



The Humanist Association of Connecticut

Newsletter for September, 2023

Welcome to September

This month we have a return visit from Tom Krattenmaker at our monthly meeting; our dinner discussion is on global awareness, another of the Ten Commitments; Humanist Explorations looks at three generations of space telescopes; plus our social dinner on Labor Day.

Calendar for September, 2023

Sat, 2	2:30PM to 4:30PM	Humanist Explorations - The Roman Space Telescope
Mon, 4	7:00PM to 9:00PM	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave, West Haven CT
Sat, 16	2:30PM to 4:30PM	"The Sewing Girl's Tale" by John Wood Sweet at Wilson Branch Library, 303 Washington Ave, New Haven CT
Mon, 18	6:30PM to 9:00PM	Monthly Meeting - When Hope is Hard to Find – And Needed Most
Sun, 24	7:00PM to 9:00PM	Board Meeting (online)
Mon, 25	7:00PM to 9:00PM	Discussion - Global Awareness at Wood-n-Tap - Hamden, 2100 Dixwell Ave, Hamden CT

Humanist Explorations - The Roman Space Telescope



Saturday, September 2, 2023
2:30PM to 4:30PM

You've heard of the Hubble Space Telescope and you've heard of the James Webb Space Telescope, but have you heard of the Roman Space Telescope? This third telescope, scheduled to launch in October of 2026, will transform the way we do astronomical research yet again. We will replay a public lecture which was recorded live on Thursday, June 22, 2023, which will introduce you to the telescope's namesake and explain what

this telescope will do for astronomical research. This is a lecture of the Space Telescope Science Institute which performs the science operations for Hubble and leads the science and mission operations for the James Webb Space Telescope.

USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden CT

"The Sewing Girl's Tale" by John Wood Sweet



Saturday, September 16, 2023
2:30PM to 4:30PM

Our book for September is *The Sewing Girl's Tale: A Story of Crime and Consequences in Revolutionary America* by historian John Wood Sweet.

From Amazon:

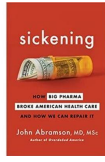
A riveting Revolutionary Era drama of the first published rape trial in American history and its long, shattering aftermath, revealing how much has changed over two centuries – and how much has not.

The trial exposed a predatory sexual underworld, sparked riots in the streets, and ignited a vigorous debate about class privilege and sexual double standards... The crime and its consequences became a kind of parable about the power of seduction and the limits of justice.

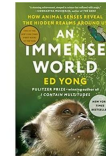
"In 1793, in New York City, in a 15-hour rape trial followed by 15 minutes of jury deliberations, six powerful attorneys

representing a man of privilege did all they could to turn 17-year-old Lanah Sawyer into someone who didn't matter. In *The Sewing Girl's Tale*, historian John Wood Sweet provides a masterful counter. In a brilliant reconstruction of one of the most telling criminal cases in American history, he brings to life not only Sawyer, but all the malevolent forces aligned against her, including one Alexander Hamilton. Lanah Sawyer and her story mattered – then, and now." – Ken Armstrong, Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter

Wilson Branch Library, 303 Washington Ave, New Haven CT



"Sickening" by Dr. John Abramson
October 21, 2023



"An Immense World" by Ed Yong
November 18, 2023

Monthly Meeting - When Hope is Hard to Find — And Needed Most



Monday, September 18, 2023
6:30PM to 9:00PM

Join us as we welcome back secular writer and cultural commentator Tom Krattenmaker. In this talk, he will explore hope, where it comes from, and why it's so important to find.

A former Board member of the Yale Humanist Community, Tom Krattenmaker is a Pulitzer Prize-nominated author and columnist specializing in religion, values, and secularity in public life. His book

Confessions of a Secular Jesus Follower was named one of the top two religion books of 2016 by the Religion News Association. He currently writes for the new online magazine *OnlySky*.

We will start with half an hour of coffee and conversation at 6:30 PM, followed by the main program after brief announcements at 7:00 PM.

USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden CT

Discussion - Global Awareness



Monday, September 25, 2023
7:00PM to 9:00PM

Join us for our September dinner discussion!

One of the 10 Commitments of Humanism is global awareness.

From <https://americanhumanistcenterforeducation.org/ten-commitments/>

"I will be a good neighbor to the people who share the Earth with me and help make the world a better place for everyone."

We live in a world that is rich in cultural, social, and individual diversity—a world with rapidly increasing interdependence. As a result, events anywhere are more likely to have consequences everywhere. Global awareness broadens our knowledge of cultures and perspectives that are outside of our own experience. A true global awareness includes attention

to both current and historical events, and acknowledges how we affect—and how we are affected by—the interconnected social, political, and economic systems in which we reside. The end-goal of global awareness is global citizenship, which recognizes our personal responsibility to foster a healthy and dignified life for everyone in our global community.

What does global awareness mean to you? What do you do to demonstrate this? Come join us and be prepared to share your best practices and ask questions of the other attendees!

Wood-n-Tap - Hamden, 2100 Dixwell Ave, Hamden CT

Other events

Social Dinner: Monday, September 4, 2023
7:00PM to 9:00PM

Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave, West Haven CT

Board Meeting: Sunday, September 24, 2023 7:00PM to 9:00PM



Revised COVID policy
We request that you be as fully vaccinated as possible

To join HAC or renew your membership, visit our membership page.

HAC is a chapter of the American Humanist Association, a member of the Connecticut Coalition of Reason, and a UU Humanists local group.

© 2023, the Humanist Association of Connecticut
c/o USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden CT 06517-2214