THE SCHEMEL FORUM
FOR CULTURAL ENRICHMENT & EDUCATION IN THE COMMUNITY
A PROGRAM OF THE HARRY & JEANETTE WEINBERG MEMORIAL LIBRARY
FROM THE director

Dear Schemelites:

Is the pandemic behind us? Is this a fresh start? It is easier to ask such questions than to answer them. We come to you full of hope that this fall we can meet together in person and enjoy the special pleasure of learning together. There is much to discuss on the local, national and global levels, and times ranging from ancient Greece to tomorrow. I trust that you will find food for thought— the opportunity to listen, to ask questions and agree and disagree with speakers. That is The Schemel Forum.

We aim always to “bring the world to Scranton,” as it is increasingly important to know the world—and increasingly possible to do that. Technology has made it possible for us to know what is happening when it’s happening and where it’s happening and also to turn the clock back to ancient times.

Our courses offer the wisdom of our own distinguished faculty and in our world affairs luncheon seminars we feature historians, journalists and activists who might come from any place in the world.

Over these past years The Schemel Forum has gained the reputation of being the go-to place for learning together.

Thank you for being with us as we learn from our faculty, our speakers and each other.

Warm regards,

Sondra Myers
Director of the Schemel Forum
The University of Scranton

about THE SCHEMEL FORUM

The Schemel Forum was founded in July 2006 through generous gifts to the Rev. George Schemel, S.J., Fund, created by friends of the late Father Schemel in his loving memory. Its aim is to provide an opportunity for people of all ages to explore the intellectual and cultural wonders of the world.

courses

Crossing the Line(s): Reading and Writing Contemporary Poetry
In this seminar, we will develop a vocabulary for the shared practice of close-reading forms of poetry, both the forms of poetry you might have encountered in textbooks decades ago (e.g., the sonnet, the villanelle, the sestina, the pantoum) and much newer forms invented by living poets (e.g., the Golden Shovel, the duplex, the pecha kucha). We’ll analyze and engage poems both canonical and contemporary, and participants will be invited (though not required) to write their own poems. There will be time for sharing and discussion during each course meeting. We’ll consider the relationship between poetic form and content and in addition, we’ll consider what poetry can do for us in our own lives as readers and writers.

Billie Tadros, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of English & Theatre, The University of Scranton
Mondays, September 19, 26 & October 3, 17, 24, 31
6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. • In Person- Weinberg Memorial Library, Room 305

What is Fascism?
Historians have struggled with a definition for decades although in many cases, so did the Fascists. Has the word become so unwieldy that it has lost its meaning or does it still convey something that informs us about our world? We will examine Fascism, or something that resembles it, from its French and Italian roots and its Nazi variations, concluding with the global populist and mass-surveillance phenomena.

Roy Domenico, Ph.D., Professor, Department of History, The University of Scranton
Wednesday, September 21, 28 & October 5, 12, 19, 26
6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. • In Person- Weinberg Memorial Library, Room 305

How a Masterpiece of Medieval Irish Art Bridged the Classical & Christian Worlds
In this look at the origins and legacy of the Monogram Page of the Book of Kells, commonly known as “The Chief Relic of the Western World” we will see how an Irish treasure from the year 800 unified science, religion and art.

Stephen Whittaker, Ph.D., Professor, Department of English & Theatre, The University of Scranton
Tuesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25 & November 1, 8
6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. • In Person- Weinberg Memorial Library, Room 305

Course Fees:
Free to University of Scranton Staff, Students, Faculty and Schemel Forum Members
Single Fee Non-Member: $75 • Couple Fee Non-Member: $125
Monday, September 12

**Covering the White House: Challenges and Opportunities**

Washington Post White House bureau chief Ashley Parker shares stories and lessons from her life on the campaign trail and covering two presidents — and takes your questions.

**Ashley Parker**, White House Bureau Chief for the Washington Post, Ms. Parker has covered 2012 & 2016 presidential campaigns. She is also an NBC/MSNBC senior political analyst.

Brennan Hall, Rose Room, 509 • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

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Monday, September 19

**Higher Education’s Indispensable Role in Preserving and Advancing Democracy**

Democracy is under threat all over the world. What is higher education’s role in helping to meet that threat? The talk will explore higher education’s democratic mission, as well as what might be done to better realize that mission, not only on campus, but in the community, across the wider society and around the world.

**Ira Harkavy, Ph.D.**, Founding Director, Barbara and Edward Netter Center for Community Partnerships, University of Pennsylvania

Edward Leahy Hall, Kane Forum, 235 • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

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Wednesday, September 28

**Managing Today and Envisioning Tomorrow: Leading the City of Scranton**

The responsibilities of a mayor range from everyday matters to important executive decisions. The job requires true leadership skills. Mayor Cognetti will give us a glimpse of a mayor’s day — and the need to be prepared for whatever comes his or her way.

**Paige Gebhardt Cognetti**, Mayor, City of Scranton

Brennan Hall, Rose Room, 509 • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

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Thursday, November 10

**On Democracy, Inequality, and Jazz Improvisation**

In this talk, Wayne will explore the state of our current democracy, the cause and corrosive effect of deepening inequality, and the utility of jazz improvisation as both a metaphor and actual strategy for rebuilding our society, community, and human relations here and abroad.

**Wayne Winborne, Ph.D.**, Executive Director, Institute of Jazz Studies, Assistant Professor Arts Culture and Media, Rutgers University-Newark

Brennan Hall, Rose Room, 509 • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

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Friday, December 2

**How Putin’s Invasion of Ukraine Changed the World**

The post World War II rules-based order is over; the West must now confront a new era in which despotic rulers seek to expand their territory by force.

**Trudy Rubin**, WorldView Columnist, The Philadelphia Inquirer

Brennan Hall, Rose Room, 509 • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

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Friday, December 9

**Process of Peace, Palermo: An Experience, a Model**

Mayor Orlando led the city of Palermo from war to peace, from the Mafia governing Palermo and killing, to the sentences of the State; from the liberation of Palermo governed by Mafia bosses and corrupted politicians to the civil resistance and peace based on respect of human beings and human rights.

**Leoluca Orlando**, University Professor, former Mayor of Palermo, honorary Mayor of Palermo Huila Colombia and cofounder of Global Parliament of Mayors

Brennan Hall, Rose Room, 509 • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

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All seminars meet from Noon to 1:30 p.m. Buffet lunch is served.

**Seminar Fees**

- Free to University of Scranton Staff, Students, Faculty and Schemel Forum Members
- $25 per luncheon per person • $10 remote only

Live-stream link will be emailed
Thursday, October 13
With Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine

**threats to equity: The influence of social determinants on human behaviors that Promote Well-being**

Dr. Byerley is a pediatrician whose former clinical practice was focused on the care of adolescents with fatigue, chronic pain, anxiety, and depression. Blending her interest in health habits that mitigate these important and common complaints with a drive to address health equity, she will consider how the social determinants influence behaviors that improve well-being. All are invited to consider how daily habits influence the health of individuals and communities.

**julie byerley**, MD, MPH, President and Dean of Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine
Brennan Hall, Rose Room, 509 • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Friday, November 18
With the Friends of the Weinberg Memorial Library

**The royden B. Davis, S.j. Distinguished Author Award Event**
Honoring Pulitzer Prize winning and Tony Award nominated playwright, novelist, and screenwriter, Ayad Akhtar
The DeNaples Center, McIlhenny Ballroom, 407 • Time TBA
RSVP required. Ticket prices vary.
Visit www.scranton.edu/authaward for more information or call 570.941.7816.

*Bus trip awaits us!*

**NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

The pandemic has robbed us of a number of gatherings and two bus trips. So I’m thrilled to announce that we will be back in Gotham this fall. We will visit a museum or gallery (tba) in the morning and hit Broadway in the afternoon. We will be seeing The Piano Lesson, by Pulitzer Prize winning Pittsburgh-born playwright, August Wilson.

Cost is $150 per person which includes transportation as well as museum and theater tickets. The bus leaves from The University of Scranton at 7:30 a.m. & arrives back on campus at approximately 7:00 p.m. Please call Kym Fetsko, 570.941-7816, to reserve a spot by September 30th as spaces are limited.

*Bus trip fees are non-refundable.*