



LLI MATTERS

Lifetime Learning Institute at SUNY New Paltz

Volume 5, Number 1

December 2011

Margaret Armento-McDowell to Become New LLI President

Margaret Armento-McDowell comes to the LLI Institute from a background in Nursing Education & Administration. Margaret was named NYS Nurse of the Year for 2011. She and her husband are long-term residents of Ulster County and own a local home health-care agency.

Additionally Margaret enjoys community volunteering including in her Professional Association (NYS Nurses' Association) and in local politics. She enjoys travel, Folk art, reading, knitting and spending time with her extended family. She is looking forward to the challenge of be-

ing the LLI President. As a life-long student and educator, she feels that staying active as learner is an essential component of a person's life during their senior years. To keep interested and passionate about learning is a real goal for her.



She looks forward to meeting many LLI members, faculty, friends and family. She welcomes ideas from members. Please feel free to seek her out and share your thoughts.

Samples of Upcoming Courses for the Spring Term

Muslim Women of Power—Play Reading—The US Economy: Can It Be Fixed?—The Basics of Oil Painting
The Human Genome: Implications for Your Health—American Slavery: A Peculiar Institution—Early History of Rock and Roll

Mini-Russian Film Festival

3 Wednesdays in January 2012 at Woodland Pond



Note: Woodland Pond is in New Paltz at 100 Woodland Pond Circle. Woodland Pond Circle is on North Putt Corners Rd. 1.3 miles from Main Street (from Route 299). Manuela Dobos, retired Professor of Russian and East European History (College of Staten Island, C.U.N.Y) will introduce each film and lead the discussion.

This year's LLI exploration of the development of Russian film will be presented in three films:

Wed. Jan. 4, at Woodland Pond at 1 p.m. *"Ballad of a Soldier"*

(Grigorii Chukhrai) 1959, 88 minutes. Covers the post-Stalin "thaw" of the 1950's. A young soldier is allowed to return briefly from the front (World War II) to help his mother in the village. The film records his experiences in life in those few days: simple and deeply human. It marks a distinct departure from the nationalist hero worship and triumphalism of all Soviet movies since the 1930's.

Wed. Jan. 11, at Woodland Pond at 1 p.m. *"Commissar"*

(Aleksandr Askoldov) 1967, 110 minutes. Covers the great burst of creativity of the 1960's. A tough woman officer of the Red Army during the Civil War (1918-1921) must take shelter with a Jewish family because she is pregnant. Not only are emotional attachments the main theme, but also the film is the first recognition in Soviet movies of Jews in their own culture and with their own special fate in Russia. This film was not shown until 1987.

Wed. Jan. 18, at Woodland Pond at 1 p.m.. *"Moscow Does Not Believe in Tears"*

Vladimir Menshov) 1980, 142 minutes. Covers the great burst of creativity of the 1960's, the pre-"glasnost" ("openness") period of the late 1970s, tracing the lives of three women who come to Moscow for a better life. Film won an Oscar for best foreign film in 1981.

Annual Meeting: 9:30 a.m., March 9th, at Woodland Pond, 1.3 miles from Main Street on N. Putt Corners Rd.

Musicals of Lerner and Loewe

Note: This film series is free and open to the public. The films will be shown in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) at Woodland Pond, located at 100 Woodland Pond Circle in New Paltz. Woodland Pond Circle is on North Putt Corners Road 1.3 miles from Main Street.



This February, during the LLI intersession period, we will continue with filmed versions of some of the musicals of Broadway's golden era. This time we will highlight four shows of the great team of Lerner and Loewe.

As she did last January with the musicals of Rogers and Hammerstein, Carole Ford will introduce the films, put them in the context of their historical period and their place in the evolution of

the American musical, and will offer some interesting behind-the-scenes information about the creators, the actors, the singers, and the production process. The films will be shown at Woodland Pond

at 1:00 p.m.. You can sing along or just sit back and enjoy. The films will be followed by a brief Q and A, time permitting. The films are listed below.

Wed. February 1 at Woodland Pond at 1:00 p.m. *Brigadoon*

The story of a magical Scottish town that comes to life for a single day every hundred years, and the two American men who wander in to another time and place (run time, 1 hr. 48 min.).

Wed. February 8 at Woodland Pond at 1:00 p.m. *My Fair Lady*

My Fair Lady is the renowned and award winning musical based upon Shaw's play, *Pygmalion* in which a "lowly gutter snipe," Eliza Doolittle, is transformed into a lady by Professor Henry Higgins (run time, almost 3 hrs.).

Wed. February 15 at Woodland Pond at 1:00 p.m. *Gigi*

In a reversal of the usual process, *Gigi* was actually written for film and later staged. It's the story of a delightful young girl who is being primed to become a courtesan but who grows up to capture the heart of her rich and handsome suitor (run time, almost 2 hrs.).

Wed. February 22 at Woodland Pond at 1:00 p.m. *Camelot*

Camelot, where "the rain may never fall 'til after sundown," is the fable of King Arthur, his wife Guinevere, Lancelot and the Roundtable knights, and an ill-fated love in medieval England. (run time 3 hrs.)

Course on the Human Genome to Be Taught in the Spring

This spring, we are fortunate to be having an expert on the human genome coming to teach us about it. She is Toby Rossman, Ph.D, a Professor of Environmental Medicine at NYU who has earned great respect in her field.

The genome is the master blueprint for all cellular structures and activities in a given organism. We will be learning about the Human Genome, how it differs from that of other species and how it influences disease risk.

Professor Rossman will be coming directly from her job in the city on Friday afternoon. Her four week course is scheduled for 2:30 on Friday so we hope you will set aside that time and enroll.

Lifetime Learning Institute
PO Box 275, New Paltz, NY
12561

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