

Participating Libraries

Bethel Park Public Library

1st Friday of the month

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

5100 West Library Avenue

Bethel Park, PA 15102

412.835.2207

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Knoxville

3rd Monday of the month

9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Hosted at Elder-Ado, Conference Room

320 Brownsville Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15210

412.381.6543

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Oakland

2nd Wednesday of the month

10:15 AM to 12:00 PM

4400 Forbes Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15213

412.622.8830

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Squirrel Hill

3rd Wednesday of the month

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

5801 Forbes Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15217

412.422.9844

Mt. Lebanon Public Library

1st Monday of the month

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

16 Castle Shannon Boulevard

Pittsburgh, PA 15228

412.531.1912

Northern Tier Regional Library

2nd Thursday of the month

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

4015 Dicky Road

Gibsonia, PA 15044

724.449.2665

Northland Public Library

4th Wednesday of the month

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

300 Cumberland Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15237

412.366.8100

Pleasant Hills Public Library

1st Friday of the month

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

302 Old Clairton Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15236

412.655.2424

Sewickley Public Library

2nd Wednesday of the month

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

500 Thorn Street

Sewickley, PA 15143

412.741.6920

Upper St. Clair Township Library

1st Friday of the month

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

1820 McLaughlin Run Road

Upper St. Clair, PA 15241

412.835.5540

Whitehall Public Library

2nd Wednesday of the month

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

100 Borough Park Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15236

412.882.6622

Participating Community Partner

OASIS

1st Monday of the month

11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Macy's 10th Floor, 400 Fifth Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

412.232.2020



Conversation Salons



*Conversations for
better living*

“All social change
begins with a conversation.”

—Margaret J. Wheatley

ACLA Conversation Salons

What are **Conversation Salons**?

The dictionary defines “salon” as *1. A large room, such as a drawing room, used for receiving and entertaining guests. 2. A periodic gathering of people of social or intellectual distinction.* Conversation Salons have their historical roots in the Enlightenment in 18th century France. Imagine a world without TV or radio in the midst of newly emerging ideas about politics and startling new discoveries of science. Philosophers, lawyers, politicians, artists, writers and ordinary people gather informally in homes to hold spirited discussions about new ideas in government, education, human rights and liberties, feminism, law and developments in the arts and sciences. Today, TV and talk radio brings an endless parade of experts to us, and print media and technology brings editorials and opinion forms for us to passively absorb.

The art of direct, face to face conversation among a diverse group of interesting well-informed, spirited people is in danger of becoming a lost art. The purpose of ACLA’s Conversation Salons is to provide a forum for active participation in the discussion of the meaningful and interesting events of our time. Here is an opportunity to become an active participant in the larger world around you to develop the skills of good conversa-

tion, and to connect and contribute to your community.

Who facilitates the **Conversation Salons**?

ACLA provides training to volunteers who serve as group discussion facilitators.

What kinds of things are discussed at **Conversation Salons**?

Members of the Conversation Salon select the subjects they wish to discuss. Subjects are usually general in nature and are drawn from such diverse sources as current events, the arts social and cultural issues, political, ethics, entertainment, science and technology. At any time, the conversation may be serious and analytical and at other times, entertaining, lighthearted and amusing. Conversation Salons are free; there is no cost to join.

What **Conversation Salons** are not...

Conversation Salons are not book or journal clubs. No advanced reading is required. Bring your heart and mind and willingness to enter into the discussion and to listen to the ideas of others. Conversation Salons are not political action groups. Conversation Salons do not lobby for causes or organized actions. They do

not take stands on issues or beliefs. They are not affiliated with any political or religious group. Conversation Salons are not classes, self help or therapy groups or gossip circles. Conversation Salons are not debating societies with winners and losers. *The sole purpose is good conversation and the exchange of ideas and opinions.*

Where and when do **Conversation Salons** meet?

Salons will be held once a month at various ACLA libraries and are open to all adults. Check out a Conversation Salon near you!



“The whole idea is not that we have to find a final answer; it’s that we keep thinking.”
—Christopher Phillips