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

Tuesday, January 10th 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, February 7th 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, March 6th 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, April 17th 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, May 8th 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.