

ElderCollege Programs – Winter-Spring 2024

Below you will find detailed descriptions of ElderCollege at Silver Harbour programs for Winter 2024. Just a reminder that you must be a member of Silver Harbour in order to register in these programs. Silver Harbour membership costs \$35 a year, and you must come in person to fill out forms, sign our waiver and pay for your membership. Once you have a membership, you may register for programs by phone (using Mastercard or Visa) or in person (using cash, debit card, Mastercard or Visa) starting Thursday, December 14th, 2023 at 9:00 am.

Books Unlimited Book Club (on Zoom)

Wednesdays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm (January 24 – April 17)

This popular book club, established in 1997, continues to welcome both returning and new participants. This friendly group loves to talk about fiction and occasionally a non-fiction book.

- Jan 24 – The Song of Achilles (Madeline Miller)
- Feb 14 – What Strange Paradise (Omar El Akkad)
- Mar 6 – The Paris Library (Janet Charles)
- Mar 27 – All The Colour In The World (C.S. Richardson)
- Apr 17 – Summer (Edith Wharton)

Champions of the Environment Lecture Series

Mondays, 1:00 – 2:30 pm (March 4 – April 15)

- **Sustainable Urban Futures: Adapting to Climate Change Through Innovative Water Management** – March 4th

There is an urgent need to adapt our urban water demands amidst climate change impacts which brings us increasing frequencies of too much AND too little water. Join a discussion on effective conservation practices and learn about an innovative decision-support tool, the [BC Landscape Water Calculator](#), showcasing how modifying landscapes and gardens can significantly reduce outdoor water use on your own property. We can all pave the way for a more sustainable and water-resilient future for our communities. Presented by Julie Wilson, UBC Academic Coordinator/Lecturer specializing in Urban Watershed Management.

- **Unprecedented Wildfires – The Role of Global Warming** – March 11th

Wildfires dramatically show how our planet is in peril. For the past decade and more, unprecedented wildfires have raged in almost every corner of the world. As one example, the extraordinary wildfire season in Canada produced staggering carbon dioxide emissions totalling 1bn tonnes of CO₂, equivalent to the entire annual output of Japan, the world's fifth biggest polluter. The resulting smoke affected the health and safety of millions throughout eastern Canada and the US. This talk will review the growing body of evidence that clearly demonstrate that climate change is the main driver of these disastrous fires. It will also outline the human health impacts. Presented by award winning environmental scientist (retired) Allan Maynard, MSc.

- **We Are Drowning in Plastic Waste: The Plastics Conundrum** – March 18th

There is no doubt that plastics have greatly benefited humankind, but the benefits and convenience have come at a great price. This is the great plastics conundrum. We have been relying upon but also overusing plastics for the past 5 decades and now we are drowning in the resulting waste. It is a serious problem that science failed to properly predict. This talk will outline what plastics actually are, the environmental impacts of manufacturing plastics, the myth of recycling (hint – only about 10 percent is actually recyclable) and the growing concerns of how plastics breakdown to create 'microplastics'. Presented by award winning environmental scientist (retired) Allan Maynard, MSc.

- **Three Waters** – March 25th

How might we play music when water is our duet partner? This talk will focus on three instrument designs, each able to make music with water in three of its forms: glacial ice, ocean waves and rain. These instruments seek to create moments of collaboration between person and environment, offering novel ways of shrinking the gap between human and world. Presented by Josh Wallace, B.Env.D., MArch, intern architect from the Architectural Institute of British Columbia.

- Scientific Case For Climate Courage – April 8th

Climate change is the challenge of the century. The more greenhouse gases we emit, the more the planet warms and the more people and the environment suffer. In this talk, I will discuss how scientists and other have defined “dangerous” levels of climate change, the role of climate change in recent extreme events. Presented by Simon Donner, UBC Professor and Climate Scientist.

- Living Architecture and Stormwater Management Considerations in Cascadia – April 15th

This lecture will enhance your knowledge of living architecture, sustainable development and stormwater development, including the use of green+blue roofing technology. Presented by Josh Stewart, Environmental Professional in training and Sustainable Innovation.

“Mythos: The Shaping Of Our Mythic Traditions” by Joseph Campbell

Wednesdays, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (February 21 – March 20)

This is an opportunity to enrich your life with the excitement of powerful ideas and masterful story telling. Joseph Campbell, in a five-part series, explores “The Shaping of our Mythic Traditions”. Explore our own mythic journey. Explore the richness of First Nations rituals and religion. Examine our primal and spiritual impulses. Trace the ancient roots of Judeo-Christian traditions and their life renewing energies.

Joseph Campbell (1904-1987) focused his life on exploring and understanding mythology and comparative religions. He believed that there was a common pattern beneath the narratives of the great myths. He believed that the privilege of a lifetime is being who you are. His work examined the universal functions of myth in various human cultures.

Each session will begin with a 50-minute recorded presentation by Joseph Campbell followed by a discussion of the ideas presented in the video facilitated by Marga Hanna.

Marga Hanna is a retired University Professor, Art Therapist and Trauma Therapist. During her graduate work she studied at Pacifica University, which maintains the Joseph Campbell archives.

Outdoor Learning

Participants provide their own transportation and meet at the location. All of the outdoor programs require a moderate level of fitness, and full mobility is required. These programs take place outside on natural terrain, with some steep and uneven ground. Programs will proceed rain or shine, so dress accordingly. Walking poles and sturdy footwear are recommended. This spring we are offering the following:

Lighthouse Park Guided Walk – Tuesday, April 19th – 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Come join author Stephen Hui, writer of “Best Hikes and Nature Walks for Kids” for a guided walk through Lighthouse Park. In this 90-minute walk, you will learn about historical and botanical topics of interest at Lighthouse Park. We will meet in the parking lot at Lighthouse Park, by the trail sign. A reasonable level of mobility is required.

What’s News

Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm (January 18 – April 25)

Is it fact or is it fake? Are you interested in news and current affairs? Here’s your chance to engage in discussion with others about what is happening in our world and is reported in the media. If you’d like to learn about what’s going on, share your opinion about current events, or help distinguish facts from fake news, please join us. New participants are always welcome.