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Aventura Arts & Cultural Center Announces the Launch of the Nova Southeastern University Lifelong Learning Institute Speaker Series

AVENTURA, Fla. (August 17, 2018) – The City of Aventura and Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) announce the inaugural Speaker Series featuring four challenging and intellectual lectures. Topics will range from politics and civil rights to Picasso and marine science in South Florida in a vibrant educational environment for mature adults. To launch the series, admission to the first lecture is free with the remaining events in the series available for purchase by single ticket or subscription.

The Lifelong Learning Institute Speaker Series kicks-off with **Charles Zelden, Ph.D.: And the Winner Is . . . A Postmortem of the 2018 Midterm Elections** on **Tuesday, November 13 at 7:30 p.m.** Dr. Charles L. Zelden, professor of history and political science at NSU will dissect the outcomes and lessons of what many argue will be the most consequential midterm election in a generation. A legal-Constitutional historian, Zelden has published seven books on civil rights, voting rights and the judicial process and is a regular commentator on politics and current events for local and national media outlets.

Vincent Toscano, Ph.D.: The Long Roots of Racism and the American Civil Rights Revolution of the 20th Century examines the history of racism in America on **Tuesday, January 29 at 7:30 p.m.** Toscano will lecture about the colonial era through the end of World War II as well as the forces, events and personalities which fueled the challenges to the Jim Crow laws beginning in 1945. He also presents a summary conclusion on the state of racism and civil rights in contemporary America. With major fields of study that include modern American history, the American presidency, and the Civil War, Toscano was named Heritage Professor of History at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York where he taught for more than 33 years.

Armando Droulers: Affairs of the Heart - Picasso's Women will be presented on **Tuesday, February 26 at 7:30 p.m.** by the art historian, lecturer and art tour operator. Droulers will discuss the numerous women in Pablo Picasso's life who served as muses, models and lovers. It seems that with almost every innovative style, there was a new woman to inspire him. The strong emotional bond that he held over those who loved him translated into an experimental visual language that defied pictorial conventions. Droulers studied at Bard College, Academia de Arte Federico Brandt, New World School of the Arts, and the University of Florida.

Dr. Melissa Dore, director of NSU's Haloes College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography, will discuss **Sharks, Turtles, and Corals: Oh My! 50 Years of Marine Science in South Florida** on **Tuesday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m.** Dore worked her way down the eastern seaboard from her native Maine to Florida and her research projects include areas of the Gulf of Mexico, South Florida, San Salvador and Bahamas marine habitats.

The first lecture in the series on November 13, 2018 will be free but advanced reservations though the ticketing system are required. Guests may subscribe to the remaining three lectures in the series and receive a 20 percent discount off the \$20 single ticket price. To buy subscriptions by phone, call 954.468.3280, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday from noon – 5 p.m.

Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, Broward Center and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at aventuracenter.org; by phone at 877-311-7469; and in person at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center box office Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and 90 minutes prior to each performance. For Group Sales, please call 954-660-6307.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts manages the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, a 14,864-square-foot, 330-seat waterfront complex that hosts performing arts, cultural and educational programming for all ages. The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center is located at 3385 N.E. 188 Street in Aventura. Join the conversation, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram @aventuracenter or #aventuracenter

Photography can be downloaded at <https://tinyurl.com/ydantgfy>

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