Spring 2024

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Dear Members,

Our Spring 2024 Semester will consist of in-person classes, Zoom classes, and a few hybrid classes. Please remember that these classes are only for Founders Hall members.

Registration for Spring 2024 is similar to previous years, with an online option and a mail-in option. The online option saves significant staff resources so I hope you will try that if you haven't before.

In-Person Attendance Information

Our goal is to keep Founders Hall members, instructors and staff healthy while gathering in-person and enjoying each other's company. To achieve that, each of us plays an important role. Abiding by these expectations and rules is necessary to keep our community safe and to make our in-person programs successful. These rules apply to classes, events, and drop-in visits.

The Rules:

1. If you don't feel well, please stay home.
2. If you test positive for the COVID virus, please inform Grace immediately.

Closing and Cancellation

Closings for inclement weather will be posted on www.founders-hall.org.

Programs are subject to change and/or cancellation.
Registration
You can register and pay for semester programs online or by mail. Registrations are due by Tuesday, March 12 at 4:30PM.

How to Register Online
Log into your Community Pass account and simply follow the prompts to review the programs, make your choices and complete the registration. You can securely pay electronically or you can choose to pay by check.

If you have NOT activated a Community Pass account, please email Tracy Dubin (tracy@founders-hall.org). She will send you a log-in user name and password so you can take advantage of online registration for Spring semester.

If you don't use email or would like some guidance in using online registration, please call Tracy or Grace for help.

If you prefer to use paper
Complete the form on pages 17 - 21 and mail with payment.

Whether You Register Online or On Paper
Spring semester programs begin on Monday, March 25. Programs are subject to change and/or cancellation.
If you have registered for a Zoom class, you will receive a link for that class the evening before class meets.

If more people are interested in a class than there are available spaces, we will use a random lottery to assign places. All PAID registrations received by 4:30PM on Tuesday, March 12 will be included in any necessary lotteries. If there is not space for you in a class, we will notify you and refund your payment. No news is good news. You will not hear from us if we are able to enroll you as requested.

Registrations are non-transferrable. We do keep waiting lists for those who wish to join a filled class.

Academic Program
The Academic Program is generously sponsored by Rudy Ruggles

Adventures in Poetry with Ira Joe
Poetry. Good for the soul. Your soul. Good for the world. Our world. At the Friday gatherings, Ridgefield’s Poet Laureate, Ira Joe Fisher, will present and ponder - with you - three or four poems. We’ll see what makes the words bubble and fizz. And we’ll invite the poem into your mind and into your heart. A poem is sound, song, wisdom, delight. A poem affects you. From the page to the ear to the heart. To savor. To remember. You might just smile. And sigh.
First Class: April 5
Instructor: Ira Joe Fisher
Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

Book Discussion ~ In-Person
Join your friends, new and old, for an in-person monthly book discussion. Books are available through Ridgefield Library and/or Hoopla, one of the Library’s e-content services (link on Library website). Copies of the books may be available at the Front Desk at Founders Hall.

April 11 The Island of Sea Women by Lisa See
May 9 The Library Book by Susan Orlean
June 13 Violeta by Isabel Allende
First Class: April 5
Facilitator: Staff members of Ridgefield Library
No Charge

Current Events ~ In-Person
Share your thoughts on a variety of current event topics in an informal discussion format. Personal participation is encouraged in this interactive group. Class will not meet May 29th.

First class: March 27
Facilitator: Bill Monti
Fee: $18/$21NR (10 Sessions)
**Film: Biopix Number 3 ~ In-Person**

For Spring Semester, Bob Klaeger will conclude his ‘trilogy’ of courses on Biopix. We’ll see nine Hollywood movies based (sometimes loosely) on actual persons. He has chosen an eclectic group ranging from Judy Garland and Effie Gray (a tough young Victorian if there ever was one) to, well, a bunch of Penguins.

Class will not meet Tuesday, April 30 or Monday, May 27.

Section 1: Monday 10:00AM-1:00PM  
First Class: March 25  
Instructor: Robert Klaeger  
Fee: $35/$42NR (9 Sessions)

Section 2: Monday 1:30-4:30PM  
First Class: March 25  
Instructor: Robert Klaeger  
Fee: $35/$42NR (9 Sessions)

Section 3: Tuesday 10:00AM-1:00PM  
First Class: March 26  
Instructor: Robert Klaeger  
Fee: $35/$42NR (9 Sessions)

Section 4: Tuesday 1:30-4:30PM  
First Class: March 26  
Instructor: Robert Klaeger  
Fee: $35/$42NR (9 Sessions)

**French Refresher ~ In-Person**

These classes are for those who have taken French previously or have a prior knowledge of the language. The emphasis will be on speaking, but there will be some focus on grammar, reading and writing. French is Fun, Book 2 will be used for the class. It is available through the registration form for $37.

Wednesday 9:30-11:00AM  
First Class: March 27  
Instructor: Steve Rome  
Fee: $35/$42NR (9 Sessions)

**Global Issues ~ In-Person**

This program encourages and develops group discussion on critical worldwide issues, be they social, economic or political, in a complex and changing world. The topics to be discussed will be selected by course members from a list of important issues presented at the first meeting. Most weeks, a volunteer member of the group will provide subject background and questions to help initiate discussion. A guest speaker may be invited on occasion. The program strives to ensure that everyone gets an opportunity to participate and that the tradition of civil discourse will be maintained in a stimulating setting. Time will also be set aside at each meeting for discussion of topical international events.

Monday 10:30AM-12:30PM  
First Class: March 25  
Facilitators: Janet Andersen & George Eggleston  
Fee: $20/$24NR (8 Sessions)

**Great American Short Stories ~ In-Person**

Enthusiastic readers will use the Shared Inquiry method for a text-based discussion of new selections from *The Best American Short Stories of the Century*, edited by John Updike. This anthology of more than fifty extraordinary stories includes selections by authors Raymond Carver, John Cheever, Joyce Carol Oates, Flannery O’Connor, Philip Roth, Eudora Welty and others. These short stories have endured the test of time. The book is available through the registration form for $19. If more are interested in participating than can be accommodated, Louise will repeat the same stories during Fall 2024 semester. Class will not meet May 29.

Wednesday 1:00 - 2:30PM  
First Class: March 27  
Instructor: Louise Hazebrouck  
Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

**History: Mayor La Guardia ~ In-Person**

Come join us as we head back to NYC and the five boroughs. We will be reading ‘The Napoleon of New York: Mayor Fiorello La Guardia,’ written by H. Paul Jeffers. It is an engaging biography of the colorful La Guardia. An editorial written in the New York Times stated, ‘He did not find us brick and leave us marble, but he rescued our public credit, put non-partisan experts in charge of city departments, expanded parks and playgrounds, developed clinics, public markets, housing projects and airports. He did much of this in a continual uproar of controversy but he did it.’

Come on down and get your Brooklyn on. Class will not meet April 17. The book is available via the registration form for $37.

Wednesday 3:15-4:30PM  
First Class: March 27  
Instructor: Mike Settanni  
Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

**Investments Discussion ~ In-Person**

Participants will choose topics for discussion such as a particular asset class, industry sector or individual stocks or bonds. The group will not meet April 30th.

Tuesday 10:00 -11:30AM  
First Class: March 26  
Facilitators: Scott DeYoung and Len Goldner  
Fee: $15/$18NR (10 Sessions)

**Italian: Beginning ~ In-Person**

This beginner level class will introduce this beautiful language. The emphasis will be on speaking, but there will be some focus on grammar, reading and writing.

New Beginners Friday 9:00-10:30AM  
First Class: April 5

Beginner Advanced Friday 10:45AM-12:15PM  
First Class: April 5

Beginner Continuing Friday 12:30-2:00PM  
First Class: April 5

Instructor: Lisetta Farris  
Fee: $40/$48NR (10 Sessions)
Meditation ~ In-Person
Back in the Saddle: How to Use Mindfulness to Tame Emotions

Emotions can be overwhelming and confusing, and when they persist or stagnate, emotions can drag us down. Usually, we repress or discount them when they're uncomfortable, or get carried away when they're exciting. In either case, we get 'thrown off our horse' by the emotion's force.

Mindfulness offers a way to work with emotions that is clear-eyed, direct and gentle. It's an approach similar to horsemanship, where the rider and horse relate properly to each other so that they can go where they need to go.

The class continues Founders Hall's series on how mindfulness meditation can be of practical use in daily life. The class includes guided mindfulness practice, discussions and instruction on how mindfulness clarifies our relation to emotions of all kinds. Class will meet April 5, 12, 19 and May 3 and 10.

Friday 9:30 - 11:00AM First Class: April 5
Instructor: Peter Bancel
Fee: $20/$24NR (5 Sessions)

Music with Michael Lankester ~ In-Person and on Zoom
It's All About Love, Actually

‘Writing is stupid - this Sunday I will kiss you on the lips.’
- Telegram from Albert Einstein to his wife.

‘So, Sunday = kiss x time squared?’ - Florian Illies

From Medieval Chansons to Tchaikowsky’s Romeo and Juliet, from Mozart’s operas to Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess, and from Puccini’s La Bohème to Cole Porter’s ‘What is this thing called love?’, the power and mystery of love has been the prime source of some of the greatest music ever written. But as the Roaring Twenties dies down, Europe is entering the 1930’s, an increasing time of flight - or flight - as the world staggers from one global conflict to another.

Michael Lankester weaves together these two seemingly unconnected worlds by focusing on Paris and Berlin and the turbulent lives of such luminaries as Ernest Henningway, Zelda and Scott Fitzgerald, Kurt Weill and Lotte Lenya, Charlie Chaplin and Lee Miller, Marlene Dietrich and Josef von Sternberg, Salvador Dali and Gala, and Picasso and Marie Thérèse Walter.

Class will not meet May 16th.

Section 1 Thursday 10:30AM-12:00PM First Class: March 28
Instructor: Michael Lankester
Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

Section 2 Thursday 1:00-2:30PM First Class: March 28
Instructor: Michael Lankester
Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)
The Oxford Inklings Part 2 ~ In-Person
The Imaginative Mind and the Pursuit of Power
At the end of the 1920s, a close friendship had begun to develop between two Oxford dons, C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien, and this small nucleus would soon expand into a group which became known as The Inklings and has since acquired almost legendary status. As the poet and scholar John Wain observed, ‘In a very dead period of Oxford’s history, Lewis and his friends provided a stir of life.’ The Inklings arguably gave rise to one canonical classic of English literature, Tolkien’s The Lord of the Rings, as well as other lesser works. Over the length of this class, we will examine Tolkien’s masterpiece as well as works by Lewis and Charles Williams. The books for this semester may be ordered through the registration form: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader by C.S. Lewis ($8); The Silver Chair by C.S. Lewis ($8); Descent Into Hell by Charles Williams ($18); The Two Towers by J.R.R. Tolkien ($15).
Class will not meet April 16 or April 30.
Tuesday 3:00-4:30PM First Class: March 26
Instructor: John Morrison Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

Showing Up For Yourself: NUSHU Group to Reflect & Connect ~ In-Person
NUSHU Group is a sharing circle where we create time and space to check in with ourselves through reflection, writing, and saying things out loud. In NUSHU Group, the facilitator offers prompts for your consideration. You will have a few minutes to reflect and write. You can go wherever your mind takes you, as deeply as you feel comfortable going. At the end of that time, the floor will be opened to sharing. You can say as much or as little as you would like. Pass or “come back to me” is always an option. In these groups, there is no crosstalk or advice giving. Sometimes being present and listening to each other really is more than enough. The group will be led by Katie Guillory, who is a certified NUSHU Group facilitator. She has a knack for asking just the right questions to unlock insight. You will be surprised by this experience. Come explore yourself and share with others in person. This group will meet for 60-90 minutes. Class will not meet May 27.
Monday 1:30-3:00PM First Class: March 25
Instructor: Katie Guillory Fee: $30/$36NR (10 Sessions)

Spanish Refresher ~ In-Person
These classes are for those who have taken Spanish previously or have a prior knowledge of the language. The emphasis will be on speaking, but there will be some focus on grammar, reading and writing. Spanish is Fun Book 2, second edition will be used for the class. It is available through the registration form for $37.
Wednesday 1:00-2:30PM First Class: March 27
Instructor: Steve Rome Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

Voices from the Harlem Renaissance ~ In-Person
Spanning the years from the end of World War I through the Depression, the Harlem Renaissance was an artistic movement which encouraged Black artists, writers, musicians, and philosophers to explore in their works aspects of their racial identity, their culture, and the Black experience in America. This burst of creative expression could push back against Jim Crow and the prevailing beliefs about Blacks and Black life in America by giving voice to the experiences of people who had heretofore been silenced. By reading representative works from this significant period in American literature, we will have the chance to hear some of these voices and to reflect on the ways in which they resonate today. The books for the semester are available through the registration form: Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston ($15); Cane by Jean Toomer ($12). Selected poetry will be provided or available on-line.
Class will not meet April 22 or May 27.
Monday 3:00-4:30PM First Class: March 25
Instructor: Maggie Seligman Fee: $35/$42NR (9 Sessions)
**Founders Hall Spring 2024**

**We the People: Part 2 ~ In-Person**

*This program is a continuation of the Winter 2024 *We the People.* Completion of Part 1 is required. This second semester we will cover the Bill of Rights and other key amendments.*

The first three words of the preamble to the U.S. Constitution immediately differentiate this document from all those declarations of rights that had come before it. Who were the men, that are now referred to as the Framers of the Constitution? What were their main concerns and how do they echo today in our lives, over 230 years later? Why did they pick our form of government? Why even before the ink was dry on the main Seven Articles of the Constitution, did they feel the need to add the first ten amendments, known today as the Bill of Rights? What were the driving forces behind future important amendments?

We reviewed the main body of the original seven articles with an eye toward their interpretation then and now. We investigated the rather arcane institution known as the electoral college and the rules of the Senate, which are nowhere in the constitution. During Winter semester, we will review some of the key rights bestowed in the U.S. Constitution such as freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the right to bear arms, and the right to due process and equal protection under the law. And, observe how the application of those rights has changed over time.

The goal of our journey is not to develop a cadre of Constitutional scholars but to fulfill Thomas Jefferson’s famous challenge “…a well-informed electorate is a prerequisite to democracy.”

Class will not meet May 27th.

**Monday 1:00-2:30PM**

Instructor: Tom McIntyre

First Class: April 1

Fee: $18/$21NR (9 Sessions)

**Writing: A Shared Experience ~ In-Person**

This collegial group of writers meets weekly to share short pieces of prose and poetry. The aim is to improve writing through the constructive criticism of fellow members of the group.

**Tuesday 10:00AM-12:00PM**

Class Directed

First Class: March 26

Fee: $18/$21NR (10 Sessions)

**What is Buddhism ~ In-Person**

2500 years ago, a young prince puzzled over his place in the world and set out to find an answer. The result of that quest was his awakening as the Buddha. But what did the Buddha see, and how did his insights transform into the Buddhism of today? Buddhism is neither a religion, nor a philosophy, nor is it a psychology. So what is it?

This class will give an introduction to the history and the enduring ideas and practices that make up Buddhism. The emphasis will be on how the teachings of the Buddha in India 25 centuries ago - which addressed human existence - remain relevant today. The lectures will be accessible with plenty of time for exchange and discussion. No prior knowledge of Buddhism is assumed. Lectures are cumulative and it is best to attend them all.

Class 1: The life of the Buddha  
Class 2: Basic ideas - Four Noble Truths  
Class 3: Buddhism through the Ages  
Class 4: Basic ideas - Compassion and Wisdom  
Class 5: The Buddhism of Tibet  
Class 6: Basic ideas- Everyone a Buddha, naturally  

**Friday 11:30AM - 12:30PM**

First Class: April 5

Instructor: Peter Bancel

Fee: $30/$36NR (6 Sessions)

**Writing Workshop ~ In-Person**

‘We each have a story to tell. It needs to be told; it wants out. Discover your story in this writing workshop where each participant is both a teacher and a pupil. The process is joyful and rewarding, as we hone our skills and learn.’ Each week, write something of your choice within two pages - an essay, memoir, poem, short story - read it in a friendly environment, and receive constructive feedback focused on clarity, grammar, punctuation, and organization of the piece. Everyone stands to gain as we sharpen our writing skills. The class will be limited to 11. Class will not meet May 27th.

**Monday 2:00-4:30PM**

First Class: March 25

Moderator: Anton Deiters

Fee: $18/$21NR (10 Sessions)
Evening Academic Program ~ In-Person

Music with Michael Lankester: La Primavera ~ In-Person and on Zoom

‘April hath put a spirit of youth in everything.’ (William Shakespeare)

‘A flower blossoms for its own joy.’ (Oscar Wilde)

‘Behold, my friends, the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love.’ (Sitting Bull)

1. Spring, The Sweet Spring
2. The Enkindled Spring
3. Spring Marches In
4. The Lusty Month of May
5. Spring Symphony
6. Springtime in Paris
7. On Hearing the First Cuckoo in Spring
8. Lilac Time
9. The Ritual of Spring
10. Appalachian Spring

Class will not meet May 16.

Thursday 6:00-7:30PM First Class: March 28
Instructor: Michael Lankester Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

Dance Program

Ballroom Dancing ~ In-Person

Tonja makes ballroom dancing fun and easy. This class will get you moving comfortably in the most popular social and club style dances. No partner is necessary to sign up! Class will not meet May 24.

Friday 10:05-10:55AM First Class: April 26
Instructor: Tonja Dias Fee: $30/$36NR (6 Sessions)

Dance Program (continued)

Beginner Flamenco ~ In-Person

Ever wanted to know more about Flamenco, the beautiful dance that hails from Southern Spain? Well, come learn by doing! We will continue what we started in earlier sessions, but new students are welcome. We will be working in the Tangos, a simple 4-count rhythm perfect for flamenco beginners. We will work on posture, arms, hand flourishes (floresos), simple marking steps, and basic footwork -- all while focusing on the compas, the rhythmic structure that is the foundation for all flamenco. No dance experience necessary – just a love of learning something new. Ole! Class will not meet April 12, April 19 or May 10.

Friday 2:05-2:50PM First Class: April 5
Instructor: Nikki Nuet Fee: $35/$42NR (7 Sessions)

Tap Dancing Beginners ~ In-Person

Learn the basics of tap dancing through music. Not only is this class great for learning tap routines, it is also a fun way to keep in shape.

Tuesday 3:00-4:00PM First Class: March 26
Instructor: Karen Casagrande Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

Tap Dancing Continued ~ In-Person

Continue to develop your tap dancing technique in this class with Karen.

Tuesday 2:00-3:00PM First Class: March 26
Instructor: Karen Casagrande Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

Zumba Gold ~ Zoom

Zumba Gold brings exciting Latin and international dance rhythms to beginners. The easy-to-follow dances include Cha Cha, Merengue, Salsa, Cumbia, Tango, Rumba, Belly Dance and even Rock and Roll! Great for the mind, body and soul, Zumba is fun, easy, different and effective. HAVE FUN AND STAY FIT! This semester, class will meet only on Zoom March 27 through May 1. It will be a hybrid class (in-person and Zoom) May 15 through June 5. Class will not meet May 8 or May 29.

Wednesday 10:05-10:55AM First Class: March 27
Instructor: Roxane Angotta Fee: $35/$42NR (8 Sessions)
Here are the steps for paper registration:

1. Read the course book and select programs.
2. Complete the form on pages 17 – 21 indicating your contact information and the programs you want to take.
3. If registering for more than one person, please indicate, with initial or name, who is taking which class(es).
4. Total your program fees. The payment for Ridgefield residents is the first amount. The payment for non-Ridgefield residents is the second amount, designated as “NR.”
5. Indicate your payment method:
   • Check, payable to Founders Hall. You may submit one check for your entire registration.
   • Credit card: Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express.

6. Mail your completed registration form and payment so that it arrives at Founders Hall before 4:30pm on Tuesday, March 12.

Please note: If a class you’ve selected is oversubscribed, we will make every effort to add additional sections. If necessary, we will conduct a random lottery to determine places in oversubscribed classes. If we are not able to accommodate your selection, we will call you and refund your payment. You will not hear from us if we are able to accommodate your selections. **Please note: only paid registrations will be included in any lottery.**

If you have questions or need assistance with completing the registration form, please contact Grace or Tracy.

### Founders Hall

**SPRING 2024 Registration Form**

Member ID Number _________  

Name ____________________________________________  

Address ____________________________________________  

Phone _____________  E-mail: ______________________

**Academic Courses**  

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### Dance Courses
- **Ballroom Dance**
  - Ridgefield: $30
  - Non-Ridgefield: $36
- **Flamenco**
  - Ridgefield: $35
  - Non-Ridgefield: $42
- **Tap Dancing Beginning**
  - Ridgefield: $35
  - Non-Ridgefield: $42
- **Tap Dancing Continued**
  - Ridgefield: $35
  - Non-Ridgefield: $42
- **Zumba Gold**
  - Ridgefield: $35
  - Non-Ridgefield: $42

### On the Road Trips
- **Connecticut State Capitol**
  - Ridgefield: $75
  - Non-Ridgefield: $90
- **Metropolitan Museum of Art**
  - Ridgefield: $85
  - Non-Ridgefield: $102
- **NY Botanical Garden**
  - Ridgefield: $145
  - Non-Ridgefield: $174

### Special Events
- **Casino Night**
  - Ridgefield: $10
  - Non-Ridgefield: $12
- **Billiards Tournament**
  - Ridgefield: $8
  - Non-Ridgefield: $10
- **Health and Fitness Day**
  - Ridgefield: No fee
- **Mah Jongg Game Day**
  - Ridgefield: $8
  - Non-Ridgefield: $10

### Art Courses
- **Drawing Basics**
  - Ridgefield: $45
  - Non-Ridgefield: $52
- **Calligraphy**
  - Ridgefield: $45
  - Non-Ridgefield: $52
- **Drawing Studio Workshop**
  - Ridgefield: $12
  - Non-Ridgefield: $15
- **Drawing Indep. Supervised Study**
  - Ridgefield: $45
  - Non-Ridgefield: $52
- **Life Drawing**
  - Ridgefield: $45
  - Non-Ridgefield: $52
- **Oil Painting**
  - Ridgefield: $45
  - Non-Ridgefield: $52
- **Return to Graphite**
  - Ridgefield: $45
  - Non-Ridgefield: $52
- **Techniques, Tools and Textures**
  - Ridgefield: $45
  - Non-Ridgefield: $52
- **Watercolor 101**
  - Ridgefield: $40
  - Non-Ridgefield: $48
- **Watercolor Inter/Adv 10:30**
  - Ridgefield: $40
  - Non-Ridgefield: $48
- **Watercolor Inter/Adv 1:30**
  - Ridgefield: $40
  - Non-Ridgefield: $48
- **Evening Basic Drawing**
  - Ridgefield: $45
  - Non-Ridgefield: $52
**Hobby and Sports Courses**

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<td>Duplicate Bridge</td>
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<td>Beginning Genealogy Tues 12:30</td>
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<td>Genealogy Book Project Mon 10:00</td>
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<td>Founders Hall Singers</td>
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<td>Knitting and Crocheting</td>
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<td>Learn to Play Mah Jongg</td>
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**Technology Courses**

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>Ridgefield</th>
<th>Non-Ridgefield</th>
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<td>Piano Lessons</td>
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<td>Pickleball Ladder Play</td>
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<td>Photoshop Workshop</td>
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**Before you register, consider this...**  Although your class fee may be just $35, it actually costs Founders Hall $100 to provide that class to you. How can we offer such a discount? Because members like you donate to Founders Hall in addition to paying program fees. That’s the ONLY way we can continue to offer low-cost, life-long learning.

**Payment**

- Total Program Fees: $___________
- Donation: $___________
- Total Enclosed: $___________

**Payment Method**

- Check enclosed payable to Founders Hall
  You may submit one check for your entire registration.
- Cash (hand-delivered)
- Credit Card (Visa, Mastercard, Discover or American Express)

  Card number: ____________________________
  Exp. date: ________  cvc: _______  Zip Code ________
On the Road Program

The following trips will depart from Pond’s Edge Executive Park, 901 Ethan Allen Highway (Route 7). The executive park is south of the intersection of Routes 35 and 7. Please enter through the south entrance, which is near Ace Tire and across the street from Ridgefield Self-Storage. There is a sign that says ‘Medical and Professional Park’ at the entrance. Founders Hall staff will direct you to a parking spot from there. You must have pre-arranged transportation to and from the bus.

The bus will leave promptly at the assigned time. We are not able to wait for any late arrivals, no exceptions.

Connecticut State Capitol Tour

We will have a one-hour guided tour of the Legislative Office Building and Capitol Building, followed by a catered lunch in the Legislative Dining Room.
Tuesday, April 16 10:30AM-4:30PM Fee: $75/$90NR

Metropolitan Museum of Art

We will have a guided tour of the exhibit, The Harlem Renaissance and Transatlantic Modernism. Through some 160 works of painting, sculpture, photography, film and ephemera, it explores the comprehensive and far-reaching ways in which Black artists portrayed everyday modern life in the new black cities that took shape in the 1920s-40s in New York City’s Harlem and nationwide. Lunch is on your own at the museum or an outside restaurant of your choice.
Monday, May 20 8:30AM-6:00PM Fee: $85/$102NR

NY Botanical Garden Wonderland: Curious Nature

Head down the rabbit hole as Wonderland: Curious Nature transforms the NYBG with the sights, settings, and scents of the classic story, Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland. We will have a private tram tour and afternoon tea, with free time to explore the gardens on your own.
Thursday, June 13 8:30AM-5:30PM Fee: $145/$174NR
Founders Hall Spring 2024

Distinguished Speaker
Larry Bossidy
*Things I Have Learned While Searching For Serenity*
Friday, May 17 1:00PM

Seminar Series
Performance: Dangerous at Any Age
GoJo Clan Productions  Friday, March 22 2:00PM

The Star Spangled Banner Meets Yankee Doodle
Joe Ellis  Friday, April 19 1:00PM

Habitat for Humanity
Kristen Keil and team  Friday, April 26 1:00PM

How to Fall
RVNAhealth  Friday, May 31 1:00PM

Founders Fridays
Oscar Party  Friday, March 8 2:00-3:30PM

Fun and Games
*Sponsored by The Greens at Cannondale and Wilton Meadows*
Friday, April 12 2:00-3:30PM

English Afternoon Tea
*Sponsored by Ridgefield Station Senior Living Residences*
Friday, May 10 2:00-3:30PM

Books of Summer
*Sponsored by Books on the Common*
Friday, June 14 2:00-3:30PM

New Member Welcome Coffees
Tuesday, March 12 10:30-11:30AM
Tuesday, June 11 10:30-11:30AM

Special Events
Learn to Play Poker: Texas Hold ’Em
Thursday, March 21 1:00 -3:00PM  No fee

Casino Night
Thursday, April 4 5:30 -7:30PM  $10/12NR

Billiards Tourney
Wednesday, May 8 10:00AM-4:00PM  $8/10NR

Happy Hour
Wednesday, May 15 4:30-6:00PM  No fee

Health and Fitness Day
*Sponsored by Nuvance Health*
Wednesday, May 29 9:00AM-1:30PM  No fee

Mah Jongg Game Day
*Sponsored by Books on the Common*
Friday, June 14 2:00-3:30PM

Oscar Party
Friday, March 8 2:00-3:30PM

Fun and Games
*Sponsored by The Greens at Cannondale and Wilton Meadows*
Friday, April 12 2:00-3:30PM

English Afternoon Tea
*Sponsored by Ridgefield Station Senior Living Residences*
Friday, May 10 2:00-3:30PM

Books of Summer
*Sponsored by Books on the Common*
Friday, June 14 2:00-3:30PM

Bingo Fridays
*Sponsored by Spring Village at Danbury*
$.50 per card
March 1, 15, 22
April 5, 19, 26
May 3, 17, 24, 31

1:00-3:00PM
Art Program

Sponsored by the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation

Drawing Basics ~ In-Person
Come and spend a morning learning how to draw what you see and observe. In this course we will ‘learn to look’ by covering the fundamentals of shading, perspective and composition. Subjects will include basic forms, still life and simple landscape with an eye toward capturing the world around you. This class is a judgment-free zone designed with fun and creativity in mind. Let’s draw!
Monday 10:00AM-12:00PM First Class: March 25
Instructor: Madyn Gwynne Fee: $45/$52NR (9 Sessions)

Calligraphy, Ornamental Handwriting and Decorative Initials~ In-Person
In this hand lettering course, we will cover a variety of scripts, styles, lettering implements, tools and materials - both traditional and less conventional, as well as how to design decorative initials and capitals, also known as illumination. For the more adventurous students, we may include an introduction to gilding (faux gold-leafing). The aim is to create beautiful letters, whether the goal is to improve your own handwriting skill, to design a monogram for your personal stationery, or to create a series of unique note cards or framed works of art.
Materials will be discussed and recommended accordingly during the first session. Class participants will be limited to 8.
Class will not meet April 9 nor April 16.
Tuesday 3:00-4:30PM First Class: March 26
Instructor: Moki Kokoris Fee: $45/$52NR (8 Sessions)

Indepenited Supervised Study with Moki ~ In-Person
for past or current students of Colored Pencil or Graphite Drawing classes
You ask? We deliver! Individualized guidance for colored pencil drawing (from past courses: birds, botanicals, animals, etc.) and/or drawing with graphite. One-on-one assistance with new or on-going projects will be offered, including composition, process, techniques, colors, backgrounds, effects, etc.
Please note this is not an instructional class.
Class will not meet April 11 and April 18.
Wednesday 1:30-3:00PM First Class: March 28
Instructor: Moki Kokoris Fee: $45/$52NR (8 Sessions)

Life Drawing ~ In-Person
Students work each week from a live model. During the last half-hour, peers will critique each others work. A model fee, based on the number of students in the workshop, will be collected at the first class.
Wednesday 10:00AM-12:00PM First class: March 27
Instructor: Donatella Gagliano Fee: $45/$52NR (8 Sessions)

Oil Painting ~ In-Person
For experienced or beginner artists, this course will cover painting techniques, color mixing, composition and painting styles as well as varied painting subjects - still life, landscape, portrait and figures. The art studio atmosphere is coupled with art direction and guidance and freedom to experience new things. Canvas fee is $3.
Wednesday 1:30-3:00PM First Class: March 27
Instructor: Bonnie Weber Fee: $45/$52NR (10 Sessions)

Drawing Studio Workshop ~ In-Person
This studio time affords an opportunity to work with like-minded colored pencil artists.
Monday 2:30-4:30PM First Class: March 25
Instructor: Open Session Fee: $12/$15NR (10 Sessions)
**Return to Graphite Drawing and “Powder Painting” ~ In-Person**
This course is both a reintroduction to the medium for artists already familiar with graphite, and an expansion on the lesser known capabilities of the material for more advanced artists who are eager to experiment. In the early sessions we will review all of graphite’s potential, its attributes and the various techniques to achieve desired results. We’ll cover shading, blending, textures, and the best tools for each. In later sessions, we will learn how to ‘paint’ with graphite powder, where and how to use subtractive ‘drawing’ for highlights, and which when combined properly, produce delicate yet dramatic works of art. (Please note that graphite art in its full spectrum is not a vegan artform).

Materials to start: 9”x12” (or larger) pad of Canson XL Mixed Media white paper; full set of graphite pencils (4H, 2H, H, HB, B, 2B, 4B, 6B, 8B); white eraser and kneaded eraser; handheld sharpener (preferably metal); pocket folder or manila envelope to store reference hand-out sheets. For those who prefer to purchase a kit, the Castle Arts 26-piece Graphite Pencil Art Set is recommended.

Class participants will be limited to 8. Class will not meet April 9 nor April 16.

**Tuesday 1:00-2:30PM**  
First Class: March 26  
Instructor: Moki Kokoris  
Fee: $45/$52NR (8 Sessions)

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**Watercolor 101: Back to Basics ~ In-Person**
This class is for those returning or new to watercolor. There will be basic brushes, paper and WATERCOLOR paint for you to USE while in class. It is strongly recommended that you have, bring or buy your own materials from a material list given at the beginning of the semester **SO YOU CAN PRACTICE AT HOME**. As usual, Tina will offer Seasonal inspiration as subjects to paint. Class is limited to 15 students.

**Friday 10:30AM-12:30PM**  
First Class: April 12  
Instructor: Tina Phillips  
Fee: $40/$48NR (6 Sessions)

**Intermediate to Advanced Watercolor ~ In-Person**
This class is for experienced watercolorists only - with all their own equipment. There will be weekly inspiration (perhaps seasonal) and/or handouts offered. As usual, the 2 hour class time may be used for your own personal paintings. Classes are limited to 15 students.

**Section 1 Thursday 10:30AM-12:30PM**  
First Class: April 11  
Instructor: Tina Phillips  
Fee: $40/$48NR (6 Sessions)

**Techniques, Tools and Textures - Colored Pencil Drawing ~ In-Person**
If you ever ask yourself, “Do I draw the background first or at the end?” then this course is for YOU! In addition to reviewing the characteristics and applications of colored pencils, each student will broaden their individual skill set by learning how to render a variety of surfaces and textures, and add special effects. We will explore the use of solvents to blend wax-based pencils, and discuss when and how much color wash to put down as an underlay for a watercolor pencil drawing. Most importantly, students will learn to choose the optimal process for their chosen work, namely the best layer order of color placement based on pencil type, paper color, artistic style and subject matter. Each has its own unique set of rules and procedures.

Class participants will be limited to 8. Class will not meet April 9 nor April 16.

**Materials to start:** 9”x12” pad of Canson XL Mixed Media white paper; Set of Colored Pencils (wax-based and/or watercolor pencils); Handheld pencil sharpener; Pocket folder or manila envelope to store reference hand-out sheets.

**Tuesday 10:30AM-12:00PM**  
First Class: March 26  
Instructor: Moki Kokoris  
Fee: $45/$52NR (8 Sessions)

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**Evening Art Program**

**Evening Basic Drawing ~ In-Person**
Working from life, using charcoal and India ink media, students will develop and perfect the ‘art of seeing.’ Spatial relationships, light and shadow, volume, and mark making will be explored to produce both representational and expressive drawings. Learning through experimentation and ‘play,’ participants will build skills as they discover their unique marks as artists. Art historical references will help demonstrate technique and approach.

**Tuesday 5:30-7:00PM**  
First Class: March 26  
Instructor: Karen Pellecchia  
Fee: $45/$52NR (10 Sessions)
**Hobby and Sports Program**

_The Hobby and Sports Program is sponsored by The Wadsworth Russell Lewis Trust Fund, Ridgefield Parks and Recreation and Ridgefield Thrift Shop_

**Basketball for Fun Clinic ~ In-Person**
Want to feel like a kid again? Then consider joining the men and women of the “Seniors on the Ball” basketball team. Why join? It’s a fun way to work on your balance, coordination and flexibility. We exercise, do drills and yes, the last 20 minutes or so of the session, we play a controlled, senior type of basketball on a reduced size court. As an added bonus, you will get to know some of the nicest people in Founders. No experience necessary, just a fun-loving spirit. Team members are in their 70s, 80s, no one in their 90s yet. Class meets in the gym at Parks and Recreation. Class will NOT meet on April 17.

- **Wednesday 1:15-2:15PM**
- First class: March 27
- Coaches: JoAnn Cali and Jim Arcuri
- Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

**Billiards: Learn to Play**
Bert and Dave will teach the basics of the game and help you progress during the semester.

- **Monday 10:00AM-12:00PM**
- First Class: March 25
- Coaches: Bert Veilleux and Dave Ketner
- Fee: $5/$6NR (8 Sessions)

**Bridge: Assisted Play**
Experienced players will be available to assist play and answer questions.

- **Wednesday 10:00AM-12:00PM**
- First Class: March 27
- Coaches: J. Clark and D. Thornton
- No Charge

**Bridge: Continuing Beginners 2.0 ~ In-Person**
This class is intended for two groups of students:
1) as a continuation for those who have recently taken a True Beginners class at Founders Hall or elsewhere and 2) a refresher for those who have played bridge before but feel “rusty” about their current skill level.

The class will be based on 5 card Majors, Standard American and will continue to employ the Beginners textbook: _Bridge for Everyone_ by Crisfield, available through the registration form for $20.

- **Thursday 9:30-10:30AM**
- First class: March 28
- Instructor: Mike Hess
- Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

**Bridge Intermediate / Advanced ~ In-Person**
This class is for experienced players who want to improve their bidding, declarer play, and defense to the next level. We’ll focus on 2/1 Game Force, supplemented by Standard American bidding based on five-card majors and will cover important basic conventions like Blackwood, Stayman, and transfers. Then we’ll build upon that knowledge and learn more about competitive conventions like Michaels, Splinters, Jacoby 2NT, Negative Doubles, Roman Key Card Blackwood and New Minor Forcing. The class will also cover advances in defensive play: what to discard, giving count, and how to use suit preference signals. Comprised of short classroom lectures followed by the bidding and play of real bridge hands, this class is for players who are ready for more complex play. Recommended texts: _Bridge for Everyone_, D. W. Crisfield ($20), and _25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know_, Seagram and Smith ($18) are both available through the registration form.

- **Thursday 11:00AM-12:00PM**
- First class: March 28
- Instructor: Mike Hess
- Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

**Cooking with the Staff: Flavor Bombs ~ In-Person**
Nikki and Grace will share and demonstrate recipes, tips and techniques. You get to sample!

- **Section 1**: Tuesday, May 21 11:00AM-1:00PM
- Instructor: Founders Hall Staff
- Fee: $15/$18NR (1 Session)
**Duplicate Bridge ~ In-Person**

Enjoy bridge playing the same hands as other pairs (duplicate). This approach will challenge your skill regardless of ‘luck of the deal.’ If you are registering with a partner, please include your partner’s name on the registration form. This class is limited to 62 participants. Pre-requisite for Duplicate Bridge is proficiency with duplicate bridge rules and play.

Section 1 Monday 10:00AM-12:30PM First Class: March 25
Section 2 Friday 10:00AM-12:30PM First Class: March 29
Director: Bob Kimerling
Fee: $18/$21NR (10 Sessions)

**Genealogy ~ In-Person**

Gathering information about one’s family is one of America’s biggest hobbies. The various course levels range from the basics of census and immigration research through more advanced research techniques, and finally putting it all together in a wonderful book with documents, photos and stories.

Beginning Genealogy Tuesday 12:30-2:30PM

Completion of Beginning Genealogy is a prerequisite for the following classes. Please check with Toni regarding correct class placement.

Beginners Genealogy Part 2 Thursday 11:30AM-1:30PM
Advanced Beginning Genealogy Tuesday 2:30-4:30PM
Intermediate Genealogy Thursday 9:30-11:30AM
Advanced Genealogy Thursday 2:30-4:30PM
Instructor: Toni McKeen First Class: March 26/28
Fee: $45/$52NR (10 Sessions)

Annual Database Fee: $20 - required once per calendar year from all Genealogy students registering for a 2024 Genealogy class.

**Genealogy Book Project ~ In-Person**

For those of you who have been researching your genealogy, this course gives you the opportunity to focus on one relative and write their story using charts, records, photos, and family stories.

Monday 10:00AM-12:00PM First Class: March 25
Instructor: Toni McKeen Fee: $45/$52NR (10 Sessions)

**Duplicate Bridge ~ In-Person**

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Instructor: Toni McKeen Fee: $45/$52NR (10 Sessions)
**Pickleball - Beginners ~ In-Person**

Pickleball is a blend of tennis, badminton and ping pong. Pickleball is a great way to meet new people and play a game that is right for a variety of skill levels and ages. It is a fun, easy sport to learn! Come swing a paddle with us and enjoy one of the fastest growing sports in America. Class will meet at the Parks and Recreation Center gym. Class will not meet April 11 nor April 18.

Thursday 12:15-1:15PM  
Instructor: Tom McIntyre  
Fee: $35/$42NR (6 Sessions)

**Pickleball - Continuing ~ In-Person**

This class is intended for those who have been through the beginners class and wish to further their skill level. Class will meet at the Parks and Recreation Center gym. Class will not meet April 11 nor April 18.

Thursday 1:30-2:30PM  
Instructor: Tom McIntyre  
Fee: $35/$42NR (6 Sessions)

**Pickleball: Ladder Play ~ In-Person**

Test your pickleball skills as part of an informal ladder league. Players registering for the session will be randomly placed on a ladder and grouped with three other players for matches to be played each Friday. Players move up and down the ladder based on their game results. A fun way to practice pickleball with similarly skilled players. Class meets at Parks and Recreation Center gym. No classes April 12 or April 19.

Friday 12:15-2:30PM  
Instructor: Tom McIntyre  
Fee: $35/$42NR (6 Sessions)

**Quilting and Sewing ~ In-Person**

This class will be a combination of quilting and/or sewing. Continue your quilting journey or learn to use a sewing machine from the very start, read a pattern, begin to make garments or simple home decorating items or refresh your sewing skills. General sewing supplies needed for both mediums. Class is limited to 10.

Tuesday 11:00AM-1:00PM  
Instructor: Jo Ann Brown  
Fee: $45/$52NR (10 Sessions)

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**Technology Program**

**Google Slides ~ In-Person**

Google Slides is an online presentation editor similar to PowerPoint. In this class, you will learn to create and edit presentations online. Several users may collaborate on one presentation. This may be a great way to produce a polished presentation for a club, organization, birthday, reunion, wedding and more.

To access Google Slides you will need to set up a free gmail account BEFORE coming to class. Please bring your gmail password to log on to your gmail at Founders Hall.

You may bring your own laptop to the class if you prefer. Please check to be sure you can access Google Slides on your laptop.

Monday 3:00-4:30PM  
First Class: March 25  
Instructor: Anita Vallee  
Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

**Photoshop Workshop ~ In-Person and on Zoom**

This course is offered to those who have taken Photoshop 3. Now use your skills to work on your own photos with guided help.

Tuesday 10:30AM-12:00PM  
First Class: March 26  
Instructor: Toni McKeen  
Fee: $35/$42NR (10 Sessions)

**Open Tech Lab**

Need help with computer classes or electronic devices? A volunteer will be in the Computer Lab on many Fridays from 2-4PM to answer questions and assist you.

Please sign up at the front desk by 4:30 on the Thursday before attending.

Fridays 2:00-4:00PM  
No fee