

CFI NE Ohio News & Views



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CFI NE Ohio Officers

- Acting President - Monette Richards
- VP of Programming - Mark Tiborsky
- Secretary - Brent Bowen
- Treasurer - Jackie McCaman
- Board members at large:
 - Paul Woodring
 - Mel Vye
 - Wayne Beckley



Monette Richards

Message from the President

As we enter the new year, we bring with us some changes for CFI NE Ohio. **This will be the last version of the newsletter that we mail out by hard copy.** From this point forward, we will be making them available solely through email and the website. If you do not get our emails now, then you will not get our newsletters. Please make sure you have signed up for our emails at cfineohio.org/sign-up/. This will save the chapter one of our biggest expenses. And it will enable us to reach even more people!

Brittani Lenz is stepping down from her position of Secretary. She has been absolutely invaluable in this position. Brittani is incredibly talented, having designed every mailing for local events since she took that position. She has also been on top of things, making sure all of you are notified of events via emails and newsletters. If you are reading this in your hand, it's there because of Brittani.

Brent Bowen has agreed, once again, to be amazing and temporarily take over for Brittani. (I did say temporarily, meaning, we are still looking for a replacement secretary.) So, there shouldn't be any bumps in the process. And, due to life being as it is, Randy Pelton has also stepped down from office. Randy has been involved in running the chapter in many different roles, the last being VP of Programming for Akron-Canton. He has been bringing us the excellent programming we have been enjoying during the first Mondays. He also was a big help in making the "Boundaries of Humanism" conference happen. (The venue he found is an absolute treasure!) We thank both Brittani and Randy for all of the work they put into our organization. They did it all for free, and sometimes even at their expense. That is dedication that we truly cherish.

Finally, many of you have heard by now that I have announced my intention of stepping down from President. I say intention, and not the actual act, because we haven't found someone to take my place. Being unwilling to just walk away and let the chapter fail, I have offered to stay until we do find someone to take over .

I have enjoyed my involvement with the secular humanists of northeast Ohio. I have met some truly wonderful and kind people. I have learned much about what it means to be part of a community. I have had the pleasure of helping people advocate for their rights through the Secular Summit events at the Ohio Statehouse and introducing the Secular Celebrant bill. This has been an incredible experience.

It has also been a truly taxing experience. I'm tired. No, scratch that. I'm exhausted. And I just can't be the leader that this chapter needs right now. So, while I will remain President for now, I won't be a very effective one.

So, if you are keeping score, you might have noticed that we have no one taking up the VP of Programming for Akron-Canton. We have a temporary President and a temporary Secretary. We haven't had anyone in the marketing position for years. Without marketing, it's

CFI NE Ohio News And Views

Thoughtful articles, letters, reviews, reports, anecdotes and cartoons are welcomed. Submit in electronic format to editor Brent Bowen at bbowen1005@aol.com, or by mail to CFI NE Ohio News & Views, P.O. Box 2379, Akron OH 44309. Contributions for the Apr., 2019 issue must be received by Mar. 15, 2019.

Message from the President (continued)

harder to bring in new members. Without programming, it's hard to hold events. I'm sure you are getting the picture here.

We need people to step up. If this community wants to keep a chapter alive, then this community needs to provide the people who can make it happen. Until that happens, we find ourselves needing to make some changes in what we do. The current schedule is unsustainable. The next three months of monthly meetings in Stow will be group discussions. Please thank Jackie McCaman, our Treasurer, for stepping up and offering to lead those meetings for us. There are, currently, no plans to keep holding meetings in Stow after this quarter. That could change if someone takes over the programming. But, as of now, there are no plans.

The Cleveland chapter events will remain the same for now. Mark Tiborsky is doing an excellent job keeping things running. We are hoping to move them to a more central location in the second quarter, so that the attendees further south will have an easier time to get to events if we no longer hold them in Stow. The last Sunday's Book Chats will be dropped from our calendar. We will continue to hold Long Winded Answers on the second Tuesday of the month, led by board member Paul Woodring. And our Café Inquiry socials will also continue on the third Monday of the month. Please thank Paul for offering to take over these events.

And so, the future is uncertain, as it always is. A volunteer chapter is always hard, since people have to go above and beyond to make it work. Let's find those next people who are willing to step up and lead this chapter into the future. I want to thank everyone who helped make this chapter what it is, those who came before me, and those who have worked with me. We shape our community with our actions. Here's hoping for some very positive steps forward!

2019 Cleveland Chapter Programs Begin With a Bang

A controversial topic among nonbelievers is whether to be antagonistic or accommodating to religious beliefs. That explosive topic kicks off what is sure to be an interesting schedule of programs in 2019.

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary, which is perhaps the most trusted source for concise definitions, defines "secular humanism" by first referring to one of its definitions for "humanism": "Humanism, sense 3: a doctrine, attitude, or way of life centered on human interests or values; especially: a philosophy that usually rejects supernaturalism and stresses an individual's dignity and worth and capacity for self-realization through reason." This seems well enough. But the entry for "secular humanism" also includes the following: "Especially: humanistic philosophy viewed as a nontheistic religion antagonistic to traditional religion."

And therein lays one of its problems, along with one of its shortcomings. With its "core principles" and its accent on goodness, secular humanism does indeed have a "religious" appearance to some. In addition, many who adhere to the philosophy of secular humanism seem to go out of their way to AVOID being "antagonistic" towards religion (or at least SOME religion).

Join us on Wed., Jan. 9, 7 p.m. at the Richmond Heights Library (5235 Wilson Mills Rd) for an exploration of

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Akron-Canton Chapter's Year Starts with Discussion Meetings

Because the Akron-Canton chapter has no programming officer currently, plans are to hold Box of Questions discussion meetings for the first three months of 2019. These discussions will be facilitated by CFI NE Ohio Treasurer Jackie McCaman.

Meetings are scheduled for the first Monday of each month, 7 p.m., at the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library in Stow. The dates are: Jan. 7, Feb. 4 and Mar. 4. Topics will be chosen prior to each meeting.



CFI NE Ohio President Monette Richards (right) prepares to greet the crowd at the "Exploring the Boundaries of Humanism" conference in September. Sitting at the table were the featured speakers, from left: Bill Lenart from Case Western Reserve, Stephanie Zvan from the Minnesota Atheists and Debbie Goddard from the Center for Inquiry. (Photo by Mark Tiborsky).

The Refugees are Coming

By Wayne Beckley

Slowly, slowly, banded together for safety against thieves and murdering gangs, the poor, hungry, frightened group of several thousand refugees flees their native countries of Honduras and Guatemala to trudge toward an unknown future, hoping to achieve a better life for themselves and their children. Some carry flags of the countries they have left, though not for the reason surmised by those who want to distort reality for their own political purposes. They actually love their countries of origin and are displaying this fact, but they are not an advancing army. So why are they leaving in large masses? Therein lays a tale stretching back through several decades.

The immediate answer to the question is that the places they have left are far more dangerous, even deadly, than anything they might encounter at their apparent destination. Imagine living in a country of warring gangs, totaling tens of thousands of members. These gangs don't just kill each other, stray bullets are flying everywhere, killing and wounding innocent bystanders. Homicide rates there are among the highest ever recorded in Central America, far higher even than during the region's wars in the 1980s. People are at risk of becoming targets if they refuse to join a gang or if they even speak out against the gangs. Even children are being recruited into gangs. Extortion and sexual violence are also occurring. Civil society has broken down to the point that many areas are not safe. Who but criminals would want to live there under these conditions?

These gangs didn't just spring up overnight. For decades, our country has waged a "war on drugs" by making certain drugs illegal and incarcerating users without addressing their addiction as a medical problem. Many people have lost their lives from this non-solution, while the drugs and their suppliers have thrived. There are more addicts now than there ever were, and more violence in the countries where the drugs are coming from. Drugs produced in Columbia travel through Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador and then through Mexico, in a trail of lawlessness and extreme violence. Of course, not all parts of these countries are unsafe, just mostly where the poor people live.

But, the problems Central American countries are experiencing go back much further. In 1904 Teddy Roosevelt declared that the United States had the right to exercise "international police power" in Latin America.

What followed is a long history of intervention through U.S. - backed military coups, corporate plundering and extraction of resources that have left these countries destabilized, impoverished and prone to violence. "U.S. policies of military intervention and economic neoliberalism have undermined democracy and stability in the region, creating vacuums of power in which drug cartels and paramilitary alliances have arisen," writes Mark Tseng-Putterman, of medium.com, "There are few connections being drawn between the weakening of Central American rural agricultural economies at the hands of CAFTA and the rise in migration from the region in the years since. In general, the U.S. takes no responsibility for the conditions that drive Central American migrants to the border."

The results are what we see today: the victims of U.S. overreach are blamed for their victimization! They are vilified as murderers and rapists, coming

to create havoc and take our jobs! Imagine the bitter irony and humiliation of fleeing the impossible conditions created in your own country and having to find help in surviving your ordeal by going to the very country that created your problems, only to be utterly rejected as being evil and unworthy of any help. Imagine being tricked into giving up your children at the

border and then sent back the way you came without them and without the possibility of ever seeing them again by people so callous and uncaring as to not even keep track of who belongs to whom. Imagine seeking help from a country which ignores its own laws regarding refugees and instead fires tear gas across the border at mothers with young children in diapers. All this from a country which calls itself "exceptional" and "a shining city on a hill!" The bitter irony! Instead, we have shown ourselves (or many of the people in power) to be selfish, unfeeling, uncaring and racist; unworthy of the praise we heap on ourselves.

Fortunately, we have had an election which shows that not all, or even most of us, feel that what is happening to refugees, among many other things, is right and just. There is still hope that we can do the right things; compassionate things, honest, truthful, humane things which may yet redeem us from the wrong we have allowed to be done in our name. It is a start.



Mark Your Calendars

Cleveland Chapter Programs

“Why Secular Humanism Ought to be More Abrasive,” by Mark Tiborsky
Wed., Jan. 9, 7-8:45 p.m.
Richmond Hts. Library
5235 Wilson Mills Road

Darwin Day Celebration
Speaker TBA
Tue., Feb. 12, 7-8:45 p.m.
Brecksville Library
9089 Brecksville Road

“Dying and the Heart of Dying Project”
By Adaire Petrichor
Thur., Mar. 14, 7-8:45 p.m.
Mayfield Library
500 S.O.M. Center Road

Akron-Canton Chapter Programs

Box of Questions
Mon., Jan. 7, 7-8:45 p.m.
Stow-Munroe Falls Library
3512 Darrow Rd., Stow

Box of Questions
Mon., Feb. 4, 7-8:45 p.m.
Stow-Munroe Falls Library

Box of Questions
Mon., Mar. 4, 7-8:45 p.m.
Stow-Munroe Falls Library

Café Inquiry Socials

(All socials at Beef O’Brady’s, 3712 Darrow Rd., Stow)

Mon., Jan. 21, 6:30 p.m.
Mon., Feb. 18, 6:30 p.m.
Mon., Mar. 18, 6:30 p.m.

Long-Winded Answers Meetings

(All meetings at Panera Bread, 2855 W. Market St., Fairlawn)

Tue., Jan. 8, 6:30 p.m.
Tue., Feb. 12, 6:30 p.m.
Tue., Mar. 12, 6:30 p.m.

Humanism Won Big in November

By Nicole Carr (*Excerpted from “A Humanist Recap of the Mid-term Election”, thehumanist.com, 11/8/2018*)

In very good midterm election news, all ten members of the Congressional Freethought Caucus won their reelections by considerable margins [in November]. That means Representatives Jared Huffman (D-CA) and Jamie Raskin (D-MD), caucus co-chairs; Dan Kildee (D-MI) and Jerry McNerney (D-CA), the other founding members; and Steve Cohen (D-TN), Pramila Jayapal (D-WA), Hank Johnson (D-GA), Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), and Mark Pocan (D-WI) will all be returning to the US House of Representatives.

As a reminder, the Freethought Caucus promotes public policy based on reason, science, and moral values. The American Humanist Association (AHA) was honored to participate in the organizational meetings that resulted in its foundation.

The good news wasn’t limited to the House of Representatives. In the Senate, Jacky Rosen (D-NV), who identifies herself as an ally of the secular community, beat incumbent Dean Heller.

The Freethought Equality Fund (FEF) PAC—affiliated with the Center for Freethought Equality, which is the political and advocacy arm of the AHA—endorses candidates who identify as humanist, atheist, or agnostic, and who share the goal of protecting the separation of church and state and defending the civil liberties of secular Americans.

In addition to victorious federal candidates, FEF-endorsed candidates won state House and Senate seats in Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, Wisconsin, and Wyoming! ...

Newly elected Senator Rosen, a computer programmer, is one of nine incoming legislators who are credentialed in fields of science and medicine. Seven Democratic scientists will become members of the House, including an industrial engineer, an ocean scientist, a dentist, a biochemical engineer, a nurse, a nuclear engineer, and a pediatrician. One new Republican is a former aerospace engineer who ran as a businessman. ...

Progressive values truly carried the day. The 47 members or allies of the freethought community who are now elected officials at the state and federal level will continue the work of ... promoting policy based in reason, science, and compassion.

Our Group is Facing Real Challenges

By Brent Bowen



About 24 years ago, in the fall of 1994 to be exact, I contacted the Council for Secular Humanism to express my interest in starting a group for secular humanists in the NE Ohio area. What prompted me to engage in such a project was the surprising fact that there were no groups for nonbelievers at all in our well-populated

area at that time. I later learned that there was a robust humanist group in the 1960s, but that eventually folded. It was time, I believed, to establish an organization where humanists could gather and openly discuss their nonbelief – and their appreciation for science and secular values – without reprisal.

The Council was agreeable and more than supportive, as they linked me with a group of men (including current member Mel Vye) to help organize an initial meeting, which occurred in January of 1995 at the Independence Library. The name of our group then was the Free Inquirers of Northeastern Ohio, also known as FINO.

Here we are, in 2019, still surviving and under a different moniker, CFI of NE Ohio. The name change of our local group is just one of the many evolutions we've seen over these 24 years.

Organizations ebb and flow, and sometimes they die. I have witnessed many humanists groups in other cities form and perish. We are fortunate that we've had enough volunteer leaders and group members to sustain us over our long history.

I am one of those volunteer leaders, having been president of the group for 13 of our 24 years. Other past presidents include Mel Vye, Rob Swindell, and Randy Pelton. Monette Richards, who has done a stellar job for us for the past five years as president, has chosen to limit her activities with CFI of NE Ohio and be our acting president going forward. Our group has also chosen to scale down its activities based on its thin leadership core.

Our humanist group can now be described as being in survival mode. We've been here before. I recall a pivotal December meeting in 1998 when we talked about disbanding. At that time, we were the only game in town when it came to humanism, long before the likes of the Cleveland Freethinkers or the Northern Ohio Freethought Society came into view. We decided that it

was too important to have a safe haven for nonbelievers in our area and we must do whatever it takes to soldier on. We made adjustments to how we operated to make that happen.

Throughout our history, we've always had the challenge of recruiting people to fill the officer roles. I remember the stress I'd feel in the autumn of the years when I was president of encouraging some officers to stay on another year and cajoling others to step in to fill the voids. The peril comes when you rely on the same group of people to do all the work, year after year. Burn out inevitably results. I know I felt the burn out when I stepped down as president after 2009.

The current version of CFI NE Ohio likewise has been depending on many of the same people to perform the myriad of activities to keep the group vital and running. Even as talented and dedicated a president as Monette Richards reached a tipping point in which she announced she would no longer be president. Fortunately for us, she agreed to stay on in a limited role so our group can survive – for now.

We humanists often pride ourselves in being rational thinkers and rejecting magical thinking. But to me, it is magical thinking to continually think others will willingly put in their time and effort so that some of us can attend a meeting or event whenever we feel like it.

Sometimes, when I attempted to persuade a member to become an officer, I heard some version of "I can't." In some instances, that sentiment was valid for various reasons. But I propose that there is a big difference between "I can't" and "I won't." Some members assuredly have the time and the physical and mental capabilities to handle an officer role, so they "can" do the job but simply "won't."

If humanism is important to you, and you believe it's vital to have a place locally where you can meet and learn with people who think like you do, then I encourage you to say you "can" step up. No officer's job takes so much time that it's overwhelming. Generally, a few hours a month is all that's required (some months more, some months less). Plus, you have other officers and past officers to help in challenging times. And if being an officer seems like too much commitment, consider helping out with a project.

We are at another crossroads, folks, in what is the longest standing humanist group in NE Ohio. We can stare at the changes, dazed, and let it slide, or we can lend a hand to prop it up.

You decide.

Book Review: *Chronicles of a Liquid Society*



CHRONICLES OF A LIQUID SOCIETY

by UMBERTO ECO

The first time I became aware of a writer named Umberto Eco was when I bought from a local library a used copy of a novel of his titled *Foucault's Pendulum*, in which three vanity press editors of occult and conspiracy topics decide to feed all these bizarre notions into a computer that invents connections between all of them, which they call "The Plan." What the computer produces is so convincing that the editors begin to believe it and when the original true believers get word of "The Plan" things get out of hand, and the results are hilarious. The pendulum, while involved in the Plan, actually symbolizes provable reality.

But that is not the book of Umberto Eco's being discussed here. It is the posthumously issued *Chronicles of a Liquid Society*, a compilation of short essays from his regular column in the Italian "L'Espresso" magazine on a number of subjects separated in general categories and year written. (I should mention that novelist, essayist and philosopher Eco was also on the International Academy of Humanism's list of Humanist Laureates.) *Chronicles* is so diverse only one topic will be discussed here - "On Conspiracies."

Professor Eco, by nature a skeptic, was "always inclined to doubt any conspiracy, since I believe my fellow human beings are incapable of dreaming up a perfect one. Since I believe that our world was created by chance, I have no difficulty believing that most of the events that have racked it...have happened by chance or through the concurrence of a series of human follies." Nonetheless, conspiracy theories abound, including those about the "real cause" behind 9/11 and the moon landings being a hoax. Regarding the moon landings, if they weren't real, the Soviets would have exposed the conspiracy. "And [since] the Soviets have kept silent, this is proof that the Americans actually got to the moon. And that's the end of it." Eco further states, regarding a domestic conspiracy behind 9/11: "if there is a secret, even if only one person knows about it, this person will reveal it sooner or later." And there would have had to be many co-conspirators.

Of course there are real conspiracies, but they lack the byzantine details and unlikely relationships. "Every coup d'état was a conspiracy, people conspire to take over a company by gradually buying up shares, or they conspire to plant a bomb on a subway...When people refer to conspiracy syndrome, however, they are talking about the idea of a universal conspiracy, in certain the-

ologies even of a cosmic dimension, so that all or almost all the events of history are moved by a single and mysterious power that operates in the shadows." In this light, the Bible has the earmarks of a universal conspiracy. In fact, it can be seen as the mother of all conspiracies which inspires other conspiracies.

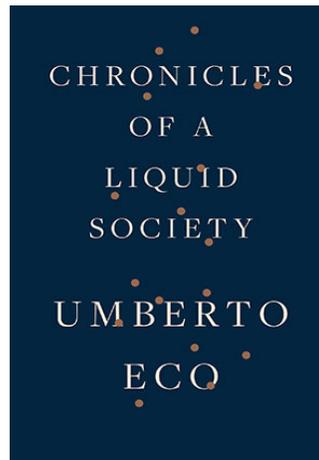
Eco provides an example of a universal conspiracy from a web site by Joel Labruyere: "Labruyere's site raises the Jesuit obsession to a fever pitch. According to him, the Jesuits had always intended to establish a world government, controlling the pope as well as the various European monarchies. Through the notorious Bavarian Illuminati, whom the Jesuits themselves had created before condemning them as Communists, they sought to bring down those monarchies that had outlawed the Company of Jesus. It was the Jesuits, he says, who had sunk the Titanic, because from that disaster they could set up the Federal Reserve Bank through the mediation of the Knights of Malta, whom they control, and it is no coincidence that three of the world's richest Jews, John

Jacob Astor, Benjamin Guggenheim, and Isidor Straus, who were opposed to the founding of the bank, were drowned on the Titanic. Along with the Federal Reserve Bank, the Jesuits funded the two world wars, which have clearly brought advantage only to the Vatican." Labruyere then includes the Kennedy assassination, CIA and KGB in the mix!

From this typical example, we can clearly see how conspiracies are constructed by working backwards through disparate facts to achieve a sinister, seemingly clever plot to manipulate world events for a specific purpose by secret, shadowy yet supremely powerful organizations. There are no coincidences; every event has a hidden purpose. To some, these conspiracies are fascinating, and thus likely true, to the extent that facts that don't fit the narrative are discounted! Are conspiracies attractive because they promise information that others don't have, or do they free us from having to face the truth? Is there a conspiracy to divert our attention through conspiracies?

Other topics in the book include religion, cell phones, death, mass media, education, stupidity, racism, folly and philosophy.

Reviewed by Wayne Beckley



Cleveland Chapter Programs

(Continued from page 2)

those ideas and much more. VP of Programming Mark Tiborsky will present “Why Secular Humanism Ought to Be More Abrasive.” In his presentation, Mark will attempt to show how applied secular humanism falls short when addressing real world problems – and, he will attempt to show why secular humanists ought to fully address what they stand AGAINST in order to reinforce what they stand FOR.

Speaking of controversial, consider a much-maligned scientist from the 19th century who changed the way the world considered living things. February once again brings us our annual celebration of Darwin Day, in the honor of Charles Darwin who once stated, “I cannot persuade myself that a beneficent and omnipotent God would have designedly created parasitic wasps with the express intention of their feeding within the living bodies of Caterpillars.”

His quote serves as a not-so-subtle reminder that while nature can be absolutely beautiful, it can be horrifying as well! With his theory of evolution by natural selection, Darwin changed the way humanity looks at the world - for both those who accept the science behind his theory and those who don't.

Join us on Tue., Feb. 12, 7 p.m., at the Brecksville Library (9089 Brecksville Rd) for this year's Darwin Day celebration! We will be hosting a special guest speaker TBD – keep an eye out for emails with further details. In addition, Darwin Day cake will be served along with other light refreshments. We hope to see you there!

Then in March, we'll approach a topic that affects each one of us. Benjamin Franklin famously stated “...in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.” But only one of those things can be deemed truly certain for every human, and for every other living organism that has ever existed on Earth – and that, unfortunately, is death!

For our March Cleveland chapter meeting, we will be joined by Adaire Petrichor, who is the founder and president of the Heart of Dying Project. Her organization is “a non-profit dedicated to building compassionate communities of care, through education and advocacy, in support of the end of life.” In her presentation, Adaire will provide details on what happens to the mind and body at death (and as death approaches) in addition to providing an overview of what she (and her organization) does.

The March Cleveland chapter meeting will be held on Thur., Mar. 14, 7 p.m., at the Mayfield Library (500 S.O.M. Center Rd).

“There Is No God. No One Directs The Universe”

By Herman Mehta (*Reprinted from "Stephen Hawking Says, in Final Book, 'There Is No God, No One Directs the Universe'" at friendlyatheist.patheos.com/201810/16*).

In a book completed by his family and colleagues after his death, physicist Stephen Hawking says in no uncertain terms, “There is no God. No one directs the universe.”

Brief Answers to the Big Questions is, as the title suggests, a series of responses to the ten questions Hawking heard most often during his life. Along with questions about time travel, black holes, and artificial intelligence, people wanted to know Hawking's thoughts about God. That may be because he evaded the question for quite some time. He didn't definitively say he was an atheist until 2014, and his books often alluded to knowing the mind of God, at least metaphorically speaking.

But he's done with the ambiguity. Regarding a question about God's existence, Hawking was crystal clear: “We are each free to believe what we want, and it's my view that the simplest explanation is that there is no God. No one created the universe and no one directs our fate. This leads me to a profound realization: there is probably no heaven and afterlife either. I think belief in the afterlife is just wishful thinking. It flies in the face of everything we know in science. I think that when we die we return to dust. But there is a sense we live on, in our influence, and in the genes we pass to our children.”

That lines up with what many atheists and scientists have said. Note that Hawking isn't saying he has conclusive proof of God's non-existence; he knew as well as anyone that such proof is impossible. Rather, he's just summarizing his own thoughts on the subject in simple terms.

Will it convince religious people to change their minds? Probably not. Reason isn't always enough to sway people from an emotional belief. But his book isn't meant to be an argument against God's existence. The responses are his own. Take them or leave them. At the very least, if there was any speculation that Hawking converted in his final moments, let's hope this book puts an end to that fiction.

In any case, stay tuned for hot takes from Christian apologists who insist they know more than one of the smartest people in history.

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CFI NE OHIO
P.O. Box 2379
Akron, OH 44309



CFI of Northeast Ohio

*Working to promote and defend reason, science, and freedom of inquiry
in all areas of human endeavor.*

Upcoming Programs

January Meetings:

Box of Questions discussion meeting, Mon., Jan. 7, 7-8:45 p.m., Stow-Munroe Falls Library

“Why Secular Humanism Ought to be More Abrasive” by Mark Tiborsky, Wed., Jan. 9, 7-8:45 p.m., Richmond Hts. Library

February Meetings:

Box of Questions discussion meeting, Mon., Feb. 4, 7-8:45 p.m., Stow-Munroe Falls Library

Darwin Day Celebration, Speaker TBA, Tue., Feb. 12, 7-8:45 p.m., Brecksville Library

March Meetings:

Box of Questions discussion meeting, Mon., Mar. 4, 7-8:45 p.m., Stow-Munroe Falls Library

“Dying and the Heart of Dying Project” by Adaire Petrichor, Thur., Mar. 14, 7-8:45 p.m., Mayfield Library

CFI NE Ohio

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On the web: <https://cfineohio.org/>

Our Purpose

To foster a community of secular humanists dedicated to improving the human condition through rational inquiry, creative thinking and the scientific method, unfettered by superstition, religion or any form of dogma.