

FALL 2026 REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE CHECK IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING

11:00 a.m. Art Series _____

Last name _____

First name/s _____

Address _____

Town/Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Email _____

Fee enclosed: BT residents \$25.00 _____

Non-residents \$75.00 _____

Tax-deductible donation: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

**ALL REGISTRANTS MUST INCLUDE A
SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE**
(to mail your required name tags)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
THE FRIENDS OF THE BERNARDS TOWNSHIP LIBRARY
AND RETURN FORM AND A SASE IN THE
ENCLOSED ENVELOPE TO:

LEISURE LEARNING
Bernards Township Library
32 S. Maple Avenue
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

NO FOOD OR DRINK IS ALLOWED
in the Presbyterian Church Narthex,
Sanctuary, Chapel
or Library program rooms.

- You **MUST** enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your registration. This SASE will be used to mail your required name tag.
- We require the wearing of name tags for program participation and request cell phones be silenced at all sessions.
- **Your cancelled check is your receipt.**
- Presbyterian Church Day Care Center and NJ State childcare laws prohibit Leisure Learning participants from entering the lower-level facilities at BRPC.

PARKING RECOMMENDATIONS

Please read and observe to avoid being ticketed.

- Library Lots with the exception of spaces marked "Speaker parking" and "No LL parking"
- St. Mark's Episcopal Church Lot (enter from Lewis Street)
- Municipal Lot (on S. Maple Avenue)
- Rankin Avenue (runs parallel to Finley)
- Park on only one side of Homeland Avenue
- **DO NOT PARK** in lots adjacent to the Library or the Presbyterian Church as those areas are reserved for daily patrons and Tree House employees, respectively.
- Be considerate of our local merchants and **DO NOT PARK** on South Finley Avenue.
- **DO NOT PARK** on Allen Street.

In the event of inclement weather,
Leisure Learning may be cancelled.
Call the Library, 908-204-3031, or go to the
Library's website at BernardsLibrary.org
for closing information, posted by 7:30 a.m.



**LEISURE
LEARNING**

*CONTINUING EDUCATION
FOR ADULTS*

*...contributing to the intellectual,
cultural, and social life of the community...*

FALL TERM 2026
SIX MONDAYS: Sept. 28 - Nov. 9
(No session Monday October 12)

Classes are held in program rooms at
the Library and in venues generously provided by the
Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church
located at One East Oak Street in Basking Ridge.

**\$25 for residents of Bernards Township
and \$75 for non-residents**

*Bernards Township residents
are given priority.*

*Out-of-town registrations are processed
in the order received.*

**Please register as soon as possible,
no later than September 23, 2026.**

**Registration allows you to attend
any sessions you wish except for the Art Series,
where seating is limited.**
To be considered for the Art Series,
you must check 11:00 a.m. Art Series
on the registration form.

LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Music History Series

Maestro Robert W. Butts,
acclaimed conductor,
composer and educator

Music and The Modern Age: 1890-1920

- Sept. 28 Classical Music in the 1890s
- Oct. 5 Classical Music 1900-1920
- Oct. 19 Opera 1890-1920
- Oct. 26 Ragtime and early Jazz
- Nov. 2 Musical Theater
- Nov. 9 Popular Music and Technology

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHAPEL
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Literature Series

- Sept. 28 *Ekphrasis: Visual Art Inspiring Poetry*
Laura Driver, CCM
- Oct. 5 George Eliot's *Middlemarch*
Jessica Brent, RVCC
- Oct. 19 Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*
Vandana Walia, Local Literature Lecturer
- Oct. 26 Norman Maclean's *A River Runs Through It*
Kevin Moore, CCM
- Nov. 2 Philip Roth's *The Plot Against America*
Ronald Tyson, RVCC
- Nov. 9 Poetry & Identity: Heaney, Frost, and Others
Laura Driver, CCM

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SANCTUARY
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Keynote Speaker Series

presented by
Dr. Gary H. Darden,
Fairleigh Dickinson University

World War II
in Asia & the Pacific

World War II in Asia and the Pacific was surpassed in its destruction and loss of life only by World War II in Europe, Africa, and the Atlantic. Yet this Asia-Pacific conflict was longer by two years and involved levels of brutality against soldiers and civilians that paralleled the European conflict. At root of this second world war was the willingness of dissatisfied powers to fulfill armed imperial expansion.

- 1. Tokyo Bay 1853:** US Commodore Perry and Japan's challenge from the West (1853-1931)
- 2. Scramble for China:** Japanese expansion from Manchuria to Nanjing and Shanghai (1931-1941)
- 3. "To awaken a sleeping giant":** Pearl Harbor and the U.S. entry into the Pacific War (1941-1942)
- 4. Rapid Expansion:** Japan's expansion across Southeast Asia and the Pacific (1941-1942)
- 5. Steady Collapse:** Japan's retreat from Midway to Okinawa (1942-1945)
- 6. Tokyo Bay 1945:** the End of the Japanese empire and the fragile Postwar Order

Presenter: Gary H. Darden, University Director of Core Department of Social Sciences and History Fairleigh Dickinson University. Strong education professional with a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) focused in United States History from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey-New Brunswick.

LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Art History Lectures

- Sept. 28 Environmental Issues in American Art
Heather Cammarata-Seale, Drew
- Oct. 5 Thomas Cole & the New American Landscape Painting
Brian Sahotsky CCM
- Oct. 19 The Knight in Shining Armor In European Art and Legend - Part 1
Jean Sorabella Rachofsky, Art Historian
- Oct. 26 The Knight in Shining Armor in European Art and Legend - Part 2
Jean Sorabella Rachofsky, Art Historian
- Nov. 2 Monsters, Myths & Legend in Art
Brian Sahotsky CCM
- Nov. 9 From Canvas to Screen: The Prominent Use of Artwork in Cinema
Brian Sahotsky CCM

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SANCTUARY
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Professor's Choice Series

- Sept. 28 The First Amendment
Ian Drake, Montclair State
- Oct. 5 Small Acts, Big Consequences: The Hidden Costs of Harmless Crime
Meghan Sacks, FDU
- Oct. 19 The United States, the United Kingdom, and the Fate of the 'Special Relationship' in the 21st Century
Dr. Nicholas Baldwin, Wroxton College & Dr. Gary Darden, FDU
- Oct. 26 The 2026 Congressional Elections: Possible Outcomes and Their Consequences
Phil Mundo, Drew Emeritus
- Nov. 2 Machiavelli vs. *Machiavellian*
Alexander Clemente, CCM
- Nov. 9 AI and the Economy: What's Next?
Dan Cassino, FDU