



# Academy for Lifelong Learning



## CALENDAR

2015 - 16

[alto.ca](http://alto.ca)



*weekday programs for adult learners in  
collaboration with the School of Continuing  
Studies at the University of Toronto*

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## **THE WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE**

The Academy offers a program of daytime study groups for adults who seek an interactive approach to learning, rather than a lecture series. A typical workshop has about 20 members and meets for two hours of presentation and discussion, every second week from September through March.

One or two volunteer facilitators, in collaboration with workshop members, establish a schedule of presentations and lead each session.

In the spirit of the Academy, all members are required to research a topic and present it to their colleagues. Everyone is expected to do some reading and to participate in the discussions that follow.

Members may use the Academy's audio/visual equipment for their presentations. Assistance and support for this is provided by a volunteer tech team. Workshop topics are reviewed and volunteer facilitators are solicited annually

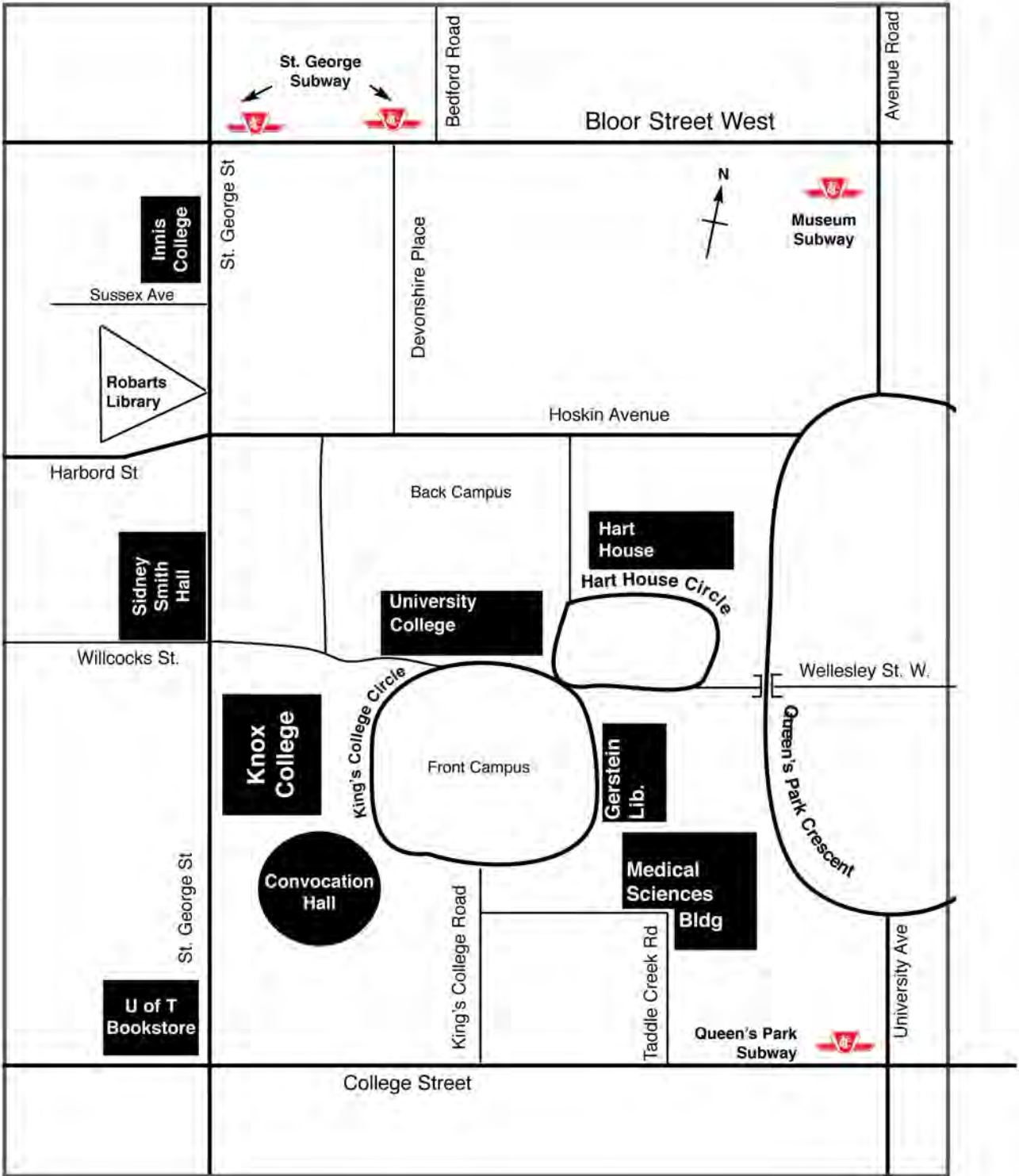
## **ORGANIZATION**

The Academy is incorporated in Ontario and managed by a volunteer Board of Directors elected annually from and by the members for a two-year term. It has no staff and no office, and all administrative tasks are divided between the Board and six volunteer committees. All members are therefore encouraged to take their turn serving on a committee of their choice.

Workshops meet on the University of Toronto St. George campus at Knox College, 59 St. George Street - a short walk across campus from the Queen's Park subway station or south from the St. George subway station and close to a number of TTC surface routes.

Workshops are held on the main floor on the east side of Knox College. The adjacent student lounge may also be used by Academy members

# LOCATION MAP



## **REGISTRATION, FEES AND MEMBERSHIP**

For the academic year 2015-16, the fee is \$175. This covers up to three workshops. Members will be welcome to register in further workshops after July 15<sup>th</sup> if there is space available. One may register online at [www.allto.ca](http://www.allto.ca) using PayPal or a credit card. One may also download the Membership Registration Form available on the Academy's website and mail it with a cheque made payable to the Academy for Lifelong Learning. Credit cards are not accepted if registering by mail and receipts will not be issued unless requested. Confirmation notices will be emailed in late May or early June.

Membership covers the full academic year. Changes may be made to the workshops selected by contacting the Membership Committee. Please see contact information below.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

Three spaces in each workshop will be reserved for new members. On July 1st any available spaces will be allocated to those on waiting lists.

### **OVER-SUBSCRIBED WORKSHOPS**

At the end of April or early May, all applicants in any oversubscribed workshop will be randomized in order to determine membership in the workshop and a waitlist sequence.

If you are waitlisted, you will be contacted to see whether you wish to remain on that waitlist, or would rather choose another workshop. Registrants received after randomization for over-subscribed workshops will be added to the end of the waitlists.

### **CANCELLED WORKSHOPS**

A minimum number of participants is required for a workshop to proceed. Applicants will be contacted before the beginning of the semester if their workshop does not meet that minimum number.

Refunds will not be offered after September 30.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Academy for Lifelong Learning**  
59 St. George Street  
Toronto ON M5S 2E6  
416-946-5185  
info@allto.ca  
www.allto.ca

This is a mailing address only; the Academy has no office. The telephone number is an answering machine; please leave a message and a volunteer will return your call. For information on specific Academy activities, contact one of the following:

### **Communications**

Bridget Hough  
416-488-7059  
bridgeth@rogers.com

### **Curriculum**

Gillian Long  
416-447-6927  
gillian.long@utoronto.ca

### **Membership**

Rhona Wolpert  
416-961-2449  
rhona\_wolpert@rogers.com

### **Outreach**

Michael Landauer  
416-544-8287  
mlsandbox@rogers.com

### **Special Events**

Michael Landauer  
416-544-8287  
mlsandbox@rogers.com

### **Academy Talks**

Paula Barber  
416-920-7612  
pbpaulabarber46@gmail.com

### **Volunteer Coordinator**

Laura Hill  
416-214-6124  
lhill225@rogers.com

### **For Knox College and Victoria University**

#### **Facilities - Knox College**

Jim Davidson  
416-978-4508 Ext. 3410  
jim.davidson@utoronto.ca

#### **Space / Functions - Victoria**

Maria Quiroz  
Margaret Addison Hall  
416-585-4427  
m.quiroz@utoronto.ca

#### **Facilities - Victoria**

Physical Plant/Mailroom  
Basement, Old Vic Building  
416-585-4581  
e.misterowicz@utoronto.ca

## **IMPORTANT DATES IN THE ACADEMY YEAR 2015-2016**

April 7	On-line Registration opens.
May 1	Randomization of over-subscribed workshops
Late May/Early June	Workshop confirmations sent by email.
May 2	Phone calls to those waitlisted begin.
End of June	Preliminary class lists sent to Facilitators.
Sept 15	Fall semester begins.
Sept 30	No refunds after this date.
Dec. 1	Fall semester ends.
Jan 12, 2016	Winter semester begins.
Mar 29	Winter semester ends



# TWO WEEKS AT A GLANCE

## WEEK 1

Week 1 Workshop dates are the weeks beginning

Tues. Sept. 15, 29. Oct. 13, 27, Nov. 10, 24

Jan. 12, 26. Feb. 9, 23. Mar. 8, 22

**NB - Classroom numbers will be assigned before the beginning of term**

Week One	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00	<b>Memoir: Reading and Writing</b>  <i>Eileen Garber</i> <i>Yvette Matyas</i>	<b>Non-Fiction: New and Noteworthy</b>  <i>Mandy Thomson</i> <i>Laura Baldwin</i>	<b><i>Economist</i> Readers</b>  <i>Jim McCartney</i> <i>Linda Tu</i>	<b>How Technology has Changed Society</b>  <i>Pat Cross</i> <i>Peter Steiner</i>
	<b>Art: Seeing, Thinking, Doing</b>  <i>Sharon Harris</i> <i>Susan Schwartz</i>	<b>2008: the Crash and the Sequelae</b>  <i>Dugal Campbell</i>	<b><i>New Yorker</i> Readers</b>  <i>Jean Waller</i>	<b>From Page to Screen</b>  <i>Rhona Wolpert</i>
12:00	<b>The Great Divide</b>  <i>Josie Szczasiuk</i> <i>David Brodie</i>	<b>Digital Makers/Digital Literacy</b>  <i>Sandra Linton</i> <i>Ross Linton</i> <i>Wilfred Teper</i>	<b>About the Bard: the Plays</b>  <i>Brian O'Leary</i>	
	<b>Assassination in History</b>  <i>Frank Nicholson</i> <i>Susan Gaston</i>	<b>Science and Ethics</b>  <i>Ernie Fallen</i> <i>Susan Ladle</i>	<b>The Web of Natural Science</b>  <i>Linda Tu</i>	<b>From Page to Screen</b>  <i>Rhona Wolpert</i> <i>Chris Gort</i>
2:00	<b>The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict</b>  <i>Alan Silverman</i>	<b>Music Appreciation: the Sound of Movies</b>  <i>Desiree Ashworth</i> <i>Charlotte Broome</i>	<b>Plays Beyond their Time</b>  <i>Elaine Vayda</i> <i>Corinne Wilks</i>	<b>Events of the Week</b>  <i>David Ptolemy</i>
	<b>History of Toronto</b>  <i>Pat Cross</i> <i>Frank Nicholson</i>	<b>Telling of Tales</b>  <i>Carol Farkas</i> <i>Paul Nash</i>	<b>Architects of the Modern Age</b>  <i>Gillian Long</i> <i>Yvette Matyas</i>	

## WEEK 2

**Week 2 Workshop dates are the weeks beginning  
Tues. Sept. 22. Oct. 6, 20, Nov. 3, 17. Dec. 1  
Jan. 19, Feb. 2, 16. Mar. 1, 15, 29**

**NB - Classroom numbers will be assigned before the beginning of term**

Week Two	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00	<b>China's New Silk Roads: the Stations</b>  <i>Rick Guisso</i>	<b>Opinions</b>  <i>Bill Davis</i> <i>Jim Pike</i>	<b>Economist Readers</b>  <i>Jim McCartney</i> <i>Linda Tu</i>	<b>Ulysses by James Joyce</b>  <i>Sheilagh Hickie</i> <i>Ellen Edmonds</i>
	<b>American Presidents</b>  <i>Chris Clemence</i>	<b>Documentary Film</b>  <i>Sharon Harris</i> <i>Doug Wilson</i>	<b>Art: A City at a Time</b>  <i>Robbie Robinson</i> <i>Elaine Rodgers</i>	<b>Celebration of Song</b>  <i>Carol Farkas</i> <i>Paul Nash</i>
12:00	<b>The Great War – 100 years on</b>  <i>Bill Holt</i> <i>Pat Macdonald</i>	<b>Contemporary Film (A)</b>  <i>Jean Waller</i>	<b>Contemporary Film (B)</b>  <i>Ruth Sidorchuk</i> <i>Doug Wilson</i>	<b>Understanding Today's Russia</b>  <i>Sally Ferguson</i>
	<b>Whistleblowers</b>  <i>Sue Kralik</i> <i>Shirley Lewis</i>	<b>Documentary Film</b>  <i>Sharon Harris</i> <i>Doug Wilson</i>	<b>Literature: Living Other Lives</b>  <i>Sandra Gold</i> <i>Jan Roblin</i>	<b>Roots &amp; Branches of Islam</b>  <i>Joan McCordic</i> <i>Mohammed Bakir</i>
2:00	<b>Reading Toronto: Past &amp; Present in Fiction</b>  <i>Maureen FitzGerald</i> <i>Rene Laukat</i>	<b>FORUM</b>	<b>Jazz Appreciation</b>  <i>Colin Gordon</i> <i>Wally Posner</i>	<b>Events of the Week</b>  <i>David Ptolemy</i>
	<b>New York City: 1919 - 1939</b>  <i>Madeline Grant</i>	<b>FORUM</b>	<b>Photography &amp; Photographers</b>  <i>Matthew Segal</i> <i>Brian Gaston</i> <i>John Weatherburn</i>	



# ACADEMY WORKSHOP CALENDAR 2015-2016

Week 1  
 Week 2

2015

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

2016

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

March						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## 2015-16 ACADEMY WORKSHOPS

### 2008: THE CRASH AND THE SEQUELAE **NEW!**

**Biweekly, Wednesday 10-12, Week 1**

Every day we experience the effects of the 2008 crash. The 1921 crash hurt our parents; during the crash of 1929 we were babes but we may have noticed the aftereffects. This workshop will help us grasp why every so often the economy tips so many into misery.

1921, 1929, 2008 and others will be used as case histories. We will explore the contrasting ideas about putting things to rights: spending (Keynes) or austerity (Hayek). Once the workshop is done the lingo (credit default swaps) and concepts (GDP) of finance and economics ("the dismal science") should be less opaque to us.

**Dugal Campbell** (416-363-2164 / [dugal.campbell@utoronto.ca](mailto:dugal.campbell@utoronto.ca)) is no economist (but did eavesdrop on economists in his wife's family). He believes in lifelong learning; accordingly he facilitates workshops where he can learn from others in the workshop as they explore and explain the topic at hand.

### **ABOUT THE BARD: THE PLAYS**

**Biweekly, Thursday 12-2, Week 1**

You will choose one of William Shakespeare's plays, and thereafter your presentation can include: where he 'borrowed' the plot; the more fascinating characters (successful or not); the setting; the colour; an interesting bit of the script; various presentation styles; subsequent adaptations, plus anything else that intrigues about your chosen play.

**Brian O'Leary** (416-860-07/ [brianoleary@rogers.com](mailto:brianoleary@rogers.com)) has seen Shakespeare from Mucedorus to Henry VIII, and most everything in between, has faithfully attended Stratford, has directed theatre and TV, (never any by the Bard), and loves learning more about this man.

## **AMERICAN PRESIDENTS: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY *NEW!***

**Biweekly, Tuesday 10-12, Week 2**

A workshop for Political Junkies. The President of the United States is the most powerful individual in the world. His personality, policies, prejudices and inclinations have had a major impact on world policies and prosperity. We will examine a select number of these remarkable individuals elected by the American people. We will analyze their backgrounds, paths to power and achievements or lack thereof. We hope to determine how History has or will judge them. Each participant will make a presentation on a President of their choosing, addressing why that particular President merits our interest.

**Chris Clemence** (416-489-7614) / [chrisclarence@sympatico.ca](mailto:chrisclarence@sympatico.ca)) has been an obsessive follower of both Canadian and American politics for years. His interest in American Presidents dates back to 1952 when Eisenhower and Taft were competing for the Republican nomination.

## **ARCHITECTS OF THE MODERN AGE**

**Biweekly, Thursday 2-4, Week 1**

The workshop will focus on architects who have won the Pritzker Award, the most prestigious award in modern architecture. We will explore their significant achievements, focusing on their geographical and historical context, their architectural innovations, influences, legacy, and any controversies around their work. This will be a very visual workshop. A list of the architects and suggested resources will be made available by the facilitators in early summer.

**Gillian Long** (416-447-6927 / [gillian.long@utoronto.ca](mailto:gillian.long@utoronto.ca)) has always enjoyed visiting interesting buildings (and great gardens) when she travels. She learned much from last year's workshop presentations and looks forward to another enjoyable year.

**Yvette Matyas** (416-658-5351 / [yvettematyas@hotmail.com](mailto:yvettematyas@hotmail.com)) worked for over 20 years in health care administration, including leading teams and facilitating retreats. She has recently developed an interest in architecture and has been exploring buildings in Toronto.

## **ART: A CITY AT A TIME**

### **Biweekly, Thursday 10-12, Week 2**

This workshop begins in the 1930s, examining key places and times when significant changes in art occurred, and continuing through to contemporary art. Participation in the 2014-2015 workshop is certainly not a prerequisite - only a strong interest in exploring art and social history is needed.

**Robbie Robinson** (905-629-1038 / robmiss@sympatico.ca ) has a broad education in both the arts and sciences. The history of the arts and society in various areas of the world has always fascinated him.

**Elaine Rodgers** (416-924-5190 / erodger1661@rogers.com ) retired from the hectic world of business and is now pursuing her wide interest in the arts.

## **ART: SEEING, THINKING, DOING *NEW!***

### **Biweekly, Tuesday 10-12, Week 1**

This workshop will investigate various artists, design elements and principles, and give participants an opportunity to explore these topics through short hands-on activities. Each week one participant will briefly discuss a principle of design and another will give a short presentation about an artist who exemplifies this concept. Together we will pursue an art activity based on the principle discussed, using basic materials supplied by the facilitators and/or brought from home (e.g. scissors, pencils, etc.) Whatever your artistic ability, this workshop will be an opportunity to learn more about art, experience various techniques, and have fun!

**Susan Schwartz** (416-633-2230 / seschwartz@rogers.com ) has an extensive background in art and design, both as an educator and as an artist. She is passionate about design and enjoys exploring and creating using different media and materials.

**Sharon Harris** (416-486-7017 / sharonlh546@gmail.com) retired after a varied career in education while she simultaneously pursued a second career as a fine art photographer. She enjoys visiting art galleries around the world.

## **ASSASSINATION IN HISTORY *NEW!***

**Biweekly, Tuesday 12-2, Week 1**

British PM Benjamin Disraeli famously asserted in the wake of Abraham Lincoln's assassination, "Assassination has never changed the history of the world." Was Disraeli right? This workshop will seek to answer that question by studying the use of political murder from ancient to recent times. Participants will research and present on topics selected from a list of 100 famous and not-so-famous assassinations. Presentations will cover each assassination's historical context, background, target, perpetrator, motive, method and consequences. Documentary films, video lectures and guest speakers will be used to stimulate and frame group discussion, should the workshop have empty presentation slots.

**Susan Gaston** (416-224-0327 / [gaston.susane@gmail.com](mailto:gaston.susane@gmail.com)) is a retired office administrator and an enthusiastic new member of the Academy who has a passion for history.

**Frank Nicholson** (416-488-6131 / [fnicholson@rogers.com](mailto:fnicholson@rogers.com)) is a retired civil servant and association executive with a graduate degree in history who has previously facilitated four history-related workshops for the Academy.

## **A CELEBRATION OF SONG**

**Biweekly, Friday 10-2, Week 2**

Songs are a vital part of our lives. First, participants will give presentations on their choice of historical periods of song, composers (e.g. Cole Porter, Jim Webb, and Lennon & McCartney), performers

(e.g. Tiny Tim, the Beatles, Mel Torme) or favourite songs. Second, we will sing the songs we discuss. No experience is required - just enthusiasm for singing. We can sing a capella, or with a karaoke machine or with the accompaniment of whichever instruments members of the course wish to play (piano, guitar, accordion, percussion.)

**Paul Nash** (416-694-7662 / [paulnash7662@gmail.com](mailto:paulnash7662@gmail.com)) and **Carol Farkas** (416-534-4949 / [cfarkass@gmail.com](mailto:cfarkass@gmail.com)) perform together and individually at Open Stages around Toronto. They led the senior sing at the Tranzac Club and have years of experience leading and following in amateur performances.

## **CHINA'S NEW SILK ROADS: THE STATIONS *NEW!***

**Biweekly, Tuesday 10-12, Week 2**

In 2013, China announced plans to re-invent the world's oldest international trade route; in 2014, China formally committed over \$40 billion to the development of transport, communication, and financial infrastructure along the “Silk Road Economic Belt” and the “Maritime Silk Road.” Each session will focus on one of the “stations” of the new Silk Road: history and the contemporary situation. Participants will work in teams of two. We will choose among nations (or their capital cities), which have already signed on to the plan – Bangladesh, Cambodia, Laos, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Iran, Turkey, Indonesia, Russia, Italy, and others.

**Rick Guisso** (416-762-1341 / ric33tor@hotmail.com ) has facilitated earlier workshops on East Asia, and is hoping that this workshop will expand his own horizons and allow participants to explore some of the lesser-known parts of the world.

## **CONTEMPORARY FILM A**

**Biweekly, Wednesday 12-2, Week 2**

Please join us for lively discussions of contemporary films. At each meeting we choose two films to view on our own before the next class. Films may be from any genre - indies, art films, block busters, or whatever moves the class when voting. The two presentations per class will focus on such aspects as themes, production values, and take-home values. We rate the films individually, and then compare our class rating to the Internet rating, just for fun. For the first session the facilitator will contact registered members with the two films for consideration and solicit volunteers for presentations.

**Jean Waller** (416-691-0067/ jgwaller2@rogers.com) graduated from the University of California, taught high school, and sat on the Futures Exchange. She enjoys going to the cinema, reading, hiking, knitting, and the company of Gary.



## **CONTEMPORARY FILM B**

### **Biweekly, Thursday 12-2, Week 2**

Welcome to all Film Fans! In each session we jointly choose two contemporary films. Each member is then expected to view and rate them, based on a set of criteria developed by the group, as well as their personal enjoyment. This has been a lively workshop where members are never at a loss for discussion. Members will take turns introducing the films, but everyone should come prepared to discuss them.

**Ruth Sidorchuk** (416-267-9252 / [ruth.sidorchuk@sympatico.ca](mailto:ruth.sidorchuk@sympatico.ca)) is a retired school librarian. After several years of membership in various Academy workshops, she has found her niche in her love of film and is looking forward to another great year of film viewing.

**Doug Wilson** (416-962-9782/ [marycw@sympatico.ca](mailto:marycw@sympatico.ca)) is retired from a career in public education. His knowledge and interest in contemporary film has increased since he became a member of this workshop at the Academy.

## **DIGITAL MAKERS/DIGITAL LITERACY IN A DIGITAL WORLD *NEW!***

### **Biweekly, Wednesday 12-2, Week 1**

This workshop will examine the history of our digital world and learn to use some of today's popular technology tools. We'll look at the history of the Internet and the contributions of trailblazers like Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, etc. Digital literacy topics would include privacy, safety and security, Google and other search tools, blogging, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram, and Skype. We'll also examine accessibility, assistive technology tools, smartphones and tablets. Each workshop member will choose a topic to present to the group. The facilitators will provide resource guidance as needed.

**Sandra Linton** has been a member of the Academy for the last 6 years. She has been a software training specialist and instructional designer in the corporate world for the last 23 years and acted as co-facilitator for the Interesting Women course in 2014-2015.

**Ross Linton** is a Q.C. and a Master Emeritus of the Superior Court of Justice, and has, with the exception of one year, been a facilitator of courses since the Academy began. He acted as co-facilitator for the Interesting Women course in 2014-2015.

**Wilfred Teper** (416-658-8855/ [teperw@sympatico.ca](mailto:teperw@sympatico.ca) ) is a retired engineer who relishes his Academy experiences. He has mainly been in the gas, oil and pipeline business and associated regulatory agencies, interspersed with a decade in the computer department of a large steel company

## **DOCUMENTARY FILM**

### **Biweekly, Wednesday 10-2, Week 2**

Documentary films reflect the richness and ambiguity of life, bringing us real stories from the world around us. Together we will explore this exciting medium by presenting films on a wide variety of topics: the arts, politics, social issues, science, and human interest. All films will be screened in class with group members making brief presentations on various aspects of the films, the filmmakers, and the themes introduced. The facilitators will provide presenters with copies of each documentary in advance.

**Sharon Harris** (416-486-7017 / [sharonlh546@gmail.com](mailto:sharonlh546@gmail.com)) retired after a varied career in education while she simultaneously pursued a second career as a fine art photographer. She is an avid movie-goer who enjoys both documentaries and feature films

**Doug Wilson** (416-962-9782 / [marycw@sympatico.ca](mailto:marycw@sympatico.ca)) is retired from a career in public education. Doug has become an enthusiastic fan of documentary films since joining this workshop with Sharon Harris and Grace Scheel and wants to learn even more.

## **THE ECONOMIST READERS**

### **Weekly, Thursday 10-12, Weeks 1 and 2**

This group will meet to extract the wit and wisdom in politics, business, finance, culture, literature and science from this influential international journal. Subscription copies can be delivered by mail (phone 1-800-456-6086) or e-mail ([economist@neodata.com](mailto:economist@neodata.com)). At each session, the group selects about a dozen articles, and the discussion is led by the person proposing each article.

**Jim McCartney** (416-487-0950 / [berlin@rogers.com](mailto:berlin@rogers.com) ) holds an MA in Modern History from U of T and taught high school history in Toronto for 36 years.

**Linda Tu** (416-226-0031 / lindatu@sympatico.ca ) is a scientist by training and persuasion. She has taught science courses at university level and informally to bright children.

### **EVENTS OF THE WEEK**

**Weekly, Friday 2-4, Weeks 1 and 2**

This workshop is focused on discussions of current events. Members suggest topics of interest: they are expected to be aware of events reported in the various media and to come prepared to discuss them. Each session will begin with a listing of the proposed events of interest, followed by a short presentation of each event by the member who suggested it, and then by discussion.

**David Ptolemy** (416-690-7594 / dptolemy1929@gmail.com ) is a chartered accountant who enjoys retirement with the Academy and adventure travel.

### **FROM PAGE TO SCREEN**

**Biweekly, Friday 10-2, Week 1**

Movies adapted from written works can be breathtaking or disastrous. It's an art to capture the ambience of the writing and the essence of the characters and their dialogue. Participants in this workshop will read the original text (short stories, plays and novellas). Presenters will briefly review the written work and its writer as well as the film director and screenwriter. Together we will view the film and discuss how the adaptation reflects or deviates from the written word, and the relative effectiveness of each.

**Rhona Wolpert** (416-961-2449 / rhona\_wolpert@rogers.com ) has an avid interest in both literature and film. She looks forward to pursuing this interest with enthusiastic members of the Academy.

**THE GREAT DIVIDE *NEW!***  
**Biweekly, Tuesday 12-2, Week 1**

*"Oh, East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet ... "*

- Rudyard Kipling

But meet they did, catastrophically, 16,000 years after humans first became isolated into two major groups – the 'old' eastern hemisphere and the 'new' western hemisphere. Why did Europeans conquer the Americas and not vice versa? In this workshop we will examine how differences that developed out of nature and human nature helped divide humanity into 'the (Western) shamans and the (Eastern) shepherds'.

Workshop members will present a chapter from Peter Watson's book, *The Great Divide*, leaving time for group discussion.

**David Brodie** (519-780-2855 / david.brodie.99@gmail.com ) was educated in physics and business administration. Since 2003 he has enjoyed a variety of workshops at the Academy in a search for a 'big picture' viewpoint.

**Josie Szczasiuk** (416-769-8942 / jszczasiuk@gmail.com) has a background in biology and education and has always been intrigued by the major driving forces in history.

**THE GREAT WAR – A HUNDRED YEARS ON**  
**Biweekly, Tuesday 12-2, Week 2**

The First World War, a watershed event marking the end of the 19th century and a hundred years of relative peace, was the first conflict of the industrial age. The mobilization of massive armies led to killing on an unprecedented scale. This year, the workshop will focus on the various aspects of the conflict not covered last year - the significance for Canada, the destruction of four empires, the creation of new countries - ending with the Armistice and the Treaty of Versailles

**Bill Holt** (416-920-7308 / home@billholt.ca ) is a past director and treasurer of the Academy. He is a graduate of the University of Toronto and a retired international business executive. Previously, he facilitated the workshop on the War of 1812.

**Patricia Macdonald** (416-481-1691/ patricia.macdonald2@sympatico.ca ) is a retired high school history teacher, with an M.A. from the University of Toronto and an

abiding interest in all things historical and how the world got the way it is. Previously, she facilitated workshops on Rivers of the World, and on the Second World War.

### **THE HISTORY OF TORONTO: FROM ABORIGINAL VILLAGE TO WORLD-CLASS CITY** **Biweekly, Tuesday 2-4, Week 1**

We will study Toronto's transformation from an outpost on Lake Ontario to today's vibrant, diverse metropolis. The all-new list of political, economic, social and cultural topics may include the Aboriginal presence in the Toronto area, the rise and fall of the Family Compact, our municipal government from incorporation to Megacity, the 1847 Irish immigration crisis, the rise of Toronto's labour movement, the Massey family and its business enterprise, the Great Fires of 1849 and 1904, Toronto's theatre scene in 1910, the city's Jewish heritage, R.C. Harris's infrastructure projects, the emergence of the Greater Toronto Area and how Toronto overtook Montreal.

**Frank Nicholson** (416-488-6131 / fnicholson@rogers.com) is a retired civil servant and association executive with a graduate degree in history who has designed several history-related workshops for the Academy.

**Pat Cross** (416-534-8690 / patcross@londonst.com) is a semi-retired business consultant, with degrees in physics and engineering, who is really enjoying getting a grip on historical topics in the Academy. She was born and raised in London, England, and came to Toronto in 1982 from Guelph. She likes cities.

### **HOW TECHNOLOGY HAS CHANGED SOCIETY: FROM FARMING TO TWITTER *NEW!*** **Weekly, Friday 10-12, Week 1**

We will look at the effects on human society of introducing new technologies through the ages. Our view of technology is the development of methods and tools to improve practical life in society, as opposed to Pure Science. We will begin with the development of farming and continue with such topics as writing, building, warfare, clothing, medicine, transport, steam power, electric power and the digital revolution, until the present. The emphasis is on the results or outcomes on society of the technology, not the details of its implementation.

**Pat Cross** (416-534-8690 / patcross@londonst.com) is a semi-retired business consultant, with degrees in physics and engineering who is really enjoying getting a grip on historical topics in the Academy. This workshop marries her technical and historical interests.

**Peter Steiner** (905-709-2194 / <mailto:peterediesteiner@gmail.com>) retired (sort of) from teaching high school physics and chemistry about 10 years ago. Academy interests include science, history, art and current events, usually with some connection to societal effects.

## **THE ISRAEL/PALESTINE**

### **CONFLICT: HISTORY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES *NEW!***

#### **Biweekly, Tuesday 2-4, Week 1**

This workshop will focus on the major issues that encompass the conflict between Zionism and the Palestinians. Some of the key topics to be discussed are: Palestinians and Zionists before Israel; Liberation or Catastrophe-the Meaning of 1948; Israel's Wars with the Arab World; What is life like for Palestinians and Israelis now; Is Israel an Apartheid State? Is there a solution to this conflict? We will find articles that everyone can read to prepare for the discussions.

This is a very controversial and emotional topic and every attempt will be made to encourage respectful listening and participation.

**Alan Silverman** (416-658-5351 / [ymatyas5351@rogers.com](mailto:ymatyas5351@rogers.com)) has a long time interest in Israeli/Palestinian issues. He is semi-retired from high school teaching and administration and teaching at OISE, and has just graduated with a Masters in Psychotherapy.

## **JAZZ APPRECIATION**

#### **Biweekly, Thursday 2-4, Week 2**

The workshop will focus on the personalities who influenced the evolution of this quintessentially American music form. A performer's recorded performances and dialogue will be used to provide enlightenment on the era and his/her style, ideas and objectives.

Each participant will select a personality and prepare a presentation (maximum 15 minutes) to precede a selection of recorded music (30 minutes), leaving time for discussion to follow. This is an enthusiastic and highly interactive class, in which all are welcome, from beginners to those who have enjoyed and absorbed all aspects of Jazz for many years.

**Walter (Wally) Posner** (416-484-9049 / wdposner@rogers.com ) immigrated to Canada from South Africa in 1974. A lawyer by training, his interests include current affairs, art and golf; but jazz is a continuing lifelong enthusiasm.

**Colin Gordon** (416-604-3316 / colin.gordon@themigroup.com ) has been an active student of jazz for 60 years and has recently taken up the trombone. He enjoys playing in the Long & McQuade 55+ Band, New Horizon Band (The Grateful Alive), and finds it a great way to nourish the brain.

**LITERATURE: LIVING OTHER LIVES *NEW!***  
**Biweekly, Thursday 12-2, Week 2**

We read literature to experience other times, places, challenges & perspectives. Reading fiction, memoir & poetry we enrich our lives, enjoying & appreciating literary style & language. We will read the works of contemporary writers from North America, Europe, Asia & beyond who bring us into other worlds than our own. Members will select books from a list of titles which will be sent in June. Additional suggestions are welcome. Everyone will be expected to read the chosen books, to make a presentation & to actively participate in the discussions.

**Sandra Gold** (416-782-7236 / sandrag@primus.ca) is a former special librarian & long-time Academy member. She has enjoyed facilitating workshops in literature for a number of years as well as participating in a wide variety of other workshops.

**Jan Roblin** (416-283-4462) / janbeth1@rogers.com) is a former secondary school teacher who enjoyed the sharing of teaching and learning experiences with teenagers and adults. She also enjoys Bridge, golf, music, and participating in Academy workshops.

**MEMOIR: WRITING and READING**  
**Biweekly, Tuesday 10-12 Week 1**

Memoirs, stories from a life rather than a life-story, are increasingly popular. This workshop assists participants to learn about memoirs by reading and discussing published examples and by practicing writing one's own memoir stories. Ideas or 'prompts' to inspire writing are offered at each session and everyone is encouraged to write and read aloud their writing at the next session. The facilitators and peers provide constructive feedback and support in a safe and inviting atmosphere.

**Eileen Garber** (416-497-9129 / eileengarber@rogers.com) worked as a senior staff member in a community centre. She has many children and grandchildren and is working on her memoir. She has facilitated this workshop for more than 4 years.

**Yvette Matyas** (416-658-5351 / yvettematyas@hotmail.com) worked for over 20 years in health care. She enjoys hearing other people's life stories. This will be Yvette's third year co-facilitating this workshop with Eileen Garber.

## **MUSIC APPRECIATION: THE SOUND OF MOVIES**

### **Biweekly, Wednesday 2-4, Week 1**

Where would films be without distinctive instrumental soundtracks? Music has consciously and unconsciously enhanced motion pictures from their earliest days. While expected in musicals, music is surprisingly essential for other film genres too. Often created by classically trained composers and played by concert orchestras, soundtracks also have an artistic and commercial value of their own. This year we plan to survey the role of film music, from the early 'silents' to to-day's fantasy features. Although we will focus on the soundtracks themselves, we will use brief film-clips to illustrate the sound /action relationship.

**Désirée Ashworth** (416-481-3635 / dashworth@sympatico.ca ) co- facilitated the Play Reading workshop for several years and has also served on the Membership Committee. Her interest in music started with piano lessons at age six and continued with her experience singing in a choir prior to immigrating to Canada.

**Charlotte Broome** (416-921-9706 / charlotte1.broome@gmail.com ) has had a lifelong interest in classical and choral music. She sings in several choirs and for the past four years has co-facilitated Academy music appreciation workshops including music in Canada, music of love, and music of war and peace.

## **NEW YORK CITY: 1919-1939 *NEW!***

### **Biweekly, Tuesday 2-4, Week 2**

The inter-war years in New York City were a tumultuous time of skyscraper highs and financial lows (the Crash and the ensuing Depression); Prohibition and bootlegging; the Harlem Renaissance; the flowering of Jazz, and many other developments in art, literature, music and new media, especially film and radio. It was also a time of flamboyant personalities, such as 'Gentleman' Jimmy Walker and Fiorello LaGuardia, Robert Moses and the wits of the Algonquin Round Table who all



made their marks on the city. Workshop members will explore some of these events and personalities through presentations and group discussion.

**Madeline Grant** (416-961-3323/ maddyg@sympatico.ca) is a retired librarian with an M.A. in History. She has a special interest in the inter-war years and a love of New York City.

### **THE NEW YORKER READERS**

#### **Biweekly, Thursday 10-12, Week 1**

Join the Readers for a lively, provocative, thoughtful and always timely discussion of articles, stories, reviews, poems, cartoons and covers of The New Yorker magazine. Articles, etc., will be chosen before the meeting from current issues. The New Yorker is available online, by mail or news stand.

**Jean Waller** (416-691-0067/ jgwaller2@rogers.com) graduated from the University of California, taught high school, and sat on the Futures Exchange. She enjoys going to the cinema, reading, hiking, knitting, and the company of Gary.

### **NON-FICTION: NEW & NOTEWORTHY**

#### **Biweekly, Wednesday 10-12, Week 1**

This lively workshop examines current non-fiction books that give background or confront issues in our contemporary world. Some of the books likely to be read, presented and discussed are: *The Comeback: How Aboriginals are Reclaiming Power and Influence* by John Ralston Saul; *The Islamic States and the Redrawing of the Middle East* by Loretta Napoloni; *If Mayors Ruled the World* by Benjamin Barber.

**Laura Baldwin** (416-495-0951 / landlbaldwin@rogers.com) has worked in the field of community development, has been a longtime member of the Academy and enjoys discussing issues raised in books that reflect our world today.

**Mandy Thomson** (416-487-0420 / mandythomson@sympatico.ca ) is a former education administrator and consultant who thrives on the joys of retirement and the delights of a good discussion and learning at the Academy.

## **OPINIONS**

### **Biweekly, Wednesday 10-12, Week 2**

Participants will discuss articles taken from a wide range of journals, newspapers, and other sources. Topics should be substantive enough to be worthy of discussion. The group will consider the case made by the author in the light of experience, alternative points of view, and other material that may be offered by the presenter. Participants are expected to read articles chosen for review, take turns introducing an article and starting the discussion, and are encouraged to suggest suitable articles from their own reading.

**Bill Davis** (416-963-4373 / velmagdavis@sympatico.ca ) is a Chartered Accountant. Most of his working life was spent as an officer of the United Church of Canada, latterly as the senior financial officer. Interests and achievements are in ecumenical social justice work and local community work with Residents' Associations and youth groups.

**Jim Pike** (416-588-2973 / jimpike@rogers.com ) is an Engineer who worked at IBM in a number of sales and marketing roles. Cottaging, travel and technology augment his continued interest in the Academy.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY & PHOTOGRAPHERS**

### **Biweekly, Thursday 2-4, Week 2**

This workshop will explore the changing face of the art of photography. Topics will include examination of the works of some famous photographers and the narratives behind some of their most iconic images; the history of developments in photography (daguerreotypes / film / digital); photographic techniques & styles such as black and white treatments, digital manipulation (e.g. high dynamic range and software enhancements); mixed media, and the impact of photojournalism.

**Brian Gaston** (416 224-0317 / gaston.brianw@gmail.com ) is a U of T alumnus with a degree in Applied Science. He is on the Board of the Toronto Digital Photography Club and is an avid amateur photographer.

**Matthew Segal** (416-721-0901/ matthewsegal@rogers.com ) studied Art & Architecture at UBC and worked in the Film & Television industry for many years. He is a member of the Academy Communications Committee and has a keen interest in the photographic arts.

**John Weatherburn** (647 529-5369 /weatherburn@rogers.com ) is recently retired and now able to devote more time to, and share, his passion for photography. He is currently President of the Toronto Digital Photography Club.

**PLAYS BEYOND THEIR TIME: WHAT GIVES A CONTEMPORARY PLAY THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME A CLASSIC? *NEW!***

**Biweekly, Thursday 2-4, Week 1**

We will explore the work of six playwrights, American, English, and Canadian, whose plays were written and performed in the last half of the 20th century. The writers are: Edward Albee, Caryl Churchill, David French, Arthur Miller, Tom Stoppard, and Tennessee Williams. We will read, perform scene readings, and identify elements of their work that suggest that their plays may survive the limits of time, place, and custom and continue to speak to audiences across this century and beyond.

**Elaine Vayda** (416-967-6461/ eevayda@rogers.com) has a lifelong interest in theatre. As a member of Act II Studio at Ryerson, she has directed several public performances. Before retirement, she taught social work at McMaster and at York University.

**Corinne Wilks** (416-656-1493/ corinne.wilks@sympatico.ca) spent her professional life in psychology, guided by her interest in human emotions and behavior. These are best depicted in the works of these playwrights, who speak to us and will continue to do so across the years.

**READING TORONTO: PAST AND PRESENT IN FICTION *NEW!***

**Biweekly, Tuesday 2-4, Week 2**

Many contemporary novelists have used Toronto as a setting. We have chosen novels that reflect Toronto's many historical moments beginning with 1856, the backdrop of Michael Redhill's *Consolation*, and ending with 2008, the context of Dionne Brand's *What We All Long For*. The novels cover Victorian Toronto, the twentieth century waves of immigrants, the depression and war, the growth of the suburbs and the 60's and 70's. Participants in the workshop will be expected to read all the books (list available in May), to make a presentation on one, and to take part in all discussions of the books and their historical context.

**Maureen FitzGerald** (416-658-0594 / m.fitzgerald@utoronto.ca) came into the Academy in 2012-13. She is a social/cultural anthropologist, retired university

teacher, former publisher and enthusiast for learning about all things Toronto.

**Rene Laukat** (416-461-7163 / rlaukat@rogers.com) is a 60-plus years' resident of Toronto's inner city. She is a 20 year Academy member and occasional facilitator, with a background in provincial government human relations management, and also an avid hiker, reader and filmgoer.

## **THE ROOTS AND BRANCHES OF ISLAM *NEW!***

**Biweekly, Friday 12-2, Week 2**

*"Sacred history is like a hallowed tree whose roots dig deep into primordial time and whose branches weave in and out of genuine history."* – Reza Aslan, No God but God

We will explore the story of Islam from its mythological roots in the Arabian Desert, through its articulation by the Prophet Mohammed and its early growth, to its present position of global power. The story covers 14 centuries of conflict, both internal and external, secular and spiritual. These clashes have created long-lasting acrimony at every level, which obscures the many interconnections among the roots and branches of this and other religions. It's the interconnections we're seeking.

**Joan McCordic** (647-340-1666 / mccordic@rogers.com) studied Philosophy and English, was a founder of Prologue to the Performing Arts, and is enjoying a wide variety of workshops and volunteer jobs at the Academy.

**Mohammed Bakir** (905-804-1439 / mh\_bakir@yahoo.com) studied statistics and worked as an international consultant mainly on socio- economic issues related to human development, poverty and gender. Since immigrating to Canada, from Iraq, Mohammed has become very interested in multicultural issues including religious diversity.

## **SCIENCE AND ETHICS *NEW!***

**Biweekly, Wednesday 12-2, Week 1**

*"...they ate knowledge too fast."* - Stephen Vincent Binét, By the Waters of Babylon

With today's rapid pace of science and technology are we able to imagine the adverse consequences of our discoveries? If so, should scientists be held accountable for the social consequences of their actions? In this workshop each

team of presenters will have an opportunity to research the science and debate the moral issues that confront us today. Topics include human cloning, weapons of mass destruction, climate change, gene therapy, euthanasia, medical biotechnology and many more.

**Ernest Fallen** (416-926-3715 / fallene@mcmaster.ca ) is a retired professor of medicine with special interest in the history of medicine and its discoveries.

**Susan Ladle** (416-656-1957 / susan\_ladle@yahoo.ca ) taught high school biology for many years and has a particular interest in the history of science.

## **TELLING OF TALES**

### **Biweekly, Wednesday 2—4, Week 1**

*“Three apples fell from heaven...one for the teller, one for the listener and one for those who heard, or took heed.” – Storytellers’ motto*

Why is the same theme repeatedly found in tales of many diverse cultures? Why does it endure? Has it influenced society? Members will select a tale (mythological, folk, fairy, personal), give background information, tell or sing, NOT READ it. Emphasis will be on ELDER tales, with heroines/heroes being seniors. Unique telling styles will be demonstrated by guest tellers. Material on the art of storytelling provided. This is a class to tell, listen, hear and take heed, together.

**Carol Farkas** (416-534-4949 / cfarkass@gmail.com ) is on the Board of Storytelling Toronto, a member of Storytellers of Canada, and hosts at 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling, Innis College.

**Paul Nash** (416-694-7662) / paulnash7662@gmail.com) is a regular contributor to 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling.

## **ULYSSES BY JAMES JOYCE *NEW!***

### **Biweekly, Friday 10-12, Week 2**

There are some books that we all meant to read and never did. Once again at the Academy, we will try to change that for you by exploring together James Joyce’s magnificent and very funny Ulysses. It has been called “the greatest book of the 20th century” although some say it is “the greatest bore”. Perhaps you would like to make up your own mind and join us for a look at the rollicking Ireland of 1904.

**Sheilagh Hickie** (416-423-8038 / shickie@bell.net) was born in Montreal, graduated from Sir George Williams College (now Concordia) and spent most of her working years in publishing, on the advertising side. She is fascinated by the literature that shaped us, like Ulysses.

**Ellen Edmonds** (416-928-2795 / edmonds@interlog.com ) was born in Denmark, where she taught Danish, English and Latin. She immigrated to Canada in 1966, received a BA from York University and an MA from U of T. She taught English until retirement, and finds Ulysses fascinating.

## **UNDERSTANDING TODAY'S RUSSIA *NEW!***

**Biweekly, Friday 12-2, Week 2**

Has Russia come full circle back to the time before the revolution? How has the pull between east and west, its ever- changing borders, its historical memory, its ethnic mix and its determination to remain a great power shaped Russia today? Can we understand the present from looking at the past?

**Sally Ferguson** (416-362-2534 / sallyferguson1@bell.net) has been fascinated by history and the people and events that brought about change since she studied history in university. She believes that to understand today's conflicts you need to understand the past.

## **WEB OF NATURAL SCIENCE**

**Biweekly, Thursday 12-2, Week 1**

Our natural world is a web of wonder, beauty and complexity; in this workshop we will take a broad look at natural phenomena through many scientific disciplines. These may include psychology, chemistry, physics, geology, bacteriology and more. We will see that there are many ways in which scientific studies overlap to inform our everyday existence. Each session will focus on an article of your choice, generally from the current year of the journal Scientific American.

Source material will include Scientific American, Discovery Magazine, Science News and The New Scientist.

**Linda Tu** (416-226-0031 / lindatu@sympatico.ca ) is a scientist by training and persuasion. She has taught science courses at university level and informally to bright children.

**WHISTLEBLOWERS: THEIR HEROIC AND SOMETIMES TRAGIC STORIES *NEW!***  
**Biweekly, Tuesday 12-2, Week 2**

A whistleblower is an informant who exposes malfeasance within an organization in the hope of stopping it. This workshop will follow the lives and tribulations of those whose conscience would not let them just ignore wrongdoing. Some are scientists, some are doctors, some are in business, some are working for the government, and some are in industry. Most of these people have had their careers ruined and only a few, like Daniel Ellsberg and Ralph Nader, have been vindicated. Join Sue and Shirley in finding out about these fascinating people and why they were willing to risk their careers by following their conscience.

**Sue Kralik** (416-444-1489 / sue.kralik@yahoo.ca) is a retired school principal who greatly appreciates participating in the Academy.

Among Sue's activities and interests are choral singing, astronomy, Scottish Country Dancing, history, and current events.

**Shirley Lewis** (416-601-9398 / shirleylewis6@yahoo.com ) is a retired librarian, book wholesaler, publisher and lecturer on children's literature. She worked in Ethiopia for 5 years as a volunteer librarian with CUSO International.





**Academy for Lifelong Learning**

**Two-Weeks-at-a-Glance 2015-16**