

STUDY CIRCLE – FALL 2018

Visions of America

Meets Tuesday Evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 pm
1407 Chapala Street, Santa Barbara



Diverse expressions of the distinctive visions of America nurtured in American history will be studied in this new season of Study Circle discussions. The ideas and ideals of the Founding Brothers, such as Jefferson, Paine and Franklin will provide a framework for focus on the aims and purposes of the American experiment. The distinctive visions of the Transcendentalists, the Progressive Reformers and the cultural innovators in literature, art and music will be explored. How the development of educational opportunities and civic participation drew out the potential for individual freedom and social progress will be analyzed. The expansion of an inclusive global vision embedded in the promise of American ideals will be evaluated. The concept of "vision" and how these visions have influenced 20th century and contemporary society will be identified. The Study Circle will begin in October and continue through December. See website for more detail and list of readings: <http://www.worldculture.org>

Founding Vision of the Republic *(continued from October)*

November 6

Hector de Crevecoeur on "What is an American?"

Utopian Visions of Community

November 13

The vision of America in art: "The Hudson River School"; modern-day communal experiment involving art and ecology "Occidental Arts and Ecology Center"

November 20

Utopian Visions of Community, the Shakers and Brook Farm, eco-villages and green community experiments

November 27

The Iroquois Confederacy, the Native American concept of the vision quest (Black Elk), Native American relationships with nature (Ishi)