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.

The seeds of the Schemel Forum were planted thirteen years ago when Dr. Harmar Brereton asked Professor Rebecca Beal if she would give a course on Dante’s *Divine Comedy* for him and a few friends. Since then we have grown organically, now offering the wide array of learning opportunities that you find in this brochure. We have become a community of learners — informed on current affairs of the world and delving into the mysteries of the past — and a great asset to the region’s educational and cultural life.

Kurt Vonnegut & the Narrative of Trauma

It sounds like an oxymoron but Kurt Vonnegut established himself as one of the leading novelists of the second half of the 20th Century by finding a way to write humorously about pessimism, despair and trauma. In this class we’ll examine some of the methods he employs to those ends. In particular we will consider how he departs from the model of trauma narrative that Ernest Hemingway established a generation earlier. Texts include *Mother Night*, *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater*, *Cat’s Cradle*, and *Slaughterhouse Five* — and Hemingway’s *In Our Time*.

Joe Kraus, Chair and Professor, Department of English & Theatre, The University of Scranton, and President, MELUS (Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States)

Tuesdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 & March 5, 19

Weinberg Memorial Library, Room 305 • 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Color: Perceptions in Science, Art, and Society

What is color? We use the term in a number of literal and metaphoric ways. What is its origin and how do we use it to unite and divide us? With the help of a team of specialists we will explore the perceptions and uses of color in science, humanities, and social sciences.

Janice Voltzow, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, The University of Scranton and colleagues from across The University of Scranton

Wednesdays, March 20, 27, and April 3, 10, 17, 24

Weinberg Memorial Library, Room 305 • 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Ben Franklin as a Marketing Pioneer

The course will be an overview of the various facets of marketing and illustrate how Ben Franklin pioneered much of what we know about modern marketing, entrepreneurship and business. Participants will be asked to read sections of Franklin’s autobiography and a short book by him, *The Way to Wealth*. No prior knowledge of marketing is required for the class.

Abhijit Roy, Ph.D., DBA, Professor of Marketing, Kania School of Management, The University of Scranton

Tuesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 & May 7

Weinberg Memorial Library, Room 305 • 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Cost is $100 per person which includes transportation as well as theater tickets. Please call Alicen Morrison, 570.941.6206, to reserve a spot by March 30th as spaces are limited. *Bus trip fees are non-refundable.

Saturday, April 27, 2019 • NEW YORK CITY

Back To Broadway! Leaving Scranton at 7:30 a.m. we arrive at the New York Public Library to view its Spring exhibit before taking off for an early lunch in the theater district. We will be taking in a play that is the talk of the town and was previously the talk of London. It’s *The Ferryman* by Jez Butterworth. Curtain time is 1 p.m. The play has won important prizes and dazzled critics and audiences in both London and New York. It is set in Northern Ireland at the height of the “troubles.” The play runs until 4:15 p.m. and we will be boarding the bus for Scranton at 4:30 p.m. ETA is 7 p.m.

As we were awed by Mahler 8th in Newark I believe we will be similarly wowed by *The Ferryman* on Broadway!

Cost is $100 per person which includes transportation as well as theater tickets. Please call Alicen Morrison, 570.941.6206, to reserve a spot by March 30th as spaces are limited. *Bus trip fees are non-refundable.

Course Fees: Single Fee Non-Member: $60 • Couple Fee Non-Member: $100

*All 3 courses are included with Schemel Forum Membership.
WORLD AFFAIRS LUNCHEON

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

What to Expect from Trump’s Foreign Policy in 2019

After the midterms a Democratic-led House will draw attention to Trump’s foreign policies on Saudi Arabia, China, North Korea and Russia, and his long-awaited Mideast peace plan. Can we expect the new Democratic majority to make a difference? And what crises should we watch for in the New Year?

Trudy Rubin, Worldview Columnist, The Philadelphia Inquirer

Redington Hall, Collegiate Hall • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Sing Sing Prison and the History of Criminal Justice: An Illustrated Presentation about One of America’s Iconic Institutions

Every chapter in the history of criminal justice has a few pages written at Sing Sing. This talk will review the extraordinary and largely unknown history, present plans for a new museum at Sing Sing and connect its history to contemporary issues in criminal justice.

Brent D. Glass, Ph.D., Director Emeritus, Smithsonian National Museum of American History

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

The History of Israel-Palestine: Peering into the Future

This fourth in a series of lectures by Hussein Ibish and David Myers will move from an analysis of the history of the conflict to a discussion of future directions. They will lay out a variety of possible scenarios in light of today’s profound crisis of democracy in the world and the region. Is there hope to be gleaned anywhere? Has the conflict become more intractable? Will it now enter a new phase? These are some of the key questions to be addressed.

Hussein Ibish, Ph.D., Senior Resident Scholar, Arab Gulf States Institute, Washington, DC.
David N. Myers, Ph.D., Sady and Ludwig Kahn Professor of Jewish History, UCLA, and President, New Israel Fund

Redington Hall, Collegiate Hall • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

The State of Religious Freedom in the US and Across the Globe

The talk addresses religious freedom disputes in the US and on the global scene. How do American controversies over the conflict between religious freedom and civil rights compare to the challenges in religious freedom faced by religious people in other nations?

Ambassador Rabbi David Saperstein, Director Emeritus of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism and Senior Advisor for Strategy, Policy for the Union for Reform Judaism and Senior Fellow at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service’s Center for Jewish Civilization

Edward Leahy Hall, Kane Forum, 2nd Floor • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 8

Empathy in Politics: Does it Matter? If So, Why?

A crucial attribute of political leadership, we’re often told, is empathy — understanding the thoughts and feelings of others, including opponents, and being able to see the world through their eyes. Professor Logevall will point to some leaders in American history who had the capacity for empathy and used it effectively. He asks us to reflect on how we should think about that today.

Fred Logevall, Ph.D., Laurence D. Belfer Professor of International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School and Professor of History

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

The Holocaust: Confronting Evil, Assuming Responsibility

The United Kingdom’s Holocaust Memorial, under construction, raises challenging questions about human behavior. It aims both to remember and to encourage reflection on the lessons of the past among British citizens and visitors of all nationalities. In dedicating itself to this mission, Britain reaffirms its commitment to stand up against Anti-Semitism and prejudice in all of its forms.

Yehudit Shendar, Content Director/Chief Curator of the British Holocaust Memorial

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

All six luncheons are included with Schemel Forum Membership.
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

With Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine

**Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Resiliency: The Long Term Health, Legal and Societal Consequences**

Dennis Dawgert, M.D.

ACEs were described in 1999 by Dr. Vincent Felitti and Robert Anda. They showed long term effects of many common health problems and a shortening of life expectancy. Subsequent studies have shown that there are also increases in learning disabilities, incarceration and other psychosocial issues. The traumatic events that make up ACE include physical and sexual abuse, familial dysfunction and, importantly, the separation of a child from the care giver. Recent news makes awareness of these factors crucially important.

The University of Scranton, The DeNaples Center, Room 405
5:30 p.m., Reception to follow. Free Event, RSVP Required

**THURSDAY, MARCH 28**

With the Humanities Initiative, The University of Scranton

**Can Democracy Work? A Short History of a Radical Idea, from Ancient Athens to Our World**

James Miller, Ph.D., Professor of Politics and Liberal Studies and Faculty Director of Creative Publishing & Critical Journalism, The New School for Social Research

Professor Miller will offer a short reading from his book to indicate its scope and give a flavor of its literary style, followed by a Q and A and book signing.

Weinberg Memorial Library, Heritage Room, 5th Floor
5:30 p.m., Book Signing and Reception to follow. Free Event, RSVP Required

**THURSDAY, APRIL 4**

With the Political Dialogues Campus Working Group, The University of Scranton

**Democracy and the Rhetoric of Demagoguery**

Patricia Roberts-Miller, Ph.D., Professor of Rhetoric and Writing and Director of the University Writing Center at the University of Texas at Austin

Dr. Roberts-Miller will discuss her recent books on demagoguery: offering a clear definition of demagoguery, surveying its history, reviewing its predictive patterns, and suggesting ways we may combat it in our current contexts.

Weinberg Memorial Library, Heritage Room, 5th Floor
5:30 p.m., Book Signing and Reception to follow. Free Event, RSVP Required

**MONDAY, APRIL 8**

With The Helen Gallagher McHugh Special Collections at the Weinberg Memorial Library, The University of Scranton and the Friends of the Weinberg Library

**American Passionist Priest Martyrs in China, 90th Anniversary 1929-2019: Remembering Their Witness of Faith; Remembering the Chinese Catholic Witness of Faith**

Father Rob Carboneau, C.P., Ph.D., Passionist Historian/Adjunct Professor of History, The University of Scranton

In the 1920s Passionist missionaries went to China to convert the Chinese. Throughout the twentieth century, missionaries and Chinese Catholics were witnesses to suffering and hope. What does the death of three Passionists in 1929 continue to teach us about sufferings and hope of contemporary Catholics in China? The event is in conjunction with the exhibit “Life, Death and Memory: Art and Artifacts from the Passionist China Collection.”

Weinberg Memorial Library, Heritage Room, 5th Floor
6:00 p.m., Book Signing and Reception to follow. Free Event, RSVP Required

**THURSDAY, MAY 2**

With the Weinberg Memorial Library

**While Reason Slept**

Thomas Brier, Jr., JD, Attorney at Blank Rome LLP in Philadelphia

His book, While Reason Slept, examines the relationship between democratic erosion and the declining belief in the power of reason.

Weinberg Memorial Library, Heritage Room, 5th Floor
5:30 p.m., Book Signing and Reception to follow. Free Event, RSVP Required