

THE ADAMS FAMILY: A MULTIGENERATIONAL LEGACY OF PUBLIC SERVICE (213)

Fridays, 1:00 – 2:30 (3 Classes 2/13 – 2/27) in Room 19

Tuition \$35

Walk-in Friendly, \$14. Pay prior to the class in the Center 4Life Learning office.

- Session 1: Describes the Contributions of cousins Samuel and John Adam to making the American Revolution happen. Sam was the firebrand and propagandist. Together they attend the First Constitutional convention, but with help from his cousin, John rises to leader of the American Independence movement
- Session 2: This will not be a lecture, but rather an interview of and conversation in depth with John Quincy Adams, oldest son of John and Abigail, and, like his father, a one-term President. Asking the questions will be Dan Madden, portraying noted newspaper editor, Amos Kendall, a strong supporter of Andrew Jackson. Richard Werking, Emeritus Professor of History at the U.S. Naval Academy, who has lectured several times at the Center, will portray Adams, Jackson's opponent in the elections of 1824 and 1828. Considerable attention will be given to the first of these elections, one of the two in American history decided by the House of Representatives and unique because no candidate could muster a majority of the electoral votes. Adams, defeated by Jackson in the rematch of 1828, will go on to discuss his post-Presidential career as the only U.S. President to serve subsequently in Congress, which he did for the rest of his life. He became the leading Congressional opponent of slavery's expansion into the territories and played the leading role in the famous *Amistad* case. He had a rich and interesting life and is likely the only individual in history to have had substantive conversations about policy with both George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. He died in 1848 literally in the Capitol building."
- Session 3: Meet Abigail Adams, Charles Francis Adams and Henry Adams. Abigail's letters are a literary treasure, Charles, as US Ambassador to Great Britain, will keep England neutral during the Civil War; Henry's *THE EDUCATION OF HENRY ADAMS* is a masterpiece of literature.

Dan Madden is a Freedom Plaza resident and author of two books on the Ancient World, *The Twisty Trail from Homer to Copernicus* and *Avenging Persephone: Alcibiades and the Loss and Restoration of Athenian Democracy*. He earned his PhD in history in 1972 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has taught classes at Freedom Plaza, Aston Gardens, and Center 4Life Learning.