



# 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Wachs Great Books Summer Institute at Colby College Waterville, Maine August 5 - 11, 2012

## Method or Madness: The Antic Disposition

Michel Foucault: *Madness and Civilization*

William Shakespeare: *Hamlet*

Stephen Greenblatt: *Will In the World*

Tom Stoppard: *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead*

John Updike: *Gertrude and Claudius*

Four Short Pieces: Laura Bohannon: *Shakespeare in the Bush*; Don Nigro: *Dead Men's Fingers*;  
Margaret Atwood: *Gertrude Talks Back*; Jorge Luis Borges: *Everything and Nothing*

Join our annual week of lively discussion at Colby College. We are a community of people who enjoy reading and discussing good books. Our focus this year is on Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. For two hours each day, readers share their understanding of thought-provoking classics through the Great Books Foundation's Shared Inquiry Method. Have you ever closed a book after reading the last page and wished you could share your thoughts with someone? Our week at the *Wachs Great Books Institute* offers an opportunity to collaborate in discovering insights rarely achieved just reading alone. It also offers an attractive, inexpensive vacation wherein readers who love to think and talk about the world's great works can spend time with others who share their enthusiasm.

Registration covers books and discussions, as well as swimming, tennis, a film, group social activities, and a real Maine Lobster Bake. On campus registration includes a single or double dormitory room (six nights: Sunday through Friday) and all meals. Commuters are registrants who participate in all activities but live on their own, off-campus, and receive lunch each day and the Friday night Lobster Bake.

Application and Refunds: A deposit for each person is required with an application, one half of which is refundable for cancellations received before July 1, 2012. The balance is due at registration on Sunday, August 5, 2012. This year we will accept credit cards, as well as cash and checks. Books and additional information are mailed after January upon receipt of your initial deposit, usually within four weeks. Our last day for registration is July 1, 2012.

This year registrations will be processed by Colby College. This includes mailed registrations as well as online credit card registrations. To ease processing, please consider using the credit card option for the full registration amount.

After January 1, 2012, you can register online at the Colby website: <http://www.colby.edu/greatbooks>

To register by mail send your deposit to:

**Colby College Special Programs, 4730 Mayflower Hill, Waterville, ME 04901-8847**

Please make your check payable to: **Colby College**

FEES	On Campus		Commuters	
	Fee	Deposit	Fee	Deposit
Adult	\$580	\$290	\$290	\$290
Young Adult (Grades 6+)	\$380	\$190	\$190	\$190
Children (Grades 1-5)	\$340	\$170	\$170	\$170
Children (Ages 3-5) [No Books]	\$220	\$150	\$150	\$150

There is no charge for children under 3 years of age.

Scholarships are available on a need basis.

For information or additional flyers please visit our website at [www.GreatBooksDiscussionPrograms.org](http://www.GreatBooksDiscussionPrograms.org) or direct questions to John Dalton at 610-608-7711, or email him at [agreatbook@aol.com](mailto:agreatbook@aol.com)

On campus participants reside in the Colby dormitories, eat together in a dining room, and participate in formal discussions each morning which meet for two hours, Monday through Saturday. These discussions follow the rules of the Great Books Foundation's Shared Inquiry Method. No outside sources are allowed so that all participants are on an equal basis and the emphasis is truly on the readers and the text. Books are mailed to participants soon after registration, and people are expected to have read the assigned text pages completely before arriving at Colby. Most discussion groups have assigned leaders, who move from group to group during the week. A few very experienced participants opt for a "leaderless" group.

People attending the Institute vary in age, background, and interests, but all share a love of reading. Many have come to Colby for decades, but there are many newcomers each year. Everyone is welcome. The goal is shared inquiry, shared laughter, and shared experience. The results are often friendship, fun and sometimes even glimpses of the truth. There are a wide variety of activities during the week, from an opening night orientation to a talent show (strictly voluntary), a lobster bake, and a movie. The Great Books Institute also has a social gathering place each night for the "Wachs Works", our version of a friendly pub, named after our founder, Is Wachs. People gather here to socialize, play cards, and just relax.

Food at Colby is good and plentiful. Living arrangements are plain but comfortable. Fans, phones, reading lights and bed boards are available. It is dormitory living, however, with no frills and no air conditioning. (Our Maine location means this usually is not a problem.) We have private bedrooms with shared bath facilities. All buildings are smoke-free. The school provides towels and bed linen. Arrangements can usually be made for people with special needs. If you have special medical or other needs, please include that on your application. That information goes to Mary McEnany who assigns rooms and oversees such accommodations. The college has a great library, a bookstore, tennis courts and first-class athletic facilities, as well as waterfront property at a nearby lake. For those without cars, rides with other participants can sometimes be arranged.

This year we encourage professional musicians who would like to perform with a Wachs Great Books professional musician group or solo to note this on their registration. Judith Thomas-Solomon will then contact you to make arrangements. This is a new undertaking for 2012 and we hope you enjoy the process and the results.

Participants make their own travel arrangements. Many arrive by car, but there is air service to Portland and Bangor, ME, Manchester, NH, and Boston, MA. Rental cars, buses and limousine service are available from there. There is also a Greyhound bus terminal in Waterville. Coordination of carpooling can be made by emailing participants. An email list from last year's participants is available upon request. There is also a Facebook page for sharing ride info:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Wachs-Great-Books-Summer-Institute-at-Colby-College/156086481080727?ref=ts>

**Cumston Hall, Monmouth, Me.**

**Optional Bus Trip to Monmouth, Maine on Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, Noon – 8pm.**



Theatre at Monmouth (TAM) is “The Shakespearean Theater of Maine” and their mission is to bring innovative approaches to Shakespeare and other classic plays through professional productions at historic Cumston Hall, Monmouth. TAM offers great professional theater in one of New England’s most intimate and unique spaces.

**We will see the following 2012 scheduled performance: *Henry IV, Part I* by William Shakespeare.**

King Henry faces rebellion from the very nobles who helped him seize the crown. The insurgents boast the daring warrior Hotspur - while Prince Hal, the king's son and England's greatest hope, carouses in the Boar's Head Tavern with Shakespeare's greatest comic creation, Sir John Falstaff.

The bus trip will cost \$45. It will include a box lunch, available as you board the bus promptly at noon, and a ticket for the 1 p.m. show, as well as a presentation, discussion, and tour of Cumston Hall (see above photo). The bus will return to campus in time for dinner at Colby. Please prepay for the bus trip with your registration deposit so that we may reserve the correct block of seats at the theater.

Please see the reverse side for the Junior Great Books Registration form.

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**Colby College Special Programs, 4730 Mayflower Hill, Waterville, ME 04901-8847**

<p><b>APPLICATION</b> (Make checks payable to <b>Colby College</b>)</p> <p>Name(s) _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____</p> <p>State _____ Zip code _____</p> <p>Phone ( ) _____</p> <p>Cell Phone ( ) _____</p> <p>Email _____</p> <p>Rooming with _____</p> <p>Rooming near (if possible) _____</p>	<p>Please indicate choices and initials of person(s) requesting</p> <p>Bus trip \$45 per person included for [ ]</p> <p>Lunch: <i>Ham</i> [ ] <i>Turkey</i> [ ] <i>Vegetarian</i> [ ]</p> <p>Have previous Great Books Experience [ ]</p> <p>Prefer Self-Directed Leaderless Group [ ]</p> <p>Lobster Bake choices: <i>Lobster</i> [ ]</p> <p><i>Steak</i> [ ] <i>Halibut</i> [ ] or <i>Vegetarian</i> [ ]</p> <p>Need Handicapped Access [ ]</p> <p>Need Bed Board [ ]</p> <p>Please send me last year’s email list [ ]</p> <p>(possible carpool nearby)</p> <p>I am a professional musician and want to join others in a group or solo performance [ ]</p> <p>My instrument: _____</p>
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**Junior Great Books at Colby College**  
**Wachs Great Books Summer Institute at Colby**  
**August 5 - 11, 2012**

**Younger Junior Group (Grades 1-5)**

Carol Ryrie Brink: **Caddie Woodland**  
 Robert C O'Brien: **Mrs Frisby & the Rats of NIMH**  
 Jerry Spinelli: **Crash**  
 Robert Louis Stevenson: **Kidnapped**

**Older Junior Group (Grades 6+)**

Elizabeth Marie Pope: **The Perilous Gard**  
 Pat Marriott: **Wolves of Willowby Chase**  
 Kirby Larson: **Hattie Big Sky**  
 Robert Louis Stevenson: **Kidnapped**

Games	Outdoor games	Olympic size pool	Lobster bake
Art	Full run of campus	Tennis courts	Talent show
Full gym	Socialize with friends	College meals	Dorm living

There is plenty to do at Colby. The arts and crafts room is just for Colby Junior Great Books attendees and siblings. The coffee house at Mary Low makes a great hang out for board games, quiet play, and relaxation in the evenings. During the day, the counselors will supervise fun activities for all Juniors and siblings. At 1 pm we have our book discussions and afterwards there is time for other activities including rehearsal for the Talent Show. There are facilities for swimming, tennis, and volleyball. There's a book store and a library as well as computers for online access. Junior Great Book attendees and their families are housed near each other, on one floor, when possible, for ease of communication. Each child has his or her own room, unless otherwise requested.

The On Campus Registration Fee covers your accommodations in a dormitory room (single or double), meals, discussions and books, as well as swimming, tennis, counselor supervised activities, and a real Maine lobster bake. The cost for commuters (people who participate in group activities but live off-campus) includes lunches and other activities including the lobster bake. Registration deadline is July 1.

Application and Refunds: Include the proper deposit per person with application, one half of which is refundable for cancellations before July 1. The balance is due at registration on August 5. This year we will accept credit cards, cash or a check. We will send books and additional information upon receipt of your deposit.

***We will make every effort to house on-campus Junior GB families together on one floor of the dorms.***

To register, complete the form below and send with the proper deposit per person to the address below. After January 1, 2012, you can register online at the Colby website: <http://www.colby.edu/greatbooks>

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**Colby College Special Programs, 4730 Mayflower Hill, Waterville, ME 04901-8847**

[Please use separate form for each Junior Great Books Registrant and sibling. Prices are on page 2 above.]

**Junior Great Books Registration (Please make checks payable to Colby College)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in Sept 2012: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Accompanying\* Adult(s) Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

For counselor's information, please let us know your interests.  
Hobbies:

Favorite Book:

Talent for Talent Show:

Bus Trip Lunch choice [indicate choice] (box lunch on the bus) Lunch: Ham [ ] Turkey [ ] Vegetarian [ ]  
 Lobster Bake choice [indicate choice] Lobster [ ] Steak [ ] Halibut [ ] or Vegetarian [ ]

**\*Accompanying adult will assume responsibility for junior attendees and their respect for other attendees.**