



LECTURE SERIES

FALL 2022

SEPTEMBER 14, 2022 – JANUARY 25, 2023

SEPTEMBER 14, 2022



Robert Barnes has been with the *Washington Post* for almost 35 years as both a reporter and editor. He joined the paper to cover Maryland politics, and he has served in various editing positions, including metropolitan editor and national political editor. Barnes has covered the Supreme Court for 16 years and will share with us his observations on the current Court and the many ways in which its decisions affect the lives of Americans.

SEPTEMBER 21, 2022



Tara Sonenshine has spent her career devoted to the power of communications whether it be between a reporter and TV audience or diplomat to diplomat. She began her career in journalism at ABC News and is the recipient of 10 News Emmy Awards. She later transitioned into government service and rose to undersecretary of state for public diplomacy in the Obama administration. Sonenshine also served as executive vice president of the US Institute of Peace. She is currently professor of practice in public diplomacy at the Fletcher School of International Law and Diplomacy, a columnist for [TheHill.com](https://www.thehill.com) and the author of articles published in leading newspapers.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2022



Dr. Jonathan Reiner is board-certified in internal medicine, cardiovascular disease, and interventional cardiology, and is a professor at the George Washington School of Medicine. Dr. Reiner is also a CNN medical analyst focusing on COVID and advises viewers on what to expect, what to do, and how to think about the COVID pandemic. Dr. Reiner has talked about the role of fear in motivating COVID-safe behavior and pushed back against misinterpreting COVID trends. He will share his perspective about the pandemic, and what Americans' responses to it suggest about our country.

OCTOBER 5, 2022 – NO PROGRAM



OCTOBER 12, 2022



Historian Richard Bell, Ph.D., an author and professor of history at the University of Maryland, focuses his research primarily on the history and culture of the US between 1750 and 1877. He has held major research fellowships at Cambridge, Yale, and the Library of Congress, and is the recipient of a prestigious Andrew Carnegie Fellowship. Bell has a particular interest in the history and legacy of slavery and its relevance to today. His extensive scholarly work addresses important and enduring controversial issues that continue to confront our society. Dr. Bell is a founding member of the University of Maryland's chapter of the Universities Studying Slavery consortium and a trustee of the Maryland Center for History and Culture.

OCTOBER 19, 2022



Jeffery Deaver is a true Renaissance man. A former journalist, folksinger, and attorney, he settled into being a popular and prolific mystery and crime writer. - and show dog owner. His novels have appeared on bestseller lists around the world from the New York Times to Italy's Corriere della Sera. In Britain, Deaver won both the Steel Dagger and Short Story Dagger awards as well as the British Thumping Good Read Award. In the US, he has won the Nero Wolfe Award, the Ellery Queen Reader's Award and three lifetime achievement awards. Deaver is a Grand Master of Mystery Writers of America. All of Deaver's stories show his delightfully twisted mind at work – or is it play? Join us as he discusses his journey, characters, and books.

OCTOBER 26, 2022



Elise Bryant is executive director of the Labor Heritage Foundation, a cultural arts organization, and president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women. She founded and leads the DC Labor Chorus. An activist since her first protest in fourth grade, Bryant has worked for social justice ever since. She is a labor educator, union officer, singer, director, and playwright. Theater is her first love. She will talk with WMG about why it's important to have plays, books, and movies about the lives of ordinary working class women and will share a few scenes from her work-in-progress, "Queen of the Night: a Choreopoem for the Left."

NOVEMBER 2, 2022



John Mendez is Bethesda Cares' Executive Director. He has received multiple awards for his work to end homelessness, including recognition from the highly successful 100,000 HOMES Campaign and US Department of Veteran's Affairs Medical Center in Washington DC. In 2012, Mendez was named recipient of the Dr. Wayne Fenton Memorial Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness for Montgomery County. In recent years, he has served in leadership capacities on multiple county committees and special county task force groups. His talk will focus on homelessness, evidence-based solutions to ease the crisis and how the pandemic impacted homelessness.

NOVEMBER 9, 2022



Gilly Cannon joined Montgomery County-based Caring Matters as a volunteer in 2013 and three years later became the organization's Director of Children's Bereavement Services. In this role, Cannon directs the Good Grief Club, a peer support program for grieving students. She advises schools after the death of a school community member and is a grief resource for families, school principals and counselors, pediatricians, social workers and other allied professionals. Using her experience in grief support, Cannon created and coordinates a community program for grieving children and their families called Bringing Books of Comfort. She will discuss how grief impacts children and ways in which they can be supported and nurtured.

NOVEMBER 16, 2022



Susan Sloan works in diplomacy, engaging with diplomats, government officials, community organizers, and international leaders. She is the author of *A Seat at the Table: Women, Diplomacy, and Lessons for the World*. Sloan has met with leaders from 80 countries in the belief that gender-diversified leadership changes the course of history and redefines how we solve critical problems. She will discuss the unique leadership style of high-ranking women diplomats and government officials spanning the world, including how they helped combat ISIS, negotiated major treaties, worked through intense conflicts, balanced families and careers, and endured double standards as they rose in the ranks of leadership.

NOVEMBER 23, 2022 – THANKSGIVING - NO PROGRAM



NOVEMBER 30, 2022



Vailes Shepperd has been a writer since she was young enough to put pen to paper. In first grade, she collaborated with her oldest brother, the Spoken Word Poet, D. Dallas Vailes, to produce a prize-winning play that was performed for elementary school audiences. Shepherd went on to become a founding member of the Washington Independent Review of Books. Her many accomplishments include designing a writing program for high school students while teaching in a program under the auspices of Substance Abuse Prevention Education, and editing P.J. Fetner's *The African Safari*, and Scott Jackson's *Take Me with You*. Her first novel, *A Good Ending for Bad Memories*, tells the story of a prosperous African American family before, during and after slavery. She will share her devotion to writing and her desire to express hidden African American history through her novels.

DECEMBER 7, 2022



Dr. Kim Schatzel began leading Towson University as its 14th president in 2016. Under her leadership, Towson University—Maryland's second largest and fastest growing university—is recognized as a national leader in inclusive excellence. President Schatzel is one of less than two percent of university presidents with extensive business and private sector experience, spending more than 20 years as a corporate leader and serial entrepreneur in the technology and advanced manufacturing sectors. She serves on multiple boards in the region and has been recognized on multiple leadership lists in the mid-Atlantic region. Her research interests focus on product innovation, new product success, and marketing communications.

DECEMBER 14, 2022



Patty Horning is a physical therapist, practicing in Montgomery County, whose passion is treating individuals affected by cancer. She works for NovaCare Rehabilitation and leads its cancer rehabilitation program in Maryland and DC. Horning also is a certified Lymphedema therapist. Lymphedema is a common complication after cancer surgeries where lymph nodes are removed. Horning's passion is to help individuals with cancer regain function following treatment. She will discuss the emerging field of cancer rehabilitation and how it supports individuals as they move from diagnosis through Survivorship.

DECEMBER 21, 2022



Jeanne Pieper has a most unique interest; singing canaries. Every weekend in the fall, groups of dedicated canary lovers gather to have their birds compete in a sing-off. Join Pieper, Vice President of the National American Singer Canary, as she explains the world of competitive canary singing and learn how people raise, train, and compete in canary song competitions across the US and Canada. Pieper will bring two of her own highly trained canaries and demonstrate their unique and beautiful songs.

DECEMBER 28, 2022



JANUARY 4, 2023



If you have put a stamp on a letter, you likely are aware of Ethel Kessler's delightful art work. As President of Kessler Design Group, she has been designing postage stamps for many years. Her most successful project was the 1998 Breast Cancer Research stamp which has raised over 90 million dollars for cancer research. Kessler has directed the art for over 400 stamps for the US Postal Service. She will share the history of the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, creating art for postage stamps, and the process for identifying the themes, subjects, artists, and images we see on the stamps we use.

JANUARY 11, 2023



Steven Pressman spent 30 years as a print journalist, for a variety of publications, before turning to filmmaking. In 2013, he directed and produced *50 Children: The Rescue Mission of Mr. and Mrs. Kraus*, about an American couple who travelled to Vienna to save Jewish children from the Nazis. Pressman also made *Holy Silence*, examining the actions (or inactions) of the Vatican during World War II. Pressman's most recent documentary, *The Levys of Monticello*, tells the little-known story of a Jewish family who rescued Thomas Jefferson's home from ruin. Pressman will share what draws him to these subjects and will show clips from his documentaries.

JANUARY 18, 2023



Andrea McCarren will discuss re-invention—her own. McCarren won 24 Emmy awards while covering the White House, Capitol Hill and the Pentagon, and local news in cities across the US. Four years ago, she took a new path—combining her passion for community service with a newly created job leading a team of digital storytellers at PenFed Credit Union, where she is Vice President and Chief Content Officer. PenFed Digital produces content designed to inspire and inform. McCarren also volunteers for multiple veterans' causes and is currently raising her fifth service dog for a wounded warrior or first responder with a disability.

JANUARY 25, 2023



An expert in health equity and public health policy with a passion for public service, Dayna Bowen Matthew, J.D., Ph.D., is a nationally recognized lawyer and distinguished scholar with three decades of academic, government and private sector experience. She is the first female Dean of the George Washington Law School. Her career and her writings have focused largely on public health, health disparities, health reform and civil rights. Dr. Matthew has authored numerous articles and book chapters as well as two best-selling books: *Just Medicine: A Cure for Racial Inequality in American Health Care*, and *Just Health: Treating Structural Racism to Heal America*.

