Brandeis National Committee
IN SUPPORT OF BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

LIVE & LEARN
PROGRAMS 2021–2022
Mark Your Calendars!

General Meetings:
Opening and closing luncheons as well as general and board meetings will be held Thursdays in the Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Meeting Room, 12021 Greenspring Avenue, 21117.

September 23, 2021, 11:30 AM • Opening Luncheon Meeting with Guest Speaker Barbara Blumberg: Unknown Women Who Changed the World
After earning a B.S. from Towson University, Barbara served the Baltimore City School System for three years. For the next 25 years, she taught in the Secular Division of Beth Tfiloh Community Day School. She has been an adjunct faculty member at the Community College of Baltimore County, has taught at the Myerberg Center, in the Osher program at Towson University, the Har Sinai Oheb Shalom “Spice” series, and The Lecture Group, along with many other charitable organizations.

January 13, 2022, 1 PM, • Brandeis Community Book Discussion: Other Minds: The Octopus, the Sea, and the Deep Origins of Consciousness, by distinguished philosopher of science and skilled scuba diver Peter Godfrey-Smith.

June 2, 11:30 AM • Closing Luncheon Meeting with Guest Speaker

Board Meetings: 1 PM except for January, which will start at noon.
Thursdays October 21, November 18, December 16, 2021; January 13, February 17, March 17, April 21, June 2, 2022

Updates or corrections to this booklet will appear in subsequent issues of the Bulletin and on our website: blogs.brandeis.edu/bncBaltimore
All phone numbers are in Area Code 410 unless stated otherwise.

Live and Learn Committee
Norma Axel, Susan Berman, Diane Burkom, Brenda Cohen, Hara Eckstein, Rona Greene, Teri Markowitz, Irene Palter, Leslie Sandler, Merle Ann Siegelman, Suzanne Strutt
Registrar: Irene Palter • Publication: Suzanne Strutt
Welcome to a year full of exciting programs. Enjoy as many as you like!

Meeting times and/or places may change because of unforeseeable circumstances. Participants will be informed as soon as possible. For questions about a meeting, call the facilitator, not the hostess. In case of severe weather, BNC programs—whether held in the County or the City—are canceled if Baltimore County schools are closed for even part of the day.

Members and guests attending in-person events must be fully vaccinated and masked.

For calendar and information updates, please refer to the BNC Baltimore website, blogs.brandeis.edu/bncbaltimore.

Facilitators, instructors, and hosts must register but do not have to pay for courses they facilitate or host.

Nota bene: Any member who brings in a new member will be awarded a free Live & Learn course. New members may take one course free in addition to the ones for which they have paid. The free course fee must be the same or less than the highest-cost course for which they have paid.

Please attend all meetings of courses for which you sign up. Also, please let the course facilitator know if you cannot attend. Because of space constraints and the preparation that goes into each course, we owe our facilitators and hosts this courtesy.

If fewer than five—or fewer than the minimum number of participants needed for a course—enroll, the course may be canceled at the discretion of the facilitator. Registrants will be notified and may either select another course or arrange for a refund.

A member not registered for a course may attend one session only by paying $5, or the full fee for a one-session course. Non-members may attend one session of a course at no charge. They may then take the full course, provided they first become members by paying dues, plus the cost of the course minus the cost of the free session. However, in the case of a one-session course, $5 must be paid.

In the courses designated A, B, C, and D, members wishing to attend fewer than all sessions may register and pay for only those sessions.

To attend a course for which you are not registered, you must notify the facilitator in advance to be sure that space is available.
The Courses

1. **Amazing Jewish Writers**  
   Minimum # participants: 8  
   Fee: $20  
   1:30 PM Wednesdays October 6, November 3, December 1, 2021; January 5, 2022  
   Home of Devorah Brooks, 509 Old Crossing Drive, 21208  
   Our book selections, a focus on Israel: Meir Shalev’s memoir: *My Russian Grandmother and Her American Vacuum Cleaner* • Amos Oz’s epic family biography: *A Tale of Love and Darkness* • Sayed Kashua’s: *Second Person Singular* • Ayelet Gondar-Goshen’s: *Waking Lions*  
   Please call if unable to attend a session.  
   **Facilitator:** Devorah Brooks, 484-4332

2. **Baltimore History—What You May or May Not Know**  
   Fee: $20  
   1:30 PM Mondays on **ZOOM ONLY**  
   October 18, November 15, 2021; January 17, February 21, 2022  
   Specific Programs TBA, to be listed in *Bulletin*  
   Come enjoy a few short films narrated by Johns Hopkins, Executive Director of Baltimore Heritage. Following the films, we will have time for discussions. See what you can learn about our city!  
   **Facilitators:** Norma Axel, 308-0827, Brenda Cohen, 581-2229 (Host: Diane Burkom, 410-303-2967)

3. **Company Tours: “Made in Baltimore”**  
   Limit: 18  
   Fee: $10 + applicable fee where required  
   **Tuesday, March 29, 1:30 PM, System Source, Computer Museum**  
   338 Club House Road, Hunt Valley 21030 • One of the best collections of historical computer gadgets and technology in the world; i.e. abacuses, slide rules, adding machines, early video games, and a linotype machine from the mid-1950s. This hands-on, interactive collection includes pre-industrial computation tools; the punch card era, including a 1957 software library of plug boards; first generation PCs Altair and IMSAI; second generation Apple, IBM, and Compaq PCs; and exhibits of the history of memory and storage devices.  
   **Monday, May 2, 10 AM • Glenn L. Martin Aviation Museum**  
   701 Wilson Point Road • Museum fee: $7 • Our 90-minute tour begins promptly at 10 AM. • Exhibits include “Rosie the Riveter,” “Wind Wagon
to Rockets,” and the Strawberry Point Flight Line of historic aircraft. Lunch on your own will follow at By the Dock, 3321 Eastern Avenue, Middle River • Limit 15–20; r.s.v.p. needed for restaurant.

Facilitators: Norma Axel, 308-0827 • Hara Eckstein, 453-6608

4. Create Your Own Greeting Cards    Fee $5
   plus a TBD materials fee paid to the facilitator
   1:30 PM Wednesday, March 9 • ZOOM ONLY
Discover your creative side by making 12 greeting cards at home for your family or friends. All materials will be provided with a safe pick-up location to be arranged. The materials fee will include all necessary supplies: precut designer paper, numerous embellishments, and a roll of craft tape.

Facilitators: Teri Markowitz, 375-6353 • Diane Burkom, 486-4972

5. Current Women’s Issues: On Our Minds    Fee $15
   1:30 PM first Thursdays • Minimum 6 • March 3, April 7, May 5
Home of Devorah Brooks, 509 Old Crossing Drive, db1940@icloud.com
Enjoy enlightened conversation about today’s current issues (helped along with a little time-honored Jewish wisdom). Your topic suggestions are super encouraged. Some we may want to consider: Elder kavod...a little honor please; Caught In the middle...The ups and downs of effective parenting and/or grand-friending; Media and social issues...What is and what’s not so kosher going on out there.
Kindly r.s.v.p. Please call when unable to attend a session.

Facilitator: Devorah Brooks, 484-4332

6. Dig Up Your Family Roots    10 AM    Limit 6    Fee $5
   Thursday, October 7 • Home of Susan Ansel, 13 Indian Pony Court, Owings Mills, 21117
Genealogy is a rewarding hobby as well as a gift to you and your descendants. Susan Ansel, a skilled genealogical researcher, will discuss how you can discover your family history from multiple resources. She will work with participants to develop individual narratives through computer searches.

Facilitator: Susan Ansel, 356-3833
7. **Dining ’Round the World**  4 Thursdays  1 PM  $5 each + lunch  
There are many restaurants in the Northwest area with foods from other cultures. Please join us for excellent food and enjoyable conversation.  
7A • October 14 • Wing Wah (Chinese) • 509 Reisterstown Road  
7B • November 11 • Yesh Hummas & Grill (Mediterranean)  
607 Reisterstown Road  
7C • April 28 • Libertore’s (Italian) • 9515 Deereco Road, 21093  
7D • May 26 • Crystal Thai • 9191 Reisterstown Road, Valley Village Shopping Center, lower level, 21117

**Facilitators:** Irene Palter, 252-0246 • Rosalind Pearlman, 602-3454  

8. **Game Time, only on ZOOM!**  Fee $15  
1:30 PM Mondays January 10, 24; February 7, 28  
Come one, come all— It’s GAME TIME with a different game each day. All you need is paper and pen, then Zoom in to play at home. We will be playing Scattergories®, Trivia, Bingo, and Guess the Baby Pics.  

**Facilitators:** Teri Markowitz, 375-6353 • Diane Burkom, 486-4972  

9. **Hand & Foot Canasta**  Limit 8  Fee $15  
1 PM Fridays May 6, 13, 20  
Home of Annette Polonsky, 11 Slade Avenue #112  
The course will teach a special version of this popular card game using several decks at once, that we will enjoy playing together.  

**Facilitators:** Annette Polonsky, 484-6682 • Hara Eckstein, 453-6608  

10. **Jewish Masters of Design: Ben Shahn & Saul Bass**  Fee $10  
1:30 PM • November 5, 2021; February 11, 2022  ZOOM ONLY  
You may not know their names, but the images they created will be very familiar. These two giants in the field of graphic design shared a genius for expressive gesture imparted with radical simplicity, making their work striking as well as genuinely unforgettable.  

**Facilitator:** Norma Axel, 308-0827 • Suzanne Strutt, 561-5516  

11. **Let’s Knit and Stitch**  Five 2nd Tuesdays  1:30 PM  Fee $20  
November 9, December 14, 2021; March 8, April 12, May 10, 2022  
First location home of Merle Ann Siegelman, 6205 Sareva Drive, 21209  
Gather in one another’s homes to knit, crochet, needlepoint, or work on any stitching projects you choose. Learn or improve your skills! All skill
levels are welcome.

**Facilitators:** Norma Axel, 308-0827 • Merle Ann Siegelman, 664-8855

**12. Lunchtime Dine-A-Round**  Fee $20 + Lunch

12:30 Thursday, October 7, 2021 • *Il Basilico Trattoria*, (Italian)
49 Aylesbury Road, Lutherville 21093

12:30 Wednesday, November 10 • Orchard Market & Cafe
8815 Orchard Tree Lane, Towson

**Wednesday, April 27, 2022** • Restaurant TBA

**Wednesday, May 18** • Restaurant TBA

**Facilitators:** Loretta Engel, 358-0534 • Rena Shenk, 443-352-3901

**13. Make Up: Look Great, Feel Great**  Fee $5 (+ lunch)

11:30 Wednesday, March 23 Minimum 15, Maximum 20

Join us for lunch in the Nordstrom Café followed by a makeup makeover. In a private room, makeup artists will demonstrate makeup techniques with tips and tricks, with a chance to purchase makeup. The makeup session is at one.

**Facilitators:** Eris Chorney, 526-0114 • Leslie Sandler, 433-6366

**14. Movies We Love**  3rd Tuesdays, 1:30 PM  Limit 10*  Fee $15

Home of Merle Ann Siegelman, 6205 Sareva Drive, 21209

If you love fine films, woman-centered, comedy, intrigue, drama, this course is for you! Even if you’ve seen these gems before, they’re well worth seeing again. *Limit firm; no drop-ins.

**March 15, 2022: The Turning Point** • Shirley MacLaine and Anne Bancroft play former ballet-school classmates; the first had a baby girl and reared her while the other became a famous *prima ballerina*. See what happens when the grown-up daughter, now a lovely ballerina, meets the *primier danseur* (Mikhail Baryshnikov) and sparks fly. But a different sort of sparks fly when the stage moms connect! Classical ballet music as well makes this one not to be missed.

**April 19: Ratatouille** • A 2007 Disney Pixar film to delight everyone, *Ratatouille* received eight Oscars including Best Animated Feature Film. Set in Paris, a charming young rat with a “nose” for good food teams up with a hapless budding chef to cook up delicious recipes and hilarious pranks. The showdown comes when they meet up with a Vincent-Price
of a food critic you’ll love to hate. After being treated to iconic scenes of Paris, the restaurant’s kitchen and dining room, and the sewers of Paris, a surprise ending awaits. (111 mins.)

**May 17: A Room with a View** • This 1986 Merchant-Ivory production, based on the E. M. Forster novel, features a love story with impeccable British performances, gorgeous Italian scenery, and a score by Puccini. On a visit to Italy with her Aunt (Maggie Smith), a proper Englishwoman (Helena Bonham-Carter) falls for a dashing young man (Julian Sands). Upon her return to England, an older man (Daniel Day-Lewis) comes into her life and she must decide between the two. Ah, the eternal triangle!

**Facilitators:** Brenda Cohen, 581-2229 • Merle Ann Siegelman, 664-8855

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**15. Non-Fiction Discussion Group** 3 Thursdays 1 PM Fee $15

First meeting: home of Deane Sevel, 3305 Janellen Drive, 21208

Enjoy reading, reviewing, and discussing non-fiction books on a wide variety of topics.

- **November 4:** *The Splendid and the Vile*, Eric Larsen
- **December 2:** *The Bagman* (Spiro Agnew), Rachel Maddow
- **March 10, 2022** • TBA

**Facilitator:** Deane Sevel, 484-0643

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**16. Open Studio: Polymer Clay** 4 Mondays 1:30 PM Limit 8 Fee $20

March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2022

Home of Suzanne Strutt, 12 Valleywood Court, Timonium 21093

So many enjoyed working with this fascinating material that another course simply became necessary. No previous experience needed; just come, create, and enjoy.

**Facilitators:** Norma Axel, 308-0827 • Suzanne Strutt, 561-5516

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**17. Rummikub®** 5 Fridays 1:30 PM Limit 8 Fee $20

October 15, November 19, December 17, 2021; January 21, March 18, 2022

**First Location:** Home of Annette Polonsky, 11 Slade #112, 21208

Spend a relaxing afternoon meeting new people and having fun playing Rummikub®. The course is for anyone from beginners to experts—if you don’t know how to play, we’ll be happy to teach you.

**Facilitators:** Brenda Cohen, 581-2229 • Annette Polonsky, 484-6682
18. **Scarfes: How to Tie One On**  
Limit 10  
Fee $5  
1:30 PM Monday, November 8, 2021  
Home of Merle Ann Siegelman, 6205 Sareva Drive, 21209  
You may already have several ways to tie your scarves. Let scarf-maven Merle Ann Siegelman demonstrate some new ways for you to try! Please bring 2 scarves—any size or shape you like—others will be provided as well. Everyone is welcome to come for an afternoon of fashion and fun!  
**Facilitator:** Merle Ann Siegelman, 664-8855

19. **Scrabble® & Babble**  
Limit 6  
Fee $20  
11:15 AM 6 Tuesdays • October 5, November 2, December 7, 2021; January 4, February 1, March 1, 2022  
Home of Carol Oppenheim, 326 Belltown Road, Owings Mills 21117  
Enjoy this beloved classic game of word wit.  
**Facilitators:** Ruth Casper, 443-394-1449 • Carol Oppenheim, 363-2482

20. **Sing Along with Sue**  
Limit 15  
Fee $5  
11 AM Thursday, May 19  
Home of Sue Needle, 1321 Harden Lane, 21208  
Join in a singalong while Sue accompanies us with her exemplary piano playing from fifty years of old-time music.  
**Facilitator:** Hara Eckstein, 453-6608

21. **Triumphs of Animation**  
Fee: $20  
1:30 PM 4 Fridays • November 12, December 10, 2021; January 14, March 11, 2022  
Home of Suzanne Strutt, 12 Valleywood Court, Timonium  
Remember Steamboat Willie? That little proto-Mickey Mouse whistling along in his sketchy boat? Hitching that boat to computer magic has taken him to the stars and beyond!  
Three full-length and two short films will explore this explosive art form: from jazz-age France, *The Triplets of Belleville* (2003)*; a refreshingly feminist *The Princess and the Frog* (2006); *Wall-E*, an eerily prescient view of the future (2008); and the breathtaking *Coco*, with a visit to *los muertos* and the “life” beyond (2017). *A bonus: surprise short films perhaps seen only by grandchildren. As always, there will be popcorn.*
22. Writing From Z to A: Our Pandemic Memoirs . . . $20
1:30 PM Tuesday, November 16, Wednesday December 8, 2021; Tuesday, January 11; Tuesday March 22, 2022
Home of Suzanne Strutt, 12 Valleywood Court, Timonium, or on ZOOM

In 1660, a Londoner named Samuel Pepys began a diary, notable for its detail, gossip, and personal revelation. Now regarded as one of the best sources of the history of the English Restoration, it includes an eyewitness account of the Great Plague of London.

It is by such memoirs that the true experience of unprecedented events speaks through time. This course will provide an opportunity for us to record our experiences of the Pandemic of 2020 from our unique individual points of view. No talent or preparation necessary; Suzanne, B.A. in English Composition, will provide pointers and support along the way. Let’s remember this extraordinary moment together!

Facilitator: Suzanne Strutt, 561-5516

Pease keep this booklet for reference for the whole year.
BNC Membership

Brandeis National Committee welcomes new members, men as well as women. Annual membership is $60. Membership for spouses of annual members is $40; of life members, $60. To join, call Brenda Cohen, 410-581-2229, or Hara Eckstein, 410-453-6608.

Annual membership dues must be paid before you may register for courses. Send your check payable to BNC directly to Brandeis University-BNC, not to the Registrar, at Brandeis National Committee, 415 South Street, MS 122, Waltham, MA 02453-2728; call, 781-736-7588 with a credit card number; or go online at http://www.brandeis.edu/bnc/, then click the JOIN/RENEW button, and enter your information. Be sure to select Baltimore as your Chapter!

BNC Live and Learn Course Registration

1. Only life or paid-up annual members may register.

2. Please register by Friday, September 17, or as soon as possible, to insure availability of the courses you choose. Courses may be canceled if enrollment is insufficient.

3. Members may attend one session of a course for which they are not registered for $5, or the full fee for a one-session course. Non-members may attend one session of a course at no cost for a single meeting with advance approval of the course facilitator.

4. Fees for materials or books and some admission fees are paid directly to the facilitator at the first session of the course.

5. Send the registration form with your check payable to “Brandeis University-BNC” with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Registrar: Irene Palter, 12320 Rosslare Ridge Road #202, Timonium 21093

Nota bene: Any member who brings in a new member will be awarded a free Live & Learn course.

New members may take one course free in addition to the ones for which they have signed up and paid. The free course fee must be the same or lower than the highest-costing course for which they have signed up and paid.

Anyone who does not want to receive the Live & Learn booklet or other mailings from BNC, please notify Judi Cataldo, Mailing Coordinator, 410-602-1132, or judicat@verizon.net
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Special Events: to be scheduled in November

- Gramercy Tea, special event: TBA
- Tuesdays with Ann, special event: TBA