

## **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**November 18 - 21, 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.

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**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY**  
**Subject:** Show Boat  
**Presenter:** Michael Wellner  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** Peter Dichter, Arlynn Greenbaum, Sol Makon  
**Tech Support:** Victor Brener, Wayne Cotter

Oklahoma! South Pacific! Cats! My Fair Lady! -- and there are so, so many more Broadway shows that many of us love and remember. BUT -- who can tell us where it all began? What is generally agreed to be the very first Broadway musical? At today's class Michael Wellner will make the case that SHOWBOAT was indeed, the very first, true Broadway musical. Come and hear the fascinating story.

**Course:** **WONDERFUL BOOKS OUT LOUD:**  
*Dubliners* by James Joyce  
**Subject:** *The Dead*, page 175 in the Penguin Classic edition  
**Presenter:** Harriet Finkelstein  
**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 portrait of Dublin at the turn of the twentieth century.

This session we will take turns reading and discussing the first half of *The Dead*- pages 175 - 200. On December 9th, our concluding session, we will read pages 201-225.

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

*Dubliners* is a fabulous book (and totally accessible) - don't miss out on this treat!

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18 @ 12:10 -12:50 PM**

**Course:** NOONTIME MONDAYS  
**Subject:** What's at the Museums  
**Presenters:** Sheryl & Andrea  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine  
**Tech Support:** Sheryl Harawitz

Looking for fresh art and design in Manhattan? Bring your lunch and we'll introduce you to 4 just opened exhibits.

1. Don't miss "*Draw Them In, Paint Them out: Trenton Doyle Hancock Confronts Philip Guston*" at the **Jewish Museum**—it's a must for modern art lovers.
2. "*Making Home - Smithsonian Design Triennial*" at **The Cooper Hewitt** is bursting with innovative design ideas shaping the future.
3. Then stroll the Upper East Side for a hidden gem gallery, **Salon 94** showcasing thought-provoking works, "*The Lady and The Unicorn: New Tapestry.*"
4. And for fashionistas, the **Fashion Institute of Technology** has a dynamic exhibit exploring the intersection of couture and culture.

Whether you're into bold brushstrokes, cutting-edge design, or sartorial surprises, there's something for everyone this season.

**MONDAY NOVEMBER 18 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** CONTEMPORARY POETRY  
**Subject:** Popular Poetic Forms Old and New  
**Presenter:** Ellen Rittberg  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** Ellen Rittberg, Mary Ann Donnelly, Martha Drezin, Frieda Lipp  
**Tech Support:** Felix Pina

While rhyming poetry may have largely fallen out of fashion by contemporary poets, other forms both old and new have become increasingly popular for their ability to engage and challenge both the poet and reader.

The Haibun, invented in the 17th century, combines both prose and haiku into one poem. The abecedarian poem goes as far back as biblical times. It starts with a word beginning with the letter A and continues for 25 more lines with each letter of the alphabet in order. We will explore examples of both and we'll compose a poem (or part of one) using one of these two forms. If you forget to bring a pen, pencil, iPad or iPhone notes app, writing material will be provided.

**Course:** **GREAT PLAYS**  
**Play:** *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*  
**Cast:** John Davis, Ruth Ward, Frank Montaturo, June Jacobson, Bob Reiss  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Roy Clary**, Wayne Cotter, Frieda Lipp  
**Tech Support:** **Wayne Cotter**, Ruth Ward

Edward Albee wrote plays from 1959 to 2009 in styles that ranged from the realistic to the absurd. In *Virginia Woolf*, George and Martha, although named after the first presidential couple of the United States, are a model of dysfunction in a harsh portrait of marriage as a vehicle for conflict, arguments, and disappointment. The title? Albee said it means “who’s afraid of the big bad wolf ... who’s afraid of living life without fatal illusions.”

Come and see how George and Martha with their guests Nick and Honey negotiate reality and illusion in our cropped production of this iconic play.

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**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **ARTISTS AND THEIR WORKS**  
**Subject:** Imagination, Creativity, and Originality:  
The Art of Titian, Tintoretto, and Veronese in 16th Century Venice  
**Presenter:** Ellen Shapiro  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Linda Downs**, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss, Ellen Shapiro  
**Tech Support:** **Susan Diehl**, Ellen Shapiro, Tamara Weinberg

Imagine New York City and Paris merged together – then you have an idea of Venice, Italy in the 16th century. The largest and most vibrant of the cities of Europe, a center of trade between East and West, the center of publishing in Europe, Venice became home to vibrant, creative artists.

Titian developed innovative coloring, his tones so luscious that they make you want to touch them, especially in his depictions of human flesh. Tintoretto’s people hurtle through vast spaces. Veronese brought the calming influence of Central Italian art— think Raphael— mixed with a richness and majesty all his own.

Come look at some of the ground-breaking paintings of this vibrant city. Then go and see the originals in room 608 of our own Metropolitan Museum of Art.

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

What can we learn from election exit polls about the accuracy of pre-election polling forecasts and about the underlying causes of election results?

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:** The Playwright Edward Albee: American Iconoclast and Philanthropist  
**Presenter:** Ruth Ward  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Yona Rogosin**, Mary Ann Donnelly, Karen Cullen, Lauren Gee  
**Tech Support:** **Ruth Ward**

Generous twentieth century American playwright Edward Albee won accolades that include three Pulitzer Prizes for Drama, an America Award for Literature, and a Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement. His versatile writing style, as shown in his plays from 1959 to 2009, varies from the natural to the absurd. Even the realistic characters of his psychological and satirical dramas sometimes act in strange and irrational ways. For example, in our discussion of his most successful play, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? we'll find out why certain very adult characters sing the title song.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.**

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

We will discuss something interesting in Spanish. The "something" will be a surprise. Come and be surprised. Be bold. Mix it up with other Questie Hispanophones.

Discutiremos algo interesante en español. El "algo" será una sorpresa. Ven y sorpréndete. Sé audaz. Mézclate con otros Hispanófonos Questinos.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **FILM FOR THOUGHT**  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Steve Allen**, 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:** **Lynnel Garabedian**, Sandy Kessler,  
**Tech Support:** **Ellen Shapiro**

Our discussion of “The Plot Against America” will focus on Chapters 6 and 7. We see the Roths spiral further into fear, anger, and disagreement over the Lindbergh Homestead 42 Act requiring the family to move to Kentucky for Herman’s job. What are the consequences of Philip’s secret actions to prevent this move from happening if only for himself?

Philip’s stamp album is one of the symbols in the novel. What is the meaning of his losing it? What happens when Walter Winchell campaigns for the U.S. Presidency? In what ways do Bess Roth and Mrs. Wishnow show themselves to be among the most compassionate characters in the novel? Why do you think Philip cries when Seldon and his mother are leaving?

**Course:** **JAZZ: YESTERDAY & TODAY**  
**Subject:** The Amazing Jazz Harpists  
**Presenter:** Rica Fujihira  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Sol Makon**, Debbi Honorof  
**Tech Support:** **Wayne Cotter**

The harp is an unusual instrument in jazz but a highly effective one. It adds unique color, texture, emotion and atmosphere to any jazz performance it graces. We will learn how

the jazz harp came to be and how it has evolved over the years. From jazz harp pioneer Dorothy Ashby who first played it as a lead improvisational instrument in a bebop setting, to the great Alice Coltrane whose bluesy and spiritual strumming continues to inspire generations of aspiring jazz harpists, to present day virtuoso Brandee Younger who carries on the jazz harp legacy while adding important contributions of her own. Come and experience the dazzling artistry of these amazing jazz harpists!

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **FASCINATING NON-FICTION**  
**Subject:** *Navigations: The Portuguese Discoveries and The Renaissance*  
By: Malyn Newitt  
**Presenter:** Paul Adler  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward  
**Tech Support:** Bob Reiss, Wayne Cotter

**NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

During the 15th and early 16th centuries, Portuguese sailors and explorers embarked on a series of ambitious, maritime voyages that would see them exploring vast areas of the Atlantic, the Indian Ocean, the coasts of West Africa to Brazil, India and beyond.

"*Navigations*" provides an objective re-examination of the events and factors that culminated in a series of significant and world-altering explorations by Dias, da Gama, Cabral and Magellan. It was the Portuguese who created the commercial and cultural networks which linked Asia with the newly discovered world of the Americas and laid the foundations for the global economies, population movements and scientific systems of the modern world.

**Course:** **UPHEAVALS IN AMERICAN VALUES**  
**Subject:** The Unintended Consequences of Healthcare Legislation:  
A physician's perspective concerning the shift to value-based payment (Part 2)  
**Presenter:** Connie DiMari, MD, MSsc  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** Michael Wellner, Maureen Berman, Terri Hicks  
**Tech Support:** Michael Wellner, Konstantin Dolgitser

An upheaval is occurring in how medical care is delivered in the US. Small independent practices are vanishing, burdened by rising administrative tasks, the costs of health

information technology, and stagnant Medicare reimbursement. Hospitals, health systems, and corporations now employ 80% of physicians. The shift from fee-for-service to value-based payment models is underappreciated among the factors that accelerated the corporatization of medical care.

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 @ 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 Chair**, John Davis, Marian Friedmann, Vince Grosso, Arlene Curinga

This meeting, the third 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 Paul Adler, Co-Chair of the Emergency Response Committee and Art Editor of QReview
- Meet Gail Spitalnik, Coordinator of the Special Events and Caring Committee
- Meet Bob Gottfried, Quest Vice President
- Be able to ask questions about any aspect of Quest's activities
- Engage with other new members

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Meeting:** **GENERAL MEETING**  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024  
**Time:** 1:00 – 2:30 PM  
**Room:** Auditorium (Hybrid)  
**Facilitator:** Donna Ramer, President

You are invited to join us for our semi-annual General Meeting, during which we will unveil new projects, hear updates from several committees, and get a sneak peek at our spring 2025 courses. Quest members will then have an opportunity to ask questions.



Wine and cheese reception immediately following in lounge across from the Auditorium, hosted by the Social Committee.

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**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **BEETHOVEN: THE MIDDLE YEARS**  
**Subject:** Violin Concerto Op 61 and Piano-Violin 'Kreutzer' Sonata, Op. 47  
**Presenters:** Larry Shapiro & 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 outstanding masterpieces we'll be exploring, as we continue our understanding of 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. Please join us for these two musical gems!

Note: these are the two pieces we intended to cover on October 24th, when class was cancelled because of the WNBA parade.

**Course:** **NYC & ITS ENVIRONS: PEOPLE, PLACES, THINGS**  
**Subject:** Gentrification in NYC and Government Policy  
**Presenter:** Sandra Abramson  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Paul Golomb**, Bob Reiss, Sandra Abramson  
**Tech Support:** **Paul Golomb**, Bob Reiss, Konstantin Dolgitser

Over the last 75 or so years, we have watched as NYC neighborhoods became depopulated, repopulated and, relatively recently, gentrified. These events did not occur in a vacuum but in reaction to events that were driven by local, state and national policies. What were some of these policies? How did they affect different populations and the neighborhoods in which they lived? What do some NYC neighborhoods now look like? These are some of the questions we'll consider as we look at several NYC neighborhoods.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY & LITERATURE**  
**Subject:** "The Only True Voyage"  
**Discussion Leader:** Larry Shapiro  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Larry Shapiro**, Steve Allen  
**Tech Support:** **Larry Shapiro**

"Imagine an elephant in a room." Ed Yong's irresistible book *An Immense World* begins with an invitation to join a thought experiment: a roomful of creatures including among others an elephant, an owl, a mosquito and a person named Rebecca, every which one experiencing the room in a different way. Yong's book is a survey of animal awareness unlike any I've ever read. The introductory chapter I'm inviting you to read considers why this exercise matters, apart from its entertainment value. I'm also including a recent essay from *The New Yorker* by Rivka Galchen, who is a novelist, science writer and physician. The subject of her essay could be called animal linguistics, which is what one of her sources calls his area of study. Can there be linguistics without language? The essays will reach you via Quest Business.

**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 "darling" or a word of the poet's choice. Authors will read their poems and bring copies of each poem to class for a second reading by a classmate. A discussion of the poem will follow.

**Course:** **THE TWILIGHT ZONE**  
**Subject:** Human Fragility  
**Presenters:** Donna Ramer and Wayne Cotter  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Tamara Weinberg**, Marian Friedmann  
**Tech Support:** **Tamara Weinberg**

In this two-part class, we'll first take a look at how the very prescient Rod Serling used existential despair and the fragility of human existence caused by climate change to educate as well as elicit angst in viewers in episode 75, titled *The Midnight Sun*, which first aired in 1961.

In the second episode, *The Shelter*, a suburban family's relationships are turned upside down when they learn a nuclear attack is imminent. As the family begins retreating to their fallout shelter, their hysterical neighbors demand access. The episode aired in September 1961 at the height of the Cold War when many families were actually purchasing fallout shelters.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 @ 2:45 PM**

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

Marian & Andrea will lead you on a walk along the Hudson River ending at a "rest" spot for refreshments, food, socialization. Up to you how far you walk and always help with transportation options.

No signups, not commitments - a fun & healthy way to end a week or Questing

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## **CULTUREQUEST**

**The Grand Central Holiday Tour on November 22nd  
is Sold Out**

## **CULTUREQUEST**

**Belle da Costa Greene: A Librarian's Legacy**

**Friday December 6, 3:00 PM at The Morgan Library  
Docent led tour**

To mark the 2024 centenary of its life as a public institution, the Morgan Library & Museum presents a major exhibition devoted to the life and career of its inaugural director, Belle da Costa Greene (1879–1950). Widely recognized as an authority on illuminated

manuscripts and deeply respected as a cultural heritage executive, Greene was one of the most prominent librarians in American history.

Greene is well known for the instrumental role she played in building the exceptional collection of rare books and manuscripts formed by American financier J. Pierpont Morgan, who hired her as his personal librarian in 1905. After Morgan's death in 1913, Greene continued as the librarian of his son and heir, J.P. Morgan Jr., who would transform his father's Library into a public institution in 1924. But her career as director of what was then known as the Pierpont Morgan Library—a leadership role she held for twenty-four years—is less well understood, as are aspects of her education, private collecting, and dense social and professional networks.

The exhibition traces Greene's storied life, from her roots in a predominantly Black community in Washington, D.C., to her distinguished career at the helm of one of the world's great research libraries.

- WHEN: Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM
- WHERE: Morgan Library and Museum. Please arrive no later than 2:45 PM
- COST: \$15.00. Limited to 20 participants.
- TO RESERVE: Contact Estelle Selzer at [Eselzer19@gmail.com](mailto:Eselzer19@gmail.com) ASAP to secure a reservation. Put Morgan Library Tour in the subject. Your email will be acknowledged. Please leave your check made out to Quest Lifelong Learning in the Culture Quest mailbox in the Office no later than 2:30 PM November 20<sup>th</sup>. We will have a waitlist.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Please sign up only if you intend to come. Anyone who doesn't show or cancel will be placed on "future waitlist only" when they sign up to attend future CultureQuest events. Thank you for your understanding.