



# LLI MATTERS

Learning for the Love of It

January 2018

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I often wonder how I managed to do everything I did when I was still working. Even more baffling to me is how full my days are in retirement - and what a large part of that time is filled by LLI and its many classes and activities.

We kicked off our second decade with a well-attended, festive dinner celebration at Garvan's on Huguenot Street. Old friends socialized, sang, and danced the early evening away. We sponsored 29 well-received classes this fall, including the highly-rated Season Ticket, allowing our members to interact in a very meaningful way with the students of SUNY New Paltz's Theatre Department. As you will see when you receive your Spring catalogue, our partnership with the University continues to deepen and grow.

Like any good organization, LLI continues to evolve. We have had a few changes to your Council. Our respected Treasurer, Jay Bishop, stepped down earlier this year and has been replaced by the ever-capable Faith Nichols, previously our Secretary. Her place has been taken over by Linda Paquin, who is doing a superb job. Alice Barner has left her position as a Member-at-Large and has stepped in as our new Volunteer Chair. I am extremely grateful to all of our volunteers, as they keep LLI up and running.

In this newsletter, you will meet our new Liaison, Shala Mills. She and her assistant, Dylan Hurley, have jumped in feet first and are actively working with Council to enrich the interplay between LLI and the University.

We will be offering 35 diverse and interesting courses this Spring. Additionally, we are looking forward to a trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show and more of our fun and interesting brunches at Woodland Pond.

It has been an honor to serve as your President, and as I near the end of my term this Spring, I look forward to further serving our membership.

Our Spring catalogue will be coming to you in late January - as always, register early, as classes fill quickly.

My best,  
Jessica D. Rothman  
President of LLI SUNY New Paltz 2017 - 2018

## College Courses for Seniors



*“Once you stop learning, you start dying.” —  
Albert Einstein*

Whether you loved attending college or university, or wanted to attend but never had the opportunity, seniors should consider the benefits of going back to school. Learning at any age is extremely beneficial for the brain.

# Gala Photos

CELEBRATION OF 10 YEARS OF  
EDUCATING THE WORLD OF 55+

**CELEBRATE!**



## Introducing Presenter, Lewis Brownstein



Lewis Brownstein is Professor Emeritus of International Relations at the State University of New York at New Paltz. He joined the faculty in 1968 after completing his doctorate at the School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University. His doctoral research was conducted in Kenya where he lived for a year. In 1974-75 he taught as a Visiting Professor of International Relations at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He has returned numerous times to the area on research trips and study missions including one on terrorism in Israel in 2005 and one to Oman in 2012. He has taught courses on terrorism, defense issues, the international relations of the Middle East, American foreign policy, political theory, revolution and counterrevolution and related topics. He served for twelve years as chair of his department and gives numerous lectures on his areas of expertise in the Mid-Hudson region.



## Introducing Presenter, Eric Chambers



I'm trying to think back...I think it was in September of 2014 when I first became acquainted with the LLI. I had just moved to New Paltz from Brooklyn, and I rented a booth at the Elting Memorial Library's annual book sale and fair, selling some of the journals I had learned how to make from taking classes at the Center for Book Arts. Jo Gangemi stopped at the

booth and spent a few minutes admiring some of my journals, and when she introduced herself to me she asked me a very simple question: "Have you thought about teaching at the LLI?" That was what started my experiences working with the LLI, which have become some of the best in my life.

I am fortunate to say that I have been working with the LLI for the past three years, teaching not only bookbinding and book repair, but linguistics classes as well. I'm currently a Ph.D. candidate at the City University of New York Graduate Center, and also teach linguistics courses at SUNY New Paltz. Living and working in New Paltz has given me the opportunity to be part of a vibrant, artistic community, full of people who love to learn and share knowledge and experiences with each other. Whenever I teach a course for the LLI, I often forget that I'm 'teaching': being around such warm and wonderful people, I think of it more as sharing cool art techniques and interesting information with friends!

# LLI Council 2017-2018

## Officers

President	Jessica Rothman: <a href="mailto:unclewill1423@gmail.com">unclewill1423@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Boyd Herforth: <a href="mailto:hbherforth@gmail.com">hbherforth@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Faith Nichols: <a href="mailto:faitnichols@msn.com">faitnichols@msn.com</a>
Secretary	Linda Lee Paquin <a href="mailto:linda.paquin@me.com">linda.paquin@me.com</a>
Immed Past President	Phyllis Sturm: <a href="mailto:sturmpny@gmail.com">sturmpny@gmail.com</a>
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	Stefi Morrison: <a href="mailto:smorrison2@hvc.rr.com">smorrison2@hvc.rr.com</a>

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Curriculum Development	Sheyda Eversley: <a href="mailto:sheyda10@gmail.com">sheyda10@gmail.com</a>
Catalog	Marilou Abramshe: <a href="mailto:maeducator@hvc.rr.com">maeducator@hvc.rr.com</a>
Classroom Management	Marilou Abramshe: <a href="mailto:maeducator@hvc.rr.com">maeducator@hvc.rr.com</a>
Classroom Assistants	Bonnie Hyde: <a href="mailto:bhyde43@yahoo.com">bhyde43@yahoo.com</a>
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Events	Alma Sloan: <a href="mailto:roundheels4@gmail.com">roundheels4@gmail.com</a>
	Bonnie Hyde: <a href="mailto:bhyde43@yahoo.com">bhyde43@yahoo.com</a>
	Dorothy Tyno: <a href="mailto:dottyno@earthlink.net">dottyno@earthlink.net</a>
Volunteers	Alice Barner: <a href="mailto:alice.barner@gmail.com">alice.barner@gmail.com</a>
Public Relations	Carole Heyl: <a href="mailto:cehey1@cs.com">cehey1@cs.com</a>
Newsletter	Phyllis Sturm: <a href="mailto:sturmpny@gmail.com">sturmpny@gmail.com</a>

## OTHERS

Registrar & Admin Asst.	Jane Winters: <a href="mailto:wintersj@newpaltz.edu">wintersj@newpaltz.edu</a>
SUNY New Paltz Liaison	Dr. Shala Mills, Assistant VP graduate and Extended Learning: <a href="mailto:millss@newpaltz.edu">millss@newpaltz.edu</a>

# **WALK OF HONOR AT SUNY NEW PALTZ**



**Checkout the newly installed Walk of Honor  
near the Student Union Building  
Look for both the LLI brick and the one in honor  
of our founding President, Lyn Mayo**

## Dr. Shala Mills, Liaison

SUNY New Paltz announced the appointment of Dr. Shala Mills as the College's new assistant vice president for graduate and extended learning after a competitive national search. She assumed her new role on August 28. Mills previously served as director of liberal education and chair and professor of political science, at Fort Hays State University in Kansas.



As the assistant vice president for graduate and extended learning at SUNY New Paltz, Mills provides leadership to our programs in graduate and extended learning, including summer session, winter session, online and hybrid courses, and extension programs, including Lifetime Learning. She works closely with academic departments across the College, as well as with the Center for International Programs, to support the College's goals of providing high-quality educational opportunities to a wide range of students throughout the region and beyond.

"Dr. Mills was eager to work with the campus community in continuing its excellent graduate programming and further developing online and hybrid programs for students at both the undergraduate and graduate level," said Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Lorin Basden Arnold. "Her enthusiasm and experience in leading initiatives that

capitalize on multiple teaching modalities will serve us well as we work to provide an excellent education to students, in the region and beyond."

Mills has provided leadership to a variety of curricular initiatives while at Fort Hays University (FHSU). She helped guide the process of revising the University's Liberal and General Education Program, led the Department of Political Science as it expanded its undergraduate program into the online environment, and shepherded growth in several primarily online interdisciplinary Masters of Liberal Studies and Masters of Professional Studies programs. She also created the Political Science Department's dual degree program with Shenyang Normal University in China.

Mills has taught courses in the areas of law and the courts, current political issues, sustainability, food and politics, and global challenges. She has served as one of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities' Global Engagement Scholars, as the National Coordinator for the AASCU Global Challenges Project, and spent her 2015-16 sabbatical serving as the National Manager for AASCU's Blended Course Consortium. Her most recent publications and presentations have covered global challenges, academic assessment and leadership, and new models for educating students.

At FHSU she has been engaged in a wide range of service activities including leading FHSU's Food and Hunger Initiatives and managing FHSU's two-year Healthy Living Grant with the Kansas Health Foundation. Civic engagement is one of her core values, permeating her teaching, scholarship and service, and leading her to involvement in the AASCU American Democracy Project where she serves on the National Steering Committee. In 2017, Mills was the recipient of the AASCU American Democracy Project Barbara Burch Award for Faculty Leadership in Civic Engagement.

Mills is excited to have joined SUNY New Paltz in the role of assistant vice president for graduate and extended learning. Commenting on her appointment, she said, "It is clear that SUNY New Paltz shares my commitment to high quality liberal education. I look forward to helping the university expand its reputation for excellence by increasing opportunities to better meet the needs of students."

Mills holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Baylor University in Texas and she earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Kansas.



## Dylan Hurley, Program Assistant

Dylan Hurley is the new Program Assistant for Graduate and Extended Learning at SUNY New Paltz, having been in the role since August 2017. He acts as the Liaison between the department and the Lifetime Learners Institute. His other duties include managing the University in the High School Programs, managing graduate testing on campus, and coordinating the Winter & Summer Sessions on campus.



Prior to working at New Paltz, Dylan was an AmeriCorps VISTA with Hudson River Housing in Poughkeepsie for two years, working on community building. He graduated from Wheaton College in Massachusetts with a Liberal Arts Degree in Film and New Media Studies, and Sociology. He is a native of the Hudson Valley.

## Outreach Program

An information session about LLI will be held at Woodland Pond on Thursday, January 18th at 1:30pm. It is opened to the public. (Snow Day, Thursday, January 25th at 1:30pm.). In addition, other sites around the county will be hosting informational sessions for prospective member as well.

## Member Testimonial for Wellness SIG

### (Special Interest Group)

“Seven years ago, through LLI, I took a wellness course with Puja Thompson. A number of us in the course truly didn't want it to end, so a suggestion was made that we continue to meet. And meet we have, just about every month to discuss our health and lives. Sadly one of our 9 passed away but we continue to learn, share and genuinely care for each other. A true gift.—Ginny

**PLEASE Like**



**our Facebook page:**

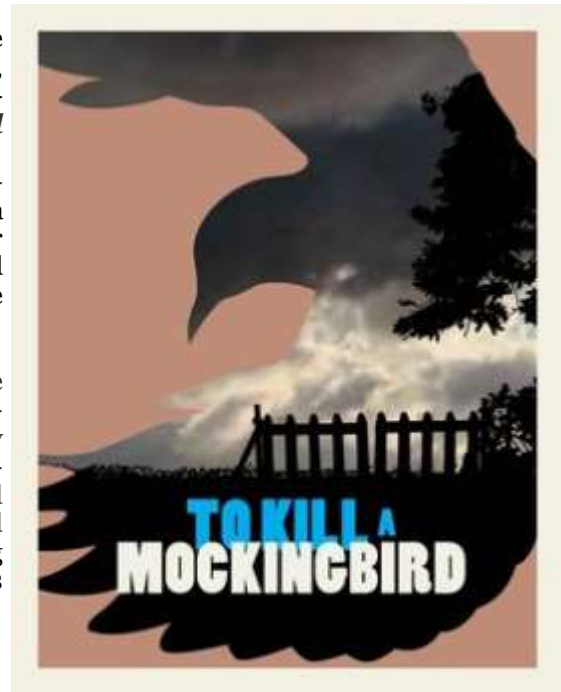
**Lifetime Learning Institute—New Paltz**





This year LLI embarked on a new partnership with the Department of Theatre at SUNY New Paltz. The class, entitled Season Ticket, focused around two performances, a dramatic adaptation of *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The Program was developed by Jessica Rothman, the current president of LLI, who prior to her retirement, was a theatre educator and director of student and summer camp fully staged productions. She has produced and directed more than 50 Broadway musicals, Shakespeare festivals and special theatre programs.

Backstage became a real thing when LLI members were given a tour of the working part of the Theater Arts program. Participants learned that SUNY students not only perform in the plays, but each play includes student developed set design, lighting, costume and design, and drawing & painting, as well as stage management and technology. They also learned of the role of a dramaturg who contextualizes the world of a play; and establishes connections among the text, actors, and audience.



Student designed set for  
Midsummer Night's Dream

In the weeks prior to each performance there was an orientation session led by Jessica Rothman, the organizer of the program, to discuss the premise of the story/play. Members attended an open rehearsal of each play which included a discussion with the student actors and the faculty involved in the production. Immediately following each performance there was a talk-back with some of the performers allowing LLI members to comment on their reactions to seeing a final performance and comparing it to the rehearsal.

Seeing and participating in the “backstage production” opened the eyes of many an LLI member and enhanced the enjoyment of the plays by seeing all the hard work that went into each production. All who participated in this class were glad to join the SUNY students and faculty in this “dynamic, experiential, and diverse educational experience.”

## PLAYBACK THEATRE BRUNCH

I appreciate Judy Swallow's ability to involve us amateurs in the Playback troupe. I enjoyed spontaneously jumping right in to the role of an angry mother in one of our LLI members' childhood story.



It was such fun. I would never have just volunteered, but really enjoyed the experience. The Playback Theater was delightful, and I hope they come again

*Interactive and spontaneous, playback theatre bases its material on the stories of the community. In theatres, workshops, and a wide range of educational and organizational settings, Playback Theatre draws people together and allows fresh perspectives.*

*Performances are carried out by a team of actors, emcee (called the conductor), and musician. As the show begins, audience members respond to questions from the conductor, then watch as actors and musician create brief theatre pieces on the spot. Later, volunteers from the audience come to the stage to tell longer stories, choosing actors to play the main roles. Although performances often focus on a theme of interest or concern, the performers follow no narrative agenda, but bring their dramatic skills and their humanity to embodying on the stage the concerns and experiences of audience members..*

Playback theatre is practiced in over 50 countries.



**Curriculum Chair and Members.** This dynamic and exciting committee finds and finalizes the courses we are going to offer during future semesters.

### **One Member-at-Large**

These 3 members serve as intermediaries between members and the council in reference to any concerns members might bring to them. They are also the ones to arrange the Volunteer Reception annually. You might get to select menu items.

### **Technical help - Facebook and/or Newsletter**

Knowledge of Word or Publisher helpful.

## **SPREAD THE WORD**

We trust you enjoy your classes and extracurricular activities. LLI wants your friends and family as members, therefore let them know about LLI and please print copies of the next page and post it where people congregate to increase our visibility.



*Spring daytime semester beginning  
at Lifetime Learning*

*To get into our popular classes*

*REGISTRATION is encouraged by FEB. 19<sup>th</sup>*

*Classes meet on Wednesday or Friday*

*at SUNY- New Paltz and surrounds*



***If you are looking for opportunities to enrich your mind and meet folks, join us at Lifetime Learning Institute (LLI) in affiliation with SUNY New Paltz, especially for folks **age 55 and “wiser”**. There are no grades, just the fun of learning something new! You will have the chance to meet and interact with people by participating in classes, special events, and social activities.***

***Courses embrace a wide variety of topics from art, literature, music and history to current events and movement.***

To find the courses and registration form, go to our website:

**[newpaltz.edu/lifetime](http://newpaltz.edu/lifetime)**

## LLI Spring 2018 Course Offerings

### Thank You PRESENTERS

Botany of Trees and Shrubs in Your Garden and Woods .....	Rick Jones.
Current Events Discussion .....	Bill Goldman
Language and Society .....	Eric Chambers
Opera as Politics II .....	Chuck Mishaan
Reading Women's Short Fiction .....	Ingrid Hughes
Toward Psycho-Spiritual Freedom .....	George Jacobs
Voices of Kings - Shakespeare's English Monarchs .....	Don Wildy
Four Faiths .....	4 Clergies
How to Stay Healthy in an Unhealthy World - Part I .....	Dr. Eliot Hudes
The American Revolutionary War: A Different Perspective .....	Bob Ulrich
The Hudson River: From Top to Bottom, Mountain to Sea .....	Steve Stanne
The Intersection of Psychotherapy and Buddhist Meditation 1..	Maureen Ford
Natural Environment of the Mid-Hudson Valley .....	4 Professors from SUNY
Pencil and Watercolor with YouTube Support .....	Maureen Rogers
Selected Topics in Chemistry .....	Ed Rogers
The Intersection of Psychotherapy and Buddhist Meditation 2..	Maureen Ford
The Middle Ages in Global Perspective .....	Joe Britto
Theater and World History: Comic Plays Throughout History...	T. Mounkhall/R. Miller
Virtual Tour of Art Museums .....	Sevan Melikyan
Chess for Beginners .....	Ed Boden
Clay and Glaze Play .....	Connie Noelle
Theater Workshop .....	Nancy Van Laan
Beading 101 .....	Helen Tennenbaum
Fairy Tales for the Future .....	Patty Kane Horrigan
Fold Everything! All about Origami .....	Kathryn Paulsen
New Paltz Antique Road Show .....	Walter Marquez
The Historic Architecture of Ulster County .....	William Rhoads
Lost Industries of Ulster County .....	Marilou Abramshe
You, the Empowered Patient .....	Puja Thomson
Advanced Mah-Jongg Strategies .....	Barbara Wyman
Beading 102 .....	Helen Tenenbaum
Birding for Lazy Birders .....	Paul Osgood
Chair Yoga .....	Susan Jacque
Population issues/changes in Developing/Developed Countries....	John Ross
Uncorking the Mystique of Wine Terroir .....	Manny Sloan

# Classroom Photos



The more that you read,  
the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
the more places you will go.  
-- Dr. Seuss

Think and Wonder.  
Wonder and Think.  
Dr. Seuss

**The Hokey Pokey Clinic**  
Maybe **THAT IS** what it's  
all about

A place to turn yourself around

**LLI MISSION STATEMENT**

The Lifetime Learning Institute of New Paltz promotes diverse and enriching learning experiences for older adults, provides opportunities for social interaction, and encourages individuals to use their knowledge and skills in creative ways.

**Spring 2018 classes will run  
Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> through  
Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Watch your mail for the catalog in  
late-January or check website:**

[www.newpaltz.edu/lifetime/catalog.html](http://www.newpaltz.edu/lifetime/catalog.html)



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**Checkout our website: [newpaltz.edu/lifetime\(/catalog.html\)](http://newpaltz.edu/lifetime(/catalog.html))**

**PLEASE Like  our Facebook page:**

**[Lifetime Learning Institute—New Paltz](#)**