Reading Selections Let’s Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War

Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m.
Part One: Imagining War
- Geraldine Brooks, March [2005]
  Selection from the anthology *America’s War: Talking About the Civil War and Emancipation on Their 150th Anniversaries* [2011]:
  - Louisa May Alcott, “Journal kept at the hospital, Georgetown, D.C.” [1862].

Tuesday, November 1 at 7:00 p.m.
Part Two: Choosing Sides
Selections from the anthology *America’s War*:
- Frederick Douglass, "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" [1852];
- Henry David Thoreau, "A Plea for Captain John Brown" [1859];
- Abraham Lincoln, First Inaugural Address [March 4, 1861];
- Alexander H. Stephens, "Cornerstone" speech [March 21, 1861];
- Robert Montague, Secessionist speech at Virginia secession convention [April 1-2, 1861];
- Chapman Stuart, Unionist speech at Virginia secession convention [April 5, 1861];
- Elizabeth Brown Pryor, excerpt from *Reading the Man: A Portrait of Robert E. Lee Through his Private Letters* [2007];
- Mark Twain, "The Private History of a Campaign That Failed" [1885]; and
- Sarah Morgan, excerpt from *The Diary of a Southern Woman* [May 9, May 17, 1862].

Tuesday, November 15 at 7:00 p.m.
Part Three: Making Sense of Shiloh
Selections from the anthology *America’s War*:
- Ambrose Bierce, "What I Saw of Shiloh" [1881];
- Ulysses Grant, excerpt from the *Memoirs* [1885];
- Shelby Foote, excerpt from *Shiloh* [1952];
- Bobbie Ann Mason, "Shiloh" [1982]; and
- General Braxton Bragg, speech to the Army of the Mississippi [May 3, 1862].

Tuesday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m.
Part Four: The Shape of War
- James M. McPherson, *Crossroad of Freedom: Antietam* [2002]
Selections from the anthology *America’s War*:
- Drew Gilpin Faust, excerpt from *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the Civil War* [2008];
- Gary W. Gallagher, “The Net Result of the Campaign was in Our Favor: Confederate Reaction to 1862 Maryland Campaign” [1999].

Tuesday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.
Part Five: War and Freedom
Selections from the anthology *America’s War*:
- Abraham Lincoln, address on colonization [1862];
- John M. Washington, "Memorys [sic] of the Past" [1873];
- Abraham Lincoln, Emancipation Proclamation [1863];
- Frederick Douglass, "Men of Color, To Arms!" [March 1863];
- Abraham Lincoln, letters to James C. Conkling [1863] and Albert G. Hodges [1864];
- Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg Address [1863];
- James S. Brisbin, report on U.S. Colored Cavalry in Virginia [Oct. 2, 1864];
- Colored Citizens of Nashville, Tennessee, Petition to the Union Convention of Tennessee Assembled in the Capitol at Nashville [January 9, 1865];
- Margaret Walker, excerpt from *Jubilee* [1966];
- Leon Litwack, excerpt from *Been in the Storm So Long* [1979]; and
- Abraham Lincoln, Second Inaugural Address, 1865.