

LIFELONG LEARNING LECTURE SERIES



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– Spring –
2019



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This free **Thursday 7:00pm** lecture series is a partnership between Framingham State University (FSU) and Framingham Public Library (FPL).

PLEASE NOTE: All the lectures are Thursdays at 7:00pm at the Main Library except Dr. Helen Heineman's lecture on March 28th which is at 7:00pm at the Christa McAuliffe Branch Library.

◆ **February 28th – Black Writers and Boston Publishing - At the Turn of the 20th Century**

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Lucas Dietrich, Visiting Lecturer, FSU

African American literature was just beginning to attract national attention. Black writers published their work for a predominantly white audience. This talk explores two important authors, W.E.B. DuBois and Charles W. Chesnutt, who were both published by Boston's Houghton Mifflin & Co.

◆ **March 7th – The Art of Ancient Peru: Three Thousand Years of History**

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Yumi Park, Assistant Professor, FSU

Millennia old Peruvian artifacts made of silver and gold, woven with exotic feathers or shaped from stones and clay and displaying sophisticated and powerful imagery. This lecture introduces the ancient cultures of the Andes and the artworks that reveal their beliefs and practices.

◆ **March 14th – It's Not the Solar System You Grew Up With**

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Lawrence McKenna, Assistant Professor, FSU

No matter how old you are, you learned that our Solar System was an orderly, well-understood and altogether normal corner of the Universe. None of these comforting assumptions are true. From a wildly migrating Jupiter forcing Mars to go small to alien asteroids, recent discoveries are re-shaping our understanding of the Solar System. Join us for a brief, but fun tour of our newly discovered Solar System.

◆ **March 21st – The Friendship of Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson**

GUEST SPEAKER: Jeffrey S. Cramer, Curator of Collections at Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods

Jeffrey S. Cramer will discuss his new book, *Solid Seasons: The Friendship of Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson*. Cramer is considered the leading authority on Thoreau's life and writings.

◆ **March 28th – A Poet in Our Midst – Personal Favorites from the Work of Alan Feldman**

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Helen Heineman, President Emerita, FSU

Please Note: This lecture will be at the McAuliffe Branch Library.

Winner of several prizes in poetry, Alan has been writing for more than 40 years chronicling subjects like traveling on land and sea, home, workplaces, parents and children, marriage, friendship and love. This lecture will cover selections from *The Happy Genius* through his most recent work, *The Golden Coin*.

◆ **April 4th – The Memphis Sound – The Rise of Stax and Volt Records**

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Steven Moysey, Director, MBA Program, FSU

During the 1960s Motown became a powerhouse in the world of soul music with its Detroit sound. However, another musical powerhouse was to come to prominence. That sound came from Memphis and featured the house bands of Booker T, the MG's and The Bar-Kays. The partnership between Atlantic Records and Stax and Volt records will be explored.

◆ **April 11th – Democracies Never Die, They Just Fade Away**

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. John Ambacher, Professor Emeritus, FSU

More than any other political system, democracy has an inherent ability to engineer its own demise. Democracy depends upon ordinary citizen capacities and motivations to absorb democratic values and to tolerate those with diverse social, cultural, ethnic and ideological backgrounds. These are precisely the values that have been under relentless attack in America over the past several decades. What went wrong and how do we fix it?

◆ **April 25th – Can a New Breed of Media Moguls Save Newspapers?**

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Dan Kennedy, Associate Professor, Northeastern University

Journalism professor and *Beat the Press* panelist Dan Kennedy will take a look at how wealthy newspaper owners like Jeff Bezos of *The Washington Post* and John Henry of *The Boston Globe* are trying to breathe new life into a dying industry.

This Lecture Series sponsored by The Joseph L. and Ray L. Freund Foundation, courtesy of Elizabeth F. Fideler.
For snow cancellations, please call 508-532-5570 after 7:30am or check www.framinghamlibrary.org.