven years of research and development by expert classroom teachers, curriculum designers, historians, librarians, and education policy leaders. All content is anchored in copyright-secured primary sources curated from digital and print collections from libraries and archives across the nation, as well as the Library of Congress, National Archives, National Park Service, and more.

History UnErased was featured on CBS News in June 2021. In this 10-minute clip, which features a Bronx high school, you will meet co-founder Debra Fowler and learn more about the organization's mission: <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/history-unerased-brings-lgbtq-topics-to-the-classroom/>

Learn more about History UnErased here: <https://unerased.org/>

Coordinator: Esther Wikander\*

This is a Zoom only program

\* Indicates Lira member

# LIRA's Fall 2021 Calendar

Please note: Zoom Only classes are marked in red

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>September 13</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Women in History: 1600 to the present</i> 1 to 3 pm LIRA New Member Class</p>	<p><b>September 14</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Scandalous History of the Masquerade Ball</i> 1 to 3 pm <i>Stained Glass Windows</i></p>	<p><b>September 15</b> Tour begins at 10 am The Museum of Printing, Haverhill, MA Meet at the Museum</p>	<p><b>September 16</b></p>	<p><b>September 17</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Book Discussion</i> <i>The Code Breaker</i> Walter Isaacson</p>
<p><b>September 20</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Women in History</i> 1 to 3 pm Legacies of 1620 and the Mayflower</p>	<p><b>September 21</b> 10 am to Noon <i>A brief history of Freemasonry</i> 1 to 3 pm Dark Side of Mill Girl Life</p>	<p><b>September 22</b> Tour begins at 10 am American History Museum Car pool from Drum Hill Hannaford parking lot at 9:15 sharp!</p>	<p><b>September 23</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Great Decisions</i> 1 to 3 pm <i>German Elections 2021</i></p>	<p><b>September 24</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Film Discussion</i> <i>The Danish Girl</i></p>
<p><b>September 27</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Women in History</i> 1 to 3 pm Abolitionists in Lowell MA</p>	<p><b>September 28</b> 10 am to Noon <i>The Stamp Act</i> 1 to 3 pm Pirates of the Mediterranean</p>	<p><b>September 29</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Discovery of a Masterpiece</i></p>	<p><b>September 30</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Great Decisions</i> 1 to 3 pm The Irish Identity</p>	<p><b>October 1</b></p>
<p><b>October 4</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Women in History</i></p>	<p><b>October 5</b></p>	<p><b>October 6</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Condominium Law</i></p>	<p><b>October 7</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Great Decisions</i> 1 to 3 pm <i>German Elections 2021</i></p>	<p><b>October 8</b></p>
<p><b>October 11</b></p>	<p><b>October 12</b> 10 am to Noon Understanding the U.S. Government</p>	<p><b>October 13</b> 10 am to Noon <i>The Merrimack River at Risk</i></p>	<p><b>October 14</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Great Decisions</i> 1 to 3 pm The Irish Identity</p>	<p><b>October 15</b> 10 am to Noon <i>Book Discussion</i> <i>Deacon King Kong</i> James McBride</p>

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>October 18</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>The Universe: From Then to Now</b>  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>            Experiencing Hubble</p>	<p><b>October 19</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>            Understanding the U.S. Government  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>            New England Stone Walls</p>	<p><b>October 20</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>            Lowell Chamber Orchestra            MCCC Academic Arts Center; 240 Central St., Lowell, MA</p>	<p><b>October 21</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>Great Decisions</b>  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>            The Irish Identity</p>	<p><b>October 22</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>Film Discussion</b>  <i>Mississippi Burning</i></p>
<p><b>October 25</b>  <b>10 to Noon</b>  <b>The Universe: From Then to Now</b>  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>            Experiencing Hubble</p>	<p><b>October 26</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>            Understanding the U.S. Government  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  <b>The Sad Death of Mary Ann Birmingham</b></p>	<p><b>October 27</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>History unErased</b></p>	<p><b>October 28</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>Great Decisions</b>  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  <b>Enid Rocha Interview</b></p>	<p><b>October 29</b></p>
<p><b>November 1</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>The Universe: From Then to Now</b>  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>            Experiencing Hubble</p>	<p><b>November 2</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>            Understanding the U.S. Government  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>            Pushing the Envelope: USPS</p>	<p><b>November 3</b></p>	<p><b>November 4</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>Great Decisions</b>  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>            The Irish Identity</p>	<p><b>November 5</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b></p>
<p><b>November 8</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>The Universe: From Then to Now</b>  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>            Experiencing Hubble</p>	<p><b>November 9</b></p>	<p><b>November 10</b></p>	<p><b>November 11</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>Great Decisions</b></p>	<p><b>November 12</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>Film Discussion</b>  <i>The Hundred-Foot Journey</i></p>
<p><b>November 15</b></p>	<p><b>November 16</b></p>	<p><b>November 17</b></p>	<p><b>November 18</b></p>	<p><b>November 19</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>Book Discussion</b>  <i>My Antonia</i>            Willa Cather</p>
			<p><b>Friday, December 10</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>Film Discussion</b>  <i>One Night in Miami</i></p>	<p><b>Friday, December 17</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>Book Discussion</b>  <i>You Never Forget Your First: George Washington</i>            Alexis Coe</p>

**LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION/ UMASS LOWELL  
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

LOWELL, MA 01852 [www.uml.edu/lira](http://www.uml.edu/lira)

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE/PARTNER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE/PARTNER CELL \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

- In the event of class cancellation LIRA will send email to all members. If you do NOT use email check here to request a telephone call. Phone \_\_\_\_\_
- LIRA distributes the Newsletter by email. If you do NOT use email check here to request a paper copy. Paper \_\_\_\_\_
- Are you a graduate of UMass Lowell? \_\_\_\_\_ What year/degree \_\_\_\_\_
- Is this a renewal? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, the following questions may be omitted

**How did you learn about LIRA?**

**Professional work/experience**

**Brief Educational Background**

**Special fields of study, interests, hobbies, etc**

**What experiences, work background or skills would you be willing to share with LIRA?**

LIRA membership dues are \$125 (\$200 for couples) for the year July 1-June 30 payable by Aug. 15. Half-year LIRA membership dues for new members only are \$75 (\$125 for couples) for Jan. 1- June 30 payable between Jan. 1 – April 30 only. *All new Membership dues received after April 30 will be for a full year's membership, which will start on July 1.*



A portion of your membership fee will be tax-deductible and will benefit our student scholarship fund.

For additional information see our website: [www.uml.edu/lira](http://www.uml.edu/lira)

By submitting this application you grant permission for LIRA to use your image for promotional purposes.

Designations \*

- Individual Full-year Membership \$125
  - Couple Full-year Membership \$200
  - New Membership Individual Half-Year \$75
  - New Membership Couple Half-year \$125 Amount
- of Membership Selected: \*

\$ .00

When the application is processed you will receive additional LIRA information including current programs and parking directions.

Please return Application (or apply online with a credit card) with check payable to UMass Lowell, memo line LIRA, and mail to:

Office of Alumni Relations, Charles J. Hoff Scholarship Center  
UMass Lowell One  
Perkins Street  
Lowell, MA 01854

*August 2020*

## Parking Hangtags

**Please read the following carefully.** LIRA parking permits for 2021-2022 will be **valid for 10 months**, September 2021 through June 2022. LIRA will not have any on-campus programs in July and August 2022.

Please fill out the parking permit form below along with a \$80 check made out to UMass Lowell and **bring it to the Convocation on September 09**. LIRA can only issue parking hangtags to members that have paid their dues and have completed the vehicle information form. No one, other than those with a handicap permit, will receive a University issued parking permit without a payment of \$80.

You have 3 options if you cannot make it for the Convocation:

- If you fill out this form **with a check made out to UMass Lowell for \$80** and mail it to: Peter Sebelius, 20 Draycoach Dr., Chelmsford, MA 01824 **BEFORE** September 9, he will assign a hangtag to you. Include a stamped, self-addressed **legal-sized** envelope and he will mail it to you.
- You may have a friend bring a filled out form and check to the Convocation and get a hangtag for you.
- You can go to the Parking Access office at Campus Security office located at 220 Pawtucket St, Lowell, MA 01854, entrance on Salem St. This is the same place that you get your photo ID.

**IF YOU HAVE HANDICAPPED PARKING, PLEASE WRITE YOUR PLATE NUMBER AND DATE OF EXPIRATION ON THE FORM.** Your parking will be free, but you will not be able to get your hangtag unless you have **ALL** this information.

Additional copies of the application form will be available at the Convocation.

**LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (LIRA)  
UML Parking Permit – Registration Form**

**LIRA MEMBER AND VEHICLE INFORMATION (Required):** *[Please Print]*

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**Last Name**

**MI**

**First Name**

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street, P.O. Box, City/Town, State, Zip Code)

**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Handicap Permit #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Expiration Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VEHICLE INFORMATION:**

**Year:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Model:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Color:** \_\_\_\_\_

**License Plate**

**Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State** \_\_\_\_\_

**UML PARKING PERMIT NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_