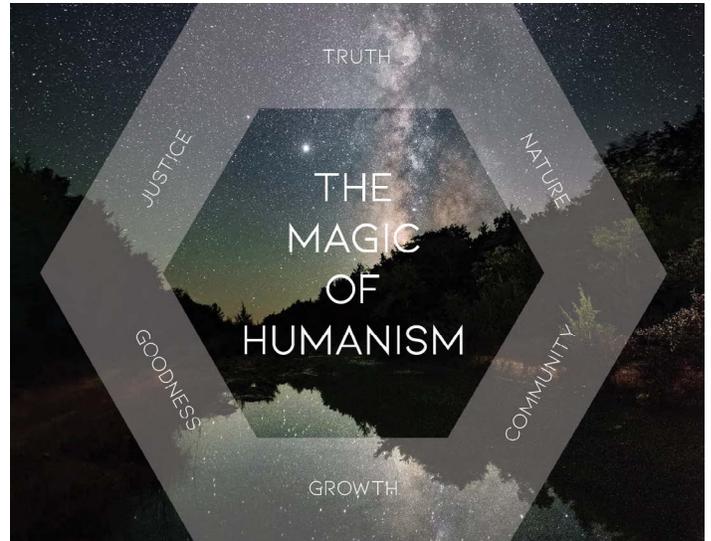


ETHICAL CONNECTION

Ethical Society of St. Louis – Being Human, Together.

MARCH'S THEME: CREATION

The theme of our 2020-2021 program year is **The Examined Life**. In March, we are exploring **Creation**. As Ethical Humanists, evolution is our creation story. As Kurt Vonnegut wrote in *A Man Without a Country*, "Evolution is so creative. That's how we got giraffes." Evolution and creativity are both fascinating. They each influence how we view humanity, our own lives and our ethical values. Join us as we dive deeper into the multifaceted topic of creation, together, all month long.



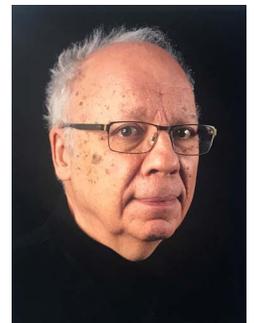
Don't forget to check out our eBook [The Magic of Humanism](#).

SUNDAY PLATFORMS

March 7 at 11 a.m.
The Perseverance of Sound
Music and Arts Festival with
The Red and Black Brass
Band



March 14 at 11 a.m.
"Listening to Myself
in the Studio"
Buzz Spector
Music: Caroline Hixson,
piano



Buzz Spector

March 21 at 11 a.m.
"Expansion in a Pandemic –
How Learning Provides a
Lifeline in Times of Crisis"
Christian Hayden
Music: Desiree Jones,
percussion



Christian Hayden

March 28 at 10 a.m.
NOTE EARLIER START TIME
All Societies Platform
"Replacing Magical Thinking
with Rational Discourse"
Congressman Jamie Raskin
AEU Zoom Link TBA



Jamie Raskin

MEETING ID: 384 422 5785

CHANGEMAKERS SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

The United Nations Association of Saint Louis is excited to announce the SDG Changemakers: Youth Action Program. The program is a yearlong experience which commences with a two-week summer institute that fosters human-centered global competencies by having high school students consider and take action in addressing Saint Louis local issues and challenges through the lens of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in 2015. By the end of the program, students will develop the skills, knowledge and dispositions that allow them to confidently engage with active members of the Saint Louis community. The Ethical Society is able to sponsor one high school student to participate in this program, so please send short applications to jcroft@ethicalstl.org explaining why you would like to participate in this program and what you hope to gain from it. Additional information about the program and the process for community sponsorship can be found at: www.una-stl.org/changemakers.

CLIMATE ACTION NOW!

You're invited to "Plant a Tree. It Matters," a Climate Action Now! event, March 7 at 9:30 a.m. Functioning forests are essential to a healthy planet, yet we are losing trees at an alarming rate across the world and in our local communities. The void left behind contributes to the climate crisis we are experiencing today. Join Meridith Perkins, executive director of Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, who will explore how trees can be part of a comprehensive solution to the effects of climate change and what local actions can be taken to make a positive impact in protecting, conserving and creating more tree canopy in your yard, your town, your country and your world. To get meeting reminders and action follow-ups, send an "opt-in" request to CAN.EthicalStl@gmail.com. To see content from previous meetings, visit the CAN! posts on [the Ethical Society blog](#).

Zoom meeting ID 444 367 1640

TWA MARCH 30 UPDATE

Instead of visiting the Carondelet Historical Society, which has been closed for several months, the TWA will watch the video "Feminist Stories from Women's Liberation" which has been graciously provided to us by member Pam Ross.

TWA INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS LECTURE SERIES



Dr. Anshuman Singh

The American Association of University Women and the Tuesday Women's Association of the Ethical Society of St. Louis present this lecture, "Artificial Intelligence" with Dr. Anshuman Singh, March 9 at 10:45 a.m. Artificial Intelligence has given birth

to technologies like autonomous weapon systems, face recognition surveillance cameras, and recommender systems for online shopping and entertainment. This talk will explore promises and challenges of some of the most impactful AI technologies as we enter a new decade. The talk will also provide an overview of the security and privacy implications of AI in the cyberspace. Dr. Anshuman Singh has been an associate professor in the Department of Information Systems and Technology at the University of Missouri-St Louis since Fall 2019. The talk will conclude with some solutions that have been suggested by experts to ensure ethical application of AI.

Zoom ID 384 422 5785.

THE ENCAMPMENT FOR CITIZENSHIP - CALL FOR YOUTH PARTICIPATION!

The Encampment for Citizenship is an interracial summer camp for youth focused on civic engagement and social justice. This year it's being held virtually, and young members of the Ethical Society community are invited to apply. July 5-28 - [apply to participate here!](#) Deadline for applications is March 1, 2021.

SPECIAL TAI CHI CLASS

A Special One Day Class on the Five Elements, a form taught by ChungLiang "Al" Huang, will take place Friday, March 26, at 10 a.m. This form is described in his book, *Embrace Tiger, Return to Mountain*. This was one of the earliest books in English on tai chi (1973) and references his time teaching this form at the Esalen Institute in the Big Sur. This class is suitable for beginners or experienced students. Everyone is welcome. There is no cost. This class is an excellent way to find out whether someone would like to learn tai chi.

The other Fridays in March, we will continue learning the first part of the Yang Secret Long Form as taught by H H Lui at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome. There is no cost. The teacher is Don Beere. He has been learning, practicing and teaching Tai Chi for over 45 years. Mr. Lui was his teacher for over 20 years. You can learn about Don's background on the Tai Chi page of his website www.donaldbeere.com.

Zoom ID 384 422 5785.

MARCH WORKSHOPS

Leader Intern Christian Hayden is continuing his series of examining aspects of Ethical Culture: **03/03/21, 7 p.m. - Ethical Culture Deep Dive: Process Philosophy.** A favorite of Ethical Culture Leaders, Process Philosophy is considered one of the pillars of Humanist Philosophy. We are going to explore in our last session of this series this question- what does it mean to be part of a community that centers, and invites, change?

03/17/21, 7 p.m. - What Should I Do? Community Support in Ethical Living. Do you have a burning ethical dilemma? Would you like support in figuring it out? Are you at your wits end, and just want to bounce ideas around? Come experience this agenda-less workshop, where we practice community care through supporting one another as we navigate living through the lens of Ethical Culture. Submit your dilemma ahead of time, by March 15, to Christian at chayden@ethicalstl.org.

Both workshops will take place on Zoom.
Zoom ID 384 422 5785.

We send sincere condolences to the family and friends of longtime member [Norma Lydia Oberschelp](#) who graduated from St. Louis University and worked, most recently, as an accounting clerk for Monsanto. She was a devoted member of the Ethical Society of St. Louis for many years, and she will be greatly missed.

NICE WHITE PARENTS DISCUSSION

The End Racism Team encourages you to listen to the Nice White Parents podcast ([listen here](#)) and join for a conversation about race and schools on Tuesday, March 9, from 6:30-8 p.m. on Zoom. This second conversation will examine the educational system in St. Louis, funding structures, and how education could be more equitable and produce better outcomes for underserved students. Before and after listening to the podcast, reflect on these questions:

- What should be the goal of public education, and why?
- What does it mean for schools to be truly integrated? Who benefits from integration, and in what ways?
- Why do you think every child in the United States does not have access to a quality education? What can we do to change that inequality?

We look forward to talking about these questions (and others!) with you at our discussion sessions. Questions? Reach out to Krystal White at krystalsnowwhite@gmail.com.

Zoom ID 384 422 5785.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

The Board of the Ethical Society passed a resolution at the February 8 meeting to urge local and state governmental entities inside the State of Missouri to declare a Climate Emergency. This move was prompted by a request from the local Citizens Climate Lobby and it also follows the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who has urged that governments around the world take this step. The full text of the announcement is now on the [Ethical Society website](#).

CONDOLENCES

We are sorry to report the death of [Ray Adams](#), who passed away at age 79 on Jan. 13. We will share information about memorial plans as they are received. He was a social worker with St. Anthony's and retired from the State of Missouri Department of Social Services.

Second Sunday Dinner Theatre

The Second Sunday Dinner Theatre will meet in the Ethical Society's Zoom meeting room on Sunday, March 14, at 5:30 p.m. Andy Stanton will be directing three short, comic plays by Bruce Kane. 5:30 in the ES Zoom room.

Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

Virtual Travel Club

The March Virtual Travel Club meeting is set for Friday, March 19, at 7 p.m. Alan Ranford and Billie Teneau will be telling us about the bike and barge trip they took in Holland. Members and non-members are all welcome to join us.

Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

We Thinks Good

March's theme is existentialism. March 6, Kyle Nienhaus, the author of *Humanist, All Too Humanist*, will be presenting on Nietzsche. March 20, Leader Intern Christian Hayden will be presenting on Lewis Gordon and Black existential thought. We Thinks Good meets on the first and third Saturdays of the month at 3 p.m. All are welcome.

Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

Science Fiction Book Club

For March, the Sci-Fi book club will be reading *Dawn* (Xenogenesis series, Book 1) by Octavia Butler. We will meet Monday, March 22, from 7–8 p.m. All are welcome to attend the discussion. Keep up with the club through the Ethical Society [Science Fiction Book Club](#) on Facebook.

Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

Black Lives Matter Vigils Suspended Until Further Notice

Due to new restrictions on gatherings of ten people or more, our monthly Black Lives Matter Vigils are suspended until further notice. Black Lives Still Matter!

First Friday Forum



A Puffin

March's First Friday Forum will feature Brenda Hente whose talk is titled "For the Love of Seabirds: Project Puffin & Hog Island Audubon Camp." Brenda has studied under world-renowned ornithologists during the summers of 2015, 2016 and 2017 at Hog Island's Audubon Camp off the coast of Bremen, Maine.

She is a certified Missouri Master Naturalist and a volunteer at the World Bird Sanctuary. Please join us and invite your friends – Friday, March 5, at 7 p.m.

Previous First Friday Forums can be watched at the [Ethical Society's You Tube channel](#). If you have suggestions for other members who have expertise they can share at a future First Friday Forum, please send your suggestion(s) to Carole Beere (Carole.Beere@cmich.edu).

Don Beere on Multiple Personality Disorder

Having received numerous requests to provide additional information about multiple personality, Don Beere has agreed to give a Part II to his January First Friday Forum presentation titled "Understanding Multiple Personality: A Therapist's View." The presentation will be Monday, March 15, at 7 p.m. If you missed his initial presentation, [you can see it here](#).

Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

Great Books Discussion Group

The Great Books group will meet via Zoom on the second Wednesdays of the month through May 2021. The next meeting is Wednesday, March 10, from 7:30–9 p.m. The selection for discussion is on pages 505–521 of the anthology *Great Conversations 1*. The text is Alice Munro's story *Boys and Girls*. If you are interested in participating in the Great Books reading group, please contact Alan Easton at ameast89@yahoo.com.

Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

FACING THE THREAT OF CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

From some of the insurrectionists who laid siege to the US Capitol, to the angry politics of conservative leaders like Senator Josh Hawley, Christian nationalism is on the rise in America. But what exactly is this dangerous ideology; what is its relationship to mainstream Christianity; and how can we face the threat it poses our democracy and our communities? Join the Ethical Society of St. Louis and Center for Freethought Equality March 12 at 7 p.m. to learn from a panel of distinguished experts who will help us understand – and confront – the threat of Christian nationalism. Panelists: Dr. Sabrina Dent, senior faith adviser at Americans United for Separation of Church and State; Katherine Stewart, author of *The Power Worshipers: Inside the Dangerous Rise of Religious Nationalism*; and Amanda Tyler, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty. Zoom: 384 422 5785.

PLATFORM DETAILS

03/07 – The Perseverance of Sound Music and Arts Festival with The Red and Black Brass Band – The Music and Arts Festival is going to have some swing this year! The Red and Black Brass Band are going to be doing double duty- sharing their wonderful energetic sound via recorded performance and through a live online interview, providing the origin story of their band and what it has been like to provide music in a pandemic. Please join us we celebrate, remember, and imagine through sound and connection.

03/14 – “Listening to Myself in the Studio,” Buzz Spector – The happy attentiveness of artists at work has been described as a state of total absorption and effortless concentration. It might seem that Emerson contradicts this notion of happiness when he notes, “The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful . . .” It may be argued that functional uselessness is the basic property of any work of art. How do artists in their happiness live up to the purposes for living that Emerson offered, usefulness first, but also “to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well?”

03/28 – 10 am START TIME! “Replacing Magical Thinking with Rational Discourse: How the Congressional Freethought Caucus is Fighting to Restore the Intellectual Foundations of American Democracy,” Congressman Jamie Raskin – This week we will join the American Ethical Union and Ethical Societies around the USA for a special address by Congressman Jamie Raskin, who will argue that the USA needs to restore its respect for science, expertise, and the intellect. [Learn how to join here.](#)

View speaker bios at ethicalstl.org

March 1 - March 6

Tuesday, March 2	10 a.m.	TWA
	4 p.m.	Men’s Group Chat
Wednesday, March 3	9 a.m.	Ethical Mindfulness Practice
	7 p.m.	Ethical Culture Deep Dive
Thursday, March 4	6 p.m.	Post-Platform Discussion
Friday, March 5	10 a.m.	Tai Chi with Don Beere
	4 p.m.	Men’s Group Chat
	7 p.m.	First Friday Forum
Saturday, March 6	7 p.m.	We Thinks Good

March 7 - March 13

Sunday, March 7	9:30 a.m.	Climate Action Now!
	10 a.m.	Virtual Youth Group
	11 a.m.	Music and Art Festival
Monday, March 8	6 p.m.	Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 9	10:45 a.m.	TWA IRLS
	4 p.m.	Men’s Group Chat
	6:30 p.m.	End Racism Discussion
Wednesday, March 10	9 a.m.	Ethical Mindfulness Practice
	7:30 p.m.	Great Books Discussion
Thursday, March 11	6 p.m.	Post-Platform Discussion
Friday, March 12	10 a.m.	Tai Chi with Don Beere
	4 p.m.	Men’s Group Chat
	7 p.m.	Facing the Threat of Christian Nationalism
Saturday, March 13	7 p.m.	Games with Weezy

March 14 - March 20

Sunday, March 14	10 a.m.	Virtual Youth Group
	11 a.m.	Listening to Myself in the Studio
	5:30 p.m.	Second Sunday Dinner Theatre
Monday, March 15	7 p.m.	Understanding Multiple Personality: Part II
Tuesday, March 16	10 a.m.	TWA
	4 p.m.	Men’s Group Chat
Wednesday, March 17	9 a.m.	Ethical Mindfulness Practice
	7 p.m.	Living Through the Lens of Ethical Culture
Thursday, March 18	6 p.m.	Post-Platform Discussion
Friday, March 19	10 a.m.	Tai Chi with Don Beere
	4 p.m.	Men’s Group Chat
	7 p.m.	Virtual Travel Club
Saturday, March 20	3 p.m.	We Thinks Good

March 21 - March 27

Sunday, March 21	10 a.m.	Virtual Youth Group
	11 a.m.	Christian Hayden
Monday, March 22	7 p.m.	Science Fiction Book Club
Tuesday, March 23	10 a.m.	TWA
	4 p.m.	Men’s Group Chat
Wednesday, March 24	9 a.m.	Ethical Mindfulness Practice
Thursday, March 25	6 p.m.	Post-Platform Discussion
Friday, March 26	10 a.m.	Tai Chi with Don Beere
	4 p.m.	Men’s Group Chat
Saturday, March 27	7 p.m.	Games with Weezy

March 28

Sunday, March 28	10 a.m.	Virtual Youth Group
	10 a.m.	Replacing Magical Thinking with Rational Discourse

ETHICAL CONNECTION



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Submission deadline for the Ethical Connection newsletter is the 15th of the preceding month
Email items to connection@ethicalstl.org.

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