



*"If wrinkles must be written upon our brows,
let them not be written upon the heart.
The spirit should not grow old."
- James A. Garfield*

*Deadline for the August issue is July 15.
Send your news and notes to
olligazette@gmail.com
Type August Newsletter in the subject line!*

UNDER THE ROTUNDA

Message from Debra Varner, OLLI Director



LAURENCE AND ELAINE, JANUARY 2009

In Memoriam – Laurence Howard, Ed.D.

Laurence Howard, my dear friend of more than 25 years and former faculty member at OLLI passed away peacefully in the care of his beloved Elaine on June 6, 2009. He faced his final challenge with the cancer with grace and humor and taught me another of life's lessons.

He and I first met singing with the San Francisco Community Chorus. Since those many years ago, there has rarely been a week gone by that we weren't together talking politics, singing, playing Scrabble or sharing a meal. Here at OLLI he came to the Writers Workshop when I asked him if he would like to co-facilitate, and I believe he made a fine contribution to our writing program. He also taught a class on economics. He was a published author, university professor, management consultant, economist, software programmer, singer, political junkie and a good friend.

In his memory, I have established **The Laurence Howard Creative Writing Fund** benefiting the OLLI Creative Writing program and providing scholarships for individuals in process of writing their novel. Laurence and I talked about this in the days before he passed, and he expressed his gratitude at receiving such an honor. The honor is ours, Laurence!

If you wish to contribute, please make your check payable to the University Corporation with a note to benefit The Laurence Howard Creative Writing Fund at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute – SF State. Send your check to: Debra Varner/OLLI, 835 Market Street, 6th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103. Your donation is fully tax-deductible. Thank You!

State of OLLI - SF State

If you've read the news lately, you have heard of drastic cutbacks in services throughout the State of California. SF State is facing a severe deficit and is planning a number of ways to offset costs including mandatory furloughs of staff, layoffs and site closures. This poses no threat to the OLLI program in this next academic year, but we will have to make some major adjustments to weather the storm.

When you receive your Fall catalog in mid-July, you will see we had planned two sessions with 8 courses each. We had thoughtfully decreased the number of classes we normally offer in anticipation of projected cutbacks. The revenue generated through dues and registrations increased by 14% this past year. However, this is not enough to cover our expenses. The return from the Osher Endowment covers 20-25% of our budget, dues and fees cover 20-25% and CEL has generously underwritten 50 - 60% of the budget for these past 6 years.

The College of Extended Learning is no longer in a position to pay 50% of the OLLI budget, and therefore, we will need to do the following:

Cancel Classes We will have to cancel half the classes listed in the Fall catalog. We will notify you as to which classes are available via notices in the classrooms, in the next newsletter due out the end of July and on our Web site by mid-July. www.cel.sfsu.edu/olli/

This is hard news for us as we take pride in the diverse subject areas that we engage in and the small class sizes that encourage discussion, creativity and community.

However, the hardest part of this crisis is that we will lose our Program Coordinator position. That means Robert Martin will no longer be part of the OLLI team. Robert will remain at CEL but with another program beginning September 1.

In future, our strategies will have to be enhanced and strengthened in order to continue the quality program we provide at OLLI, and we will need your help in this. Please do for us the following:

1. **Teach a course.** If you or someone you know is interested in teaching at OLLI as a volunteer, please let us know. We have so many talented people in our community and we want to find out more about what you can offer.

2. **Be an OLLI Angel** by sponsoring a course for \$1,000. We would be delighted to announce your gift on our Web site and in our newsletter. A year's membership is included in this gift. See page 4 for more details on gift-giving.

3. **Volunteer your time.** We have a very active corps of volunteers sitting on Council and committees, acting as class liaisons, offering their skills and expertise in a number of areas. Now we will need volunteers to commit to assisting with member communications, marketing, registration, administrative tasks, event planning and hospitality, fundraising and grant writing and paying attention to the details that make OLLI a place that cares about its members.

4. **Identify potential donors.** If you know an individual, foundations or corporate donors or have contacts where you work, please let us know so we may contact them. It is the most important way to reach donors.

5. **Bring new members!** We need more members to fill the classes and to bring in much needed revenue. More people equal lower dues for everyone. The tried and true method for recruiting new members is word of mouth. Talk it up!

It cannot be stressed enough that these are extremely difficult times, and we do not want to see the doors closed at OLLI – SF State. OLLI at Santa Cruz closed last year, San Jose State OLLI will be closed this fall and Santa Clara OLLI is facing difficulties as well.

If we all pull together, we can steer through this crisis and make a better and stronger OLLI, and we have a great OLLI community that **can do!!**

Let's get to it and do it!!

Space Available in These Classes! Register Now!!

Poetry Workshop with Stephen Vincent

The Poetry Workshop will offer the opportunity to both write poems, as well as explore ways to read and interpret a variety of modern and contemporary poems. To get the fullest feel for the shape and sound of poetry, the class will include: ensemble readings of poems, critical interpretations, and imaginative writing exercises. The class will be encouraged to provide supportive feedback to new work, whether written inside or outside the workshop.

- * 6 meetings
- * Tues., Jul. 14-Jul. 28, 10:00am - 12:00pm and Thurs., Jul. 16-Jul. 30, 1:00 - 3:00pm
- * SF State Downtown Campus, 835 Market St., 6th Floor, San Francisco
- * \$125 – Schedule No. 95024

Haptic Drawing Workshop with Stephen Vincent



The Haptic space is the one our senses experience - or the way we are individually touched - in any environment through the combination of sounds, visuals, smells, etc. The haptic drawing is made by listening intensely to what our senses register whether, for example, we are listening to music, the news, or the sounds of voices. Our drawings will be made with ink in our sketchbooks in a variety of different contexts, e.g. various music recordings, lectures, in public spaces, such as in local parks, construction sites and street corners. Please bring the following materials to the first class: Pens: Faber-Castell (B - 2 each) and (F & M -1 each); Strathmore Drawing Pad 9 x 12' - 60#.

- * 3 meetings
- * Fri., Jul. 17, 2009 - Jul. 31, 2009, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- * SF State Downtown Campus, 835 Market St., 6th Floor, San Francisco
- * \$65 – Schedule No. 95029

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## Save these Dates!

Mark your calendar so you don't miss our early fall activities.

**REGISTER EARLY FOR THE FALL SESSIONS**  
Fall catalogs will be in the mail mid-July but you must choose from the updated list of courses on the Web site; registration begins **July 30**. Don't be late, so you get into the classes of your choice. Classes start **September 14**.

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Back-to-School Fall Preview *Member Get Together and Meet the Faculty* **September 3**



OLLI members' get together is from 2 - 3pm. Come reunite with old friends and welcome our newcomers. Learn about our fall courses and meet our faculty from 3 - 5pm. This is always an enjoyable way to spend an afternoon.

All are welcome!

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## **BRAIN FITNESS LECTURE**

Join us on September 9 from 12 – 1:30pm to hear from OLLI faculty member, Alvaro Fernandez, about his new book, [The SharpBrains Guide to Brain Fitness: 18 Interviews with Scientists, Practical Advice, and Product Reviews, to Keep Your Brain Sharp](#). Book signing follows the lecture.

## **Mark Your July Calendar!**

- July 1, 12:15pm - Curriculum Committee
- July 3, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday Observed - **SF State Closed**
- July 14, 1pm - Caring Community Study Group
- July 22, 12:15pm - Council Meeting
- July 27, 2pm - Drumming & Healing Circle
- July 28, 12pm - World Affairs Discussion Group

## NEW DUES FOR THE FALL - OLLI RETAINS BARGAIN PRICES!

Although we must raise our membership dues for the fall due to much-needed revenue, we will still maintain reasonable costs for quality programming at OLLI.

Annual Membership Dues - **\$390** - up to 3 courses each session - 15 courses per year = \$26/course!

New Members Only Annual Dues - **\$340** (for the first year only) - up to 3 courses each session – 15 courses per year = \$23/course!

Session Membership Dues - **\$250** - up to 3 courses each session - 3 courses per session = \$83/course (average \$135/course)

Individual Course fees are increased by \$10 beginning fall 2009. **\$80 - \$160/course**

Basic Membership Dues - **\$50**  
No courses included.

**Note:** All levels of membership include the lecture series, participation in monthly interest groups, student discounts at local vendors, access to SF State library and priceless friendships for the full academic year Sept. 2009 through Aug. 2010.

**Save money** by joining at the Annual Membership level. If you take a minimum of just three classes throughout the academic year, this is the best value for your dollars. Join us for a full year of learning, laughing, exercising your brain and building community. Think about it and bring your friends and family with you!



## Donations to OLLI

As you think about what OLLI has given you since you have been part of the OLLI community, please take time to remember a gift to OLLI.

OLLI is a self-sustaining organization within a University setting and relies on registrations, the return on the endowment and gifts from individuals to maintain a quality program with quality faculty at a reasonable cost. We hope you agree that it is a very good investment to ensure that OLLI lasts well into the future. Suggest to your friends and family that a great gift to you would be giving to OLLI. Or on other occasions, you may make a gift in honor of or in memory of others. We sincerely appreciate your donations and your commitment to OLLI. **THANK YOU!!**



Please make your check payable to the University Corporation and mail your tax-deductible donations to:  
Debra Varner/OLLI, 835 Market Street,  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103.



## Green Dimensions

OLLI member and textile artist, Regula Allenspach Weill, invites you to attend the opening of, “*A Fort Mason Center Exhibit Celebrating Bay Area Artists & Reclaimed Art Materials.*” Thursday, July 16, 5:30 – 7:30pm, Fort Mason Center, Fleet Room, Building D.  
RSVP: sustainably 415.345.7561 or [rachel@fortmason.org](mailto:rachel@fortmason.org).

## Discounts at the Westfield Centre

As a registered student of the SF State College of Extended Learning, you are eligible for the following discounts at participating vendors at the Westfield Centre. You must show your current registration ID card at the time of purchase.

### Burke Williams - Beyond the Spa

#### *The Weekday Vacation Club*

Introducing the Weekday Vacation Club where you can enjoy a luxurious, beneficial daily escape any Monday-Thursday. For only \$69 you receive your choice of a Pure Relaxation Massage or Spa Style Facial (\$120 value) and a full year of Vacation Club benefits, including 20% discounts on all treatments and products.



### Food Emporium

Our Westfield Centre neighbors in the Food Emporium are offering the following discounts to SF State Downtown staff, students, and instructors.



- \* Amoura—Employee pricing for sandwiches, coffee and water.
- \* Asqew Grill—10% off
- \* Beard Papa—10% off
- \* Buckhorn Grill—10% off
- \* Coriander Gourmet Thai—15% off
- \* Pasta Moto—15% off
- \* Sorabol—10% off

- \* Teaz Me Tea Bar & Fusion Café - 10% off
- \* Tom's Cookies—10% off
- \* Bistro Burger—10% off
- \* Mrs. Fields—10%
- \* Wetzel's Pretzels—10%

### American Conservatory Theater

The American Conservatory Theater (ACT) offers 50% off to SF State Downtown Campus students, staff, & faculty. Subscribe now to see four plays for as little as \$35. You must show proof of status to receive the discount. See the ACT website or call 415.749.2250.

*Check the CEL Web site for updates on current discounts. Vendors are subject to change.*

[www.cel.sfsu.edu/downtowncampus/discounts.cfm](http://www.cel.sfsu.edu/downtowncampus/discounts.cfm)



### Submissions TO OLLI GAZETTE

The Gazette is by, for and about OLLI members. The editors depend upon your contributions of news about all components and programs of OLLI. Please send your news and comments for the August issue by July 15 to [olligazette@gmail.com](mailto:olligazette@gmail.com).

**We want to hear from you and we want you to tell your friends about**



Contribute your ideas and learn more about Osher Lifelong Learning Institute – SF State Downtown Campus  
835 Market Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
415-817-4270  
[www.cel.sfsu.edu/olli/](http://www.cel.sfsu.edu/olli/)

MUNI and BART – Powell Street Station  
Parking - 5<sup>th</sup>/Mission Street Garage