PRINTEMPS 2020
SPRING 2020
McGill community for lifelong learning FOR THE JOY OF IT

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MCGILL COMMUNITY
FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

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Our location is wheelchair accessible, and has direct underground access to the metro.

Cover photos: ©Gordon Campey
Dear MCLL Members,

This year multiple groundhogs did NOT see their shadows. So we supposedly can expect an early spring this year. Regardless of your thoughts on the power of rodent weather predictions, we can with great certainty predict that MCLL will once again deliver a rich menu of offerings!

Learning happens in many forms and often when one least expects it. One of the joys of peer learning is that we become both teachers and learners in the study groups, workshops and lectures that are presented in this catalogue. But you will find that you might even learn something fun and new in the hallways on the way to your course, or on your way home when you bump into a fellow MCLL member.

And more and more, MCLL members connect not only with one another but the communities around us. MCLL is a vital bridge that connects McGill University with life in and around Montreal.

I wish you a wonderful journey as you explore the rich menu of ideas and opportunities awaiting you with this new MCLL Calendar.

Yours sincerely,

Carola Weil, PhD
Dean of Continuing Studies
McGill University
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. A lighter program is presented, on Wednesdays only, in the summer. 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 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’exams 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.
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.

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.

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

WORKSHOPS
Study groups focussed on addressing practical or life-style issues rather than intellectual pursuits.

MCLL 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.
ART ET ARCHITECTURE

S 225 Looking at Painting, Part 2

Moderators: Robert White | rwhite@bravedesign.ca
Wendela Stier | wen.la.stier@gmail.com
Time: Thursday 11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Duration: 5 weeks starting May 21
Study Group Style: Moderator Presentation Group

We will continue to explore works of art in painting: their aesthetic construction, meaning, interrelationships, and impact. The main focus will be the upcoming “Paris in the Days of Post-Impressionism – Signac and the Independents” at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

Our sessions, therefore, will be divided between classroom discussions and museum visits.

S 083 Variety of Visual Creative Activities

Moderator: Romano M. De Santis | Romano.desantis@polymtl.ca
Time: Thursday: 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Duration: 10 weeks
Study Group Style: Participant Presentation Group

For participants passionate about pursuing visual creative activities who love to share their passion with similarly inclined others. A unique show & tell experience for both new participants and multiple repeaters. Among considered activities: drawing, painting, photography, sculpting, architecture, ceramics, jewelry, wood working, textile art and similar. Among elements of experience to be shared: characterization of the activity, objectives, techniques, personal evolution, physical and social context in which developed, outcomes, successes, failures and similar elements. Presentations expected but not mandatory. Display of personal work encouraged. Interventions by external artists envisaged.
S 226 Stories of Life

Moderator: Ibtissam El Assaad | ibtissamassaad@gmail.com
Time: Monday: 11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m
Duration: 10 weeks
Study Group Style: Participant Presentation Group

We are all storytellers. Our narratives shape us and connect us as humans. Our experiences enrich our lives, give us meaningful lessons and touch others. Let us share our stories and discuss the characters and actions that animate them. What if things had been different? How would we have acted? Themes of love, loyalty, confidence, and forgiveness come to life through the power of our words.
S 035 Writer's Workshop

**Moderator:** Roz Paris | rozparis@hotmail.com  
**Time:** Monday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
**Duration:** 10 weeks  
**Study Group Style:** Participant Presentation Group

Join a group of writers who enjoy presenting our works to each other. We value criticism that can improve our writing, and we like hearing the work of others. There are a number of issues that we want to work on, such as control of the writer’s voice, and how to edit what we write. From experience, it seems that eight people is a good maximum number of participants. Each week, please bring a copy of your work to share with everyone, and arrive on time, so that the first person who reads has the complete audience.
S 227 The “Wow Factor” of the Caribbean, Central and South America

Moderator: Dr. Ana Maria Klein | kleina@fredonia.edu  
Time: Wednesday 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.  
Duration: 5 weeks starting April 15  
Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

This study group will explore the topography, flora, and fauna of the Caribbean, Central, and South America. Participants will be able to share their travel experiences and learn about Darwin, Humboldt, and other explorers who also experienced the “Wow Factor” of the Equatorial Tropics.

S 123 Food: The Politics, the Power, the Pleasure

Moderators: Marjorie Northrup | marjorienorthrup@mail.ca  
Charles Munn | charlespmunn@gmail.com  
Time: Monday 11:45 a.m. -1:45 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

Calling all foodies. In this study group, we will explore a wide range of food-related issues such as the locavore diet, the politics of famine, the joys of eating well, sustainable and ethically correct diets, comfort foods in different cultures, food waste, genetically modified food, or any other food related topic chosen by the participants. Most sessions will be on campus, but we will also visit an organization dedicated to food security for seniors, dine chez Marjorie, and visit some community oriented food projects. The dining theme will be chosen by the group.
S 086 Harmony of Civilizations

Moderator: Nadine Salam | salamnadine@gmail.com
Time: Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Duration: 5 weeks starting April 15
Study Group Style: Participant Presentation Group

It is time to shift our attention from the clash of civilizations that we are witnessing around the world and to consider the harmonious mosaic of cultures that make up our Canadian population. Why not step into an exploration of diverse cultures, with everyone describing the land of their ancestors, with all the richness it adds to personal experience and character? We will discuss short readings and interviews from authors such as Samuel Huntington, Edward Said, and Amin Maalouf who approached the issues of identity and civilizations from a variety of perspectives.
S 228 Donald J. Trump: The Impeached President

**Moderator:** Jeff Sidel | jsidel@videotron.ca  
**Time:** Tuesday 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
**Duration:** 10 weeks  
**Study Group Style:** Lecture Group

We live in unprecedented times. Never before has a president of the United States been impeached in his first term of office and subsequently run for re-election. Now fighting for his legacy, can Donald J. Trump sway enough voters - particularly in the battleground states - to give him an Electoral College win? Over a 10-week period, we will analyze just how strong his public support really is and whether the Democrats have a candidate that moderate Republicans and Independents can rally around.

S 099 Current Affairs Through the Eyes of the Quebec Media

**Moderator:** Tony Frayne | Tony1frayne@bell.net  
**Time:** Monday 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
**Duration:** 10 weeks  
**Study Group Style:** Discussion Group

We live in interesting times in a city which has some world-class media. Join our study group to discuss current events in Québec, Canada and abroad, as reported in our local print and electronic media. You also get the chance to practise your French. Participants are expected to be able to read and understand French and English but may express themselves in either language.
S 229 The Betrayal of the Public Interest in Favour of Greed

Moderator: Nadia Alexan | Nadia.alexan@videotron.ca
Time: Tuesday 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Duration: 10 weeks
Study Group Style: Moderator Presentation Group

This study group will be based on Linda McQuaig's new book: “The Sport and Prey of Capitalists: How the Rich are Stealing Canada’s Public Wealth.” McQuaig exposes how the virtues of public ownership have increasingly been replaced by the dogma that the market does all things better. McQuaig documents how this doctrine has accelerated in the past four decades through deregulation, privatization and free-trade initiatives. We will also explore issues related to “Public/Private Partnerships.”

S 125 Debating the Debates

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

Each week we will debate a variety of provocative topics from websites such as intelligencesquared.com; ethics.org.au/initiatives/iq2; iq2us.org; munkdebates.com; and France24debates; etc. The objective is to expand our horizon, so let’s keep calm and carry on with some stimulating afternoons.

S 230 Is the Capitalist System Broken?

Moderator: Sidney Rosen | erosen@bell.net
Time: Wednesday 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Duration: 5 weeks starting April 15
Study Group Style: Participant Presentation Group

With the guidance of the moderator, participants will be asked to make presentations on the advantages and/or disadvantages of the capitalist system, as well as suggesting alternative systems.
SG 231 Hollywood Classic Films of the 1930s

Moderators: Joan Felvinci | jrfelvinci@yahoo.ca
Beverley Ann Lee | balgran@gmail.com

Time: Thursday: 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Duration: 5 weeks starting April 16
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

The 1930s represent the first decade in which motion picture technology was used in conjunction with sound to “tell a story”. In this study group, we will look at five Hollywood films of the 1930s from various genres: gangster, musical, detective/mystery, melodrama and comedy. After each film has been viewed in its entirety, discussion will follow.
S 232 Age-Related Memory Issues

Moderator: Leora Birnbaum | Leorabirnbaum@hotmail.com
Time: Monday 9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.
Duration: 5 weeks starting April 20
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

Age-related memory loss is not the same as dementia. This study group will help participants to differentiate between normal, age-related changes and dementia.
S 233 The Migrant Experience

   Moderator: Peter Berry | dukemorrill2004@yahoo.ca
   Time: Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
   Duration: 10 weeks
   Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

Using films, articles, and personal experiences, we will study historical and contemporary examples of the migration of people from one place to another. The focus will be on understanding why people left their native land, their challenges during the passage to a new life, their adaptation to an often strange and hostile new world, and the reaction of the host country to their arrival.

S 167 Israel-Palestine

   Moderator: Peter Berry | dukemorrill2004@yahoo.ca
   Time: Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
   Duration: 10 weeks
   Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

Using historical sources, films, and analysis of current events, we will investigate the reasons for the ongoing conflict between Jews and Arabs over the future of this one small corner of the Middle East. This study group begins with the late 19th century efforts by largely secular Zionists to re-establish a Jewish homeland in the Holy Land. It will continue through the British Mandate period, the triumphs and tragedies of 1947-48, the achievements of the Zionists in building a viable state, and the continuing conflict with the Palestinians and the Arab states.
S 234 WhoDunit?

**Moderator:** Howard King | hrk2thyme@gmail.com  
**Time:** Wednesday 11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.  
**Duration:** 10 weeks  
**Study Group Style:** Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

Spying and crimes, both recent and in history, will be presented and discussed. Was there a real James Bond? The CBC series “X-Company” will be followed in part. There will be a list of suggested topics, but nothing is off the table. Presentations may take any format and can be based on real or fictional events. Any format such as Power Point, a video, a personal story, or a written speech may be used. The moderator will draw upon 28 years in federal law enforcement to relate some interesting anecdotes. There will be cool hands-on stuff and a “SPY SCHOOL”.

S 235 Spy Stuff from WW2 and Recent Cases

**Moderator:** Dr. David Shacter | shacterdavid@videotron.ca  
**Time:** Tuesday 11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.  
**Duration:** 10 weeks  
**Study Group Style:** Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

This study group will examine Churchill’s British Resistance Force. We will look at secret British spy weapons and American OSS equipment. The moderator served in RCAF Intelligence and in four different police forces as well as Canadian airline security. Case histories will be covered as well as Russian spies in the Manhattan Project. The British-American Bastards Brigade whose purpose was to destroy Nazi A-Bomb research will be covered. Codebreakers’ work including Enigma and American Purple magic will be discussed.

S 236 New Evidence: The Great Viking Army (865 CE)

**Moderator:** Ruth Allan Rigby | Ruthrigby14A@videotron.ca  
**Time:** Wednesday 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
**Duration:** 5 weeks starting May 20  
**Study Group Style:** Participant Presentation Group

In 865 CE, a coalition of Vikings unified to invade the four Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms that constituted England. This SG will investigate the Vikings’ 14-year campaign that stretched from Northumbria to Exeter. Discussion will also include recent archeological evidence and current forensic techniques that have expanded our understanding of this crucial period of history.
SG 237 China Then & Now

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

China: a discussion of Chinese history, contemporary China and what China might become. We will begin by looking at the era when China was arguably more advanced than Europe. Note that the moderator has been to mainland China 11 times.

S 238 The World’s Great Railways, continued

Moderators: Andrew Macdougall | andrewmac@videotron.ca  
Robert 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

Join Andrew and Robbie as they continue to explore the history, geography, engineering wonders of, and journeys on, the world’s great railways. Presentations will be supplemented by videos. An outing, by rail, will be included (for an extra charge). Participants will be expected to give presentations; a list of suggested topics will be emailed to those who register. Assistance may be provided, if required, in locating source material.

S 239 Ancient Worlds: Key Turning Points

Moderators: Robert Winters | robertwinters@videotron.ca  
Roger Humphrey | rth201002@yahoo.ca  
Horst Richter | horst.richter@mcgill.ca  
Time: Monday 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks  
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 recent research into how they thought and what they believed? Discussion will be stimulated by presentations, videos and other material that will help us explore key turning points that changed the course of history in the ancient world. These pivotal events, such as the end of the Roman Republic, the rise of Alexander the Great and monotheism’s birth, had a lasting impact on how ancient civilizations evolved. Participants are encouraged to do presentations although these are not obligatory.
S 240 Spain 1492

Moderator: John Felvinci | jfelvinci@sympatico.ca
Time: Tuesday: 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Duration: 10 weeks
Study Group Style: Participant Presentation Group

The year 1492 was very important for Spain and for us all. This was the year of the final defeat of the 800-year-old Moorish kingdom, the expulsion of the Jews and the discovery of the Americas by Columbus. The study group will also review the effects of the fall of Constantinople in 1453, the subsequent rise of the apocalyptic movement which believed the world would soon end and how it affected Columbus. We will look at the beginnings of the Spanish inquisition and the role of converted Jews (conversos) in Spanish history. We will also discuss the role Columbus played in the early colonization of the Caribbean islands.
S 241 First Snow, Last Light

Moderator: Connie Lavallée | connie.lavallee@videotron.ca  
Time: Monday 11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks starting April 20  
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

In this study group, we will explore another Wayne Johnston novel in which Sheilagh Fielding, introduced in *The Colony of Unrequited Dreams*, looms large. Set in Newfoundland, *First Snow, Last Light* begins with the first snowstorm of 1936 when 14-year-old Ned Vatcher arrives home from school to find that his parents have vanished. Ned will spend the next 25 years trying to find out what happened to them. The novel builds to a spectacular resolution of the mystery of the vanishing Vatchers. On April 20 we will discuss Chapters 1-2-3. (Books available at Paragraphe bookstore)

S 143 Shakespeare at the Globe

Moderator: Clifford Parr | clifford.parr@sympatico.ca  
Time: Monday: 11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.  
Duration: 10 weeks starting April 20  
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

In this session, we will be watching together and discussing a selection of Shakespeare's plays in live performance from London's Globe Theatre. Scheduled productions include *The Tempest*, *Julius Caesar*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Antony and Cleopatra*. 
S 108 Classic Drama

Moderator: Clifford Parr | clifford.parr@sympatico.ca
Time: Monday: 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Duration: 10 weeks starting April 20
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

In this session, we will be watching together and discussing a selection of classic dramas. Productions include A Doll’s House (Ibsen), Uncle Vanya (Chekhov), Pygmalion (Shaw), and Lady Windermere’s Fan (Wilde).

S 242 Magic Realism in Gabriel Garcia Marquez’s Literature

Moderator: Mariana Navarro-Grau | manavgrau@gmail.com
Time: Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Duration: 10 weeks
Study Group Style: Moderator/Participant Presentation Group

Magic realism is a literary movement characterized by the representation of the magic and supernatural in a realistic world. The work of the Colombian author Gabriel Garcia Marquez is arguably the best example of the style in Latin American Literature. We will read Of Love and Other Demons (1994) and then choose, as a group, a second Garcia Marquez novel to study. Maximum number of participants is 15. We will discuss recurrent themes in Garcia Marquez’s work and encourage participants to do presentations based on them.
S 184 Down Memory Lane: American Roots Music (Repeat)

Moderators: Irwin Kuzmarov | ikuzmarov@sympatico.ca
            Donna Kuzmarov | donnakuz@hotmail.com

Time: Tuesday, 11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Duration: 5 weeks starting April 14
Study Group Style: Moderator Presentation Group

The origin of American Roots music goes back to Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger. Folk music from this era became the anthem for many social movements in the US. From Joan Baez to John Denver and Peter, Paul and Mary, this music defined an era. Songs from this heritage will be discussed... and then sung. Lyrics will be made available and the entire group will be encouraged to join in.

S 243 The Fascinating Music of the Renaissance

Moderator: Miriam Tees | Miriam.tees@mcgill.ca

Time: Tuesday 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Duration: 10 weeks
Study Group Style: Moderator Presentation Group

Renaissance music has come into its own in the last century, and we hear it in concert, on the radio, and in the movies. Byrd in London, Palestrina in Rome, and Monteverdi in Venice are all familiar names, but there are many lesser-known composers who wrote fascinating music from the end of the Middle Ages until the beginning of the Baroque period. We will listen to music from that era and examine its development.
S 244 Librettos and Librettists - I

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

Most writers who provide the words - the librettos - for operas are not nearly as well known as the composers of the opera’s music. We will watch and discuss five operas whose librettists achieved well-deserved recognition in their own right (or write?). They are Pietro Metastasio (Mozart’s La Clemenza di Tito), Lorenzo da Ponte (Mozart’s Don Giovanni), Arrigo Boito (Verdi’s Otello), Hugo von Hofmannstahl (Strauss’s Der Rosenkavalier), and Peter Sellars (Adams’s Doctor Atomic). While no presentations are required, discussion is strongly encouraged.

S 245 Librettos and Librettists - II

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

A repeat of Librettos and Librettists – I. See description above.

S 217 The Varied Compositions of Dmitri Shostakovich

Moderator: Bernadine Lewis | blewis1900@gmail.com
Time: Thursday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Duration: 10 weeks
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

In this study group, we will listen to examples from the wide variety of Shostakovich’s compositions. From his early jazz and film compositions to his operas, symphonies and chamber music, Shostakovich demonstrated his excellence. There will be many surprises, even for those who think they know his music, and it is hoped that by listening to a variety of his works - including some lesser known ones - all will find music they enjoy.
S 216 Percussionists: How hard can it be?

**Moderator:** Lanny Levine | lannylevine@sympatico.ca  
**Time:** Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
**Duration:** 5 weeks starting April 15  
**Study Group Style:** Moderator/ Participant Presentation Group

A look at the functions of the timpanist and percussionists in a symphonic orchestra. The sounds of the instruments, how they work, how to play them, how to read percussion parts, rhythms, a look at scores. Smaller instruments will be brought to the lectures. Participants will be asked to make a short presentation.
S 246 Aspects of the Paranormal in Everyday Life

Moderator: Ostroff | joycemjo@aol.com
Time: Monday: 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Duration: 10 weeks
Study Group Style: Discussion Group

Have you ever experienced strange coincidences, seen visions of something which later materialized, or received messages, seemingly telepathically, which made you wonder? Have you ever thought of someone and suddenly run into him/her or received a call from that person? Would you like to learn more about telepathy, reincarnation, past lives, remote viewing, precognition, meditation, ESP, synchronicities, cosmic consciousness, premonitions and more? Learn more from others who have, or share your own experiences. Presentations by study group members only if desire to do so.
**WORKSHOPS**

**S 079 Drama for Fun**

**Moderator:** Freda Segal | fsegal10@gmail.com  
**Time:** Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
**Duration:** 10 weeks  
**Study Group Style:** Workshop

Improvisation and drama games are used to allow participants to enjoy social situations that were awkward for them in the past. Laughter is a major part of this program and is used throughout the session.

**S 247 Doing History**

**Moderator:** Peter Strobach | p_strobach@sympatico.ca  
**Time:** Tuesday: 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
**Duration:** 5 weeks starting April 14  
**Study Group Style:** Workshop

History enthusiasts can now take advantage of the unprecedented ease of access to authoritative sources of historical knowledge. Transformation of this knowledge into a visual form helps to reveal the complex spatial relationships between peoples, places and environments. This helps us to recognize patterns. We will look at the currently available tools that can be used by history enthusiasts to visualize historical knowledge. This approach to history will be illustrated through examples related to the story of North America from 1400 to 1800.

**S 197 Are You Interested in Keeping your Brain Active and Alive?**

**Moderator:** Badriya Raihani | Badriya@atadri.com  
**Time:** Wednesday: 11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.  
**Duration:** 5 weeks starting May 13  
**Study Group Style:** Workshop. En français avec participation dans les deux langues officielles.

Do you want to keep your brain sharp as you get older? The brain needs novelty. So, learn and teach your brain new tricks. Enjoy being able to find your lucky number, to predict mentally a change, a discount or markup... You will start giving up the habit of using a calculator for a simple addition or multiplication! In addition, not only are these tricks helpful for mind and memory but for making everyday life easier!
S 080 Bridge for Fun

Moderators: Michael McCusker | mdmccusker2001@yahoo.com
            John Hobbins

Time: Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. - 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 work best with a minimum of 10 and maximum of 26 participants. Some bridge experience required. During the second hour of the class, we will focus on slightly more complicated defenses techniques.
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 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 (base, intermediate, advanced), and needs (see list above). New! On special request, if dates below do not suit your needs, other dates and times may also be available by appointment for individual one-on-one sessions.

Participants can use lab computers or they can bring their own portable devices. (See Tech-Savvy Workshops for more information, page 37.)

Dates and times (plenary sessions)

| W 317 | Brainy Bar 1: Wednesday, May 20 | 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. |
| W 318 | Brainy Bar 2: Wednesday, June 3  | 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. |

Brainy Bar Plus

MCLL and IELC are offering this alternative 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 giving your contact information and the topics in which you need assistance. Forms are available at MCLL Office.
Friday, April 17, 10 a.m.

**L 288 The Separation of Church and State**

Presenter: Frédéric Wagnière

Both Church and State are aggrieved when the other interferes in its affairs - but still they both do it. Is a valid solution possible or will the dispute just drag on?

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Friday, April 17, 1:00 p.m.

**L 289 Saga of the Shanghai-Jewish Holocaust Refugees**

Presenter: Paul Leong

Because of hatred and racism, millions of Jews died at the hands of the Nazis. Yet some 36,000 Jewish refugees escaped the death camps by fleeing to Shanghai. In this month of Jewish Yom HaShoah, we will explore the saga of the Shanghai-Jewish Holocaust escapees, one of whom eventually became the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury! A fascinating story of human endeavor.

---

Friday, April 17, 1:00 p.m.

**L 290 Understanding Hearing Loss**

Presenters: Dale Bonncastle (audiologist, retired)  
Debra Fisher (speechreading instructor, peer mentor)

Hearing loss affects 30 % of the population over the age of 65. It is a sometimes misunderstood invisible condition. Unfortunately, there is a great deal of misinformation about what to do if you think your hearing is deteriorating. This lecture will provide basic information on hearing loss and practical solutions for coping with hearing loss and for optimizing communication.

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Friday, April 24, 10:00 a.m.

**L 291 Troy - Myth and Reality**

Presenter: Ruth Allan Rigby

This illustrated lecture will discuss some highlights from the current exhibition at the British Museum. There will be discussion of who Homer was and whether he actually existed. Was there a Trojan War or is it a myth? As well, there will be an examination of the fascinating archaeological evidence that suggests there was a real Troy.
Friday, April 24, 10:00 a.m.

L 293 BREXIT #3
Presenter: Dennis Creamer

This will be my third lecture on Brexit. Each, of course, represents the latest developments. The UK left the European Union on January 31 of this year. So now the talk will be about the future (with a quick review of the past): - will the Brits really leave? If so, how?

Friday, April 24, 1:00 p.m.

L 292 How to Determine your Ancestry?
Presenter: John Felvinci

This lecture will review the methods which various organizations use to determine your ancestry. We will discuss DNA analysis, how mitochondrial DNA can reveal the female ancestry and the Y chromosome the male one. We will look at the different haplogroups and find out how they determine a person’s genetic history.

Friday, April 24, 1:00 p.m.

L 294 Will the Second Generation Please Rise
Presenters: Deena Dlusy-Apel, Max Beer

This is a 53-minute documentary film which deals with the fact that it is now up to the second generation - the children of survivors - to continue the work of their parents to keep alive the memory of the Holocaust. It shows the angst, shared experiences and the literary and artistic endeavors of the children of survivors.

Friday, April 24, 1:00 p.m.

L 295 Tolstoy and the Battle of Austerlitz
Presenter: Denis Thompson

In his classic work, War and Peace, Leo Tolstoy describes the actions of some central Russian characters during their crushing defeat by Napoleon at the Battle of Austerlitz (Book 3, Chapters 11 to 19). The lecturer will compare Tolstoy’s version of events with the current accepted history, including some photos of a recent battlefield tour of the site.
**Friday, May 1, 10:00 a.m.**

**L 296 The Romantics: Mendelssohn and Schumann**

Presenter: Pauline Bentham

Of all the Romantic Composers, Mendelssohn and Schumann stand out as the two who wrote a little bit of everything. Chopin wrote piano music, Schubert wrote songs and Liszt was preoccupied with the orchestra. Naturally these men wrote for other media as well but Mendelssohn and Schumann balanced their talents in all the types of music that we will hear this afternoon.

**Friday, May 1, 10:00 a.m.**

**L 297 Zero Waste - Is it Possible?**

Presenter: Elizabeth Robinson

In first months of 2020, news media had plenty to report on waste management in Montreal – sorting centres for recyclables were closing, and the city of Montreal had public hearings on its plan for going “Zero waste” by 2030. This lecture will be presented by one of the two co-moderators of a winter 2020 semester study group on the topic, and will summarize what we learned from our own research, from participant presentations and from presentations at the study group by guest speakers.

**Friday, May 1, 1:00 p.m.**

**L 298 The Spies of World War II**

Presenter: Ben Sperer

We know a great deal about the battles of the Second World War. Pearl Harbor, the Bulge, Stalingrad and Britain are all household words. But little is known about the spies that often pulled the strings that made these battles possible. This is their story.

**Friday, May 8, 10:00 a.m.**

**L 300 Beethoven’s 250th Anniversary**

Presenter: Morty Ellis

Why is Beethoven considered to be one of the great composers? What is it in his works that has brought him to this pinnacle? This session will be devoted to a selection of his works that demonstrate those characteristics which gave rise to his fame.
Friday, May 8, 10:00 a.m.

**L 301 Francis Ellen Watkins Harper**

Presenter: Marna Murray

This amazing woman was an African American abolitionist, suffragist, poet, teacher, and writer. A book of poetry published when she was 20 and her better-known novel *Iola Leroy* established her as one of the earliest published African American writers.

Friday, May 8, 1:00 p.m.

**L 302 McCord Museum: Wearing Our Identity: The First Peoples Collection**

Presenter: Muriel Herrington

Join me for a tour of the First Peoples Collection, and a creative workshop facilitated by the McCord Museum: Call to Action: The Truth and Reconciliation Commission. During the tour we will see examples of clothing worn by First Peoples and learn about the symbolism incorporated in the clothing. In the workshop we will discuss the effects of the Indian Act and our responsibility towards truth and reconciliation. There is a minimum enrollment of 15 for this outing and a maximum of 20. Cost is $13.50 per person. We will meet at the group entrance to the McCord Museum at 2175 Victoria Street.

Friday, May 8, 1:00 p.m.

**L 303 Concert/lecture: 20th Century Violin Music I**

Presenter: Malcolm Goldstein

The presentation will consist of a live performance by Malcolm Goldstein on the violin, with comments from the performer on each of the pieces. Music included will be by John Cage and Malcolm Goldstein.

Friday, May 15, 1:00 p.m.

**L 299 The Age of Napoleon**

Presenter: Ben Sperer

The story of the “petit caporal” who rose to Emperor of France and dominated a good part of the world during his convulsive reign, leaving his mark on the lives of millions of people well after his death.
Friday, May 22, 10:00 a.m.

**L 305 Counterterrorism – How to Survive an Attack**

Presenter: Howard Robert King

This lecture will introduce some basic security principles for use in a wide range of situations and will provide participants with tools that will help them to survive a variety of different attacks. Anecdotes about actual cases from the lecturer’s many years in federal law enforcement will be used to illustrate key points.

Friday, May 22, 1:00 p.m.

**L 304 5000 Years of Wool**

Presenter: Beverley Ann Lee

This lecture looks at the economic and social history of wool over the past five thousand years as the wool industry transformed societies in more ways than we can imagine. Beverly Ann’s knowledge of wool and the wool industry originated with a simple interest in wool as a fiber for crafts but has grown over the years to a greater understanding of the impact of wool on the entire world. This PowerPoint presentation will include short video sequences.

Friday, May 22, 1:00 p.m.

**L 306 Film Noir? Elvis Presley in King Creole**

Presenter: Frederick (Rick) Stapenhurst

Directed by Michael Curtiz (who previously directed Casablanca) and co-starring Walter Matthau, Dean Jagger, and Carolyn Jones, the screenplay was based on the novel *A Stone for Danny Fisher* by Harold Robbins. Filmed in black and white, King Creole was as close to film noir as an Elvis film would ever get.

Friday, May 22, 1:00 p.m.

**L 307 Who was Dona Garcia Mendez Nasi?**

Presenter: John Felvinci

Gracia Mendes Nasi (1510 – 1569), was one of the wealthiest Jewish women of Renaissance Europe. She married Francisco Mendes/ Benveniste. She was the aunt and business partner of Joseph Nasi, who became a prominent figure in the politics of the Ottoman Empire. She also developed an escape network that saved hundreds of Conversos from the Inquisition.
L 309 Trek urbain dans un nouveau quartier de Montréal

Presenter: Marjolaine Lalonde

La gare de triage d’Outremont a longtemps fractionné Montréal mais aujourd’hui, un quartier prend forme autour du nouveau campus MIL de l’Université de Montréal. Un projet de développement durable (habitations, logements sociaux et espaces verts) reliant Outremont à Park Extension. Nous le découvrirons ensemble à pied! Le trek débutera à l’extérieur de la station de métro Outremont. Il n’y a qu’une sortie. Pour maximiser l’expérience, le nombre de participants est limité à 10 personnes. La marche se déroulera en français.

Friday, May 29, 1:00 p.m.

L 308 Satoko Shibata Clinical Nursing Laboratories

Presenter: Muriel Herrington

Have you ever wondered what else goes on in our Sherbrooke Street building? Join me in a visit to the Satoko Shibata Clinical Nursing Laboratories. This facility of the Ingram School of Nursing at McGill provides training for nursing students. Students learn essential techniques and observation skills using simulators or living “patients” (actors). They work in different environments that simulate hospital, or home settings. This tour takes approximately 20-30 minutes and can accommodate a maximum of 20 participants. We will meet in the MCLL lounge and then proceed to the 20th floor.

Friday, May 29, 1:00 p.m.

L 310 Concert/lecture on 20th Century Violin Music II

Presenter: Malcolm Goldstein

The presentation will consist of a live performance by Malcolm Goldstein, on the violin with comments from the performer on each of the pieces. Music included will be by Pauline Oliveros, Philip Corner, Malcolm Goldstein and Stefan Wolpe.
**Friday, June 5, 10:00 a.m.**

**L 311 Emerging Infectious Diseases**

Presenter: Dr. Thérèse Bouchez

COVID-19, MERS, SARS, Zika, Ebola ... what's next? While we have eradicated some severe infectious diseases, thanks to immunization, and control others, new ones appear. What are they? Why do they occur? What can we do to prevent or control these new epidemics/pandemics?

**Friday, June 5, 1:00 p.m.**

**L 312 Mesopotamia and the Neo-Assyrian Empire**

Presenter: Wolfgang Schneider

In the first half of the talk, we will look at aspects of daily life in ancient Sumer, Assyria and Babylonia - from marriage and divorce to festivals, food and drink, and more. In the second half, we will follow the rise of the Neo-Assyrian empire, concentrating on king Ashurbanipal, a megalomaniac bookworm, and the subsequent fall of the Neo-Assyrian empire to the Neo-Babylonian empire.

**Friday, June 5, 1:00 p.m.**

**L 313 The Real Favourite: Sarah Churchill and Blenheim Palace**

Presenter: Belinda Beaton

This lecture will explain how a baroque stately house actually came to be. Many may be familiar with the fictitious portrait of Sarah Churchill presented in the award-winning film, *The Favourite*. The real story tells of the endowment by a grateful monarch of Blenheim Palace to John Churchill, a victorious English general, that resulted in a stately house of remarkable splendour that still continues to enchant.

**Friday, June 12, 10:00 a.m.**

**L 316 Transport in Montreal: How did we get in this mess?**

Presenter: Tony Frayne

Getting around the city by car or by public transport has become a nightmare. Making the necessary adaptions to climate change will not make things easier. Where to next? An overview of the last 50 years from a transport planning perspective.
Friday, June 12, 1:00 p.m.

L 314 The World’s Freshwater Crisis
Presenter: Hassan Elshafei

Freshwater is humanity’s most critical natural resource. Global demand for freshwater is outstripping reliable supply in many parts of the world. Also, global warming is projected to exacerbate shortages in already water-stressed regions. The parameters of the problem will be defined, and the prospects explored.

Friday, June 12, 1:00 p.m.

L 315 The Little Ice Age
Presenter: Wolfgang Schneider

What exactly was the Little Ice Age? Images of Dutch burghers skating on frozen lakes come to mind, and vague stories about Vikings having once lived in Greenland. We will explore what happened and when, and we will look into the factors that could have affected the climate between the end of the Middle Ages and the beginning of the Industrial Revolution.
PRACTICAL INFORMATION

YEARLY CALENDAR

SPRING 2020 TERM
• Tuesday, April 14– Thursday, June 18
• Statutory Holidays: April 13 (Easter Monday), May 18 (National Patriots’ Day)
• Registration opens: March 16

SUMMER 2020 TERM
• Wednesday, July 8 – Wednesday, August 19
• Registration opens: June 17

FALL 2020 TERM
• Monday, September 14 – Thursday, November 19
• Statutory holiday: October 12 (Thanksgiving)*
• Registration opens: August 3

WINTER 2021 TERM
• Monday, January 11 – Thursday, March 18
• Registration opens: December 2

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

MEMBERSHIP FEE is $110 per term. This allows people to register for a total of 20 weeks of study groups per term (any combination of 10 and 5 week study groups). 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.

FEE FOR LECTURES, WORKSHOPS AND OUTINGS is $10 per activity. Members can reserve their spot by registering in advance or pay at the door if space is available.

REGISTRATION - Online registration is strongly recommended to MCLL members and general public. Registrations made online are processed immediately and accepted/rejected based on the spaces available in real time. If you do not have a computer or need assistance, you can come to the hands-on sessions organized each term at the onset of registration, you will need to pay with a credit card and have your Athena credentials with you or accessible online.

If any of the above are not possible, 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, they will be dated and numbered as they are received, then processed in the same order on the first day of registration.
ADMISSION - 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 - For members registering online, fees are refundable before the start of the second week of the term. Lecture fees are refundable up to three days before lecture date. Members can chose to keep a credit and apply it the next term.

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). Account statements by term are available on Athena.

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 27.

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.
## MCLL LECTURES (L) AND WORKSHOPS (W)

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<td>Francis Ellen Watkins Harper</td>
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<td>Marna Murray</td>
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## MCLL STUDY GROUP SCHEDULE
### SPRING 2020

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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| 9:30-11:30 | S 099 Current Affairs Through the Eyes of the Quebec Media  
Tony Frayne | S 228 Donald J. Trump: The Impeached President  
Jeff Sidel |
|        | S 232 Age-Related Memory Issues  
Leora Birnbaum (5 wks April 20) | S 167 Israel-Palestine  
Peter Berry |
|        | S 237 China Then & Now  
Dennis Creamer | S 247 Doing History  
Peter Strobach (5 wks April 14) |
|        | S 080 Bridge for fun  
Michael McCusker, John Hobbins |                                                               |
| 11:45-1:45 | S 226 Stories of Life  
Ibtissam El Assaad | S 235 Spy Stuff From WW2 and Recent Cases  
Dr. David Shacler |
|        | S 123 Food: The Politics, the Power, the Pleasure  
Marjorie Northrup, Charles Munn | S 238 The World’s Great Railways, continued  
Andrew Macdougall, Robbie Robinson |
|        | S 241 First Snow, Last Light  
Connie Lavallée (10 wks April 20) | S 184 Down Memory Lane: American Roots Music  
Irwin Kuzmarov, Donna Kuzmarov (5 wks April 14) |
|        | S 143 Shakespeare at the Globe  
Clifford Parr (10 wks April 20) |                                                               |
| 2:00-4:00 | S 035 Writer’s Workshop  
Roz Paris | S 229 The Betrayal of the Public Interest in Favour of Greed  
Nadia Alexan |
|        | S 239 Ancient Worlds: Key Turning Points  
Robert Winters, Roger Humphrey, Horst Richter | S 240 Spain 1492  
John Felvinci |
|        | S 108 Classic Drama  
Clifford Parr (10 wks April 20) | S 244 The Fascinating Music of the Renaissance  
Miriam Tees |
|        | S 246 Aspects of the Paranormal in Everyday Life  
Joyce Ostroff |                                                               |
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<td><strong>S 233 The Migrant Experience</strong>&lt;br&gt;Peter Berry</td>
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<td><strong>S 242 Magic Realism in Gabriel Garcia Marquez’s Literature</strong>&lt;br&gt;Mariana Navarro-Grau</td>
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<td><strong>S 197 Are You Interested in keeping your Brain Active and Alive?</strong>&lt;br&gt;Badriya Raihani (5 wks May 13)</td>
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<td><strong>S 236 New Evidence: The Great Viking Army (865 CE)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ruth Allan Rigby (5 wks May 20)</td>
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<td><strong>S 083 Variety of Visual Creative Activities</strong>&lt;br&gt;Romano M. De Santis</td>
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<td><strong>S 125 Debating the Debates</strong>&lt;br&gt;Kuai-Yu (Paul Leong)</td>
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<td><strong>S 217 The Varied Compositions of Dmitri Shostakovich</strong>&lt;br&gt;Bernadine Lewis</td>
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