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 October 25th which is at 7:00pm at the Christa McAuliffe Branch Library.

**September 13th – Requiem for a Nation: Leonard Bernstein’s *Mass***  
GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Georgia Luikens, Lecturer, Brandeis University  
Bernstein’s *Mass* incorporated the sacred with the secular and the denominational with the ecumenical. It was an active political statement built around America’s collective mourning over the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. This lecture will explore this multi-faceted work.

**September 20th – Scenes from Fantasy Operas: Rossini’s *Cinderella* & Humperdinck’s *Hansel & Gretel***  
GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Charles Beck, Professor Emeritus, FSU  
Dr. Beck, author of *What to Listen for in Opera*, will introduce songs and scenes that capture the nature of each opera. The audience will have an opportunity to compare the singing, acting, costuming and staging of each production.

**September 27th – Climate Justice as a Global Issue***  
GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Ellen Zimmermann, Professor, Chair, FSU  
India and the US, two of the world’s largest democracies, have embarked on an important sociopolitical and philosophical enterprise that embraces human rights, inclusive social justice and peaceful resolution of differences. One shared challenge is climate justice. How do we ensure that our most vulnerable populations are protected from the consequences of climate change and from the effects of marginalization during the aftermath?

**October 4th – Woodrow Wilson: Creating the Modern Presidency***  
GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. David Smailes, Associate Professor, FSU  
Wilson played a unique role in redefining the presidency including the role of the president in shaping American life, the role of the US in global affairs and the contribution of the First Lady to governing. On this centennial year marking the end of WWI, this presentation will examine Wilson’s unique role in shaping the presidency we have today and compare his experience with more recent presidents.

**October 11th – The Essential Guide to Streaming***  
GUEST SPEAKER: Annabel Dodd, Lecturer, Northeastern University  
The author of *The Essential Guide to Telecommunications, 6th Edition*, will provide insights on streaming, enabling technologies and the impact on the industry. Streaming has had an enormous impact on the film industry and users’ viewing habits.

**October 18th – Massachusetts Leaders in the Woman Suffrage Movement***  
GUEST SPEAKER: Barbara Berenson, Senior Attorney at the MA Supreme Judicial Court  
Berensen is the author of *Massachusetts in the Woman Suffrage Movement: Revolutionary Reformers* and will be focusing her spotlight on Bay State women who catalyzed the effort to gain women’s right to vote on a local and national level.

**October 25th – Leo and Sonya Tolstoy and the Mystery of Marriage***  
GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Helen Heineman, President Emerita, FSU  
*Please Note: This lecture will be at the McAuliffe Branch Library.*  
Lasting 48 years, the marriage of this famous novelist and his remarkable wife is documented in their diaries and notebooks. While their union is a story of a great love affair, it was rocked by extremes of happiness and pain and ended tragically in Tolstoy’s death, separated from his wife, in the train station at Yasnaya Polyana.

**November 1st – Jacob Lawrence in Context***  
GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Erika Schneider, Associate Professor, FSU  
Dr. Schneider will discuss Lawrence’s career, focusing on the 22 silk screen prints, *The Legend of John Brown*, made in 1977 and based on his 1941 gouache paintings. Wellesley College’s Davis Museum is hosting an exhibit from September 21st to December 16th.