

# Albion Area Lifelong Learners

AN INSTITUTE FOR ADULT LEARNING IN COOPERATION WITH ALBION COLLEGE

## Greetings

Dear Friends,

Warmest welcome to all as we kick-off our new year of AALL classes in our Fall term. Our term begins with Assembly on September 8, 10:00, at Tennant Hall, with speaker, Dr. Robert Erlandson, who will give us an informative and inspiring presentation on art created from mathematical concepts.

Once again, Curriculum Committee has planned a diverse collection of classes for us, including topics involving climate and justice, films inspired by Jane Austen, understanding and tasting wines from around the world, and a travelogue series. Classes are in person. Please consider being a coordinator; a coordinator can be anyone enrolled in the class. Coordinators are primarily responsible for communicating with class members in case of changes and/or assignments. If you are willing to be a coordinator, contact Martha O'Kennon or Doug White.

With regard to COVID policies in Tennant Hall and at locations where classes meet, at the time of this writing, masks are optional. Of course, things may change by the time of the Assembly in September and classes in October. If necessary, appropriate announcements will be made as required.

The Board has discussed what to do about the “snacks and socializing” break during the two-hour classes. For the time being, it has been decided there will not be beverage set-up. It will be up to the particular class coordinator to ask if class members want to bring a finger-food snack. However, we need to keep in mind the status of the Pandemic and provide only individually wrapped items.

Fall is also the time to renew your membership in AALL. Annual dues are still \$20 per year. Membership entitles you to one free class per term; fee for additional classes is \$10 each. Some classes require a “materials” fee, such as for wine in the wine-tasting class, and to contribute to rental fee for the Bohm theatre. If there is a materials fee, this fee is not waived if you select this as your “free” class.

Wishing you all a great, and colorful Fall season,

Mary Slater, president

# Upcoming Events

## Fall Assembly

### Evolving Fractal Art

**Thursday, September 8 2022, at 10 a.m.**

**Tennant Hall at the First United Methodist Church**

600 E Michigan Ave, Albion, MI 49224

[Get Directions](#)

**Dr. Robert Erlandson, Professor Emeritus, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Wayne State University.**

The word “fractal” was coined in 1975 by Benoit Mandelbrot to describe the new form of mathematics he was creating to model earthquakes and other effects of chaotic forces. Since the word was introduced we have come to understand we live in a world of fractals and consequently we now view our world differently than before 1975. This presentation, Evolving Fractal Art, looks at art prior to and after 1975, after showing the omnipresence of fractal patterns in our lives.

Dr. Robert Erlandson’s professional career included research in enabling technologies, data-analysis and decision-making as applied to resource allocation in public school systems, service robots in rehabilitation therapy and development of bio-instruments. His retirement interests have included fractal art work and Haiga poetry. He is the author of AWE, 2018.

## Upcoming Courses

### Inspired By Austen: Five Jane Austen Film Adaptations Set In Modern Times

**Marlene Kondelik, Retired Assistant to the Provost, Albion College**

Thursdays. 2 p.m. – 4:30 pm. October 6, 13, and 27, and November 3 and 10. In Person. Bohm Theater. Class size unlimited.

**Note:** there is a \$10 fee to help cover the cost of the theatre rental.

In recent years, there have been a multitude of films based on Jane Austen's novels. In this class I will present five such films, but without women in Regency attire and men driving carriages. Instead, Jane Austen's novels will be set in our own times. The first two, *Clueless* and *Bride and Prejudice*, follow the plots of *Emma* and *Pride and Prejudice* transposed to Beverly Hills and India. The third and fourth films, *Metropolitan* and *The Lake House*, are thematically inspired by *Mansfield Park* and *Persuasion*, set in Manhattan and Chicago respectively. The fifth is a film adaptation of the novel *The Jane Austen Book Club* by Karen Joy Fowler. I hope you will see that Austen's novels, although set in Regency England, reflect universal concerns—love, friendship, getting along in one's family and in one's world. Enjoy these homages to Jane Austen.

## Wine Tasting

**Mauricio Marengoni, Wine and Beer Sommelier**

Tuesday 5 – 7 p.m., October 4, 11, 18, and 25, In Person.  
Seely-Berkey House, 517 E. Michigan Ave., Albion, MI. Class size 15–20.

Note: \$20 fee for wines.

In this course we will learn a little about wines. In the first class we will talk about the history of wine, how it has spread around the world, how to taste a wine, glasses and some devices used in the wine service. In the second class we will talk about terroir, the different types of grapes, productive regions and how the wine is produced. In the third class we will talk about some specific regions in France, Italy, Spain and Portugal and the type of wines they produce; we will also explain how to interpret some wine labels and the meaning of some of the acronyms used in the wine industry. In the last class we will talk about what is known as the wine's new world regions, including United States, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil, some different grapes cultivated in these regions, and types of wines. Each class we will try about 5 different wines (about 1.5 oz of each), talk about them and perceive differences in production process, terroir, and grapes.

## Justice and Climate Solutions

**Thom Wilch, Professor, Department of Earth and Environment, Faculty Director of the Center for Sustainability and the Environment. Albion College**

Tuesdays, 2 – 4 p.m., October 4, 11, and 25, In Person, Ludington Center. Class size unlimited.

Participants will be invited to bring laptops or tablets to the meeting- but they are not required. Some readings will be recommended — all available online. In this course, we will explore climate change as a social justice issue and

learn about real solutions to the climate crisis. The actions we take now and in the near future will determine the severity of the impacts. We will propose climate solutions such as energy efficiency, carbon pricing, fossil fuel taxes, incentivizing renewables, planting trees, increasing nuclear energy, and carbon dioxide removal. We will test these approaches using the En-ROADS climate simulator developed by the MIT Sloan Sustainability Initiative, and will discuss the impacts of different solutions on global temperature and other factors, including equity and justice. We will conclude the class by discussing local solutions for this global problem. Join the class to experience what it's like to create your own climate future using grounded conversations; the resulting experience is hopeful, scientifically-grounded, action-oriented, and eye opening.

## Travelogue Series

Wednesdays. October 12, 19, 26, November 2. The Ludington Center.

**October 12, 2 - 4 p.m.: Richard Lewin. "Staycation Jewels."** There are many places in the Albion/Jackson, Michigan area that may be "unknown" JEWELS that we locals may not be aware are even there. This Travelogue will consist of conversation and photographs of these Jewels.

**October 19, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.: Mauricio Marengoni. "Brazil: a different experience."**

Brazil is one of the largest countries in the world (if you take Alaska out, Brazil is larger than USA). In this travelogue we will be talking about the different areas in Brazil, some of the history, culture, and gastronomy. We will visit places that most tourists never heard of, but, of course, we will pass through the main touristic areas in Brazil going from Rio de Janeiro and Salvador in Bahia to the Amazon river and the Iguazu falls.

**October 26, 2 - 4 p.m.: Carolyn and Dennis Gaswick. "Burma, or is it Myanmar?"**

Whether you know it as Myanmar or Burma, this is one of the most devoutly Buddhist nations on earth with a dazzling array of golden pagodas and ancient temples filled with gilded Buddhas. From the stilted villages of Inle Lake to the stupas of the Bagan plain and volcanic Mt. Popa, we'll explore the countryside as well as life in Mandalay and Rangoon. We'll discuss customs from the chewing of betel nuts to the education of monks. For all the recent political upheaval, and we'll touch on some of it, Myanmar remains at heart a rural nation of traditional values and welcoming people.

**November 2, 2 - 4 p.m.: Pat Tomasik. "Welcome to the New Vietnam and Cambodia."**

For anyone haunted by memories of the Vietnam War, this travelogue offers a refreshing and healing vision. In 2011 two friends, Carol Gnich and Pat Tomasik, travel to Vietnam and Cambodia and behold the natural beauty, the cultural richness, the welcoming spirit, and the surging energy of two nations rising up after years of trauma. You will be uplifted along with them as they tour this area and discover a whole "new world" to replace the war-torn previous one.

## Reminders for Fall 2022:

1. Annual membership dues for 2022-2023 are \$20. Members may take one class each term without additional fee; each additional class is \$10. If you have questions, you can call the Registrar, Mary Deardurff at 517-990-4158.
2. The Fall Assembly (on Thursday, September 8, at 10 a.m.) will be held in Tennant Hall at the First United Methodist Church. You may register in person from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. Please bring your completed registration form (or facsimile) with you.
3. Mail-in registration forms (along with a check or money order made out to AALL) must be received by **Thursday, September 15, 2022**. Mail the completed form along with a check or money order payable to AALL to: AALL Registrar, P. O. Box 188, Albion, MI 49224

## Registration Information

1. For each course for which you want to register, place a number in the box in front of the course name: 1 for the course you most want to take, 2 for the second course you wish to take, etc. (NOTE: If you only wish to take one course, mark it with the number 1)
2. If you wish to indicate an alternate choice (in case one of your choices is oversubscribed and you are not admitted to that course), mark an X in the box before your alternate choice.
3. In the column marked FEE, indicate the appropriate cost. The first course (each term) is free with your AALL membership; simply write FREE in the FEE column. Each additional course is \$10 (plus any special fees). All fees need to be paid at the time of registration.
4. If you are unable to attend a course for which you have registered, fees can be refunded up until the start of the course

## Policy for Limited Enrollment Classes

When a course with limits is over-enrolled, the names of all those who had it listed as #1 shall be entered in a lottery. Those randomly drawn shall be placed in the class. Those not selected will comprise the waiting list and also be given first access if that course is offered again. The Registrar will keep a record of those on the waiting list until the course is offered again.

Those selected for the course in its first offering will not be eligible to retake it until all those on the waiting list have had the opportunity to take the course.

Those who have signed up for a class with limits and listed it as #1 are encouraged to sign up for at least one additional class. Members are also encouraged not to sign up for a course with limited enrollment if they know they won't be there for all four sessions.

# REGISTER NOW

		Cost
	2022 - 2023 annual dues (\$20)	
	Inspired By Austen: Five Jane Austen Film Adaptations	
	Wine Tasting	
	Justice and Climate Solutions	
	Travelogue Series	
	<b>Total:</b>	

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

		Cost
	2022 - 2023 annual dues (\$20)	
	Inspired By Austen: Five Jane Austen Film Adaptations	
	Wine Tasting	
	Justice and Climate Solutions	
	Travelogue Series	
	<b>Total:</b>	

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_