Tuesday, November 29, 2022
Location: HSC, Level 3, Lecture Hall 6
3:30pm- 5:00pm

In Defense of Medical Truants
Poetry, Humanities, and the Legacy of Edmund D. Pellegrino, MD

Maria A. Basile, MD, MBA

5 years before his death in 2013, founding vice president of Stony Brook’s Health Science Centers, Dr. Edmund Pellegrino, referred to himself as a “Medical Truant.” Join Dr. Maria Basile to discover what he and others meant by this term and how you, in your own way, have been a truant from Medicine. In the interactive session that follows her presentation, we’ll explore the answer to these meaningful questions, and more:

- Why Teach the Humanities at All?
- Why Teach the Humanities in Medical School?
- How Should the Liberal Arts be Taught? By Whom?
- How Do the Humanities Make Physicians and Patient Care Better?

Students and faculty from any of the Health Science Schools are welcome to attend and participate in this thought-provoking session.

Award-winning poet, surgeon, hospital and health plan administrator, Maria Basile, MD, MBA, C-HCQA is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Family, Population and Preventive Medicine and the Associate Director of the Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics at the Renaissance School of Medicine, Stony Brook University.

Dr. Basile has been a regular contributor to the Poetry and Medicine section of the Journal of the American Medical Association. She is the author of two chapbook poetry collections, Minimally Invasive: poems from a life in surgery and New, Not New: 15 things I’d like to know when I see you after quarantine. Her work has been published in literary and peer reviewed medical journals and anthologized with the creative writing of physicians and other caregivers. Dr. Basile is on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Medical Humanities, and an officer on the Board of Trustees of the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association. She is a Past-president of the Suffolk County Medical Society, the current president of the Suffolk Academy of Medicine and Vice-speaker for the Medical Society of the State of New York.