OLLI bits & bytes!

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at CSU, Chico

VETERANS DAY OBSERVED

*In honor of Veterans Day, OLLI will not be holding classes on Friday, Nov. 10*

CSU, CHICO FACULTY AND STUDENTS TO LEAD WORKSHOP FOR OLLI

*November 6, 3:30 to 5:30pm, Gordon 1. Everyone welcome!*  

Professor Mathew Teague Miller and two of his students from the School of the Arts will conduct a workshop for actors and directors. Miller, a former Broadway performer, is working with OLLI in support of the next play festival, thanks to a grant from the University Foundation. “This partnership with the School of the Arts provides another learning opportunity for all of our members,” said Ann Nikolai, OLLI director.

Miller will lead his actors in a scene from a play, offering director’s notes as the scene unfolds. This “fishbowl” experience will give attendees insight into the role of both actor and director. Q&A session follows. This will be a fun and informative experience for anyone with an interest in theater. **Free and open to all!**

PLAY SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR 2018 FESTIVAL IS DECEMBER 15

*Reminder to writers! Deadline is earlier this year to beat the heat!*

Extreme summer heat conditions have prompted OLLI to target a **springtime festival** instead of a summer event. As a consequence, timelines for play submissions, auditions, and rehearsals are earlier this year. Also, new partnerships with the campus and community are providing additional support for OLLI writers. We hope you’ll consider being part of the 2018 festival, and continue to grow with us into a fourth consecutive year!

**Plays due in the OLLI office at Noon on Friday, December 15!**

OLLI SPONSOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

*Financial & educational partners enriching the OLLI experience*

Last year, OLLI business sponsors donated $9,500, helping us avoid a major fee increase this year and offsetting other programmatic costs. But our sponsors do more than ease financial burden. By building partnerships with local businesses, OLLI is also gaining partners in the classroom, where expertise and experience are informing our members. Periodically, OLLI will feature one a sponsors so members can become better acquainted.

**Meet the Partners Behind Harris & Plottel**

OLLI Peer Leader Neil Harris (pictured above, with Nicole) has been leading classes for several years. His classes on estate planning reflect his 31 years in the business, eight of which he’s enjoyed as a partner of Harris & Plottel, a firm he co-founded with partner Nicole Plottel. Nicole, a Chico native, will
be leading classes for OLLI next fall. OLLI Community Outreach Coordinator Gayle Womack sat down with Neil and Nicole to talk about their ties to Chico, their long-time partnership, and their passion for elder law, estate planning, and long term care planning.

GW: You two have been in business together for many years. What is the secret to your successful partnership?

NH: We both take our practice very seriously, but neither of us take ourselves seriously. I had been looking for someone to mentor who could continue to provide this valuable service to our community. I wanted a succession plan that would prove to be long-lasting and successful. Nicole was an Associate Attorney in a larger firm we were working in. I quickly saw that we had a common desire to help our aging population.

NP: Neil embodied the type of attorney I aspired to be. He was someone who actually helped people and was able to solve problems. He was well liked and respected by clients, colleagues, judges and attorneys alike. His approach to the practice of law is creative and his solutions outside the box. This is what I was looking for in my career. In addition, we have very a similar sense of humor, which helps our working relationship quite a bit.

GW: What is it about your work that you find satisfying?

NH: I love meeting people from all walks of life and hearing their stories. I enjoy strategizing and coming up with creative legal resolutions – it’s like playing chess, but with laws and regulations instead of bishops and pawns.

NP: I get satisfaction not just in getting to know people of all ages, but in being able to provide an immediate solution to their legal issues. I also love the educational aspect of my job by sharing our knowledge with the community. On a personal level, this profession reminds us to appreciate life and try to live it to the fullest.

GW: Neil, you’ve led classes for OLLI for several years. What do you find most meaningful about the OLLI community?

NH: Like most OLLI folks, I see myself as a life-long learner. Teaching OLLI classes allows me to be with like-minded people who like to learn about a multitude of topic. I think it is very important to stay engaged as we age, and I am happy to be part of an organization that provides that service.

GW: Nicole, you’ll be taking over for Neil in leading OLLI classes next fall. What do you look forward to most about OLLI?

NP: I am really looking forward to creating some “ah-ha” moments for OLLI members. Estate planning and long term care planning can be so complicated and daunting. I am really hoping to present these complex topics in a simplified way and to become more personally involved in the lifelong learning community.

OLLIO HOLIDAY LUNCHEON APPROACHING

Wednesday, December 13, 11:30am to 1pm, at the Canyon Oaks Country Club

Come socialize with friends and get inspired for the holidays! Luncheon tickets are $18. Entrée choices are a 1) Bacon Wrapped Pork Loin with Rice and Veggies or 2) Manicotti with Cheese, Chiles, Mushrooms (vegetarian).

This year we are introducing online reservations for the Holiday Luncheon. Click on this link to access the online reservation form. You can now make your reservation and pay online, saving you time and the hassle of finding a parking space near the OLLI office! If you prefer to pay with a check or cash, please give us a call at 530-898-6679. Deadline is Dec. 6.
TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE FOR “JERSEY BOYS” DAY TRIP

Tickets now available for Broadway Sac Series Bus Trip

Jersey Boys is the Tony, Grammy, and Olivier Award-winning Best Musical about Rock and Roll Hall of Famers, The Four Seasons: Frankie Valli, Bob Gaudio, Tommy DeVito, and Nick Massi. This is the true story of how four blue-collar kids became one of the greatest successes in pop music history. They wrote their own songs, invented their own sounds, and sold 175 million records worldwide – all before they were 30! Click here to watch a video and get a taste of what you would see at the show. Want to go? Click here to be directed to our secure online registration form.

THRILLING GENERAL MEETING

OLLI Dancers

Keynote speaker Dina Zaphiris wowed OLLI members at the October General Meeting during her presentation on dogs. Zaphiris is the first American dog trainer to train dogs for federally-funded studies involving dogs detecting early stage cancer in humans. The audience was treated first by a flash mob of OLLI ballroom dance members, performing in ghoulish garb to the Halloween-themed song “Thriller!”

OLLI SPOTLIGHT: JUG BAND MUSIC

Cocaine and Chicken Trees

Peer Leader Rebecca Herring-Reiner leads the Jug Band Music class for OLLI this fall. These classes, like ukulele, guitar, drumming, and Tuesday Tunes, offer OLLI members a more dynamic way to learn and engage in the classroom. The spring term also offers these kinds of participatory options. Click on this link to listen to the Jug Band’s rendition of Cocaine and Chicken Trees, and think about enrolling in something musical next spring!

FALL 2017 CALENDAR

Mark your calendars!

November 10 ................. Veterans Day (No Classes, Office Closed)
November 20-24 ............ Thanksgiving Break (No Classes, Office Closed)
December 13 .................. Holiday Luncheon at Canyon Oaks Country Club
December 15 .................. Play Submission Deadline
December 15 .................. Fall Classes End

HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

If you have something to say, a photo to share, or a question to pose to the editor, you can submit information using our new “OLLI Newsletter Submission” form.

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