

# JOHN JAY HOMESTEAD SPEAKERS



James Traub



Victoria Johnson



Akhil Reed Amar



Sarah Gronningsater



Richard Brookhiser

Friends of John Jay Homestead is proud to present an annual Lecture Series dating back to 2003 that has grown in scope and prominence each year with thanks to our Lecture Committee and past underwriters including Michaela and Skip Beitzel and Lyn and Randy Goodhue. With special thanks to Chair of our Lecture Committee, Melissa Vail.

## 2026

**James Traub**, *The Cradle of Citizenship: How Schools Can Help Save Our Democracy*

**Akhil Reed Amar**, *Born Equal: Remaking America's Constitution, 1840–1920*

**Victoria Johnson**, *American Eden: David Hosack, Botany, and Medicine in the Garden of the Early Republic*

## 2025

**Richard Brookhiser**, *Glorious Lessons: John Trumbull, Painter of the American Revolution*

**Brenda Wineapple**, *Keeping the Faith: God, Democracy, and the Trial That Riveted a Nation*

**Sarah Gronningsater**, *The Rising Generation: Gradual Abolition, Black Legal Culture, and the Making of National Freedom*

**Steven Brill**, *The Death of Truth: How Social Media and the Internet Gave Snake Oil Salesmen and Demagogues the Weapons They Needed to Destroy Trust and Polarize the World—And What We Can Do*

## 2024

**The Hon. Stephen G. Breyer in Conversation with Emily Bazelon**, *Reading the Constitution: Why I Chose Pragmatism, Not Textualism*

**Eliga Gould**, *Crucible of Peace: The Turbulent History of America's Founding Treaty*

**Michael Waldman**, *The Fight to Vote*

**The Hon. Albert Rosenblatt**, *The Eight: The Lemmon Slave Case and the Fight for Freedom*

## 2023

**Sara Cedar Miller**, *Before Central Park*

**Linda Colley**, *The Gun, the Ship and the Pen: Warfare, Constitutions and the Making of the Modern World*

**Linda Greenhouse**, *Justice on the Brink: A Requiem for the Supreme Court*

**Stacy Schiff**, *The Revolutionary: Samuel Adams*

## 2022

**Karen Joy Fowler and Philip B. Kunhardt III**, *Booth*

**David Gellman**, *Liberty's Chain: Slavery, Abolition and the Jay Family of New York*

**Deborah Willis**, *The Black Civil War Soldier: A Visual History of Conflict and Citizenship*

**Jeff Shesol**, *Mercury Rising: John Glenn, John Kennedy, and the New Battleground of the Cold War*

## 2021

**James Oakes**, *The Crooked Path to Abolition: Abraham Lincoln and the Antislavery Constitution*

**Brenda Wineapple**, *The Impeachers: The Trial of Andrew Johnson and the Dream of a Just Nation*

**James Shapiro**, *Shakespeare in a Divided America: What His Plays Tell Us About Our Past and Future*

**Joan Biskupic**, *The Chief: The Life and Turbulent Times of Chief Justice John Roberts*

## 2020

**Eric Foner**, *The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution*

**Steve Luxenberg**, *Separate: The Story of Plessy v. Ferguson, and America's Journey from Slavery to Segregation*

**Joanne Freeman**, *The Field of Blood: Violence in Congress and the Road to Civil War*

## 2019

**Henry Louis Gates, Jr.**, *Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow*

**Andrea Wulf**, *The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World*

**Sean Wilentz**, *No Property in Man: Slavery and Antislavery at the Nation's Founding*

**Elaine Weiss**, *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*

**David Blight**, *Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom*

## 2018

**Darren Walker and David Rubenstein**, *"Why History is Necessary"*

**Nathaniel Philbrick**, *Valiant Ambition: George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and the Fate of the American Revolution*

**Hugh B. Price**, *The African-American Life: A Memoir*

**Russell Shorto**, *Revolutionary Song: A Story of American Freedom*

## 2017

**James Traub**, *John Quincy Adams: Militant Spirit*

**Akhil Reed Amar**, "New York and the U.S. Constitution"

**Andrea Wulf**, *Founding Gardeners: The Revolutionary Generation, Nature and the Shaping of the American Nation*

**Annette Gordon-Reed and Peter Onuf**, *Most Blessed of the Patriarchs: Thomas Jefferson and the Empire of the Imagination*

**Albie Sachs and Akhil Reed Amar**, "The Making of the South African Constitution"

## 2016

**Darden Smith and Mary Judd**, *SongwritingWith:Soldiers - the Civil War Diaries of Our Time*

**Kevin M. Murphy**, *American Encounters: Anglo-American Portraiture in an Era of Revolution*

**Nicholas A. Robinson**, *The Forest Charter and Magna Carta: Evolving Human Rights in Nature*

**Rand Scholet**, *Alexander Hamilton: Washington's Indispensable Partner*

## 2015

**Andrew Jackson O'Shaughnessy**, *The Men Who Lost America: British Leadership, the American Revolution, and the Fate of the Empire*

**Harold Holzer**, *Lincoln and the Power of the Press: The War for Public Opinion*

**Donald Gregg**, *Pot Shards: Fragments of a Life Lived in CIA, the White House, and the Two Koreas*

**Joseph Ellis**, *The Quartet: Orchestrating the Second American Revolution, 1783-1789*

**Elizabeth M. Nuxoll**, "The Joys and Occasional Sorrows of Editing the Papers of John Jay"

## 2014

**Philip Kunhardt**, "What Makes a Transformative Life?"

**Craig Townsend**, *Faith in Their Own Color: Black Episcopalians in Antebellum New York City*

**Gilbert King**, *Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America*

**Eric Foner**, *Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad*

## 2013

**Myron Magnet**, *The Founders At Home: The Building of America 1735-1817*

**John Lewis Gaddis**, *George F. Kennan: An American Life*

**Col. Cindy Jebb, USMA**, "Counterinsurgency: A Reexamination"

**Walter Stahr**, *Seward: Lincoln's Indispensable Man*

**Peter Hatch**, *A Rich Spot of Earth: Thomas Jefferson's Revolutionary Garden at Monticello*

## 2012

**Charles Rappleye**, *Robert Morris: Financier of the American Revolution*

**Louise North et al**, *In the Words of Women-The Revolutionary War and the Birth of the Nation, 1765-1799*

**Kenneth Jackson**, "The Resilient Metropolis: The Rise and Fall and Rise Again of New York City"

## 2011

**Daniel Okrent**, *Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition*

**Nigel Hamilton**, *American Caesars: Lives of the Presidents from Franklin D. Roosevelt to George W. Bush*

**Annette Gordon-Reed**, *Andrew Johnson: The American Presidents Series: The 17th President, 1865-1869*

**Jeff Shesol**, *Supreme Power: FDR vs. the Supreme Court*

## 2010

**Emily Kernan Rafferty**, "The Met and Museums Mainstream in a Morphing World"

**Elaine Weiss**, *Fruits of Victory: The Woman's Land Army of America in the Great War*

**Graham Russell Gao Hodges**, *David Ruggles: A Radical Black Abolitionist and the Underground Railroad in New York City*

**Barnett Schecter**, *The Devil's Own Work: The Civil War Draft Riots and the Fight to Reconstruct America*

**Herbert Sloan**, "John Jay: Disappointed Founder"

**Terence Elsberry**, "The Jays, Their Religion, and St. Matthew's Church"

## 2009

**Pierre F. de Ravel d'Esclapon**, *From Oppression to Freedom: John Jay's Huguenot Heritage*

**Annette Gordon-Reed**, *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family*

**Philip Kunhardt**, *Looking for Lincoln: the Making of an American Icon*

**David Reynolds**, *Waking Giant: America in the Age of Jackson*

**Henry Louis Gates, Jr.**, "Who's Your Daddy? Genetics and Genealogy In American and African American History"

## 2008

**Fergus Bordewich**, *Washington: the Making of the American Capital*

**Lucia Stanton**, "Roads To Freedom from Jefferson's Monticello"

**Robert Forbes**, *The Missouri Compromise and its Aftermath: Slavery and the Meaning of America*

**David Gellman**, *Emancipating New York: The Politics of Slavery and Freedom, 1777-1827*

**Pierre F. de Ravel d'Esclapon**, "The Treaty of Paris"

## 2007

**Anne Poulet**, *Jean-Antoine Houdon (1741 – 1828): Sculptor of the Enlightenment*

**Joseph Callo**, *John Paul Jones: America's First Sea Warrior*

**Ray Raymond**, "The Education of John Jay"

## 2006

**Stacy Schiff**, *A Great Improvisation: Franklin, France and the Birth of America*

**William Howard Adams**, *Gouverneur Morris: An Independent Life*

**Judge Judith Kaye**, "From Jay to Kaye: Reflections on New York's First Chief Justice"

## 2005

**Ray Raymond**, "John Jay: Founding Diplomat"

**Louise North et al**, *Selected Letters of John Jay and Sarah Livingston Jay*

**Walter Stahr**, *John Jay: Founding Father*

**Mark Malloch Brown**, "Diplomacy and the Law: What Would John Jay Say About Darfur or a Nuclear Iran?"

## 2004

**Cokie Roberts**, *Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation*

**John P. Kaminski**, "James Madison and Alexander Hamilton"

**Henry Wiencek**, "George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Slavery"

**Walter Stahr**, "John Jay and John Adams"

## 2003

**Frank Brechner**, "Ongoing Historical Controversies Concerning the Diplomatic Careers of John Jay and Robert Livingston"

**Walter Stahr**, "John Jay's two terms as Governor of New York (1795 – 1801)"

**Matthew Minichillo**, "John Jay's twenty-eight years of retirement spent here at Bedford"

*If you are interested in getting involved with the Lecture Series, please contact [friends@johnjayhomestead.org](mailto:friends@johnjayhomestead.org)*

*For more information on our series and to view past lectures, please visit [johnjayhomestead.org/events/lectures](http://johnjayhomestead.org/events/lectures)*