Essex Junction
1st Wednesdays

OCTOBER 17 (Note date and time) • David Sanger
The Perfect Weapon: War, Sabotage, and Fear in the Cyber Age
New York Times national security correspondent David Sanger describes America’s use of cyber warfare in its arsenal. Examining its impact on both defense strategy and civil liberties, he argues that overclassification is not only impeding our understanding of government actions but also hurting national security. Location: Ira Allen Chapel, Burlington, 5:00 PM.
Co-sponsored with the Office of the President, University of Vermont. Underwriter: The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in partnership with Pulitzer Prizes

NOVEMBER 7 • Nicholas Ma
“Won’t You Be My Neighbor?”
Producer Nicholas Ma discusses and shows clips from his recent film “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?,” a documentary about Mister Rogers, a leader in TV programming related to kindness, racial harmony, civility, and hope. Underwriter: Husky Injection Molding Systems, Inc.

DECEMBER 5 • Paul Vincent
Daily Life in Prewar Nazi Germany
Focusing on the prewar experience of non-Jewish citizens, Keene State professor Paul Vincent examines how ideology and terror undermined human dignity, numbed self-awareness, and atomized German society. Underwriter: Vermont Council on World Affairs

JANUARY 2 • James Maroney
American Modernism
Referencing the works of Georgia O’Keeffe, Marsden Hartley, and others, former Head of American Paintings at Christie’s and Sotheby’s James Maroney explains the importance and beauty of American art, 1913 to 1949.

FEBRUARY 6 • Emily Bernard
We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy
UVM professor Emily Bernard discusses Ta-Nehisi Coates’s most recent reflections on race, the Obama presidency, and the election of Donald Trump. Books available to read in advance or afterwards (not required). Underwriter: University of Vermont Humanities Center

MARCH 6 • Sarah Stroup
Arguing about Civility
Middlebury political scientist Sarah Stroup asks: What topics are suitable for public discussion? And how can we facilitate productive disagreements? She explores how to deliberate hot topics in ways that are respectful and ultimately helpful. Partner: Middlebury College and the Mellon Foundation

APRIL 10 (Note date) • Nancy Nahra
Amelia
The mysterious disappearance of Amelia Earhart in 1937 often overshadows her accomplishments as a pilot and author. Champlain College professor Nancy Nahra examines the remarkable life of the aviation legend. Underwriter: Husky Injection Molding Systems, Inc.

MAY 1 • Mark A. Stoler
Churchill and Roosevelt: The Personal in the Partnership
UVM History Professor Emeritus Mark A. Stoler examines the important personal relationship between Britain’s prime minister and America’s president during their World War II alliance. Underwriter: Lisa Schamberg and Pat Robins