March 24
Mary Anna Hartley presents
New Discoveries Inside Jamestown Church
Jamestown Rediscovery archaeologist Mary Anna Hartley takes us deep inside the recent excavations at the 1617 Jamestown church, which in 1619 hosted the first meeting of Virginia’s General Assembly. Learn how Hartley and her team are using modern science, technology and forensics to help identify individuals buried there, most notably Governor George Yeardley, who called the first Assembly.

April 7
Doug Owsley presents
Forensic Files of the 17th-Century Chesapeake
Renowned Smithsonian Institution forensic anthropologist Doug Owsley takes us to Jamestown and other 17th-century sites in Virginia and Maryland to reveal how scientific analysis of skeletal remains has shed light on the identities and experiences of European and African colonists in the Chesapeake.

October 13
Connie Lapallo presents
Forgotten Heroines: Virginia’s First Women and Children
Award-winning author Connie Lapallo transports us to 1609 and the journey of Joan Peirce and her daughter, who survive a hurricane at sea and Jamestown’s Starving Time to make a new life in the fledgling Virginia colony. Based on a true story, Lapallo reveals the courage these daunting women show in the face of disease, martial law and other hardships at Jamestown.

November 3
Brent Tarter presents
The First General Assembly of Virginia, July–August 1619
Few know more about Virginia history than Library of Virginia scholar Brent Tarter, who explores the origins of Virginia’s General Assembly, the first representative legislature in the New World. Tarter shows that while not originally intended as a formal lawmaking body but rather a new tool for the Virginia Company to help manage the colony, the Assembly nonetheless passed laws and became an institution of government that has shaped Virginia for four centuries.