



This free Thursday evening lecture series is a partnership between Framingham State University and Framingham Public Library. For more information, visit framinghamlibrary.org.

SEPT
22
7pm

A Burning Controversy: Did Native Americans modify the landscape of New England?

Dr. Larry McKenna, Assistant Professor of Physics and Earth Science, FSU and Co-Founder of the Center for Climate Change Education

Did Native Americans use fire to clear land for habitation, agriculture, and deer? This talk considers challenges to the long-held belief that Native Americans manipulated the land long before Europeans arrived.

SEPT
29
7pm

Elizabeth Garrett Anderson: England's First Woman Doctor

Dr. Helen Heineman, President Emerita, FSU

Learn about medical pioneer Elizabeth Garrett Anderson and the way in which she became the first woman to successfully combine a marriage, family, and an extraordinary professional career.

OCT
13
7pm

Africans' Experiences of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade

Dr. Maria Bollettino, Associate Professor of History, FSU

This talk examines Africans' experiences of the trans-Atlantic and intra-American slave trades, from initial capture to final sale in the Americas, and how trade routes shaped the African diaspora. This talk complements Dr. Bollentino's previous one, but stands alone.

OCT
27
7pm

Why Make (Ancient) Art? From Bronze Age Bull-Leapers to Amerindian Body-Pots

Dr. Benjamin Alberti, Professor of Anthropology, FSU

Why make art? This talk addresses that question with two ancient examples: fresco art from Bronze Age Knossos and anthropomorphic ceramics from Formative period Northwest Argentina.

NOV
3
7pm

National Identity & Tone Poems: Composers Turn Inward for Musical Inspiration

Ron Williams, Singer, lecturer, and vocal instructor

In the later part of the 19th century romanticism, European composers turned inward for inspiration. Let's explore this period of music and discover gems in our own American heritage.

NOV
10
7pm

What Did the Midterms Tell Us?

Dr. David Smailes, Associate Professor of Political Science, FSU

Join us for a look at the midterm elections results, including the impact on the next two years of the Biden administration, the directions both parties are headed, and the 2024 presidential election.

NOV
17
7pm

The Agony and Bliss of the Creative Process

Coco Berkman, Artist/Printmaker

Familiar with the great struggle most artists wrestle with, Coco Berkman shares a few nuggets of wisdom and anecdotes about her creative process.

DEC
1
7pm

Border Crossings: The Early Work of Irish Playwright Brian Friel

Dr. Kelly Matthews, Professor of English and Coordinator of Liberal Studies, FSU

Brian Friel has long been acclaimed as Ireland's leading contemporary playwright. This talk focuses on Friel's early work in which lay the seeds of his prodigious career.

Attend these lectures in-person at the Main Library or watch live on YouTube at bit.ly/FPL-YT.

This lecture series is sponsored by The Joseph L. and Ray L. Freund Foundation, courtesy of Elizabeth F. Fidler.