PLAY BALL: THE HISTORY, CULTURE & POLITICS OF BASEBALL

Play Ball celebrates America’s favorite pastime as it explores its complicated cultural history. With nearly one third of players currently in the major league born outside of the United States, the story of baseball is as much a story of home runs and perfect games as it is a story of race, class, and gender. From the Negro League to a “League of Their Own”; from steroids to sabermetrics; from Fenway Park to fields of dreams on foreign shores, the story of baseball is the story of all of us.

LINEUP OF EVENTS Open to the general public

SEPTEMBER 2017
28 Film Screening | MWCC Room 301 | 12:30–1:30pm
Ken Burns’ Baseball Episode 1

OCTOBER 2017
05 Film Screening | MWCC Room 301 | 12:30–1:30pm
Ken Burns’ Baseball Episode 2
19 Lecture | Levi Heywood Memorial Library | 6:30–8pm
Tommy Shea, co-author of Dingers: 101 Most Memorable Home Runs in Baseball History

26 Film Screening | MWCC Room 301 | 12:30–1:30pm
Ken Burns’ Baseball Episode 3
28 Fundraiser Hike | Wachusett Mountain, Princeton | 10am
Hike a mountain and help raise money for the MWCC Humanities Project at the 4th Annual Hike for the Humanities.

NOVEMBER 2017
09 Film Screening | MWCC Room 301 | 12:30–1:30pm
Ken Burns’ Baseball Episode 4
14 Lecture | MWCC North Café | 12:30–1:30pm
Fitchburg State Professor Joe Moser: Baseball on the Big Screen
28 Lecture | MWCC Murphy Room | 12:30–1:30pm
Smith College Professor Ben Baumer: Sabermetrics & Baseball
30 Film Screening | MWCC Room 301 | 12:30–1:30pm
Ken Burns’ Baseball Episode 5

FEBRUARY 2018
08 Film Screening | MWCC Room 301 | 12:30–1:30pm
Ken Burns’ Baseball Episode 6
15 Film Screening | MWCC Room 301 | 12:30–1:30pm
Ken Burns’ Baseball Episode 7
22 Lecture | Beals Library, Winchendon | 6:30–8pm
Charles Bevis, The History of Baseball in New England
28 Film Screening | MWCC North Café | 12:30–2:30pm
42: The True Story of an American Legend - Jackie Robinson

MARCH 2018
01 Film Screening | MWCC Room 301 | 12:30–1:30pm
Ken Burns’ Baseball Episode 8
03 Movie Marathon | Leominster Public Library | 11am–5pm
Pre-registration required: www.leominsterlibrary.org
Enjoy two classic Hollywood baseball films - Eight Men Out & Bull Durham, hosted by Fitchburg State Professor Joe Moser.
Lunch included.
07 Film Screening | MWCC Room 301 | 12:30–2:30pm
A League of Their Own - women’s professional baseball league during WWII
22 Lecture | Athol Public Library | 6:30–8pm
Martha Ackmann, author of Curveball: The Remarkable Story of Toni Stone, the First Woman to Play Professional Baseball in the Negro League
29 Lecture | Fitchburg Art Museum | 6:30–8pm
Alan Klein, author of Sugar Ball: The American Game, the Dominican Dream

APRIL 2018
05 Poetry Reading | MWCC North Café | 12:30–1:30pm
Martín Espada, author of The Trouble Ball
12 Film Screening | MWCC Room 301 | 12:30–1:30pm
Ken Burns’ Baseball Episode 9

For more information, visit mwcc.edu/humanitiesproject