Dedicated to lifelong learning, the Osher at JHU program was created in 1986 with a mission of enhancing the leisure time of semi-retired and retired individuals by providing stimulating learning experiences and the opportunity for new friendships. The Osher at JHU program builds on the rich resources of an internationally renowned university to offer members an array of educational and social opportunities, including the following:

• Courses and discussion groups
• Access to the university library system
• Field trips to cultural events (suspended due to Covid-19)
• Preferred participation in university-sponsored events

Spring 2021 courses are all offered online via Zoom. When it is safe, classes will resume at our physical locations. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, courses will be conducted at the Grace United Methodist Church, 5407 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21210. On Mondays and Wednesdays, courses will be conducted at the Columbia Center of Johns Hopkins University, 6740 Alexander Bell Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046.

For additional information on membership, please call the program’s administrative office at 410-516-9719.

www. osher. jhu. edu
COLUMBIA

Monday
MORNING SESSION

Biblical Civil Laws and Their Relevance for Our Time
The Torah (Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible) provides many laws and instructions for the Israelites on how they should worship God and how they should conduct their daily lives.

In this course we will review many of the civil laws, those that govern how people relate to other people and how a society should engage as a community with one another. We will also investigate whether these laws are still applicable for our modern world and, where they are not, what kind of modifications are required to make them valid. Please be sure to have a full Bible available for reference.

Gideon Amir, MS, MA, worked and taught in various areas of computer science for 30 years before enrolling in a full-time graduate program in Judaic Studies at Baltimore Hebrew University. In May 2001 he earned a master's degree and completed PhD course work. He taught undergraduate courses at Baltimore Hebrew University; he also taught Bible and Jewish liturgy courses in many area synagogues and churches and in other adult education outlets. Gideon earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and master's degree in computer science from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel.

21SB529 Biblical Civil Laws and Their Relevance for Our Time
Mondays, February 22–May 10
10 a.m–12 noon

Opera Productions, Old and New
Like it or not, our enjoyment and even understanding of opera is affected by the way we see it produced, which may in turn depend on market forces and fashion. Is it possible—or desirable—to go back to the conditions of the first performance? How long may successful productions be retained in the repertoire before becoming stagnant? What is to be gained by the simple alteration of period or setting? How may a radically new concept revitalize a familiar opera? What makes a successful transfer to film or television? This course, taught by an opera director with 50 years’ experience, will look at four centuries of operas and opera productions, often contrasting different approaches to the same work, to address questions such as these.

For the most current information, visit http://brunyate.com/opprodcolumbia/
Roger Brunyate is Artistic Director Emeritus of the Peabody Opera Theatre, which he led from 1980 to 2012. He holds degrees in English and Fine Arts from Cambridge, but made his career in opera, working at Glyndebourne, the Edinburgh Festival, the English Opera Group, and La Scala, Milan. Coming to America in 1972, he has run programs in Florida, Cincinnati, the Curtis Institute, and Wolf Trap, besides directing here and abroad with such conductors as Mstislav Rostropovich and Yuri Temirkanov.

21SB117 Opera Productions, Old and New
Mondays, February 22–May 10
10 a.m–12 noon

The 7 Deadly Sins Sampler
This course will explore The 7 Deadly Sins Sampler anthology from the Great Books Foundation. In the book two fiction authors represent each “sin.” This collection of short stories allows readers to peer into the hidden recesses of sinful thought and behavior. William Faulkner, Raymond Carver, Flannery O’Connor, and Margaret Atwood, among others, use fiction to explore our all-too-human thirst for transgressive pleasure. For readers who know that good and evil are not simply a matter of black and white, this collection will provoke lively conversation and sober contemplation to deepen our understanding of the seven deadly sins and their place in popular culture today.

Kumar Dixit, PhD, has taught religions and theology at three academic institutions. He is the author of two books and hundreds of magazine articles and journals. He earned his doctorate at Wesley Theological Seminary.

21SB572 The 7 Deadly Sins Sampler
Mondays, February 22–March 29, 6 weeks
10 a.m–12 noon

Mythic Life and Literature of Sylvia Plath
Sylvia Plath haunts the American literary imagination like no other writer of the 20th century. Her death at 30 by suicide, as well as her star-crossed relationship with British poet Ted Hughes, created a sense of mystery and drama that has spawned countless biographies, but it is her poetic genius and wildly creative and original style that ensures her place in the starry firmament of American literature. In this class we will explore the fascinating life of Sylvia Plath and will read and discuss in depth the two works most responsible for her posthumous reputation: the novel The Bell Jar and her groundbreaking poetry collection, Ariel.

Robert Jacob, MA, received a BA in English from Towson University, then travelled to the United Kingdom where he attained an MA in Comparative Literature from the School of Oriental and African Studies/University of London. He spent several years in London working as a freelance writer and has contributed to a variety of publications such as Time Out/London,
The Baltimore Sun’s Metromix, and The Examiner. In addition to teaching for Osher at JHU, he is currently an adjunct instructor at the Community College of Baltimore County.

21SB206 Mythic Life and Literature of Sylvia Plath
Mondays, April 5–May 10, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Monday
AFTERNOON SESSION

History of Korea
The Korean people have kept a distinct identity through three millennia of history. Surrounded by major powers, the Koreans have endured Chinese and Japanese invasions, foreign conquest and occupation, a civil war marked by outside intervention, and life as a pawn in the Cold War. Existing as two nations today, one half of the Korean Peninsula has overcome the centuries of travail to become democratic and prosperous. The other half is impoverished and controlled by a Stalinist dictatorship. This class will look into how the Korean Peninsula and the Korean people came to its present state. The course will emphasize the Korean War, which had a major impact on the United States, and will consider the continuing impact of the US relationship with Korea.

David A. Hatch, PhD, is the senior historian for a federal agency. He earned a BA in East Asian languages and literatures, and a PhD in international relations with a concentration on Asia. He has served as an adjunct professor at schools in the Baltimore-Washington area, teaching a variety of courses relating to Asian and American history.

21SB527 History of Korea
Mondays, February 22–May 10
1–3 p.m.

Origins of Political Polarization and Prospects for Reform
The course will examine historic efforts to bring greater efficiency, transparency, and accountability to Congress, with particular focus on the reforms of the 1970s and since. It will additionally consider the role these reforms may have played, together with other demographic, technological, and historical forces, in facilitating the rise of contemporary hyper-partisanship in American politics, while also exploring possible ways to restore a great level of collaboration and comity to congressional deliberations. Dr. Lawrence’s book, The Class of ’74: Congress After Watergate and the Roots of Partisanship, will serve as the primary reading for the course.

John Lawrence, PhD, served for 38 years as a staff member in the US House of Representatives, the last eight as Chief of Staff to Speaker Nancy Pelosi (2005–2013). He has been a Visiting Professor at the University of California’s Washington Center since 2013. He is the author of The Class of ’74: Congress After Watergate and the Roots of Partisanship (2018), which Kirkus Review called “an essential work of congressional history,” and is currently writing a history of
the rise and fall of congressional Democrats in the Bush-Obama era. He has published in The Atlantic, POLITICO Magazine, and other national publications, and is a regular commentator on XM Sirius’ POTUS. He blogs on Congress and politics at DOMEocracy (johnalawrence.wordpress.com). He is also the author of several published Sherlock Holmes short story pastiches and has made three CDs of original music. He earned his undergraduate degree from Oberlin and a PhD in American History from the University of California, Berkeley.

21SB401 Origins of Political Polarization and Prospects for Reform
Mondays, February 22–March 29, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Baseball 2021
Baseball 2021 will look back at what was called a “season” in 2020 and look forward to what we hope will be called a season in 2021. We’ll have some heavy hitters participating via Zoom: Washington and Baltimore baseball expert Phil Wood, Major League umpire Ted Barrett, baseball lexicographer and author Paul Dickson, former MASN executive Jim Cuddihy, and others, plus timely lectures on a host of baseball subjects. Phil Hochberg, attorney and announcer, will return to chair the series (and we’ll take a moment to remember the late co-chairman, Jerry Nelson, who passed away in the summer of 2020).

Phillip Hochberg, JD, is a graduate of Syracuse University, the George Washington University Law School, and has a Master of Arts from The American University. He established a broad Washington law practice, specializing in the representation of professional and collegiate sports leagues, conferences, and teams in regulatory matters as well as legislation. Additionally, Mr. Hochberg does public address announcing at sporting events and was the first baseball and last football announcer in the 37-year history of Washington’s DC/RFK Stadium. In 2013, he was inducted into the Washington DC Sports Hall of Fame at Nationals Park. He spent 38 years with the Washington Redskins and is one of 39 persons—the first non-player/coach/owner—to be honored by the team in its Hall of Fame/Ring of Stars. Previously, he announced for the Washington Senators for six years and part-time for the Baltimore Orioles for three seasons.

21SB513 Baseball 2021
Mondays, April 5–May 10, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Alfred Hitchcock’s Adaptations: Literature into Film
This course will focus on Alfred Hitchcock and his approach to adapting minor works of contemporary literature into successful films. Hitchcock's style of adaptation is a unique approach often mixing true crimes with pulp fiction. The course will look at the materials Hitchcock used to create such works as Rear Window (1954), Psycho (1960), Strangers on a Train (1951), Rope (1948), and others.

Mary Dutterer, MA, is Associate Professor of English at Prince George's Community College and Master Adjunct Instructor at Howard Community College, where she teaches composition,
literature, and film classes. She has a BA in English Literature (minor in Film Studies) from The Ohio State University and an MA in English Literature (concentration in Film Studies) from Illinois State University. Her work in Film Studies focuses on literature adaptations and propaganda films of WWII.

**21SB125 Hitchcock: Literature into Film**  
Mondays, February 22–March 29, 6 weeks  
1–3 p.m.

**Inventions and Events That Changed America**  
When we think of “inventors” we often think of spectacled, lab-coat-wearing, eccentric-looking men in mysterious work rooms hidden away from the world, emerging only when they had solved a previously “unsolvable” problem. While that was often the case, it was not always the case. We will explore the inventions and events that influenced American history and their unlikely (and often overlooked) discoverers. America became home to talented, ingenious individuals with diverse sociologic and economic backgrounds. Through innovative thinking they propelled the country forward into this modern age. We will begin our exploration in the early years of our developing nation and continue through current times with stories and music of those eras. We will encounter an amazing array of forward-thinking men and women whose contributions moved the nation from one modern generation to the next. Music has always been an integral part of everyday life and the lyrics of the day often reflected the challenges that confronted our ancestors. Those challenges often became the inspiration for these innovative problem-solvers—the inventors who changed America.

*Roy Justice* has been presenting “American History Discovery Programs” since 1985. He is a 1976 graduate of Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA, with a BA Degree in Music (emphasis on Theory and Composition, and Performance in Voice) and is a resident of Chambersburg, PA.

**21SB570 Inventions and Events That Changed America**  
Mondays, April 5–May 10, 6 weeks  
1–3 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
**MORNING SESSION**

**International Relations**

Following the 2020 election, a Joe Biden presidency means a comprehensive discussion of the changes and reforms that must be made to US foreign policy and national security policy as well as the process for developing foreign policy and national security policy. We will focus on the Sino-America relationship—our most important bilateral relationship—as well as the Russian-American relationship. We will also assess the impact of the climate crisis and the pandemic on American national security. Once again, we will try to make the case for reforming America’s bloated defense budget and the huge US military footprint around the world. Professor
Goodman’s latest book, *Containing the National Security State*, will be the text for the course, and it will be a requirement for the course. Additional readings will be assigned from the editorial pages of *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* as well as Goodman’s op-eds from *Counterpunch*, where he is the national security columnist.

**Melvin Goodman, PhD**, is senior fellow at the Center for International Policy and a former professor of international security at the National War College. He has worked for the CIA, the State Department, and the Department of Defense; written numerous articles that have appeared in Harper’s, Foreign Policy, Washington Monthly, and Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists; and authored many books, including *The Decline and Fall of the CIA* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2008). His recent books, *National Insecurity: The Cost of American Militarism* and *Whistleblower at the CIA*, were published by City Lights Publishing in 2012 and 2016, respectively. He is also the author of *American Carnage: The Wars of Donald Trump*. Goodman’s latest book, *Containing the National Security State*, was published in January 2021. Goodman is the national security columnist of *Counterpunch*, an online publication.

### 21SB402 International Relations

**Wednesdays, February 24–May 12**  
10 a.m–12 noon

**American Labor History**  
The history of American Labor is often neglected, but is the history of every one of us who works for a living and wishes to have better conditions. This course will cover both labor history (how workers organized) and workers' history (how workers lived), from colonial times until today. We will discover the strength of the factory girls in Lowell, MA, the first nationwide strike, which started in 1877 at Camden Yards, and the rise of industrial organizing.

The early sessions will cover the 18th and 19th centuries, with the growth of unionism and the rise of the factory system. A thorough discussion of slavery as a labor system will be included. Subsequent sessions begin in 1905 with *The Industrial Workers of the World* and continue through the tumultuous organizing of the 1930s to the Red Scare of the 1940s and the Professional Air Traffic Controllers strike of 1981. The challenges facing workers and unions in today's global economy will be emphasized, and participants will be encouraged to discuss current events.

**William “Bill” Barry** is a specialist in labor history and is the retired Director of Labor Studies at the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC). He taught courses on the history of labor at CCBC and also created a full-semester course on the history of the 1930s. He has taught courses on the 1930s and the history of American labor for the Osher program at Johns Hopkins University and Towson University. The history of slavery course grew out of his course on the history of American labor. Bill is a film zealot and enjoys teaching film as well.

### 21SB519 American Labor History

**Wednesdays, February 24–May 12**
10 a.m–12 noon

**How We Came To Be: From the Big Bang to the Age of Man**

This class will examine the cosmic events and transformative processes that have shaped mankind's world. We will discuss The Big Bang; the expansion of the Universe; the formation of stars and galaxies; the birth of the Solar System; and the early evolution of Earth as a home for living things. We will briefly discuss evolution and the appearance of man on the planet. We will discuss the development of human societies and institutions, especially in the few thousand years since the end of the last ice age. This class will present technical information, but it is not meant to be a technical class. The goal will be to gain a perspective on how the Universe went from a formless conglomeration of mass and energy to the home of conscious beings. The class will provide ample opportunity for student participation, including questions, comments, and group discussion.

**Richard Barrett, PhD,** is a physicist who has served on the staffs of Case Western Reserve University, Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Department of Energy and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Since retiring from federal service in 2007, he has developed and delivered training courses on nuclear reactor safety for technical organizations in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and the United States. He recently developed a training course on global warming for teenagers.

**21SB622 How We Came To Be: From the Big Bang to the Age of Man**

Wednesdays, February 24–March 31, 6 weeks

10 a.m–12 noon

**Best American Short Stories**

A fine writer of short fiction, Lorrie Moore, once defined a short story as “a love affair; a novel is a marriage.” Brevity is indeed one of the great virtues of the short story genre. Reading an anthology of short stories like our textbook, *Best American Short Stories 2019*, will allow us to sample 12 contemporary writers, many of them up-and-comers, as well as a few old masters of the story form.

Every year since 1915 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt has invited literary magazine editors to send in their best stories to compete for a spot in the Best American Short Stories annual. Each year the publisher hires a well-known author as guest editor to make the final selections, and that year’s 20 stories inevitably reflect the taste of that writer. The 2019 guest editor was Anthony Doerr, the author of the Pulitzer-winning novel, *All the Light You Cannot See*.

In this six-week course we’ll read and discuss two stories a week, and in the process come to understand some of the techniques first-rate writers use when crafting a story. The stories assigned for class discussion at the first meeting are: “Wrong Object” by Mona Simpson and “Our Day of Grace” by Jim Shepard.
George Clack, MA, earned his degree in English and American literature from the Claremont Graduate School in California. He taught English at the University of Rochester and at SUNY Geneseo before embarking on a career as a magazine editor with the US Information Agency and State Department. In recent years, he has taught literature, film, and social media courses for the Osher at JHU Program and other adult education programs.

21SB213 Best American Short Stories
Wednesdays, April 7–May 12, 6 weeks
10 a.m.—12 noon

Wednesday AFTERNOON SESSION

Fresh Start: The 2021 Reboot
Changing presidents is not a silver bullet to return to normal. The challenges are enormous from public health to mass unemployment and glaring social justice inequities. Political division will still be with us, and there is the potential for civil unrest. Uniting the country may not be possible, and there could be a major political realignment. The next president, working with a new senate, will test whether our government truly is of, for, and by the people.

Eleanor Clift is a politics writer at The Daily Beast, an online publication. Formerly with Newsweek, she has covered every presidential campaign since 1976. She has written or co-written five books, including Two Weeks of Life: A Memoir of Love, Death and Politics, and Founding Sisters and the Nineteenth Amendment. She has appeared as herself in several movies, including Independence Day and Dave, and CBS-TV’s Murphy Brown.

21SB420 Fresh Start: The 2021 Reboot
Wednesdays, February 24–May 12
1–3 p.m.

Spanish Painting from Greco to Goya
The golden age of Spanish painting starts with the arrival of a famous exile from Greece, Doménikos Theotokópoulos, in Spain in 1577, where he becomes known as El Greco. It ends with the death of another famous exile, Francisco de Goya, who left Spain and died in France in 1828. During those two and a half centuries Spain produced some of the most electrifying art the world has ever seen, including the painter many consider the greatest master of his craft, Diego Velázquez (1599–1660). We will look in depth at these artists as well as other celebrated masters, Alonso Cano, Murillo, Zurbaran, among others. There will be a glance back at the roots of Spanish art as a mixture of the Moorish heritage on the peninsula, Flemish painting, and the Italian Renaissance. And a glance forward to the profound impact that the Spanish “old masters” had when modern artists from all over Europe flocked to Madrid to learn from them. Much like
the Spanish language, Spanish art is all the more dazzling because it is a melting pot of diverse cultural roots.

Nora Hamerman, MA, holds her degree from the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University. She has taught art history at the University of Virginia and Shenandoah University, and has published articles in scholarly journals as well as hundreds of reviews of art exhibitions as a freelance writer. She studied in Italy for three years as a Fulbright scholar and Chester Dale Fellow of the National Gallery of Art, and is an experienced translator from German, Italian, and Spanish.

21SB112 Spanish Painting from Greco to Goya
Wednesdays, February 24–May 12
1–3 p.m.

Fabergé and the Romanovs
Fabergé is the Russian jeweler inextricably connected to the Romanov dynasty. He was a French Huguenot descendent who found favor and a willing market in Imperial circles. Queen Alexandra of Great Britain collected his animals; others loved his flowers in rock crystal vases. But it is the Imperial Easter Eggs given as presents to the Tsarina and dowager Tsarina that we remember today. And such eggs are even being discovered—or rediscovered—today. So valuable are his works that an industry of fakes has arisen, or “Fauxberge” as they are called.

In this class we will look at Fabergé's works and artists, the differences between the St. Petersburg and Moscow boutiques, and the royalty that patronized his exceptionally talented staff. It will give us a view of the twilight of the Romanov dynasty and what happened to the jewels after its passing.

Laura Donnelly, MA, earned a master's from George Washington University where she concentrated in British history. She is a graduate of the Attingham Summer School for the study of the architectural and social history of the historic house in Britain. Like Anna from Downton Abbey, she lived in the servants' quarters of both Attingham Park, now a National Trust property, and West Dean House where Edward VII chased Daisy Warwick at house parties.

21SB214 Fabergé and the Romanovs
Wednesdays, February 24–March 31, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Television and Broadway
Television was a young medium in the 1950s and its variety shows often relied upon talent from the Broadway Stage, as movie actors under contract were off limits. The result was that TV sought out the talent of Broadway via the variety shows and “specials” to diversify their offerings and bring entertainment to millions of viewers. TV brought the talent of many names into the home unlike ever before, and made household names out of talent only seen rarely off
the stage. We will examine how Ed Sullivan, the similar variety shows of the era, and the great TV specials brought Broadway to television.

**Steven Friedman**, a native of Washington, DC, has a background as a trained classical tenor. He has studied with leading teachers nationally and has enhanced his perception of theatre by not just by performing but also by looking at its roots from a historical perspective. He has performed in many venues over the years, including the Kennedy Center, and was a soloist for 35 years in local choirs. Steve has studied with teachers of national repute, from those at Carnegie Mellon and Michigan State University to former divas of the Metropolitan Opera. He is an adjunct faculty member at two local colleges, teaching a variety of classes in Broadway musical theatre.

21SB152 Television and Broadway
Wednesdays, April 7–May 12, 6 weeks
21SB152
1–3 p.m.

**BALTIMORE**

**Tuesday**
**MORNING SESSION**

**Old Roots, New Shoots**
The late 19th century in European music, literature, and art ended in a lingering and often spectacular sunset as old assumptions fell into decline. But out of this turmoil, and spurred by events such as the First World War, came the developments that signaled the birth of Modernism and heralded the entrance of America upon the world stage.

For the most current information, visit [http://brunyate.com/rootsshoots/](http://brunyate.com/rootsshoots/)

**Roger Brunyate** is Artistic Director Emeritus of the Peabody Opera Theatre, which he led from 1980 to 2012. He holds degrees in English and Fine Arts from Cambridge, but made his career in opera, working at Glyndebourne, the Edinburgh Festival, the English Opera Group, and La Scala, Milan. Coming to America in 1972, he has run programs in Florida, Cincinnati, the Curtis Institute, and Wolf Trap, besides directing here and abroad with such conductors as Mstislav Rostropovich and Yuri Temirkanov.

21SB118 Old Roots, New Shoots
Tuesdays, February 23–May 11
10 a.m–12 noon

**Westward Expansion, Slavery, and the Coming of the Civil War**
There are those who still debate whether slavery was the cause of the Civil War. But that's the wrong question. What should be asked is, "If there had not been slavery, would there have been a civil war?" This course will argue that the underlying causes of the civil war were the refusal to allow slavery to be extended to the west as the United States expanded, along with the fear that the South's "peculiar institution" would ultimately be abolished.

The course will cover the expansion of the United States from the Louisiana Purchase to the Pacific, with the Oregon Agreement and the Mexican Cession following the Mexican War, and how the question of slavery was raised every mile of the way. During the course we'll discuss the importance of the cotton slave economy to both the North and South, and why until the 1820s there was little interest in the abolishment of slavery.

The course will also include a discussion of the Supreme Court cases on slavery with particular emphasis on the Dred Scott decision and its ramifications. The course will end with a discussion of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment.

**Rex Rehfeld, JD**, formerly a career military officer, served as a tank platoon leader in the Korean War in 1950 and 1951, as an armored cavalry company commander, and as a military advisor to units of the Iranian Army. He has a BS from the University of California and a JD from the University of Maryland Law School. Mr. Rehfeld has taught courses at Adult Continuing Education Programs at Johns Hopkins, Towson University, Notre Dame University, and the Community College of Baltimore County. His avocation is history.

**21SB525 Westward Expansion, Slavery, and the Coming of the Civil War**  
Tuesdays, February 23–May 11  
10 a.m–12 noon

**Is China the New Colonizer of Africa?**  
The media has been filled with articles attacking China. Many include allegations that China is the new Imperialist Colonizer of Africa. Even further, that China is deliberately enticing African nations into its debt so as to steal their resources. It is quite possible that many of you adhere to this belief. Could this be propaganda? China's history with Africa is completely different from its relationship with the West. In this course we will define imperialism and colonialism and their history in Africa. Then we will examine China-Africa relations to determine if they are harmful or beneficial. Many Americans and Africans unfortunately simply repeat what is in the news, rumors, and innuendos, without examining the truth. This course will explore how allies can assist African nations in their development.

**Lawrence Freeman** has been involved in Africa for 30 years as a researcher, writer, and speaker on a variety of topics concerning Africa. He provides economic-political analysis to African governments. He has written hundreds of articles and reports on Africa and has traveled to the continent 25 times. He is an adjunct instructor who has taught several courses on African history. He is also Vice Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Lake Chad Basin
Commission. He has given lectures and spoken at conferences in Africa, Europe and the United States, and various audiences in the US.

21SB532 Is China the New Colonizer of Africa?
Tuesdays, February 23–March 30, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Geniuses of the Theater Part II
This course will continue to explore the history of musical theater by presenting the lives and works of some of America’s greatest theater composers and lyricists. Individual class sessions will be devoted to Jerome Kern, Leonard Bernstein, Harold Arlen, Alan Jay Lerner, and Sheldon Harnick (lyricist of Fiddler on the Roof). The multimedia course will include several film and audio clips of great performances, along with insights into contributions of individuals to American theater.

Dan Sherman, PhD, earned his degree in Economics at Cornell University. His interests include opera and American musical theatre. Since 2010 he has taught over 25 courses to Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes and other groups on classical composers and great musical theater composers and lyricists. He has also spoken to Wagner Societies in the United States and London, as well as to social and university groups in the Washington, DC area.

21SB154 Geniuses of the Theater Part II
Tuesdays, April 6–May 11, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Tuesday
AFTERNOON SESSION

Leonardo da Vinci: His Art and Times
This course outlines the artistic life of Leonardo da Vinci, but more importantly it provides a critical analysis of his paintings, sculpture, architectural designs, botanical and anatomical drawings, his skills in engineering, his writings, inventions, and war machines. All is considered within a historical perspective of Ludovico Sforza who was his patron, and how Leonardo finished working for the King of France in his final years. This course, presented in PowerPoint, is rich in colored images that invite questions and discussion.

Joseph Paul Cassar, PhD, is an artist, art historian, curator, and educator. He studied at the Accademia di Belle Arti, Pietro Vannucci, Perugia, Italy; the Art Academy in Malta (Europe); and at Charles Sturt University in NSW, Australia. He has lectured extensively in various institutions in Europe and the United States. He is currently engaged in designing and conducting online art history courses for University of Maryland University College and the New York Times Knowledge Network. He is the author of various art books and monographs
on modern and contemporary art of the Mediterranean island of Malta. As an artist, he works in various media and exhibits his work regularly at venues in Baltimore.

21SB109 Leonardo da Vinci: His Art and Times
Tuesdays, February 23–May 11
1–3 p.m.

And the Oscar Didn’t Go to: 21st Century Edition
There have been some truly landmark and incredible films in the 21st century that merited recognition by the Academy of Arts and Sciences as the Best Picture of the Year—and didn’t get it. Some were even nominated for best film or even best animated film, but another film won the Oscar. The non-winners that we will explore are films with artistic merit, social significance, and/or technical break-throughs that entertained audiences and became landmarks in their own right. These include Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, The Social Network, Up, Goodnight and Good Luck, The Life of Pi, Lion, and six more. Through lecture and film clips, we hope to gain an appreciation of these remarkable films that may have lost the Oscar, but have influenced filmmakers and audiences.

Stan Levin has a degree in Film and Theatre from New York University. He also studied theater at the graduate level at the Catholic University of America. He was a documentary film maker for the US Department of Agriculture and an award-winning writer of radio and TV commercials. He was a nationally syndicated film critic, and is a frequent lecturer on film and contemporary culture in the DC Metro area.

21SB134 Film: And the Oscar Didn’t Go to: 21st Century Edition
Tuesdays, February 23–May 11
1–3 p.m.

Crossover Composers
Classical music has been influenced, impacted, and inspired by trends in popular music, especially American jazz. Explore works of composers with interests in both fields, including seminal compositions by George Gershwin, Darius Milhaud, Duke Ellington, Igor Stravinsky, and Wynton Marsalis. While we will devote a full day to Gershwin’s seminal and game-changing “Rhapsody in Blue,” we will also listen to and examine a host of other similar works, many of which may be largely unfamiliar to students. Audio recordings and live performances from the instructor on a variety of instruments will make this course as lively as the music itself.

Seth Kibel is one of the Mid-Atlantic’s premier woodwind specialists, working with some of the best bands in jazz, klezmer, swing, and more. Performing on saxophone, clarinet, and flute, Seth has made a name for himself in the Greater Washington/Baltimore region and beyond. He’s a featured performer with The Alexandria Klezter, Bay Jazz Project, The Natty Beaux, and other musical groups. He’s the winner of 19 Washington Area Music Awards (Wammies), including

21SB108 Crossover Composers
Tuesdays, February 23–May 11
1–3 p.m.

Thursday MORNING SESSION

Music You Can't Get Out of Your Head!
There are countless musical pieces we never get to talk about and composers we never discuss, because they just don't fit into the narrative of a course. Music like the gorgeous Songs in the Venetian Dialect by Renaldo Hahn, Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez, Karl Goldmark's Rustic Wedding Symphony, anything by Camille Saint Saens, Carmina Burana by Orff...the list is endless and full of favorites famous and obscure. For the last three-plus decades I have been introducing thousands of people to music on WBJC, why should my fabulous Hopkins Osher students be left out? This is probably the most random, peculiar time of all our lives—why not a random, peculiar, and frankly wonderful course?

Jonathan Palevsky, MM, is program director for WBJC, 91.5 FM, where he can be heard as host of Face the Music and Past Masters. Mr. Palevsky is an adjunct faculty member at Baltimore Hebrew University and has studied at The Johns Hopkins University's Peabody Conservatory.

21SB103 Music You Can't Get Out of Your Head!
Thursdays, February 25–May 13
10 a.m–12 noon

Tales of Greek Mythology
Stories of ancient Greek gods and heroes have provided entertainment and fascination for thousands of years. In their extensive mythology, the Greek deities resemble humans, with all their emotions, virtues, and weaknesses. Zeus’s many extramarital affairs, Hera’s rage at her husband’s infidelities, the constant interventions into daily affairs by omnipresent Olympians, and many other myths deliver captivating and enduring tales. Larger-than-life characters such as Hercules, Jason, and Odysseus pursue fantastic adventures while representing ideal qualities of loyalty and bravery. This class will explore many of these myths and analyze the meaning behind them.

Robert Baer, PhD, is a college administrator with over 30 years experience in higher education; bachelors and master’s degrees in history, and doctorate in higher education; history instructor at York College-CUNY, Towson Osher Program, Notre Dame Renaissance Institute, Community
College of Baltimore County, Howard and Norwalk Community Colleges; Johns Hopkins University alumnus and former administrator at the JHU Center for Talented Youth.

21SB514 Tales of Greek Mythology
Thursdays, February 25–April 1, 6 weeks
10 a.m–12 noon

Great Archaeologists, Great Discoveries
Archaeologists have been responsible for many of the great discoveries of past civilizations over the last two centuries. This class will examine the lives of several of these remarkable men and women, and their most important accomplishments. Included will be such pioneering archaeologists as Howard Carter, Giovanni Belzoni, Kathleen Kenyon, Gertrude Bell, T. E. Lawrence, Heinrich Schliemann, Yigal Yadin, John Lloyd Stephens, and Sarah Parcak. Their enduring scholarly contributions and fascinating life stories will be explored.

See Robert Baer’s biography above.

21SB516 Great Archaeologists, Great Discoveries
Thursdays, April 8–May 13, 6 weeks
10 a.m–12 noon

Understanding Cancer: A Century of Progress
Current understandings of cancer origins and development reflect more than a century of convergent progress in the biologic and physical sciences. This class will explain how gradual advancements in microbiology, immunology, genetics and radiology spawned more accurate concepts of cancer causation and progression. Examples of some common cancers will illustrate how the intersections of genomics and biotechnology are leading towards earlier cancer detection and individually targeted treatments or preventions. Lecture outlines and brief informative notes or illustrations will be provided in PDF format. No textbook is required.

Phil Grimley, MD, earned his degree at Albany Medical College. He trained in clinical medicine and cancer research at Cornell, the University of California, and the National Cancer Institute. In 1982, he joined the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda where he continued research on cancer and viruses, and served as a director for medical education. He has lectured on virology or related subjects at schools in Europe, India, and Asia. He retired in 2015 as Emeritus Professor.

21SB613 Understanding Cancer: A Century of Progress
Thursdays, February 25–April 1, 6 weeks
10 a.m–12 noon

Surviving the Digital Life: 2021
Our world is becoming more and more digital and online. Many of our everyday activities now involve accessing the Internet to stream movies and music, access our financial information, and
communicate with family members. During this six-session class we will use lectures and demonstrations to examine:

- Surviving during physical and social isolation. How to use technology to cope with our current crisis. Life with Zoom.
- Hardware you need to live the digital life. An overview of hardware choices. My PC is old; what should I buy? My son says I should switch to a Mac. Is he right? My grandchildren are using computers in school called Chromebooks, what is that all about?
- Converting to Digital. What you need to do to pass on your videos, music and photos to the digital generation? Converting landline to VOIP (voice over internet protocol).
- Streaming Media, TV, Movies, and Music in the digital age. Too many choices.
- Learning in the Digital Cloud. With in-person learning centers closed the Internet has become our new learning education system. An overview of our choices.
- Security of the online experience. The 10 commandments for staying safe online.

Victor Rezmovic, PhD, is a technology educator who has spent the last 30 years in academic, corporate, and governmental settings. Since taking apart his first PC in the mid-80s he has followed the technology revolution as email, the Internet, digital music, Netflix, and Amazon have become part of our everyday lives. He has held positions at the University of Illinois and the US Department of Agriculture and currently teaches in the Information Technology Institute at Montgomery College.

21SB141 Surviving the Digital Life: 2021
Thursday, April 8–May 11, 6 weeks
10 a.m–12 noon

Thursday AFTERNOON SESSION

The Pivotal Moment
Pivotal moments, whether public or private, change people's lives. Osher members have lived through many such moments—perhaps more than they wish. The Vietnam War, the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr., the fall of the Twin Towers, and now the Covid-19 pandemic, are just a few of the public defining moments we've all shared. This says nothing about the personal decisive times that we've experienced: starting school, learning to drive, getting married, having kids, losing our parents, and now, as we get older, losing some of our friends. This course will look at public and personal pivotal moments as seen in art and literature. It will try to understand how such significant events generate poetry, memoir, and short stories, and it will encourage Osher members to apply any insights gleaned to their own writing.
**Diane Scharper, MA,** has a master's degree in poetry from the Johns Hopkins University Writing Seminars. She has written or edited four books of poetry and three collections of memoir, including *Reading Lips*, winner of the Helen Keller International Memoir Competition. She has taught graduate and undergraduate writing courses at Towson University since 1986 in both poetry and memoir. She has reviewed more than 100 books of poetry for *Library Journal* and has reviewed memoir for several publications including *The New York Times.*

**21SB301 The Pivotal Moment**  
Thursdays, February 25–May 13  
1–3 p.m.

**The Musicals of Leonard Bernstein**

In 2018 music lovers celebrated the 100th anniversary of Leonard Bernstein’s birth. For more than 40 years, Bernstein dominated the classical music scene, finding success as a conductor, pianist, and composer. This class will cover the works he composed for the stage, many considered his finest. From the ballet *Fancy Free* came the enormous hit of 1944, *On the Town,* followed by a little-known work, *Peter Pan* (1950). Other works examined will be *Wonderful Town* (1953) and *Candide* (1956). The 1950s culminated with his timeless masterpiece, *West Side Story.* We will examine both audio and video examples of each show, including original cast recordings.

**Ernest Liotti** is a performer, educator, and lecturer with expertise in classical music, opera, film and industrial design. A member of the Conservatory faculty of the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, Mr. Liotti has taught classes in both the voice and piano departments. He also teaches for the Johns Hopkins Odyssey program and was a long-standing lecturer for the Peabody Elderhostel Program.

**21SB130 The Musicals of Leonard Bernstein**

Thursdays, February 25–May 13  
1–3 p.m.

**Living in Space**

Humans have been journeying to space for nearly six decades. We have learned much about how the human body fares in zero gravity—astronauts grow about two inches, their sense of taste degrades, their eyesight worsens, most feel some degree of space sickness, and some even experience heart problems.

This class explores the early NASA and Soviet space programs, the challenges and tragedies, and examines once-secret Soviet space disasters that have since come to light. NASA astronaut Scott Kelly lived aboard the International Space Station for nearly a year and provided valuable insight into the challenges of long-term space flight. Now both NASA and private entrepreneurs are planning trips back to the Moon and on to Mars. Astronauts journeying to Mars will be in space for more than two years and will have to battle additional dangers—being prepared to deal with
sickness, injury, perhaps even death while millions of miles from Earth, not to mention being subject to dangerous solar storms.

**Jim O'Leary** served as lead astronomy specialist for the Maryland Science Center, producing programs for MSC’s Davis Planetarium and films for the IMAX Theater. He oversaw renovation of the rooftop Observatory and its 1927-era telescope, and received education grants from NASA, NSF, NOAA and JHU. Jim received the Excellence in Outreach Award from NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, and for 12 years hosted the weekly Sky Watch program on WYPR.

**21SB611 Living in Space**  
Thursdays, April 8–May 13, **6 weeks**  
1–3 p.m.

**Secrets of the Sun**  
Explore our life-giving star with the latest images from the most advanced ground and space observatories, including ones taken each day of class. Investigate the Sun's birth and eventual death, how we came to understand its inner workings, and how it compares to other stars in our galaxy.

Explore some of the world's Sun-inspired art, the Sun's role in many cultures through history, including how it influenced the famous Stradivarius violins. We will meet the scientists, artists, and philosophers who revealed the Sun to us.

We will feature sunspots, prominences, and flares, and the Sun's effects on Earth—eclipses, auroras, and the tremendous solar storms that disrupt satellites, cause power failures, and threaten the health and lives of astronauts as they venture into the Solar System.

*See Jim O'Leary's biography above.*

**21SB607 Secrets of the Sun**  
Thursdays, February 25–April 1, **6 weeks**  
1–3 p.m.