On the heels of International Women's Day and in honor of March as National Women's History Month, MCC Credit-Free Programs is spotlighting Art & Crafts courses taught by a number of the area's most accomplished women artists.

Credit-Free instructors include Judith E. Goldstein, who is a Precious Metal Clay (PMC) Guild-certified teacher and has been a professional metalsmith for more than 30 years.

Goldstein will teach a series in PMC chaining, beginning with "Create a Beautiful Bronze Bracelet" Monday, March 26 from 6 to 10 p.m. Her contemporary pewter designs in hollowware, jewelry, and ritual art have sold in galleries and museum gift shops across the country. Her art has been featured in Food & Wine and Gourmet magazines. To register, refer to CRN 12238.

Goldstein will teach advanced levels, "More Beautiful Bronze Bracelets" and "Even More Beautiful Bronze Bracelets" beginning April 16 and April 23 respectively. To register, refer to CRN 12239 and CRN 12240. Other women artists on the MCC Credit-Free faculty include Natalia Piendel, an award-winning artist and member of the Manchester Art Association. Though versatile in her subject matter, she has become recognized for her expressive portraits.

She will be teaching "Learn to Draw Portraits" beginning April 10 through May 15 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. To register, refer to CRN 12330.

Christine LaFond, BFA from the University of Connecticut and graduate of Paier School of Art, will teach "Watercolor: The Next Step" beginning April 18 through May 23 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. To register, refer to CRN 12160.

Mallorie Ostrowitz, MFA from Lehman College and a bachelor's in fine arts from Queens College, has had her photography exhibited throughout the U.S. She will teach "The Art of Photography," April 16 through June 4, from 7 to 9 p.m., and "Advanced Seminar in Photography: Photographic Interpretation of the Last 50 Years," April 17 through June 5 from 7 to 9 p.m. To register, refer to CRN 12188 and CRN 12190 respectively.

In addition, Anne Hebebrand, whose artwork has been exhibited at the New Britain Museum of Art; the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury, Conn.; the Slater Museum in Norwich, Conn., will teach Introduction to Ceramics May 3 through June 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Hebebrand is a visiting artist with the Bushnell's "Partners in Art and Education Revitalizing Schools" program. To register, refer to CRN 12393. For more information, contact MCC Credit-Free Programs at 860-512-2800. To register call 860-512-3232 or view the catalog at www.mcc.commnet.edu.