SPECIAL SESSION ON THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

July 14 – 18 | Peter Pesic and Guillermo Bleichmar

St. John's College

The Origins of Field Theory: Ørsted, Faraday, and Maxwell

For over 75 years, St. John's College has pioneered the study of the history of science and mathematics through discussion and experiment. This educational experience is now available to Summer Classics participants in a new week-long format. From July 14 – 18 there will be two sessions each day, morning and afternoon, involving seminar discussions of texts alongside demonstrations and experiments.

"The Origins of Field Theory" will trace the development of the concept of field emerging as a new way of thinking about electricity and magnetism. The center of this work will be Michael Faraday, flanked by shorter readings from Hans Christian Ørsted and James Clerk Maxwell to show something of what Faraday drew upon and what became of his radical new idea. Because Faraday himself was not formally educated in mathematics, the treatment will focus on physical experience, hands-on contact with the phenomena, and close reading of his accounts. This seminar is intended to be accessible to a wide audience. The only prerequisite is a lively curiosity about science and philosophy, combined with a readiness to listen and discuss with the other participants.

Tuition: $1,900/week. $800 for full-time educators with proof of employment.
Two sessions daily | 10 a.m. to noon | 2-4 p.m.

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SPECIAL SESSION

July 21 – 25 | William Fulton and Andy Kingston

St. John's College

The Essence of Opera

Opera is often described as the most lavish, complex, extravagant, demanding and expensive performing art and the highest form of musical theater. Its aesthetic and intellectual rewards are powerful, creating legions of fans often better described as fanatics. However, even to such fans, opera can be baffling and intimidating at times. This session from July 21 – 25 will provide keys to understanding and appreciating opera by examining its history (from its birth in Florence at the end of the 16th century up to our own times), musical structures, dramatic forms, performance practices, audience reception, and other aspects with examples taken from prominent, popular, and important works.

Following the morning session, an afternoon seminar will closely examine three operas from the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries: Mozart's charming *The Impresario*; Stravinsky's delicate lyric tale *Le Rossignol* (The Nightingale); and Beethoven's only opera, his powerful *Fidelio.* Participants will have the opportunity and are encouraged to attend performances of all three at the renowned Santa Fe Opera. A ticket to the Wednesday double bill performance of *Le Rossignol* and *The Impresario* is included in the tuition fee.

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Two sessions daily | 10 a.m. to noon | 2-4 p.m.
Wednesday evening: Santa Fe Opera performance.

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