



2022 SUMMER SERIES

Join us this summer for presentations on a variety of topics. In-person lectures will be taking place in the auditorium at Edenwald Senior Living in Towson. Those presentations will be livestreamed via Zoom for participants who are out of the immediate area or who wish to view from home. Each lecture will be around 90 minutes, including Q & A.

Topic	Instructor	Date	Time
Gertrude Bell: Desert Adventurer	Robert Baer	Wednesday, July 6	1:00 PM
ONLINE ONLY The United States Supreme Court and Slavery	Rex Rehfeld	Wednesday, July 13	1:00 PM
How I Won (and Lost) on 'Jeopardy!'	Greg Jones	Wednesday, August 3	1:00 PM
Kicking Glass: 50 Years of Title IX	Tricia Brandenburg	Wednesday, August 10	1:00 PM
Part 1—The Life and Times of Zelda Fitzgerald	Jack Burkert	Wednesday, August 17	1:00 PM
Part 2—The Life and Times of Zelda Fitzgerald	Jack Burkert	Wednesday, August 24	1:00 PM
Baltimore Eternal	Rafael Alvarez	Wednesday, August 31	1:00 PM

Registration for the Osher 2022 Summer Series is a flat rate of \$45 per person for the entire series. Payments for the Osher Summer Series are non-refundable. Membership is not required to participate.

Your participation in Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University constitutes implied consent to be photographed, video recorded, and to have those images published in any manner, including use on web pages and social media outlets. Should you have questions, please contact the director.

Gertrude Bell: Desert Adventurer

Robert Baer

Wednesday, July 6 at 1 p.m.

Gertrude Bell is considered one of the boldest and most adventurous women of her time. A desert explorer, archeologist, pioneering mountaineer, spy, diplomat, and popular travel writer, she blazed paths across the Near East where few Western men dared to go. This presentation will examine her accomplishments and long-term contributions to the culture and politics of the region.

Robert Baer holds a B.A. in history from Towson University, an M.L.A. in the history of ideas from 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 York College-CUNY, Norwalk Community College, Community College of Baltimore, and Howard Community College.

ONLINE ONLY The United States Supreme Court and Slavery

Rex Rehfeld

Wednesday, July 13 at 1 p.m.

The most well-known case involving slavery that was decided by the Supreme Court was that of Dred Scott. Because of its denial of citizenship to African-Americans, it is today considered the most outrageous decision ever made by the Court. But at the time, while that was denounced there were other more important parts of the decision: the issue of due process and the holding that the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional. But Dred Scott was only one of five cases in which the court faced the issue of slavery starting with the Antelope case in 1825. The lecture will discuss these cases and the full ramifications of Dred Scott.

Rex Rehfeld has a B.S. from the University of California and a J.D. from the University of Maryland. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the U.S. Army in the Korean War and for several years afterward. After leaving the service he worked as an investment advisor until retiring in 2014. Rex's avocation is the study and teaching of history. He has presented courses and lectures at local university senior learning programs as well as lectures at retirement centers.

How I Won (and Lost) on 'Jeopardy!'

Greg Jones

Wednesday, August 3 at 1 p.m.

Greg Jones takes you from audition to taping to airing to aftermath of his 2009 appearances on Jeopardy! Among the surprising facts he'll reveal: How the contestants are "cast"; when and how contestants got to talk to Alex Trebek; how a trip of the tongue by Greg made Alex and the audience laugh; and why a pilot named "Sully" ruined Greg's second appearance! While it would be fun to have this entire lecture phrased in the form of a question, we will save the questions for the end.

A regular instructor at Osher ("Eight Plays Everyone Should Know"), Greg holds a B.A. in drama from Catholic University and an M.A. in English from Salisbury University. He is an award-winning playwright and local theatre professional as well as an adjunct instructor at Anne Arundel Community College.

Kicking Glass: 50 Years of Title IX

Tricia Brandenburg

Wednesday, August 10 at 1 p.m.

Fifty years ago, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 was passed prohibiting discrimination in education on the basis of sex. Since 1972, Title IX has helped women shatter previous barriers to admissions, financial aid, and activities connected to education, including athletics. Title IX also prohibits pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment and other inequitable treatment in education. Title IX has been subject to intense backlash throughout its history. Learn more about Title IX's history, the backlash, and what's left to do.

Tricia Turley Brandenburg is the Deputy Director of Athletics, Internal Operations, at Towson University. She oversees the department's sport management, academics, compliance, student services, sports performance and Total Tiger programs. She is currently the sports administrator for volleyball, women's basketball, and women's lacrosse. In her time at Towson, Tricia authored and implemented a gender equity plan that has resulted in more than seven full-time positions added to support women's sports, more than 100 percent increase in women's sports receiving full scholarship funding and additional facility and practice improvements. Tricia has served on the NCAA Legislative Committee and Committee on Institutional Performance. Tricia is a member of the National Association for Athletics Compliance (NAAC) and served as President of NAAC in 2016-17. She is also a member of Women Leaders in College Sports (formerly NACWAA), the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) and previously served on the Board of Directors for the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA).

The Life and Times of Zelda Fitzgerald

Jack Burkert

Part 1: Wednesday, August 17 at 1 p.m.

Part 2: Wednesday, August 24 at 1 p.m.

Here are glimpses into the life of Zelda Fitzgerald, the "First Flapper" of the Jazz Age. Born in comfortable circumstances in Montgomery, Alabama, twenty-year-old Zelda Sayre marries F. Scott Fitzgerald, thus beginning their tumultuous life together. Their adventures take them across America and through Europe. He wrote both short stories and novels while she sought artistic fulfillment. By 1930, her early signs of mental illness coupled with his alcoholism made their partnership of greatness a distant dream. Through twenty years of treatment, in and out of sanitariums and hospitals, a maturing Zelda painted, danced, wrote, and slowly recovered, creating a life story few could imagine.

The presentation is offered in two parts, with session one (1900-1929) following Zelda through her early years. Zelda the daredevil "tomboy" becomes the in-demand young woman who marries budding author Scott Fitzgerald. We follow her and their path through the 1920s, in America and in France, as their exuberant lifestyle slowly begins to disintegrate. In session two, we examine Zelda's life as she alternates between depressive periods and incredible artistic productivity. She met some challenges and absorbed some failures. Along the way, she authored a book, wrote a play, and created many paintings that detailed her interests and the episodes in her life. Zelda's time in and out of institutions ultimately broke her spirit but family interventions offered a path forward toward a fleeting recovery which lasted until her tragic death in 1948.

A 1969 graduate of the University of Maryland, Jack Burkert graduated with honors with a degree in history and education. His working life, some 40+ years, was spent in various educator roles, beginning with five years in the Baltimore City Public School system, later at the Pennsylvania State University, through private employers in Washington and New York City, and until his retirement a few years ago, in his own consulting firm. Jack's interest in history led to a number of programs about Baltimore history that inform and entertain both adults and young people on topics such as the Port of Baltimore, Baltimore's people, and its businesses.

Baltimore Eternal

Rafael Alvarez

Wednesday, August 31 at 1 p.m.

From the founding of Fells Point in the 17th century to Paul McCartney rocking Camden Yards 350 years later, Baltimore has been one of the most consequential cities in the nation. Alvarez—reporter, author, and historian—takes us on a first-person, working-class tour through the decades by way of family history.

Rafael Alvarez is a writer based in Baltimore. Formerly a journalist for the “Baltimore Sun”, he has also written fiction and non-fiction books, essays, and short stories. He wrote for the HBO drama, “The Wire”, during its first three seasons. He is co-editor of “A Lovely Place, A Fighting Place, A Charmer: The Baltimore Anthology” from Belt Publishing (release date: June 28, 2022).