

The mission of the Humanists of Greater Portland is to create a thriving local community that promotes and acts upon the ideals of humanism. Since HGP's inception in 1998, our meetings have welcomed all. Because of COVID restrictions, HGP began meeting over Zoom.

That connection to our Sunday morning meetings is now available to the general public, and our community is now world-wide. Please use the link below to join the upcoming HGP Sunday morning meeting, regularly scheduled each week at 10am Pacific Standard Time.

We have also resumed meeting in person at Friendly House with a live audience participating with the Zoom audience. Sometimes the speaker will be at Friendly House and sometime they will appear over Zoom. For advice on attending in person, including parking options, see *At Friendly House*

Topic: HGP Sunday Program - Elections: What Are They Good For? + music

Time: Mar 3, 2024 09:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Jeff Seward presents from Friendly House. Are free and fair elections really essential to democracy? Are some forms of election subversive of real democracy? What are the implications of different forms of elections? How do authoritarian systems use elections? What reforms of our elections would make them more democratic? Are there alternatives to elections? Or supplemental forms of participation and representation? Before his retirement, Jeff was a professor in the Department of Politics and Government at Pacific University. He has presented to us many times in the past.

Meeting officially runs from 10 to 11:30AM Pacific time, with live music before by the Bar-kett's, and socializing after. Join at any time.

Feel free to share this invite with friends and colleagues, but please don't share the Zoom invite to public web pages or posts. The public can find this Zoom invite on the HGP website at <http://portlandhumanists>.

Friendly House (at NW 26th and Thurman, in Portland, OR) will be open for viewing (and Q&A) on the big screen. There will be early coffee, and a setup for Early Birds, plus snacks and socializing after the program (Afterthoughts). **Find more information about the Friendly House situation (including parking) at the bottom of this post.**

If this is your first time to an HGP meeting, or using Zoom in general, please read the remainder of this document. Our main request is that you leave your microphone muted during the main meeting until/unless you are called on to ask a question.

Click [HERE](#) to join the Sunday Program Zoom meeting.

(If Zoom decides to update your app, you may need to hit this link a second time after the update. Further instructions below if you wish to call in, or use your browser.)

Welcome!

EARLY BIRDS

For those ready for some early morning thoughtful moderated discussion (an extension of Dr. Don's old Socrate's Cafes), consider joining the Early Birds before the main program, either on Zoom or in person in the East Room at Friendly House, from 8:45 to 9:45.

Click [HERE](#) to join the Early Birds Sunday Discussion Zoom meeting.

(Again, if Zoom decides to update your app, you may need to hit this link a second time after the update. Further instructions below if you wish to call in, or use your browser.)

TO CALL IN OR USE WEB BROWSER:

Sunday Program: Meeting ID: 850 5921 8697 Passcode: 594045

Early Birds: Meeting ID: 860 8864 0206 Passcode: 870267

One tap mobile

+16694449171,,85059218697#,,,,

+16699006833,,85059218697#,,,,

Dial by your location

- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 719 359 4580 US

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/>

JOIN US AT FRIENDLY HOUSE?

You do not NEED to come to Friendly House to participate, this Sunday: We will continue making the programs available on Zoom, pretty much unchanged. But for those looking to get out and involved again, the remainder of this document is for those (contemplating) coming to Friendly House.

PARKING

In addition to street parking, we have made arrangements with the Fat Tire Bike Shop on 27th and Thurman (one block west of FH) and the Selco Credit Union on 25th and Thurman (one block east of FH) to use their parking lots. Selco has asked us to leave at least 5 places closest to the ATM available for their customers, so "our" spots would be a few places close to the intersection and some more after passing the ATM.

COVID PRECAUTIONS

Oregon's Covid cases are variable, and we take the risks seriously. We have some extra masks, if you like, and provide some ventilation in the rooms, run air filters, and will limit capacity in Keeston to 50% of normal (so, 40 people), with an overflow room available. Ultimately, it is your decision whether you feel safe to attend. To help us minimize the chances of hospitalizations or suffering, please take precautions.

APPEARING ON CAMERA

HGP has traditionally been very careful in the past to not show/record our attendees on camera. We now need to balance that with the ability of remote viewers (who may sometimes be presenters) to see the FH audience. We will tend to keep cameras off of the audience in the most left/west part of the Keeston room, but we hope that enough people sit in the right/east part to show the Zoom audience that the room is not empty!

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

People at FH are able to ask questions, regardless of whether speaker is present there or not. Simply raise your hand to get your name logged into the chat by a cohost, and when the emcee calls your name (perhaps over Zoom), approach (or obtain) a mic.

EARLY BIRDS/OVERFLOW/AFTERTHOUGHTS

There will be a Zoom screen and room mic for the Early Birds discussion in the East Room starting at 8:45AM. During the program, this screen will be tuned to the main program, so overflow (or parents with kids) can come to this room during the program. And after the program, the speaker may continue interacting with the Zoom and in-person crowd through this screen for Afterthoughts, with some coffee and/or snacks available.

THANK YOU!

We'd like to hear how you think things went, and suggestions for improvement.

FOR ZOOM FIRST-TIMERS:

On many systems, if you click a link to join a meeting and don't yet have the Zoom app, it will download automatically first. On others you may need to go to an "App Store" to download it. It will be free in any case. EVEN IF YOU ARE NEW TO ZOOM, don't be afraid to join and try it out. For a little more info, check out these helpful outside links to a 2-page text and 8-minute video primer with probably all you'll need to know (no special accounts or passwords required):

*<https://extension2.missouri>.

*<https://www.youtube.com/>

Or, feel free to ask questions or request a practice session by responding to this message.

You can turn close-captioning on and off by using the "CC" option in your menu bar. (It will probably default as "on".) WHEN YOU FIRST JOIN, both your microphone and camera will be

muted (“dead”). You can unmute these using the two icons at the lower left of the window (on a PC or Mac), removing the red line, or on a tablet/ipad you may need to scroll to top to see these (“start video”). PLEASE LEAVE MICROPHONE MUTED DURING PRESENTATION EXCEPT WHEN ASKING QUESTIONS. During the meeting, please submit questions using the “Chat” icon in the menu bar. (Type your question if you would like the emcee to read it, or type your name if you’d like to ask it “on camera”.) Before or after the meeting, feel free to unmute and interact with fellow Humanists!

To change your view of the audience, you can toggle between Gallery View (as many audience members as will fit at once) or Speaker View (switching dynamically to the person/people currently speaking or spotlighted). On most computers, this can be done using a small “View” menu at the top right. On a phone, it is handled by swiping left or right.