If you hear a voice within you say ‘you cannot paint,’ then by all means paint and that voice will be silenced.” — Vincent Van Gogh

At the dawn of history, Paleolithic man executed brilliant cave paintings motivated seemingly by hunting magic or shamanic religion. Since then man has been moved to create magically in a host of ways. Creation is immensely therapeutic and open to all of us if we listen to Vincent Van Gogh: in painting, writing, sculpture, music, inspired gardening, and many other spheres complimentary to our main occupations.

Speakers

Christine Jackson, Ph.D.,—professor, Division of Humanities, Farquhar College of Arts and Science—teaches writing, literature, and music history. She is an authority on American Literature, and she was the scholar for the Broward County Library’s six-part program on the works of Louisa May Alcott. Jackson is presently completing Night Sirens: Myth and Ritual in Contemporary Women’s Mysteries. She will discuss the concept of artistic creativity using examples from her experiences as a creative writer, musician, and artist. Additionally, she will play some illustrative pieces on the keyboard.

Paul Bradley, M.D., FDS, Certificate in Religious and Philosophical Studies, is a professor in the Division of Oral Diagnostic Sciences and a lecturer for NSU’s Lifelong Learning Institute. Bradley lectures on head and neck pain, therapeutic lasers, and world religions. He is the author of a novel, Dr. Thomas Doubts, and a recently published book on philosophy and religion, This Strange Eventful History. Bradley is also an amateur painter. He will provide a health care viewpoint on the therapeutic benefits of painting during depression (example Winston Churchill), old age (Grandma Moses), and Alzheimer’s (Baltimore Group). He will also discuss the difficulties of getting started in painting or writing (facing the blank canvas or computer screen).

“Creativity is a drug I cannot live without.” — Cecil B. DeMille