WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS
SUMMER 2017
MCGILL COMMUNITY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING
FOR THE JOY OF IT
ABOUT MCLL

Welcome to the McGill Community for Lifelong Learning (MCLL). Led by volunteers, and managed by a Council elected from among its members, MCLL is a dynamic, self-financing organization within the McGill School of Continuing Studies.

MCLL is for people who want to continue learning for the joy of it, in an informal setting, and who wish to share their knowledge, ideas, experience and interests with others. Based on a unique peer-learning concept, our small study groups are led by our volunteer moderators. No exams or grades to worry about, and no age limits.

There are four terms to a year. Fall, winter and spring are 10-week terms with a complete program of study groups, lectures, workshops, outings and social activities. An abbreviated program is presented in the summer on Wednesdays only. The study groups and lectures are usually given in English.

À PROPOS DE LA CACM

Bienvenue à la Communauté d’apprentissage continu de McGill (CACM). Encadrée par des bénévoles et administrée par un conseil composé de membres élus, la CACM est un regroupement dynamique et autofinancé faisant partie de l’École d’éducation permanente de McGill.

La CACM s’adresse à ceux qui désirent continuer à apprendre pour le plaisir d’apprendre, dans un cadre informel, et partager leurs connaissances, leurs idées, leurs expériences ainsi que leurs champs d’intérêt. Axés sur un concept unique d’enseignement par les pairs, nos groupes d’étude sont encadrés par des animateurs bénévoles. Pas besoin de se soucier d’examen ou de notes, et il n’y a aucune limite d’âge.

Un programme complet (groupes d’étude, conférences, ateliers, sorties et activités sociales) est offert à l’automne, en hiver et au printemps; le programme estival est considérablement plus restreint. La plupart des éléments du programme sont offerts en anglais.
REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES

Those who have been full or associate members at any time in the past academic year (fall, winter and spring terms), are considered members for the summer term. Non-members may become associate members for a fee of $20.

There is an $8 fee for lectures, workshops and outings, payable by cheque in advance; the fee on the day of the event is $10, payable in cash only.

INSCRIPTION ET PAIEMENT

Toute personne qui a été un membre associé ou à part entière à n’importe quel moment au cours de l’année académique précédente (trimestre d’automne, d’hiver, du printemps), est considérée membre pour le trimestre d’été. Les non-membres peuvent devenir membres associés moyennant une cotisation de 20 $.

Les frais de participation aux conférences, aux ateliers, et aux sorties sont de 8 $ lorsque payés par chèque à l’avance et de 10 $, payable en argent comptant, le jour même.

LECTURES (L), WORKSHOPS (W), OUTINGS (O)

Friday, July 5, 10 a.m.

L 292 Human Trafficking – The Migrant Crisis
Presenter: Mireille Coulourides
An in-depth investigation and discussion of the latest developments in the migrant crisis in Europe.

L 293 The Salon of Gertrude Stein - I
Presenter: John Felvinci
American-born Gertrude Stein and her brothers kept a famous literary and artistic salon in Paris. Painters who visited included Picasso, Matisse, Laurencin, Braque, while writers Apollinaire and, later, Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Sinclair Lewis and Sherwood Anderson were part of her salon. Gertrude also became famous by her writings and by her relationship with Alice Toklas. This is the first instalment of a two-part presentation on Gertrude Stein. The second instalment is on Wednesday, July 12, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, July 5, 1 p.m.

L 294 A Chagall Encore
Presenter: Thelma (Timmy) Cohen
Homage to Chagall, an award-winning documentary film featuring personal interviews with Marc Chagall and his wife, Vava, will be shown. From his garden in Saint Paul de Vence, Chagall, who was approaching his 90th birthday at the time, describes his works with an easy, modest candor. This magical blend of sight and sound is a wonderful conclusion to the recent Chagall exhibition at the MMFA.

L 295 Ragtime
Presenter: Harry Shapiro
From Cakewalk dance, from the music of the southern mansions came Ragtime, which opened the door to Jazz.
Wednesday, July 12, 10 a.m.

296 Nostalgia in Modern Culture
Presenter: Eduardo Cabrera

Nostalgia: Occasionally we cling on to the past, to our youth or even to a generation we never lived through. Traces of this phenomenon occur in popular culture, cinema, music, etc. How do we approach this melancholia? Comedy, drama, science fiction and everyday experience allow us to romanticize the past. This melancholia has influenced our lives and led to the creation of entire art movements. Let’s compare our different personal interpretations through our favorite works of art and literature.

297 Emily Carr: An Unorthodox Canadian Artist
Presenter: Connie Lavallée

This presentation will feature the scope and richness of Emily Carr’s art and unorthodox life. The setting is Canada’s West Coast where Carr spent much of her life in a world of First Nations villages and totems as well as dark haunting forests, wild beaches, and vast skies. Greatly influenced by the Group of Seven, Carr, who referred to herself as “the little old lady on the edge of nowhere,” is a noteworthy artist who helped define Canadian art.

Wednesday, July 12, 1 p.m.

298 The Salon of Gertrude Stein - II
Presenter: John Felvinci

American-born Gertrude Stein and her brothers kept a famous literary and artistic salon in Paris. Painters who visited included Picasso, Matisse, Laurencin, Braque, while writers Apollinaire and, later, Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Sinclair Lewis, and Sherwood Anderson were part of her salon. Gertrude also became famous by her writings and by her relationship with Alice Toklas. This is the second instalment of a two-part presentation on Gertrude Stein.

299 Dixieland
Presenter: Harry Shapiro

Dixieland developed from the marching bands of New Orleans and then moved on up to Chicago.

Wednesday, July 19, 10 a.m.

300 Lifelong Learning and Living in the 21st Century
Presenter: Ruth Allan Rigby

Come to this workshop to discuss and debate themes proposed for the MCLL symposium to be held in November. Rapid changes in technology, increased life expectancy and the rising proportion of the population in older age groups world-wide will have profound implications for teaching, learning, living, education and the transfer of knowledge. Options include Age-Friendly Universities, Cities and more. Bring your ideas and questions and comments.

301 Inspirational Stone Sculpture
Presenter: Harry Rosen

Conveying a message with an unforgiving natural material like stone can present a daunting challenge to the artist. Harry Rosen has developed some innovative techniques that make this task do-able. He works with inexpensive layers of local sedimentary rock and uses simple tools. The process can become therapeutic while making a statement and creating beauty.

Wednesday, July 19, 1 p.m.

302 Robert Browning’s Historical Monologues
Presenter: Pauline Bentham

Browning wrote many historical monologues with a great diversity of subject matter. We shall read and listen to several of these poems to show Browning’s mastery of humour, satire, and dialogue.

303 Swing
Presenter: Harry Shapiro

The rise and then fall of Swing bands, and the rise of the vocalists.
Wednesday, July 26, 10 a.m.

304 ISIS – Terrorism: Latest Developments
Presenter: Mireille Coulourides

The dangers presented by ISIS in Syria, in Iraq and in Europe will be analyzed and discussed.

305 Journal-Keeping Circle
Presenter: Manon Wascher

Join this journal-keeping circle, for those who have never journaled and want to know how to, as well as those who journal regularly and want fresh ideas. As a group, we will each privately explore some of our life experiences, thoughts, ideas, emotions...on paper. By the end of this workshop, you will understand why people world-over have been journal-writing for centuries.

Wednesday, July 26, 1 p.m.

306 People and Places of India
Presenter: Victor Breedon

Travels through India from the heights of the Himalayas to the southern tip of the subcontinent. By bicycle, train and van.

307 Artist Fernando Botero – Humour and Colour
Presenter: Sherry Steinberg

I visited two Botero museums in Columbia and really enjoyed his work. His paintings are humorous and colourful, and his sculptures are beautiful. Some of his works are hands-on outdoor statues.

Wednesday, August 2, 10 a.m.

308 REMming up the Engine in Montreal
Presenter: Tony Frayne

Plans to build an automated rapid transport system to link the West Island, downtown and the South Shore, the ‘Réseau Électrique Métropolitain’, initially met with an almost delirious welcome. But then the cracks began to appear. Some serious drawbacks of the project were brought up in public consultations. A project for better or worse, perhaps soon to affect our daily lives.

309 “What if?” The Obsession with Alternative History
Presenter: Eduardo Cabrera

In 1908, Hitler attempted in vain to join the School of Fine Arts in Vienna. What if he had been accepted and, thus, never become the leader of the Nazi Party? In 1812, Napoleon’s invasion of Russia destroyed his army and led to his downfall. What would have become of Europe if Napoleon had had a swift, effective campaign as he had originally planned? What’s in this “what if”? What does it tell us about our way to see the past, our wish to change it, have an alternative version? Where’s the humanity in this equation?

Wednesday, August 2, 1 p.m.

310 An Afternoon with Tchaikovsky’s Music
Presenter: Pauline Bentham

We shall listen to a selection of contrasting pieces by Tchaikovsky to show his diversity of composition and to highlight his multi-facetted use of the orchestra.

311 By Bicycle from Istanbul to Samarkand
Presenter: Victor Breedon

A bicycle ride of some 10 weeks with a group of 30 from Istanbul, through Anatolia Turkey, Georgia, Azerbaijan, across the Caspian Sea, through Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to the fabled city of Samarkand. Many adventures en route.
Wednesday, August 9, 10 a.m.

312 History of Whitehorse, Yukon: City of Wilderness
Presenter: Ruth Allan Rigby

Whitehorse is named after the historic rapids of the Yukon River, which resembled the flowing manes of charging white horses. This city has a fascinating series of stories, myths and facts. Come to hear about the First Nations campsite, the Gold Rush, the White Pass & Yukon Railway, the construction of the Alaska Highway, and Whitehorse’s current life as the capital of the territory of the Yukon. An illustrated lecture.

313 Empowering Relationship: the DISC Model for Behavioural Styles
Presenter: Fatima Zahra Kerdoum

The objective of the workshop is to enable the attendees to understand the dynamics of their behavioural styles and those of other people. Also, the introduction of the DISC profile model helps the attendees to develop their own leadership abilities.

Wednesday, August 9, 1 p.m.

314 La Chine de Mimi
Presenter: Mimi Caouette

Cette deuxième conférence relate des moments de mon parcours d’enseignante lors d’un séjour en Chine (2000-2001). Quelques fragments d’un ouvrage autobiographique racontent le cheminement de ce que j’ai retenu de la culture chinoise. Outre des anecdotes et réflexions, mon livre évoque des rencontres ainsi que des amitiés avec des artistes et des aînés. Que sont devenus ces jeunes étudiants chinois, cette génération de demain, qui tiennent le destin de leur pays entre leurs mains ? Pourquoi la Chine vénère encore Mao ?

315 Christopher Columbus
Presenter: Harry Shapiro

Christopher Columbus opened the road to the birth of jazz.

Wednesday, August 16, 10 a.m.

316 Bletchley Park: The Best Kept Secret of World War II
Presenter: Ruth Allan Rigby

Every detail about Bletchley Park and the codebreakers was shrouded in mystery during the war and their work was only declassified between the mid-1970s and early 21st century. This lecture will explore the effect of this secrecy on the veterans, their families and their post-war careers and how finally Bletchley Park was conserved as a heritage museum to honour those who worked there.

317 Chaucer – Continued … Reading for Pleasure
Presenter: Richard Lock

This presentation on the background and importance of Chaucer to English literature is a continuation of a previous lecture. Handouts to cover previous discussions will be emailed before the lecture. Class participants will be encouraged to read aloud short extracts - if there is time. Selections will be read from the Canterbury Tales and references made to other works.

Wednesday, August 16, 1 p.m.

318 The Amazing Hans Rosling
Presenter: Kuai-Yu (Paul) Leong

In memoriam: Professor Hans Rosling, an M.D. who spent two years in a Mozambican hospital as one of only two doctors serving over 300,000 people. However, above all, he was the man who transformed health, wealth and population statistics into a visual form that was delightful to behold. His presentations amazed millions and persuaded Bill Gates to give billions of dollars to healthcare projects. Please invite others to join you at this lecture as an ode to “the man who makes statistics sing.” (Telegraph)

319 Andrew Lloyd Webber
Presenter: Harry Shapiro

England’s gift to the world of Broadway musical theatre.
Wednesday, August 23, 10 a.m.

320 At Home with Nature
Presenter: Sharen McDonald

A love of nature is integral to our physical and emotional health. What happens when we are cut off from this essential component by cities and technology? Come find out about biophilia, eco-therapy and other innovative ways in which nature is being reintegrated into our lives.

321 Treason of the Intellectuals
Presenter: Frédéric Wagnière

Julien Benda’s *Trahison des clercs* was a major sensation in France in 1926. With uncanny foresight, he wrote: “Our age is indeed the age of the intellectual organization of political hatreds.” The main points of the book are timely in 2017.

Wednesday, August 23, 1 p.m.

322 Tony Bennett
Presenter: Harry Shapiro

One of the great entertainers of the 20th century, and still singing on stage.

323 Walk – Neighbourhood of Little Burgundy
Coordinator: Ruth Allan Rigby

This working-class neighbourhood was created as a result of nearby industries along the Lachine Canal. Then, around 1897, the local railway company began to recruit the American/Canadian black community to serve as porters on its trains: human rights movements thus characterized the early history of this area. We will explore parts of the Burgundy Trail, discuss the history of jazz and so much more. Little Burgundy has recently undergone a lot of gentrification and we will look at ways the neighbourhood has responded. Meet at metro Lionel Groulx.
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PLAN ON ATTENDING MCLL’S
SPRING FLING LUNCHEON ON JUNE 20!