Winter 2025 Adventures in Learning

Women Who Made a Difference

Study Moderator: Carol Emanuelson Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. 6 weeks beginning January 29 Course will be held via Zoom

Maximum number of participants: 80

In this ongoing lecture series, now in its sixth iteration, we showcase women who have made a difference in the world we all live in. The women selected by this year's speakers are particularly unique. Some will be familiar to you, but their contributions will be looked at in new ways, providing you with a fresh view of their importance in shifting cultural norms; others may be unknown to you. Either way, the amazing accomplishments of all these women highlight the superior standards of extraordinary achievement.

January 29 - Beverly Marshall: Four Hollywood Pioneers

Far too often, actresses are remembered for their glamour and the roles they played but are overlooked for the contributions they made in the often-oppressive industry that employed them and sometimes dismissed or disparaged their conduct in "real" life. This presentation is about how four women – Mary Pickford, Mae West, Bette Davis and Jane Fonda – pushed the norms and made a difference, often risking their careers and livelihoods.

February 5 - Kathleen Hunter: Mary Simon, Governor-General of Canada

Her Excellency the Right Honorable Mary Simon is the head of state of Canada. As the king's representative, her role is partly ceremonial. She is the first Indigenous person to be governor-general. She is bilingual in English and Inuktitut. The governor-general also has constitutional duties. She is an advocate for international cooperation in the Arctic and for Indigenous education and rights. She challenges the prejudices and assumptions many have about Indigenous people.



Beverly Marshall



Kathleen Hunter



Carol Emanuelson

February 12 - Carol Emanuelson: Artemisia Gentileschi

Artemisia Gentileschi was an Italian Baroque painter. When Gentileschi was 12, her mother died, and she began painting under her father's tutelage. She learned to paint in the style of Caravaggio but soon surpassed his work in the application of color, technique and drama. She was the first woman to become a member of the Academy of Art in Florence, Italy. In an era when women had few opportunities to study or work in a professional capacity, she is among the most acclaimed painters of the 17th century.

February 19 - David Bashaw: Anna Rosenberg

Anna Rosenberg was a Hungarian Jewish immigrant who became FDR's closest advisor during WWII. During the early 1950s, she served as an assistant secretary of defense, becoming the then-highest-ranking woman in the history of the Department of Defense. In addition to FDR, she also advised three other presidents. Upon her death, *The New York Times* wrote, "She was one of the most influential women in the country's public affairs for a quarter century."

February 26 - Sage Chase: Christiane Amanpour and Clarissa Ward

In today's world, women are increasingly visible on television as news reporters, correspondents, anchors and commentators. A surprising number of them have chosen to be war correspondents, by far the most dangerous assignment. After a brief look at their predecessors, our focus will be on two current CNN contributors, Christiane Amanpour and Clarissa Ward, both of whom are wives and mothers.

March 5 - Julie Machen: Jane Austen

Pride and Prejudice, Sense and Sensibility, Mansfield Park and others were all from the pen of Jane Austen, who never ventured from Southern England. This session will focus on her life, rather than her stories. We will also discuss her family and her strong bond with her only sister, Cassandra. Believe it or not, Austen's name never appeared on her novels during her lifetime. While she died at a young age, her books continue to be read and watched by numerous generations.



David Bashaw



Sage Chase



Julie Machen

Information: (603) 526-3690