CULTURAL ARTS & JEWISH HERITAGE EVENTS & PROGRAMS
FALL 2019

Sponsored by Cord Meyer

TRIPS

FROM OLD GROWTH FOREST TO SALT MARSH: Inwood Hill Park Is One of Manhattan’s Natural Wonders
Thursday, October 31, 9:30 AM

Did you know that Manhattan contains old growth forest, critical salt marsh and tidal mud flats? We’ll explore the ecology of broadleaf forests and the tidal basins that sustain natural life in NYC. Jonathan Shevin, our resident horticultural therapist, will guide us. Bring your own brown bag lunch.
Van available, but space is limited.
$18 member/$23 non-member

TRACING YOUR ROOTS: A Beginner’s Workshop
At the Center for Jewish History
Thursday, November 14, 10:30 AM

Curious about your family history? This beginner’s workshop will teach you how to start your family history research. The workshop includes guided practice using the Center’s genealogy database. Information available for both Jewish and non-Jewish family history. We’ll also stop for lunch.
Van available, but space is limited. Van leaves Central Queens at 9:00 a.m.
$18 member/$23 non-member. Lunch is additional.

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION UNDER THREAT

The oldest and strongest blueprint in the world for governing a democracy, the U.S. Constitution is now under threat as a result of modern day politics. Alan Hevesi is former NYS Comptroller.
3 Tues., 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
$30 member / $36 non-member

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Thoughtful, lively discussions focus on the best new and classic literature and non-fiction. New participants always welcome.
Third Thursday of each month, 12:15 - 2:15 p.m. FREE, but registration strongly suggested.

September 19, 12:15 p.m.: Richard Powers, The Overstory
October 17, 12:15 p.m.: Alfred Kazin, A Walker in the City
November 21, 12:15 p.m.: Carol Shields, The Stone Diaries
December 19, 12:15 p.m.: Grace Paley, short stories

FILM DISCUSSION GROUP WITH FILM CRITIC MATTHEW WEISS

Watch some of the greatest films of the last century and enjoy lively discussions with film critic Matthew Weiss.
6 Tues., 12:20 - 2:50 p.m.
$60 member / $72 non-member

ENGLISH TUTORING FOR IMMIGRANTS

Do you have skills to offer which could help immigrants get a positive start in the U.S.? Our tutoring program for immigrants continues.
Fridays, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Space is limited and advance registration is required!

THE ISRAELI EXPERIENCE THROUGH LITERATURE

From the founding years on, we’ll focus on understanding the Israeli experience, decade by decade, through its literature. Rabbi Irwin Goldenberg is a retired Reform Rabbi.
8 Wed., 100 - 2:15 p.m.
$72 member / $88 non-member

WATERCOLORS WITHOUT FEAR: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES!

In this no failure class, we’ll continue to explore simple techniques of watercolor to create landscapes from imagination or from photographs. With Susan Ross, a working artist and former teacher.
7 Thurs., 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
$70 member / $84 non-member

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In his new memoir, a young Palestinian-American recalls his adolescence in Gaza during the Second Intifada, and how he made a strong commitment to peace in the face of devastating experiences. When Bashir was fifteen, an Israeli soldier shot him in the spine, leaving him paralyzed from the waist down. But while it was an Israeli who shot him, many Israelis saved him—countless doctors who saved his life and worked tirelessly to help him walk again. Forced to reckon with this and with the abiding words of his father—the principled, empathetic man who raised him—Bashir became an outspoken activist for peace. Now living in Washington, D.C., Yousef Bashir has worked on Capitol Hill and served as a member of the Palestinian Diplomatic Delegation to the U.S.

David Dow has dedicated his life to fighting the death penalty. As founder and director of the Texas Innocence Network, which works to exonerate wrongfully convicted inmates, and the Juvenile and Capital Advocacy Project, Dow and his team have represented in court well over 100 death row inmates. Dow's job is often devastating, but he continues this important work because he knows that overturning wrongful decisions is possible. What does justice mean to our society? Who could some death row inmates become if society punished without execution? Nearly always, even after his team loses and his client is within minutes of being executed, his client is grateful to him in their final conversation. Prof. David Dow teaches at the University of Houston Law Center.