



BUILDING KNOWLEDGE & ENRICHING THOUGHT

Winter 2020 Courses – Registration begins November 25

BEETHOVEN AND THE ROMANTIC LEGACY

Tuesdays 10-11:45 AM, January 7 – February 11

This marks the 250th anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven's birth, so we celebrate the power of one lone individual to forever change the world. Beginning with a summary of Beethoven's heroic journey from abused child to triumphant piano soloist and his remarkable resilience in the face of disability and despair, we will explore how he found a new musical language to express the extremes of joy and suffering of life in a way that liberated music, and continues to inspire and transform listeners worldwide. We will look at how Beethoven created the archetype of the Musician as Hero and how both his life and his music shaped and defined Schubert, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Liszt, Wagner, Brahms; and was a turning point for the painter Gustav Klimt.

Kayleen Asbo, Ph.D, is cultural historian for the Santa Rosa Symphony, a pre-concert lecturer for the San Francisco Opera, the Mendocino Music Festival, and UC Berkeley, Dominican University and Sonoma State. A pianist and composer renowned internationally for her innovative interdisciplinary work, Dr. Asbo holds five degrees, including in mythology and psychology. She is the Artistic Director of the Mythica Foundation, which offers Musical Mondays at the Petaluma Historical Library and Museum, and cultural pilgrimages to France, Scotland, England, Austria and Italy. She is thrilled to be teaching about her musical hero for AAUW. www.kayleenasbo.com



OUR "BEST" PRESIDENTS: A JOURNEY THROUGH AMERICAN HISTORY

Thursdays 10-11:45 AM, January 9 – February 13

Chris O'Sullivan leads us on an exploration of America's past to assess how historians have interpreted our most significant presidencies. In recent decades historians have reached a consensus over the very best presidents (such as Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, and FDR) whereas the reputations of the next tier (including Madison, Monroe, Wilson, Truman, Ike, JFK) have undergone much more fluctuation. How have historians defined "success," or even "greatness," in a presidency? What role do changing times and changing perspectives play in reassessing a presidency? Whose reputations are rising? Whose stock is falling, and why? Who is overrated? Who is undervalued?

Chris O'Sullivan (BA UC Berkeley, PhD University of London) teaches American history at University of San Francisco where he is the recipient of the Distinguished Lecturer Award (2012) and the Innovations in Teaching Prize (2014). He is the author of six books on American history and has lectured and conducted research at multiple presidential libraries.



Registration begins 11/25/2019. Classes held at Raven Performing Arts Theater, 115 North Street, Healdsburg. Enrollment Fee: \$95 for each six-week course. Fees are nonrefundable (see enrollment form).

Presented by Healdsburg American Association of University Women (AAUW). Proceeds support local educational programs and scholarships for women and girls.