

MILE SPRING 2023 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

**Programs to be held at Middlesex Community College, Chapman Hall
100 Training Hill Road, Middletown, CT 06457**

In addition, some programs will be presented on ZOOM this Fall. You will receive weekly emails regarding the programs and any changes in the schedule as well as the ZOOM address.

March – Week 1

Tuesday, March 7 – Iberian Jazz Guitar (MxCC Classroom)

A live music presentation! The Iberian jazz Guitar Trio will present different styles of guitar playing on 3 types of guitars - acoustic, electric, and Spanish guitars.

The music will include Manouche (French jazz) Rumba, Flamenco and Brazilian.

Presenter: David Giardina, received his Bachelor's from St. Anselm College before continuing studies at the Longy School of Music, and has teaches guitar at Trinity College, MCC and privately, He also is artistic director of the CT Guitar Society.

Presenter: Frank Varela attended Berklee School of Music and has been a sought after guitarist and private music instructor throughout his career, including lecturing at the University of Connecticut and Manchester Community College.

Presenter: Richard Goldstein is a professor of jazz guitar at the University of Hartford's Hartt School, as well as Central and Southern CT State Universities. He is also involved with various jazz camps, including the Litchfield Jazz Camp.

Wednesday, March 8 — Writing a Legacy Letter (ZOOM)

Most all of us wish to create a legacy that can be passed on. This presentation helps us to do so.

A legacy letter (also called an "ethical will") is a written document that allows people to share their life lessons, express their values and transmit their blessings to future generations. A legacy letter is shorter than a memoir, typically just a few pages. Writing one is a rewarding experience that creates an enduring gift for family, friends and loved ones. This workshop includes discussion and brief writing exercises to help you examine your life history, explore your values, and complete your own legacy letter.

Presenter: Jay Sherwin, BA, University of Pennsylvania and JD, Northeastern University School of Law has practiced law, given away money for five different charitable foundations and served as a hospital chaplain. In 2019, he created the Life Reflections Project to educate people about legacy letters, ethical wills, and other legacy documents.

Thursday, March 9 -- Meet Atty. Mary Hall, Connecticut's First Female Lawyer (MxCC Classroom)

In 1882, the Connecticut Supreme Court cleared the way for women to practice law in Connecticut and Mary Hall was the first! This presentation is an intimate portrayal of Attorney Mary Hall and encapsulates her life and times. Rather than a litany of her many accomplishments, it is through the context of Miss Hall's experiences that her story unfolds.

It was while attending the Connecticut Woman Suffrage Convention, she heard a speech about existing ancient draconian laws. What she heard convinced her to abandon teaching and become Connecticut's first female lawyer. However, events almost derailed her law career - twice! Then there is the divorce case that stunned the court and flummoxed the judge. And there is her work at Wethersfield State Prison, and the Almshouses. The law may have been Attorney Hall's professional passion, but her very personal passion was the club she founded that changed the lives of thousands of at-risk boys.

And so much more - parts of which the audience may recognize as identical or analogous to present-day events occurring right here in the United States.

Portrayer: Marti Smith, after retiring from many decades of multifaceted, eclectic gainful employment, missed the aspects of the working world that she really enjoyed. Each, in its own way offered challenge, substance, and enjoyment. Aspects she especially enjoyed were researching/interviewing, training/teaching, writing/telling stories, public relations, graphics, performing, marketing, and being a small business owner.

Throughout her life, Marti's love of history has been a constant. Quite by chance, Marti "met" Attorney Mary Hall on a menu sidebar at the Marlborough Tavern. The connection was immediate! Since then, it has become her great joy to introduce Miss Hall to new audiences ages 10 and beyond.

March -- Week 2

Tuesday, March 14– A Brief History of Color (MxCC Classroom)

This presentation is a fascinating introduction to a topic we may not consider that often!

A Brief History of Color covers the spectrum of colors of the rainbow and their sources and uses over the centuries. Until the Industrial age, all color sources were found in nature (minerals, insects, seashells, found objects). Color has strong associations to mood and emotion (think national flags, targeted advertising, even music!) and the relationship between various colors and our associations to them will be highlighted.

Presenter: Richard Friswell, MEd, MPhil, is a cultural historian and Visiting Scholar at Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, where he co-directs the Wesleyan Wasch Center Seminars, their adult education program. He has published three books dealing with topics of cultural history through the imagined eye of an historian and storyteller. He speaks and lectures widely on topics related to the 'Modern Era,' a time during the 18th and 19th century when Western civilization was experiencing rapid change in the face of the Industrial Revolution and widespread political upheaval. He lives, paints and writes in Branford, CT.

Wednesday, March 15 – Gardens of the Gilded Age (Zoom)

Spring is on the way, and we think about our gardens, a smaller version of these garden masterpieces? The Gilded Age is famous for its ornate mansions and grand gardens built by the Roosevelts, Vanderbilts, and Carnegies. Transport yourself to the Gilded Age with an armchair tour of the gardens at the Newport Mansions, Vanderbilt Estate, Vizcaya, Untermyer Gardens, Nemours, and others.

Presenter: Jana Milbocker is a garden designer, speaker, and author. She combines horticulture, design, and travel tips to educate, inspire and delight both new and seasoned gardeners. Jana loves to visit gardens and historic sites in the U.S. and abroad, and share her trips through her books, photos and blog. She is the author of 3 travel guides, including the newly published *The Garden Tourist's Florida*. She has lectured at flower shows, horticultural societies, garden clubs, and libraries throughout the Northeast. She is owner of Enchanted Gardens, a landscape design firm in the Boston area. (EnchantedGardensDesign.com.) She is past president of the Holliston Garden Club, and active in the Garden Club Federation of Mass., Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and GardenComm International.

Thursday, March 16 –Great Decisions: Energy Geopolitics (SESSION 1)

Great Decisions is a discussion forum that follows a curriculum developed by the Foreign Policy Association (www.fpa.org). The program is supported by the Great Decisions program materials which presents basic information on each topic. Participants read the topical section for that week, then come to the sessions to discuss their various points of view with one another. Active participation is encouraged, but not required.

We will have 4 sessions using the Great Decisions materials and 2 open discussions on current events – with the topics chosen by the participants.

In an age where our political discourse has become more polarized, Great Decisions provides an excellent opportunity for open, fair, objective discussions - and helps the participants understand multiple perspectives on these topics.

Topics and schedule for the Spring are as follows:

- March 16: Energy Geopolitics
- March 23: War Crimes
- March 30: Open Discussion
- April 6: China and the U.S.
- April 13: Economic Warfare

Sessions will run on Thursdays from 9:30 – 11:30 AM. The sessions will be conducted in person in a room of Chapman Hall tbd. Participation is limited to 20, so register soon!

The program materials are required and are purchased separately. They are available in print (\$32) and various e-book formats (est. \$20-25). Contact the moderator for details at budsielaff@sbcglobal.net and to reserve your space.

Moderator: Bud Sielaff, a retired business executive with degrees in engineering, marketing, and finance. Bud is a member of MILE and has been a moderator of the Great Decisions program since Fall 2018. He has a business strategy background, has had extensive international travels, and closely follows world events as an interested citizen.

Thursday, March 16—Life Inside the Wire: Iraq (MxCC Classroom)

This presentation is a gripping view inside a world that few of us know about. Attorney Leslie Ohta will describe how she decided to spend a year in Iraq as an attorney with the Criminal Division of the U.S. Justice Department, as well as the selection process, the training, security issues and assignments. These include: the Provincial Reconstruction Team, Law Schools, Iraqi High Tribunal, Police Academy, Trafficking In Persons (TIP), Juvenile Justice, women's prisons, and International Moot Court Competition. She will also distinguish for us the Green Zone and the Red Zone. All of this was a unique experience from a woman's point of view.

Presenter: Leslie Cayer Ohta graduated Emmanuel College, B.A., Chemistry, Physics, Math US Peace Corps, Chemistry & Physics Teacher, University of the Philippines

English Teacher: YMCA, Osaka, Japan

Copy Editor: Sumitomo Electric Co., Osaka, Japan

Administrative Coordinator: UConn Health Center

UConn School of Law, J.D. with honors

Law Clerk, Justice Joseph W. Bogdanski, CT Supreme Court

Trial Attorney, Civil Division, Torts Branch, US Dept. Of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Assistant United States Attorney, New Haven, Connecticut

Trial Attorney, US Dept. of Justice, Civil Division, Commercial Litigation Branch.

Resident Legal Advisor, U.S. Dept. Of Justice, Criminal Division, Overseas Prosecutorial

Development Assistance and Training Program (OPDAT)

Norwalk Community College, Taught Constitutional Law

CT Public Defender

Volunteer Experience:

United Nations / OSCE Volunteer, Bosnia Herzegovina

Bosnia-Herzegovina , polling station supervisor in Gradiska, Republica Srpska.

Earthwatch Volunteer, Thailand, archeological dig

Earthwatch Volunteer, South Africa, Meerkat project

Earthwatch Volunteer, Czech Republic, water quality project

Kenya, elephant conservation project,

Wild Elephant Conservation Project, Sri Lanka

Navajo Indian Reservation, construction project

Congregational Church of South Glastonbury, Syrian & Afgan Refugee Committee

Mission trip to Malawi

Glastonbury Democratic Town Committee

Glastonbury ABC Program, member of the Board of Directors

Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative

Japan Society of Greater Hartford, member, former Executive Director and Secretary

US & Japan Society of CT, member

TALK, Social Justice Committee, member

Sheff Movement Coalition, member of the Board of Directors

Glastonbury MLK Mural Project, Chair

March — Week 3

Tuesday, March 21 – Gender, Sexuality and You (MxCC Classroom)

This session will focus on the modern history of how the concepts of gender and sexuality has shifted in the past seventy-five years. The presenter will engage participants in dialogue, activities, and information that weaves together our collective lived experience with the impact of LGBTQ activism, contradictory generational trends, and historical shifts in norms and self-identifications.

Presenter: Demetrius Colvin earned from the University of Maryland, *Master of Arts* (May 2011), Counseling and Personnel Services and Case Western Reserve University, *Bachelor of Arts* (May 2009), International Studies *with honors*, Russian

Wednesday, March 22 – Punch and Judy-Tradition, Popular Culture and Puppetry (ZOOM)

This presentation covers a topic that reaches back to its beginnings in 1662.

Punch and Judy is a comical British hand puppet tradition featuring the trickster character Punch and his wife Judy that was also exceedingly popular in the United States in the nineteenth century. Punch and Judy plays are episodic, with Punch interacting with his wife Judy and their baby, and opposing various figures of authority and characters drawn from other entertainment genres. Although Punch and Judy has been loved by the public over the centuries, it carries elements from the past no longer considered acceptable to most current audiences, such as misogyny, domestic violence, capital punishment, and racism. Many Punch and Judy performers endeavor to rework the tradition so that it reflects contemporary concerns and issues without losing its core anarchic spirit.

Presenter: Jungmin Song in 2007-2014 earned a PhD Drama, Theatre and Performance, University of Roehampton, with a thesis titled *Animating Everyday Objects in Performance*, supervised by Professor Adrian Heathfield
2005-2006 MA Scenography, Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London
2002-2005 BA (Honors) Theatre: Design for Performance, Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London
1996-2000 BA Clothing and Textiles, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea
Dr. Jungmin Song is Assistant Professor in Residence at the Department of Dramatic Arts and research associate at the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry at the University of Connecticut. She curated the exhibitions *Shakespeare and Puppetry* (2020) and *Puppetry's Racial Reckoning* (2021) at the Ballard. Korean-born, she lived, studied, and worked in London, England for nearly 20 years before she started working at UConn in 2019.

Thursday, March 23 –Great Decisions: War Crime

Great Decisions SESSION 2. See program Details from March 16.

Moderator: Bud Sielaff

Thursday, March 23 – The Architecture of Power: Palaces Built by Herod the Great, King of Judea (MxCC Classroom)

This program consists of DVD's prepared by the Great Courses Series. The Palaces highlighted were built by Herod the Great, King of Judea who reigned for thirty-seven years. The first palace shown will be Masada which was started in 37 B. C. Because Herod was appointed King of Judea by the Roman Senate, he sought to incorporate both eastern and western traditions in his palaces. Built 1,300 feet above the desert floor, Masada is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In addition, we will be viewing Herod's Winter Palaces at Jericho and his Summer Palace at Herodium

Moderator: Nancy Rogalsky will be facilitating and is a retired Language Arts Consultant. She has volunteered for MILE in many different positions and is presently Chair of the MILE Advisory Board. The expert providing the descriptions of the archeological sites is Steven L. Tuck, PhD. Professor of Classics at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

March—Week 4

Tuesday, March 28— The Real Story of Rosie the Riveter (MxCC Classroom)

This presentation is about a cultural icon in the United States! Her image has adorned everything from lunchboxes to lampshades, but what is the real story of Rosie the Riveter? Together we will trace her journey from propaganda poster to feminist icon while uncovering the history of the real life Rosies who not only inspired that infamous bicep, but whose work in wartime industries helped secure an Allied victory during World War II.

Presenter: Amanda Goodheart Parks is a public historian whose work can be seen on the History Channel, has been awarded by the American Alliance of Museums, and is featured at museums and historic sites across New England. She earned her PhD from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and she specializes in the history of women and gender.

Wednesday, March 29 – Field Trip to Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry (SEE

JOIN US FOR THE MILE SPRING 2023 TRIP (SEE FLYER)

BALLARD INSTITUTE and MUSEUM of PUPPETRY

Located in School of Fine Arts

1 Royce Circle, #101 B, Storrs, CT 06268

Tel: 860-486-8580

Website: bimp@uconn.edu

WEDNESDAY, March 29, 2023

10 am to Noon

Admission: \$5:00

Family and friends are welcome to join us. The Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry is a unique resource for understanding the past, present, and future of puppets and material performance. As part of UConn's School of Fine Arts, it complements the puppet arts program in building and disseminating knowledge about puppets. The Ballard Institute presents exhibitions, performances, workshops, forums, and online resources about puppetry around the world; its collection of over 3,000 puppets and its archival resources offer further insights into puppet history.

Parking: The parking garage behind the museum is free for the first two hours and then charges hourly, and the Storrs Center parking lot down the road is free with a two-hour limit.

Meet Elizabeth Tischio at the Puppet Theater at 9:45 am. She will collect the \$5 admission charge. **MASKS MAY BE REQUIRED.**

10 am – Noon Guided Tour

Noon – Lunch on your own.

Dining Recommendations for a sit-down lunch:

- Dog Lane Cafe- sandwiches, salads, soups, burgers, vegetarian, vegan, and gluten free options <https://doglanecafe.com>
- Kathmandu Kitchen- Nepalese and Indian cuisine <https://www.kathmandukitchenbar.com>
- Oriental Cafe- Sushi, Japanese and Chinese cuisine <https://orientalcafe6.netwaiter.com/mansfield/about/>

There are also some chain restaurants like Blaze Pizza, Moes Southwest Grill, Daddy's Noodles, MOOYAH Burgers, Fries & Shakes, and Subway if all else fails.

Other attractions on Campus:

- UConn Dairy Bar- <https://dining.uconn.edu/uconn-dairy-bar/>
- Benton Museum- <https://benton.uconn.edu>

TO REGISTER –Email: ejtischio705@gmail.com. **DEADLINE:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Include the name(s) of who is attending. Include your cell phone number.

Questions or must cancel: Please call Elizabeth Tischio at 860.490.4573 asap

Thursday, March 30 – Great Decisions: Open Discussion

Great Decisions SESSION 3 See program Details from March 16.

Moderator: Bud Sielaff

Thursday, March 30 – African Safari Travelogue (MxCC Classroom)

Traveling is one of the best forms of education and stories about travel are always a treat! In December 2022, Laurie Patt traveled to Tanzania where she saw incredible sights of wildlife while on Safari in several national parks including the great Serengeti plain. In addition to seeing fauna and flora in their natural habitat, she will share what she learned about the people she met, the beautiful lodges, including camping in a tent in the middle of the Serengeti, the delicious food, and the state of the country.

Presenter: Laurie Patt is a retired healthcare executive with 45 years of leadership experience; starting as a Radiologic Technologist and earning a in BS Business Management at Northeastern University in Boston, MA. Teaching was always a large part of the job including coaching and mentoring individuals as well as groups, training staff and student technologists. She worked as the Director of Radiology services at Middlesex Hospital and the University of Vermont Medical Center. Since retiring in 2014 Laurie has been active in many volunteer activities including coaching and training individuals and groups, including planning & speaking at local seminars and national conferences.

April — Week 5

Tuesday, April 4 – Founding Fathers, Part 1 (MxCC Classroom)

This presentation is Part 1, of lectures about the Founding Fathers.

There will be 4 lectures: 1. George Washington's Doubts 2. Thomas Mifflin's Congress 3. Robert Morris's Money 4. Benjamin Franklin's Leather Apron. The lectures will be given by Allen C. Guelzo, PH.D. University of Pennsylvania.

Moderator: Joe Soja, past Chair of Mile, grew up in Durham, attended the University of New Haven and earned a B.S degree in Industrial Administration, as well as, earning a master's degree in Public Administration. Graduated from the United States Army Command and General Staff College Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. Retired from The Durham Manufacturing Company as Vice President. Became a substitute teacher teaching all grades.

Wednesday, April 5 –Who should Vote? Expanding American Democracy (Zoom)

This topic is one that is important to us even today. This lecture will explore the struggles and ideological contests over the expansion of democracy in the United States since the Early Republic.

Presenter: Jeffrey Ogbar earned his BA in history from Morehouse College and his MA and Ph.D. degrees in history from Indiana University. Dr. Ogbar is Professor of History and the founding Director of the Center for the Study of Popular Music at the University of Connecticut. He is the author or editor of several books, scholarly journal articles and book chapters

Thursday, April 6 – Great Decisions: China and the U.S.

Great Decisions SESSION 4. See program Details from March 16.

Moderator: Bud Sielaff

Thursday, April 6 – Founding Fathers, Part 2 (MxCC Classroom)

This presentation is Part 2, of lectures about the Founding Fathers.

There will be 4 lectures: 1. George Washington's Doubts 2. Thomas Mifflin's Congress 3. Robert Morris's Money 4. Benjamin Franklin's Leather Apron. The lectures will be given by Allen C. Guelzo, PH.D. University of Pennsylvania.

Moderator: Joe Soja, past Chair of Mile, grew up in Durham, attended the University of New Haven and earned a B.S degree in Industrial Administration, as well as, earning a master's degree in Public Administration. Graduated from the United States Army Command and General Staff College Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. Retired from The Durham Manufacturing Company as Vice President. Became a substitute teacher teaching all grades

April — Week 6

Tuesday, April 11 – Woman of 1776 (MxCC Classroom)

Attendees of this presentation can meet some of the woman of 1776! Learn about these five women, both loyalist and patriot, American and foreign born, who witnessed and, in some cases, changed the course of the American Revolution.

Presenter: Rita Parisi is an actress, singer, producer, and playwright with over 25 years of performance experience. In 2002, she founded Waterfall Productions to showcase her one-woman dramatic shows which have been seen in New England, New York, New Jersey, and Florida. In addition to her solo work, she has performed in musical, dramatic, improvisational, and interactive theatre. Some of her theatrical credits include: Mother Superior in Nonsense, and Mary Warren in The Crucible. In the past, Rita also has been involved in Boston's film scene and her films have been premiered at the Boston International Film Festival and the Cannes Film Festival. She is a proud member of the largest acting union in the country: SAG/AFTRA (formerly the Screen Actors Guild and American Federation of Television and Radio Artists.

Wednesday, April 12– Debunking the Ozark Hillbilly Myth (ZOOM)

The Ozarks are a wonderful area of the country to visit for its beautiful landscape and outdoor activities. This presentation will explore the stereotypes of the Arkansas Ozarks hillbilly, specifically through outhouses and moonshine imagery. While this discussion will be placed in a larger context, some primary and localized sources will be presented

Presenter: Rachel Whitaker earned a BA History & Sociology, Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, OK, MA American Studies, Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, OK, MS Education Library Media, Northeastern State University, Tahlequah and a PhD (ABD currently), History, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. She currently is a Research Specialist/Historian, Shiloh Museum of Ozark History, Springdale, Arkansas

Thursday, April 13 – Great Decisions: Economic Warfare

Great Decisions SESSION 5. See program Details from March 16.

Moderator: Bud Sielaff

Thursday, April 13 – Ticks- Diseases and Prevention (MxCC Classroom)

When outdoors, few of us have not had to think about the possible presence of ticks, and the possible disease they could cause. Tick-associated diseases, mainly Lyme disease are increasing, new diseases are being discovered, and various tick species are expanding their geographic range posing an increasing risk to the public. In addition to our “deer” ticks, lone star ticks, Gulf Coast ticks, and Asian long horned ticks represent a new threat in Connecticut. Ticks can be acquired outdoors, around the home or during recreational activities, the risk of which will increase with warmer weather. Dr. Stafford will briefly cover the ticks, tick-borne disease incidence, basic tick biology, and then review various environmental methods for tick-bite prevention and tick control. He will also highlight some of the barriers to effective tick management and tick-bite prevention in the United States.

Presenter: Kirby C. Stafford III is the former Chief Scientist (Head) of the Department of Entomology and State Entomologist at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. He retired 1 June 2022, as an emeritus scientist and continues work on several projects and manuscripts part-time. Dr. Stafford has authored or co-authored 87 articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals, review chapters on tick management in two books, produced a Tick Management Handbook (CAES Bulletin 1010), and served on regional and national tick-related committees, including the Federally chartered Tick-Borne Disease Working Group. Dr. Stafford obtained his PhD in medical-veterinary entomology from Texas A&M University in 1985, a Master of Science degree in entomology at Kansas State University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in entomology at Colorado State University.

April — Week 7

Tuesday, April 18 – Travel the World with Mile Members (MxCC Classroom)

MILE members will share photos of exciting trips they have taken to places far from Connecticut. Christi Moraga has put together a montage of these vistas along with a map to show each destination. Come see and acquaint yourselves with Isle of Jersey, Roman and Greek ruins, a Viking ship, the arts in Cuba, and the passion of Oberammergau. Christi will call up to the podium the MILE members who are participating so that each one can tell a few vignettes. Please join us for this unique travelogue that is a way of sharing poignant memories.

Moderator/Coordinator: Christi Moraga Education/ degrees: MA Spanish, MA French, MA Latin American Studies. Retired World Languages teacher of 36 years. Christi is on the MILE Curriculum Committee and has presented five times.

Wednesday, April 19 – Bus Trip to Deerfield (SEE FLYER)

Historic Deerfield. Lunch at the Deerfield Inn. Magic Wings.

Go back in time to the heart of an 18th-century colonial village. Explore Historic Deerfield.

Our special guide will board our coach for a ride down Main Street.

The stage will be set for our visit to these wonderfully preserved homes.

The Sheldon House built in 1754 was occupied by three generations of farmers & The Williams House built in 1747 presents period rooms depicting the lifestyle of Deerfield residents.

Lunch will be at the famous Deerfield Inn where we will enjoy a buffet-style meal. Menu: Local Green Salad, Herb Roasted Salmon, Lemon Rosemary Chicken & Vegetable Lasagna Rolls, Vegetables, Dessert & Coffee.

Our last stop of the day will be Magic Wings in South Deerfield.

Visiting this amazing butterfly Conservatory is an experience you will never forget...over 4000 gorgeous butterflies are flying free in the conservatory.

Your guide explains the habits, life styles, favorite foods, & origins of these kaleidoscopic beauties. Nice gift shop here with Butterfly theme....

SEE FLYER FOR SIGN-UP INSTRUCTIONS. Can sign up at orientation.

COST: \$ 140 per person

(Payment is non-refundable unless substitute is provided.)

Depart: 8:45 AM Middlesex Community College, Lower Parking Lot

Estimated Return: 5:00 PM Middletown

Payment Due: Wed, March 22, 2023

Questions: Elizabeth Tischio

Cell: 860-490-4573

Thursday, April 20 – Webb Telescope Update (MxCC Classroom)

This presentation is an exciting update concerning the largest optical telescope in space, currently at its observation spot nearly 1 million miles from Earth!_The James Webb Space telescope was launched on December 25, 2021, to much fanfare, carrying the hopes of the astronomical community a million miles into space. What has Webb taught us about our universe, and our place in it, over that time? Has it lived up to the hype? Which discoveries have left astronomers scratching their heads and scrambling back to the drawing board searching for explanations for what Webb has spied with its 18 not-so-little eyes? Join us for an up-to-date recap of how a single telescope has transformed our view of the universe forever.

Presenter: Kristine Larsen her Ph.D. in Physics, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. October 1990, M.S. in Physics, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. May 1987, B.A. in Physics, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT. December 1984. Magna Cum Laude. Honors Program graduate. Currently, October 1990. Currently, she is an Astronomy professor and faculty coordinator of Copernican Planetarium and Observatory, CCSU.

Friday, April 21 – The Lifespan of a Fact (MxCC Classroom)

Readers Theater presents: THE LIFESPAN OF A FACT, a play about journalism and the questions around accuracy. It is intriguing and fast moving.

Presenters/Co-Directors: Richard Kamins and Anne Cassidy. Richard earned an AA MxCC, BA UConn, MA Wesleyan and is an Adjunct Instructor: Quinnipiac University. Anne earned a BA Stephens, MA Wesleyan and is a Professor Emerita, MxCC English Faculty.