



4825 Troost, Room 113,
 Kansas City, MO 64110
 816-235-2870
 Email: spark@umkc.edu
<https://LifelongSpark.org>



SUMMER 2024
JUNE 3 – JUNE 28
CLASSES

Use this QR code
 for more detailed
 class descriptions.



*Get to Know
 More Members*

Friday Lunch Club

We meet at 11:30 Fridays at local restaurants. It's a great way to get to know other SPARK members. Contact Facilitator **Lynn Lieberman**, 816-223-1658 or lynnlee2001@yahoo.com.

Margaret Sturges' Book Club

Meets the third Monday of each month. Contact facilitator **Laura Sloan**, 913-634-3264 or Dalelaura40@hotmail.com

Thursday Book Club

Meets the third Thursday of each month. Contact facilitator **Sue Habiger**, 816-616-2636 or shabiger22@gmail.com

Mondays



Tai Chi for Arthritis (TCA)

This safe, effective exercise program was designed by Dr. Paul Lam and a team of medical experts and Tai Chi masters. It was adopted by the Arthritis Foundation for anyone with arthritis or similar chronic pain. Also good for balance and fall prevention.

Sarah Stanmorr – Nurse and Certified Tai Chi for Arthritis instructor

Both levels meet twice weekly:

Mon (June 3–24) and

Wed (June 5–26)

Beginners:

10–11 am \$40

Advanced Beginners:

11 am–Noon \$40

Both sessions In Person Only



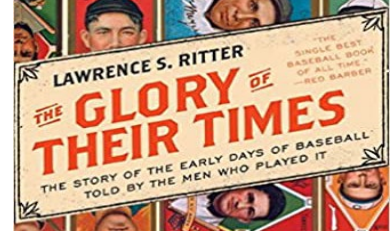
Recent Supreme Court Decisions on Constitutional Law

The Supreme Court will wrap up its term in June and issue decisions in key cases. This course will consider some of the most important questions being answered by the Court this year. We'll look back at the past, examine the latest cases, and consider the future consequences of these decisions.

Allen Rostron – J.D. Yale Law School, UMKC William R. Jacques Constitutional Law Scholar and Professor of Law

June 3–24 1:30–3:30 pm

In Person or Online – \$40



The Literature of Baseball

America's National Pastime has always attracted good writers, from sportswriters to journalists to novelists. This course explores some of the best biographies, memoirs and novels about the game. The books focus on the history and culture of the game rather than its mechanics and statistics, so casual fans and those who just like good writing are welcome.

Karl Menninger – J.D. Washburn Univ., UMKC Adjunct Prof. of Law

June 3–24 10 am–Noon

In Person or Online – \$40

Tuesday or Wednesday



Western Civilization

Carol McCavitt will continue her journey through Western Civilization. We'll build on the foundations of the previous classes and discuss how those achievements were reclaimed in the Renaissance in Europe.

Carol McCavitt - MS Queens College, PhD Carnegie-Mellon University

You can take this class on Tuesday or Wednesday:

Tuesday June 4–25

10 am–Noon

In Person Only - \$40

Wednesday June 5–26

10 am–Noon

In Person or Online – \$40

Tuesday GEMs



Poems of Faith and Infertility

Toby will read from his book *But There's So Much DIY in IVF That We Can't Be Sure*, about a couple struggling to conceive a child. The book counterbalances modern science with stories of faith and infertility from the book of Genesis, exploring the promise and limits of each. He will also share his background and the lengthy process of publishing this, his first book.

Toby Goostree – MFA, University of Arizona Writer's Workshop

June 4 1:30 pm

In Person or Online



Artist Niki de Saint Phalle

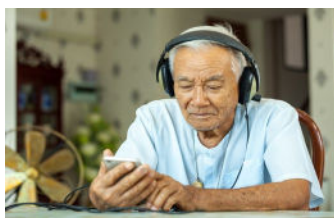
Niki de Saint Phalle was a French-American artist whose joyous and colorful public art has intrigued European audiences for decades. Yet her work is little known here. This lecture will begin with the U.S and European avant garde movement in the 1960s and discuss her complicated life. This GEM is a prerequisite for the related tour of the Nelson-Atkins Museum exhibit on June 14.

Elizabeth Darr – Museum docent

June 11 1:30 pm

In Person or Online

\$10.00 per class or all four GEMs for \$40
Classes last 1-2 hours depending on the topic and presenter.



iPhone Workshop

Can't find your phone (or iPad)?

Do friends text you at all hours interrupting your sleep?

Need to find your car in the parking lot?

Do you use Siri?

Your iPhone is so much more than a phone; it's a 21st century Swiss Army Knife!

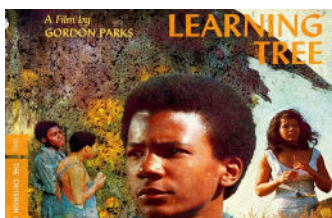
Come learn more about this amazing tool and maybe even share some tips you know!

See the related tour to the Plaza Apple Store on June 21.

Bud Nolker – SPARK Board Member; Master in Public Administration, UMKC; self-taught iPhone expert

June 18 1:30 pm

In Person or Online



Gordon Parks Renaissance Man

The son a Fort Scott, KS farmer, Gordon Parks (1912-2006) defied racism to become an internationally-known photographer, filmmaker, musician, and writer. As a photographer, he moved easily between fashion, portraiture, and gritty studies of African American life while working for *Vogue* and *Life* in the 1940s. In 1969 he adapted his autobiographical novel "The Learning Tree" into a film, becoming Hollywood's first major Black director.

Kirk Sharp – Executive Director of the Gordon Parks Museum, Fort Scott, KS, BA, MS Pittsburg State University

June 25 1:30 pm

In Person or Online

Wednesdays



Stained Glass in Kansas City Churches

Join us with returning instructor Bruce Appel to view beautiful stained-glass windows in Country Club Christian Church, Redemptorist Catholic Church, Central United Methodist Church and Second Presbyterian Church. We'll learn about stained glass art and what inspired these memorial windows. Check online for addresses and more information.

Bruce Appel – Educator, photographer, museum docent

June 5–26 1:30–3:30 pm

Offsite - In Person Only – \$40



Exploring Greek Tragedies

Thanks to Freud, everyone knows about Oedipus' complex history of murder and incest, while the Antigone became one of the most rewritten plays throughout the centuries. Tragedy, however, is much more than these two characters: let's explore together the hidden gems of Greek theater. From Ajax to Heracles, we will discover what it means to be a "tragic hero" (or heroine) on the ancient stage.

Dr. Cecilia Cozzi – BA, MA University of Trento (Italy), PhD. University of Cincinnati; Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Kansas

June 5–26 1:30–3:30 pm

ZOOM Only at home or at SPARK – \$40

Thursdays



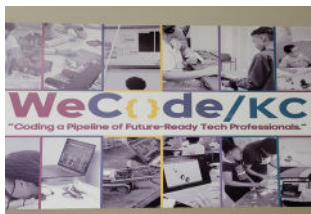
Theology and Ecology

We can change our relationship with nature to one that is ecologically sustainable by shifting our spiritual paradigm. Let's explore a faith-based understanding of the earth in relation to our ever-expanding knowledge of nature. We will challenge existing harmful values and envision a future at peace with both nature and the divine. This will be an 'in person only' class to facilitate our discussions together.

Don Arney – MO Department of Conservation; Lutherans Restoring Creation; Missouri Prairie Foundation, and avid birder!

June 6–27 10 am–Noon

Discussion class: In Person Only – \$40



Building KC's Technology Future

WeCode KC is creating a pipeline of future-ready professionals through project-based learning and innovative programs. Join us for a four week look into this unique organization as we explore their successes, challenges and the future of technology, with an introduction to the realm of AI. Our presenters will include participating students and staff.

Claude Hawkins – IT Asset Management Professional

June 6–27 1:30–3:30 pm

In Person or Online – \$40

Fridays



Let's Play Mah Jongg

All are welcome to our on-going Mah Jongg game gathering! We have an instructor for those who haven't played before. Get a refresher on the mechanics or share in the fun with other SPARK members. Mah Jongg consists for 152 carved tiles that are divided into three suits: Dots, Bamboos and Chinese Characters (or Craks). The version we play has games created by the National Mah Jongg League in New York.

Carol Wells – Mah Jongg teacher

June 7–28 10 am–Noon

In Person Only – \$40

SPARK Summer 2024 Courses (June 3 – June 28, 2024)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00	10:00 – 11:00 Tai Chi for Arthritis Beginners	10:00 – 12:00 Literature of Baseball	10:00 – 12:00 Western Civilization	10:00 – 11:00 Tai Chi for Arthritis Beginners	10:00 – 12:00 Cello Concerts at Diastole TWO WEEKS: 6/7 & 6/28 Note: In person only
11:00	11:00 – 12:00 Tai Chi for Arthritis Advanced Beginners Note: Both classes in person only	Note: In person only	Note: In person and Zoom	11:00 – 12:00 Tai Chi for Arthritis Advanced Beginners Note: Both classes in person only	10:00 – 12:00 The Role of the Orchestra Conductor ONE WEEK: 6/14
12:00				Note: In person only	10:00 – 12:00 TOUR to Apple Store 6/21 Note: In person only
					10:00 – 12:00 Let's Play Mah Jongg! Note: In person only
1:30	1:30 – 3:30 The Latest Supreme Court Decisions	1:30 – 3:30 GEMS 6/4 Poetry Readings 6/11 The Artist: Niki de Saint Phalle 6/18 iPhone Workshop 6/25 Gordon Parks: Renaissance Man Take all four GEMS or individually Note: GEMS last from 1 – 2 hours	1:30 – 3:30 Greek Tragedies in Theatre Note: Zoom only- at home or at SPARK 1:30 – 3:30 Stained Glass in Kansas City Churches Redemptorist Catholic Church Central United Methodist Church Country Club Christian Church Second Presbyterian Church Note: In person only Offsite in four area churches	1:30 – 3:30 We Code KC: Building the Future of Technology	TOURS 6/7 1:00 – 2:00 pm Kansas City PBS Headquarters ----- 6/14 1:30 – 2:30 pm Niki de Saint Phalle Exhibition at the Nelson-Atkins ----- 6/28 1:30 – 2:30 pm Lyric Opera of Kansas City Production Arts Center
3:30					

Fridays



Cello Concerts at Diastole

Dr. Savage is joined by his family in two cello concertos. Accomplished young cellist Will Savage has played as soloist with the KC Civic Orchestra and chamber ensembles. Dr. Karen Savage, Professor of Collaborative Piano at UMKC, will be his "orchestra." We'll explore the instrument and hear about the life and travels of a new cello during the second concert.

Dr. Jeffrey Savage – MS and PhD, the Julliard School; UMKC faculty

June 7 and 28 10 am–Noon

UMKC's Diastole Scholars' Center
2501 Holmes (Free parking behind building through gate on Holmes)
 In Person Only – \$20



The Role of the Orchestra Conductor

What does the Music Director of a university orchestra actually do, especially when he's off the podium? Aside from being a musician, a conductor is also an administrator, personnel manager, budget director, stage manager, librarian, contractor, and more. So, when is there time to make music? We'll explore that together in this one-session class!

Dr. Steven McDonald – Doctor of Musical Arts (D.M.A.) KU School of Music; Music Director Park University International Center for Music

June 14 10 am–Noon

In Person or Online – \$10

Friday Tours

Enrollment will open on May 13 at Noon



Kansas City PBS

125 East 31st Street, KCMO

KC PBS is the home of independent journalism, multimedia storytelling, music discovery, and education resources. Its platforms include television, radio, digital and education on Kansas City PBS, 90.9 The Bridge, and Flatland. We will tour the newly renovated headquarters.

June 7 1–2:30 pm

Tour Limit: 20 – \$10



Nelson-Atkins Museum

4525 Oak

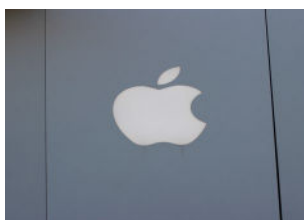
Join Docent Elizabeth Darr for a lively and insightful tour of the exhibit on Niki de Saint Phalle currently at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. Niki's work is a joyful celebration of the female body, a search for closure with her father, and support for AIDS patients and other social causes. Please note: **The related GEM about Niki de Saint Phalle on June 11 is a tour prerequisite.**

June 14 1:30–2:30 pm

Tour Limit: 12 – \$10

For Tours: Please enroll online – or call 816-235-2870 -- or use this QR code.

Check the online catalog for detailed parking info.



Apple Store on the Plaza

227 Nichols Road

The Plaza Apple Store will host a session where we learn more about the iPhone, from organizing the Home screen to exploring the latest features and apps that make everyday tasks easier. We'll be amazed at the new features we can learn. See the related GEM on the iPhone Workshop on June 18. It is not a prerequisite for this tour but will teach us even more.

June 21 10 am–Noon

Tour Limit: 15 – \$10



Lyric Opera of Kansas City

712 East 18th Street

Join us as we tour the Lyric Opera's Production Arts Center in the Crossroads. We'll learn how this facility brings opera to life as we visit the rehearsal hall and performance space, paint deck, scene shop, prop attic, costume shop and scenery vault. Neal Long, Director of Learning, will provide an overview of the Company's educational programs and community engagement.

June 28 1:30–2:30 pm

Tour Limit: 20 – \$10