SAVE THE DATE!

The Presidents’ College Annual Symposium 2013

Exploring Creativity

Lectures, discussions, panels, performances on

Creating the Future of Connecticut
Creativity in the Arts
Creativity and Invention

Sunday,
September 15, 2013

Dana Hall
University of Hartford

9:30 a.m.–4 p.m.
Most recently, Bryan coordinated our course on the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. He has lectured for us frequently, and has taught courses on slave narratives and on Herman Melville. Commencement speaker was Bernard Cornwell, whom many will remember for his eloquent and knowledgeable contribution to my course on Shakespeare’s English Kings a year ago. You can take in his commencement address at http://www.hartford.edu/files/audio/ugspeech13.mp3 — twelve minutes of good advice and hilarity that would be hard to match at any recent commencement, at the University of Hartford or anywhere else.

What Bernard Cornwell, mercifully, did not say is the old truism that commencement is a time for looking forward and looking back. But let’s apply it to the Presidents’ College....

Looking back? The past academic year has been our most successful year so far: more courses than ever, more lectures and lecture series than ever, more enrollees than ever. Our final fall figures showed a 40% increase in enrollment over the previous year, and spring numbers are sure to be up as well. We have over fifty more Fellows this year than we had last — a 25% increase. Clearly, our programs are highly regarded in the community and fill a real need.

We have also added to our partnerships, with a new alliance with the World Affairs Council and a new lecture series at the McAuley retirement community.

A few days ago, we held our annual thank-you lunch for our volunteers. Without this group of individuals, some twenty-five strong, we could not possibly offer so many good courses, nor look after our enrollees with as much care as the volunteers lavish on them. Thank you, all of you! You are the living proof that the College is a true community.

Looking forward? It is too early to say much about our fall program, though it will include a course taught by Patrick McCaughey, this time on “Paris and the Painting of Modern Life” — a look at how the French Impressionists drew on the experience of the city and helped shape that experience. He will begin with Manet and extend his story as far as the Paris of Toulouse-Lautrec and the street scenes of Gustave Caillebotte. Jane Barstow will offer a course on Anna Karenina, and we also hope to welcome Edward Gutierrez back for another of his courses on American history. There are numerous other irons in the fire.

So, as some of us get ready to go off to the UK on the latest Presidents’ College trip, and as the last of our courses for the year get underway, we look to the future with excitement. Onward and upward!

Humphrey Tonkin

INTERESTED IN A TRIP TO ROME?
led by art historian and former Director of the Yale Center for British Art Patrick McCaughey, accompanied by Presidents’ College Director Humphrey Tonkin? Explore the antiquities of the city, and its magnificent Renaissance and baroque art and architecture, with a true expert. Seven days in late October. Four-star accommodation in the heart of the city, with plenty of good food and good company. If you are interested in receiving details as they become available, and have not yet let us know, please do.

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Mon. & Thurs., June 3, 6, 10, 13
An Introduction to James Joyce’s *Finnegans Wake*
Kathleen McGrory

Celebrate spring by finding your own path through Joyce’s final work, *Finnegans Wake* (no apostrophe, please), a celebration of rebirth, resurrection and the Family of Man. Meet his Adamic—Everyman hero, Humphrey Chimpden Earwicker, HCE (Here Comes Everybody), who embodies every man who’s ever had a great fall. Meet his wife, Anna Livia Plurabelle (ALP, the first letter of the alphabet, the River Liffey), earth-mother of twins, Shem and Shaun, (Mutt and Jeff, Yin and Yang), all opposites, rivals, *rivae*, banks of the Liffey. Meet their daughter Isabel—Iris, the rainbow. Discover the pleasures of a book that employs all the resources of allusive English, a punning, musical language created by Joyce out of the history of languages and the geography of the city of Dublin for this telling of his final story (yes, there is a plot!) about family life at the level of myth. Think of this Introduction to the most challenging book ever written in English (yes, it is English, as you’ve never read it before) as an exercise in calisthenics for the brain, a challenge to surmount the Everest of stories in English. But don’t forget the last line of the rollicking Irish song that inspired this story, named for an Irish master builder, Tim Finnegan: “Lots of fun at Finnegan’s Wake!” Re-discover the joy of reading while decoding a unique modern classic.

*Kathleen McGrory* holds a PhD from Columbia University in comparative literature. A Sister of Divine Compassion in New York, then professor of English and founder of the Irish Studies graduate program at Western Connecticut State University, she was Dean of Arts and Sciences and Academic Vice President at Eastern Connecticut State (ECSU), President of Hartford College for Women, National Endowment for the Humanities fellow at Stanford, and senior fellow at the University of Virginia’s Commonwealth Center for Literary and Cultural Change. As Executive Director of the Society for Values in Higher Education, she taught medieval literature at Georgetown University. She teaches part-time at ECSU and is completing a book on the legend of the Holy Grail.

Mondays & Thursdays, June 3, 6, 10, 13. 10:00-11:30. $70 (Fellows $55)
Tues. & Fri., June 11, 14, 18, 21
Jeffrey Toobin on the US Supreme Court: A Book Club
Jilda Aliotta
Tuesdays and Fridays, June 11, 14, 18, 21.
10:00-11:30. $75 (Fellows $60). Enrollment limited to 20!
THIS COURSE IS NOW CLOSED

Mo., We., Fri., June 24, 26, 28; Mo. July 1
The American Revolution: Myths, Realities and Legacy
Edward Gutierrez
This year marks the 230th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Paris (3 September 1783), which ended the American War of Independence and created our republic. As we approach this year’s Fourth of July, this course cuts through the Revolution’s romantic haze, which persists to this day, and presents the brutal actuality of the conflict: a civil war that pitted Loyalists against Patriots, with colonists caught between. The four lectures of this series will center on these key areas: why the war was fought; how the war was fought; the war’s impact on society; and the war’s impact on history. The Revolution remains essential to understanding our modern political tensions, and is as relevant today as it was 230 years ago.

Dr. Edward Gutierrez, historian, and winner of the Ramsey Award for Creative Excellence at the University of Hartford, worked in France as a postdoctoral fellow at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and is currently writing a book tentatively titled “Sherman was Right”: The Experience of AEF Soldiers in the Great War. The book studies how combat affected ordinary men and women, and the psychological changes it produced.

Mon. June 24; Wed, June 26; Fri. June 28; Mon. July 1. 10:30-12:00. $75 (Fellows $60)

Connecticut Concert Opera is offering two bus trips this summer:

July 21 (Sunday) to see Verdi’s King for a Day, a new production in English of Il giorno di regno at the Glimmerglass Festival in Cooperstown, NY.

July 31 (Wednesday) to see Taneyev’s Oresteia, based in the Aeschylus trilogy, sung in Russian with English subtitles, at Bard Summerscape, near Tivoli, NY.

For information call, call 860-722-2300.
IN OUR JULY NEWSLETTER...

- Program details on our September 15 Annual Symposium and how to take advantage of early registration.
- Details on how to sign up as a Fellow or Patron of the Presidents’ College in the academic year 2013-2014 and take advantage of discounts and privileges.
- A first look at our full program for the fall.

Parking for Visitors
If you are not a Fellow of the Presidents’ College, park in the Visitors section of K Lot or in F Lot (in front of the Lincoln Theater).

What is QR Code?
QR Code (Quick Response Code) is a type of matrix barcode (or two-dimensional code) first designed for the automotive industry. The code consists of black modules (square dots) arranged in a square pattern on a white background. The information encoded can be made up of four standardized kind ("modes") of data (numeric, alpha-numeric, byte/binary, Kanji), or through supported extensions. Source: Wikipedia.

Search your mobile device for “QR Code Reader” (a good one is from Kaywa) and then begin scanning. Scan below for the Presidents’ College calendar.

VOLUNTEER VOICES
A series featuring our Volunteers by Cheri Altman

The Presidents’ College has attracted a cadre of enthusiastic volunteers with diverse life experiences who are integral to the planning and facilitation of its programs.

Janet Bruner has always been involved in education. After receiving her degree in elementary education, she taught second grade in New York. In 1970 she moved, with her husband and two sons, to Connecticut. She began her involvement with community activities as a volunteer for the West Hartford League of Women Voters. She is currently a trustee of the Hartford Art School at the University of Hartford.

Janet has been involved with the Presidents’ College from its very inception. She was present at the reception in Humphrey Tonkin’s home when he first proposed the idea of a program for adult education, and the rest is history.

Janet’s first of many courses was on Shakespeare. This fits perfectly with her enthusiasm for theater and classical drama, and Shakespeare in particular. As she says, "His plays are still relevant hundreds of years later. The problems posed in his plays are still happening. Shakespeare’s characters are incredibly well rounded – people with whom you can still identify."

When volunteers are needed, Janet is always ready to step into the breach.

She enjoyed helping during Community Day at the University, reading sonnets to celebrate Shakespeare and limericks by Edward Lear; she also dressed up as Aunt Polly for Mark Twain Days. A few of her other activities include coordinating courses and staffing our booth during West Hartford Days.

Janet enjoys the friendships and intellectual stimulation that the Presidents’ College provides through its wonderful array of courses. Also, it has given her the stimulus to read works such as Beowulf and The Canterbury Tales which have turned out to be an unexpected pleasure. When we talked, she was eagerly anticipating her next course, “Reading Boccaccio’s Decameron,” with Professor Maria Frank.
Visit New York City in June!

The Presidents’ College collaborates from time to time with Glastonbury Adult & Continuing Education. We are happy to announce two of their upcoming trips...

Sail on a Tall Ship Around Manhattan!
Sunday, June 9  8:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Departs Glastonbury commuter lot
Few people ever have the chance to sail aboard a tall ship! Come aboard the topsail schooner Clipper City, an imposing 158 foot long ship, with masts and rigging reaching 135 feet above the water. Based in South Street Seaport, she is the most elegant sailing vessel in the harbor. From the spacious main deck or quarter deck you’ll enjoy breathtaking views of the Statue of Liberty, the Brooklyn Bridge, Ellis Island and other gems in the harbor. Sit back and relax on this 90 minute cruise. There will be time before the cruise for shopping and a chance to grab a bite at the South Street Seaport. Lunch is on your own. Trip Fee $95

Tea & Tour of Gracie Mansion
New York City Mayor's Residence & Gardens
Tuesday, June 18  8:00 AM - 6:45 PM
Departs Glastonbury commuter lot
You will start the day with a walking tour of beautiful Central Park and a riding tour past the mansions and museums on Fifth Ave. Then, on to Gracie Mansion, built in 1799 by a very prosperous New York merchant, Archibald Grace. The elegant country house overlooks a bend in the East River and has had some very famous residents. The docent tour highlights this charming home. You will experience a very special feeling of hospitality and bask in the beautiful surroundings as you enjoy a delicious early afternoon tea. The plentiful menu features homemade recipes: tea sandwiches, freshly baked scones, a variety of tea cakes and a lovely presentation. After tea, you are invited to stroll the lovely grounds which extend right into beautiful Carl Schurz Park. Trip Fee: $97

THE PRESIDENTS’ COLLEGE
Education for a Lifetime

What is the Presidents’ College? The mission of the Presidents’ College is to create an extended community of thinking people dedicated to the importance of the life of the mind. By offering a wide range of activities, the Presidents’ College allows its participants to explore significant topics at a high intellectual level under the guidance of university-level faculty. The Presidents’ College extends the University of Hartford’s educational mission by engaging the adult population of its surrounding communities in the intellectual life of the campus, thus building significant connections between them and the University.

What does the Presidents’ College offer? Twenty or more courses each semester in the arts, technology, literature, history, mathematics, and a wide range of additional topics; international study tours; several lecture series both at the University and at off-campus sites.

Who teaches in the Presidents’ College? The courses provide an opportunity to exchange ideas with the University’s most talented professors, as well as invited scholars and significant public figures. You can focus on subjects in depth, discuss critical issues, and expand your understanding of the world around you.

How are its activities structured? Some are one-time lecture meetings; others are courses that run for several weeks, even for the entire semester. Some are in the form of book clubs, meeting every couple of weeks; others are intensive, lasting for a single, full day.

How can I find out more? Visit www.hartford.edu/presidentscollege or write pcollege@hartford.edu or call 860-768-4269.

The College is the outreach program of the University Libraries.

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CONTACT
Glastonbury Adult & Continuing Education
330 Hubbard Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033
860-652-7253.  www.glastonburyus.org
Please check relevant items and indicate amount paid at right.

☐ I wish to register as a Patron of the Presidents' College for 2012-2013. $250
   (Includes registration as a Fellow and a $175 tax-deductible contribution)  _____

☐ I wish to register as a Fellow of the Presidents' College for Spring 2013. $75  _____

☐ Finnegans Wake. $70 (Fellows $55)  _____

☐ American Revolution. $75 (Fellows $60)  _____

Total: _______

☐ I am interested in the visit to Rome. Please send me information when it is available.

Name: __________________________________________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________________________________
STREET ___ CITY ___ STATE ___ ZIP ___
Telephone: DAYTIME: (____)______ - _______ EVENING: (____)______ - _______

To receive correspondence from course coordinators, please include your email address, if available.
E-mail: ________________________________.

Fee may be paid by: ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express
Credit Card# ______________________________________________ Security Code ___ ___ ___
Exp. Date __________ Signature__________________________ Date ____________

Checks payable to: University of Hartford.
Send form and (where appropriate) check to:

Presidents' College: Education for a Lifetime
Mortensen Library
University of Hartford
200 Bloomfield Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117-1599.

Questions? 860.768.4269 or pcollege@hartford.edu.