

# LIFELONG LEARNING LECTURE SERIES



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– Spring –  
2020



**Framingham**  
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This free **Thursday 7:00pm** lecture series is a partnership between Framingham State University and Framingham Public Library.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All the lectures are Thursdays at 7:00pm at the Main Library, except Dr. Helen Heineman's lecture on April 16th, which is at 7:00pm at the Christa McAuliffe Branch Library.

◆ **March 5 – The Boston Massacre and Historical Memory**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Daniel Breen, Senior Lecturer, Legal Studies, Brandeis University**

The story of the aftermath of the Boston Massacre is almost as fascinating as the story of the Massacre itself, both of which we will tell during this presentation, commemorating the 250th anniversary of the event.

◆ **March 12 – Eunice: The Kennedy Who Changed the World**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Eileen McNamara, Director of Journalism Program, Brandeis University and Pulitzer Prize winning reporter for The Boston Globe**

While Joe Kennedy was grooming his sons for the White House and the Senate, his Stanford educated daughter was tapping her father's fortune and her brother's political power to engineer one of the great civil rights movements of our time on behalf of millions of children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

◆ **March 19 – Brian Friel's Beginnings**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Kelly Matthews, Associate Professor of English, Framingham State University and Vice President of the American Conference for Irish Studies**

Irish playwright Brian Friel is best known in the U.S. for "Dancing at Lughnasa," which was adapted for film in 1993. When he died in 2015, the Guardian called him "Ireland's greatest contemporary playwright." But how did Friel get his start? This lecture will explore archival sources which build a new understanding of this important writer's early work.

◆ **March 26 – The Victorians and India: From Company Raj to Crown Raj**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Paul Fideler, Professor Emeritus, History and Humanities, Lesley University**

By the early 19th century the English East India Company (1600) had tamed the lingering Mughal-Indian Empire and was shaping an abusive Anglo-Indian commercial regime, the Company Raj. Following the devastating Sepoy Mutiny (1857), the Victorian British presence in India became an explicitly colonial one. Victoria was named Empress of India in 1876, and the Indian National Congress formed in 1885.

◆ **April 2 – The Presidential Election of 2020 in Perspective**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. David Smailes, Associate Professor, Political Science, Framingham State University**

We are in the middle of another presidential election cycle as we meet. How does this election resemble recent presidential contests? How has politics changed this time around, and what can we expect as we enter into the summer conventions and fall campaign? Join us as we talk about current presidential politics and draw some conclusions about where the campaign is taking us.

◆ **April 16 – William Butler Yeats: A Life in Poetry**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Helen Heineman, President Emerita, Framingham State University**

**Please Note: This lecture will be at the McAuliffe Branch Library.**

William Butler Yeats was the greatest poet writing in English in the 20th Century. A modernist, he was also a master of traditional forms. His relationship with his native country, Ireland, was one of his main influences shaping his future. This lecture will follow the events of his life and development as a poet.

◆ **April 23 – 100 Years of Bauhaus Design: Craftsmanship for the Machine Age**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Amy Finstein, Assistant Professor, Visual Arts, College of the Holy Cross**

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Bauhaus, the German national school of art, architecture, and craft that merged interests in honest functionality with a celebration of the new materials of the machine age. As its teachers and students eventually fled Nazi Germany, they brought their designs to new audiences around the world. This lecture will explore the legacy of key Bauhaus designers in Germany and abroad, including local examples.

◆ **April 30 – Climate Change on the Coast of Massachusetts: Causes, Consequences, Choices**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Lawrence McKenna, Assistant Professor, Earth Science, Framingham State University**

It's easy to understand Cape Cod's enduring popularity: a long way from a busy world, the Cape seems insulated from forces raging just over the horizon. But global climate change has no horizon, and fragile places like the Massachusetts coastline turn out to be unusually sensitive to the effects of climate change. Dr. McKenna will discuss the physical and ethical forces behind global climate change, the consequences of those changes to the coastline of Massachusetts, and what individuals, communities, governments and businesses can do to reduce risks and costs associated with climate change.

*This Lecture Series is sponsored by The Joseph L. and Ray L. Freund Foundation, courtesy of Elizabeth F. Fideler.*  
For snow cancellations, please call 508-532-5570 after 7:30am or check [www.framinghamlibrary.org](http://www.framinghamlibrary.org).