

Brooks  
Memorial  
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7:00 PM



A program of



Vermont  
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Statewide Underwriters:

- The Alma Gibbs Donchian Foundation
- National Life Group Foundation
- Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Vermont Department of Libraries

Series Underwriter:

Union Institute  
& University

# Brattleboro

## 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays

**OCTOBER 4** - Mark A. Stoler

### Nothing to Fear, But Fear Itself: FDR and the New Deal

From 1929 to 1939, the US experienced the longest and worst economic depression in its history and the first in which the federal government acted decisively to reverse it. UVM History Professor Emeritus Mark A. Stoler discusses how Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal changed government's role in the economy and affected the lives of Americans in ways that are still with us.

**NOVEMBER 1** - Randall Balmer

### Luther and the Reformation: A 500-year Appraisal

Martin Luther's posting of the *Ninety-five Theses* on the cathedral door at Wittenburg five hundred years ago launched a movement that utterly transformed Western society and our notions of authority, culture, art, and tradition. Dartmouth Religion professor Randall Balmer assesses the Protestant Reformation half a millennium later.

**DECEMBER 6** - Barbara Will

### World War I and American Writers

Dartmouth professor Barbara Will discusses both the war's effect on American writers, particularly John Dos Passos, T. S. Eliot, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, and Gertrude Stein, and how it changed American literature and made it "modern." Underwriter: Vermont Council on World Affairs

**JANUARY 3** - David Mills

### An Evening with Langston Hughes

In this dramatic rendition of Langston Hughes's poems and short stories, actor and writer David Mills celebrates the life of the Harlem Renaissance writer. Underwriter: Jack and Mary Ellen Bixby

**FEBRUARY 7** - Nancy Jay Crumbine

### The Legacy of Rachel Carson

*Silent Spring* not only launched the environmental movement but also laid out the fundamental problems with our relationship to nature. Dartmouth professor Nancy Jay Crumbine celebrates scientist and poet Rachel Carson's clarity, courage, and brilliance. Underwriter: Chroma Technology

**MARCH 7** - Judith Frank

### The Known World and the Literary Character

Amherst professor Judith Frank discusses Edward P. Jones' 2003 Pulitzer-winning novel *The Known World*, called "a masterpiece that deserves a place in the American literary canon," and considers what its unusual approach to characterization can tell us. **Books available to read in advance (NOT required).** Underwriter: Carole and Geof Gaddis

**APRIL 4** - Barry O'Connell

### An Emerson for Our Time

Drawing on Ralph Waldo Emerson's essays "The American Scholar," "Self-Reliance," and "Experience," Amherst professor emeritus Barry O'Connell explores the many ways Emerson's writings continue to offer insights that can make our lives more open and fruitful.

**MAY 2** - James Maroney

### Georgia O'Keeffe: A Critical Look

Georgia O'Keeffe lived 99 years and produced over 2,000 works in her 75-year career. James Maroney, the former Head of American Paintings at both Sotheby's and Christie's in New York who conducted her estate appraisal after her death, presents a critical evaluation of her best work.