

The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of a spider web. The web is intricate and delicate, with many fine strands. It is set against a textured, brownish-grey surface that looks like sand or a similar granular material. Three dried leaves are scattered across the scene. One leaf is in the upper right, another in the lower left, and a third in the lower center. The leaves are mostly brown and yellow, with some blue and green tints, suggesting they have been preserved or treated. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the web and the surface.

The Renaissance
Society of Sacramento
fall.catalog.2021

patterns

Our theme for this Fall 2021 catalog, "Patterns in Life and Nature," has evolved from last Spring's catalog which focused on "Reflections." Reflections are some of the most prominent of life's patterns, with others being waves, dunes, spirals, cracks, spots, stripes, the patterns of a plant's blossoms and seeds, and the patterns in history, art, science, and mathematics. Patterns are everywhere, circling and returning anew, giving us calming beauty. Producing the catalogs for the 2020-21 Zoom environment has taught us that paying attention to patterns is much of what lies at the heart of deep learning.

In 1952, Omar Sharif noted: "The more we observe patterns, the more we connect the dots and make sense out of them, the more we learn."



This repetition of design and patterns and connecting the dots, relates to an extraordinary aspect of our lives with the Renaissance Society: "Come for the programs, stay for the connections." Whether the rewards obtained are academic or social or both, for many of us the Renaissance Society regularly serves up reoccurring themes—dots that have been or are being connected. Some moments, or "peak experiences" as originally labeled by Abraham Maslow in 1964, are the joys that come from moments of understanding or learning and connecting with something or someone new. That is, understanding what brings knowledge of oneself and the world provides a deeper understanding and satisfaction with life, often in the company of fellow travelers,

is what makes lifelong learning so joyful and valuable.

We, and all of our 1800 members, invite you to join us this Fall 2021. We guarantee the potential for connecting many dots, meeting new friends, and having opportunities to learn about some deeply satisfying patterns.

We look forward to sharing the Fall Semester with you!

Allan Keown and Cindy Suchanek
Co-Chairs, Program Committee

**Kelsey Maher, Karen Martin,
and Lorene Sarne**
Catalog Editors

The **page numbers** are live links. If you click on them, you will be directed to the first page of the applicable section in the catalog.

contents

Welcome to the Sacramento Renaissance Society.....	2
Become a Part of the Renaissance Society Community.....	4
Fall 2021 Program Schedule At-A-Glance.....	11
Our Programs	11
Seminars.....	18
Shared Interested Groups.....	36
Presentations.....	43
Forums.....	53
Diversity and Inclusion.....	59
How Do I Register?.....	61
Making a Difference	67
Who Volunteers at the Renaissance Society?.....	69
Member FAQs.....	70
What's Next for Your Renaissance Society of Sacramento?.....	71
Leader and Facilitator Directory.....	73
Index by Topic or Issue Area	76
General Index by Program	79

A Special Thank You to Our Featured Artist, David J. Grenier!

Renaissance member and renowned photographer, David J. Grenier, is our catalog's Featured Artist. His photographs encapsulate our theme of patterns in Northern California and beyond. As it was difficult for the catalog committee to select just one photo for our cover, we recommend visiting his portfolio at www.davidjgrenier.com.

His work is also featured on pages 5 and 82.



welcome

to the Sacramento Renaissance Society



The 2020-2021 Renaissance Society (RS) academic year was a time of transformation, reinvention, and change due to the worldwide pandemic. The physical to virtual classroom shift was a huge undertaking accomplished by over 300 RS volunteers. Over 1,800 RS members joined our lifelong learning organization and registered for a record 27,785 programs, which was twice the previous annual program enrollment record. The virtual classroom broke down barriers of distance, commuting, traffic, searching for parking spaces, and mobility and accessibility issues. As a result, 5% of our members attended programs from 17 states, 76 California cities, and even one international member from Paris, France.

At our May 10th, 2021, first virtual RS Annual General Meeting, Sac State President Robert S. Nelsen welcomed RS members back to the campus this Fall 2021 semester. In his opening remarks, President Nelsen shared how he missed having RS on campus. The President made a point of reaching out to me as board president to keep RS updated on the “repopulation” of the campus when it is safe for members.

In anticipation of an eventual return to campus, this March RS created a “Hybrid” Working Group (HWG) of board and committee members to begin the identification of questions and finding answers for the campus reentry issues. During our monthly meetings, a few factors became crystal clear. RS members want to return to campus as soon as possible for social interaction and face-to-face lifelong learning. Members also enjoy the flexibility of taking more than two or three classes on Fridays and Saturdays.

The schedule expansion from Monday through Saturday greatly increased members’ ability to register for more programs. The current enrollments will not fit in the available Friday and Saturday campus classrooms. Many members enjoy having the ability to have Zoom programs in addition to the physical classroom sessions. In keeping with the direction of the California State University system, the HWG is designing a “hybrid” system that offers both physical and virtual programs.

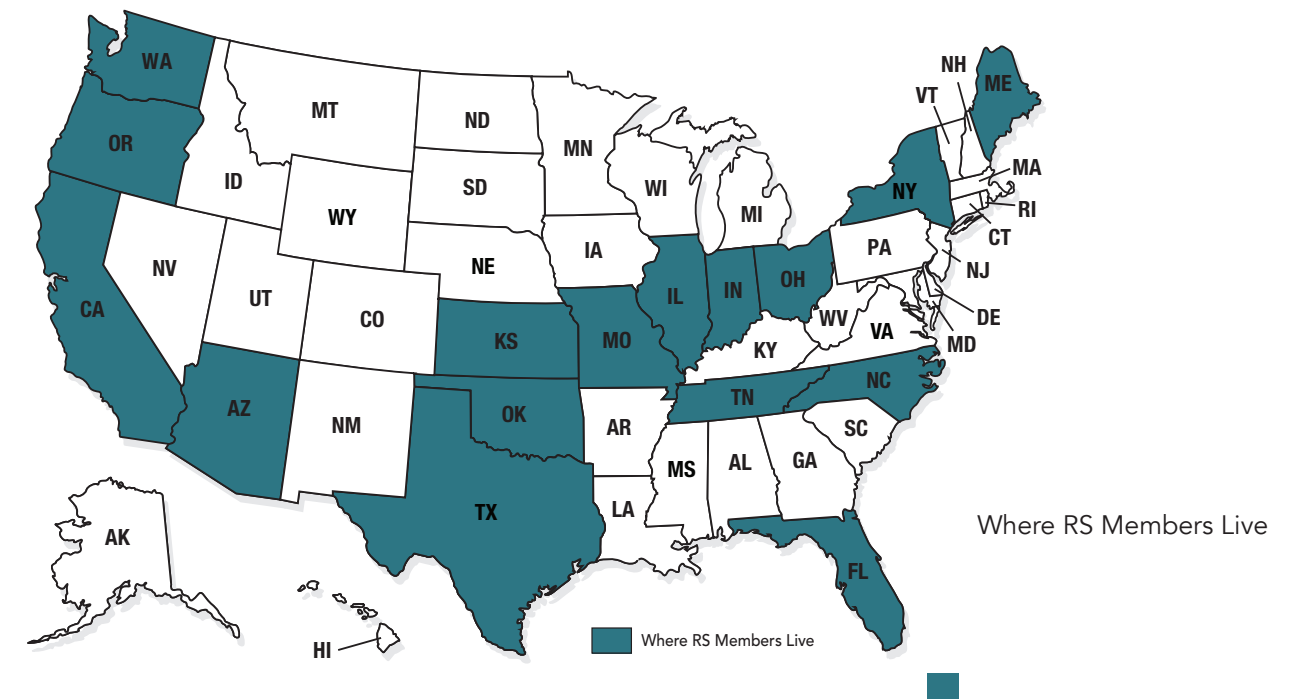
We hope to be back to full speed by the Spring 2022 semester. Our **Program Registration** portal is scheduled to open Monday, August 16th. The semiannual **virtual Orientation & Rendezvous** will be held 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, August 20th on Zoom. Our **first programs** will begin Tuesday, September 7th.

Please reach out to your friends and associates to share this Renaissance Society lifelong learning opportunity. Surveys show that most of our new members hear about RS from a friend. The RS Board of Directors is asking each member, new or renewing, to reach out to five friends to share the RS story. This is one of the best gifts that you can give a friend—lifelong learning, socialization, service, and fun. Please reach out and **“Everyone Bring One”** new friend to participate in this year’s programs.

Thank you to those who have already renewed your annual Renaissance Society membership. Welcome to the new members who have joined or are thinking about joining RS for our year-round programs and services. I look forward to seeing you this fall to learn, connect, and share.

Ken Cross, Board President

The Renaissance Society of Sacramento



become a part of

the Renaissance Society Community

Our Society Annual Membership fee is \$100. We offer:

- A lively community of curious adults eager to pursue their passion for lifelong learning, community, and service.
- Unlimited access to hundreds of engaging seminars, talks, discussions, workshops, presentations, documentaries, hands-on activities, and community forums offered six-days a week.
- Exciting ways to connect with friends, old and new, through our Renaissance Society Facebook group; *The Recorder*, our monthly newsletter; Constant Contact email blasts; and virtual hangouts with other aficionados of food, travel, games, books, the arts, film and other “Shared Interest Groups.”
- Opportunities to give back to the community by participating in a committee, coordinating a seminar or program, giving to the ASI Food Pantry and Student Scholarships, and other services to the University.

How to Join: Our Annual Membership Registration Portal opened Tuesday, June 1, 2021. The program registration portal opens Monday, August 16, 2021. Our programs begin Tuesday, September 7, 2021, though we may have a sprinkling of events the week before to tease your appetite.

Just follow this link to our website: <https://www.csus.edu/college/social-sciences-interdisciplinary-studies/renaissance-society/membership-open.html#how-to-join-renaissance>

Questions? For general membership questions: phone or email renaissa@csus.edu or 916-758-5133.

How to join the Renaissance Society if you are not a member

Two enrollment options:

- Online, with a credit card payment.
- Mail, with a paper application and check to the Renaissance Society office.

The online process is simple and secure. By following the prompts on each page, the system will ask for credit card information to make your payment. The information is not retained once your transaction is complete.

join us

Follow the link to enroll online.

<https://www.csus.edu/college/social-sciences-interdisciplinary-studies/renaissance-society/membership-open.html#join-online>

Paper: Here is a [link to the form](#). Use this form for either new or renewal memberships. Or print out the form in the e-catalog. Mail enrollment form to the office with your check payable to the Renaissance Society.

The Renaissance Society
California State University, Sacramento
6000 J Street, Mail Stop 6074
Sacramento, California 95819-6074

“I recently retired from a career in the world of ballet and dance. I danced professionally, ran several of my own studios, and served as a university dance professor for over 50 years...Thanks for bringing me into such a wonderful organization that has given me many gifts of learning, insight, joy, and being with truly lovely folks.”

—Mary Price Boday



Organizational Integrity

We provide innovative, affordable, and flexible learning opportunities for our members And, are committed to high operational standards, transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement.

Gratitude and Appreciation

We are a friendly organization and extend a warm welcome to those with whom we come in contact. We believe in and practice the values of gratitude and appreciation for each other and all others with whom we interact.

Respect

We treat each member and all of Sac State students, faculty, administrators, and staff with the utmost respect.

Service

We are dedicated to serving each other, the Sacramento State community, the Greater Sacramento Region, and now, friends well-beyond our regional boundaries.



The Renaissance Society

1986-2021

Initially, Bob Heilman, professor of Social Work, Peg McKoane, Dean of Students, and other Sac State faculty first envisioned a center for learning in retirement. President Donald Gerth and his wife Beverly shared this passion for lifelong learning and enthusiastically supported the idea.

background

Origin 1986

President Gerth chaired the first meeting of The Renaissance Society on March 25, 1986. Four seminars and one Forum launched that year.

Scholarship Fund 1993

We developed a scholarship fund for students in fields related to gerontology.

Gerontology 1996

Renaissance Society volunteers first engaged in a Gerontology course, which eventually inspired the Elder Mentor Program in 2007.

CCE Electronic Enrollment and Registration 2016

Jeff Hendy, Tom Holt, and Alan Kreeger worked with Sac State College of Continuing Education (CCE) to use their system for registration and member enrollment.

ASI Food Pantry Donations Begin 2017

In partnership with Associated Students Inc. (ASI) the Society begin soliciting donations from members for students who are food insecure. First year contributions amounted to more than \$15,000. We reached total donations worth more than \$60,000 as of June 2020.

Scholarship Fund Passes \$200,000 Mark 2018

Doug Fulton's estate left a \$25,000 bequest to the Scholarship Fund in February 2018. Since we awarded our first scholarship in 1993, we have presented over 100 scholarships.

Virtual Program 2020/2021

In response to the pandemic, we cancelled all our in-person programs in March 2020. We created virtual catalogs and a thriving online learning environment leading to a hybrid environment in the latter half of 2021.

our programs

...where the learning begins!

Renaissance Society Seminars, Shared Interest Groups, Presentations, and Forums. Sign-up for as many programs as you want. Unless there is a time conflict, registration will allow you to enjoy them all!

flexibility as we celebrate our hybrid community...

The fascinating, informative, funny, and entertaining programs that have always been the heart and soul of Renaissance continue.

We are lucky to be in a technology-strong era and will continue to use that technology to deliver our programs in the safety and comfort of our own homes for the majority of our programs. We will Zoom, primarily. It is not difficult to use. You will get directions from your program leaders. As we all get more comfortable using Zoom you'll discover new avenues of connecting with classmates through discussion groups, breakout rooms, and other interactive tools. As a note, most of our programs will also be recorded and available for viewing later on our member website.

As much as we had hoped that we'd be able to begin our transition back to campus, on August 9th the board made the very difficult and prudent decision not to go back to Sacramento State. Taking into account health and safety concerns relative to the ongoing pandemic, the board will monitor and make appropriate decisions for our Spring 2022 semester.

at-a-glance program schedule

What follows is an at-a-glance schedule that sets forth all our remarkable Fall 2021 programs by day of the week so that you can manage your schedule. We offer four types of programs: **Seminars**, **Shared Interest Groups**, **Presentations** and **Forums**.


Our **Seminars** are led by one or more Renaissance Society members. Each is a series ranging from three to twelve weeks, focused on one subject. There are almost fifty seminars. The seminars that we had hoped to offer on campus will most likely be offered on zoom.

We have also arranged eighteen **Shared Interest Groups** that include various activities and interests centering on what people enjoy doing together, such as photography, games, walking, reading, writing, eating, drinking, and travel, etc. With an abundance of caution, and in compliance with COVID-19 guidelines, some of these great groups may be put on hold for all or part of the Fall Semester.

Our increasingly popular one-time **Presentations** program features a variety of topics given by Renaissance Society members as well as community speakers. The program totals 30 presentations—17 *Community Presentations* and 13 presentations in the *Tuesday Speakers Series*, each of which is open to the community.

Our premier speakers' program—**Forums**—will again feature a stellar group of speakers from our local community and beyond, just as it has since our founding in 1986. The **two Forums** that are open to the public are color coded for your ease of reference in the At-a-Glance Program Schedule.

This array of incredible educational opportunities allows you to take as many programs as you want—as long as they don't have a time conflict. This fall we'll be limited only by our interests, curiosity, and level of energy, not by physical space or date and time. How extraordinary!

The **page numbers** in the at-a-glance program schedule are live links. If you click on them, you will be directed to the page that contains that specific program—Seminar, SIG, Presentation, or Forum. 

MONDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE				
Time	Title	Leader Name	Start Date	Pg#
Seminar Coordinators: Allan Keown and Cindy Suchanek				
9–Noon	Roger Ebert's Great Movies: The Ones That Got away?	Gerry Camp	Sept 13–Dec 6	20
10–11:30 am	Big History: Continuing the Story of Us and the Universe We Live in	Ranny Eckstrom, David Lewis	Sept 13–Dec 6	30
10–11:30 am	Happy Losers Club for Emotional Overeaters	Mimi Dixon	Sept 13–Oct 18	28
10–Noon	Racial Healing Circle: Conversations on Race	Stacie Walton, Gretchen Jung	Sept 13–Dec 6	24
Noon–1 pm	What Is behind the US Markets and Economy?	Sanjay Varshney	Sept 13–Oct 18	27
2–3:30 pm	Growing California Natives in Our Yards	Bonnie Gault-Blue	Sept 13–Sept 27	33
Shared Interest Groups				
Noon–1:30 pm	Corporate Accountability: Restoring the Balance	Jim McRitchie	Sept 13–Dec 1	37
1–2:30 pm (yr.-round monthly)	Book Group: First Monday Book Group	Carol Hayes, Ann Blazina	Sept 13–Dec 6	36

TUESDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE				
Time	Title	Leader Name	Start Date	Pg#
Seminars				
10–11 am	Active Retirement Investing: Session 1	Bill Bailey, Marsha Holland	Sept 7 - Oct 12	26
10–11 am	Active Retirement Investing: Session 2	Bill Bailey, Marsha Holland	Oct 26–Dec 7	26
10–11:30 am	Ancient Egypt - 3100 BCE to 30 CE	David Lewis	Sept 7–Nov 30	30
10–Noon	Let's Write Some Songs: History and Practice of Songwriting	Al Zagofsky	Sept 7–Nov 30	20
2–3:30 pm	Wisdom Questions	Mimi Dixon	Sept 7–Nov 9	28
Shared Interest Groups				
9:30–11 am (yr.-round monthly)	Book Group: Tuesday Book Club	Marian Kile	Sept 7–Dec 14	37
10–Noon	Digital Photography (6 classes, 5 field trips)	Jane Steele, Colleen Wong	Sept 14–Nov 30	38
Noon–2 pm (yr.-round weekly)	Writer's Workshop II (P)	Anita Adams, Lani Hahn	Sept 7–Dec 7	41
2–4 pm (First Tues each month)	Book Group: Great Books Discussion Group	Steven DeBry	Sept 7–Dec 7	37
4–5 pm	Qi Gong	Diana Loo	Sept 7–Oct 14	40
7–8:30 pm	Art of the Portrait	Julia Stagg	Oct 5–Nov 16	36

Tuesday Speakers Series				
2–3:45 pm	Fatal Encounters with Police	William Vizzard	Sept 7	49
2–3:45 pm	China: Regional Dominance by 2030	Jerry Glasser	Sept 14	49
2–3:45 pm	The Science of a Happy Dog	Emma Grigg	Sept 21	49
2–3:45 pm	Whatever Happened to The News, Fact, Opinion, & Lies	Jennifer Kerr	Sept 28	50
2–3:45 pm	A Room with a View, Please! Living and Housing Options as We Age	Rene Balcom	Oct 5	50
2–3:45 pm	The Civil War Reconstruction	Cathy Minicucci	Oct 12	50
2–3:45 pm	Our California Budget	Russ S. Gould	Oct 19	50
2–3:45 pm	<i>Butch Cassidy, Sundance, and Etta: Not the Movie Ending</i>	Jack Jennings	Oct 26	51
2–3:45 pm	Inside Elections and How They Work	Deborah Seiler	Nov 2	51
2–3:45 pm	California's Delta Water Crisis	David Abelson	Nov 9	51
2–3:45 pm	The Second Reconstruction: How the Civil Rights Movement ended Jim Crow Laws in the South	Cathy Minicucci	Nov 16	52
2–3:45 pm	Could the Civil War Have Been Avoided?	Doug Bonetti	Nov 30	52
2–3:45 pm	US Firearms Policy	William Vizzard	Dec 7	52

WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE				
Time	Title	Leader Name	Start Date	Pg#
Seminars				
10–11 am	Using Your iPhone/iPad IRL (In Real Life)	Tom Holt	Sept 8–Dec 1	35
10–Noon	Photography as Art (program closed to new participants)	Roger Klemm, Mary Elliott-Klemm	Sept 8–Oct 13	42
Noon–1: 30 pm	The American Revolution: From Colony to Independent Nation	Catherine Minicucci	Sept 8–Sept 22	30
Noon–1:30 pm	The Origins of the Judeo-Christian Tradition	Ed Sherman	Oct 20–Dec 1	31
2–3:30 pm	James Joyce's Ulysses	Daniel Rooney, Jean Cawood	Sept 8–Dec 1	21
7–8:30 pm	The Economist	Wayne Luney	Sept 8–Dec 1	27
Shared Interest Groups				
9:25–11 am (yr.-round weekly)	Walkabouts	Lance Muller, Donna Eash	Sept 8–Nov 17	40
11 am–1 pm	Le Cercle Français (Conversational French)	Debra daCosta	Sept 8–Dec 15	39
5:30–7:30 pm (yr.-round monthly)	Dining Together (2nd Wednesday or 3rd Thursday)	Cheryl Nelson	Sept 8–Dec 8	38

Community Presentations				
6:30–8:30 pm (Yr.-round - dates/times vary)	A Cook's Tour Returns! (Dates and times vary)	Maryellen Burns, Dan Cross	Sept 22 (First Meeting only)	44

THURSDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE				
Time	Title	Leader Name	Start Date	Pg#
Seminars				
10–Noon	iPhone Photography Experimental Studio (prerequisite required)	Melissa Green, Cynthia Nicholson	Oct 28–Dec 9	34
10–Noon	Relationships: How to Build Strong, Healthy, Loving Relationships	Nanci Kuzins, Anamaria Pasquiers	Sept 9–Dec 2	28
10–Noon	Reforming American National Government	Robert Benedetti Gerald McDaniel	Sept 9–Dec 2	24
10–Noon	World of Engineering	Richard Dabrowiak	Sept 9–Dec 2	35
Noon–1 pm	Learning and Listening	Laura Gaeta	Sept 9–Sept 23	28
Noon–1:30 pm	Popular Economics for the Common Good	Duane Campbell, Carl Pinkston	Sept 9–Nov 11	26
2–3:30 pm	The Banality of Evil: Racism, Prejudice, and Fascism: the Original Sins	Greg Beale	Sept 9–Dec 2	22
2–4 pm	All That Jazz—Classic to Cool	Bob Lang	Sept 9–Dec 9	18
2–4 pm	Planning a Personal Holiday through France, in 2022	Annik Gunter	Sept 9–Oct 14	20
Shared Interest Groups				
9:30–11:30 am	Writers Group 1 (program closed to new participants)	Curtis Nelson, Marian Kile	Sept 7–Dec 16	42
10–Noon	Spanish Conversation, Advanced (Pre-requisite)	JoAnn Peter	Sept 9–Dec 2	40
1–3 pm (yr.- round weekly)	Games for Entertainment	Roberta Frieze, Judy Keaton	Sept 9–Dec 16	38
1:30–2:30 pm (yr.-round monthly)	Book Group: Partners in Crime (program closed to new participants)	Lynda Cassady, Pat Stokes	Sept 23–Nov 18	41
Community Presentations				
11–Noon	Bits and Pieces - Art Doodles: Paint a Whimsical Tree for All Seasons with Kathy	Kathy Hart	Sept 23	45
11–Noon	Bits and Pieces - Watercolor Doodles: Pumpkins and Fall Flowers with Kathy	Kathy Hart	Oct 28	45
11–Noon	Bits and Pieces - Watercolor Doodles: Paint Fall Foliage with Kathy	Kathy Hart	Nov 18	45
7–8:30 pm	Chad Taylor: Carmel's Silent, Unknown, Pop Art Futurist	Bruce Marwick	Sept 16	43
7–8:30 pm	Architectural Tile & Terra Cotta: From a 3,000 Mile Road Trip	Bruce Marwick	Oct 14	44
7–8:30 pm	Drinking with Jane Austen	Richard Foss	Nov 18	45

FRIDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

Time	Title	Leader Name	Start Date	Pg#
Seminars				
9:30–Noon	Sweet, Sweet Science Fiction: Feature Films	Chip Zempel	Sept 10–Dec 3	21
9:30–Noon	"Top 10" U.S. Domestic Issues & Potential Solutions	Ken Cross	Sept 10–Dec 10	24
10–11 am	Android Basics	Carol Limbaga, Victoria Star	Sept 10–Dec 3	32
10–11:30 am	Biracial/Multicultural Identity in America	Darryl Omar Freeman	Sept 10–Dec 10	22
10–11:30 am	Bob Dylan: The Man; the Music; the Masks; and the Myths	David Abelson	Sept 10–Dec 3	18
10–11:30 am	What the Constitution Means to Them	Ron Tochterman, Steve Felderstein	Sept 10–Dec 3	25
10–11:30 am	As Long as Space/Time Endures, A Buddhist Practice Journey	Gus Koehler	Nov 12–Dec 3	32
10–Noon	Cities of the Ancient World	Marty Keale	Sept 17–Oct 22	31
10–Noon	Invisible Threads and Hidden Walls of Time	Gus Koehler	Sept 17–Oct 22	34
10–Noon	Climate Chaos and the Individual	Donald Forrester	Oct 29–Dec 3	33
Noon–1:30 pm	Cracker Barrel	Anita Fante, Per Ostlund	Sept 10–Dec 3	23
Noon–1:30 pm	Electric Life: Exploring the Biology of Heart and Mind	Edward Moczydlowski	Sept 10–Dec 3	33
Noon–1:30 pm	Great American Trials and Constitutional Law	Joel Primes	Sept 10–Dec 3	23
Noon–1:30 pm	Transportation and American Government in the 20th and 21st Centuries	Arthur Bauer	Oct 1–Nov 5	25
Noon–2 pm	A Celebration of the Composers and Singers of The Great American Songbook 2.0!	Mike Agron	Sept 10–Dec 10	19
2–3:30 pm	Creating Connections through Sharing Life Stories	Karen Gierlach	Nov 5–Dec 17	27
Shared Interest Groups				
10–11:30 am (yr.-round weekly)	High Intermediate Spanish (program closed to new participants)	Melody Flores	Sept 10–Dec 17	41
10–Noon	Book Group: Great Books Shared Interest Group (program closed to new participants)	Jean Cawood, Dan Rooney	Sept 10–Dec 10	42
Noon–1:30 pm (yr.-round biweekly)	A Guided Tour of the University Arboretum	Donna Eash, Michael Baad	Sept 10–Dec 13	39

seminars

Our Seminars are led by one or more Renaissance Society members. Each is a series ranging from three to twelve weeks, focused on one subject. Working ability to use the internet and Zoom is required for most seminars. If your seminar is transitioning to an in-person session, your leader will reach out to you.

Art, Entertainment, Food, and Travel

All That Jazz—Classic to Cool

Bob Lang
Thursdays, Sept 9 to Dec 9 (13 weeks)
2 to 4 pm

“All That Jazz—Classic to Cool” is a revised version of one of Bob Lang’s music appreciation classes. A history of jazz music, it will explore genres including traditional jazz performed in New Orleans, Chicago, and Harlem; the Swing era, Progressive Jazz, Bebop, Cool, modern forms, and vocal jazz. Peppered throughout are audio and video examples, jazz anecdotes, curios, and interview excerpts with various jazz personalities conducted by Lang during his career as a radio disc jockey in the 1970s. You’ll hear the voices of the actual jazzmen and the remembrances of their musical experiences! Plus, Bob’s Bonus Tracks!

Bob Lang spent the 1970s and 1980s as a radio disc jockey and television writer/producer and on-air host. He taught media classes for the Sacramento Community College District and was a corporate trainer. Lang has written three books, and plays guitar in the Sacramento classic rock horn band, On Air.



Bob Dylan: The Man; the Music; the Masks; and the Myths

David Abelson
Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 3 (12 weeks)
10 to 11:30 am

While we had hoped for this class to be back on campus, due to covid concerns, this class will be offered via Zoom.

Bob Dylan has influenced modern culture for over 60 years. As a singer/songwriter he has received numerous awards and honors including the Recording Academy’s Lifetime Achievement Award, the Presidential Medal of Honor, and the Nobel Prize in Literature. Despite his life-long fame, many aspects of Dylan’s creative genius remain shrouded in mystery. This seminar will examine his entire career, including his earliest influences, constantly changing musical styles, and ever-shifting public persona. Weekly presentations will include music, films, books, and photos that capture the life of a truly gifted artist—Bob Dylan. In celebrating Mr. Dylan’s 80th birthday this year, there is much to teach and much to learn about as well. This includes four new books by esteemed Dylan scholars released within the past few months.

David Abelson will lead this seminar on Bob Dylan. Since joining the Renaissance Society in 2012, David has taught numerous 12-week courses, including two previous seminars on Mr. Dylan. He also served on the RS Board of Directors for seven years, holding various offices including president, vice president, and current past president.

A Celebration of the Composers and Singers of The Great American Songbook 2.0!

Michael Agron
Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 3 (12 weeks)
Noon to 2 pm

While we had hoped for this class to be back on campus, due to covid concerns, this class will be offered via Zoom.

Join me to celebrate America’s great music as composed by Irving Berlin; Dorothy Fields; The Gershwin Brothers; Cole Porter; Rodgers & Hart; Johnny Mercer; Harold Arlen; Frank Loesser; Rodgers & Hammerstein; Duke Ellington & Billy Strayhorn; Steven Sondheim; and Lerner & Lowe; etc. We’ll hear recordings and watch videos from legendary and contemporary singers who popularized these iconic tunes from Broadway, film, pop, jazz and rock. I’ve enhanced three special sessions. The first explores the Women of Tin Pan Alley. The second explores how this music intersects with entertainment, politics, and social justice. Finally, the third celebrates many of our favorite timeless holiday songs from the Great American Songbook composers and singers.

Mike Agron grew up in Los Angeles, the heart of the recording, TV, and film industry. This baby boomer’s exposure to and love of music and entertainment started at a very young age. He has been fortunate to fulfill his musical passions by offering his unique and popular seminars over seven times to the Renaissance Society.



Let's Write Some Songs: History and Practice of Songwriting

Al Zagofsky
Tuesdays, Sept 7 to Nov 30 (12 weeks)
10 to Noon

You too, can write a song. You don't have to read music. Most songwriters, including notable composers such as Irving Berlin and all four Beatles, couldn't read music. Learn how Paul Simon, Paul McCartney, Peter Dinklage, Mike Stoller, Jerry Leiber, and other songwriters created songs like *The Sounds of Silence*, *Yesterday*, and *Puff the Magic Dragon*. We will also discuss commercial vs. noncommercial music and the rise and fall of the Tin Pan Alley and Brill Building songwriting factories.

Al Zagofsky has written more than 100 songs. He has no training in either songwriting or music, which qualifies him to teach this subject, as it doesn't take any training to be a songwriter. In addition to this seminar, Al has taught Renaissance Society classes in *movement awareness*, *storytelling*, and *journalism*.

Planning a Personal Holiday through France, in 2022

Annik Gunter
Thursdays, Sept 9 to Oct 14 (6 weeks)
2 to 4 pm

In this course, participants will: Plan 4 days in Paris with short daily trips to Versailles, Chartres, and Monet's Giverny; and plan 3-4 days in Brittany / Normandy/ Mont- Saint Michel / Atlantic Aquitaine (La Rochelle - Islands of Ré and Oléron/ Bordeaux). Participants will discover some weekly trips to Basque Country/ Pyrenées/ Provence/ Cote d'Azur/ Route Napoléon/ Vallée du Rhone/ Lyon / Alps / Jura / Vosges / Alsace/ and Eastern Northern France. In each region, several types of transportation will be suggested, but trips can best be done through booked trains. Special cultural events, folklore festivals, and famous local sites and towns will be listed. Participants will choose their own hotels, restaurants, and train tickets. Additionally, participants also will secure their own "Vaccination Passport."

Professor Annik Gunter is a native of France, a long-time educator, a global world traveler, a student of life, and a happy artist. Emeritus Professor from Sac State, PhD in linguistics and Fulbright Associate in Comparative Literature. She is a member of the Pastel Society of the West Coast, Sierra Pastel Society, NCA, WASH.

Roger Ebert's Great Movies: The Ones That Got Away?

Gerry Camp
Mondays, Sept 13 to Dec 6 (12 weeks)
10 to Noon

Last semester we shared a dozen great movies. But we didn't see *The African Queen*, *Hard Day's Night*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, or anything by Buster Keaton. We didn't see Gerry's favorite movie, *Seven Samurai*, or the funniest movie of all, *Some Like It Hot*. We missed *The Third Man*, the great opera movie *Carmen*, and Orson Welles' great Shakespeare movie *Chimes at Midnight*. Will we see those this semester? Perhaps, but this is a promise: We'll enjoy and discuss a dozen or more great movies you won't want to miss.



PLEASE NOTE: To ensure that you will be able to (a) see a complete feature film and (b) facilitate your scheduling, the Seminar Leader will email you with an earlier start time—9 am.

Gerry Camp started his professional life as a high school English teacher. He later worked as a curriculum specialist for the Department of Defense Dependents Schools in Europe. He loves Shakespeare and great movies.

Sweet, Sweet Science Fiction: Feature Films

Chip Zempel
Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 3 (12 weeks)
10 to Noon

While we had hoped for this class to be back on campus, due to covid concerns, this class will be offered via Zoom.

Say "Science Fiction" and most of us think of rocket ships traveling at warp speed, robot uprisings, or post-apocalyptic futures. But "speculative fiction" can be so much more, offering new perspectives on such human experiences as falling in love, coming of age, or dealing with loss and grief. This semester we'll explore some of these possibilities, watching foreign, indie, and little-known classics that use the future to teach us about our present.

PLEASE NOTE: (1) In this Friday session, we'll watch and discuss feature films. (2) To ensure that you will be able to (a) see a complete feature film and (b) facilitate your scheduling, the Seminar Leader will email you with an earlier start time—9:30 am.

Chip Zempel has been leading film appreciation seminars for Renaissance Society for six years. He specializes in unusual "genre busters" that don't fit standard categories. Past seminars have ranged from a comparison of samurai films and westerns, to documentaries, animation for grown-ups, time travel movies, romantic comedies, and magical realism.



Books, Language, and Literature

James Joyce's Ulysses

Daniel Rooney
Co-leader: Jean Cawood
Wednesdays, Sept 8 to Dec 1 (12 weeks)
2 to 3:30 pm

Participants will continue to read and discuss Joyce's masterpiece, *Ulysses*, during the fall semester. The seminar will be anchored around the *Teaching Company Great Courses* video lectures by well-known Joyce scholar, Professor James A. Heffernan of Dartmouth College. Participants will use the Gabler edition, available on Amazon. Participants will be encouraged to supplement discussion with short presentations on relevant topics, such as Bloomsday, Irish History, and Joyce's works. Outside speakers may be invited.

Dan Rooney has been a Renaissance Society member since 2006. He is a retired attorney and a graduate of Northwestern Pritzker School of Law. He has an abiding interest in Irish history and literature and has visited Ireland a number of times.

Jean Cawood joined the Renaissance Society in 1999 retiring as a high school resource specialist. She has helped to coordinate the *Great Books* seminar since 2001, co-led a seminar on the book *Don Quixote* from 2011-2012, and is currently tech host for Dan Rooney's *Ulysses* class.

Contemporary Thought: Local and Global Perspectives

The Banality of Evil: Racism, Prejudice, and Fascism: the Original Sins

Greg Beale

Thursdays, Sept 9 to Dec 2 (12 weeks)
2 to 3:30 pm

January 6, 2021, is a date that will live in infamy. For the first time in American History our Capitol was attacked by a mob bent on upending an election and destroying democracy. What were the reasons for this calamity? What drove people to do the unthinkable? The answer lies in a study of racism, prejudice, and fascism. That's right, FASCISM...that word from WWII. America has flirted with it before; and apparently again, it raises its ugly head. The foundation of fascism is racism and prejudice. Fascism needs a foil, a reason to fester and grow, and its fertilizer is racism and prejudice.

Greg Beale has taught several seminars for the Renaissance Society. He studies how racism and prejudice has to have affected groups of people throughout the world. He has years of experience in education ranging from teaching to administering programs in mostly lower socio-economic schools. He has practical experience dealing with the social, economic, and political implications of racism, prejudice, and fascism.



Biracial/Multicultural Identity in America

Darryl Omar Freeman

Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 10 (13 weeks)
10 to 11:30 am

This seminar will explore how biracial/multiethnic people navigate life in our diverse society. We will examine how these individuals deal with the ramifications of past discriminatory public policies and public perceptions while developing their personal identity. We will also examine the changing social and political status of interracial relations in this society and how it affects those who participate in those relationships as they navigate life in our diverse society.

Darryl Omar Freeman, is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Ethnic Studies at California State University, Sacramento. He is an accomplished writer, speaker, and social/political issues researcher. His scholastic work focuses on issues of public policy, transformation, and racial/ethnic identity development in our developing U. S. society.

Cracker Barrel

Anita Fante

Co-leader: Per Ostlund

Friday, Sept 10 to Dec 3 (12 weeks)

Noon to 1:30 pm

While we had hoped for this class to be back on campus, due to covid concerns, this class will be offered via Zoom.

This is a year-round, weekly discussion group that emphasizes thoughtful dialogue on current social, political, economic, and cultural issues. Participation in class discussion is not required, but desirable. Prerequisites include good listening skills as well as a tolerance and patience for the values and beliefs expressed by others. Once registered, participants may treat it as a drop-in class.

Anita Fante has been an active member of the Cracker Barrel for more than 10 years. Since the pandemic, she helped set up and administer the group starting in the summer of 2020. She has a background in public affairs management for the State of California.

Per Ostlund has moderated the Cracker Barrel for more than 5 years.



Great American Trials and Constitutional Law

Joel Primes

Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 3 (12 weeks)

Noon to 1:30 pm

If you want to know more about the law and how it works, please join me in exploring some of the great American trials. Each class session discusses a major case and specific area of law. Participants will be able to request a specific case or area of law to be covered. Each step of the case will be broken down to explain and understand how the legal system works. This seminar is fun for all!

Joel Primes enjoyed a 37-year career in the California Attorney General's office representing the Department of Consumer Affairs licensing agencies. He also served as a temporary Sacramento County Superior Court judge and a member of the Appellate Mediation Panel for the Third District Court of Appeal. Joel is currently in private practice.

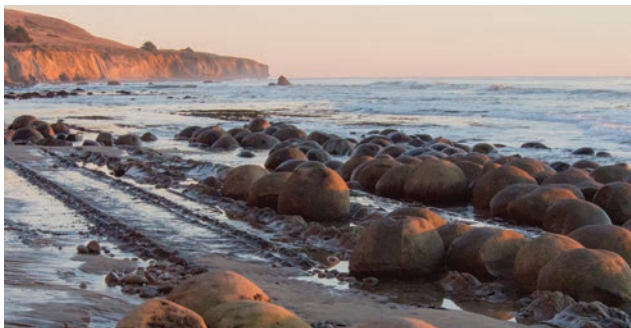
Racial Healing Circle: Conversations on Race

Stacie Walton
Co-leader: Gretchen Jung
Mondays, Sept 13 to Dec 6 (12 weeks)
10 to Noon

Racism is the elephant in the room. As racism is an obvious problem in our society, we can choose not to discuss it, observe it from afar, or dance with it. In this interactive seminar, we choose to dance, creating courageous conversations that put racism front and center. We use the Circle Process, adopted from indigenous practices, as our model for dialogue. The Circle Process creates a safe space for both racial dialogue and, ultimately, racial healing, which is central to restorative justice. This 12-week seminar includes discussions about, but is not limited to, active listening, the socialization and internalization of race, the nature and maintenance of relationships across racial differences, as well as practical suggestions to help navigate this landscape.

Stacie Walton has immersed herself in training related to racial healing, restorative justice, and trauma awareness and healing. In 2018 she co-founded a Coming to the Table local group in West Sacramento, which is structured to bring people together to have brave conversations about race and racial healing.

Gretchen Jung has been an active participant in social justice work for over 30 years. Her most recent activism includes Coming to the Table Racial Healing Circles, Sacramento Area Congregation Together (ACT) social justice group, and facilitating book groups and film groups on social justice themes at the Center for Spiritual Awareness church.



Reforming American National Government

Robert Benedetti
Co-leader: Gerald McDaniel
Thursdays, Sept 9 to Dec 2 (12 weeks)
10 to Noon

Before the 2020 election, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences published *Our Common Purpose: Reinventing American Democracy for the 21st Century*. The seventy-page report offered six clusters of reforms suggested by a non-partisan panel; most would not require constitutional amendments. These clusters include redesigning the House of Representatives, renewing voting procedures, improving citizen deliberation, stimulating civic leadership, community service and civic events, and civic education. After reading portions of the report, this seminar will spend two weeks on each cluster. The seminar will conclude by discussing appropriate civic education curricula for K-12 students.

Robert Benedetti is an emeritus Professor of Political Science, University of the Pacific. His academic fields include American government and urban politics. He recently co-directed a Renaissance Seminar on Jill Lapore's *These Truths*. A graduate of Amherst College and the University of Pennsylvania, he has previously led classes on constitutional reform.

"Top 10" U.S. Domestic Issues & Potential Solutions

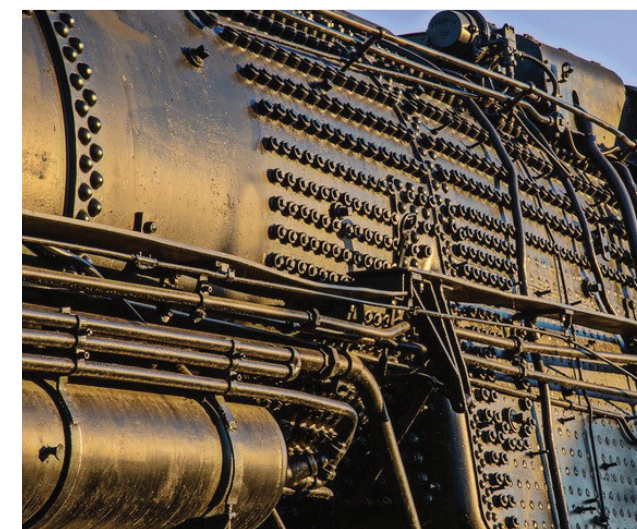
Ken Cross
Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 10 (13 weeks)
9:30 to Noon

While we had hoped for this class to be back on campus, due to covid concerns, this class will be offered via Zoom.

The "Top 10" seminar focuses on income inequality; homelessness and affordable housing; hunger and food insecurity, Wall Street and capitalism, Democracy—who stole the American dream; education, healthcare, diversity and equity in America; mass incarceration—crime, punishment, and prison reform; immigration, climate change, war and the national security state; and organizing and action in a

democratic society. The series utilizes documentary film, local community-based speakers, and discussion to define the issues and citizen organizing steps to promote positive change. The seminar utilizes documentary films, expert speakers, books, articles, and websites to expand personal knowledge and awareness.

Ken Cross graduated from the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY in 1974 serving as a U.S. Army airborne ranger, and armor officer. Next, Ken was a financial planner, manager, and corporate trainer serving career military service members. His final service was as the CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento.



Transportation and American Government in the 20th and 21st Centuries

Arthur Bauer
Fridays, Oct 1 to Nov 5 (6 weeks)
Noon to 1:30 pm

This class will focus on the role of transportation in American public life. The transportation system is so ubiquitous that it is taken for granted. Streets, highways, airports, and railroads facilitate the economy also enhance personal freedom. The scope of the modern transportation system evolved from conflict and debate at both the state and national levels. It is this debate that includes economic regulation, civil rights, environmental quality, and transportation innovation that is the subject of this class. Special attention will be given to Roosevelt's

New Deal and transportation as well as the Biden Infrastructure Program. The class will include PowerPoint presentations, short readings, discussion, and a guest speaker.

Arthur Bauer has been a transportation consultant for 45 years. During his career he and his wife owned a transportation consulting firm specializing in planning, policy, finance, and management. In addition, he worked for both the Assembly and Senate Transportation Committees. He also served on the Regional Transit District board for eight years.

What the Constitution Means to Them

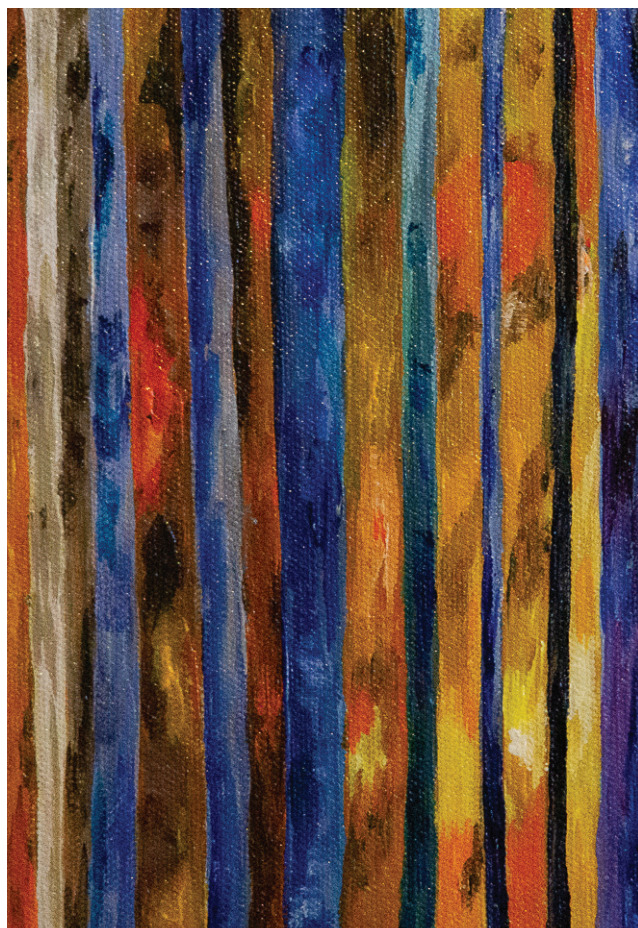
Ron Tochterman
Co-leader: Steve Felderstein
Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 3 (12 weeks)
10 to 11:30 am

While we had hoped for this class to be back on campus, due to covid concerns, this class will be offered via Zoom.

Confused about the distinctions between Constitutional Originalists, Textualists and those who believe in a Living Constitution? The late Justice Antonin Scalia preferred a "dead Constitution." Join us as we read and consider *American Original/The Life and Times of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia* by Joan Biskupic, and contrast Justice Scalia's approach to constitutional interpretation to that of others. Justice Scalia has been described as one of the most influential jurists of his time and one of the most important justices in the Supreme Court's history. We'll focus on leading Supreme Court cases in which differences over how-to-interpret-the-Constitution have figured prominently. Lecture and Q and A. Participation is encouraged but not required.

Ron Tochterman served as a judge for thirty-two years and before that as a prosecutor. For twenty of those years, he taught night law school. He has led or co-led approximately fifteen Renaissance Society seminars.

Steve Felderstein is a retired bankruptcy lawyer.



Economics

Active Retirement Investing—Session 1

Bill Bailey
Co-leader: Marsha Holland
Tuesdays, Sept 7 to Oct 12 (6 weeks)
10 to 11 am

Is your financial clock ticking? If you are looking for presentations of bottom-line facts and information, you've found the right seminar! Complicated facts and concepts will be broken down making them understandable. We will discuss examples of real-life situations. Learn traditional planning steps with innovative investment techniques.

Bill Bailey graduated from Sac State and then started in business selling insurance. He went on to get his master's degree in Financial Services and has been a financial adviser for over 40 years. The Renaissance Society creates the opportunity to share his lifelong career experiences with others.

Active Retirement Investing: Session 2

Bill Bailey
Co-Leader: Marsha Holland
Tuesdays, Oct 26 to Dec 7 (6 weeks)
10 to 11 am

Is your financial clock ticking? If you are looking for presentations of bottom-line facts and information, you've found the right seminar! Complicated facts and concepts will be broken down making them understandable. We will discuss examples of real-life situations. Learn traditional planning steps with innovative investment techniques.

PLEASE NOTE: Participation in Session One is not a requirement to attend Session Two.

Bill Bailey graduated from Sac State and then started in business selling insurance. He went on to get his master's degree in financial services and has been a financial adviser for over 40 years. The Renaissance Society creates the opportunity to share his lifelong career experiences with others.

Popular Economics for the Common Good

Duane Campbell
Co-leader: Carl Pinkston
Thursdays, Sept 9 to Nov 11 (10 weeks)
Noon to 1:30 pm

The seminar will be an examination of the political and economic consequences of the Pandemic, Global Warming, and the Biden Administration among others. What are our goals? The common good? What are our options? What differences have the generous relief packages made? Do we need a Green New Deal? We will consider global trade, social security, employment, labor, immigration, collusion, and tax avoidance. This is political economy as if people mattered. Participants will be asked to watch videos at home during the week as well as participate in seminar Zoom meetings. This seminar will also involve working in groups. We will be using breakout rooms with a class size limited to foster dialogue.

Duane Campbell is a retired professor of Bilingual/Multicultural Education from CSU-Sacramento and the author of *Choosing Democracy: a practical guide to multicultural education*.

Carl Pinkston is the Operations Director of the Black Parallel School Board (Sacramento) and a local researcher. Both have been teaching in Renaissance for over 8 years.

The Economist

Wayne Luney
Wednesdays, Sept 8 to Dec 1 (12 weeks)
7 to 8:30 pm

The Economist is arguably the best and most comprehensive weekly news magazine in the English language. It was founded in England in 1843 to advocate for the repeal of the Corn Laws. Today it is global in its coverage. Seminar members will be expected to read and be prepared to discuss selected articles appearing in the current issue. This seminar may continue during holiday breaks and between semesters.

Wayne Luney graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a degree in economics. He has facilitated the seminar on *The Economist* for the Renaissance Society since the Fall 2019 semester. During his career at Caltrans, he worked on regional traffic and motor vehicle emissions modeling.

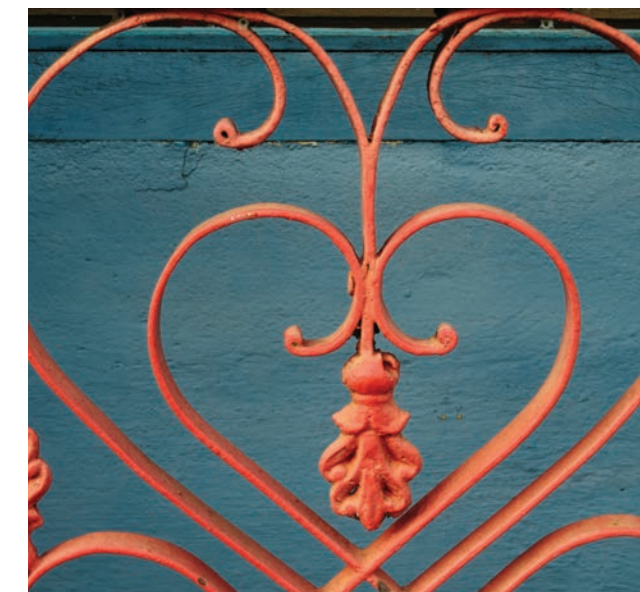
What is Behind the US markets and Economy?

Sanjay Varshney
Mondays, Sept 13 to Oct 18 (6 weeks)
Noon to 1 pm

The U.S. stock market has a market capitalization of over \$45 trillion, as household wealth has exceeded \$130 trillion. We remain the largest economy in the world at \$23 trillion in GDP. Yet, there is a huge paradox as you peel the layers away: the rich are getting richer, the poor poorer. On the one hand, we have high literacy as college graduation has gone up, yet masses of people, including professionals, such as engineers and doctors, are financially illiterate. Our goal is to make sense of our markets and the economy.

Sanjay Varshney is the founder and principal of Goldenstone Wealth Management and Professor of Finance at California State University, Sacramento. He was previously senior vice

president/investment strategy strategist for California and Nevada at Wells Fargo Private Bank, and Dean for the College of Business at Sacramento State



Health and Well-Being

Creating Connections through Sharing Life Stories

Karen Gierlach
Fridays, Nov 5 to Dec 17 (6 weeks)
2 to 3:30 pm

While we had hoped for this class to be back on campus, due to covid concerns, this class will be offered via Zoom.

We will look back over our biography in 7-year phases and see what new insights we can gain about the journey we have travelled. Art, poetry, and journaling will provide new ways to look at old memories, which will be helpful for looking at the future with new eyes. Everyone is given time to speak in small breakout groups. Listeners practice withholding judgment and putting aside assumptions, and are asked to hold what they hear in confidence. Speakers share only what they wish to share. Past participants have really appreciated getting to know other Renaissance members in a meaningful way.

Karen Gierlach graduated from London University and early in life moved to this country. After raising a family, she taught in Waldorf

schools. Since retiring, she has led biography and social art workshops for groups near and far. She greatly enjoys creating a welcoming space where people can meet and share memories drawn from their rich and eventful lives.

Happy Losers Club for Emotional Overeaters

Mimi Dixon
Mondays, Sept 13 to Oct 18 (6 weeks)
10 to 11:30 am

Open only to people who currently have at least 25 pounds to lose to be healthy, this action seminar focuses on the emotional and cognitive influences on overeating. No medical information or diets/recipes will be discussed. The format is leader led presentations and group discussions. With homework, you'll be asked to experiment with change each week by taking one of several suggested actions (like write five gratitude statements a day) and then report the results to the class. After you have enrolled, the leader will contact you to give you a final confirmation (required) of your registration. Class enrollment is kept small to provide an appropriate environment for sharing.

Mimi Dixon, MA (Counseling Psychology) has mentored emotional overeaters for more than 40 years and is currently maintaining a 100-pound weight loss (for more than 13 years and counting, one day at a time). She also leads another Renaissance seminar, *The Wisdom Questions*.

Learning and Listening

Laura Gaeta
Thursdays, Sept 9 to Sept 23 (3 weeks)
Noon to 1 pm

Do you have hearing loss? Join us for a series of informational classes on hearing loss, communication strategies, and lip-reading training. Space is limited, so please email speechclinic@csus.edu to register.

Laura Gaeta, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Sacramento State.

Relationships: How to Build Strong, Healthy, Loving Relationships

Nanci Kuzins
Co-leader: Anamaria Pasquiers
Thursdays, Sept 9 to Dec 2 (12 weeks)
10 to Noon

Come learn compassionate communication skills to bring joy and meaning into your relationships. We use games, role playing, and exercises woven in with *Nonviolent Communication—a Language of Life* by Marshall B. Rosenberg; *The Four Agreements* by Don Miguel Ruiz; *Change Your Thoughts, Change Your Life* by Wayne Dyer; and other resources. This new life language can reduce stress, decrease anxiety, clear up misunderstandings, and heal old conflicts. Learn how to interrupt when necessary, release resentment when you hear "NO," and how to let go of any shame, guilt, or fear when you need to say "NO" to yourself or someone else.

Nanci Kuzins is committed to helping people find their self-empowerment and voice so they may develop skills to enrich life for themselves and others through Compassionate Communication. She is co-founder of Community Skill Exchange Sacramento, a time bank in which members exchange skills and services for time instead of money and all are equal.

Anamaria Pasquiers is committed to helping people gain deeper understanding of themselves and others. Anamaria consults on self-healing methods, spiritual counseling, is a social activist and an interfaith minister. She has led spiritual growth groups on Taoism, Kundalini Yoga, A Course in Miracles, and served as a prayer chaplain.

Wisdom Questions

Mimi Dixon
Tuesdays, Sept 7 to Nov 9 (10 weeks)
2 to 3:30 pm

Now in our later decades, each of us has accrued wisdom of which we may not be aware. Reflect on your answer to a different "wisdom question" each week to uncover the positive lessons of your journey so far. You're encour-

aged to keep a document of your answers to pass along to others. And you'll have up to ten minutes to shine and share your thoughts with in a listening small group each week. A sample question: What's a decision you made in the past that changed your life for the better? This seminar is based on the premise that "You are a blessing waiting to be discovered by yourself."

Mimi Dixon, MA (Counseling Psychology), devised "wisdom questions" and interviewed 30 seniors; then she wrote their answers in an unpublished wisdom book. All of the people interviewed reported that they discovered surprising personal inner wisdom and felt uplifted by the experience. Mimi also teaches the *Happy Losers* class.





History

The American Revolution: From Colony to Independent Nation

Cathy Minicucci

Wednesdays, Sept 8 to Sept 22 (3 weeks)
Noon to 1:30 pm

This 3-session class will cover the period leading up to the Revolution, the Revolution itself, and the immediate aftermath of the war. Political and economic developments in Britain leading up to the colonial rebellion will be described. America was establishing its own identity, growing in population and affluence as fierce resistance to British rule formed. The Committees of Correspondence were a means for the separate colonies to communicate with one another and forge unified opposition to the colonial power. The war itself was fought from north to south, with the victory at Yorktown the major turning point. Washington's defensive strategy paid off, and the help of France was critical to success. After the war, America confronted the need for a unified system of finance and government. Tories left for England and Canada, and America moved on to become an independent nation.

Cathy Adams Minicucci was raised in Southern California. She earned her BA from UCLA and her master's from Harvard. She served as education policy staff to the California legislature. For 30 years she led Minicucci Associates, an evaluation consulting firm. She has given many presentations and taught seminars on history for the Renaissance Society.

Ancient Egypt—3100 BCE to 30 CE

David Lewis

Tuesdays, Sept 7 to Nov 30 (12 weeks)
10 to 11:30 am

Did you ever wonder what is the difference between a pharaoh and a king? And how did they build those huge pyramids? And what was the life of King Tut really like? Was Cleopatra really as beautiful as Elizabeth Taylor? In this seminar, we will explore the history of Ancient Egypt starting with the river Nile and then focus on history from 3,100 BCE to 30 CE. There will also be special focus on topics including hieroglyphics, mummification, pyramids, and the Valley of the Kings.

David Lewis joined Big History in Sun City Lincoln Hills. After partnering with Renaissance Society, he gave 3 presentations in the Spring of 2020 including an *Ancient Egypt Overview Part 1 & 2* (recordings available) and will be leading this seminar in the fall.

Big History—Continuing the Story of Us and the Universe We Live In

Ranny Eckstrom

Co-leader: David Lewis

Mondays, Sept 13 to Dec 6 (12 weeks)
10 to 11:30 am

This semester continues our interdisciplinary history of humans that started with the Big Bang, the solar system, and the beginning of life and early humans. We have explored the Agricultural Revolution into the Bronze and Iron Ages and may continue into the Middle Ages. We look at the big picture of humanity and narrower histories as examples of what was happening globally. We use a variety of formats in this seminar including PowerPoint presentations, informal discussions, professional videos, expert presenters, book discussions, and whatever fits. The goal is to widen our worldview of who we are and how we got here.

Ranny Eckstrom is a retired civil engineer, having worked as a manager on several California statewide programs over more than 34 years. She has been a co-host for more than 12 seminars since joining Renaissance Society in 2009.

Her real intellectual passion is *Big History*, which she has been involved with for over 7 years.

David Lewis has been instrumental in developing *Big History* at Sun City Lincoln Hills and Renaissance Society for over 4 years.

Cities of the Ancient World

Marty Keale

Fridays, Sept 17 to Oct 22 (6 weeks)
10 to Noon

This seminar is built around a Great Courses video by the same name. The instructor, Dr. Steven Tuck of Miami U, has a well-rounded academic background. He is at ease talking about archeological finds of ancient cities, the monumental and residential architecture of those cities, and cultural aspects of life in those cities. We will start each class with one of his lectures, followed by discussion, and a lecture of our own. Lectures will supplement the themes introduced by Dr. Tuck by taking a global approach to each theme. The six cities included in this seminar are Mohenjo-Daro (Indus Valley civilization), Knossos (Minoan society on Crete), Athens, Alexandria (Greek colony in Egypt), Rome, and Ostia (Rome's port city).

Marty Keale has been teaching with Renaissance for the past 8 years. His teaching experience includes seminars in *Language Development*, *Human Migrations*, and *Ancient Cultures*.

The Origins of the Judeo-Christian Tradition

Ed Sherman

Wednesdays, Oct 20 to Dec 1 (6 weeks)
Noon to 1:30 pm

Western Civilization is a subtle, shifting, blend of Greco-Roman secularism and Judeo-Christian religiosity. This seminar will trace the pathway from classical pagan polytheism to the triumph of Christian monotheism. It will chronicle changes in belief and ritual from mythological polytheism, with its blood sacrifices, to Christian monotheism, with its promise of salvation through Faith, and the mediation of the Church. [Greco-Roman Tradition will follow in Spring 2022].



Ed Sherman has spent more than 60 years studying and teaching ancient history at colleges in California and Nevada. In addition, he spent nearly three years wandering around the Mediterranean exploring its antiquities and landscapes. Ed has led seminars for the Renaissance Society for the past 10 years.

Nature, Science, and Technology

Android Basics

Carol Limbaga

Co-leader: Victoria Star

Fridays, Sep 10 to Dec 3 (12 weeks)

10 to 11 am

While we had hoped for this class to be back on campus, due to covid concerns, this class will be offered via Zoom.

This program is an Android Smartphone email-in support group. Using email to ask and answer questions, we provide one-on-one support for using your cell phone.

PLEASE NOTE: This is not a Zoom class. We will discuss usage basics, phone features, settings, how to make and receive calls, create contact info, setup and use voice mail, send messages and text, how to delete, set up email, use your camera, phone apps, and play store. We want to help you with your basic questions!

Carol Limbaga was born in Burlington, Vermont and graduated from Vermont Trinity College. She moved to California with her family and raised five children. She loves science, anthropology, sociology, and supporting others to help them learn about their mobile phone.

As Long as Space/Time Endures, A Buddhist Practice Journey

Gus Koehler

Fridays, Nov 12 to Dec 3 (3 weeks)

10 to Noon

Buddhism integrates concepts of space-time into a frame of reference from which all human experiences occur. We will use meditation to see how time-space instants emerge, use it to "see" through ritual, and to directly experience awareness-emptiness. Ram Das saw these ways of knowing as being like stations selected from a radio band. We will explore stations and the band itself. As Longchenpa puts it: "An awakened mind is something marvelous and superb, primordially and spontaneously present. It is a treasury from which comes the universe of appearances and possibilities, whether everyday life or enlightenment." Guided space-time experiences will be offered. Lots of discussion time.

Gus Koehler "has" practiced Dzogchen and Vipassana Buddhism for about 50 years under the direction of various lamas. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Philosophy and Political Sociology, publishing academic papers on time and complex social systems. Gus is retired. He is an artist and poet.

Climate Chaos and the Individual

Donald Forrester

Fridays, Oct 29 to Dec 3 (6 weeks)

10 to Noon

This seminar examines actions that individuals can take to lessen their contribution to global warming. The seminar will provide an overview of climate science and options for individual actions both home and away. Woven into the sessions will be useful concepts from quality improvement, statistics, complex systems, social action, and human learning. Join me as we explore the relative importance of our options in addressing humanity's greatest threat. We present context and resources to distinguish "fact" from "fiction."

Donald Forrester, MD is a Family Medicine physician. He serves on the board of Nutrition-Facts.org and is a climate activist with Extinction Rebellion. Since "retirement" in 2008 he works to support the creation of healthy resilient populations by doing presentations on the prevention and reversal of chronic conditions and global warming.

Electric Life: Exploring the Biology of Heart and Mind

Edward Moczydlowski

Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 3 (12 weeks)

Noon to 1:30 pm

While we had hoped for this class to be back on campus, due to covid concerns, this class will be offered via Zoom.

How does the animal nervous system produce electrical signals that encode sensory perceptions and generate intelligent behavior? Answering this question required more than five thousand years of investigation. Along the way, humans invented science, discovered electromagnetism, and designed electronic machines that mimic biological intelligence. This seminar will trace the circuitous route of this research that led from ancient fascination with amber to lightning, electric fish, the battery, galvanometer, a Frankenstein novel, a poem entitled "I Sing the Body Electric," microelectrodes,

nerve impulse, and ion channels. Along the way, myths and fallacies were abandoned to the scientific method and its new paradigms.

The instructor, **Edward Moczydlowski**, is a life scientist with over 35 years of experience in research and education. He has a Ph.D. in Biology from UC San Diego and has taught courses in physiology, neuroscience, and pharmacology. He is a member of the Society of General Physiology and the Biophysical Society.



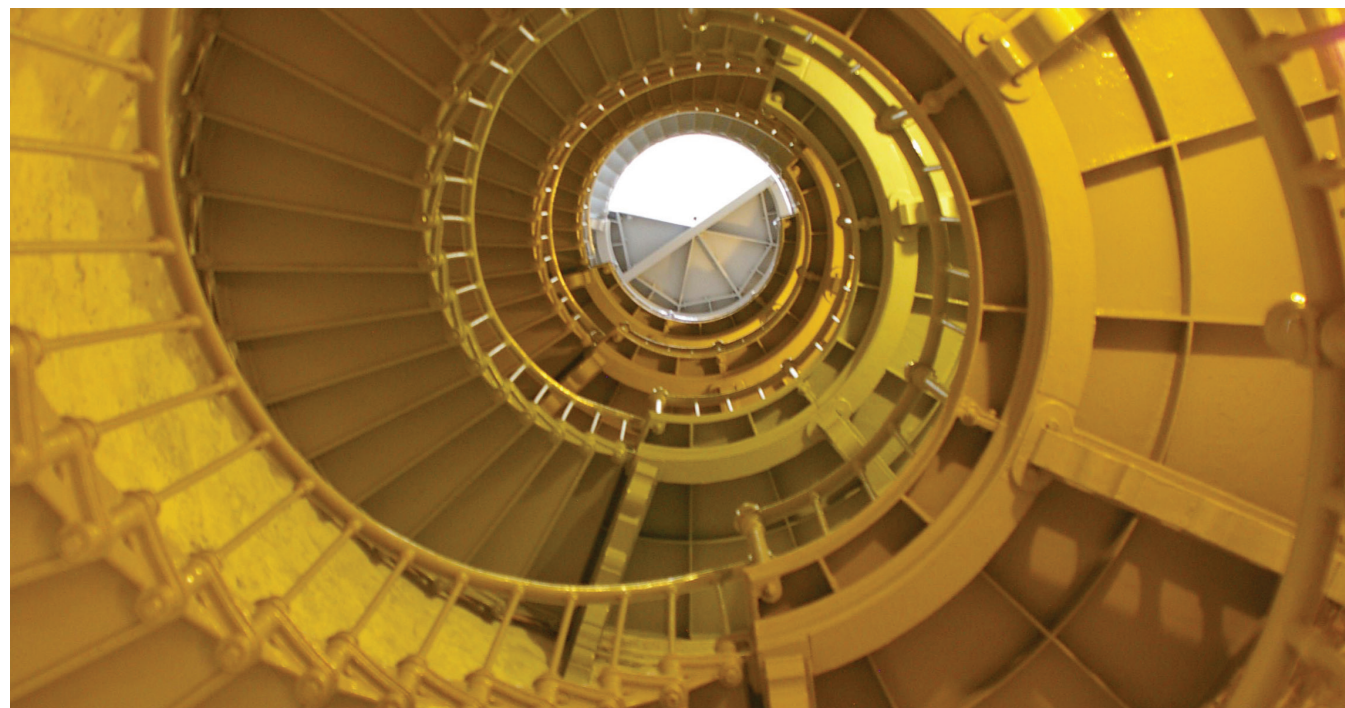
Growing California Natives in Our Yards

Bonnie Gault-Blue

Mondays, Sept 13 to Sept 27 (3 weeks)

2 to 3:30 pm

Growing drought tolerant plants is more than growing cactuses. Many California-native plants are lush and flowering perennials that save water and, as a bonus, support the native insects we need to maintain our natural ecosystem. To help native insects maintain their populations, planting native species is vitally important. We will be looking at native plants found in the Sacramento Valley, which ones are hosts to butterflies, and which are attractive to our native bees and other wildlife. We'll cover how to grow natives.



Having grown natives in her yard for 12 years, **Bonnie Gault-Blue** found that transitioning it to natives has been a slow, but steady progression. She is always learning and experimenting with new species. She loves the life they bring to her yard.



Invisible Threads and Hidden Walls of Time

Gus Koehler
Fridays, Sept 17 to Oct 22 (6 weeks)
10 to Noon

If I asked you what is time you think you know, but if asked to explain it, you, like me, wouldn't be able to. There is NO accepted, overarching theory of time. We study some of time's characteristics such as beauty, duration, flowing, suchness, life spans, aging, etc. Explore experiences of time in sleep/dream and near-death. We explore art and poetry for seeing and creating beauty as time, and meditation and prayer, yielding knowledge of the eternal. Disasters such as pandemics, tsunamis, earthquakes, and climate warming will be examined. Videos and structured experiences are key to this seminar. Questions and discussion are a priority.

Dr. Gus Koehler is a political philosopher and political sociologist. He has published academic papers on complex systems and time. Gus was a policy analyst for state agencies and for the legislature as well as a response planner for state disasters. He created and managed Time Structures, Inc. He is an artist and poet. He has taught at Folsom Prison.

iPhone Photography Experimental Studio (prerequisite required)

Melissa Green
Co-leader: Cynthia Nicholson
Thursdays, Oct 28 to Dec 9 (6 weeks)
10 to Noon

This seminar is for intermediate or advanced photographers (It includes participant digital artwork demonstrations.). Shared albums are our learning and critique platform. Visit public website for how-to videos and recent artwork galleries: <https://rsiphonphotostudio.blogspot.com>. New photo artists need to be comfortable with iOS basics and expect to purchase \$25 in apps and prints.

Requirements: iPhone 8 and up, Pro iPhone models; iOS 14 or 15, and Apple ID. All enrollees go to WAITLIST until prerequisites are checked by the instructor. A computer is helpful to attend the Zoom meetings so your device is available for demonstrated activities.

PLEASE NOTE: Zoom Meet & Greet on Oct 21 at 10 am.

Melissa Green joined the Renaissance Society in 2012 with an interest in digital photography and the *Apple iPad and iPhone* seminars. She is a retired instructional development coordinator from Sacramento City College, where her work focused on training faculty and staff to use computers and teach online.



Using Your iPhone/iPad IRL (In Real Life)

Tom Holt
Wednesdays, Sept 8 to Dec 1 (12 weeks)
10 to 11 am

Going in a new direction, this semester will be a series of talks (themes) on how to use your i-devices for everyday activities. Themes under consideration include: Using your device for travel; Using your device for hiking and walking in nature; Using your device for gardening; Using your device for cooking; Communicating with family and friends; and many more. Each topic will be presented by a pair of enthusiasts. We will provide plenty of time for Q&A and will include technical training as we go along.

PLEASE NOTE: Some of the themes will show purchased apps. You will need to know your Apple-ID and password. Our 12-week seminar will cover both iPhone and iPad.

Tom Holt was an information technology professional from his graduation from the University of Birmingham in England until his retirement in 2000. He was chief information officer for 3 major technology firms and managed a variety of technologies during his tenure. His enthusiasm for Apple products developed over the years.

World of Engineering

Richard Dabrowiak
Thursdays, Sept 9 to Dec 2 (12 weeks)
10 to Noon

From building colossal pyramids in ancient Egypt to erecting modern skyscrapers, mankind's greatest engineering marvels are documented through the ages. This video-based seminar will clarify how these incredible megastructures were designed and built. Class discussions and supplemental information will reveal basic engineering principles used in the design and construction processes, enabling participants to better appreciate the challenges involved. Participation in discussions is encouraged.

Richard Dabrowiak is a graduate civil engineer from Purdue University and licensed in the state of California. He has 35 years of experience working on the design and construction of projects all over the world including nuclear power plants, space shuttle facilities, micro-electronics manufacturing plants, and flood control projects.



shared interest groups

In the past, our Shared Interest Groups (SIGs) have been called affinity groups, special interest groups, clubs, or just activities. Today our SIGs continue to provide rich opportunities for our members to gather together over similar interests, ideas or passions. Like Seminars, SIGs are initiated and led by our members. However, unlike Seminars, SIGs may not necessarily meet weekly, and are noted in the descriptions.

Traditionally, SIGs met off-campus in libraries, community rooms, restaurants, coffee shops, parks, and even member's homes. In 2020, many of our SIGs adjusted to virtual meetings on Zoom. Now, as public health restrictions lift, several SIGs are meeting in-person. Please check the descriptions and contact leaders to see if your chosen SIG is virtual or in-person.

To find out more information about any of the listed SIGs, please contact the SIG's facilitator. You can find this information in this catalog's Directory.

New SIGs are always welcome. If you have an interest that you think would be a great Shared Interest Group, contact the SIG coordinators, Karen Martin or Chuck Wiseley, for more information on how to start a group.

Karen Martin, martink@comcast.net
Chuck Wiseley, chuck@wiseley.org

Art of the Portrait

Julia Stagg
Tuesdays, Oct 5 to Nov 16 (7 weeks)
7 to 8:30 pm

This is a seven-week workshop exploring the *Art of Portraiture*. The goal is for participants to create four portraits using a variety of art methods—painting, drawing, or mixed media. Participants work on their art during the meeting with feedback and art talk encouraged. Two guest portrait artists will be invited for a viewing of their work with an opportunity for discussion afterwards. Completed portraits will be uploaded to a website each week for viewing.

Julia Stagg is a Sacramento artist. Her art is self-reflective, perhaps humorous, and narrative. After graduating from Sac State, with a BA in Fine Arts, she joined with the local arts community in showing and presenting exhibitions in a variety of galleries, as well as art instruction in local schools.

Book Group: 1st Monday Book Group

Carol Hayes
Co-facilitator: Ann Blazina
Mondays, Sept 13 to Dec 6 (Year-round monthly)
1 to 2:30 pm

Books of all genres are read and discussed at monthly meetings. Members take turns selecting books for the group. The selecting book member opens the discussion with a short bio of the author, his or her review of the book, and synopsis of reviews. Then each member gives a brief review. Lively discussions are frequent. The group meets year-round.

PLEASE NOTE: Registration is required. Contact leader for more information.

Carol Hayes has been a member of Renaissance since 2003. She's an avid reader in three book groups. Former teacher and CSUS graduate, she's now retired from teaching, paralegal work, and stock-brokerage administrative assistant, all in Sacramento. Carol has led the 1st Monday Book Group for over 15 years.

Ann Blazina, born in Germany, lived in Texas for nine years and settled in Sacramento in 1961. As a member of Renaissance since 2013,

Ann enjoys photography, travel, and reading. She facilitated 2 sessions on Germany based on travels and photography. She supports the book group by sending out information to members.

Book Group: Great Books Discussion Group

Steven DeBry
Tuesdays, Sept 7 to Dec 7 (13 weeks—1st Tues each month)
2 to 4 pm

This *Great Books* discussion group will meet on the first Tuesday of the month. We will initially discuss selections from the *Great Conversations 6* anthology, although we may later decide to discuss selections from other anthologies published by the Great Books Foundation. The *Great Books* anthologies include sections from a variety of renowned fiction and non-fiction works from the recent or distant past. The distinctive aspect of a Great Books discussion group is the reliance on the use of a "shared inquiry" method of discussion as much as the reliance on content of the readings in the anthologies. This method emphasizes the rigor entailed in a close examination of the text and on the citation of passages from the reading to support interpretive conclusions. Digressions on general topics are discouraged unless they enhance understanding of the selection discussed.

Steven DeBry is a retired librarian from the California Research Bureau of the California State Library. He has participated in Great Books discussion groups over many years and has experience with the Shared Inquiry model.

Book Group: Tuesday Book Club

Marian Kile
Tuesdays, Sept 7 to Dec 13 (Year-round monthly)
9:30 to 11 am

The members of the group rotate selecting a book for everyone to read and discuss in an intelligent yet comfortable manner. We review a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction books that are available in the Sacramento Public library system.

Somewhere around age 30, **Marian Kile** started enjoying reading more and more. When she retired, she had time to join a book club and then started one. She enjoys the variety of genres and books that she never would have read without the book club.



Corporate Accountability: Restoring the Balance

Jim McRitchie
Mondays, Sept 13 to Dec 1 (8 weeks)
Noon to 1:30 pm

Invested in stocks, but don't want to destroy the planet? Corporations are the most powerful social invention for creating wealth. They can also ruin our environment and tear our social fabric. This class is for people between the "have nots" and "have yachts." Learn how even small shareholders can make corporations more accountable and sustainable using the tools of democratic corporate governance. We will discuss strategies for shaping and influencing the proxy vote at public corporations to make a difference. Classes will use a seminar format for the first 3 weeks, and then will be more interactive with guest experts for 5 weeks.

According to a New York Times columnist, **Jim McRitchie** is one of three shareholders holding corporations "hostage." He has filed over 400 proxy proposals. During the 2019 and 2020 proxy seasons, Jim's proposals averaged more than 50 percent support, many at major corporations. Learn more about Jim at <https://www.corpgov.net/about/>.



Digital Photography

Jane Steele

Co-facilitator: Colleen Wong
Tuesdays, Sept 14 to Nov 30
(6 classes and 5 field trips)
10 to Noon

We are geared toward photographers who are interested in exploring the various modes and settings of their cameras. This year we will explore various techniques in photography, such as architectural photography, shooting the Milky Way, and light trails, just to name a few. The class alternates between class sessions and field trips. Field trips will provide an opportunity to practice what is learned in class. We will hold the class using Zoom this semester. If possible, field trips may be held while we practice social distancing and other safety measures. This class is run by a 12-person committee. All participants help greatly in setting up this class for your enjoyment.

Jane Steele and **Colleen Wong** are amateur photographers who have a passion for photography.

Dining Together

Cheryl Nelson

Wednesdays or Thursdays, Sept 8 to Dec 8
(Year-round monthly)
5:30 to 7:30 pm

For over 10 years, Renaissance members have enjoyed fun monthly evening social events. We are resuming this fall in modified form to comply with all Sacramento County Health regulations in place at the time of an event. (1) On-line Renaissance registration is required. For purposes of the Renaissance Society registration system, everyone signing up for this class will automatically be enrolled in a Wednesday session. (2) Members suggest local restaurants for consideration. (3) Seminar leaders contact restaurants to make dinner reservations. (4) Each month, diners will choose between one of two possible dates at the selected restaurant—**either the 2nd Wednesday or the 3rd Thursday** (two dates double the number of participants possible within the likely health restrictions). (5) Members will RSVP to only *one date per month*. Preference will be given to the first who RSVP.

PLEASE NOTE: A recommended Zoom Meet and Greet meeting will be held Thursday September 2 at 3 pm to explain our new process and answer questions.

Cheryl Nelson has been the Dining Together seminar leader for the 5 years pre-COVID.

Games for Entertainment

Roberta Frieze

Co-facilitator: Judy Keaton
Thursdays, Sept 9 to Dec 16 (Year-round weekly)
1 to 3 pm

Card games, word games, dominoes, team games are played. A basic knowledge of cards and trump is helpful. We spend a few minutes socializing at each meeting before game play starts. Enjoy the opportunity to learn and socialize with people who have similar interests. Our members host and provide refreshments on a rotating basis depending upon their own calendars. We will follow all current state health guidelines for COVID safety.

Bobby Frieze has been in this group for 15 years. Bobby maintains a list of changing locations in members' homes and contacts for the group.

Judy Keaton maintains and prepares the roster. Judy has many games in her skill set and memory.

A Guided Tour of the University Arboretum

Donna Eash

Co-facilitator: Michael Baad
Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 3
(7 tours, register for one)
Noon to 1:30 pm

We will take a walking tour of the University Arboretum every other Friday (*Sept 10, Sept 24, Oct 8, Oct 22, Nov 5, Nov 19, and Dec 3*). This 3.5-acre site is now home to more than 1,400 different trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials from throughout the temperate regions of the world. It is a constantly changing environment from daffodils in spring, to a host of flowering plants in summer, and a striking autumnal color display each fall. This introductory walk acquaints you with a resource that is open 24/7, twelve months of the year, free of charge. Each tour is the same. The Arboretum is located adjacent to the "J" street entrance and Parking Structure 5 on Arboretum Way. Paid parking is available on campus. (There is no longer any free campus parking.)

Donna Eash has been in Renaissance since 2012. She enjoys walks through the Sacramento State University Arboretum and would like to provide arboretum walking tours for society members.

Dr. Michael Baad is a Professor of Ecology and Systematics at Sacramento State University and the caretaker of the Arboretum. He may occasionally join the group.

Le Cercle Français (Conversational French)

Debra da Costa

Wednesdays, Sept 8 to Dec 15 (13 weeks)
11 to 1:00 pm

This shared interest group has traditionally met at the Campus Commons Clubhouse. It is for French speakers at an intermediate level, requiring a working acquaintance with the language through high school or college classes or from living in a French-speaking country. Members share common interests through presentations, reading, and conversation. Registration is required. Seminar size is limited to 12 participants, and a waiting list is maintained.

Debra da Costa recently sold her marketing business and is resuming activities from her earlier profession such as landscape architecture and urban design, and former interests such as art and French. In addition, Debra thrives on cycling, gardening, and yoga.

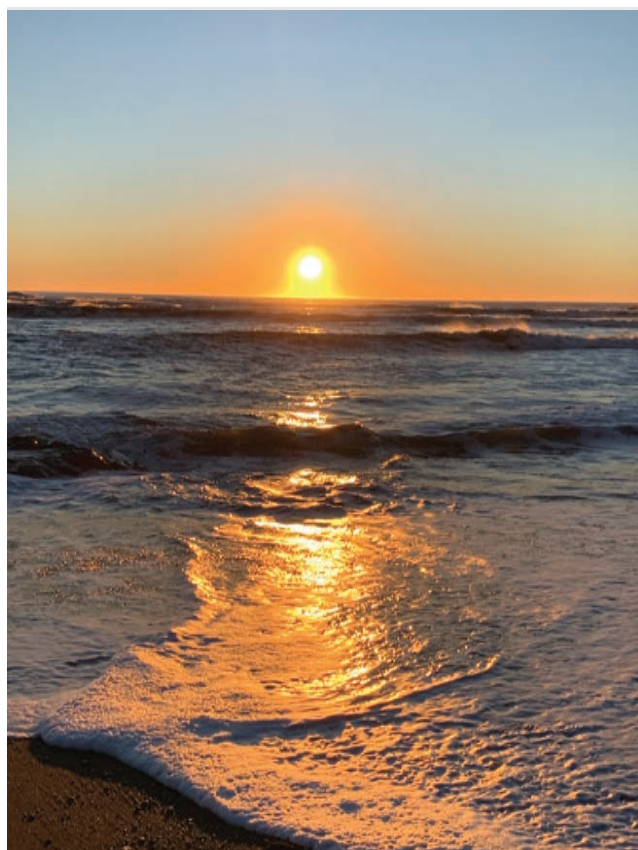


Qi Gong

Diana Loo
Tuesdays, Sept 7 to Oct 14 (6 weeks)
4 to 5 pm

Learn how to cultivate vital energy to assist with self-healing. Qi Gong (pronounced chee-gong) is an ancient Chinese exercise and healing technique that involves meditation, controlled breathing, and movement exercises. Qi Gong is sometimes translated as “vital energy cultivation” or “mastery of your energy.” This gentle movement class will help release tension both physically and mentally. Movement modifications will be provided for various physical challenges. The class will be done standing, but a chair can be used if balance is an issue.

Diana Loo has been taking Qi Gong since 2012. She has certifications in Medical Qi Gong, Reiki Levels 1 and 2, Acupressure, and Qi Gong Infused Yoga.



Spanish Conversation, Advanced (Pre-requisite)

JoAnn Peter
Thursdays, Sept 9 to Dec 2 (12 weeks)
10 to Noon

This Shared Interest Group is for Spanish speakers at a high intermediate or advanced level. The emphasis is on conversation. The ability to use the imperfect and preterite tenses is necessary. We read and discuss literature selections, watch videos, or review grammar, as desired by the group. Registration is required. **To ensure a place in the program, please contact the leader before registering.** A waiting list is maintained.

JoAnn Peter is a retired teacher. She taught high school Spanish and lived in Spain for 2 years.

Walkabouts

Lance Muller
Co-facilitator: Donna Eash
Wednesdays, Sept 8 to Nov 17 (12 weeks)
9:25 to 11 am

Each Wednesday morning, we walk at a different location chosen by our volunteer leaders. Announcements are at 9:25 AM, followed by stretches, and then that week's Walkabout. You will have a choice of 2 miles with the Tortoises group, or 4 miles with the Hares group. Afterward, for those who wish to join in, there is a group lunch at a nearby restaurant. If COVID-19 restrictions continue, then there will be further limitations on how this is done, per our website's details.

PLEASE NOTE: (1) Register online at our Walkabouts website: <https://renaissance-walkabouts.weebly.com/> and click on the “Walkabouts Registration” tab. (2) To facilitate your planning, this program will start on an earlier date to ensure you have the full benefit of the program. The SIG Facilitator will email you with the earlier start date—Sept. 1st.****

Writer's Workshop II (P)

Anita Adams
Co-facilitator: Lani Hahn
Tuesdays, Sept 7 to Dec 7 (Year-round weekly)
Noon to 2 pm

Our participants come from a variety of backgrounds and write in a variety of styles with their own choice of subjects. They bring at least six copies of what they wish to share, limiting their writing to three pages each week. Feedback is provided, if requested, as well as positive encouragement. Registration is required. There is a maximum of ten members; a waiting list is maintained.

Anita Adams and her co-facilitator, **Lani Hahn**, bring a variety of work experiences to this workshop: Anita as an advertising executive with The Sacramento Union Newspaper and Lani as an ESL Instructor.

CLOSED TO NEW PARTICIPANTS

Some Shared Interest Groups and Seminars have met for years, developing a loyal cadre of Renaissance members who fill the limited spaces. They are traditionally held in homes or in small community spaces. Others are on hiatus until they can meet in person. Some maintain waiting lists, so if you are interested in the program or would like to start a similar group, you can contact the leader, facilitator, or Lorene Sarne at Lorene.sarne@csus.edu. You can find the leader's or facilitator's contact information in this catalog's Directory.

High Intermediate Spanish

Melody Flores
Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 17 (Year-round weekly)
10 to 11:30 am

This SIG provides a casual environment to support and develop existing intermediate level Spanish reading and speaking skills. This is a participation SIG and for that reason it is limited to 12 people. **We currently have 12 participants so there won't be any new students or a waiting list.**



Melody Flores has led an advanced intermediate Spanish group for several years. She studied Spanish at Shasta Junior College in Redding and the University of Guadalajara. She enjoys sharing her knowledge with her Renaissance group.

Book Group: Partners in Crime

Lynda Cassady
Co-facilitator: Pat Stokes
Thursdays, Sept 23 to Nov 18
(Year-round monthly, 4th Thursday each month)
1:30 to 2:30 pm

This Shared Interest Group reads mysteries and once a month reviews a particular writer's novels. Recent authors were Atticus Locke, David Rosenfelt, CJ Box, and Noah Hawley. **The group is not accepting new members unless a current member resigns. Join our waitlist in case an opening is available this fall.**

Lynda Cassady enjoys reading and discussing mystery novels. She helps lead a group of Renaissance members in discussions on an author's style, character development, and story credibility. She promotes frank but considerate comments.

Pat Stokes has been in this group for several years and continues to enjoy new mystery writers. She finds some of the most interesting writers who may not make the NYT list but bring new life to writing a good story.

Book Group: Great Books Shared Interest Group

Jean Cawood
Co-facilitator: Dan Rooney
Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 10 (Year-round biweekly)
10 to Noon

This book group uses the Shared Inquiry method of discussion originated by the Great Books foundation. Our readings are taken from the Great Books Foundation anthologies of short works of fiction and nonfiction, and each semester we add a longer work selected by the group. Members take turns leading the selections. We are currently using Great Books Conversations 5 and 6 and The Science Fiction Omnibus. We meet Friday mornings two to three times a month.

PLEASE NOTE: To facilitate your planning, this program will start on an earlier date to ensure you have the full benefit of the program. The SIG Facilitator will email you with the earlier start date—**Sept. 3rd.**

Jean Cawood joined Renaissance in 1999 after retiring as a high school Resource Specialist. She has co-led the *Great Books* seminar since 2001, the *Don Quixote* seminar of 2011-2012 with Jim Gallant, and is currently tech host of the *Ulysses* class.

Dan Rooney is a retired attorney, a member of Renaissance and the Great Books seminar since 2006. He leads a two-semester class on *James Joyce's Ulysses* and is tech host for *Great Books*.

Photography as Art

Roger Klemm
Co-leader: Mary Elliott-Klemm
Wednesdays, Sept 8 to Oct 13 (6 weeks)
10 to Noon

Using art concepts as a guide, this class develops a way of seeing. This is not a camera class.

PLEASE NOTE: This Special Interest Group has been closed for many semesters, although a waiting list is maintained.

Roger Klemm is a Preservation Architect, trained in historic and modern architecture, as well as in both classical and modern art and art

history. He has been a commercial and published architectural photographer. This seminar will be the 17th he has taught for The Renaissance Society.

Writers Group 1

Curtis Nelson
Co-facilitator: Marian Kile
Thursdays, Sept 7 to Dec 14 (Year-round weekly)
9:30 to 11:30 am

Members are encouraged to write on a variety of subjects in any style: poetry, prose, essay, and more. The other members offer suggestions to help polish the piece. We offer a pleasant atmosphere for presenting your writing.

Curtis Nelson joined the Renaissance Society in 2017 and has enjoyed attending classes on various subjects. He joined *Writer's Group 1* the same year and will become the leader in Fall 2021.

Marian Kile has been writing personal stories for the last twelve years and has published three books for her family.



presentations

Single Presentations that Whet our Appetite for More...

Presentations are held mornings, afternoons, and evening, almost every day of the week—on every subject imaginable—featuring authors, writers, and speakers throughout the world; food, drink, and cultural historians; Renaissance Society members; and others obsessed with sharing their passion. They are open to everyone—member or not yet member, alike. Our series include **The Tuesday Speaker Series**, **Community Presentations**, and an occasional pop-up. Sign up for as many as interest you. **Presentations** will be recorded for viewing at a later date on our YouTube channel. You can access the presentation recordings on the Renaissance Café YouTube channel at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuedSwb_DbPXFWhhBJogQVw

Community members will register through Eventbrite. Links to Eventbrite and the recordings will be featured in our weekly Constant Contact messages, our Facebook page, and with our many community partners.

Pop-Ups are talks, walks, symposiums, hands-on workshops, or virtual hang outs presented on short notice in partnership with our friends in the arts, music, theater, library, poetry, social advocacy, political, or historical communities. They will be featured on Eventbrite, our weekly Constant Contact communications, and our Facebook page.

community presentations

Art, Entertainment, Food, and Travel

Chad Taylor: Carmel's Silent, Unknown, Pop Art Futurist

Bruce Marwick
Thursday, Sept 16
7 to 8:30 pm

Chad Taylor (1931-2008) was a graphic artist, educator, and painter. Taylor moved from Chicago to Carmel in 1973 leaving behind two successful careers: the first as a partner in a design firm, and the second as a professor at the Illinois Institute of Technology. He had a home built near Carmel Beach and lived there with

his wife and family for the remainder of his life. Taylor painted for decades, but never exhibited or sold any of his art. The presentation will explore Taylor's life, artwork, and his creative influences including the Bauhaus, Modernism, and Pop Art. Taylor's interest in the conflict between humanity and technology will also be discussed.

Bruce Marwick is a board member of the Sacramento History Alliance and Preservation Chair of the Sacramento Art Deco Society. He has written many articles about early 20th Century California artists and architects, including Alfred Eichler, designer of the Tower Bridge, and Carlo Taliabue, a noted Gladding McBean sculptor.

A Cook's Tour Returns!

Maryellen Burns and Dan Cross
 Wednesday, Sept 22 (**First virtual meeting**)
 (Year-round: Dates and times vary)
 6:30 to 8:30 pm

This fall's A Cook's Tour returns. Join us as we re-connect. What's new this go around? We'll include not only eateries and drinkeries, but also venture out to music, theater, museum, and art venues. When guidelines, weather, and vaccines allow we'll meet in person. We're planning some virtual get togethers too as members hit the road and introduce us to the spaces and places around the region, country, or world. All include an opportunity for us to explore new venues and get to know each other better. *Days and times vary.* Some costs are involved for food, drink, or entry. When there is room you can bring a guest, and friends are encouraged to join our virtual events and get to know us better.

PLEASE NOTE: Although we are year-round and will meet this summer, **we will hold our first official virtual meeting for the fall on Wednesday September 22 at 6:30 pm for an introduction to the season.**

Maryellen Burns and **Dan Cross** have led *A Cook's Tour* for several years. Maryellen is an historian and author/editor of books and articles on food, culture, and regional history. Dan is a seasoned traveler who knows how to find the hidden places most of us didn't know existed.



Wally Hedrick, 6 Gallery, and The Beats

Lawrence Fox
 Friday, Oct 8
 10 to 11:30 am

In the early 1950's the Vesuvio Café, a popular hangout in San Francisco, employed Wally Hedrick to sit in the window dressed in full beard, turtleneck, and sandals to create improvisational drawings and paintings and manifest what it was to be a "beatnik." His manifestation and the *6 Gallery* he co-founded helped launch the beat generation and the careers of Allen Ginsberg and Jerry Garcia. The home he shared with artist Jay De Feo on Fillmore Street was the unofficial first stop on the art itinerary of anyone important in the art or poetry world.

Lawrence Fox was Wally Hedrick's student at the San Francisco Art Institute and a lifelong friend. He'll share his experiences with Wally, Wally's work, and the role he played in San Francisco's Renaissance. Larry is an artist, book designer, and former teacher.

Architectural Tile & Terra Cotta: From a 3,000 Mile Road Trip

Bruce Marwick
 Thursday, Oct 14
 7 to 8:30 pm

Bruce Marwick, Preservation Chair of the Sacramento Art Deco Society, will share pictures and stories about his cross-country road trip investigating the history of architectural tile and terra cotta. The presentation highlights cities in Ohio on the famous National Road before moving west to St. Louis and traversing Route 66 for 1,850 miles to the Santa Monica Pier. Along the way, many of Route 66's vintage and kitsch attractions will also be discussed.

Bruce Marwick is a board member of the Sacramento History Alliance and Preservation Chair of the Sacramento Art Deco Society. He has written many articles about early 20th Century California artists and architects, including Alfred Eichler, designer of the Tower Bridge, and Carlo Taliabue, a noted Gladding McBean sculptor.

Drinking with Jane Austen

Richard Foss
 Thursday, Nov 18
 7 to 8:30 pm

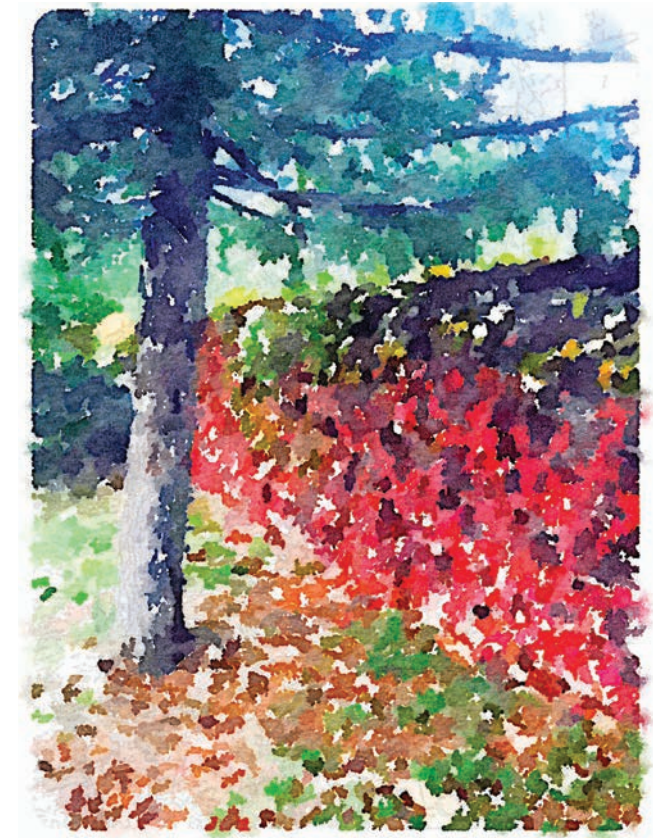
The world portrayed in Jane Austen's books was one of elaborate banquets and sumptuous parties, but the author provided few details on just what was consumed at those events, and some items she mentioned are unfamiliar to modern readers. This lecture supplies some details Ms. Austen left out—what refreshments both alcoholic and non-intoxicating were enjoyed in England of 1800, and how Ms. Austen indicated the character of her characters from the things they chose to drink or serve.

Richard Foss is a journalist, author, culinary historian, and lecturer based in Manhattan Beach, California. He has written two books, *Rum: A Global History* and *Food In The Air and Space: The Surprising History of Food and Drink in the Skies*. He is the Guest Curator at the [Autry Museum of the American West](#) for an exhibition called "Cooking Up a New West" that will open in May of 2023.

BITS AND PIECES

Feeling creative? Join **Bits & Pieces** for sessions that are one hour (or less) as we connect to learn how to create something beautiful and have fun. Each one is a separate program. Register now to get the Zoom detail, but if you want email reminders, you will need to register for each session of interest separately on Eventbrite. A list of Eventbrite links will be sent to all Renaissance members who register by early September. These events will be open to the public as a way to promote the Renaissance Society and give back to our larger community. Feel free to invite your friends! Details, including supplies, will be posted on Eventbrite. The program is coordinated by **Kathy Hart** who loves to involve the community in hands-on art and writing projects.

PLEASE NOTE: We will meet on Sept. 23rd, Oct. 28th, and Nov. 18th! Additional programs might pop up.



Art Doodles: Paint a whimsical tree for all seasons with Kathy

Kathy Hart
 Thursday, Sept 23
 11—Noon

Watercolor Doodles: Paint pumpkins & fall flowers with Kathy

Kathy Hart
 Thursday, Oct 28
 11—Noon

Watercolor Doodles: Paint fall foliage with Kathy

Kathy Hart
 Thursday, Nov 18
 11 - Noon



Books, Language, and Literature

Literary Hoaxes and Cultural Imposters

Maryellen Burns
Friday, Oct 15
10 to 11:30 am

If a non-fiction book is good, if it's artful, entertaining, and informative, should it matter who the author is, or if the story or conversations recounted inside are true? William Shakespeare, Edgar Allan Poe, Jonathon Swift, John Steinbeck, Clifford Irving, James Frey, Penelope Ashe, Danny Santiago, Laura Albert, and hundreds of other authors were either victims or purveyors of plagiarism, forgery, or an outright literary hoax. We'll discuss the impact these books had when we discovered the writers weren't who we thought they were or the story they revealed was made up.

Maryellen Burns has been a ghostwriter and author known to artfully share a story recounted to her without checking its veracity. An avid book collector, she prizes her collection of works created by cultural imposters or literary hoaxers.

The Mother Code with Carole Stivers

Carole Stivers in conversation with
Anne Da Vigo
Friday, Oct 22
7 to 8:30 pm

The year is 2049. When a deadly non-viral agent intended for biowarfare spreads out of control, scientists must scramble to ensure the

survival of the human race. They turn to their last resort, a plan to place genetically engineered children inside the cocoons of large-scale robots. There is one hope of preserving the human order: an intelligence programmed into these machines that renders each unique in its own right. Carol will discuss the book in conversation with author Anne Da Vigo.

Carole Stivers received her PhD in Biochemistry at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and post-doctoral work at Stanford University before launching a career in medical diagnostics. She has combined her love of writing and her fascination with the possibilities of science to create her debut novel *The Mother Code*.

Japanese Wood Block Prints—Ukiyo-e

Karun Yee
Friday, Nov 5
10 to 11:30 am

Woodblock printing or block printing originated in China in antiquity as a method of printing on textiles and later paper. Woodblock printing also changed the shape and structure of books.

Karun Yee's interest in community service, education, Chinese history, and love of travel was inspired by her late husband Doug. She continues to explore the world for him and unlocking hidden histories.



Economics

Debunking Money Myths: The Copernican Revolution in Economics

Mark Dempsey
Friday, Sept 17
10 to 11:30 am

A former loan officer and award-winning technical writer presents a seldom-told story of obligation, debt, and money. Their origins intersect with social, commercial, and religious themes throughout history. These origins precede even writing. Myths about them persist to this day. The truth about debt and money, its history and narrative, implies some surprising solutions to the systemic problems plaguing society today, including national 'debt,' immigration, health care, and climate catastrophe.

Retired technical writer **Mark Dempsey** has explained complex software for years. He also has experience in the real estate industry as a broker, loan officer, and member of the Sacramento County Community Planning Advisory Council. He's self-educated about Modern Money Theory, but given how little press heterodox (unorthodox) economics is given, Marks' own research, and the work of some unorthodox economists, present background for this address.

History

History as Mystery

Ed Sherman
Friday, Sept 10
10 to 11:30 am

Sherlock Holmes had a keenly developed method for sleuthing out dastardly criminals. In much the same way as Mr. Holmes, historians solve puzzles about the past. How do they do it?

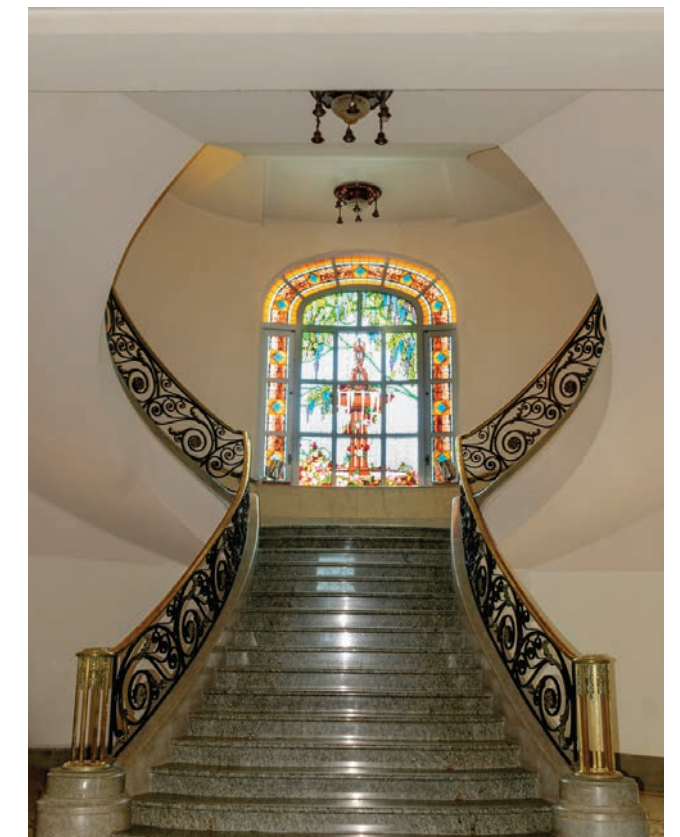
Ed Sherman has spent more than 60 years studying and teaching ancient history at colleges in California and Nevada. In addition, he spent nearly three years wandering around the Mediterranean exploring its antiquities and landscapes. Ed has led seminars for the Renaissance Society for the past 10 years.

Stolpersteine, the Largest Memorial in the World

Angie Rooney
Friday, Sept 24
10 to 11:30 am

Stolpersteine (Eng. stumbling stones) are small brass plated memorial stones implanted to commemorate the victims of the Nazi Holocaust at their last known residence before arrest and transport. It also tells my story of having a Stolperstein installed in Munich, Germany in memory of my grandfather, who was murdered at Auschwitz. Over 75,000 such memorial stones have been installed all over Europe. The idea is now expanding to the United States to memorialize victims of lynchings and other hate crimes.

Angie Rooney is a retired contracts manager and has been a member of the Renaissance Society since 2007. She has participated in many Renaissance programs and has encouraged a number of friends to join. She has made presentations to the Renaissance Society, on subjects such as genealogy and her family's history in Shanghai.



tuesday speaker series

All presentations are held from 2 to 3:45 pm on the dates indicated. If you have any questions please reach out to the coordinator, Jack Jennings. You can find this information in this catalog's directory.

Hobos and Train Hoppers

Maryellen Burns
Friday, Oct 1
10 to 11:30 am

Emerging in the 19th century, hobos traveled on trains and created a code of ethics and a rich language of symbols, stories, and songs that still persists today. We'll uncover some of their stories—from the infamous Harry Burns to Jack London, Woody Guthrie, T-Bone Slim, Utah Phillips, Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, Sacramento author William Vollman, and the occasional woman who trekked across America, searching for food or work.

Maryellen Burns' father rode the rails at the age of 7, leaving Chicago in 1919 on a freight train to Hollywood. She's been fascinated by hobos and train hoppers ever since he first shared his personal stories of life on the road when she threatened to run away from home at about the same age.



Adventures in Genealogy: Finding My Family...Finding History

Angie Rooney
Friday, Oct 29
10 to 11:30 am

This presentation is a description of how the presenter found her family, explaining the processes and tools used, interspersed with family anecdotes and the history these people lived through. It will give participants ideas about how to proceed in finding their ancestors, but it is NOT intended to be a scholarly genealogy class.

Angie Rooney is a retired contracts manager and has been a member of the Renaissance Society since 2007. She has participated in many Renaissance programs and has encouraged a number of friends to join. She has made presentations to the Renaissance Society, on subjects such as genealogy and her family's history in Shanghai.

Founding Women—National Parks

Carolyn Martin
Friday, Nov 12
10 to 11:30 am

Very persistent women led campaigns to create national parks such as Redwoods, Mesa Verde, Great Sand Dunes, Wolf Trap for the Performing Arts, and many others. These women often worked years to achieve their goal, sometimes with some dramatic tactics. Learn about these dynamic women and discover some national park sites that are not well known, but fascinating.

Carolyn Martin earned an M.A. in U.S. History from the University of Washington. She created women's history events for faculty, staff, and students, and taught U.S. history part-time in community colleges where her students received a decent dose of women's and social history with a dash of humor.

Fatal Encounters with Police

William Vizzard
Sept 7

The George Floyd killing by a police officer has dominated the news for a year, initiated massive protest throughout the country, and led to pending legislation to address the problem. This is not just a racial issue, but one which is part of police culture, training, policy, and practice. It has become a social and political cause, but what and how does this happen on the street level?

William Vizzard is a retired professor and chair of the Criminal Justice Division at Sac State. He has spent 29 years working and managing law enforcement at the local and federal level. He has taught courses in policing, investigation, justice, policy, and management at the undergraduate and graduate level.

China: Regional Dominance by 2030

Jerry Glasser
Sept 14

China has been a contentious issue in America for decades. It became front and center of American foreign and economic policy during the Trump Administration, and continues to be so. China is not interested in serious negotiations on "Climate Change" until 2030. From Taiwan to the South China Sea, to South America, to West Africa, let's take a realistic look at the issues and the West's inability to even realize the magnitude of the regional/global threat that is the People's Republic of China.

Jerry Glasser is a retired U.S. Air Force colonel, pilot, and physics, math, and robotics educator. He had a long and distinguished career flying secret worldwide reconnaissance

missions in the SR-17 Blackbird at 80,000 feet looking 300 miles into China. He has traveled extensively throughout the world. Today he follows aircraft development and presents regularly at Renaissance and aviation symposia.

The Science of a Happy Dog

Dr. Emma Grigg
Sept 21

Dr. Grigg will discuss the latest research in animal behavior and how to combine this with practical solutions to have a happy dog. She will show us how to recognize their body language and other clues to keep them healthy and happy. The best part is we will learn more about how our pets think and feel and how to establish or maintain our relationship with them.

Dr. Emma Grigg is the co-author of *The Science of a Happy Dog*. She has a master's degree in animal behavior and a PhD in Ecology. She is board certified in clinical animal behavior and has taught courses on animal behavior at the college level.





Whatever Happened to the News? Fact, Opinion, and Lies

Jennifer Kerr
Sept 28

Yellow Journalism. Fake News. Sensational news has been around as long as powerful people have had agendas, but these days it seems more pervasive and overwhelming. After a brief history, this talk will delve into ways to find news sources, among the blur of choices, that work, distinguishing facts from opinion and lies.

Jennifer Kerr worked for the Associated Press for 25 years in Charleston, West Virginia, Los Angeles, and Sacramento. Like all AP reporters, she covered everything from state legislatures to trials, to forest fires, floods, and elections.

A Room with a View, PLEASE! Living and Housing Options as We Age

Renee Balcom
Oct 5

Long-term care will be a necessity for most of us at some point in our lives. How we receive and experience this type of care is unknown. The baby boomers are striving to do this differently. The future of long-term care and housing will be as unique as each individual. The “old folks’ home” just won’t do for the generation that has touched and revolutionized everything in our culture. Renee will open your imagination to aging in place, the village concept, senior co-housing, multi-generational housing, home sharing programs, and continuing care retirement.

Renee Balcom is a Senior Healthcare Advocate. She and her company provide senior health care education, advice, services, and advocate for seniors on the living, fiduciary, legal, and relationship challenges of aging.

The Civil War Reconstruction

Cathy Minicucci
Oct 12

Once the Civil War ended, the United States faced five major issues: (1) How would the former Confederate states be readmitted to the Union? (2) What would be the role of former Confederates in the new South? (3) What rights would freed slaves have? (4) Without slavery, how would the Southern economy function? (5) How would newly liberated slaves organize their communities? This presentation will address these five issues and how they were resolved in the Reconstruction Era.

Cathy Adams Minicucci graduated from UCLA with a BA in Anthropology and earned her master’s degree from Harvard University. She served as education policy staff to the California Legislature, both Senate and Assembly. For 30 years she led Minicucci Associates, an evaluation consulting firm focused on programs for children and youth for public and private clients. Since retiring, Cathy has been an active member of the Renaissance Society, giving off-campus lectures and teaching seminars on turning points in American history, women’s suffrage, the American Revolution, and profiles of American leadership.

Our California Budget

Russell S. Gould
Oct 19

We all know the scale of the California economy, something about the drivers, sources of revenue, and the surplus this year. What is the actual surplus, and what are the laws and politics that determine how it will be used? What can we expect in the future and how will it affect us and our neighbors?

Russ Gould served in a variety of state leadership positions culminating as director of

finance and budget director in Gov. Pete Wilson’s administration and is now president of the Gould Group. He has been vice president of Wachovia Wells Fargo Banks providing investment management, and recently completed a 12-year term as chair of the UC Regents. He has a long history of management and board leadership in investment and education communities.

Butch Cassidy, Sundance and Etta: Not the Movie Ending

Jack Jennings
Oct 26

Did *The Saga of the Wild Bunch* end in a Bolivian village high in the Andes? More movies, books, newspaper accounts, family letters, diaries, and Butch sightings dispute this end. And what about the beautiful Etta, or was she Ethel, who returned to San Francisco and was never heard from again? The Pinkertons had driven them from America, pursued them to their ranch and through South America. They were not the only American outlaws in South America. Butch was a very smart guy, and the best escape was to be dead. Imagine how easy it was to disappear and reinvent yourself in 1904. Where you could go? Who you could be?

Jack Jennings is a former book publisher and media consultant whose career spanned decades and genres from editor-in-chief of engineering at McGraw Hill, founder of Canfield Press, publisher of Hampton Roads, producer of Sewing Today, PBS, and finally consultant to the leading author, activist, and publisher of Marijuana Growing Books. He did not inhale.

Inside Elections and How They Work

Deborah Seiler
Nov 2

Is there a more critical and controversial subject today than elections, especially as the losing party insists our most recent national election was fraudulent? However, the Justice Department and the courts have upheld the election. This presentation will take you inside the process to see the “nuts and bolts” of how voters register, procedures for counting and check-

ing mail ballots, early voting, how workers are trained, what happens at the polls, and what happens after the polls close (how your votes are counted). Can we all feel more certain our elections are legitimate and not rigged?

Deborah Seiler was an elections administrator for 35 years, in both the public and private sectors. She was Secretary of State, March Fong Eu’s chief of elections and political reform, a member of the Fair Political Practices Commission, and San Diego County registrar of voters. She helped restructure the state’s election codes and has observed elections in many foreign countries where she advised on their processes.



California’s Delta Water Crisis

David Abelson
Nov 9

As we begin another year of drought, the water provided by The Delta is more important than ever. It consists of more than half a million acres of diverse natural resources, farmland, and a history dating back to the creation of the state in 1850. Relatively few Californians even know where the Delta is or have visited this important part of our state. This presentation will begin with a brief overview of the Delta’s complex ecosystem, economy, and the current controversy over building a large tunnel or tunnels to export water south for agricultural use and Southern California.

David Abelson is past president of the Renaissance Society and is an attorney who specialized in water rights and environmental law with the state. He has taught courses on water resources at Sac State, and as a fisherman takes this personally.



The Second Reconstruction: How the Civil Rights Movement Ended Jim Crow Laws in the South

Cathy Minicucci
Nov 16

Once U. S. Army troops pulled out of the former Confederacy in 1877, Southern states established a harsh caste system called Jim Crow. Jim Crow was the name of a popular minstrel show in which white people wore Black face and made fun of Black people. Jim Crow laws imposed harsh segregation, social restrictions, and voter suppression on Blacks in the South. Post-World War II, the civil rights movement involving sit-ins, Freedom Rides, court cases, and the March on Washington led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This presentation will cover the history of Jim Crow and the emergence of the civil rights movement in the late 1940s through the 1960s.

Cathy Adams Minicucci graduated from UCLA with a BA in Anthropology and earned her master's degree from Harvard University. She served as education policy staff to the California Legislature, both Senate and Assembly. For 30 years she led Minicucci Associates, an evaluation consulting firm focused on programs for children and youth for public and private clients. Since retiring, Cathy has been an active member of the Renaissance Society, giving off-campus lectures and teaching seminars on turning points in American history, women's suffrage, the American Revolution, and profiles of American leadership.

Could the Civil War Have Been Avoided?

Doug Bonetti
Nov 30

As our country becomes more and more politically divided and estranged, with the recent attack upon Congress, organized militias are challenging government authority. The effects of the Civil War, 156 years ago, still linger on, so what better time to assess if or how that war could have been avoided?

Doug Bonetti is a Sac State graduate who enjoyed a 34-year career with Procter & Gamble in sales and marketing. His passion is Civil War history, and he has become a serious collector of artifacts including weapons, letters, and accoutrements. Doug speaks widely at schools, the Renaissance Society, and SIRS Civil War Chapters. He most recently was invited to speak at Duke University.

U.S. Firearms Policy

William Vizzard
Dec 7

The political and media debate over gun laws and use continues to divide the country with no solution in sight. For every state that enacts regulations to screen gun purchases, another, such as Texas, eliminates purchasing and carrying restrictions. We will talk about the origins of the issue, the current situation, and efforts to legislate gun control. Can this problem be improved if not solved?

William Vizzard is a retired professor and chair of the Criminal Justice Division at Sac State. He has spent 29 years working and managing law enforcement at the local and federal level. He has taught courses in policing, investigation, justice policy, and management at the undergraduate and graduate level.

Forums are a special category of highly acclaimed and high-profile speakers addressing current topics or special interests to a wide variety of our Renaissance members. These esteemed speakers are also seasoned experts in their fields. They bring a diversity, depth, and breadth of topics to inform us **about critical issues facing us on an ongoing basis.**

All Forums occur on Friday afternoons from 3 to 4 or 4:30 pm when few other Renaissance seminars or presentations are being held. Speakers encourage the audience to ask probing questions about their topics.

featured forum for sept 10



A Conversation with Climate Scientist Dr. Katharine Hayhoe

Dr. Katharine Hayhoe
Sept 10

[Click Here to Register for this Event](#)

PLEASE NOTE: This Forum will be open to the public. Invite your family and friends to learn more about the Renaissance Society at this Forum!

Professor Hayhoe is one of the most renowned climate scientists of our time and a riveting speaker! In addition to being a world-class scientist, she is a devout Christian who strongly encourages members of all faiths to participate in stewarding our planet. She currently serves as the Political Science Endowed Professor in Public Policy and Public Law in the Department of Political Science, and is a Director of the Climate Center at Texas Tech University. Among Dr. Hayhoe's numerous awards and accolades, she was named one of TIME Magazine's 100 most influential people in 2014 as well a United Nations Champion of the Earth in 2019. She is the founder and CEO of ATMOS Research, which bridges the gap between scientists and stakeholders, to provide relevant, state-of-the-art information on how climate change is affecting our lives. Her upcoming book, *Saving Us—A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World* is not another doomsday narrative about a planet on fire. She argues that when it comes to changing hearts and minds, facts are only one part of the equation. We need to find shared values in order to connect our unique identities to collective action.

Selling Genes, Buying Race



Dr. Lisa Ikemoto
Sept 17

In the late 20th century, genetics became the explanation for who and why we are. The power of the gene became the basis of several industries, including biotechnology, fertility, and genetic testing. **Dr. Lisa Ikemoto** is the Martin Luther King, Jr. Professor at the UC Davis School of Law and a Faculty Associ-

ate of the U.C. Davis Center for Science and Innovation Studies. A very powerful speaker, Dr. Ikemoto teaches bioethics, public health care law, reproductive rights, and marital property. Her research focuses on the ways that race and gender mediate access to and impact biomedical technology and health care. Her projects include tracking the formation of markets for human cells, tissues, and DNA. Her recent work addresses reproductive tourism and the ways in which human gamete use links the fertility

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Follow the link to sign up or sign in.

<https://apps.cce.csus.edu/sites/renaissanceSociety/index.cfm?>

and biotechnology industries. Referencing her book, *Selling Genes, Buying Race*, she will discuss how genomics has created a resurgence in the ideology of biological race and the simultaneous commercialization of racial identity.

The Modoc War: The Tribe That Wouldn't Die



Cheewa James
Moderator:
Dr. Rose Soza War Soldier
Sept 24



Cheewa James is a Native American from the Klamath Indian Reservation in Oregon and the great-granddaughter of Schkeitko (She-key-et-ko), a Modoc War leader. She was a ranger-historian in the Lava Beds National Monument, site of the Modoc War, and consultant in the Oregon Public Broadcasting production *The Modoc War*. This 1872-73 war was America's most expensive Indian battle and 2022 will be the 150th anniversary of the event when 50-60 Modoc warriors stood off over 1,000 U.S. soldiers. At war's end, they were sent as prisoners of war to the Oklahoma Indian Territory. Cheewa has written four books (all with Native themes), including: *Catch the Whisper of the Wind* and *MODOC: The Tribe That Wouldn't Die*. She is a former television anchorwoman, winning seven United Press International Awards, and a national Golden Mike Award recipient. She has been a Sacramento KVIE-PBS talk show hostess and producer and was featured in a PBS special, *American Indian Circles of Wisdom*. Cheewa will be interviewed by **Dr. Rose Soza War Soldier**, a member of the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, and an Assistant Professor at Sac State in the Department of Ethnic Studies specializing in 20th Century American Indian activism.

The Disabled Civil Rights Movement



Dr. Mary Lee Vance
Oct 1

Dr. Mary Lee Vance earned her Ph.D. from Michigan State University, despite having had a composite score of only 19 on her ACT exam. She is the director of CSUS Services for Students with Disabilities and has held multiple administrative roles at several two- and four-year colleges. She identifies as a disabled female Korean adoptee and is the lead editor of *"Beyond the Americans with Disabilities Act: Proactively Planning for Accessible Post-Secondary Educational Offerings."* Her fourth book on the American Disabilities Act is in progress. Dr. Vance will address the intersection of race, disability, civil rights, and the reason why disability is a normal, positive, and natural form of human diversity.

AAPI Strong: Stop the Hate!



Pat Fong Kushida
Oct 8

Hate crimes against Asian American Pacific Island (AAPI) people have increased dramatically in recent times. **AAPI Strong** is a national initiative that seeks to address these hate-related incidents, as 38% are directed at AAPI small businesses. It is based on three tenets: data collection, technical assistance/training, and advocacy/policy work for AAPI small businesses. **Pat Fong Kushida** graduated from Sac State in 1985 and is currently the President/CEO of the Sacramento Asian-Pacific Chamber of Commerce (SACC) since 1998, and President/CEO of the California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce. This combined entity represents the largest ethnic chamber in California today, serving over 600,000 Asian Pacific owned California businesses. Ms. Kushida's strength is forming collaborations with many community-based organizations on issues related to regional economic development to advance their community's interests.

The Justice System: 2021 and Beyond



Judge James Mize
Oct 15

Are Zoom trials here for good? Can I appear in Zoom court in my pajamas? Can I continue operating on my patient while at a traffic hearing? Do we even need courthouses anymore? Can a technological court still be "just?" Can I be a juror from my home? Do I need to face my violent spouse in court or can I just Zoom in by phone? What innovations do we keep and what do we reject? **Judge James Mize** will answer all these important questions,

and more! Jim is a Superior Court Judge in Sacramento, having served as the court's Supervising Judge of the family court and Presiding Judge of the entire court system. He is a former president of local and statewide judicial organizations and has been selected as "Judge of the Year" by these associations. He earned a B.A. and M.S.W. from U.C. Berkeley and his J.D. from USF. He has authored over 100 articles, columns, and books and has taught over 100 courses and seminars to attorneys and judges in areas of family law, domestic violence, legal ethics, judicial impartiality, etc. Afraid to retire, he still works full time at the ancient age of 75!

featured forum for oct 22



Sacramento's Fantastic Olympic Gold Medalist Swimmers: Mike Burton, Jeff Float, Summer (Sanders) Schlopy, Mark Spitz, Debbie (Meyer) Weber

Moderator: Beth Ruyak
Oct 22

[Click Here to Register for this Event](#)

PLEASE NOTE: This Forum will be 90-minutes long and is open to the public. Invite your family and friends to learn more about the Renaissance Society at this Forum!

This Forum will feature five Olympic Gold Medalist swimmers currently, or originally, from the Sacramento region. It will be a "round table" discussion of the experiences of being a world record holder and the epitome of success in the sports world, what it took to have such focus, what each gold medalist had to give up for their careers, and how they handled transitioning from the intensity of training and competition to post-Olympic "civilian life." Our very capable **Beth Ruyak**, formerly from Capital Public Radio, will moderate the discussion.

Mike Burton is a three-time Olympic gold medalist. In 1972, he was USA's swimming team captain and amassed seven world swimming records, 19 United States records, 13 national championships and five NCAA titles. He became the first swimmer in history to defend the Olympic 1500-meter freestyle title by breaking the world record with his third Olympic gold in 2000. He was installed in the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1977 and was chosen by USA Swimming to the "Team of the Century"

During his infancy, viral meningitis claimed up to 90% of **Jeff Float's** hearing. Despite this handicap, Jeff did indeed "Float" ... really fast! While competing at the World Games for the Deaf, he finished first in all ten offered events, which remains an unprecedented feat 44 years later. In both 1980 and 1984 he was chosen as the swimming team's peer-elected team captain, and clinched

the 4X200-meter free-relay by 4/100ths of a second, smashing the world record by 5 seconds for the gold! He now inspires youth as aquatics director and head swim coach with Spare Time Inc., and personal trainer at his Arden Hills Swim Club in Sacramento.

An Olympic champion swimmer, **Summer (Sanders) Schlopy** is also an NBA television host, a Nickelodeon game show host, and an ambassador of international charitable organizations. She began her swimming career at the age of 4. During her two-year Stanford swimming career, she won every NCAA title in which she was entered, and took the National Championship with her teammates in 1992. In 1992, she represented Team USA at the Barcelona Olympic Games bringing home more medals than anyone else in the pool: 2 Golds, 1 Silver, and 1 Bronze. Now she enjoys a 28-year career as a TV host and reporter for every major network. Summer is also the author of *Champions Are Raised, Not Born: How My Parents Made Me a Success*.

Mark Spitz is one of the most celebrated athletes of all time with 35 World records and seven Olympic gold medals in swimming. In 2000, Mark was voted one of the six Best Olympians of the Century by Sports Illustrated and is now a well-known motivational speaker. Recently, the International Olympic Committee selected Mark as one of five Athletes of the Century. Mark currently works with the Laureus World Sports Academy on projects worldwide in concert with the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation, which uses sports as a powerful tool to help young people overcome violence, discrimination, and disadvantage in their lives.

Debbie (Meyer) Weber was a 2-time gold medalist in the '67 Pan American Games, 3-time gold medalist in the '68 Olympics, broke 19 American records, and 20 World records in swimming. She is also a member of the US Olympic Hall of Fame, International Swimming Hall of Fame, US High School Hall of Fame, Women's Sports Foundation Hall of Fame, and Sacramento Sports Hall of Fame.

She has also worked in promotional roles for Speedo International, Coca Cola, Sports Illustrated, Life Savers, and Iron Kids, and served as a commentator for CBS Sports Spectacular and ESPN. Debbie owned, operated and taught at the very successful Debbie Meyer Swim School in Sacramento for 25 years and is married to Bill Weber, with 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

We are grateful to have, once again, as a special treat, our very own 4+ Emmy Award winning **Beth Ruyak**—reporter, writer, news anchor, producer, and former host of Capital Public Radio's Insight—who will moderate and interview these amazing athletes. Beth began her career in journalism nearly four decades ago as a news reporter in Minnesota. She landed the first of six Olympic assignments with the NBC Sports team in Barcelona. After 30 years in television, she jumped into public radio and as of 2020 is now focusing on documentary work with her newest endeavor, Ruyak Media.



Implicit Bias Contributes to the Persistence of Systemic Racism



Dr. Rita Cameron Wedding
Oct 29

The crises we are experiencing in America are not random events. The murder of George Floyd, the rise in anti-Asian violence, the violent attack on our nation's Capitol, and the introduction of the most racist voter restriction laws since the Jim Crow Era are all evidence of systemic racism. Despite the persistent racial disparities across all public systems, many people do not believe systemic racism exists. **Dr. Cameron Wedding**, now Faculty Emeritus, was Chair of the Women's Studies Department at Sac State for 23 years. She will discuss how our implicit biases can simultaneously obscure and contribute to systemic racism. In 2012 Dr. Wedding was the recipient of the John C. Livingston Distinguished Faculty Lecture Award, the highest faculty honor awarded by Sacramento State University.

A Conversation with Comedian Tom Dreesen



Moderator: Mike Agron
Nov 5



Tom Dreesen is a well-respected and very funny comedian, monologist, and entertainer. He started his career in the streets and saloons of Harvey, IL shining shoes, to ultimately performing on the world stage. He appeared over 500 times on national television, including 60 appearances on The Tonight Show and 50 appearances on The Late Show with David Letterman. In addition to forming the first and only black and white comedy team with Tim Reid, he honed his talents to become the opening act for many well-known entertainers such as Sammy Davis Jr, Smokey Robinson, Natalie Cole, Tony Orlando, and Elton John, and for 14 years opened for Frank Sinatra. In addition to his comedy chops, he's also a mo-

tivational speaker, humanitarian, and has published several books, the most recent is called *Still Standing*, a behind the scenes look into his groundbreaking entertainment career. He will be joined by Renaissance music class leader, **Mike Agron**, who will walk us through Tom's career to have a close look at the anatomy of his humor.

All About Governor Gavin Newsom's Recall Attempt



Rob Stutzman and
Steven Maviglio
Nov 12



California is facing the second gubernatorial recall attempt in its history this November, as voters go to the polls to decide whether to keep Governor Newsom in office or replace him. As former deputy chief of staff for communications to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, **Rob Stutzman** is a Republican political strategist who specializes in campaigns, communications, crisis management, and award-winning political advertising. On the other hand, **Steven Maviglio** is a Democratic political strategist repeatedly named in Capitol Weekly as one of the state's most influential campaign strategists. He specializes in public affairs strategies for progressive political campaigns and clients. He was deputy chief of staff for three history-making Assembly Speakers, and before joining the Legislature, Steven was press secretary for Governor Gray Davis. These two political veterans of the state's first-ever gubernatorial recall, the 2003 campaign that led to Governor Gray Davis being removed from office and replaced by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, will provide insights on this year's recall attempt. They will discuss the history of the recall process, the origins of this year's effort, polling, messaging, finances, and what it all means for California and the nation.

The Future of Electronic Wearables: E-Textiles and "Smart" Clothing



Dr. Gozde Goncu Berk
Nov 19

Assistant Professor **Gozde Goncu Berk** from the UC Davis Department of Design is breaking barriers by developing extraordinary

designs in wearable "reactive" clothing (for people with disabilities or improving pain management from chronic diseases) that "sense" changes in people's emotions such as anxiety and/or physiological conditions. Her focus is on "How can we improve the quality of our lives through innovative functional clothing designs?" She received her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota and has a Master's degree in Textiles and Clothing Design and Bachelor's degree in Industrial Design. Dr. Goncu Berk will provide an overview of how digital fabrication techniques, electronic textile design, and smart clothing differ from wearable accessories, and how these can augment the health and wellbeing of underrepresented populations, children, and/or those with diseases through functional clothing.

Restoring the Klamath River: The World's Largest Dam-Removal Project



Lester Snow
Dec 3

The Klamath River stretches 257 miles from the Cascades of Southern Oregon through the Klamath Mountains, to the Pacific Ocean in California. The Klamath was once the third largest salmon producing river on the west coast; and the River and salmon were the center of tribal life and culture for thousands of years. Damming of the River, starting in 1918, dramatically changed its flow, endangered salmon, and disrupted the lives of the indigenous people of the Klamath Basin. **Lester Snow** has a long career working on complex natural resource management. He has served as secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency, director of the California Department

of Water Resources, regional director of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, executive director of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, and general manager of the San Diego County Water Authority. Lester will educate us on this massive restoration project, its implications for the future of salmon, and will bring a tribal-cultural perspective to the impact on this region.

The Renaissance Society: Past, Present, and the Vision for the Future



Ken Cross
Dec 10



This past year has been a time of rapid change, adaptation, and transformation for the Renaissance Society. With the mandated "social distancing" pandemic protocols, an opportunity was revealed for the Renaissance Society to reinvent this 35-year old organization. Discover what the future holds and share your thoughts and ideas for the Renaissance Society's continuous improvement.

Ken Cross graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY in 1974 with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. He served as an airborne ranger and U.S. Army armor officer for 10 years. Ken later became a financial planner, sales manager, and corporate sales trainer serving career military service members. For the 20 years before retirement, he was the Spiritual Life Center Church development officer followed by 12 years as CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento. Ken joined Renaissance in 2016 and has been our Renaissance Society president since July 1st, 2020.

Diversity, Community Engagement, and Racial Justice

Seminars

The Banality of Evil: Racism, Prejudice, and Fascism: the Original Sins

Greg Beale, Thursdays, Sept 9 to Dec 2, 2 to 3:30 pm

Biracial/Multicultural Identity in America

Darryl Omar Freeman, Fridays, Sept 10 to Dec 10, 10 to 11:30 am

Racial Healing Circle: Conversations on Race

Stacie Walton & Gretchen Jung, Mondays, Sept 13 to Dec 6, 10 to Noon

Presentations

Stolpersteine, the Largest Memorial in the World

Angie Rooney, Friday, Sept 24, 10 to 11:30 am

Fatal Encounters with Police

William Vizzard, Tuesday, Sept 7, 2 to 3:45 pm

Forums

A Conversation with Climate Scientist Dr. Katharine Hayhoe

Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Friday, Sept 10, 3 to 4 pm

Selling Genes, Buying Race

Professor Lisa Ikemoto, Friday, Sept 17, 3 to 4 pm

The Disabled Civil Rights Movement

Dr. Mary Lee Vance, Friday, Oct 1, 3 to 4 pm

AAPI Strong: Stop the Hate!

Pat Fong Kushida, Friday, Oct 8, 3 to 4 pm

Implicit Bias Contributes to the Persistence of Systemic Racism

Dr. Rita Cameron Wedding, Friday, Oct 29, 3 to 4 pm

join our team!

The Renaissance Society is always looking for new Seminar Leaders and SIG Facilitators. Interested in becoming an instructor?

Our seminar leaders and co-leaders; SIG facilitators and co-facilitators; and speakers are at the heart of The Renaissance Society experience. We welcome and appreciate new and returning instructors and invite proposals for:

- Single presentations or a series that lasts three, six, or twelve weeks.
- Various teaching formats, including facilitated discussions of books, films, or ideas; informational lectures; presentations; hands-on instruction; and field trips.
- From arts to food to hiking to zoology, we welcome all topics, issues, and activities.

Our peer-to-peer instructors have found teaching, in some cases for the first time, a rich and rewarding experience. Your selected topic may reflect either vocational expertise or an avocational passion. Invariably, Renaissance Society instructors describe teaching deepens their own knowledge of the subject matter. Participants also bring their own expertise and life experiences to the classroom creating opportunities for lively class discussions.

Traditionally, Renaissance instructors have come from the membership. However, we also actively seek presenters and speakers from the community who have knowledge of a wide variety of subject matter, sensitivity to different learning styles, and an ability to clearly communicate concepts



How to Submit a Proposal

Send an email to lorene.sarne@csus.edu or call 916-661-6981 for more information. The program committee reviews course proposals and provides instructor support and training.

how do I register?

After officially enrolling in The Renaissance Society, you will receive additional information on how to register for seminars, shared interest groups, presentations, and forums. You can enroll in as many programs as you have time for. We offer dozens to choose from. If you aren't a member of The Renaissance Society, you can still attend our free Community Presentations. Information on how to register is regularly updated on our website.

how do I take classes online?

After enrolling in a program, you will receive a registration confirmation email from your instructor and a reminder email prior to class that contains the information you need to join the class.

- If you haven't used Zoom before, leave about 10-minutes to set it up before your first use.
- If you plan to use a laptop or desktop, the first time you click on a link it will download a free and secure program to your computer.
- If you plan to use a tablet or smartphone, you'll want to download the free and secure Zoom application from your application store.

what equipment do I need?

You can access Zoom on a smartphone or mobile device. Features are limited. When linking from a computer, you can use the full capabilities of Zoom.

The following optional equipment will enhance your experience:

1. **Web camera:** A camera will increase your connection with your instructor and your peers by allowing you to see each other face-to-face. Most newer computers feature a built-in web cam.
2. **Headset with a microphone:** This will let you hear and be heard more clearly. Using inexpensive headphones is all you need, such as the set used with your phone.
3. **Charger or power cable:** Charging your device during class will ensure your device remains fully charged for the length of your program.

our zoom online learning platform

Zoom is easy to use and your seminar leaders will send you instructions for their classes. Visit <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206175806> to view frequently asked participant questions. Zoom frequently offers short training programs to help you get started using their platform and learn about its many features.

Download Zoom to your computer, tablet or smartphone, and check if you have the latest version at this website: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362233-Upgrade-update-to-the-latest-version>

virtual orientation & rendezvous

We encourage all members to join the Renaissance Society for a Virtual Orientation & Rendezvous on Friday, August 20, 2021 from 10 to 11:30 am on Zoom.

If you are either a prospective or renewing member of the Renaissance Society, please attend our semi-annual Orientation & Rendezvous to learn more about our lifelong learning programs and services.

Orientation & Rendezvous program agenda:

Orientation—Learn how the virtual classrooms will operate and how you can participate.

Rendezvous moderated panel—Receive an overview of the numerous changes and transformations of the Renaissance Society programs and services for the Fall 2021 session.

Question & Answer Session—Panel members are available to respond to questions regarding what to expect during Fall 2021.

Volunteer opportunities—Learn from Sac State organizations seeking volunteers to support students and campus: The Sac State Gerontology and Physical Therapy Departments and the UC Davis Department of Preventive Medicine.

Register—for the Orientation & Rendezvous at the Renaissance Society website <https://tinyurl.com/RSWebsiteHomePage>

“The Renaissance Society’s online spring curriculum was easy to use, and was a key factor leading my enrollment in 3 different classes. As a first-time user, it easily facilitates reading about, and enrolling in their many and varied classes.”

—David J Grenier

“Virtual perfection!!”

—Michael Pidd

Zoom invitation—After your program registration is complete, you will receive an email with the Orientation & Rendezvous Zoom invitation link.

Following the Orientation & Rendezvous:

- **Survey.** Please complete the Constant Contact Renaissance Society Member Profile survey you receive by email following the event.
- **Spring 2021 “Flipbook” Catalog.** Check out our latest session in 2021 “Flipbook” catalog. <https://tinyurl.com/RSWebsiteHomePage>

Questions: Please contact Evie Boggs at evieboggs@comcast.net or call 916-955-1593 or Ken Cross kencross@kencrossconsulting.com or call 916-995-8288.

how members stay connected

The Renaissance Society offers many ways to stay connected

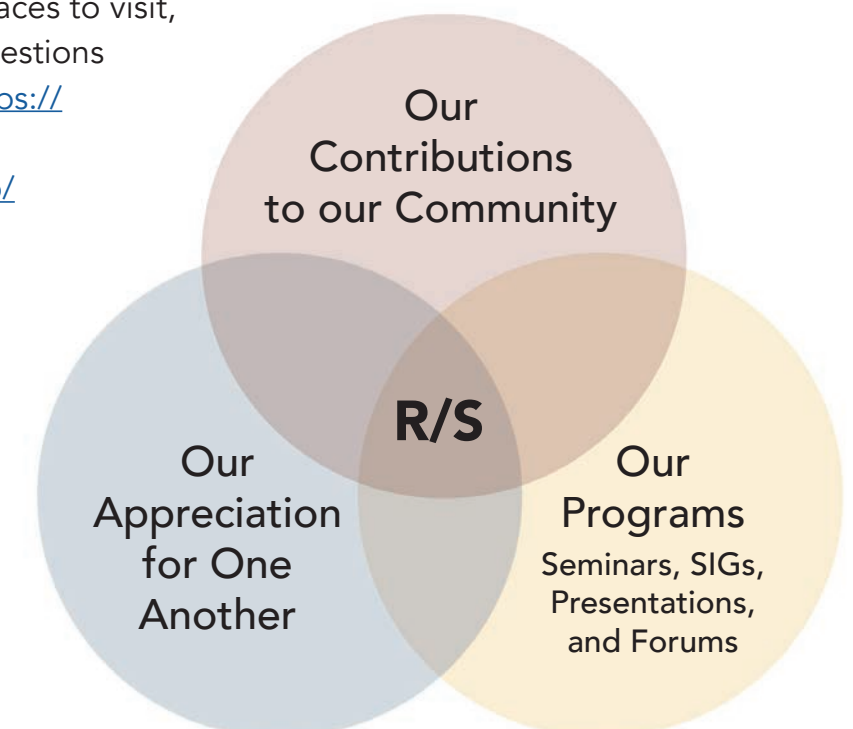
Every Wednesday, (and many other days too) members receive our e-blast on Constant Contact to keep members updated on news, events, programs, and social activities. The Recorder, our monthly newsletter, features stories about members, upcoming events and programs, updates by the President and information about new initiatives and opportunities for service.

Join our Facebook page online

Meet and greet more than 500 members online.

Our members post favorite places to visit, special events, photos, ask questions to seek advice and more—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/renaissancesocietysacramento/>

This site is for members only. Watch for our public Facebook, page, coming later this Fall, that you can share with your friends.



what is the value of

The Renaissance Society?

In times of “shelter in place” or “out and social,” we all need to feel connected and enjoy time to share stories with our friends, family, at the corner deli, restaurant, or our favorite coffee shop. We are not designed to live alone. The Renaissance Society creates many opportunities to feel connected—in a virtual space or in person.

A few reasons why *Renaissance Society* events can add value to your life are described below:

- **Continue to be a lifelong learner.** Being isolated at home, what better way to use your time than to keep your mind active and engaged?
- **Increase your learning capacity.** The Renaissance Society has expanded the learning week from Friday and Saturday to multiple days per week. You no longer must worry about competing seminars because of time and space limitations.
- **Stay socially connected.** All research studies show the best way to age well is to stay socially connected and in touch with your friends and loved ones. Isolation is not good for a person’s mental or physical health.
- **Enjoy Life.** Find Renaissance Society activities that feed your soul and brighten your spirit.
- **Continue to find ways to serve.** Service is the highest form of love. Be creative and find a way you can give back and make a difference in your community and the world.
- **Grow your mind, body, and spirit.** Renaissance Society programs are an ideal way to engage your mind and your time in new and engaging ways with other like-minded members.



members give

Renaissance members make a difference

*“Giving is not make a donation, it is **making a difference.**”*

—Kathy Calvin, Former President, UN Foundation

There are many ways that you can support Sac State students and your fellow Renaissance Society members with donations to one or more of our funds. Make your gifts in honor of someone’s birthday or achievements - a very special way to celebrate a friend or family member.

- ***Renaissance Scholarship Fund:** Provides scholarships annually to Sac State students.
- **Give a Gift of Membership:** Provides scholarships for members unable to afford the Renaissance annual membership fee.
- **Renaissance Society Fund:** Supports general program operations of The Renaissance Society.
- ***Renaissance Special Program Fund:** Provides resources for new and innovative programs that educate and engage Renaissance members, Sac State students, and the community.
- ***ASI Food Pantry:** Provides food and personal supplies for Sac State students in need.

**Contributions to these funds are tax-deductible.*

How to SHARE

Online: You can donate to two funds, the Renaissance Scholarship Fund and the Renaissance Special Program Fund, online. Use the University Foundation at Sacramento State website for gifts to Renaissance Scholarship Fund and Renaissance Special Program Fund: <https://tinyurl.com/RSSpecialProgramFund>

By Check: Donations to all the funds can be made by check. Please enclose the form below with your check made out to the payee for each fund as indicated in the form. Mail to *The Renaissance Society*, Sacramento State, 6000 J Street, Mail Stop 6074, Sacramento, CA 95819-6074.

give a membership gift

Why not give an annual Renaissance Society membership to a family member, relative, or friend? For \$100, you can share your Society experiences with those who have been wondering all year that the Renaissance Society is all about.

If you are not a member, but want to give the gift of life-long learning to someone you care about, purchasing a membership is easy and quick.

- Visit: [our membership page](#)
- Click on "Sign Me Up" to enroll new members.
- Complete personal information for the person receiving the gift membership
- Click submit and enter your credit card information

scholarship program

The Renaissance Society Board of Directors approved a Member Scholarship Program in December 2019 so a limited income does not become a barrier to lifelong learning.

Scholarships provide current and prospective members who demonstrate a financial need and a commitment to lifelong learning the opportunity to participate. Member scholarships waive annual and mid-year membership dues, in addition to the cost of Sac State parking permits, if needed.

Qualified members can apply each year they have an identified need. Payments will be internal accounting transfers. No cash will be disbursed directly to individuals. There will be no retroactive reimbursements for previous semesters.

Interested members complete a Member Scholarship Application that includes a 500-word or less narrative explaining the applicant's need. Email renaissa@csus.edu or phone 916-758-5133 to request an application or download the application PDF.

Submit completed applications to:

- Shari Lowen email at shari.lowen@csus.edu or
- Mail to Renaissance Society, Attention: Membership Committee, CSUS 6000 J Street, MS 6074, Sacramento, CA 95819-6074.

Applications will be reviewed for completeness and meeting financial need. Recipients will be notified prior to the semiannual Renaissance Society Orientation & Rendezvous.

For questions, please contact Ken Cross, Membership, Diversity and Community Engagement (MDCE) Committee Chair at 916-995-8288 or email kencross@kencrossconsulting.com.

making a difference

gift form

\$_____ Renaissance Scholarship Fund
(payable to University Foundation at Sacramento State - note, RS Scholarship)

\$_____ Renaissance Special Program Fund
(payable to University Foundation at Sacramento State - note, RS Special Program)

\$_____ ASI Food Pantry (payable to ASI Food Pantry)

\$_____ Give the Gift of Learning
(payable to Renaissance Society - note, Member Scholarship)

\$_____ Renaissance Society general support
(payable to Renaissance Society - note, RS Programs)

\$_____ Total Gift

name _____

address _____

city _____	state _____	zip _____
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I wish my gift to remain anonymous. ____yes ____no

This gift is ____in honor of ____in memory of _____
Name of honoree (please print)

Please send notification of my tribute to _____
Name of honoree (please print)

Address _____	City _____	State _____	Zip _____
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Mail checks to: *The Renaissance Society*
California State University, Sacramento
6000 J Street – Mail Stop 6074
Sacramento, Ca 95819-6074

who volunteers?

Everyone!

Our vibrant volunteer culture springs from a sense of belonging and shared commitment, expressed in members' involvement in every aspect of The Renaissance Society's operations and programming.

We offer a variety of activities for every interest, ability, or availability. Members contribute to our outstanding success as the premier place for lifelong learning in the Sacramento region. Options listed below are just the beginning!

- Teaching or facilitating a program
- Coordinating an event
- Raising funds
- Working in the office
- Serving on the board
- Financial operations
- Curriculum development
- Strategic planning
- Membership, diversity, and cultural engagement
- Communications and social media

Why volunteer?

For the connections: Volunteering links you up with people who share your interests, goals, and passions.

For the fun: We take a "people first" approach to connecting volunteers to opportunities. Do what you love; love what you do.

For the satisfaction: Renaissance Society thrives when everyone gets involved. When you pitch in, you get more than you give.

Our Ambassador Program

In January 2019, an enthusiastic and dedicated group of members helped create a Speaker's Bureau to share The Renaissance Society story.

Our goal: Raise our visibility in the community to increase participation in a lifelong-learning journey for intellectually curious adults.

- We give public presentations at community events and for various organizations.
- We share personal testimonials and printed materials, including invitations to join our volunteer, peer-taught roster of subject matter experts who teach our many, varied seminars.

Until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, this public venue outreach is on a temporary hold.

Gerontology

Help a Sac State Gerontology student earn classroom credits and experience working with an elder. If you have been an Elder Mentor in the past, you can volunteer again.

Volunteers will experience:

- Assignment to a Gerontology student for four or five on- or off-campus meetings during the semester.
- Getting to know your student and participating in social, physical, and mental acuity assessments during the meetings.
- Assist students who have experience with seniors in skilled nursing but want to experience a senior who is aging well.
- Help a student earn three college credits in a required class.
- Attend a reception for Mentor hosted by students at semester's end.
- Some volunteers are asked to speak in Gerontology classes.

Renaissance has participated in this program for several years, and many Elder Mentors continue a friendship with their students for years after the semester is completed.

If you are interested in volunteering as an Elder Mentor, watch for Constant Contact emails with opportunities or sign up at the Rendezvous.

member faqs

- **How will I learn about the opportunities available to me as a Renaissance Society member?** The website and monthly Renaissance Recorder newsletter are your primary resources. Additionally, you will receive frequent updates by email.
- **What is Constant Contact (CC)?** Constant Contact is the tool we use to send emails to our members. You will be automatically subscribed to CC when you register. Watch for several emails each week keeping you informed of activities.
- **When can I sign up for Spring Programs?** The eCatalog will be posted online in early August. You will receive an email informing you of the first date to register for seminars. The semester begins on September 7, 2021.
- **How can I get assistance with the technical aspect of virtual seminars?** The Renaissance Society is using the Zoom online learning platform. A training team has created tutorials and handouts. Watch your email for notifications about training.
- **Is financial assistance available?** Yes, in December 2019 the RS Board of Directors approved a Member Scholarship Program.
- **How many people are considered paid staff of The Renaissance Society?** We have two part-time people. However, a group of highly committed volunteers is responsible for all aspects of the organization. Various committees are always looking for assistance.
- **Who do I contact with general questions about The Renaissance Society?** Please review our website if you still have unanswered questions. You can also email our office at renaissa@csus.edu, or contact us by phone at 916-758-5133.
- **How Do I get the Zoom link for my class?** If you have registered for any of the Fall 2021 programs, you should receive an email with the Zoom link when you register, unless you have heard from your leader that your course is in-person.

what's next

for Your Renaissance Society of Sacramento?

On May 4, 2021 Sac State President Robert S. Nelsen met with the Renaissance Society of Sacramento Board President Ken Cross on a Zoom call. The purpose of the call was to keep RS members informed of what is happening on campus this Fall 2021 semester.

President Nelsen shared:

- He expects students to be back on campus by June 15th, 2021.
- California Governor Gavin Newsom has been explicit there will be no spacing or tier system after that date.
- Classrooms are anticipated to return to normal size this Fall 2021 semester.
- Sac State leadership believes vaccinations will be required.
- The University will not ask for proof of vaccination: They will accept self-admitted vaccination status and take people at their word.
- The only social distancing will be for concerts, football games, and definitely in the library, essentially wherever large numbers of people gather.
- Masks will not be required outside (Masks are required inside.).
- All this is speculative. A draft of Sac State policy is in the development process.
- President Nelsen does not want Renaissance Society members to be surprised.
- The big ballrooms in University Union are being turned into classrooms.
- The president anticipates that there are going to be "workarounds" this fall semester.
- By spring campus leadership does not expect to have "workarounds".

President Nelsen joined RS for our first virtual Annual General Meeting on Monday, May 10th on Zoom. In his welcoming remarks, the president stressed how much he looks forward to our RS members returning to the campus.

So, what will happen in the Spring of 2022? As our Fall 2021 catalog is being completed in July 2021, we do not know all the answers. Our members miss being on campus having the face-to-face learning environment. One of our highest priorities is the social connection of coming to campus and being with friends and fellow students. But a higher priority must always be the safety and welfare of our members. The Renaissance Society is a guest on the Sac State University campus and follows the university's rules. RS is dependent on Sac State for classroom space, so we will have to be patient as the physical classrooms are assigned.

Since 1986, the CSU, Sacramento, College of Social Science and Interdisciplinary Studies (SSIS) has been our host. SSIS Dean Dianne Hyson is our Sac State Liaison. Dean Hyson and her staff are actively keeping RS updated on the latest information and changes on the Sac State campus. Know that as soon as RS knows more information, we will pass along all relevant facts to you as soon as possible.

Thank you for being a member of the Renaissance Society of Sacramento!

In gratitude,
 Ken Cross
 Board President
The Renaissance Society of Sacramento



fall 2021 directory

Leaders & Facilitators, Co-Leaders & CO-Facilitators, Coordinators, and Speakers

SEMINARS

Coordinators: Allan Keown (ahkeown@gmail.com) and Cindy Suchanek (csuchanek3@gmail.com)

Leaders:

David Abelson	916-446-6178	abelsonfamily@comcast.net
Michael Agron	916-804-4703	mikehagron@gmail.com
Bill Bailey	916-486-8727	marsha.holland@sbcglobal.net
Arthur Bauer	916-769-0790	artbauer@gmail.com
Greg Beale	916-993-9538	gbeale12@gmail.com
Robert Benedetti	209-603-6281	rbenedetti@pacific.edu
Gerry Camp	916-757-0171	smacasamilagro@yahoo.com
Duane Campbell	916-361-9072	campd22702@gmail.com
Ken Cross	916-995-8288	kencross@kencrossconsulting.com
Richard Dabrowiak	916 719-3221	Rwdabrow@gmail.com
Mark Dempsey	916-989-5707	dempseys123@gmail.com
Mimi Dixon	916 495-5104	mimid410@gmail.com
Ranny Eckstrom	916-708-0165	ranny44@yahoo.com
Anita Fante	916-224-1958	fanita9@aol.com
Don Forrester	916-420-0024	donforr@gmail.com
Darryl O Freeman	916-284-6866	darryl.o.freeman@csus.edu
Laura Gaeta	772-214-6595	l.gaeta@csus.edu
Bonnie Gault-Blue	916-217-2250	beaublue5@yahoo.com
Karen Gierlach	916-265-3507	pkgierlach@gmail.com
Melissa Green		Garden_Gurl@comcast.net
Annik Gunter	916-485-7353	annikgunter@gmail.com
Tom Holt	650-580-8275	holttom@gmail.com
Marty Keale		kealesacto@comcast.net
Roger Klemm	530-622-8200	synthesisdesigngroup@gmail.com
Gus Koehler	916-716-1740	gus@timestructures.com
Nanci Kuzins	916-508-4763	Nkuzins@hotmail.com
Bob Lang	916-600-2302	bob@boblang.net
David Lewis	916-626-2795	stuff619@gmail.com
Carol Limbaga	916 833-2580	climbaga@comcast.net
Wayne Luney	916-383-9393	wayneluney@gmail.com
Cathy Minicucci	916-489-1821	cminicucci978@gmail.com
Edward Moczydlowski	505-235-5466	emoczydl@gmail.com
Joel Primes	916-216-0195	joelsprimes@yahoo.com
Daniel (Dan) Rooney	916-988-6222	dandarooney@mindspring.com
Ed Sherman		kingfishergallery@comcast.net
Ronald Tochtermann	916-443-3324	lrtoch@sbcglobal.net
Sanjay Varshney	916-799-6527	varshney@csus.edu
Stacie Walton	510-677-2325	slwalton53@gmail.com
Al Zagofsky	209-890-9170	azagofsk@gmail.com
Chip Zempel	916-989-2286	RSFilmFan@zempel.com

Co-leaders:

Maryellen Burns	916-456-4930	maryellen_burns@mac.com
Jean Cawood	916-396-8431	jzczawood@comcast.net
Steve Felderstein	916-768-1614	lrtoch@sbcglobal.net
Melissa Green	916-806-1951	Garden_gurl@comcast.net
Lani Hahn	916-967-5667	songlani@aol.com
Marsha Holland	916-486-8727	marsha_holland@sbcglobal.net
Gretchen Jung	916-230-2608	gjung916@gmail.com
Mary Elliott-Klemm	530-919-0998	ml.elliott@sbcglobal.net
David Lewis	916-626-2795	stuff619@gmail.com
Gerald McDaniel	916-706-1091	grmcdaniel@comcast.net
Cynthia Nicholson	916-604-9476	cyn.nicholson@att.net
Per Ostlund	916-202-8993	poostlun@sbcglobal.net
Anamaria Pasquiers	916-868-2059	nkuzins@hotmail.com
Carl Pinkston	916-453-1014	cpinkston3@gmail.com
Victoria Star	916-458-5454	paxvan@pacbell.net

Shared Interest Groups (SIGs)

Coordinators: Karen Martin (martinke@comcast.net) and Chuck Wiseley (chuck@wiseley.org)

Facilitators:

Anita Adams	916-708-5026	Anitadadams@earthlink.net
Lynda Cassidy	916-212-7391	cassady.lynda@gmail.com
Jean Cawood	916-396-8431	jzczawood@comcast.net
Debra daCosta	916-838-1785	dacosta.debra@gmail.com
Steven DeBry	916-929-4475	sdebry@yahoo.com
Donna Eash	916-549-3739	donnaeash@gmail.com
Melody Flores	916-600-7221	Melodyflrs@netscape.net
Roberta Frieze	916-383-8054	dfrieze@comcast.net
Carol Hayes	916-483-7514	cacarol@att.net
Marian Kile	916-424-0532	MarianKile@yahoo.com
Diana Loo	916-769-9537	idi4tennis2@gmail.com
Jim McRitchie	916-869-2402	jm@corp.gov.net
Lance Muller	916-487-4314	renaissancez@computergeek.us
Cheryl Nelson	916-421-0407	slynnsearch@yahoo.com
Curtis Nelson	916-521-4799	curtnel65@hotmail.com
JoAnn Peter	916-685-4222	jp10299@yahoo.com
Julia Stagg	916-921-6449	juliastagg@yahoo.com
Jane Steele	916-485-8305	jas2go@me.com

Co-Facilitators:

Michael Baad	916-278-6494	mbaad@csus.edu
Ann Blazina	916-606-9353	ablazingjuno.com
Donna Eash	916-549-3739	donnaeash@gmail.com
Lani Hahn	916-967-5667	songlani@aol.com
Judy Keaton	916-513-9488	judyk131@sbcglobal.net
Marian Kile	916-424-0532	MarianKile@yahoo.com
Dan Rooney	916-988-6222	dandar Rooney@mindspring.com
Pat Stokes	916-481-4219	pstokes689@comcast.net
Colleen Wong	916-989-5840	colleenlw2000@yahoo.com

Forums

Coordinator: Tom Suchanek 916-812-7025 thsuchanek@ucdavis.edu

Speakers:

Dr. Katharine Hayhoe	Dr. Rita Cameron Wedding
Professor Lisa Ikemoto	Tom Dreesen & Mike Agron
Cheewa James & Dr. Rose Soza War Soldier	Rob Stutzman & Steven Maviglio
Dr. Mary Lee Vance	Dr. Gozde Goncu Berk
Pat Fong Kushida	Lester Snow
Judge James Mize	Ken Cross
Mike Burton, Jeff Float, Summer (Sanders) Schlopy,	
Mark Spitz, Debbie (Meyer) Weber, & Beth Ruyak	

Presentations - Community Speakers Series

Coordinators: Maryellen Burns (916-456-4930, maryellen_burns@mac.com) and Bonnie Penix (bpenix@att.net)

Speakers:

Maryellen Burns	Carolyn Martin
Scott Burns	Bruce Marwick
Dan Cross	Angie Rooney
Mark Dempsey	Ed Sherman
Richard Foss	Carole Stivers
Lawrence Fox	Anne Da Vigo
Kathy Hart	Karun Yee

Presentations - Tuesday Speakers Series

Coordinator: Jack Jennings 415-806-5368 jackjk@aol.com

Speakers:

David Abelson	Jack Jennings
Renee Balcom	Jennifer Kerr
Doug Bonetti	Cathy Minicucci
Jerry Glasser	Deborah Seiler
Russ Gould	William Vizzard
Emma Grigg	

index

by topic/issue area

Seminars and Presentations

Art, Entertainment, Food, and Travel

- All That Jazz—Classic to Cool (Bob Lang) 18
- Architectural Tile & Terra Cotta: From a 3,000 Mile Road Trip (Bruce Marwick) 44
- Art of the Portrait (Julia Stagg) 36
- Bits and Pieces: Art Doodles: Paint a whimsical Tree for All Seasons (Kathy Hart) 45
- Bits and Pieces: Watercolor Doodles: Paint Fall Foliage (Kathy Hart) 45
- Bits and Pieces: Watercolor Doodles: Paint Pumpkins and Fall Flowers (Kathy Hart) 45
- Bob Dylan: The Man; the Music; the Masks; and the Myths (David Abelson) 18
- Celebration of the Composers and Singers of The Great American Songbook 2.0! (Mike Agron) 19
- Chad Taylor: Carmel's Silent, Unknown, Pop Art Futurist (Bruce Marwick) 43
- Conversation with Comedian Tom Dreesen (Tom Dreesen and Mike Agron) 57
- Cook's Tour Returns (Maryellen Burns, Dan Cross) 44
- Digital Photography (Jane Steele, Colleen Wong) 38
- Dining Together (2nd Wed or 3rd Thurs) (Cheryl Nelson) 38
- Drinking with Jane Austen (Richard Foss) 45
- Founding Women—National Parks (Carolyn Martin) 48
- Games for Entertainment (Roberta Frieze, Judy Keaton) 38
- Japanese Wood Block Prints—Ukiyo-e (Karun Yee) 46
- Let's Write Some Songs - History and Practice of Songwriting (Al Zagofsky) 20
- Photography as Art (closed) (Roger Klemm, Mary Elliott Klemm) 42
- Planning a Personal Holiday through France, in 2022 (Annik Gunter) 20
- Roger Ebert's Great Movies: The Ones That Got Away? (Gerry Camp) 20
- Sweet, Sweet Science Fiction: Feature Films (Chip Zempel) 21
- Wally Hedrick, 6 Gallery, and The Beats (Lawrence Fox) 44

Books, Language, and Literature

- Book Group: First Monday Book Group (Carol Hayes, Ann Blazina) 36
- Book Group: Great Books Discussion Group (Steven DeBry) 37
- Book Group: Great Books Shared Interest Group (closed) (Jean Cawood, Dan Rooney) 42
- Book Group: Partners in Crime (closed) (Lynda Cassidy, Pat Stokes) 41
- Book Group: Tuesday Book Club (Marian Kile) 37
- Drinking with Jane Austen (Richard Foss) 45
- High Intermediate Spanish (closed) (Melody Flores) 41
- James Joyce's Ulysses (Daniel Roney) 21
- Japanese Wood Block Prints—Ukiyo-e (Karun Yee) 46
- Le Cercle Français (Conversational French) (Debra Da Costa) 39
- Literary Hoaxes and Cultural Imposters (Maryellen Burns) 46
- Mother Code with Carole Stivers (Carol Stivers, Anne Vigo) 46
- Spanish Conversation, Advanced (prerequisite) (JoAnn Peter) 40
- Walkabouts (Lance Muller) 40
- Writers Group 1 (closed) (Curtis Nelson, Marian Kile) 42
- Writer's Workshop II (P) (Anita Adams, Lani Hahn) 41

Contemporary Thought: Local and Global Perspectives

- AAPL Strong: Stop the Hate (Pat Fong Kushida) 54
- All About Governor Gavin Newsom's Recall Attempt (Rob Stutzman and Steven Maviglio) 57
- As Long as Space/Time Endures, A Buddhist Practice Journey (Gus Koehler) 32
- Banality of Evil: Racism, Prejudice and Fascism: The Original Sins (Greg Beale) 22
- Biracial/Multicultural Identity in America (Darryl Omar Freeman) 22
- California's Delta Water Crisis (David Abelson) 51

- China: Regional Dominance by 2030 (Jerry Glasser) 49
- Civil War Reconstruction (Catherine Minicucci) 50
- Conversation with Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Climate Scientist and Evangelical Christian (Dr. Katharine Hayhoe) 53
- Corporate Accountability: Restoring the Balance (Jim McRitchie) 37
- Could the Civil War Have Been Avoided? (Doug Bonetti) 52
- Cracker Barrel (Anita Fante, Per Ostlund) 23
- Disabled Civil Rights Movement (Dr. Mary Lee Vance) 54
- Fatal Encounters with Police (William Vizzard) 49
- Future of Electronic Wearables: E-Textiles and "Smart" Clothing (Dr. Gozde Goncu Berk) 58
- Great American Trials and Constitutional Law (Joel Primes) 23
- Inside Elections and How They Work (Deborah Seiler) 51
- Invisible Threads and Hidden Walls of Time (Gus Koehler) 34
- Justice System: 2021 and Beyond (Judge James Mize) 55
- Racial Healing Circle: Conversations on Race (Stacie Watson, Gretchen Jung) 24
- Reforming American National Government (Robert Benedetti, Gerald McDaniel) 24
- Sacramento's Fantastic Olympic Gold Medalist Swimmers: Mike Burton, Jeff Float, Summer (Sanders) Schlopy, Mark Spitz, Debbie (Meyer) Weber, (Moderator: Beth Ruyak) 55
- Second Reconstruction: How the Civil Rights Movement Ended Jim Crow Laws in the South (Catherine Minicucci) 52
- Selling Genes, Buying Race (Professor Lisa Ikemoto) 53
- The Economist (Wayne Luney) 27
- The Renaissance Society: Past, Present, and the Vision for the Future (Ken Cross) 58
- "Top 10" U.S. Domestic Issues & Potential Solutions (Ken Cross) 24
- Transportation and American Government in the 20th and 21st Centuries (Arthur Bauer) 25
- US Firearms Policy (William Vizzard) 52
- Whatever Happened to The News? Fact, Opinion, & Lies? (Jennifer Kerr) 50
- What the Constitution Means to Them (Ron Tochterman, Steve Felderstein) 25

Economics

- Active Retirement Investing: Session 1 (Bill Bailey) 26
- Active Retirement Investing: Session 2 (Bill Bailey) 26
- Debunking Money Myths: The Copernican Revolution in Economics (Mark Dempsey) 47
- Our California Budget (Russ S. Gould) 50
- Popular Economics for the Common Good (Duane Campbell, Carl Pinkston) 26
- The Economist (Wayne Luney) 27
- What is behind the US markets and Economy? (Sanjay Varshney) 27

Health and Well-Being

- As Long as Space/Time Endures, A Buddhist Practice Journey (Gus Koehler) 32
- Creating Connections through Sharing Life Stories (Karen Gierlach) 27
- Happy Losers Club for Emotional Overeaters (Mimi Dixon) 28
- Implicit Bias Contributes to the Persistence of Systemic Racism (Dr. Rita Cameron Wedding) 57
- Invisible Threads and Hidden Walls of Time (Gus Koehler) 34
- Learning and Listening (Laura Gaeta) 28
- Qi Gong (Diana Loo) 40
- Racial Healing Circle: Conversations on Race (Stacie Watson, Gretchen Jung) 24
- Relationships: How to Build Strong, Healthy, Loving Relationships (Nanci Kuzins, Anamaria Pasquiers) 28
- Room with a View Please! Living and Housing Options as We Age (Renee Balcom) 50
- Sacramento's Fantastic Olympic Gold Medalist Swimmers: Mike Burton, Jeff Float, Summer (Sanders) Schlopy, Mark Spitz, Debbie (Meyer) Weber, (Moderator: Beth Ruyak) 55
- Walkabouts (Lance Muller) 40
- Wisdom Questions (Mimi Dixon) 28

index

by program

History

- Adventures in Genealogy—Finding My Family...Finding History (Angie Rooney) 48
- All That Jazz—Classic to Cool (Bob Lang) 18
- American Revolution: From Colony to Independent Nation (Catherine Minicucci) 30
- Ancient Egypt—3100 BCE to 30 CE (David Lewis) 30
- Architectural Tile & Terra Cotta: From a 3,000 Mile Road Trip (Bruce Marwick) 44
- Big History-Continuing the Story of Us and the Universe We Live In (Ranny Eckstrom, David Lewis) 30
- Butch Cassidy, Sundance, and Etta: Not the Movie Ending (Jack Jennings) 51
- Cities of the Ancient World (Marty Keale) 31
- Civil War Reconstruction (Catherine Minicucci) 50
- Could the Civil War Have Been Avoided? (Doug Bonetti) 52
- Drinking with Jane Austen (Richard Foss) 45
- Founding Women—National Parks (Carolyn Martin) 48
- Great American Trials and Constitutional Law (Joel Primes) 23
- History as Mystery (Ed Sherman) 47
- Hobos and Train Hoppers (Maryellen Burns) 48
- Japanese Wood Block Prints—Ukiyo-e (Karun Yee) 46
- Modoc War: The Tribe That Wouldn't Die (Cheewa James and Dr. Rose Soza War Soldier) 54
- Origins of the Judeo-Christian Tradition (Ed Sherman) 31
- Second Reconstruction: How the Civil Rights Movement Ended Jim Crow Laws in the South (Catherine Minicucci) 52
- Stolpersteine, the Largest Memorial in the World (Angie Rooney) 47
- Transportation and American Government in the 20th and 21st Centuries (Arthur Bauer) 25
- What the Constitution Means to Them (Ron Tocherman, Steve Felderstein) 25

Nature, Science, and Technology

- Adventures in Genealogy—Finding My Family...Finding History (Angie Rooney) 48
- Ancient Egypt - 3100 BCE to 30 CE (David Lewis) 30
- Android Basics (Carol Limbaga/Victoria Star) 32
- As Long as Space/Time Endures, A Buddhist Practice Journey (Gus Koehler) 32
- Electric Life: Exploring the Biology of Heart and Mind (Edward Moczydlowski) 33
- Climate Chaos and The Individual (Donald Forrester) 33
- Conversation with Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Climate Scientist and Evangelical Christian (Dr. Katharine Hayhoe) 53
- Growing California Natives in our Yards (Bonnie Gault-Blue) 33
- Guided Tour of The University Arboretum (Donna Eash, Michael Baad) 39
- Invisible Threads and Hidden Walls of Time (Gus Koehler) 34
- iPhone Photography Experimental Studio (prerequisite) (Melissa Green/Cynthia Nicholson) 34
- Restoring the Klamath River: The World's Largest Dam-Removal Project (Lester Snow) 58
- Science of a Happy Dog (Emma Grigg) 49
- Selling Genes, Buying Race (Professor Lisa Ikemoto) 53
- Transportation and American Government in the 20th and 21st Centuries (Arthur Bauer) 25
- Using your iPhone/iPad IRL (in real life) (Tom Holt) 35
- World of Engineering (Richard Dabrowiak) 35

Seminars

- Active Retirement Investing: Session 1 (Bill Bailey) 26

- Active Retirement Investing: Session 2 (Bill Bailey) 26
- All That Jazz – Classic to Cool (Bob Lang) 18
- American Revolution: From Colony to Independent Nation (Catherine Minicucci) 30
- Ancient Egypt - 3100 BCE to 30 CE (David Lewis) 30
- Android Basics (Carol Limbaga/Victoria Star) 32
- As Long as Space/Time Endures, A Buddhist Practice Journey (Gus Koehler) 32
- Banality of Evil: Racism, Prejudice and Fascism: The Original Sins (Greg Beale) 22
- Big History-Continuing the Story of Us and the Universe We Live In (Ranny Eckstrom, David Lewis) 30
- Biracial/Multicultural Identity in America (Darryl Omar Freeman) 22
- Bob Dylan: The Man; the Music; the Masks; and the Myths (David Abelson) 18
- Celebration of the Composers and Singers of The Great American Songbook 2.0! (Mike Agron) 19
- Cities of the Ancient World (Marty Keale) 31
- Climate Chaos and The Individual (Donald Forrester) 33
- Cracker Barrel (Anita Fante, Per Ostlund) 23
- Creating Connections through Sharing Life Stories (Karen Gierlach) 27
- Electric Life: Exploring the Biology of Heart and Mind (Edward Moczydlowski) 33
- Great American Trials and Constitutional Law (Joel Primes) 23
- Growing California Natives in our Yards (Bonnie Gault-Blue) 33
- Happy Losers Club for Emotional Overeaters (Mimi Dixon) 28
- Invisible Threads and Hidden Walls of Time (Gus Koehler) 34
- iPhone Photography Experimental Studio (prerequisite) (Melissa Green/Cynthia Nicholson) 34
- James Joyce's Ulysses (Daniel Roney) 21
- Learning and Listening (Laura Gaeta) 28
- Let's Write Some Songs - History and Practice of Songwriting (Al Zagofsky) 20
- Origins of the Judeo-Christian Tradition (Ed Sherman) 31
- Photography as Art (closed) (Roger Klemm, Mary Elliott Klemm) 42
- Planning a Personal Holiday through France, in 2022 (Annik Gunter) 20
- Popular Economics for the Common Good (Duane Campbell, Carl Pinkston) 26
- Racial Healing Circle: Conversations on Race (Stacie Watson, Gretchen Jung) 24
- Reforming American National Government (Robert Benedetti, Gerald McDaniel) 24
- Relationships: How to Build Strong, Healthy, Loving Relationships (Nanci Kuzins, Anamaria Pasquiers) 28
- Roger Ebert's Great Movies: The Ones That Got Away? (Gerry Camp) 20
- Sweet, Sweet Science Fiction: Feature Films (Chip Zempel) 21
- The Economist (Wayne Luney) 27
- "Top 10" U.S. Domestic Issues & Potential Solutions (Ken Cross) 24
- Transportation and American Government in the 20th and 21st Centuries (Arthur Bauer) 25
- Using your iPhone/iPad IRL (in real life) (Tom Holt) 35
- What is behind the US markets and Economy? (Sanjay Varshney) 27
- What the Constitution Means to Them (Ron Tocherman, Steve Felderstein) 25
- Wisdom Questions (Mimi Dixon) 28
- World of Engineering (Richard Dabrowiak) 35

Shared Interest Groups (SIGs)

Art of the Portrait (Julia Stagg) 36
Book Group: First Monday Book Group (Carol Hayes, Ann Blazina) 36
Book Group: Great Books Discussion Group (Steven DeBry) 37
Book Group: Great Books Shared Interest Group (closed) (Jean Cawood, Dan Rooney) 42
Book Group: Partners in Crime (closed) (Lynda Cassady, Pat Stokes) 41
Book Group: Tuesday Book Club (Marian Kile) 37
Corporate Accountability: Restoring the Balance (Jim McRitchie) 37
Digital Photography (Jane Steele, Colleen Wong) 38
Dining Together (2nd Wed or 3rd Thurs) (Cheryl Nelson) 38
Games for Entertainment (Roberta Frieze, Judy Keaton) 38
Guided Tour of The University Arboretum (Donna Eash, Michael Baad) 39
High Intermediate Spanish (closed) (Melody Flores) 41
Le Cercle Français (Conversational French) (Debra Da Costa) 39
Qi Gong (Diana Loo) 40
Spanish Conversation, Advanced (prerequisite) (JoAnn Peter) 40
Walkabouts (Lance Muller) 40
Writers Group 1 (closed) (Curtis Nelson, Marian Kile) 42
Writer's Workshop II (P) (Anita Adams, Lani Hahn) 41

Presentations

Community Series

Adventures Adventures in Genealogy – Finding My Family...Finding History (Angie Rooney) 48
Architectural Tile & Terra Cotta: From a 3,000 Mile Road Trip (Bruce Marwick) 44
Bits and Pieces: Art Doodles: Paint a whimsical Tree for All Seasons (Kathy Hart) 45
Bits and Pieces: Watercolor Doodles: Paint Fall Foliage (Kathy Hart) 45
Bits and Pieces: Watercolor Doodles: Paint pumpkins and Fall Flowers (Kathy Hart) 45
Chad Taylor: Carmel's Silent, Unknown, Pop Art Futurist (Bruce Marwick) 43
Cook's Tour Returns (Maryellen Burns, Dan Cross) 44
Debunking Money Myths: The Copernican Revolution in Economics (Mark Dempsey) 47
Drinking with Jane Austen (Richard Foss) 45
Founding Women – National Parks (Carolyn Martin) 48
History as Mystery (Ed Sherman) 47
Hobos and Train Hoppers (Maryellen Burns) 48

Tuesday Speaker Series

Butch Cassidy, Sundance, and Etta: Not the Movie Ending (Jack Jennings) 51
California's Delta Water Crisis (David Abelson) 51
China: Regional Dominance by 2030 (Jerry Glasser) 49
Civil War Reconstruction (Catherine Minicucci) 50
Could the Civil War Have Been Avoided? (Doug Bonetti) 52
Fatal Encounters with Police (William Vizzard) 49
Inside Elections and How They Work (Deborah Seiler) 51
Our California Budget (Russ S. Gould) 50
Science of a Happy Dog (Emma Grigg) 49
Second Reconstruction: How the Civil Rights Movement Ended Jim Crow Laws in the South (Catherine Minicucci) 52
Room with a View Please! Living and Housing Options as We Age (Renee Balcom) 50
US Firearms Policy (William Vizzard) 52
Whatever Happened to The News? Fact, Opinion, & Lies? (Jennifer Kerr) 50

Forums

AAPL Strong: Stop the Hate (Pat Fong Kushida) 54
All About Governor Gavin Newsom's Recall Attempt (Rob Stutzman and Steven Maviglio) 57
Conversation with Comedian Tom Dreesen (Tom Dreesen and Mike Agron) 57
Conversation with Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Climate Scientist and Evangelical Christian (Dr. Katharine Hayhoe) 53
Disabled Civil Rights Movement (Dr. Mary Lee Vance) 54
Future of Electronic Wearables: E-Textiles and "Smart" Clothing (Dr. Gozde Goncu Berk) 58
Implicit Bias Contributes to the Persistence of Systemic Racism (Dr. Rita Cameron Wedding) 57
Justice System: 2021 and Beyond (Judge James Mize) 55
Modoc War: The Tribe That Wouldn't Die (Cheewa James and Dr. Rose Soza War Soldier) 54
Restoring the Klamath River: The World's Largest Dam-Removal Project (Lester Snow) 58
Sacramento's Fantastic Olympic Gold Medalist Swimmers: Mike Burton, Jeff Float, Summer (Sanders) Schlopy, Mark Spitz, Debbie (Meyer) Weber, (Moderator: Beth Ruyak) 55
Selling Genes, Buying Race (Professor Lisa Ikemoto) 53
The Renaissance Society: Past, Present, and the Vision for the Future (Ken Cross) 58

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“The more we observe patterns, the more we connect the dots and make sense out of them, the more we learn.”

—Omar Sharif, 1952

The theme of the Fall Renaissance catalog is “Patterns in Life and Nature.” Each of our lives is composed of complex patterns, just like the movements of the sun and moon rising and setting, the predictable ebb and flow of our oceans’ endless tides coming in and going out, and the cycles of days, seasons, and years that gently carry us through time. As we open our eyes to the myriad patterns of our lives, let us rejoice in the time that we share together within our Renaissance Society. As we ready ourselves for the Fall 2021 semester, let’s look forward to finding friends, both old and new, more exciting classes and events, and our multitude of possibilities for engaging with each other and our larger community...just as we have for over 35 years. Let us reflect on the multiple joys of life’s patterns—in Nature, within ourselves, and with each other.

“Those who have found each other once will find each other again, and yet again”.

—Daki Tamara Koch

Mailing Address

6000 J Street, Mail Stop 6074

Sacramento, California 95819-6074

Website: www.csus.edu/org/rensoc

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