American Politics Now
presented by Michael Krasner

At the New England Youth Theater, 100 Flat Street, Brattleboro

Monday, January 14, 1-3 pm
How Did We Get Here? Long Term Trends

• Increasing polarization and partisanship
• Buying elections—The growing influence of big money
• Electoral politics as a marketing exercise
• Increasing anxiety, alienation, and resentment stemming from:
  Defeat in Vietnam
  9/11 and subsequent terrorist attacks
  Stagnant standards of living
  Dimmed prospects—death of the American Dream
  Immigration—prospect of majority minority nation
  Decline of unions
  Republican party becomes extremist organization
  Fox News (and Breitbart) create a competing, alternate reality

Monday, January 21, 1-3 pm
Recent Results—The Elections of 2016 and 2018

• Populism left and right
• Decline of the Obama coalition
• Rise of women in resistance to Trump
• Small donors in election of 2018

Monday, January 28, 1-3 pm
Prospects and Strategies

• Are there emerging leaders or organizations
that can meet the challenges of the day?
• What to do in an era of increased partisanship?
• To impeach or not to impeach?
• Where do issues like global warming fit into the picture?

Michael Alan Krasner, Associate Professor of Political Science at Queens College, CUNY, also co-directs the Taft Institute, which promotes political participation. His essay on “Donald Trump and the New American Electoral Politics” is part of a new collection on Political Communication published by Routledge in 2018, and his articles on grassroots participation have appeared in the Journal of Peace Research, New German Critique, Social Policy, New York Affairs, and Urban Education. He is the co-editor of and a contributor to the forthcoming book, Immigrant Crossroads: Globalization, Incorporation and Placemaking in Queens NY.

$6 per lecture, or $15 for all three. Light refreshments will be served.

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