



## 2023 - 2024 Cultural Arts Forum



Lectures | Workshops | Events

### Cultural Arts Forum 2023-2024 Seminar Series

Founded by Dr. Margaret Mary Kearney, a former broadcast personality and friend of Neumann University, the Cultural Arts Forum hosts a lecture series, an annual High Tea, workshops, author lectures, as well as fundraising activities to foster cultural programming and to enrich the educational experiences of the University and the larger community. Proceeds from these events benefit the Dr. Margaret Mary Kearney student scholarship which assists non-traditional students.

Unless noted, all seminars and lectures are held at 1:30 p.m. in the state-of-the-art Fred P. Meagher Theatre, located in the Thomas A. Bruder, Jr. Life Center at Neumann University. The Life Center and Theatre are handicapped accessible. Admission for seminars is \$10, but free to Cultural Arts Forum members. Immediately following the seminar, attendees will enjoy an afternoon treat in The Life Center.

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### LECTURES SERIES

*Eight very special programs  
designed just for you!*

**Admission is \$12 per seminar**

**or**

**become a member for the year  
for \$45 by completing the form inside  
or registering online at  
[neumann.edu/alumni/culturalartsforum](http://neumann.edu/alumni/culturalartsforum)**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 • 1:30 P.M.**

**An Afternoon with Ray Didinger**

**Presentation by Ray Didinger,  
Football analyst for NBC Philadelphia**



Ray Didinger was the first print journalist inducted into the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame. As a columnist for the Philadelphia Bulletin and Philadelphia Daily News, he was named Pennsylvania Sportswriter of the Year five times. In 1995, he won the Dick McCann Award for long and distinguished reporting on pro football, and his name was added to the

writers' honor roll at the Pro Football Hall of Fame. As a budding playwright he has written a new production of "Tommy and Me." which is playing locally.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2023 • 1:30 P.M.**

**Treasures of the Philadelphia Art Museum**

**Presented by John Immerwahr, Ph. D.**

Haven't been back to the Philadelphia Museum of Art since the Pandemic? Come and enjoy an engaging tour with iconic works by artists such as Rembrandt, Rubens, Monet, van Gogh, Picasso, and Duchamp; we'll also visit powerful but lesser-known works outside of the mainstream. The presentation will assist you in enjoying these works in a new and deeper way, by drawing on important details or symbols within the art and by diving into the stories and background that give the works a context. John Immerwahr is a Guide (docent) at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and a professor emeritus (philosophy) at Villanova University. His YouTube video tours of the museum have been enjoyed by thousands of viewers.



**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023 • 1:30 P.M.**

**A Salute to the Greatest Generation**

**Presented by Veteran, Tony Killian**

Celebrating our upcoming Veteran's Day holiday, Tony Killian will present excerpts from "The Greatest Generation Speaks," a live production featuring 28 players portraying a selection of letters and memoirs sent to Tom Brokaw by WWII military vets, family members, factory workers and others who supported the war effort. In 1998 Brokaw fashioned a book that profiled those who grew up in the United States during the deprivation of the Great Depression and then went on to fight in World War II as well as those whose productivity within the home front during World War II made a decisive material contribution to the war effort. Tony portrayed Col. Van Parker, a B-29 Squadron Commander, in relating his letter home the day following the show of force flyover as Japan surrendered aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay. Come and join us as we celebrate these patriots!

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023 • 1:30 P.M.**

**What's Behind a String Quartet?**

**Featuring the Camarota  
String Quartet**

Come listen to the beautiful sound of a string quartet playing in different styles! From movie music to wedding music, hear how music touches our lives. The players will show you how the sound is produced and briefly describe the history of their instruments. The program will also include musical selections that will leave you feeling full of holiday cheer.



**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024 • 1:30 P.M.**

**Who is Queen Hatshepsut?**

**Historical Impersonator and Actress  
by Dr. Daisy Century**

Dr. Century will present a historical impersonation of the Egyptian Queen Hatshepsut who was the fifth Pharaoh of the eighteenth Dynasty. She ruled from 1478 BC to her death in 1458 BC. Ruling for 22 years she struggled to keep her reign due to her gender and royal family sibling rivalry. Hatshepsut is considered by many historians as the first great women in history to acquire such stature and power. An inspiring educator, Dr. Century is an actress, vocalist, and a published writer (pen name Emily Nelson.)





LECTURES CONTINUED

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024 • 1:30 P.M.

An Irish Celebration with Charlie Zahm



Charlie Zahm is one of the most popular soloists at Celtic musical festivals and Maritime and American Traditional music events east of the Mississippi. Today, he is one of the most sought-after Celtic singers performing up and down the Eastern Seaboard and across America. With his beautiful baritone voice, Charlie performs internationally and is one of a few singers that has been invited twice to sing with Scotland’s “Black Watch.” Come and enjoy an afternoon of Irish musical selections along with magical moments of Scottish and Irish history.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024 • 1:30 P.M.

What I Need to Know About Cyber Security

Presented by Tom Dodds

We live in an age where finding someone’s information on the internet is as easy as connecting to a few websites. In this world, everyone is susceptible to attack. Many of us make ourselves vulnerable to cybercrimes daily without realizing it. Knowing how to protect your online identity and devices is essential to staying safe when cybercriminals try to steal your banking and personal information. This talk will highlight a few simple steps to safeguard your privacy, keep your devices secure, and prevent living with the nightmare of identity theft. Using real-world examples, Dr. Dodds hopes to inspire and educate people on how to protect themselves. Dr. Tom Dodds is the Director of the Cybersecurity Program at Neumann University. He is a former Microsoft Architectural Consultant who focused on helping customers implement security architectures to protect their businesses from end to end.



THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024 • 1:30 P.M.

Roses: The Most Popular Flowers in History and Today

Presented by Heather Gallagher, Linvilla Orchards

Everyone loves roses! Part history lesson, part gardening, this lecture is all about roses. Exploring cultivation and historical uses for this garden staple, the program will look at modern landscaping trends and designs. A lifelong enthusiast for all things nature related, Heather Gallagher, has enjoyed utilizing the knowledge acquired from earning a degree in horticulture from Temple University. Currently working as a horticulturist and plant buyer at Linvilla Orchards, Heather thoroughly enjoys the opportunity to find plants that are both beautiful and environmentally beneficial and introducing them to the home gardener.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2023 • 7:00 P.M.

and

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2024 • 7:00 P.M.

Cost: Pre-ticket sales – \$40; Tickets at the door – \$45

Come join your friends as they play bingo for designer purses and bags! Be ready to try your luck on a variety of theme baskets and a cash raffle. Tables of eight purchased at one time (\$280) will be reserved. All proceeds benefit the Dr. Margaret Mary Kearney Scholarship. For tickets information call 610-558-5626.

HIGH TEA

with a Special Entertainment Program

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024 • 2:00 P.M.

The Ballrooms of Boothwyn, Lia’s Catering  
1405 Meetinghouse Road, Upper Chichester, PA

Cost: \$45

Enjoy a relaxing afternoon with family and friends while eating delicious scones, tea sandwiches, and desserts while listening to a very special musical performance. Do not be afraid to wear your favorite hat! Reservations are necessary.



AUTHOR’S CORNER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023 • 1:30 P.M.

“Angels: Our Guardians in Spiritual Battle”

Msgr. J. Brian Bransfield, author

Cost: Free will donation

Have you ever thought about your guardian angel? Did you know angels are all around us? They are not fairy tale creatures or new age sprites, but powerful beings created by God to reflect His light. This presentation looks for ways to see the light angels reflect. Monsignor served as general secretary of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Ordained in 1994, Msgr. Bransfield holds a doctorate in moral theology from the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family. He is the author of several books, including “Life Everlasting: The Mystery and Promise” and “Living the Beatitudes: A Journey to Life in Christ.”



THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024 • 1:30 P.M.

“Wolves at Night”

Sara McDermott Jain, author

Cost: Free will donation

International best-selling author Sara McDermott Jain is also known as “One Scary Woman” because of her work in the horror and thriller genres. However, this moniker doesn’t just have to do with telling scary stories; it’s also about helping others to overcome the fear in their lives. In this presentation, Sara will share from her best-selling novel WOLVES AT NIGHT, discuss how such stories mimic the way we have psychological breakthroughs, and guide listeners through the process of using “scary story” structure to identify and overcome the fears that might be holding them back from their full potential.



To register for all events  
visit us online at [neumann.edu/  
alumni/culturalartsforum](https://neumann.edu/alumni/culturalartsforum)

Questions?  
Please contact Nicholas DiMarino  
at 610-558-5626 or  
[dimarinn@neumann.edu](mailto:dimarinn@neumann.edu)

WORKSHOPS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023 • 7:00 P.M.

Create a Thanksgiving Centerpiece

Leona M. Swiacki, floral designer

Life Center Building • Cost: \$40

Create your very own Thanksgiving Centerpiece just in time for the holiday! Using fresh flowers, berries, pods, and other natural accents, Leona will demonstrate how to construct your fresh flower creation followed by “hands-on” time to design your arrangement. Light refreshments will be served. Floral materials and container will be provided. Please bring your own floral shears or scissors. Reservations are necessary. Call 610-558-5626.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024 • 7:00 P.M.

Card Making with Dianne

Dianne Keough

Life Center Building • Cost: \$35

Enjoy a relaxing evening with friends and family while creating beautiful paper greeting cards. Dianne will teach you how to create cards using stamping techniques and more. Ms. Keough is a former educator. She is currently an Independent Stampin’ Up! Demonstrator in lower Delaware. She regularly holds classes teaching card making, as well as the creation of home décor and gift items. Limited seating available. Reservations are necessary. Call 610-558-5626

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024 • 7:00 P.M.

Mother’s Day Floral Workshop  
“Romantic Elegance”

Leona M. Swiacki, floral designer

Life Center Building • Cost: \$40

Become your own favorite flower designer and learn how to style an arrangement incorporating roses, foliage, and accents. Take home your creation to share with that special someone or to enjoy on your own dinner table. Floral materials will be provided. Please bring your own floral shears/scissors and apron. Reservations are necessary. Call 610-558-5626.



Cultural Arts Forum  
Membership Application

Admission for Cultural Arts Forum events is \$12 per person/per seminar. Become a member this year for \$45 which entitles free admission to all eight seminars!

Complete the form below, detach, and mail today.

OR JOIN AT  
[neumann.edu/alumni/culturalartsforum](https://neumann.edu/alumni/culturalartsforum)

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- ☐ I would like to be a member of the Cultural Arts Forum. Enclosed is my check (payable to Neumann University) for \$45.
- ☐ Please add me to your mailing list to receive additional information about other performing arts events at Neumann University.
- ☐ I would like to donate to the Dr. Margaret Mary Kearney Scholarship. Enclosed please find my check for \_\_\_\_\_.

Mail to:

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Cultural Programming Office  
Neumann University  
One Neumann Drive  
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