

Warner Free Lecture Trustees Agenda

To be held on Tuesday, July 25th, 2023 at 6:15pm via Zoom

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, An Act Making Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2023 to Provide for Supplementing Certain Existing Appropriations and for Certain Other Activities and Projects, and signed into law on March 29, 2023, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation. Interested individuals can listen in and participate by phone and/or online by following the link and phone number below.

UpperTH ProWebinar is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83776727934?pwd=RW5uS1pGcDVQN3VkVFJTb080Nm9JQT09>

Meeting ID: 837 7672 7934

Passcode: 174206

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,83776727934# US (Washington DC)

+13052241968,,83776727934# US

Dial by your location

- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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1. Review and approve minutes from June 6
2. Review descriptions for 2023-2024 season (see below). Italicized paragraph is the “short form.” These can also be seen at warnerfreelecture.org.
3. Harvard Press article(s)
 - a. Are we doing a “New Season” article + an individual article for each lecture?
4. Sign Frame: Do we need to finagle it a bit to ensure that the inserts don’t fall out?
5. Jeff: Did you make any progress with the Mass Cultural Council?
6. Other Business.
7. Schedule Next Meeting

AS

9/15/2023



Bob Mumgaard
The Future of Fusion

For decades nuclear fusion has promised nearly unlimited electricity using almost no natural resources. Now some 80 years since fusion was considered as a power source, there are more than 30 private companies trying to put fusion generated electricity onto the grid.

Bob Mumgaard, CEO of Commonwealth Fusion, will explain what nuclear fusion is, current attempts to harness it, some of the engineering challenges, and how Commonwealth Fusion is uniquely creating a practical nuclear fusion power plant. Its goal is to put electricity on the grid in the next 15 years. Commonwealth Fusion is building its first prototype reactor in Devens, Massachusetts.

Bob Mumgaard cofounded Commonwealth Fusion in 2018. He holds a Ph.D. from MIT where he is a visiting scientist. He has contributed to the design of several small superconducting tokamaks.

For the past 80 years engineers have said harnessing fusion for electricity was just 30 years away. Are we now at the cusp of practical fusion in the next decade? Bob Mumgaard, CEO of Commonwealth Fusion, will discuss the promise and challenges of nuclear fusion, and how Commonwealth Fusion is using cutting edge technology to deliver practical fusion-based electricity.

10/27/2023



Roxana Trabulsi
Of Mud and Honey

November 1967 in Aden, Yemen. Dara and Silloo Barucha's serene life with their family is interrupted when violence erupts after the British occupation announce their plan for a swift exit from the country. Things take a turn when the family business is

seized, and they are targeted by members of the revolution. Dara is whisked away as a political prisoner while Silloo was put under house arrest with her three young children and mother-in-law. As the couple embark on their separate harrowing journeys, in the hopes of being reunited, they are consistently faced by challenges. The looming question: will they make it out alive?

Meet Roxana Trabulsi as she describes the true stories that are reflected in her novel *Of Mud and Honey*.

As the reign of imperialism ends in Aden, Yemen and gives way to a communist government, a young family finds themselves trapped as political prisoners. Strength, love and faith are pushed to their limits overnight as they embark on the flight of their lives. Roxana relates the story of a family surviving terror in Yemen.

1/12/2024



John Hanson Mitchell
Gardening in the Age of Climate Change

Using Voltaire's famous aphorism to just cultivate your garden in the face of the absurdities and disasters of the world as a model, the author John Hanson Mitchell will discuss works in progress in his own acre and a half garden as well as historic gardens as a means of countering worldwide issues such as climate change. Even a small urban garden can offer refuge and solace, as well as physical and even spiritual benefits in the face of the dark future we seem to be facing.

John Hanson Mitchell founded the Massachusetts Audubon Society's award-winning journal *Sanctuary*. He has written ten books including *Ceremonial Times: Fifteen Thousand Years on One Square Mile*.

*Join John Hanson Mitchell for a discussion of his upcoming book *The Garden at the End of Time*. Using his own garden as a take off point Mitchell will describe the role of gardens as a source of refuge in the face of world-wide disasters such as climate change.*

2/9/2024



Suzanne Buell

Roots of Traditional and Contemporary Gospel Music

Suzanne Buell is a former Stax recording artist and a graduate of Boston Conservatory. She appears regularly as a soloist in the Boston Pops Gospel Choir, the Millennium Gospel Choir, the Boston Community Choir. Her own band, The Gospel Connection, has performed in several local venues, receiving rave reviews. Suzanne will explore her roots in both traditional and contemporary gospel and will show how those musical traditions have inspired contemporary artists. You'll want to sing along to the music that helped define the Civil Rights movement and profoundly influenced so many musicians of our day: Aretha Franklin, Mavis Staples, Paul Simon, Ruthie Foster, Levon Helm, Marc Cohn, and so many more.

You'll want to sing along to the music that helped define the Civil Rights movement and profoundly influenced so many musicians of our day as Suzanne Buell explores traditional and contemporary gospel music.

3/22/2024



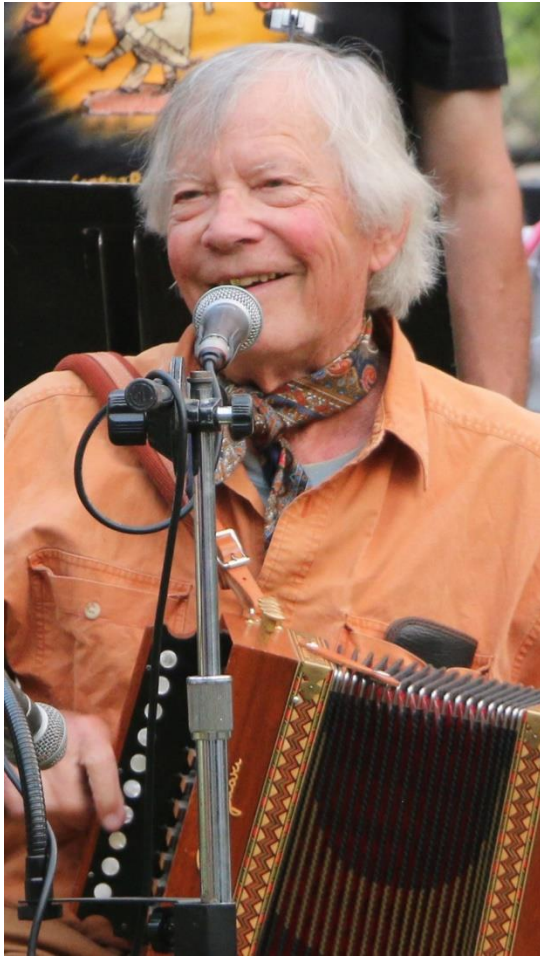
Barbara Berenson
Massachusetts in the Woman Suffrage
Movement

Former Senior Attorney in the State Supreme Judicial Court, Barbara Berenson has written the book, "Massachusetts in the Woman Suffrage Movement," from which she will raise and review issues of current significance to the situation we all face.

Barbara is the author of "Boston in the Civil War: Hub of the Second Revolution" and "Walking Tours of Civil War Boston: Hub of Abolitionism." She is a lecturer at Harvard Law School.

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4/12/2024



Dudley Laufman

Celebrating Old Time New England Country dance.

At the age of 93, Dudley Laufman embodies the spirit of old time New England country dance. As a teenager he fell in love with this music, and he never looked back. His lifelong commitment to preserving and promoting this tradition of country dance has earned him significant recognition, including being named a

National Heritage Fellow by the National Endowment for the Arts, the country's highest honor for traditional arts.

During Dudley's presentation the audience will learn about the music, the dances, and the people who have carried on these tradition for many year. One might also hear a story inspired by the antics of some local character, or perhaps a poem about a pig, but there will plenty of the old tunes that Dudley now plays on a button accordion, and he might even call out "Get up and dance!" after asking, "What do you think this is, a cocktail party?"

Learn about the music, the dances, and the people who have carried on the tradition of old time New England coudntry dance. Come on down to listen Dudley on his button accordion and a call to "Get up and dance!"