

LEARN  
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ELEVATE. 

# PROGRAMME PRINTEMPS 2018

COMMUNAUTÉ D'APPRENTISSAGE CONTINU DE MCGILL  
POUR LE PLAISIR D'APPRENDRE

# SPRING 2018 PROGRAM

MCGILL COMMUNITY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING  
FOR THE JOY OF IT



**McGill**

School of Continuing Studies    École d'éducation permanente

[mcgill.ca/mcill\\_joy](http://mcgill.ca/mcill_joy)

# MCGILL COMMUNITY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

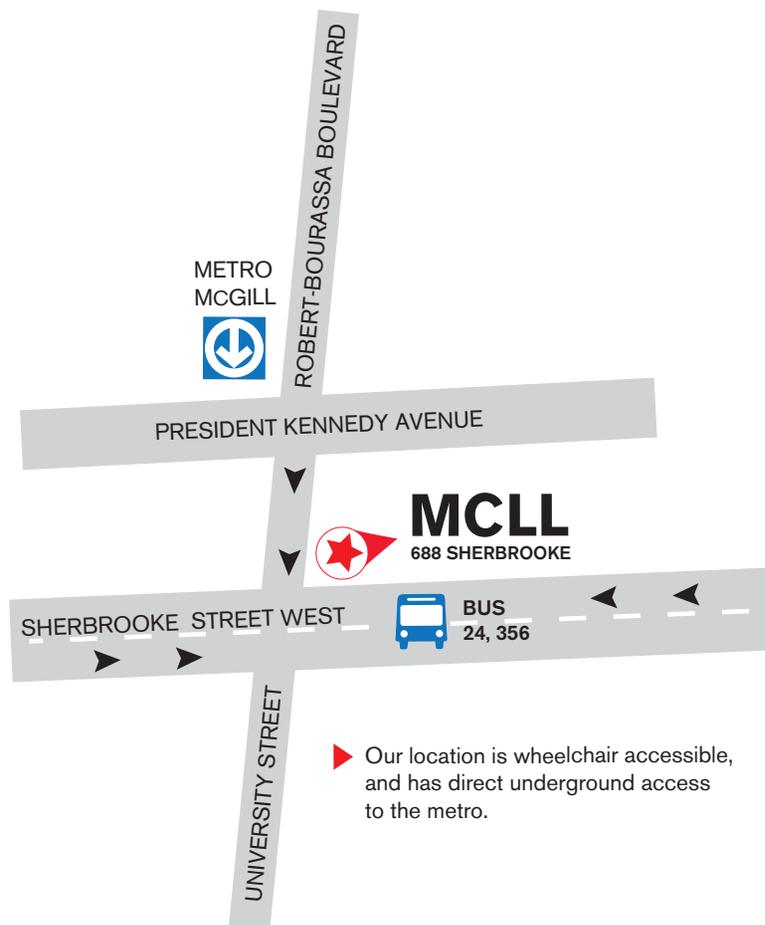
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## DEAN'S MESSAGE

### To Members of the MCLL Community:

Spring is back, and with it, the desire for renewal and growth. The Spring 2018 program of the McGill Community for Lifelong Learning (MCLL) offers diverse topics for Study Groups and Lectures that will inform you and engage your curiosity. They explore topics that range from geopolitics and social issues to music and literature. Once again, the peer moderators have outdone themselves.

This spring, change is in the air. MCLL joins the rest of the School of Continuing Studies in transitioning to using the Athena online registration system for registration and payment. This will enable you to securely register for Study Groups and Lectures at your convenience. The School is working closely with the staff to ensure that the transition process goes smoothly. Many thanks, to the MCLL community members who have kindly volunteered to support fellow members to register.

Also, we're happy to announce Ana Milic will be returning to her regular 5-day work schedule. Our thanks go out to Sally Cooper, who has been a great support to MCLL as a committed staff member and has set the foundations for a great archiving system. We're pleased to report that she has decided to continue with MCLL as an office volunteer.

Lastly, my mandate as the Dean of the School of Continuing Studies is coming to an end this July. It has been a privilege to support the work of the McGill Community for Lifelong Learning. MCLL is the embodiment of the SCS mission to support quality-learning opportunities for learners all across the lifespan. Over the almost 30 years of peer learning, you have transformed and remained strong.

My best wishes for continued success,



**Dr. Judith Potter**  
Dean of Continuing Studies  
McGill University

# YEARLY CALENDAR

## SPRING 2018 TERM

- Monday, April 9 – Thursday, June 14
- Statutory holiday: May 21 (Fête des Patriotes)\*
- Registration processing begins: March 12, 2018  
(see note on page 29 concerning the priority of acceptance)

## SUMMER 2018 TERM

- Wednesday, July 4 – Wednesday, August 22
- Registration processing begins: June 18, 2018

## FALL 2018 TERM

- Monday, September 17 – Thursday, November 22
- Statutory holiday: October 8 (Thanksgiving)\*
- Registration processing begins: August 6, 2018

## WINTER 2019 TERM

- Monday, January 14 – Thursday, March 21
- Registration processing begins: December 3, 2018

\* Study group sessions postponed because of statutory holidays will be re-scheduled

# STUDY GROUP STYLES

MCLL study groups are offered in a wide variety of subjects. The study group style indicates the type of participation expected. Please do not join a Participant Presentation style study group unless you plan to make a presentation, participate/lead a debate or contribute to the overall discussion in some other way.

### Discussion Group

Participants look at works of art, read books or magazine articles, watch movies or videos, listen to music, or write journals. The moderator then facilitates discussion among the participants.

### Participant Presentation Group

With the guidance of the group moderator, the participants are expected to choose themes and make presentations.

### Moderator / Participant Presentation Group

Participants are encouraged to choose themes and make presentations, although these are not mandatory.

### Lecture Group

The group moderator makes the presentations and facilitates the discussions that follow the presentations.

# ABOUT MCLL

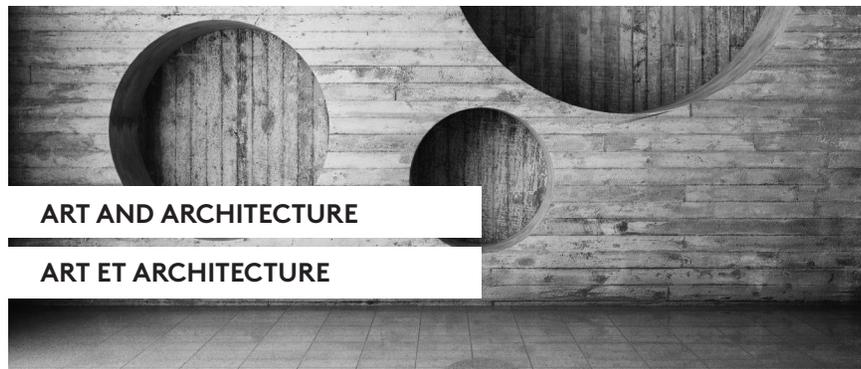
Welcome to the McGill Community for Lifelong Learning (MCLL). Led by volunteers, and managed by a Council elected from among its members, MCLL is a unique dynamic, self-financing organization within the McGill School of Continuing Studies. MCLL is for people who want to continue learning for the joy of it, in an informal setting, and who wish to share their knowledge, ideas, experience and interests with others. Based on a peer-learning concept, our small study groups are led by our volunteer moderators. Our informal small-group approach makes our programs accessible. 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, on Wednesdays only, in the summer. The study groups and lectures are usually given in English.



2016 MODERATOR'S WORKSHOP

# 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 d'enseignement par les pairs, nos groupes d'étude sont encadrés par des animateurs bénévoles. Notre approche informelle, par petits groupes, rend nos programmes à la fois uniques et accessibles. Pas besoin de se soucier d'examens 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 plus restreint. La plupart des éléments du programme sont offerts en anglais.*



**ART AND ARCHITECTURE**

**ART ET ARCHITECTURE**

### **Revolutionary Architecture**

Moderators: Robert White | [rwhite@bravedesign.ca](mailto:rwhite@bravedesign.ca)  
Wendela Stier | [wen.la.stier@gmail.com](mailto:wen.la.stier@gmail.com)  
Time: Wednesday, 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Lecture Group

Revisionist cycles of architecture will be examined in the context of new technology and urbanization. We will present exceptional 19th and early 20th century buildings from Europe and North America, and discuss the reasons for the emergence of a novel architecture characterized by its opposition to any applied decoration - a revolutionary idea indeed.



**COMPUTER STUDIES**

**ÉTUDES INFORMATIQUE**

### **21st-Century Education: World of MOOCs**

Moderators: Katherine Moore | [katherine.moore2@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:katherine.moore2@mail.mcgill.ca)  
Time: Wednesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 5 weeks, starting April 11  
Study Group Style: Lecture Group  
Location: Schulich Library Room 413

This study group will open up a whole new world of learning possibilities through understanding the ins and outs of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and other open education resources. MCLL's liaison librarian, April Colosimo, will provide her professional expertise. You will learn how to access free general or specialized courses from prestigious universities (McGill, Harvard, MIT, Stanford, Caltech, Toronto, etc.) in fields ranging from art to zoology. Different course platforms will be explored, including edX and Coursera. Come and discover everything that MOOCs have to offer. Please note that the participants need a McGill email address and password in order to log into the computers in the library.



## CREATIVE WRITING

## ÉCRITURE CRÉATIVE

### The Writers' Workshop

Moderator: Roz Paris | rozparis@hotmail.com  
 Time: Thursday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
 Duration: 10 weeks  
 Study Group Style: Participant Presentation Group

We are a group of writers who enjoy presenting our works to each other. We value criticism that can improve our writing, and we like hearing others' work. There are a number of issues that we want to work on, such as control of the writer's voice, how to edit what we write, and how to write poetry. Each week, please bring two copies of your work, approximately 500-600 words, or a poem, as well as a copy for someone who will act as your critic. Please arrive on time, so that the first person who reads has the complete audience.

### Adventures in Poetry

Moderator: Khullood Rahman | khullood@gmail.com  
 Time: Thursday 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
 Duration: 5 weeks, starting April 12  
 Study Group Style: Discussion Group

In this study group, we will read, discuss and analyze poetry, with the aim of finding inspiration in the expert usage of poetic devices and forms. Using the work of poets such as Sylvia Plath, Emily Dickinson and Billy Collins, the participants will use various in-class exercises to work individually or in pairs to create original poems. The emphasis will be on experimentation, play and delight in the authentic process of literary creation. The poems will be shared only if the participants feel comfortable to do so.



## CULTURAL STUDIES

## ÉTUDES CULTURELLES

### Persian Culture

Moderator: Soheila Raesinezhad | sraesinezhad@yahoo.com  
 Time: Tuesday, 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.  
 Duration: 10 weeks  
 Study Group Style: Lecture Group

With roots going back thousands of years, Persian culture is one of the world's richest. Persia has influenced all of its neighboring countries. Using handouts, films and class presentations, we will learn about Persian music, poetry, language, religious practice, cuisine and family life.

### Biographical Films of Famous People

Moderators: Gordon McGilton | jgmcgilton@bell.net  
 Judith Elson | judithann.elson@gmail.com  
 Time: Thursday, 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.  
 Duration: 10 weeks  
 Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

We will view biographical films of famous people such as Julius Caesar, Alexander the Great, Shakespeare, Lord Nelson, Bach, Rembrandt, Van Dyke, and Henry Ford. Each film will be followed by discussion.

### Bridge for Fun

Moderators: Michael McCusker | mdmccusker2001@yahoo.com  
 John Hobbins  
 Time: Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
 Duration: 10 weeks  
 Study Group Style: Discussion Group

We will discuss bridge play, bidding and defense. There will be practice hands played under supervision. As before, the group will do better with a minimum of 10 and maximum of 24 participants. Some bridge experience required.



## CULTURAL STUDIES

### ÉTUDES CULTURELLES

#### Fun with Drama

Moderator: Freda Segal | fsegal10@gmail.com  
Time: Thursday, 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Participant Presentation Group

This study group is designed to help people feel comfortable and confident in groups. Laughter is a large part of the equation. Improvisation and drama games allow the students to enjoy social situations that were awkward for them in the past.

#### Around the World in Ten Weeks

Moderator: Kuai-Yu (Paul) Leong | paul.leong1234@gmail.com  
Time: Wednesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Moderator / Participant Presentation Group

The aim of the study group is to enlarge our horizons on world affairs by investigating the perspectives of various media. Thus we will view and discuss reports from these twelve sources: Australia (SBS); Canada (VICE); China (CGTN); France (France 24); Germany (DW); Hong Kong (SCMP); Japan (NHK); South Korea (ARIRANG); Qatar (Al Jazeera); Singapore (Channel News Asia); Turkey (TRT); and the United Kingdom (Journeyman). "Hakuna matata" (no worries). All the videos are in English, so nothing will be lost in translation – even when we talk turkey!



## ECONOMICS AND SOCIETY

### ÉCONOMIE ET SOCIÉTÉ

#### Social Justice through Current Events

Moderator: Nadia Alexan | nadia.alexan@videotron.ca  
Time: Tuesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Lecture Group

Every aspect of our lives is governed by a political decision: the air we breathe, the food we eat, the water we drink, our health, the environment in which we live, the schools our children attend, the jobs we have or cannot find. So, how can we refrain from informing ourselves about what is going on and then participating in the democratic process? It was Edmund Burke who said: "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil, is that men of good will do nothing!"

#### Geopolitics of the Oceans and Effects of Global Warming

Moderator: Hugues Mazhari | hmazhari68@gmail.com  
Time: Monday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Lecture Group

The world's oceans cover more than 70 per cent of the Earth's surface and yet, most geopolitical discussions are focused on land-based territorial disputes. The objective of this study group is to offer an insight into the geopolitics of the oceans. Arctic melting is providing new opportunities, and if new sea-lanes can be developed in a controlled manner, the Arctic need not become a region of confrontation. However, there remains a long-term risk that Arctic melting will provoke a race for political control of the North Pole area.





FILM STUDIES

ÉTUDES CINÉMATOGRAPHIQUES

### Concerning Evil

Moderators: Noga Emanuel | [noga.emanuel@bell.net](mailto:noga.emanuel@bell.net)  
Time: Tuesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

As per philosopher Paul Ricoeur, human propensity for evil affects the use of freedom, and our capacity for being autonomous. By sampling various treatments of evil in film, fiction and philosophy, we'll try to figure out Ricoeur's meaning. Our primary—but not our only—case study will be the TV crime drama series "Fargo-Season 1". We'll watch key episodes in class, and then follow with discussion. Interested participants are encouraged to watch the entire season on Netflix. Weekly readings will include excerpts from academic sources and fiction. (Cost of photocopies~\$5).



HEALTH

SANTÉ

### Active for Life—Wellness 65+

Moderator: Barbara MacLeod-Rey | [macleodb@usa.net](mailto:macleodb@usa.net)  
Time: Wednesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Participant Presentation Group

Specific stretching and stability exercises using Yoga and Tai'Chi principles for 65+ with an instructor followed by participant or other presentations on wide-ranging wellness topics. Class requires no equipment, but please wear loose clothing and appropriate footwear. Location: TBA





**HISTORY**

**HISTOIRE**

### **The Great War: World War I**

Moderator: Dennis Creamer | creamerd@videotron.ca  
 Time: Wednesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
 Duration: 10 weeks  
 Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

Already it is the 100th anniversary of World War I, but its social and political aspects are still relevant. A series of issues will be discussed, e.g. Why did the war start? Why did so many people support it initially and expect it to end rapidly? Why did it last so long and cause so much carnage? Why did America join in? And finally, did WWI inevitably lead to WWII? Good references: *The First World War*, John Keegan, Random House, 1999; *The Pity of War: Explaining World War I*, Niall Ferguson, Basic Books 2000

### **The Maghreb: As It Once Was and Now Is**

Moderator: Dennis Creamer | creamerd@videotron.ca  
 Time: Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
 Duration: 10 weeks  
 Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

The Maghreb is a fascinating, mysterious region, close to Europe but in some ways so far away. The study group will seek to understand the Maghreb of today in light of its rich, sometimes turbulent past. This review will cover the history of the Maghreb from Carthage, the Romans, the Ottomans, and European colonization through to independence and the "Arab Spring". What is the current situation and where is it going: fundamentalism, terrorism, dictatorship and/or democracy? We will add Egypt so as to cover all North African Arab countries. The moderator worked in Libya for seven months back in 1963-4.

### **The Balkans or the Former Yugoslavia—A Tumultuous 20th Century**

Moderators: François Labonté | flabonteca@yahoo.ca  
 Paul Doucet | pdoucetlindsay@gmail.com  
 Time: Tuesday, 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.  
 Duration: 10 weeks  
 Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

With the participation of members, the moderators will explore the tumultuous history of the countries forming the European southeastern region, commonly referred to as the Balkans, with a particular focus on the 20th century until today. The region includes the countries that formerly constituted Yugoslavia, plus Albania. Using documentaries and available historical reference material, the group will explore the cultural, political and economic aspects of the nations that form this most interesting part of Europe.

### **The World's Great Railways**

Moderators: Andrew Macdougall | andrewmac@videotron.ca  
 Robbie Robinson | robert.robinson@mail.mcgill.ca  
 Time: Tuesday, 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.  
 Duration: 10 weeks  
 Study Group Style: Participant Presentation Group

Having spent ten years exploring Canada's railways at MCLL, Andrew and Robbie are now ready to take on the world. Join them as they explore the history and geography and engineering wonders of, and journeys on, the world's great railways. Presentations will be supplemented by videos. An outing by train (for an extra charge) will also be offered to participants.

### **British Empire: Complex and Controversial**

Moderator: Ruth Allan Rigby | ruthrigby14A@videotron.ca  
 Time: Tuesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
 Duration: 10 weeks  
 Study Group Style: Participant Presentation Group

This study group will discuss the forces that created the British Empire, held it together and ultimately led to its demise. We will consider the ways in which the Empire was shaped by factors as diverse as money, violence, race, religion, propaganda, gender and sex.





HISTORY

HISTOIRE

### Our Fascination with Ancient Worlds

Moderators: Robert Winters | robertwinters@videotron.ca  
Horst Richter | horst.richter@mcgill.ca  
Roger Humphrey | rth201002@yahoo.ca  
Time: Monday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 5 weeks, starting April 9  
Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

What draws us to learn about ancient civilizations and how their peoples lived? What can we learn from research into how they thought and what they believed? Discussion will be stimulated by presenting videos and other material that provide insight into, and understanding of various aspects of ancient civilizations, including fresh research that sheds new light on how these people lived.

### A History of Ireland

Moderator: Peter Berry | dukemorill2004@yahoo.ca  
Time: Tuesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

We will look at the political, social, religious and economic evolution of Ireland since the Norman invasion in 1170. Once England's oldest overseas colony, a large part of the island would finally become, after centuries of domination, colonization and assimilationist policies, an independent republic in the 20th century. The success of the bitter struggle to break away from the British Empire would serve as an inspiration to other subjugated peoples and encourage them to break their colonial chains.



LITERATURE

LITTÉRATURE

### A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

Moderator: Maggie Benfield | mbenfield6@gmail.com  
Time: Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

Come and meet the young James Joyce in his autobiographical novel, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*. This novel is the bridge between *Dubliners* and *Ulysses* (but not nearly as difficult to read and understand as *Ulysses*). This early 20th-century novel makes a leap forward in many ways but also looks back to 19th-century novels about growing up.

### Charles Dickens: A Writer for His Time and Ours: *Nicholas Nickleby*

Moderator: Ellie Clavier-Rothstein | clavroth@sympatico.ca  
Time: Wednesday, 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

This study group is for those who enjoy the works of Charles Dickens and want to learn about his writing, his life and his times. Through film and discussion we will explore the Victorian era and discover the impact Dickens had on his own world and on our own popular culture. We will read and review *Nicholas Nickleby*. Short (5-15 minute) presentations on the book, aspects of Victorian life pertaining to the book and on aspects of Dickens's rich, and often controversial, personal history are encouraged. Participants are expected to obtain their own copy of the book and are encouraged to start reading as soon as possible.





LITERATURE

LITTÉRATURE

### Charlotte Brontë: A Fiery Heart

Moderator: Connie Lavallée | connie.lavallee@videotron.ca  
Time: Wednesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

This study group is a further probe into the world of the Brontë sisters and their works. The primary focus of this Study Group will be Charlotte while the novel we will read and analyze is her *Jane Eyre*.

### Indigenous Voices

Moderators: Margaret Nicolai | margaretn0006@gmail.com  
Mary Baldwin | m3baldwin@sympatico.ca  
Time: Wednesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

The Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Commission calls for us all to be more engaged with the stories of indigenous people. Anishnaabe writer and comedian Ryan McMahon suggests that indigenous literature “offers a doorway” into the ways of being of indigenous people. In this study group, we will be reading and discussing a novel, short stories, poetry, and children’s picture books. Texts available at Paragraphe: Richard Wagamese: *Medicine Walk*; Norma Dunning: *Annie Muktuk and Other Stories*; Katherena Vermette: *North End Love Songs*.

### Le théâtre québécois au 20e siècle. Première partie : 1948-1968. Gélinas, De Grandmont, Dubé, Ferron, Tremblay

Moderators: Nycole Paquin | nyc.paquin@videotron.ca  
Wilfrid Dubé | Frido34@gmail.com  
Time: Thursday, 9:30-11.30 a.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

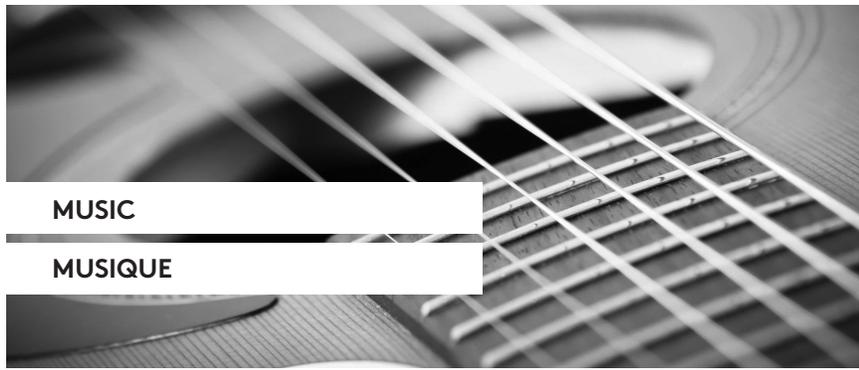
*Les participants seront invités à lire et à interpréter quelques extraits des pièces les plus marquantes écrites par les auteurs en titre. Un cahier d'une centaine de pages comprenant la mise en contexte historique, sociopolitique, littéraire et théâtrale de l'ensemble du théâtre québécois au 20e siècle, le résumé de chacune des pièces sélectionnées, ainsi que les extraits à lire en session sera disponible dès la première rencontre (environ 15 \$). En français avec participation dans les deux langues officielles.*

### American Classics

Moderators: Clifford Parr | Clifford.parr@sympatico.ca  
Barbara Silverman | b.silverman@videotron.ca  
Time: Monday, 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

In this session we will be watching together and discussing a selection of classic American plays. Scheduled productions include: *A Delicate Balance* (Edward Albee), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Tennessee Williams), *Incident at Vichy and A Tale of Two Mondays* (Arthur Miller), *Paradise Lost and Awake and Sing* (Clifford Odets). Note that these productions vary in quality and are not subtitled.





MUSIC

MUSIQUE

### The Concerto from Mozart to Shostakovich

Moderator: Pauline Bentham | p.bentham@videotron.ca  
Time: Thursday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Lecture Group

This study group will present various concertos for different instruments with a short description of each one. The concerto as a genre will be discussed. Participants' impression of the various works will be an essential part of the program. The presentation of works from classical to modern will give insights into the development of the concerto as a musical form.

### The Mature Franz Schubert

Moderator: Bernardine Lewis | blewis1900@gmail.com  
Time: Thursday, 11:45 a.m.-13.45 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

This is a follow-up study group to "The Young Franz Schubert". We will listen especially to the compositions of the last two years of his life. We will hear solo piano, piano four hands, trios and quartets in addition to sacred music and lieder. The group is asked to listen attentively and to join in the discussions following.

### Operatic Femmes Fatales I

Moderator: Bill Wees | william.wees@mcgill.ca  
Time: Wednesday 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Lecture Group

We will watch and discuss five operas offering fascinating versions of the *femme fatale*, defined as "an attractive and seductive woman, especially one who will ultimately bring disaster to a man who becomes involved with her." The operas are *Samson and Delila* (Saint-Saëns), *Salome* (Strauss), *Carmen* (Bizet), *Lady Macbeth of Mitsensk* (Shostakovich), and *Lulu* (Berg). While presentations are not required, discussion is strongly encouraged.

### Operatic Femmes Fatales II

Moderator: Averill Craig | ak.craig@sympatico.ca  
Time: Wednesday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Lecture Group

Repeat of Operatic *Femmes Fatales* – I. (See description above).





## BRAINY BAR

Workshop leaders: IELC student volunteers

Want free computer coaching? Come to Brainy Bar where intermediate to advanced English learners from the School of Continuing Studies Intensive English Language and Culture (IELC) program volunteer to provide MCLL members one-on-one computer assistance in a computer lab on the 12th floor. The Brainy Bar is patterned after Apple's Genius Bar. A wide range of digital and technological needs are explored during the workshops. Both beginners and experienced users are encouraged to participate in IELC Brainy Bar sessions.

This is an opportunity to meet students from around the world while obtaining IT help on a range of operating systems, hardware and software: Mac and PC computers, tablets, e-readers, smartphones, digital cameras; Word, Excel, PowerPoint; Adobe Reader, Google, Skype, etc.

Participation is free to MCLL members. Participants should register at least three working days in advance with the MCLL office (mcll.scs@mcgill.ca), stating their level (basic, intermediate, advanced), and needs (see list above).

Participants can use lab PCs or they can also bring their own portable devices. (See Tech-Savvy Workshops for more information, page 30.)

### Brainy Bar Plus

MCLL and IELC are also continuing to offer the new format in which MCLL participant members and individual students are paired up for one-on-one sessions over a several-week period. Meeting locations and times are decided by each matched pair. To join the program, you should complete a form with your contact information and the topics in which you need assistance. Forms are available at the MCLL office. Please register before May 4.

### Dates and times (plenary sessions)

Brainy Bar 1:	Wednesday, May 9	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Brainy Bar 2:	Wednesday, May 16	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Brainy Bar 3:	Wednesday, May 23	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Brainy Bar 4:	Wednesday, May 30	4:00-5:00 p.m.

## LECTURES

Friday, April 13, 10 a.m.

### Intertextuality in Goethe's *West-Eastern Divan*

Presenter: Nadia Khawandanah

The lecture will shed light on the influences of Arabic and Islamic culture on Wolfgang von Goethe's last poetic work, *West-Eastern Divan*. Intertextuality between this work and the Orient was a cornerstone in the development of world literature.

### Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies Demystified

Presenter: Joany Pagé

There has been a lot of hype lately about cryptocurrencies, decentralized records or ledgers, and 'smart contracts'. However, few people truly understand what these are, how they are structured or how they could revolutionize the way businesses operate. This lecture offers an introduction to blockchain and cryptocurrencies as well as an overview of their applications and how they will integrate our digital business world as computers and AI become increasingly powerful.

Friday, April 13, 1 p.m.

### From the Smithsonian Vaults

Presenter: Harry Shapiro

The Great American Songbook. The people, music and songs that made America sing.

### Mythology

Presenter: Barbara Silverman

A PowerPoint presentation examining various myths and legends from around the world. It will include a look at the similarities and differences between stories from various cultures and how these stories reflected everyday life. This lecture will contain new material; it is not a repeat.



### Friday, April 20, 10 a.m.

#### **Playing with “Paint”**

Presenter: Muriel Herrington

“Paint” is a free drawing program that comes with the Windows operating systems for PCs. It is useful for making diagrams or more artistic pictures. It can also be used to resize, crop, and add captions to digital photos. Many examples will be provided demonstrating how you can use Paint to enhance your own photos.

#### **Into the Northwest Passage**

Presenter: Audrey Speck

Audrey travelled to western Greenland and northern Nunavut (tracing much of the route taken by the doomed Franklin expedition) on a small-ship expedition in late August last year. You’ll see her photographs of dramatic mountains, fjords, glaciers and icebergs and the unique wildlife of the area, as well as interesting Inuit villages and people.

### Friday, April 20, 1 p.m.

#### **The Cheddar Man**

Presenter: John Felvinci

Recently a total genome was obtained from the Cheddar Man, a 10,000-year-old skeleton found in a cave in Somerset, England. Tests show that he was dark-skinned, had blue eyes and was lactose-intolerant. In this lecture we will explain the science behind the white skin, blue eyes and lactose intolerance and briefly survey the genetic evidence of modern human migrations.

#### **Comparing Switzerland and “The Little Red Dot”**

Presenter: Kuai-Yu (Paul) Leong

Singapore, a.k.a. “The Little Red Dot”, is admired by Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz. Yet it’s often mocked for being tiny, even though it has a larger population than Norway’s, and its inhabitants have a higher standard of living than the Swiss. How do prominent Swiss nationals and others compare Singapore with Switzerland? Come and see: it’s finer than Swiss cheese!

### Friday April 27, 10 a.m.

#### **Griffintown – A History of Controversies**

Presenter: Ruth Rigby

Griffintown has always been a place of controversy from its early beginning when Thomas McCord was cheated of his property by Mary Griffin. Such controversies continued for its long history until the recent debates about the gentrification process.

#### **Mada’in Saleh**

Presenter: Nadia Khawandanah

Mada’in Saleh, Saudi Arabia’s first World Heritage Site acknowledged by UNESCO in 2008, is a fascinating archaeological area of Nabatean Kingdom, Lihyanite and Roman remains, but less internationally known than its neighboring world-famous Petra in Jordan. With Saudi Arabia’s ambitious 2030 Vision, Mada’in Saleh has become an attractive tourist destination.

### Friday, April 27, 1 p.m.

#### **Astronomy and Its History**

Presenter: Barbara Silverman

Part of this PowerPoint presentation will examine how some of the ancient cultures looked at the sky and the methods they used to do so. Other subjects include how astronomy developed through the ages and take a look at various constellations, some of the stars, and the important people who helped further our knowledge. Though there will be some technical aspects, scientific knowledge is not necessary as basic steps will be explained in simple terms.

#### **Witchcraft**

Presenter: Sherry Steinberg

Some early “witches” were actually healers and midwives. They began to be called witches’ often unjustly, when things went wrong. The progression of healers to that stereotypical “witch” of today with the broom and pointed black hat is very interesting. Understanding this progression provides a new appreciation of what happened in Salem.



### **Friday, May 4, 10 a.m.**

#### **The Bolshevik Revolution**

Presenter: Ben Sperer

The social unrest that started in Western Europe spread to Russia where it gained momentum until it roused an entire nation to break with its past and build a new world.

#### **So You Wish to Become an Elected Official**

Presenter: Allan J. Levine

The presenter will share with you his experiences as an elected official for 32 years in the city of Côte Saint-Luc. He will also give you the tools you will need if you ever decide to run your own political campaign.

### **Friday, May 4, 1 p.m.**

#### **Tales from the Downstairs Maid**

Presenter: Connie Lavallée

Servants formed the largest occupational group in Victorian England. This lecture will focus on life “below stairs” for domestic servants, their duties and working conditions.

#### **Olafur Eliasson: The King of Light**

Presenter: Ann Pearson

Come discover this amazingly articulate sculptor, installation artist and architect. Eliasson was born in Denmark, but grew up in Iceland where “his enduring obsession with light began.” He works with natural elements such as light and water but also uses science to explore the relationship between art and the real world. Although Eliasson is a world-renowned artist, he is, for many at MCLL, a new discovery.

### **Friday, May 11, 10 a.m.**

#### **The Art of the Story**

Presenter: Zsolt Alapi

The short story is a fairly recent genre. How is a story crafted and how do its complex “moving parts” cohere? Through group discussion, we will seek to answer this question by looking at some masters of this form like Chekhov, Joyce, Hemingway, Carver, Munro, as well as some current writers practising this art.

### **Bilingualism, Aging and Dementia: What Are the Links?**

Presenters: Dr. Natalie Phillips, Alexandre Chauvin

Researchers from the Phillips Lab (Centre for Research of Language, Mind and Brain (CRLMB) and Concordia University) will discuss current research showing the influence of being bilingual or multilingual on brain health and the cognitive abilities of older adults. Audience members will learn about current cognitive and brain imaging research methods and the many unanswered questions that remain.

### **Friday, May 11, 1 p.m.**

#### **Travels in Colombia**

Presenter: Ros Acutt

Ros Acutt will describe with photos her travels through Colombia. Come to visit Bogota, the chilly capital city set high in the Andes, Medellin, formerly a centre for drug trafficking but now a safe city to visit, and Cartagena on the Caribbean coast. Other fascinating stops include Palomino, Mompox, Barichara and Villa de Leyva.

#### **The Power of Your Words I**

Presenter: Georgia Remond

Every day, the average person has approximately 60,000 thoughts and uses 20,000 words. These words, consciously or unconsciously, have a direct impact on your perspective and lived reality. Your physical, emotional and mental well-being are the results of how you think and speak. The good news is we can change our universe by being mindful of our thoughts and conscious of the words we choose. This introduction to the natural laws of metaphysics focuses on your ability to influence your world with your words. This is a series of four lectures scheduled as follows: Session II May 18, 1 p.m., Session III May 25, 1 p.m. and Session IV, June 1, 1 p.m.

### **Friday, May 18, 10 a.m.**

#### **From Moscow to Vladivostok by Rail**

Presenter: Lewis Cattarini

The lecturer considers his summer excursion from the Russian capital right across Siberia to have been the trip of a lifetime. He will discuss and show photographs of the longest train journey on earth.

#### **British Royalty: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow**

Presenter: Dennis Creamer

In the context of the upcoming UK royal wedding, what is/has been the secret of the British monarchy for both surviving and attracting so much interest over the centuries and around the globe?



### **Friday, May 18, 1 p.m.**

#### **The Power of Your Words II**

Presenter: Georgia Remond

See description under May 11 at 1 p.m.

#### **Artificial Intelligence – The Promise and the Pitfalls**

Presenter: Tim Skene

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is showing up everywhere these days – in our smartphones, our cars, the internet, in healthcare and more. We hear great promises of its benefits, but is it truly so wonderful? This presentation will explain what AI is and elucidate its benefits and risks.

### **Friday, May 25, 10 a.m.**

#### **The Roaring Twenties (1919-1929)**

Presenter: Ben Sperer

The ebullient years between the two world wars produced an outburst of creativity and weltschmerz by the survivors of the bloodiest war in history in their quest to create a new and better world.

#### **Heritage**

Presenter: Farah Fancy

If you were given a free ticket to travel anywhere around the world, where would you go? This entertaining, invigorating and interactive workshop serves to strengthen cognitive ability through storytelling, reminiscence, and movement, while offering a chance to receive, share and exchange memory recall techniques and stress management skills.

### **Friday, May 25, 1 p.m.**

#### ***Nobody Was Interested. Nobody Asked***

Presenters: Max Beer and Deena Dlusy-Apel

The hour-long film *Nobody Was Interested. Nobody Asked* explores the immigration history of Holocaust survivors who came to Montreal, their new lives here and their reception by the local community. The film dispels the often-held belief that these refugees were welcomed to Canadian shores.

#### **The Power of Your Words III**

Presenter: Georgia Remond

See description under May 11 at 1 p.m.

#### **Variety of Visual Creative Activities**

Presenter: Romano M. DeSantis

Romano DeSantis will explain the lessons he learned from moderating three editions of a study group on the visual creative activities that ordinary and not so ordinary MCLL members are engaged in. He will discuss the various kinds of activities involved, the motivations and modalities to pursue them, the unsuspected creative energy, the surprisingly beautiful results, personal benefits, social interactions, and the impact on every day.

### **Friday, June 1, 10 a.m.**

#### **Introduction to Financial Planning and Specific Topics in Personal Finance**

Presenter: Lynn Bennett

This lecture is an introduction to financial planning. The intention is to present an overview of financial planning at various stages in life. Then, we will look at two well-known investment vehicles: RRSP's and TFSA's and their implications for tax and estate planning. To conclude, we will discuss how to understand your investment account statement.

#### **Healthcare Quality in the Developed World**

Presenter: Irwin Kuzmarov

This talk will focus on models of healthcare in 16 countries considered to be among the world's best. The presentation will focus on the models of care in these countries and the reasons they have been able to provide high-quality healthcare at a reasonable price.

### **Friday, June 1, 1 p.m.**

#### **The Statue of Cornwallis**

Presenter: John Felvinci

Recently, the statue of Cornwallis was removed in Halifax because of his treatment of indigenous people 250 years ago. In this lecture, we are going to survey the history of scalping and the recent and past removal of statues and the changing of names of institutions because of offences made in the past.

#### **The Power of Your Words IV**

Presenter: Georgia Remond

See description under May 11 at 1 p.m.



**Friday, June 8, 10 a.m.**

**European Union, from Its Origins to Today**

Presenter: Dennis Creamer

The evolution of European integration, from conception in the post WW II years, through increasing integration (the Euro, Schengen, etc.) and expansion over the decades, to the challenges and prospects in current times.

**Friday, June 8, 1 p.m.**

**Why Are We Here?**

Presenter: Martin Coles

Why is there intelligent life on planet Earth? Martin Coles will explain how the Big Bang led to the creation of our universe, how stars were formed, how some stars acquired planets, and how, on our own planet, self-replicating molecules appeared that evolved into single-cell organisms that eventually grouped themselves into multi-cellular organisms.

**Divas of Jazz**

Presenter: Harry Shapiro

Featuring Ella Fitzgerald, the greatest singer, vocalist and entertainer of the 20th century. Join Harry and Ella and hear this story of great divas.

**The Industrial Revolution**

Presenter: Ben Sperer

The triumphant conquest of the civilized world by the Industrial Revolution eventually led to overproduction, social inequality, the arms race and the many problems that still beset our society.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

**THE MCLL DIFFERENCE** – Peer learning and active participation are two cornerstones of MCLL’s curriculum; these principles differentiate its programs from traditional university courses and classes. The form of participation varies according to the subject matter and the approach chosen by the moderator. The level of involvement can range from mere presence, to advance preparation/research, participation in group discussions and presentations to the class (see study group styles on page 4). Two forms of membership are offered: full and associate.

**FULL MEMBERSHIP** – Full members pay a flat fee of \$105 per term (\$75 for a single 5-week study group). This allows one to register for one or two study groups per term, with the possibility of joining additional study groups later if there is room. Full members receive a McGill ID and e-mail address when they first register. The member’s card is renewed twice a year; privileges include free access to the McGill libraries, free IT assistance and discounts at some McGill facilities. A “fee waiver” form is available on request.

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** – Associate members pay a flat fee of \$20 per term. This allows one to take part in social activities held by MCLL and to register for lectures, workshops and outings.

**FEES FOR LECTURES, WORKSHOPS AND OUTINGS** – Full and associate members pay \$8 per activity, provided they register and pay in advance. The fee is \$10 per activity for those who register without paying the associate membership.

**REGISTRATION** – Online registration is available and recommended to MCLL members and general public. Members can still register in person or by mail (with a single cheque payable to McGill University); cash is not accepted. Forms may be submitted at any time once the program is distributed/posted, although they will only be processed at the dates indicated on page 2. Registration forms will be dated and numbered as they are received, then processed in the same order. Registrations made online are processed immediately and accepted/rejected based on the space available at the time.

**ADMISSION** – Members may register for up to two study groups. If space allows when the term starts, members may sign up for additional study groups at that time. The number of participants per study group is limited. Since some study groups are extremely popular, registrants are asked to register early. Waiting lists are established automatically when study groups become full. Members will be advised by e-mail if the space becomes available. Members have 24 hours to confirm whether they want the spot on the waiting list. Members are asked not to communicate with moderators concerning registration.

**REFUNDS** – Full and associate membership fees are refundable before the start of the second week of the term. Lecture fees are refundable for members registering online, up to three days before lecture date. There will be a charge to issue refunds via cheques. As an alternative, funds can be left in the account for future use.

**TAX CREDIT** – Seniors, aged 70 and older, with a net income below a specified level may claim their MCLL full membership fees for a small provincial tax credit (see instructions for line 462 of the Quebec Income Tax Return). Your Athena receipt can serve as confirmation. For assistance, please ask the MCLL Administrative Coordinator.

**STUDY GROUPS** – Study groups are offered Monday to Thursday at 9:30-11:30 a.m., 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m., 2-4 p.m. and, on occasion, 4-6 p.m. While most study groups run for 10 weeks, some have a shorter duration. All are held on the 2nd floor, in rooms 225, 241, 243 and 245. Schedules are posted on the noticeboards.

**LECTURES** – Most lectures are presented on Fridays at 10 a.m.-noon or 1-3 p.m. In the summertime, lectures are presented on Wednesdays only, at the same times. Lectures are held either on the 2nd floor or in room 1041. Schedules are posted on the noticeboards.

**TECH-SAVVY WORKSHOPS** – Participants can use lab PCs; they can also use their own portable devices, provided they have activated their Wi-Fi connection ahead of time. A McGill username and password is necessary to connect to the Wi-Fi; these can be obtained by setting up a McGill email account on Minerva. (For help, see McGill Tech Services on the 2nd floor with your MCLL member's card). For more information, see TECHNICAL STUDIES, page 20.

**OUTINGS** – Occasional outings to various locations in and around the City of Montréal are held on a Friday or Saturday in the fall, winter and spring, and on Wednesdays in the summer.

**FACILITIES** – MCLL premises are located on the 2nd floor at 688 Sherbrooke St. West. A few activities are held in a large lecture room on the 10th floor or in computer labs on the 12th floor. There is a kitchen and a lounge (with a small library, a computer and a telephone) for the use of members; Wi-Fi is available. The office is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday.

**ACCESSIBILITY** – MCLL has direct underground access to the McGill metro station. There is an elevator from the ground floor to the 2nd floor, which can be used by members who use a wheelchair or walker.

**EMERGENCY PRECAUTIONS** – Evacuation procedures are clearly posted in the classrooms. Members should have with them at all times the coordinates of a person who could be reached in case of emergency; they should also leave that information at the office.

**VOLUNTEERING AT MCLL** – Volunteering greatly enhances the MCLL experience. Volunteer positions range from moderating to serving on Council, working in the office, taking attendance at lectures or performing a range of other tasks. Application forms are available in the office.

**ORGANIZATION** – MCLL is part of McGill's School of Continuing Studies. A Council, elected from among members, provides overall direction. The organization is entirely self-financing; while it draws most of its revenues from registrations, it also benefits from the generosity of individual donors and foundations.

**HISTORY** – MCLL was founded in 1989. It is patterned on a model developed at Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), based on peer-learning and active participation. The model is applied in a variety of ways in the context of study groups, lectures, workshops and outings. Its hallmark is that members assume responsibility for sharing their knowledge and experience with others. The result is a rich and dynamic learning environment.



## MCLL LECTURES (L), WORKSHOPS (W)

DATE	EVENT   PRESENTER
April 13, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> Intertextuality in Goethe's <i>West-Eastern Divan</i>   Nadia Khawandanah
April 13, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies Demystified   Joany Pagé
April 13, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> From the Smithsonian Vaults   Harry Shapiro
April 13, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Mythology   Barbara Silverman
April 20, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> Playing with "Paint"   Muriel Herrington
April 20, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> Into the Northwest Passage   Audrey Speck
April 20, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> The Cheddar Man   John Felvinci
April 20, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Comparing Switzerland and "The Little Red Dot"...   Kuai-Yu (Paul) Leong
April 27, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> Griffintown - A History of Controversies   Ruth Allan Rigby
April 27, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> Mada'in Saleh   Nadia Khawandanah
April 27, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Astronomy and Its History   Barbara Silverman
April 27, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Witchcraft   Sherry Steinberg
May 4, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> The Bolshevik Revolution   Ben Sperer
May 4, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> So You Wish to Become an Elected Official   Allan J. Levine
May 4, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Tales from the Downstairs Maid   Connie Lavallée
May 4, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Olafur Eliasson: The King of Light   Ann Pearson
May 9, 4 p.m.	<b>W</b> Brainy Bar 1
May 11, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> The Art of the Story   Zsolt Alapi
May 11, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> Bilingualism, Aging, and Dementia: What Are the Links?   Dr. Natalie Philips, Alexandre Chauvin
May 11, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Travels in Colombia   Ros Acutt
May 11, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> The Power of Your Words I   Georgia Remond
May 16, 4 p.m.	<b>W</b> Brainy Bar 2

May 18, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> From Moscow to Vladivostok by Rail (repeat of Winter 2018 lecture)   Lewis Cattarini
May 18, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> British Royalty: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow   Dennis Creamer
May 18, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> The Power of Your Words II   Georgia Remond
May 18, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Artificial Intelligence - The Promise and the Pitfalls   Tim Skene
May 23, 4 p.m.	<b>W</b> Brainy Bar 3
May 25, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> The Roaring Twenties (1919-1929)   Ben Sperer
May 25, 10 a.m.	<b>W</b> Heritage   Farah Fancy
May 25, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> <i>Nobody Was Interested. Nobody Asked.</i>   Max Beer and Deena Dlusy-Apel
May 25, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Variety of Visual Creative Activities   Romano M. DeSantis
May 25, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> The Power of Your Words III   Georgia Remond
May 30, 4 p.m.	<b>W</b> Brainy Bar 4
June 1, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> Financial Planning: Introduction on Specific Topics in Personal Finance   Lynn Bennett
June 1, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> Healthcare Quality in the Developed World   Irwin Kuzmarov
June 1, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> The Statue of Cornwallis   John Felvinci
June 1, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> The Power of Your Words IV   Georgia Remond
June 8, 10 a.m.	<b>L</b> European Union , from Its Origins to Today   Dennis Creamer
June 8, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Why Are We Here?   Martin Coles
June 8, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> Divas of Jazz   Harry Shapiro
June 8, 1 p.m.	<b>L</b> The Industrial Revolution   Ben Sperer



LEARN, SHARE, REJUVENATE!  
**MCLL MEMBERS' FORUM**  
*October 26, 2018*

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SAVE THE DATE:  
Plan on attending MCLL's  
Spring Fling Luncheon on June 21, 2018!

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