



Friends of John Jay Homestead and John Jay Homestead State Historic Site  
 present the  
 2010 John Jay Lecture Series

## THROUGH THE EYES OF THREE GENERATIONS OF JAYS

Thursday, February 4th

**BARNET SCHECTER, *The Devil's Own Work: The Civil War Draft Riots and the Fight to Reconstruct America.***

Nine days after Gettysburg and six months after the Emancipation Proclamation, the New York draft riots were the largest insurrection in U.S. history apart from the Civil War itself. They laid bare the explosive divisions between ethnic groups in fast-growing New York, and in four violent days nearly destroyed the city. John Jay II was a leading New York Republican, and corresponded closely with the government in Washington about the causes of the riots, and the Federal government's options for responding to the violence. Schecter, a Manhattan-based writer and historian, was an advisor for the New York Historical Society's exhibit *Lincoln and New York* and a contributor to the companion volume. He is a fellow of the New York Academy of History.

Thursday, March 18th

**CLIFF SLOAN, *The Great Decision: Jefferson, Adams, Marshall, and the Battle for the Supreme Court.***

John Jay served as the nation's first Chief Justice before resigning for what he viewed as the more desirable position of Governor of New York. By the time John Adams asked him to return to the Court to serve again as Chief Justice, he had concluded that it could never be a co-equal branch of government along with the Executive and Legislative, and he declined. Instead, Adams appointed Federalist John Marshall, who went on to establish the principle of judicial review, in the case of *Marbury v. Madison*. *The Great Decision* explores the politics of the election of 1800, some say the first ever peaceful transfer of power between political groups, and the still-controversial facts and reasoning of the opinion itself. Sloan, a former Supreme Court clerk and former publisher of *Slate* magazine, is a partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, in Washington, D.C.

Thursday, April 15th

**GRAHAM RUSSELL GAO HODGES, *David Ruggles: A Radical Black Abolitionist and the Underground Railroad in New York City.***

David Ruggles was of one of the most heroic figures of the early abolitionist movement in America, involved in securing freedom for more than 600 former slaves, including Frederick Douglass. A bookstore owner and publisher in New York City, he was an essential link between disparate anti-slavery groups, and a force for radicalizing some of those groups. William Jay supported his work in several crucial ways, including helping to finance his investigation of the kidnapping of Rye resident Peter Lee (a free man), and prosecuting a Portuguese sea captain whom Ruggles had had arrested for slave trading. Hodges is George Dorland Langdon Jr. Professor of History and Africana Studies at Colgate University. He is author or editor of more than a dozen books, including *Root and Branch: African Americans in New York and East Jersey, 1613-1863*.

With special thanks to the Scholars Committee:

Melissa Vail – Chair

John M. Greenwood  
 The Hon. Donald P. Gregg  
 Timothy B. Harwood  
 Alexia & Jerry Jurschak

Brian F. Landry  
 Bonnie & Piers MacDonald  
 Silvia & Steve Ohler  
 George Hunter Roberts

Robert H. Saunders  
 Timothy P. Schieffelin  
 Roger G. Schwartz  
 Norman Selby

John Stockbridge  
 Kate & Tom Terry  
 John & Caroline Walker

Lectures are held in the Ballroom at John Jay Homestead State Historic Site at 7:00 P.M., registration beginning at 6:30 P.M. and light refreshments and book signing following the lecture. Reservations are recommended. For information, contact Friends of John Jay Homestead at 914.232.8119, email: friends@johnjayhomestead.org or contact John Jay Homestead State Historic Site at 914.232.5651.

No tickets will be mailed

Tear-off and return in enclosed envelope.

\$15 Per Lecture – Member

Free for Students (limited availability)

\$25 Per Lecture – Non-member

\_\_\_\_\_ February 4th ♦ BARNET SCHECTER

\_\_\_\_\_ March 18th ♦ CLIFF SLOAN

\_\_\_\_\_ April 15th ♦ GRAHAM HODGES

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