



Osher at Towson University presents...

Winter Wednesdays—Zoom lectures and workshops

| Topic | Instructor(s) | Date | Time | Register |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|----------|--|
| WINTER LECTURES | | | | |
| Is Privacy Doomed in the Digital Age? | Firmin DeBrabander | January 13 | 10 a.m. | <u>REGISTER HERE</u> |
| Click Here to Win: A Practical Guide to Staying Safe on the Internet | Iris Kutch | January 27 | 10 a.m. | <u>REGISTER HERE</u> |
| The Mystery of the Tarot | Mikita Brottman | February 3 | 10 a.m. | <u>REGISTER HERE</u> |
| Together: Baltimore Faith Leaders Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges | Rabbi Mitchell Wohlberg & Rev. Dr. Terris King | February 10 | 10 a.m. | <u>REGISTER HERE</u> |
| WINTER WORKSHOPS | | | | |
| These workshops have limited enrollment and registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis with a waitlist for each. | | | | |
| Found Object Sculpture: a Special Art Making Adventure | Jim Paulsen | Wednesdays, January 6–February 10 | 1–3 p.m. | <u>Email Shelby Jones</u> <i>This class is limited to 15 people</i> |
| Get into Character! Fun Tips & Tricks for Beginning Actors | Greg Jones | February 17–February 18 | 1–2 p.m. | <u>Email Shelby Jones</u> <i>This class is limited to 15 people</i> |

WINTER LECTURES

Is Privacy Doomed in the Digital Age?

Firmin DeBrabander

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 | 10:00am

It is much easier for privacy to be threatened in the age of digital technology compared to the eras that came before. It is important for users and consumers of technology to understand the ways privacy can be threatened by digital technology. Are we being 'spied' on, and if so, by who and for what reason? Why is it so much easier in today's day and age for us to give up our private information or to have it taken from us without our consent? Why are we so willing if not eager to share our information? How have mores and habits changed around protecting our private data, and how has the era of social media contributed to those changes, perhaps even encouraging them? Learn what 'privacy' means in this day and age.

Firmin DeBrabander is professor of Philosophy at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore; he is the author of the books "Do Guns Make Us Free?" (Yale University Press, 2015), and most recently, "Life After Privacy" (Cambridge University Press, 2020).

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Click Here to Win: A Practical Guide to Staying Safe on the Internet

Iris Kutch

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 | 10:00am

What is Cybersecurity and how does it relate to the average person? How do spam and phishing scams infiltrate email and social networks? There is good chance that you or someone you know have received pesky emails and even text messages about issues with your credit card or products you may or may not own, your social security number being frozen, the IRS being after you...the list goes on. Perhaps, too, you've heard recently about ransomware attacks on school networks, city governments, and hospitals. In addition to these troubling events, the public is accustomed to doing just about everything online—ordering take-out, banking, shopping, and having telehealth visits. Learn how cybersecurity experts are working to keep your information safe and what you can do to maneuver through the internet safely.

Iris Kutch began working with Towson University's Strategic Partnerships & Applied Research Division in 2016. In her current role, she supports Cisco Networking Academies statewide by providing them with access to the educational tools and material needed as well as information on current and practical technical solutions. Iris also manages and schedules training for new Cisco instructors and provides them with support and mentorship as they begin instruction. Previously, Iris was a Cisco Networking instructor and teacher at Baltimore County Public Schools. She also worked with Becton Dickinson as a senior software engineer.

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The Mystery of the Tarot

Mikita Brottman

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 | 10:00am

In this lecture, we will consider the deck of cards known as the tarot not as a method of fortune-telling, but as a marvelous and mysterious historical treasure-house of images, themes, and motifs which has been taken seriously by such major artists, writers, and thinkers as Salvador Dali, W.B. Yeats, Italo Calvino, Andre Breton, and Carl Jung, and useful to anyone engaged in creative pursuits. Learn a about the symbolism of wands, cups, swords, and pentacles. Find out how the tarot is used as a way of understanding our emotions and analyzing our dreams. What is the origin and history of the tarot and what are its connections to alchemy, the zodiac, and the kabbalah? You will learn about the differences in various tarot decks and the way their use of Christian imagery has changed over time, in response to historical events. Finally, you will learn how the tarot can be seen as an intuitive, irrational, and playful way of relating to the world and of making sense of our experience.

Mikita Brottman has a D.Phil. in English language and literature from Oxford University and had taught at a number of universities in Europe and the United States. For the last twenty years, she has been professor of English literature in the Department of Humanistic Studies at the Maryland Institute College of Art. She is also a certified psychoanalyst and a true crime writer.

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Together: Baltimore Faith Leaders Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges

Rabbi Mitchell Wohlberg & Rev. Dr. Terris King

Wednesday, February 10, 2021 | 10:00am

Reverend Dr. Terris King and Rabbi Mitchell Wohlberg state, “Only God could have brought together an African-American Baptist pastor from the Liberty Grace Church in Baltimore’s Ashburton neighborhood, and a white Orthodox Jewish rabbi from Pikesville in Baltimore County.” How did these two faith leaders join forces and why is it significant? Join these two charismatic leaders as they discuss their unexpected relationship, the initiatives being taken by their congregations, and the positive outcomes that have come from the building of relationships and addressing of violence and racism in and around their communities.

Reverend Dr. Terris King leads the Liberty Grace Church in the Ashburton neighborhood. In addition to his role there, he is committed to transforming healthcare companies through his expertise and advice in creating innovative models that lower cost and improve the quality of health and thus the quality of life for Americans. Appointed by the Mayor as Chair of Baltimore’s local management board for Family League, he determines the strategic direction that provides health and education programs for children and youth in Baltimore City. He previously served the federal government as the Deputy Chief Information Officer at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the Director of the Office of Minority Health, and the Deputy Director of the Office of Clinical Standards and Quality (OCSQ). King completed both his Scientific Doctorate in Occupational Science and his undergraduate degree in Mass Communications from Towson University. He also completed his Masters in Behavioral Science from Johns Hopkins University and completed a Harvard University Executive Fellows program.

Since 1978, Mitchell S. Wohlberg has been the rabbi of the Beth Tfiloh Congregation, the largest Modern Orthodox synagogue in the United States. Rabbi Wohlberg is also the Dean of the Beth Tfiloh Dahan Community School, including the high school he helped establish in 1986. He is the author of “Pulpit Power” and “The Un-Haggadah; How to Keep The Conversation and Wine Flowing At Your Seder”. Born in Brooklyn, NY, Rabbi Wohlberg received the Bachelor of Arts, Master of Hebrew Literature, and rabbinic ordination from Yeshiva University. He has also been the recipient of the Humanitarian Award from the Louis Z. Brandeis District of the Zionist Organization of America, the Fellowship Award from Bar-Ilan University, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Shaarei Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem. A scholarship has been established in his honor at Yeshiva University. He presently serves on the International Board of Governors of Bar Ilan University, and on the Board of Directors of Baltimore’s Institute of Islamic, Christian and Jewish Studies.

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WINTER WORKSHOPS

Found Object Sculpture: a Special Art Making Adventure

Jim Paulsen

January 6, 13, 20, 27, February 3, February 10, 2021 | 1:00-3:00 pm for 6 weeks

Join Jim Paulsen for an art class crafted perfectly for the times! ALL are welcome, regardless if you're a seasoned art professional or trying for the very first time. Found Object Sculpture is a journey through the art of assemblage and is a fun and exciting way to explore an art class and to think 'outside of the box' with the everyday things around you. The possibilities for what can be made are limitless and aren't bound by any rules: you can use a variety of ways to join items together, from gluing, nailing, and welding to sewing, stitching, and wrapping...the list goes on! What you make can be purely visual, or it can have a deeper meaning hidden within. Not sure if it's your thing? That's okay - the great news is that this will be done all within your own home, without the added pressure of a group class. Not sure what to make? That's okay too – students will be inspired by examples of assemblage sculptures created by famous and not-so-famous artists. Techniques, materials, and methods of joining will be taught in class. No prior knowledge or experience needed!

Jim Paulsen has a BS from Western Illinois University, an MA from Northern Illinois University, and an MFA from the University of Delaware. He is a Professor Emeritus from Towson University where he taught for 43 years and was head of the Sculpture Program. Jim's art works include jewelry, paintings, drawings, sculpture and installations. He has exhibited and lectured widely in the United States, Europe and Asia. His public sculptures can be seen in Maryland, Delaware, Illinois, Glasgow (Scotland), Bristol (England), Oldenburg (Germany), and Beijing (China). He not only makes heroic sized public sculptures but also exhibits drawings and smaller works in metal, wood and cast paper. He is a past President of the Maryland Craft Council and Baltimore Sculptors Inc. Following the installation of a 22' sculpture at the Hilton Hotel in Beijing, China, Jim engaged in a lecture tour at Art Schools in seven provinces throughout the Peoples Republic of China.

Contact Shelby Jones at sjones@towson.edu to register

Please note that this class is limited to 15 people.

Get into Character! Fun Tips & Tricks for Beginning Actors

Greg Jones

Wednesday, February 17 and Thursday, February 18, 2021 | 1:00 – 2:00 pm

In this class, students will learn some of the “tricks of the trade” actors use to become believable. Each “trick” will be given as a fun exercise to try, and anyone can show their stuff in the safety of the Zoom room! Among the tips covered: entering the set while in character; what to do with your hands; making dialogue sound real; and making the audience cry without crying! Regardless of stage experience, each student has a chance to satisfy their curiosity about how performers prepare for a role. More importantly, in a safe, fun and totally supportive environment, they will have a chance to try their hand at various optional exercises and show them to their classmates. By learning some of the “tricks of the trade,” students who participate in theater will feel they've added to their performer's toolkit. Each student will deepen their appreciation for the actor's craft.

Greg Jones has appeared in more than 60 stage productions ranging from community theater to the professional stage under the name Greg Jones Ellis. Recent local appearances include Mr. Bumble at the Annapolis Shakespeare Company's "Oliver!"; as Thomas Andrews in the Washington Theatre Lab's "Titanic" (guest artist) and as Robin in "The Children" at Colonial Players. Greg is an award-winning playwright. He holds a B.A. in Drama from Catholic University and an M.A. in English Literature from Salisbury University.

Contact Shelby Jones at sjones@towson.edu to register

Please note that this class is limited to 15 people.