



THE NEWSLETTER OF  
**The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION**  
 of CONNECTICUT



AHA Chapter

August 2018

UU Humanists Local Group

## *Humanism in the Age of Trump*

Connecticut attorney and humanist activist Dan Blinn will talk about how humanism can operate in the era of President Donald Trump at our monthly meeting on August 20 at 7:00 p.m. at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

Blinn's presentation will focus on what it means to be a humanist in America when so many of the administration's values are antithetical to humanist values; how humanists can find common ground and mutual respect when interacting with Trump supporters; and how humanists can find purpose and fulfillment in the face of Trumpism.

Blinn is a humanist organizer, activist, and speaker. He is the founding president of Hartford Area Humanists and one of the founding co-chairs of the Connecticut Coalition of Reason, of which HAC is also a charter member organization. Dan was recently recognized by the American Humanist Association for his work as a humanist activist and organizer when he was presented with the AHA's President's Award at the Annual AHA Conference in May in Las Vegas. A graduate of the

## *Calendar of Events*

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT. RSVP for dinners at [meetup.com/cthumanist](http://meetup.com/cthumanist).

### AUGUST 2018

- |          |   |                      |
|----------|---|----------------------|
| Sat., 4  | Explorations: "The Chain"   | 2:30 p.m             |
| Mon., 6  | Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002                            | 7:00 p.m             |
| Sat., 18 | Book Discussion: "Lab Girl" by Hope Jahren  | 2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m |
| Mon., 20 | Monthly Meeting   | 7:00 p.m             |
|          | Main program: Dan Blinn "Humanism in the Age of Trump"  | 7:30 p.m             |
| Sun., 26 | Board meeting   | 3:30 p.m             |
| Mon., 27 | Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap, 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT. (203) 248-9663. Topic: The Overton Window | 7:00 p.m             |

### SEPTEMBER 2018

- |          |  |                      |
|----------|--|----------------------|
| Sat., 1  | Explorations: "Dolores"  | 2:30 p.m             |
| Mon., 3  | Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002             | 7:00 p.m             |
| Sat., 15 | Book Discussion: "Fantasyland: How America went Haywire: a 500-Year History" by Kurt Anderson    | 2:00 p.m to 4:00 p.m |
| Mon., 17 | Monthly Meeting  | 7:00 p.m             |
|          | Main program: TBA  | 7:30 p.m             |
| Sun., 23 | Board meeting  | 3:30 p.m             |
| Mon., 24 | Dinner Discussion at the Wood-n-Tap, 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, CT. (203) 248-9663. Topic: TBA | 7:00 p.m             |

[www.cthumanist.org](http://www.cthumanist.org)

Humanist Institute, Blinn is also an attorney who handles consumer protection matters on behalf of consumers.

We will start with a half hour

of coffee and conversation at 7:00 p.m. followed by Dan's timely presentation after short announcements at 7:30 p.m. Feel free to bring a friend!

[www.cthumanist.org](http://www.cthumanist.org)

[www.facebook.com/cthumanist](http://www.facebook.com/cthumanist) • [www.meetup.com/cthumanist](http://www.meetup.com/cthumanist) • [www.twitter.com/cthumanist](http://www.twitter.com/cthumanist)

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# Discussion: The Overton Window

Conservative pundits like the concept. Glenn Beck even wrote a novel based on it and named after it. It's not a new or partisan idea, though. Notice the last quote in its Wikipedia article <https://tinyurl.com/o5mrmqm> is from Frederick Douglass. You've never heard of it until recently only because someone finally gave it a name. So here are a couple of articles that should help you get a sense of it. From 2016: <https://tinyurl.com/y7fb2c7t> and from 2018: <https://tinyurl.com/yclubd8o>.

Do you think this is only a political phenomenon? Can you think of some non-political examples?

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 27 at the Wood-n-Tap at 2100 Dixwell Avenue in Hamden. Please RSVP via [meetup](mailto:meetup) or [development@cthumanist.org](mailto:development@cthumanist.org).

# Book Discussion: "Lab Girl"

Our book for August is "Lab Girl" by geobiologist Hope Jahren. The discussion will take place Saturday, August 18, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in the library at 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden.

"Engrossing. . . Thrilling. . . Does for botany what Oliver Sacks's essays did for neurology, what Stephen Jay Gould's writings did for paleontology." – *The New York Times*

Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Autobiography.

Named one of *TIME* magazine's "100 Most Influential People."

# Explorations: "Dolores"

Dolores Huerta is among the most important activists in American history. As an equal partner with Cesar Chavez in founding the first farm workers unions, Dolores tirelessly led the fight for racial and labor justice alongside Chavez, becoming one of the most defiant feminists of the 20th century.

Join us at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 1, at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden to watch this recent documentary and discuss what Labor Day means to you.

MEMBERSHIP	
i Adult . . . . .	\$35
i Family . . . . .	\$50
i Newsletter Only . . . . .	\$10
i Our membership year is 1/1-12/31.	
i In cases of financial hardship, the association may waive the membership fee. Please mail checks for annual membership payable to	
i Humanist Association of Connecticut to: Humanist Association of Connecticut, 27 Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321.	
Name(s): _____	_____
Address: _____	_____
Telephone: _____	_____
E-Mail Address: _____	_____
Please add me to the e-mail Announce List (circle one): YES NO	
I want my newsletter electronically <u>only</u> (circle one): YES NO	
As a chapter of the American Humanist Association we share your information with AHA. Please check this box if you do <u>not</u> want to be contacted by the Secular Coalition for Connecticut about legislative action <input type="checkbox"/>	