



Never Stop Learning



Life Long Learning Classes at Freedom Village

We are proud to present the **Fall 2026** series of Life Long Learning classes brought to Freedom Village by instructors at various Life Long Learning Programs.

There will be 1 - 5 week class per session, on Mondays from 1:30-2:30 in the Learning Center. **There is a \$25 charge for the 5-week classes.**

There will also be lectures on the second Friday of the month in the auditorium. **The lectures are free.**

1. "Perspectives on the American Revolution"

Instructor: David Hudiak

Mondays from 1:30-2:45 **

September 14, 28, October 5,12, (4 sessions /1.25 hours each)

COST: \$25

While the story of the American Revolution is well known, less is known about how the Revolution affected various groups of people. African Americans, Native Americans, Immigrants, Loyalists, Women, Catholics, Quakers, Europeans, the British public, the French public, Hessians and America's Jewish Community were all impacted by the Revolution in diverse and significant ways. By studying these impacts, students will gain a deeper understanding of the complex nature of our struggle for freedom!



David Hudiak, Esq. has been a licensed attorney for more than 35 years and is a member of the Bars of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and the District of New Jersey. He has extensive teaching experience, having taught numerous paralegal classes as well as seminars in law school admission test preparation. He has been listed in both Who's Who in American Law and Who's Who in American Education

2. "Early American Jews and their Influence on the Founding of the United States"

Instructor: Roberta Matz

Mondays from 1:30-2:30

October 19, 26, November 2,9,16

COST: \$25

Jews first arrived in the New World in 1654. They quickly established their desire to be a part of this new, growing country. Learn about their impact on our freedom of religion, equal rights, early universities and more. Asser Levy, Haym Salomon and many more early Jews aided and influenced our country in its very beginnings.



Roberta Matz was a classroom teacher for 30 years, teaching French and Hebrew languages and Judaic studies in public and private schools. Additionally, Roberta worked for the Jewish Federations of Greater Philadelphia and Delaware, where she worked on Jewish Life and learning, community development and outreach.

3. “Opera 101: Learning to Love Opera, Breaking Down the Roadblocks”

Instructor: Bill Palmerio

Mondays 1:30-2:45 ** (note longer class sessions)

November 23,30, December 7,14,21

Cost: \$25

Opera can be thought of as the supreme art form, telling stories related to the human condition through a sublime combination of music, singing, art, and theater. What is it about a great opera performance that draws in the true fanatic? The opera literature expresses the full range of human emotions: love, hate, revenge, jealousy, lust! If you are new to opera, or perhaps have had a less than enjoyable. experience with opera, join us as we try our best to breakdown some of the stereotypes that continue to be roadblocks for the uninitiated.



Bill Palmerio is happily retired from a thirty-year career as a financial systems analyst and database application developer in the health insurance industry. Long before entering the corporate working world, Bill earned multiple degrees studying classical vocal music and opera. Teaching music appreciation classes to like-minded enthusiasts has in recent years become a very fulfilling aspect of his retirement life. A love of music is his first and enduring passion. Bill's particular musical genre interests include opera, classical art songs, musical theater and, above all, the Great American Songbook.

Afternoon Lecture Series will continue – Fridays – at 2 p.m. in the Greg Walsh auditorium. No charge or sign up needed

1. Friday, September 11 - 2 p.m.

“The Impact of the Battle of Brandywine and American Freedom”

Bruce Mowday

The September 11, 1777, battle of Brandywine was a military disaster but contributed to America's freedom. In our own backyard, this battle took place over acres of Chester County. Author Bruce E. Mowday will discuss why Brandywine is not recognized for its value.

Bruce E. Mowday is an award-winning author and newspaper reporter. He has authored more than 25 books on history, sports, business and true crime.. A member of the American Friends of Lafayette, Bruce was the Chester County Coordinator for the Lafayette Bicentennial Celebration in 2024 and 2025. He is also a member of the county's 250th committee planning for a celebration of our nation's founding

2. Friday, October 9, 2 p.m.

“Famous Artists: Georgia O'Keefe”

Georgia O'Keefe is often labeled “The Mother of American Modernism”. Her individualism, ingenuity and courage still serve as a basis for inspiration to artists, iconoclasts, pop-culture enthusiasts and feminist. Come learn more about her art and life.

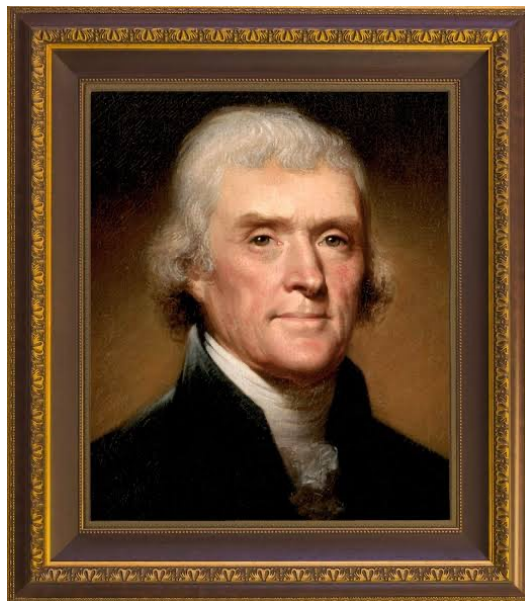
Steve Pollack is a performer, director, actor and has been a lecturer for various groups and organizations in the greater Philadelphia/New York area for 30 years. He is on the faculties of Temple University Continuing Education and at the Upper Dublin Library, and speaks for universities, community groups, community organizations, private functions, and retirement homes on a wide variety of subjects and topics. He has appeared

as a performer, singer and director with local and regional theater and opera companies from Los Angeles to Boston, appearing as an actor or in leading baritone or tenor roles in opera, concert programs, and musical theater. He has performed at the Walnut Street Theater, Merriam Theater, Kimmel Center and Academy of Music and was a regular at the Renaissance Hotel Downtown, in Center City, Philadelphia for many years.

**Friday, November 13, 2 p.m. –
“*Thomas Jefferson*”**

Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826) was an American Founding Father, principal author of the Declaration of Independence, and the third U.S. president. A champion of religious freedom, and individual rights, he expanded the nation through the Louisiana Purchase and supported public education. Jefferson was also a diplomat, architect, and founder of the University of Virginia. Despite advocating liberty, he enslaved people throughout his life, a lasting contradiction in his legacy.

Gerry McNeff. worked for over forty years at Lockheed Martin and General Electric. In retirement, Jerry pursues his love of history and the personalities that shaped it. He has taught many courses at Widener’s Life Long Learning Institute and at other local retirement communities.



3. Friday, December 18, 2 p.m. " Eastern Religion vs Western Religion"

This presentation will focus on the facts that eastern religions emphasize harmony, interconnectedness and spiritual transformation. Western religions focus on monotheism, moral law and individual salvation. Where did these ideas develop and what impacts do we see throughout history of the divergent philosophies?"

Jeff Heim was a classroom teacher in West Chester for most of his career. He was Teacher of the Year twice. Jeff was also a Fulbright Fellow and Annenberg Fellow for studies in India and the Middle East. Since retiring, he teaches many courses at retirement communities and Lifelong Learning programs.

