

Tell the Story. Change the World.

2026 FALL SPEAKER SERIES

Constitution Day with Dr. Steve Hertler

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
11:30-12:30PM | RAINIS AUDITORIUM

Join us for a lecture exploring the U.S. Constitution not just as a legal document defined by checks and balances, but as a “biohistorical artifact” balanced along deeper gradients of despotism versus democracy, conservatism versus liberalism, and elitism versus egalitarianism. Drawing on human evolutionary history—from antihierarchy instincts and self-domestication to classical republicanism, the Reformation, and the English Civil War—this talk traces how biological and cultural forces converging in 1787 shaped the Constitution’s unique compromises. Attendees will gain a fresh, interdisciplinary lens for understanding America’s founding document as the product of both top-down design and bottom-up biocultural evolution.



Dr. Janet Bond Brill discusses her work, *Little Edna’s War*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15
6:30-7:30PM | RAINIS AUDITORIUM

Dr. Bond Brill will discuss her work, *Little Edna’s War*. At just seven years old, Edna Szurek risked everything to smuggle food through holes in the Warsaw Ghetto wall, knowing each step could be her last. By the age of 10, she was the youngest decorated member of the Polish resistance. And by the end of the war, she had defied every Nazi plan for her destruction.



Putsata Reang discusses her work, *Mama and Me: A Memoir*

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
7:30-8:30 | ONLINE ONLY

When Putsata Reang was eleven months old, her family fled war-torn Cambodia, spending twenty-three days on an overcrowded navy vessel before finding sanctuary at an American naval base in the Philippines. Holding what appeared to be a lifeless baby, Ma resisted the captain’s orders to throw her bundle overboard. Instead, on landing, Ma rushed her baby into the arms of American military nurses and doctors, who saved the child’s life. “I had hope, just a little, you were still alive,” Ma would tell Putsata in an oft-repeated story that became family legend.



Kristallnacht: An Evening of Reflection and Remembrance with Carolyn Enger performing *The Mischlinge Exposé*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10
6:30-8:00PM | ANNUNCIATION CENTER, DOLAN HALL

The Mischlinge Exposé is the first multi-media production conceived, created and directed by Carolyn Enger. Using source materials of her godmother’s testimony from the Shoah Foundation and her father’s family documents and testimony, both labeled Mischling, Grade A by the Nazis, combined with the music of composers from the salon period who converted to Christianity in the decades before the war and works reacting to questions of identity following the war; *The Mischlinge Exposé* vividly illustrates what it was like to be between worlds in Germany in the first half of the 20th century. Through the telling of her family story, Ms. Enger’s concert and live documentary directly addresses universally significant issues of generational trauma, identity and inclusion, encouraging empathy, tolerance, and engagement.



Providence Nkurunziza and Jacqueline Murekatete

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6
5-6:30PM | RAINIS AUDITORIUM

These two extraordinary women, both survivors of the Rwandan genocide, will discuss their tales of survival and resilience, along with the state of Rwanda today, and how genocide survivors can help combat antisemitism.



We Are Still Here, documentary and Q&A with the director Evan Kleinman

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18
11:30-1:00PM | RAINIS AUDITORIUM

Evan Kleinman will present and answer questions about his personal and deeply moving documentary, *We Are Still Here*. Making a difficult journey to Poland, Evan, his sister, and parents confront the horrors of the Holocaust. Through this, they discover the power of resilience and the ability to say, *We Are Still Here*.



Adi Rabinowitz, Holocaust Scholar and Educator

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13
11:30-12:30PM | ONLINE ONLY

Adi Rabinowitz will discuss her work as an educator and tour guide in Israel, working with people of all ages and backgrounds to remember the tragedy of October 7th, 2023.



SCAN TO R.S.V.P.

Please contact Dr. Rich Quinlan at rquinlan@steu.edu with any questions.