



And



Upcoming Special Events!

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Tuesday, July 11, 2017, 12:30-1:30 pm, Colfax Store

The Age of the Vikings

Join Active Minds as we trace the rise and fall of the Age of the Vikings. We will describe their origins in Scandinavia and how they extended their reach into Europe, North America, and beyond. We will explain the culture and traditions of the Norse Warriors, including their distinctive horned helmets and unique ships. Finally, we will discuss their legacy in modern times (besides the football team). This program makes a great accompaniment to a visit to the Vikings program running at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science March 10th through August 13th, 2017.

Tuesday, July 25, 2017, 5:00-6:00 pm, Colfax Store

Nuclear Energy

Nuclear power has a checkered history that includes the Chernobyl disaster, Three Mile Island, and the more recent incident after the earthquake in Japan. Advocates, however, point to advantages such as zero carbon emissions and cite the example of France, which produces over 75% of its electricity from nuclear power and is the world's largest exporter of electricity due to its very low cost of generation. Join Active Minds, over 30 years after Chernobyl and six years after the Japanese nuclear accidents, as we evaluate the pros and cons of this controversial source of power.

Tuesday, August 8, 2017, 12:30-1:30 pm, Aspen Grove Store

Brexit: What Does the Future Hold for the UK and the European Union?

On June 23, 2016 British voters elected to exit the European Union, sending global stock markets sharply down and provoking global reactions running the gamut from horror to congratulations. Join Active Minds as we place this pivotal event in its historic context and explore where this high stakes path may lead, not only for the UK, but also the EU and the rest of the world.

Tuesday, August 22, 2017, 5:00-6:00 pm, Colfax Store

The Soviet Union: The Road After Collapse

What was known as the Soviet Union dissolved twenty-five years ago this past December. Join Active Minds as we explore the history of the Soviet Union as well as the causes of its failure. In addition, we will discuss the continued relevance of the Russian Federation, the influence of Vladimir Putin, and ongoing challenges to democracy in the region.



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Tuesday, September 12, 2017, 12:30-1:30 pm, Colfax Store

Opera as Popular Music

Even though opera began as courtly entertainment, it became one of the most popular music styles in the 18th and 19th centuries. We'll look at the development and public reception of opera from Baroque era superstars like Farinelli to the commercial opera industry in Italy and France in the 19th century (Rossini, Meyerbeer, Verdi).

Tuesday, September 26, 2017, 5:00-6:00 pm, Colfax Store

Somalia

Somalia's history is a story of Colonialism yielding to authoritarianism dissolving into anarchy. Chaos has reigned since the early 1990's with rampant wars between rival clans, with no functional government in charge. Severe famine prompted the United Nations and the U.S. to intervene in the 1990's with decidedly mixed results. Lately, the Islamist extremist group Shabab has added another challenge to the mix. Join Active Minds as we examine Somalia's troubled path and where it may be leading.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 12:30-1:30 pm, Aspen Grove Store

Cuba: Past, Present & Future

With U.S. policy toward Cuba currently at a potential inflection point, join Active Minds for a past, present and future look at our communist neighbor to the south. We will cover Castro's revolution, the Bay of Pigs, the Cuban Missile Crisis, Guantánamo Bay and current implications of the change in U.S. policy.

Tuesday, October 24, 2017, 5:00-6:00 pm, Colfax Store

Salem Witches

In 1692 in Salem, Massachusetts an extraordinary series of events, combined with hysterical reactions, resulted in what is referred to as the Salem Witch Hunt. Join us as we seek to understand this astounding moment in our country's early history.

Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 12:30-1:30 pm, Colfax Store

Turbulent Waters: Conflict in the South China Sea

The South China Sea is an incredibly strategic body of water located between China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. At stake is one of the busiest trade routes in the world as well as oil and fishing rights. Recently China has been pressing its claim to long disputed parts of the South China Sea, raising concerns as to what may happen as tensions rise. Join Active Minds for a closer look at this delicate situation.

Tuesday, November 28, 2017, 5:00-6:00 pm, Colfax Store

Buddhism

Buddhism is the fourth largest religion in the world with some 500 million adherents. Join Active Minds for an examination of its origins, teachings, beliefs and practices. We will discuss the life and teachings of Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha) and discuss the various types of Buddhism, including Zen Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism, and others.

Store Locations: (All events are free and open to the public.)

LoDo: 1628 16th Street at Wynkoop in downtown Denver, 80202

Colfax: 2526 East Colfax, two blocks east of York, Denver, 80206

Aspen Grove: 7301 S Santa Fe Dr, Littleton, CO 80120.



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