



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

# St. Johnsbury

St. Johnsbury Athenaeum • 7:00 PM • 802.748.8291

### OCTOBER 2 • Michele Barale Willa Cather's Prairie Landscapes

In Willa Cather's pioneer fiction, landscape is as important as any character in the story. Amherst College professor Michele Barale examines the relationship between Cather's art and her very tangible earth.

### NOVEMBER 6 • Richard Wright The Racially Fragmented City?

America's growing diversity is changing its ethnic and racial demography for decades to come, with significant implications for human geography. Dartmouth professor Richard Wright discusses emerging patterns of diversity and segregation on national, state, and local levels.

### DECEMBER 4 • Peter Gould Lifting Shakespeare Off the Page

In this interactive workshop, educator and author Peter Gould helps participants access their own powerful voice by reading, reciting, and performing Shakespeare. Learn how to bring new life to immortal characters! No previous theater training necessary; observers also welcome.

### JANUARY 8 • Bob Pepperman Taylor Reading Thoreau in the 21st Century

Henry David Thoreau advocated for both civil disobedience to unjust political authority and also for nature's appropriate role in our economic, moral, and spiritual lives. UVM professor Bob Pepperman Taylor discusses the relationship between Thoreau's political and environmental messages and how they resonate today.

**Underwriter:** University of Vermont Humanities Center

### FEBRUARY 5 • Dona Ann McAdams Photography as Social Justice

In conjunction with her retrospective exhibition at Catamount Arts, Dona Ann McAdams discusses and shows her empathetic black-and-white portraits of performing artists, AIDS activists, political protests, people living with schizophrenia, Appalachian farmers, cloistered nuns, and others.

### MARCH 4 • Rolf Diamant Central Park, the Civil War, and the Creation of the National Parks

The national park idea has been credited to "a wonderful and interesting group of rugged western pioneers." But as UVM historian Rolf Diamant explains, the inspiration of Central Park, the ending of slavery, and the remaking of government during the Civil War were all critical to the establishment of our first national parks.

**Underwriter:** Passumpsic Bank FDIC

### APRIL 1 • Annelise Orleck We Are All Fast Food Workers Now

Labor historian Annelise Orleck provides a close look at globalization and its costs from the perspective of low-wage workers themselves—berry pickers, fast food servers, garment workers, cashiers, hotel housekeepers, home health care aides, and even adjunct professors—who are fighting for respect, safety, and a living wage.

**Underwriter:** Peter Gilbert Endowment Fund

### MAY 6 • Tim Spears The Making of *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*

Middlebury professor Tim Spears looks at the 1941 publication of *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*. Depicting the lives of southern sharecroppers, writer James Agee and photographer Walker Evans resisted journalistic conventions to produce a book that raises important questions about the nature of documentary work and art.

**Partner:** Middlebury College and the Mellon Foundation

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