WINTER 2019 TERM
Registration is Open!
Classes begin January 14, 2019

We received a positive response from our membership survey. Thank you to all who took a moment to give us feedback.

We're excited to announce that for the first time, MSC will offer a winter term! Many Maine senior colleges offer winter terms, and doing so aligns with our mission to offer learning opportunities for seniors in our region. Please, take a look at the five courses and one workshop that are on deck for January/February 2019. We hope you'll find one or two courses that appeal to you from this diverse and intriguing line-up. And, be sure to share this exciting news with a friend!

To register, visit

Courses & Workshop

- Organic Gardening and Soil Science
- Wallace Stevens: A Dual Life as Poet and Insurance Executive
- Who Owns Native Culture?
- An Authentic Life--Philosophies of Aging
- Healthy Aging
- Workshop: Yoga for Healthy Aging with a Stress Management Component
The Midcoast Inquirer
Newsletter of Midcoast Senior College

The Midcoast Inquirer is Midcoast Senior College's semi-annual newsletter, published in the spring and winter. Articles range in subject matter but with a focus on content that is geared to our membership.

MSC moved to a digital newsletter in 2017 in our effort to minimize printing and postage costs, and to conserve paper. You may view it by clicking on this link. Should you require a printed version, please contact the office at (207) 725-4900 and we will provide you with one.

Robert Williams is the editor and welcomes contributions at bob13harmony@gmail.com.

The December 2018 issue of The Midcoast Inquirer includes:

- Letter from MSC President, James Wilkes
- In Tents Experiences: Roughing it in Retirement by Paul and Marnie Kalkstein
- Between the Covers -- reading suggestions by Judy Smith
- A Trip Down Old Bath Road, by Nancy Wheeler and Nora Bishop, on the early days of MSC
- News from the Board of Directors
- Singing "Broadside Ballads" by Tom Rumpf
- Volunteer Recognition
- Calendar of Events
- Sponsor Appreciation
WINTER WISDOM 2019

Curtis Mem. Library & UUCB—Wednesdays, 12:15—1:45 pm FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
Sponsored by The Highlands, 30 Governor's Way, Topsham, ME www.highlands crc.com

January 9: Johannes Brahms, "The Young Eagle" Mr. George Lopez is the Beckwith Artist-in-Residence at Bowdoin College and a familiar performer/lecturer in the Bath/Brunswick Community. He has received local and international acclaim for his artistry at the piano as well as his insight and depth of context for the works of many composers. He will perform excerpts by Brahms and discuss the conflicted relationship between the composer and his contemporary, Robert Schumann. Mr. Lopez is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music and received his Master's Degree from the Sweelinck Conservatory, Amsterdam. *At Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Middle St., Brunswick,

January 16: Action Plan for Terrorism What can we do to protect ourselves from terrorism? This is a relevant question given the intelligence community assessment of future attacks against the U.S. and its citizens. This talk will explore six actions that could assist our country, region, and community in dealing with this threat. Francis Dillon, Brig. Gen., USAF (Ret.), received a B.S. in Business from University of CT, and a Master's Degree in Political Science from Troy State University. In 1993 he completed a 30-yr. career in the U.S. Air Force, serving with AF Office of Special Investigations. He assumed command of that office in 1988 and served in that capacity until retirement.

January 23: The Uncertain State of U.S./Cuba Relations Pres. Trump's decision to discontinue normalizing relations with Cuba has called into question the short- and long-term future of relations between the long-time foes. Are we returning to the hostility of the Cold War years or did Obama's opening progress to such an extent that a return to a more confrontational policy is unlikely? This talk will explore the factors that contributed to Obama and Raul Castro's decision to normalize relations, the Trump administration's apparent about-face and the prospect for future relations. Allen Wells is Emeritus Prof. of History at Bowdoin College. He received his B.A. degree in History and Latin American studies from SUNY, Binghampton, and his Ph.D. from Stony Brook University. In addition, he has pursued research interests in modern Mexico, the history of commodities, and U.S./Latin America relations.

January 30: A Changing Casco Bay: An Update on the Health of our Coastal Waters Friends of Casco Bay in South Portland works year-round to improve and protect the health of Casco Bay. As Casco Baykeeper, Ivy Frignoca is the lead advocate of this effort. Her talk will provide an overview of current efforts to reduce pollution entering the Bay, address climate change and ocean acidification, and suggest measures to help the Bay adapt to changing conditions. She is a graduate of the University of Vermont, and received her JD degree from University of Maine. Prior to her work with Friends of Casco Bay, she served as an advocate for Vermont's public lands and Lake Champlain, and most recently as a Senior Attorney with Conservation Law Foundation.

February 6: Greece Before the Odyssey: Myth and Realities In Book 3 of the Odyssey, Homer describes the royal palace of King Nestor at Pylos, in southwestern Greece. This talk will explore the Bronze Age reality behind that epic vision – the earliest Greek history we possess – from the discovery of Nestor’s palace in 1939, to current excavations in Iklaina, one of the towns in his kingdom. Cynthia W. Shelmerdine is Robert M. Armstrong Centennial Professor of Classics, emerita at the University of Texas at Austin, and a Research Associate in Classics at Bowdoin College. Her main research focuses on Aegean Bronze Age archaeology, and the language, history and society of Mycenaean Greece. She was educated at Bryn Mawr College, Cambridge University and Harvard University (Ph.D. 1977).

February 13: Twice A Day Island: The Peterson Canal at New Meadows Sometimes referred to as the “canal to nowhere,” this project was constructed by hand in the 1790’s with the expressed purpose of connecting the New Meadows River with Merrymeeting Bay. Its purpose was to allow the transport of logs cut along the Kennebec and Androscoggin Rivers to sawmills on the New Meadows River. This talk will review the origins and history of this project and the people who built it. Brenda Cummings is a native of Phippsburg, studied philosophy and history at Antioch College, is a Certified Maine Assessor, and is City Assessor of Bath. Timothy Richter is a native of Bath and received his B.S. in Education/History from UMF. Both serve on boards of Phippsburg Land Trust and Bath Historical Society and lead the annual Peterson Canal walk.

February 20: Longfellow Days February 27: Snow
Please, join our Annual Fund effort and help make Midcoast Senior College thrive!

Did you know?

In addition to cash, gifts made to the senior college during our Annual Fund effort and throughout the year may also be made with common and preferred stock, bonds, and mutual fund shares. Most of these gifts are considered fully tax deductible under current IRS rules applicable to 501(c)3 organizations like the Midcoast Senior College.

And, did you realize that if you are over age 70 1/2, you may gift up to a maximum of $100,000 from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) divided amongst your qualified 501(C)3 organizations and PAY NO INCOME TAXES on your withdrawal? The gifts are withdrawn from your financial institution and sent directly to your qualified 501(C)3 organization. (Please note: You must not receive the asset for forwarding. You are not allowed to take a tax deduction for your gift since you paid no taxes on your IRA withdrawal.)

Always check with your tax advisor for confirmation or guidance regarding the options outlined above or any financial transaction.

Friends and others — you may also show support for MSC by becoming a member! Annual membership (July 1 to June 30) is $35. Membership is required to attend all MSC classes and selected events.

We welcome cash donations, as well. Please visit our website to make your gift: midcoastseniorcollege.org.

For further information, please contact Donna Marshall, our Executive Director, at 207-725-4900.
Dear Midcoast Senior College friends,

On behalf of the Midcoast Senior College Board of Directors and staff, Happy New Year!

Midcoast Senior College accomplished much in 2018, and I anticipate that 2019 will be even better. Thank you for your support of and work for your senior college. It has been an interesting, and sometimes challenging, transitional year but with our focus on serving our mission and our members, we feel we can take this moment to celebrate our success.

None of this would be possible without our talented instructors, generous volunteers, and hard-working staff. I applaud their commitment to MSC, and I thank each and every one of our faculty and students who make senior college in Maine a vibrant place where ideas and friendships flourish.

I wish you a grand 2019!

Sincerely,

James W. Wilkes, President
Midcoast Senior College