



## ONLINE SUMMER 2020

Topic	Delivery	Instructor	Date
<u><a href="#">A Superexplosion Opens a New Window on the Universe</a></u>	Live	Daniel Golombek	June 30
<u><a href="#">Why Are Bees Declining?</a></u>	Live	Jody Johnson	July 2
<u><a href="#">Senior Living--What are the Pieces to that Puzzle?</a></u>	Live	Mark Beggs	July 7
<u><a href="#">The American Suffrage Movement: A Family History</a></u>	Pre-recorded	Dora Townsend	July 9
<u><a href="#">A Brief History of Gentrification in Baltimore City</a></u>	Live	Matt Durlington	July 14
<u><a href="#">Mystery of the Lost Colony</a></u>	Pre-recorded	Bob Baer	July 16
<u><a href="#">Rock Art: Bird Imagery, Dream Flying, and the Origin of Art</a></u>	Pre-recorded	Ahmed Achrati	July 21
<u><a href="#">Artificial Intelligence: Ethics and Human Values</a></u>	Live	Guillermo Warley	July 23
<u><a href="#">Coffee with Bach and me!</a></u>	Live	Jonathan Palevsky	July 28
<u><a href="#">The Education of Educators: What the Coronavirus Pandemic Taught Us</a></u>	Live with Panel	Beshon Smith	July 30
<u><a href="#">Mapping the Suffrage Movement</a></u>	Live with Panel	David Sides	August 4
<u><a href="#">The Economics of Climate Change</a></u>	Live	Darius Iranian	August 6
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## **A Superexplosion Opens a New Window on the Universe**

Daniel Golombek

Tuesday, June 30

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away two objects collided and generated a set of waves that revolutionized the study of the cosmos. Two and a half years ago, in a Universe that seems so remote, the signature of the collision of two neutron stars was detected by space and earth-based observatories. Waves predicted by the theory of general relativity a century earlier were observed for the first time. This fascinating new window opened by these detections will help us understand not only the objects we can see at different wavelengths but also the realms of spacetime – that fabric that envelops the cosmos. We will travel in time, to when it was discovered and to the period of the explosion to look at what was seen and what produced it.

*Daniel Golombek worked at the Space Telescope Science Institute where he has been responsible for leading the user support for the world-wide Hubble Space Telescope community, the team that developed and implemented its observations, and developing and executing programmatic and scientific plans and budgets. During his tenure as a Visiting Scientist at NASA Headquarters, he was responsible for the management of twelve space science observatories and three major space science grants.*

## **Why are bees declining?**

Jody Johnson

Thursday, July 2

The lecture will cover five of the main reasons that bee populations are declining, including pathogens, parasites, pesticides, habitat loss, and climate change. Natural or human-impacted stressors for each factor will be addressed for social and solitary bees. Honeybees have additional influences related to management practice. Updates on Tropilaelaps and giant hornets will be mentioned briefly.

*Dr. Jodi Johnson is a pollinator scientist and an educator. During the summers, she researches impacts of pesticides, nutrition, and parasites on honeybee health at the USDA and through her business. During the academic year, she teaches environmental science, science of sustainability, physical sciences, and pollinators to college level and older students.*

## **Senior Living—What Are the Pieces to that Puzzle?**

Mark Beggs

Tuesday, July 7

Did you know that less than 10% of age and income qualified seniors will choose to move to a senior living community? And that most communities consider your home to be their greatest competition? In this interactive program you will learn about all of the typical components that make up the scope of 'senior living'. What are they? What services are offered? How is each paid for? Why would you look at one over the other? What are the benefits and drawbacks of each? What does a Long-Term Care policy mean in relationship to Senior Living? This open discussion will help you sort through what may or may not be right for you as you plan for the next exciting chapter of your life.

*Mark Beggs is the President and CEO of Edenwald, a Senior Living community located in Towson. Mark has a career spanning 30 years in Senior Living starting out as a Social Worker and touching on every aspect of Senior Living operations. He joined Edenwald in January of 2019. Mark has spoken nationally on Sales and Census Development, Person Centered Care, and Lifelong Learning partnerships.*

## The American Suffrage Movement: A Family History

Dora Lewis Townsend

Thursday, July 9

This presentation focuses on the American Suffrage Movement beginning with the Women's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls, New York in July 1848. It was there that Elizabeth Cody Stanton drafted the Declaration of Sentiments which ultimately served as the genesis for the 19th Amendment. The 19th Amendment which secured the right to vote for American women was successfully passed by Congress on June 4, 1919 and was adopted as part of the United States Constitution on August 18, 1920, having been ratified by three-fourths of the thirty-six states in the union. These two events are bookends of an incredible story of courage, commitment, and perseverance in the face of physical violence, anger, and public efforts to hurt and humiliate the women who championed the cause. Dora Kelly Lewis, great-grandmother to Dora Townsend, played a significant role in many aspects of the movement. Learn about Lewis in the historical context of the entire movement. Included are excerpts from letters that she wrote to her mother and daughter from prison as well as other first-person accounts that help illustrate significant events in the story.

*Dora Townsend is originally from Baltimore but has lived in Gettysburg with her husband since 1973. Her interest in the story of her great-grandmother began several years ago when author, Mary Walton, contacted her. Ms. Walton was writing a book on Alice Paul, a significant leader in the Suffrage Movement. Dora's great-grandmother, Dora Kelly Lewis, was an important and trusted colleague of Alice Paul and was often referred to as "Alice's first lieutenant". In gathering requested information, Townsend discovered that she was in possession of original source material and thus developed her own unique and personalized perspective of the American Suffrage Movement.*

## A Brief History of Gentrification in Baltimore City

Matthew Durington

Tuesday, July 14 (12pm)\*

Using his research in the South Baltimore community of Sharp Leadenhall, Dr. Durington will walk attendees through the history of blockbusting, redlining and other historic urban renewal processes that set the stage for gentrification in Baltimore City in the 21st century. While development and change can be a welcomed addition to a city that suffers from a variety of socioeconomic issues, gentrification can also be a process of exclusion and marginalization of historic residents. This gets particularly problematic when gentrification follows the contours of racial and class displacement.

*Matthew Durlington is a professor of anthropology at Towson University. Alongside his students and colleagues, he has studied processes of gentrification and other urban issues in Baltimore and abroad over the last 20 plus years. He is the author of numerous articles on housing and race in addition to the book *Networked Anthropology* with co-author Samuel Gerald Collins.*

## Mystery of the Lost Colony

Bob Baer

Thursday, July 16

The Roanoke settlement, America's first English colony, vanished in 1590. Over a hundred men, women, and children were nowhere to be found when their leader returned to the site in North Carolina's Outer Banks. The story of their disappearance and the sleuthing by historians and archaeologists is one of the great real-life mysteries of American history. The class will delve into the story of these displaced pioneers and the tantalizing clues they left behind.

*Robert Baer holds a B.A. in history from Towson University, and M.L.A. in the history of ideas from the Johns Hopkins University, and a D.Ed. in higher education from Morgan State University. He spent 30 years as a college administrator in Connecticut, New York, and Maryland. He has been an instructor in history at New York-CUNY, Norwalk Community College, Community College of Baltimore, and Howard Community College.*

## Rock Art: Bird Imagery, Dream Flying, and the Origin of Art

Ahmed Achrati

Tuesday, July 21

Birds and bird-forms are some of the earliest patterns in rock art, and there is considerable ethnographic information relating to the symbolism of birds in all world cultures. Birds represent the idea of flight, an avian imagery that inhabits many metaphors in modern discourses. There is a human fascination with the physical act of flying, and dream-flying is a sleep-related phenomenon that has prompted psychological and psychoanalytical inquiries into a possible connection between this behavior and the nature of metaphors. This presentation explores possible relationships between bird iconography, the psychology of dream-flying, and the linguistic theory of metaphors to shed some new light on creativity and the cognitive processes involved in the production and interpretation of rock art.

*Ahmed Achrati, Ph.D., is a retired professor who taught languages, anthropology, and religious studies at institutions including Georgetown University, University of Illinois, and Howard Community College. His publications on religion and rock art in leading journals span various topics.*

## Artificial Intelligence: Ethics and Human Values

Guillermo Warley

Thursday, July 23

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly present in our everyday life. It is pervasive (digital footprint, cell phone data, financial transactions), invasive (our name, SSN, IDs, email addresses, phone number, income level), and persuasive (micro-targeted marketing, knowing our preferences). What are the ethical considerations that should guide AI development? Are human values and the more general concept of “human well-being” paramount considerations in AI research? Should they be? How can they be incorporated? We will look at these questions and their broad implications, attempt to define AI, and examine the concept of RRI, or responsible research and innovation.

*Guillermo Warley is an electrical engineer with undergraduate and graduate degrees in electronics and signal processing. He has more than 30 years of experience designing technology products. He is a Senior Life Member of the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers and a member of the Society for the Social Implications of Technology. He has taught graduate and undergraduate electrical engineering courses and has also taught seniors in the Osher program at Shepherd University in West Virginia.*

## Coffee Time With J.S. Bach!

Jonathan Palevsky

Tuesday, July 28

Our perception of Johann Sebastian Bach is that he was a complex, religious and serious man. He left us enormous amounts of sacred music, endless fugues for just about every instrument, and concertos that surpassed anything that could be produced by the Italians. There are two things about old J.S. that we don't talk about very often: his wicked sense of humor and his adoration of coffee. These two traits are combined in his fabulous Coffee Cantata. It's a wonderful combination of family dynamics, excellent arias, and a wonderful beverage. Spending an hour or so enjoying the lighter side of Bach is just the perfect antidote to the trying times we live in. Make sure to have a cup of coffee on hand...I know I will.

*Jonathan Palevsky, B.M., M.M., is program director for WBJC. His undergraduate studies focused on musicology and his graduate work at Baltimore's Peabody Institute on instrumental training in classical guitar performance. Jonathan can be heard as host of Face the Music, Past Masters, WBJC Opera Fest and regular afternoon classical programming on WBJC. He also hosts Cinema Sundays at the Charles Theater. Jonathan has been a regular of the Osher faculty since the former Auburn Society's first semester in spring 1999.*

## **The Education of Educators: What the Coronavirus Pandemic Taught Us.**

Beshon Smith

Thursday, July 30

The Coronavirus pandemic has become a globally defining moment and has altered what we have come to know about the most critical infrastructures and systems in our nation: criminal justice, education, finance, healthcare, housing and law enforcement.

As a result of our nationwide response to the pandemic, public school districts and the many institutions and organizations that support them have experienced unprecedented upheaval such as school building closures, distance-learning, virtual engagement, and efforts to balance work and home-life on levels never experienced before.

This virtual panel will explore the experiences, perspectives, and strategies of educators at the height of the coronavirus pandemic.

*Dr. Beshon Smith is the Executive Director for Delaware, Maryland, and Washington, DC with the Center for Supportive Schools, a national non-profit organization that advances the efforts of schools across the country to develop all students into leaders who help make their schools safer, more supportive and engaging. Dr. Smith has spent the past 22 years of her professional career leading organizations, programs, and services that use the transformative power of education to enhance the lives of students and their families. She holds a doctorate degree in Language, Literacy and Culture from the University of Maryland-Baltimore County; a master's degree in Public Administration with a concentration in non-profit management from the City University of New York-Baruch College; and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the City University of New York-John Jay College of Criminal Justice.*

## **Suffragist Stories and Connections: Mapping the Network of Suffragist Correspondence in Recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment**

Sam Collins, Alex Mikulski, Christina Nemphos, and David Sides

Tuesday, August 4

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment, faculty from TU's College of Liberal Arts and TU's Center for Geographic Information Sciences have collaborated with the National Park Service (NPS) to research and map connections among suffragists through their correspondence archives. A Web-based mapping tool facilitates the exploration of relationships among nearly 750 individuals connected to the suffrage movement.

The mapping interface explores the movement through its association and overlap with other major themes, such as abolition, religion and related political movements. Suffragist Stories and Connections provides a place-based look at those associated with the suffrage movement who worked for social change on multiple fronts.

*Dr. Samuel Collins is a cultural anthropologist interested in information society and globalization, primarily in the United States and Korea. His M.A. and Ph.D. are from American University in Washington, D.C. His academic profile is available at academia.edu. He blogs frequently on anthropology, science fiction and the future at All Tomorrow's Cultures.*

*Alex Mikulski is a GIS Specialist at the Center for GIS at TU where, in addition to the NPS Suffrage Network mapping effort, she is involved in multiple geospatial database development and mapping projects involving transportation, infrastructure, economic development, and GIS training.*

*Christina Nemphos is the lead GIS Specialist at the Center for GIS at TU where, in addition to the NPS Suffrage Network mapping effort, she is involved in multiple geospatial database development and mapping projects involving transportation, agriculture/environment, public health, and GIS training.*

*David Sides is a Project Manager at the Center for GIS at TU where he works with a team of skilled GIS and software development professionals who apply spatial technologies to complete a variety of projects for local, state and federal government, non-profits, and the private sector.*

## The Economics of Climate Change

Daraius Irani

Thursday, August 6

Climate change has become a polarized topic in public discourse today and finds itself centered in political platforms and governmental policymaking. As time goes on and the scientific community continues its work in understanding climate change, the urgent regard with which changes in our planet should be taken has become increasingly clear. This presentation will illustrate what costs a lack of action towards climate change will have, as well as address how to mitigate the rate of climate change (reduction in greenhouse gasses & carbon emissions, etc.). Looked at too will be both the economic benefits and costs that come with mitigating climate change.

*Dr. Daraius Irani serves as Vice President of Strategic Partnerships and Applied Research at Towson University as well as chief economist for the Regional Economic Studies Institute (RESI) at Towson University, a policy group providing economic, fiscal impact, and policy analysis to state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private sector firms. Dr. Irani holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara.*

## The Wonder Women of Comics

Arnold Blumberg

Tuesday, August 11

“Beautiful as Aphrodite, wise as Athena, stronger than Hercules and swifter than Mercury.” Created by writer William Moulton Marsden (under the pseudonym Charles Moulton), his wife Elizabeth Holloway Marston, partner Olive Byrne, as well as artist Harry G. Peter, Wonder Woman first appeared in “All-Star Comics #8” (December 1941) and immediately took her place at the pinnacle of the DC Comics pantheon as a champion of the oppressed. Whether fighting shoulder to shoulder with costumed colleagues or battling injustice solo, her star-spangled heroism inspires generations of readers long after World War II.

*Arnold T. Blumberg, D.C.D., is a cinema historian, publisher, author, and world-renowned pop culture scholar, having taught courses on the zombie genre, science fiction history, superhero media, comic book literature, and the Marvel Cinematic Universe. He spent fifteen years in the comics industry, curated a pop culture museum for five years, and lectures regularly at conventions and other events.*

## Dave Brubeck at 100

Seth Kibel

Thursday, August 13

2020 marks the centennial year for jazz giant Dave Brubeck, a gifted pianist, composer, and bandleader who helped redefine the sound of 20th century American music. We'll follow him from his early years as a leading figure of both the West Coast and “cool” jazz movements to his golden years as an elder statesman of American music. We'll also explore the strange genesis of “Take Five”, which became the most unexpected of pop hits in 1959. This presentation will feature live performances from the instructor as well as classic audio recordings and rare video clips.

*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. Wowing audiences on clarinet, saxophone, and flute, Seth has made a name for himself in the Washington/Baltimore region, and beyond. He is the featured performer with The Kleztet, Bay Jazz Project, Music Pilgrim Trio, The Natty Beaux, and more. Winner of 28 Washington Area Music Awards (Wammies), including “Best World Music Instrumentalist” (2003-11) and “Best Jazz Instrumentalist” (2005, 2007-8, 2011-14).*