

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

October 21 - 25, 2024
This Is a B Week

There are three links for all classes for the semester: Auditorium, Classroom 15-17, and Classroom 27. Click on the appropriate link below to join a class no earlier than 15 minutes before its start.

Below are given the links (in red), meeting IDs, and passcodes for the three meeting rooms. If Zoom is installed on your computer, you can enter any hybrid class by clicking on the appropriate link:

AUDITORIUM

Meeting ID: 861 6851 3691

Passcode: 252525

ROOM 15-17

Meeting ID: 886 0175 9047

Passcode: 252525

ROOM 27

Meeting ID: 872 5172 0128

Passcode: 252525

Alternatively, you can enter a class using your browser by going to <https://zoom.us/join> and typing in the Meeting ID for the room of your class along with the passcode. Also, you can attend classes via phone by dialing 1-929-205-6099. You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the passcode.

NOTE: All classes are conducted at 25 Broadway and are listed as either Hybrid or In-person only. Hybrid classes are available to members attending at 25 Broadway and to members attending from home via Zoom. In-person only classes are presented solely at 25 Broadway with no Zoom option.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY**
Subject: Andrew Lloyd Webber
Presenter: Lauren Gee
Room: Auditorium
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: Peter Dichter, Arlynn Greenbaum, Sol Makon
Tech Support: Victor Brener, Wayne Cotter

Composer Andrew Lloyd Webber became the king of mega-musicals from the late 1970s to the 1990s, ushering in an era of excess and extravagance on Broadway. We will survey and view clips from his longest running hits: *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Evita*, *Cats*, *Starlight Express*, *Phantom of the Opera*, and *Sunset Boulevard* (all but one originating in London's West End) and examine the reasons for their commercial success and continued popularity.

Course: **WONDERFUL BOOKS OUT LOUD**
Dubliners by James Joyce
Subject: *Ivy Day in the Committee Room*, p. 121 in Penguin Classics edition
Eveline, p. 29 in Penguin Classics edition
Presenter: Ruth Ward
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Facilitators: Harriet Finkelstein, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward
Tech Support: Ruth Ward, Larry Shapiro

NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED

James Joyce's *Dubliners* is a vivid and unflinching portrayal of Dublin at the turn of the twentieth century. This session we will take turns reading aloud and discussing *Ivy Day in the Boarding House* and *Eveline*.

In the "Age of COVID," sharing books is not a good idea; please bring your own book to class.

Dubliners is a fabulous read; join in the James Joyce experience.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21 @ 12:10 – 12:50 PM

Course: **NOONTIME MONDAYS**
Subject: Sports
Presenters: Andrea, Mary Ann, Sheryl
Room: 15-17
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine**
Tech Support: **Sheryl Harawitz**

Join us as we bring you four sports events.

1. **Women's Basketball** - New York Liberty's incredible season that had fans packing the stands.
2. **Quidditch**- born from the pages of Harry Potter that has found a real-world following on college campuses and even has a professional league
3. **Sumo Wrestling** - a sport rich with cultural significance
4. **Baseball** - America's favorite pastime

Whether you're a die-hard sports fan or just curious about these diverse games - come share the fun and learn something new! And don't forget to bring your lunch.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **CONTEMPORARY POETRY**
Subject: Rae Armantrout
Presenter: Ellen Rittberg
Room: 27
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Ellen Rittberg**, Mary Ann Donnelly, Karen Millard, Martha Drezin, Frieda Lipp
Tech Support: **Felix Pina**

Rae Armantrout, a member of the Language School of poetry, a bi-coastal movement based in New York and San Francisco, has won numerous major awards and is considered to be a major contemporary poet. Her distinction lies in her wry, often surprising assertions about domestic life, human nature and the act of creation, with each stanza working almost independently of the others but each poem works as a whole in a bracing, funny and stimulating way. Concise and lyrical, she is a poet worth knowing. No advance reading is required.

Course: **GREAT PLAYS**
Play/Playwright: *Dear Liar*
Cast: Frieda Lipp and Roy Clary
Presenter: Frieda Lipp
Room: Auditorium
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Roy Clary**, Wayne Cotter, Frieda Lipp
Tech Support: **Wayne Cotter**, Ruth Ward

The title is a dead giveaway. *Dear Liar* is an adaptation that Jerome Kilty created based on letters between George Bernard Shaw and the famous British actress Mrs. Patrick Campbell — an unconsummated love affair — a volatile, on and off again, funny and tragic romance that endured over many years as they worked together, fought and grew old. The play opened on Broadway in 1960 starring Katherine Cornell and Brian Aherne. TV and film productions followed.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK**
Subject: Spanish Artists of the 17th Century
Presenter: Sandy Gordon
Room: Auditorium
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Linda Downs**, Bob Reiss, Lynnel Garabedian, Ellen Shapiro
Tech Support: **Ellen Shapiro**, Susan Diehl, Tamara Weinberg

The 17th century in Europe was an age of great intellectual, scientific, artistic and cultural achievement. Politically, England and Scotland were united, Russia became more stable, Europe's 30-year war ended in 1648, and the Dutch achieved independence. The Reformation, scientific discovery and Capitalism all impacted this era.

In Spain, the greatest impact of this century in art was with the movement away from religious church art, and the result was The Spanish Golden Age, birthing what would be called Baroque art. The art was dramatic, colorful, expressive imagery, intense use of light and shadow, movement, and no longer only church and royalty related. The major artists of this period were DeRibera, Zurbaran, and Murillo, whose visions and unique subjects and styles became the influence for what was called Baroque art in Europe. In Gallery 624 of the Met, their glory is celebrated!

Course: **SCIENCE CLUBHOUSE**
Moderator: Steve Allen
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Steve Allen**, Jim Brook, Marian Schultheis
Tech Support: **Steve Chicoine**, Pete Weis

Science Clubhouse will take its annual look at this year's Nobel Prizes for science. We'll pay particular attention to the controversy over two of this year's awards, in physics and in chemistry, going to advances in Artificial Intelligence – to what extent does this reflect the true importance of the scientific impact of AI versus a reflection of the current popular fascination with AI? As always, we look forward to a spirited discussion of this topic as well as any other topics that pop up!

Course: **WORLD OF THEATER**
Subject: Unwrapping the Mystique of British Playwright Harold Pinter
Presenter: Jennifer Jolly
Room: 15-17
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Yona Rogosin**, Mary Ann Donnelly, Karen Cullen, Lauren Gee
Tech Support: **Ruth Ward**

Harold Pinter was perhaps the most famous British Playwright of the twentieth century. He was a man of many talents. A Jewish intellectual who grew up in relative poverty, he rose to become wealthy through his writings, film productions and performances. He was an activist, won the Nobel Prize for Literature, had a theater named after him, and refused a knighthood on political grounds. His plays are typically characterized by an undercurrent of threats and significant pauses, now known as the Pinter pause, which he believed conveyed strong feeling. His private life also became a source of controversy.

We'll look at his life, and clips of his plays and poetry to gain insight into this brilliant and talented man.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22 @ NOON – 12:45 PM

Course: **SE HABLA ESPAÑOL (Spanish conversation)**
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Richard Elrauch**, Ruth Ward
Tech Support: **Ruth Ward**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **FILM FOR THOUGHT**
Room: Auditorium
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Steve Allen**, Lois Klein, Jane Lubin, Ellen Waldman
Tech Support: **Michael Wellner**, Felix Pina

We continue with the best of contemporary short documentaries, dramas, and comedies selected for their artistic merit and the probability of producing a lively discussion.

Course: **IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE, CAN IT?**
Room: 15-17
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Sandy Kessler**, **Lynnel Garabedian**
Tech Support: **Ellen Shapiro**

We will begin discussing Chapters 1 and 2 of the second book of the term, *The Plot Against America*. Although the theme of a Nazi sympathizer elected to the American presidency, is similar to *It Can't Happen Here*, in other ways the novel is very different. It is told from the point of view of the author's fictional counterpart, Philip Roth, at first a seven-year-old boy. The author then weaves his own childhood experiences with a dramatic story. What do we learn about all the members of the Roth family? What role does Rabbi Bengelsdorf play in the rise to power of Charles Lindbergh? What political opinions and personal qualities make Lindbergh so attractive to Americans? What arguments do Mr. Roth and Alvin have?

Course: **JAZZ: YESTERDAY & TODAY**
Subject: Django Reinhardt
Presenter: Bob Reiss
Room: 27
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Sol Makon**, Debbi Honorof
Tech Support: **Wayne Cotter**

Jean Reinhardt, known by his Romani nickname Django, was a Belgian manouche jazz guitarist and composer. He was one of the first major jazz talents to emerge in Europe and has been hailed as one of its most significant exponents. With violinist Stéphane Grappelli, Reinhardt formed the Paris-based Quintette du Hot Club de France in 1934. The group was among the first to play jazz that featured the guitar as a lead instrument. Reinhardt recorded in France with many visiting American musicians, including Coleman Hawkins and Benny Carter, and briefly toured the United States with Duke Ellington's orchestra in 1946

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22 @ 3:00 PM

Course: **SEIZA MEDITATION**
Presenter: Rev Miki Nakura
Format: In-Person Only
Room: Auditorium
Coordinator: **Donna Ramer**

This is a thirty-minute Seiza meditation class led by Rev. Miki Nakura of Higashi Hongan-ji temple in Kyoto, and the Jodo-Shinshu Shin Buddhist New York Sangha. Rev. Miki has been holding weekly chair meditation classes at CWE for about a year and at CCNY/CUNY for a few years.

More information about his approach at Miki Natura Senza Meditation. No pre-registration needed.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **FASCINATING NON-FICTION**
Subject: *Persecution and the Art of Writing* by Leo Strauss
Presenter: Paul Golomb
Room: Auditorium
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward**
Tech Support: **Bob Reiss, Wayne Cotter**

NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED

Strauss (1899-1973) was an immensely influential and incredibly enigmatic political philosopher. *Persecution* was one of his most far-reaching books, representing a timeless and topical theme, as well as, I believe, an important insight into Strauss himself.

Course: UPHEAVAL IN AMERICAN VALUES
Subject: Election Polling
Presenter: Steve Allen
Room: 15-17
Format: Hybrid (To be Recorded)
Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Maureen Berman, Terri Hicks
Tech Support: Michael Wellner, Konstantin Dolgitser

Ever since October 2012, Steve Allen has presented a class just prior to the Presidential election on the science and impact of election polls. He'll examine what we know about the possible outcomes of this election from current polling data and also discuss the following issues: (1) What does the history of election polls tell us about the accuracy of forecasts? (2) How could we improve public understanding of polling results and forecasts? (3) How do election polls impact the decisions of politicians and of the public? (3) Would the country be better off if we paid less attention to polling results?

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23 @ NOON – 12:50 PM

Meeting: NEW MEMBERS MEETING
Format: In-person only
Room: 19
Who is invited: Spring 2024 and Fall 2024 new members
Coordinators: Susan Keohane, Renee Woloshin, John Davis, Marian Friedmann, Vince Grosso, Arlene Curinga

This meeting, the second in our series for this semester, will provide new members with valuable information about various aspects of the Quest experience.

At the meeting you will

- Meet Michael Wellner, Chair of the Special Events Committee and Co-Chair of the Travel and Emergency Response Committee
- Meet Judy Winn, Council Liaison and Coordinator of the Poetry Workshop
- Meet Madeleine Brecher, Chair of CultureQuest Committee
- Ruth Ward, Editor QReview
- Be able to ask questions about any aspect of Quest's activities
- Engage with other new members

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES**
Subject: *Knowing What We Know*
Speaker: Simon Winchester
Kenneth Leedom/Peter Cott Memorial Speaker
Room: Auditorium
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Arlynn Greenbaum**, Bob Reiss, Karen Levin, Estelle Selzer
Tech Support: **Bob Reiss**, Wayne Cotter

Simon Winchester will discuss his latest book, *Knowing What We Know: The Transmission of Knowledge from Ancient Wisdom to Modern Magic*, which was published in 2023. It was called “erudite and entertaining” by the *New York Times*.

His first book, published in 1998, was *The Professor and the Madman* about the making of the Oxford English Dictionary. It was a major bestseller.

Many other fascinating books followed including *The Map That Changed the World*, *The Perfectionists*, *Krakatoa*, *The Man who Loved China*, and *A Crack in the Edge of the World*.

Please join us for this special presentation.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **BEETHOVEN: THE MIDDLE YEARS**
Subject: Violin Concerto Op 61 and “Kreutzer” Sonata Op 47 for Piano and Violin
Presenter: Larry Shapiro and Arlene Hajinlian
Room: Auditorium
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Arlene Hajinlian**, Larry Shapiro
Tech Support: **Steve Chicoine**

Beethoven’s Violin Concerto Op 61 and the “Kreutzer” Sonata Op 47 for Piano and Violin are two masterpieces we’ll be exploring today, as we continue to understand what makes these gems of Beethoven’s Heroic period so great. For the sonata, we’ll be using a recorded live performance of Juliana Pereira and Arlene Hajinlian from 2016.

Course: **NYC & ITS ENVIRONS: PEOPLE, PLACES, THINGS**
Subject: Harlem on Our Minds
Guest Presenter: Dr. George Stevens, Emeritus Professor at SUNY Dutchess
Room: 15-17
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Paul Golomb**, Bob Reiss, Sandra Abramson
Tech Support: **Paul Golomb**, Bob Reiss, Konstantin Dolgitser

Although Harlem is one of the oldest neighborhoods on the isle of Manhattan, it blossomed in the twentieth century through the 1960s, as a thriving center of Black culture and achievement. Professor Stevens will focus on the period and the traces of its legacy still to be found in its art and architecture.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY & LITERATURE**
Subject: Is This Screen Making You Dumber?
Facilitator: Larry Shapiro
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Larry Shapiro**, Steve Allen
Tech Support: **Larry Shapiro**

Through most of her career as a cognitive scientist, MaryAnne Wolf has studied how the human brain adapts to meet the challenge of reading and writing symbols on a page. She believes the adaptation of the brain's architecture to read proficiently extends its power to concentrate, to reflect, and to imagine. Wolf now wonders if the same benefits are available when we read on screens, and what it means for the future of humankind if a new way of reading replaces the printed page. I'd like to discuss her concerns and her reasons. Our reading is a chapter from her book *Proust and the Squid* which I'll send via Quest Business. For fun, and because it's about the uncanny power of reading, I'm also including a story by Richard Powers.

Course: **POETS' WORKSHOP**
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only (**Note: This class ends at 3:00 p.m.**)
Coordinators: **Judith Winn**, Judy Hampson, Helen Saffran
Tech Support: None Assigned

Write a poem using the cue word "rat" or a word of the poets' choice. Authors will read their poems and bring copies of each poem to the class for a second reading by a classmate. A discussion of the poem will follow.

Course: THE TWILIGHT ZONE
Subject: Game Time
Presenter: Marian Friedmann
Room: Auditorium
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: Tamara Weinberg, Marian Friedmann
Tech Support: Tamara Weinberg

Get ready sport and Twilight Zone fans to watch two-game on episodes. "The Mighty Casey" is episode thirty-five, season 1. Its title is a reference to the baseball poem "Casey at the Bat." It originally aired on June 17, 1960, on CBS. The episode was written by Rod Serling, and stars Jack Warden. Here's the story. A down-and-out baseball team's fortunes are lifted by a mysterious, but seemingly unbeatable young player. "The Game of Pool," season 3, episode 5, finds Twilight Zone lovers meeting frustrated pool champion Jesse Cardiff who has beaten everyone except for the deceased James Howard "Fats" Brown. Jesse can only curse his name. But guess who just walked into the pool room on Randolph Street?

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24 @ 2:45 PM

Course: SOLE MATES
Format: In-Person Only
Room: Gather by elevator 7th Floor @ 2:45pm
Coordinators: Andrea Irvine, Marian Friedmann

And we're off again for an Autumn Walk along the Hudson River ending at a "rest" spot for refreshments, food, socialization. Up to you how far you walk - Marian and Andrea will help with transportation questions. No signups, no commitments - a fun and healthy way to end a week of Questing

CULTUREQUEST

Poster House Museum Tour "Lester Beall and a New American Identity"

**Friday, October 25, 2024, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
In-person tour**

Join us and learn about Lester Beall, an American graphic designer and a leading proponent of modernist graphic design. In 1933 President Roosevelt initiated the New Deal, a service of federal programs and agencies designed to spearhead economic recovery. Among the programs created was the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). The REA helped build energy infrastructure in areas where private companies refused to operate, extending electricity to remote areas. Lester Beall was hired to advertise REA's work via a series of posters which provided new and effective visual communications. Through the 1930s and 1940s Beall produced innovative and highly regarded work. Following our tour you are invited to view the museum's newest poster exhibits.

When: Friday, October 25th, 11:30 AM Museum Tour

Where: Arrive via the Group Tours Entrance at 114 W 24th Street, a few buildings west of 6th Avenue where we will be met by a member of the museum.

Cost: \$10.00. Limited to 20 participants. Please leave a check made out to Quest Lifelong Learning in our Culture Quest mailbox in the Office by October 22.

Highlight: Optional Breakfast at the Historic Chelsea Hotel at 9:30 AM. If you plan to join us for breakfast at the Chelsea Hotel, reservations are A MUST!

The cost of breakfast is not included in the \$10.00 admission fee. Reserve your spot no later than October 16th. We will meet in the lobby of the Hotel at 9:30 AM. (We are not accepting reservations for breakfast only.)

**To Reserve Breakfast and The Tour
email dena@kerren.us**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30 @ 12:10 – 12:55 PM

**Halloween festivities in the Lunchroom.
Wear Costumes Masks. Sweet Treats & Entertainment, Prizes.**

Brought to you by the Social Committee

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1 @ 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

CULTUREQUEST

“Art Gallery Walk in Chelsea”

Friday, Nov. 1, 2024, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

**In-person tour
led by Efren Olivares**

This Tour is Sold Out

Join us for a customized, engaging art gallery walk of some of the best Fall shows in Chelsea galleries. Chelsea has the greatest concentration of galleries in the world. The walk will include painting, sculpture, photography, and video or installation art when available. We will see work by both domestic and international artists, both living, working today and no longer with us. Participants will be able to look at art closely and have in-depth discussions on artists and their practice.

After a successful 20-year career in pharmaceutical marketing at Pfizer, Baxter and Lily, Efren Olivares secured a Master of Art in Modern and Contemporary art from Christie's Education.

When: Friday, November 1, 2024. Please arrive by 10:45. The tour will begin promptly at 11 a.m.

Where: The walk will start at Pace Gallery located on 25th Street between 10 and 11th Avenues – 540 W. 25 St.

Cost: \$20 – Limited to 20 participants. Please leave a check made out to Quest Lifelong Learning in our Culture Quest mailbox. **Checks due Tuesday October 29** or we must go to the waitlist

To Reserve: Send an email ASAP to Hedy Shulman at hedy.shulman@gmail.com. Please put Art Gallery Walk in Chelsea in the subject line. Your email will be acknowledged within a few days. We will have a waitlist.

Important Note: Please sign up only if you intend to come. Anyone who doesn't show or cancels will be placed on "future waitlist only" when they sign up to attend future Culture Quest events. Thank you for your understanding.

Please let me know if you're interested in having lunch and I will make reservations at a local restaurant.