AN INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

John Masters - Northeast Center

This presentation will explore the similarities and the differences between the digital and film-based mediums as well as the basic functioning of a digital SLR camera, in this case both the compact Canon PowerShot A530 and its more robust brother, the Canon Digital Rebel XT. The presenter will explain the functions and purposes of ISO, f-Stop, shutter speed, and the various pre-set functions of the camera. The presenter will also introduce the attendee to the "digital darkroom," in this case Microsoft Digital Image Suite 10.

Session 2 – Saturday, 8:30am, Place Room

CONSPIRING TO KILL A PRESIDENT: COULD JOHN WILKES BOOTH HAVE DONE IT ALONE?

Kimberly Heilmann - Hudson Valley Center

After Abraham Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth on April 14, 1865, questions arose almost immediately. Was Booth solely responsible for the assassination or was Booth simply a tool in a much larger conspiracy? Just who may or may not have been involved with Booth has been the subject of profound speculation among writers, historians, and others for over 130 years. With the publication of new books and articles, the quest to find what really happened has continued. This presentation will explore the most popular conspiracy theory as pertains to the events of April 14, 1865 to spotlight the activities of John Wilkes Booth and his band of conspirators.

Session 2 – Saturday, 8:30am, Show Room

HANDS-ON INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION: ART AND MATH

Matthew Ross-McGuire - Genesee Valley Center

This presentation describes a lesson unit and unit plan for elementary education that uses mathematical manipulatives - toy like educational tools - called pattern blocks to create geometric art with students that fosters understanding of pre-algebraic concepts.

Session 3 – Saturday, 9:40am, Show Room

INDEPENDENT CINEMA AND THE MODERN DOCUMENTARY

Chad Kushins - Long Island Center

This presentation will demonstrate modern advances in digital film making with the showing of an independent documentary made on the lives of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Harry Houdini, and the world during the First World War. This presentation will cover both the subject matter of the historical film and also the importance of the modern documentary film.

Session 1 – Friday, 4pm, Show Room

INTERNSHIPS: A HANDS-ON APPROACH TO COLLEGE LEARNING

Rhonda Johnston - Genesee Valley Center

The presenter has spent the summer in a wildlife refuge in Arizona and in Mexico doing an internship for the Fish and Wildlife Service. This internship experience will be presented in order to inform fellow students of the opportunities that exist for real-world experiences in the context of an Empire State College degree program.

Session 4 – Saturday, 11am, Show Room
MEDITATION FUNDAMENTALS FOR IMPROVING GRADES, HEALTH AND YOUR LIFE
Verna Holmes - The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies
Meditation is based on principles and concepts which when implemented will give the desired results just like any other science. This is no different from when we put together two hydrogen with one oxygen, getting water every time. Like the human body, the fundamentals of meditation have their own hierarchical arrangement. Meditation is a normal function and one aspect we use is called "daydreaming." We will explore how posture, breathing and its various states relates to meditation and how to use it to improve our critical thinking, health, memory, learning capacity, emotional responses and attitudes, remove stress, improve physical and mental performance, and so much more.
Session 4 – Saturday, 11am, Win Room

MENTORING TO ADDRESS THE COLLEGE GAP FOR LOW INCOME AND WORKING CLASS FAMILIES
Sharon Cyrus-Savary - Long Island Center
Recent statistics indicate that most children who have been mentored improve their school attendance and performance, go to college, and are less likely to use drugs or alcohol. Mentoring gives us the opportunity to not only impact one life but also the lives of generations. This presentation is unique in that it targets the student and their parents, helping them overcome the barriers to college and post secondary education through structured mentoring.
Session 3 – Saturday, 9:40am, Win Room

MS. BEHAVING: THE FEMME FATALE, MARILYN MONROE AND 1950'S HOLLYWOOD
Deborah Brown and Diane Wilson - Long Island Center
In this presentation the panelists will discuss the femme fatale role of women in Film Noir, which was a historic time in filmmaking during the 1940's - 1950's. The visual power presented by the femme fatale created an uncomfortable dynamic to many audience viewers during this period, which viewed this portrayal of women as inappropriate and sinful. Marilyn Monroe characterized this role in *Niagara*, a role that launched her to stardom. Monroe's performances throughout the 1950's showcased feminist expression.
Session 4 – Saturday, 11am, Place Room

SOME OF THE CHOICES WE MAKE ARE NOT HEALTHY
Robert Nazzaro - Genesee Valley Center
Our lives are influenced by the chances afforded us and the decisions we make. Sometimes chance finds us in situations where we may make the unhealthy choice. This presentation explores the true lives of individuals and how, through their choices, they affected their own lives and the lives of others. The family portrait one may view does not tell the story of the choices made and the changes that followed. Substance abuse will be introduced to serve as the thematic basis of healthy and unhealthy decision-making.
Session 1 – Friday, 4pm, Place Room

STILL MY CONFESSION DRAWS YOU NEAR
Paul Rehac - Niagara Frontier Center
A metacritical analysis of the metafiction of John Barth and Samuel Beckett. The presenter will discuss the key elements of traditional storytelling and examine the effects that metafiction has on them. The presenter will also look at the effect of contemporary science on the written art of storytelling.
Session 3 – Saturday, 9:40am, Place Room

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