

Free Science* Events



March 2020



*and applied-science



Please confirm the date and time of events prior to attending, as they sometimes change.

Sunday, March 1

***"There Are No Flying Squirrels in Ontario" and Other Myths.* Toronto Field Naturalists**

Lecture by Dr. Jeff Bowman on flying squirrels, a cryptic, nocturnal species with many interesting adaptations to their night time habits. Dr. Bowman will provide insights into the natural history of flying squirrels, how and why his team studies these species, and the history of their research project. He will also speak about the distribution of Ontario's two flying squirrel species, the northern and southern flying squirrel, the recent discovery of hybridization between these species, and the causes and consequences of this hybridization. ¶ Dr. Bowman is a Senior Research Scientist with the Wildlife Research and Monitoring Program of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and an Adjunct Professor in the Environmental & Life Sciences Graduate Program at Trent University.

Time & location: 2:30 pm. Doors open at 2:00 pm

Emmanuel College, Room 001, 75 Queen's Park Cres E.

Just south of Museum subway station exit, east side of Queen's Park. Accessible entrance second door south on Queen's Park.

Registration/
more information: <https://torontofieldnaturalists.org/TFN-events/there-are-no-flying-squirrels-in-ontario-and-other-myths/>

416-593-2656, up to noon on the Friday preceding the lecture

Wednesday, March 4

***Space Exploration: Research & Opportunities.* Interplanetary Space Exploration Team**

Come by and listen to guest speakers from NASA, Kepler Communications, UTIAS¹ and GHGSat² and explore the technological advances made in the aerospace industry. Hosted by ISET (Interplanetary Space Exploration Team), this event is intended to inspire students interested in exploring the endless engineering opportunities in space-related careers. Food will be included.

¹ University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies. ² Private company. GHG: greenhouse gas. Sat: satellite.

Time & location: 6:00 - 8:30 pm

Medical Sciences Building, 1 King's College Circle, room 2170

Registration/
more information: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/space-exploration-research-opportunities-tickets-95339961391?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

***Panel Discussion: Can Machines Be Flawed Enough to Be Human?* Onsite Gallery, OCAD University**

A panel discussion that will examine our growing dependence on glitchy AI learning for business and culture and how this affects our daily lives. ASL interpretation will be provided. ¶ Panelists: Jimmy Ba (developer of the go-to algorithms to train deep learning models), Leyla Imanirad (developer of predictive models, investment strategy analysis and portfolio construction tools) and Dr. Alexis Morris (assistant professor in the Digital Futures program at OCAD University). Moderator: Tom Barker (a multidisciplinary creative in the fields of design, art, and technology).

Time & location: 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, 199 Richmond St. West

Registration/
more information: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/panel-discussion-can-machines-be-flawed-enough-to-be-human-tickets-92233425659?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Thursday, March 5

AstroTours: Unlocking Cosmic Mysteries with the Invisible Radio Universe. University of Toronto; The Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics

The epoch of 'Cosmic Dawn', when the first stars and galaxies were born, about a hundred million years after the Big Bang is considered the 'final frontier' of research in cosmology today. Observations at radio frequencies have opened up exciting prospects for studying the evolution of the universe from its earliest stages to the present time. An unprecedented amount of data from the biggest radio facilities around the world will soon help to answer fundamental questions about our cosmos: from a deeper understanding of Einstein's theory of gravity to whether we are alone in this vast expanse of universe. Join Hamsa Padmanabhan to discuss the ground breaking progress being made in this field in Canada and elsewhere. ¶ Hamsa Padmanabhan is currently a CITA Fellow at the Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics and an Associate of the Dunlap Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics, University of Toronto. She is one of the few in the world who has the honour of a minor planet in the solar system being named after her.

Time & location: Lecture: 8:00 - 9:00 pm. Telescope observing: 9:00 - 10:00 pm
McLennan Physical Laboratories- UFT, Room 102, 60 St. George Street

For more information: <http://www.astro.utoronto.ca/~qasa/astrotours/>

Saturday, March 7

Think Like a Computer Scientist with Python. Black Boys Code Toronto¹

Python is an accessible first language and can be used for web development, scientific computing, machine learning, designing graphical user interfaces, software development and more. In this workshop (ages 13+), students will use Python to familiarize themselves with the fundamental concepts of computer programming by exploring the following topics: computational thinking and planning, Python syntax and function creation, and problem solving with Python. No need to bring a computer.

¹ Black Boys Code is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to introducing young boys of colour through their critical development years (ages 8 to 17 years old) to computer science through exposure workshops, hackathons, after school programs and summer tech camps. <https://blackboyscode.com/>

Time & location: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm
Victoria Building Ryerson University, room 404a, 285 Victoria Street

Registration/
more information: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/toronto-think-like-a-computer-scientist-with-python-ages-13-tickets-96087802203?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Monday, March 9

Aging and Brain Health: Mental Health and Well-being. Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest

Come to the 2020 Rotman Research Institute Conference's public event to explore the far-reaching effects of collective trauma on the people who experienced the trauma, as well as on families and communities across generations. A panel will engage storytellers and academics from diverse backgrounds in a discussion of the role of narratives, personal and traditional, in sharing both traumatic and inspiring experiences to help communities heal and thrive. Historical and personal trauma are often treated with silence out of fear that exposing them would complicate the present and cause more pain. Panel members will share personal and academic perspectives pertaining to the historical and ongoing stories of trauma and resilience of North American First Nations and to the Jewish Holocaust and Cambodian genocide. ¶ Panelists: Dr. Jutta Lindert, professor at Emden Leer/Brandeis, expert in genocide, refugees and mental health; Dr. Joseph Gone, professor at Harvard University, expert on the intersection between culture, coloniality and well-being in Indigenous communities; Lenore Keeshig, Ojibway journalist and storyteller; Dan Yashinsky, author and storyteller. Moderator: Dr. Allison Sekuler, VP Research, Baycrest and Managing Director, Rotman Research Institute.

Time & location: 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Metro Toronto Convention Centre (MTCC), North Building, Room 206
255 Front Street West

Registration required: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/aging-and-brain-health-mental-health-and-well-being-public-event-tickets-87148321977>

For more information: <http://research.baycrest.org/conf2020-pubprog>

Tuesday, March 10

***Honouring the Journey of Well-Being: Monthly Smudge and Sharing Circle.* Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre**

Participate in a smudge and sharing circle and learn from Elders, Knowledge Keepers or Traditional Healers. You will learn about indigenous ceremonial practices, sacred medicines and Indigenous views on wellness. Come for all or part of the hour. *Honouring the Journey of Well-Being: Monthly Smudge and Sharing Circle* is a collaborative initiative sponsored by: Toronto Central Regional Cancer Program, Indigenous Cancer Program and Sunnybrook.

Time & location: 12:30 - 1:30 pm

Sunnybrook Bayview Campus, M6 Atrium, 2075 Bayview Ave

For more information: <https://sunnybrook.ca/calendar/event.asp?e=1378&m=&page=33990>

Friday, March 20

***Astronomy on Tap T.O.* University of Toronto, The Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics**

Quench your thirst for astronomy in another fun night of pints, astronomy news, mind-expanding talks, games and prizes. Following the talks, there will be plenty of time for you to have your cosmic questions answered by astronomers from the Dunlap Institute and the University of Toronto. There will be ASL services at this event for individuals with hearing impairments.

Time & location: 8:00 - 11:00 pm. Doors will open at 7:00 pm

The Great Hall, 1087 Queen Street W.

Registration/
more information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/dunlap-institute-for-astronomy-astro-physics-university-of-toronto/astronomy-on-tap-to-march-20-2020/509117123135038/>

Thursday, March 26

***Examining the Lived Experiences of Dementia Spousal Caregivers age 80+.* University of Toronto, Institute for Life Course and Aging**

"Oldest-old" dementia spousal caregivers (age 80+) are a fast growing, highly vulnerable, yet under-represented population in caregiving research. Oldest-old caregivers are likely to have unique caregiving experiences and support needs as a result of their advanced old age, but evidence regarding these experiences and how to best support this population is lacking. In this talk, Ifah Arbel, MScOT¹ and PhD cand. at the Rehabilitation Sciences Institute, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, will present findings from the thematic analysis of 25 in-depth interviews with eleven spousal caregivers aged 80-89. Understanding oldest-old caregivers' experiences and support needs can help inform the design of age-sensitive interventions for this population, and ultimately help oldest-old caregivers experience healthy and active aging.

¹ Master of Science in Occupational Therapy

Time & location: 12:00 – 1:00 pm. "All interested are welcome – bring your lunch and join in."

University of Toronto, 246 Bloor St. W., 4th Floor, Webinar Room 422

Registration required: RSVP by emailing : aging@utoronto.ca

For more information: <http://www.grandparentfamily.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Ifah-Arbel-Seminar-Flyer-2020.pdf>

Tuesday, March 31

***Back Health: Expert Tips and Treatment Options.* Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre**

Leading Sunnybrook experts from Sunnybrook's Spine Care team will discuss:

- **A Primer on Neck & Back Pain:** Dr. Joel Finkelstein, Chief of the Division of Spinal Surgery
- **Sunnybrook's Team Approach to Care:** Susan Robarts, Advanced Practice Physiotherapist
- **Surgical Approaches for Common Lower Back Conditions:** Dr. Jeremie Larouche, Orthopaedic Surgeon

Moderator: Dr. Albert Yee, Chair, Division of Orthopaedics

Time & location: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, McLaughlin Auditorium, E Wing Ground Floor - Bayview Campus, 2075 Bayview Ave

Registration required: RSVP by March 30th. Call 416-480-4117 or email: speaker.series@sunnybrook.ca

For more information: <https://sunnybrook.ca/calendar/event.asp?e=1376&m=&page=33990>

Weekly events

Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 19, 25

Cognitive Behaviour Therapy for Anxiety. Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

At this 6-week workshop you will learn Cognitive Behaviour Therapy techniques that will help you to manage anxiety and improve mental well-being. Participants should plan to attend all six sessions.

Workshop dates: March 4, 11, 18 and 25, April 1 and 8, 2020

Time & location: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sunnybrook Bayview Campus, 2075 Bayview Avenue

Registration required Call Karin at 416-480-5274.

For more information: <https://sunnybrook.ca/calendar/event.asp?e=1368&m=&page=33990>

Various Days

Walking Tours. High Park Nature

Meet at the benches, across the road from the south side of Grenadier Restaurant in the middle of High Park. Walks may go on wooded trails, so please wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Walks are led by volunteer scientists, historians, and local naturalists who will help you to understand and explore High Park's many significant features. Walking Tours are volunteer-led with the support of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation.

- March 1- **Spring is Coming**. Led by Monika Croydon.
- March 15 - **Climate Change and its Impact on Grenadier Pond**. Led by Senior Aquatic Ecologist Christine Tu-Parker.

Day, time & location: **Sunday, March 1 and 15, 10:30 am- 12:00 pm**

Grenadier Restaurant in the middle of High Park

For more information: <http://www.highparknature.org/wiki/wiki.php?n=Explore.WalkingTours>



There are also free programs at the **Toronto Public Library**.

- Science & Technology programs: <http://www.tpl.ca/programs-and-classes/categories/science-technology.jsp>
- Health & Wellness programs: <http://www.tpl.ca/programs-and-classes/categories/health-wellness.jsp>

Or have a look at the **What's On** program guide, available in branches.



Also, connect with us online and get the latest library news, event listings and librarian expertise at the **North York Central Library blog**: <http://torontopubliclibrary.typepad.com/north-york-central-blog/>