



MCLL **McGill Community for Lifelong Learning** *For people who want to learn for the joy of it!*

February 2024 eBulletin

Welcome to winter



There is a lot to see and do this month.....

Our partnership with the Segal Centre yields this special theatre deal. There may even be a Spring Study Group developed to discuss it.....

Inspired by the Giller® Prize-winning novel ***Fifteen Dogs***, this play explores the limits of power, the intricacies of identity, and the unbreakable bonds of loyalty. The gods Hermes and Apollo make a bet over a beer and grant 15 dogs human consciousness, watching from above as the pups discover the poetry and the pitfalls of complex thought and emotion. In this modern-day fable of fate, faith, love, and language, the pack must reckon with morality, mortality, and the profound relationships they share with humans.

**Use the coupon MCLL5OFF
[CLICK HERE FOR INFO](#)**

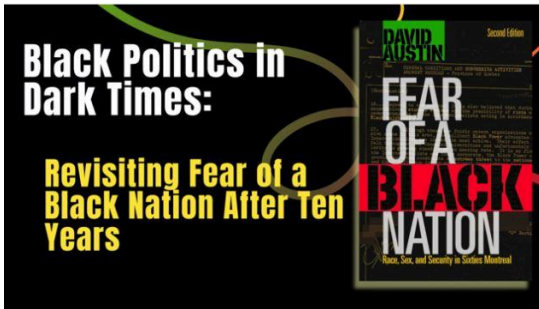
More offerings.....



ROOAr events.... Rare Books and Special Collections and the McGill University Archives

Monday, February 12; 4:30 - 6 pm
**Black Politics in Dark Times:
 Revisiting Fear of a Black Nation
 After Ten Years**
RSVP FOR ONLINE OR IN-PERSON

Tuesday, February 20; 12:00pm - 1:00pm
The Book as Evidence
RSVP FOR ONLINE OR IN-PERSON



This lecture YCLML 001 /Black Composers of Classical Music - presented by our own Susan Van Gelder - is a joint initiative between MCLL and Cummings Centre
CLICK HERE FOR MCLL REGISTRATION INFORMATION



Also....

BLACK COMPOSERS OF CLASSICAL MUSIC ONLINE

In collaboration with McGill Community for Lifelong Learning

As far back as the 1500s there were black composers of classical music. Come on a musical adventure as we hear about black composers, many of whose music was silenced by a world that celebrated white men. Listen to their music and you be the judge. Should these names be known?

Friday, Feb. 9 • 10 am • Online
 \$10 Member
 Sign up today, [click here!](#) ☎ 514.343.3510

MCLL LE CENTRE Cummings CENTRE



IMAGO



IMAGO THEATRE PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIERE OF **The Flood** by Leah-Simone Bowen / Directed By Yvette Nolan
February 15-25, 2024 at Centaur Theatre

In the basement prison below Toronto's St. Lawrence Market at the end of the 19th century, two women named Mary, one a shunned, pregnant Irish immigrant, the other a vilified Mississauga woman, become an unlikely pair as they form a friendship. Their bond threatens fellow inmate Sophia who calls herself the first Black woman in Canada. [TICKET INFO HERE](#)

MCLL remembers Naomi Kassie

MCLL loved Naomi Kassie and she loved it right back.

A soprano who performed regularly as well as being a deeply involved community and family member, Naomi (née Wershof) Kassie (July 20, 1925 - December 29, 2023) moderated 28 study groups in music appreciation, the art of opera and other types of music at MCLL (and its previous incarnation MILR) from 1991 until she was well into her 90's. Daughter Lynne remembers what that commitment meant to her. "She would spend months preparing for those courses, picking her themes, making sure that she imparted not just music appreciation, but the love of music. It was a big part of her life."

By all accounts her courses were loved and her students sang - no pun intended - her praises. Even Bernard Shapiro, former Principal and Vice-Chancellor of McGill University - who knew a thing or two about teaching - lauded her ability in the classroom.

Room 225 at MCLL - called the Naomi Kassie Seminar Room, or 'music room' - was established in June 2011, thanks to a generous donation from the Kassie Family Endowment Fund to, as son David put it: "honour Naomi Kassie and her commitment to MCLL."

It contains a variety of instruments and is equipped with surround-sound speakers. In a letter of appreciation sent to her when she stopped teaching, past MCLL president Jeff Sidel



captured the sentiment, saying, in part: "Your love of music reflected the best that MCLL could offer our members through peer-to-peer learning."

The published obituary can be found [HERE](#)

Moderators' Forum recap

The Curriculum Committee held a Moderator's Forum II in November, 2023. These are highlights and suggestions that emerged at the Forum:

1. There will be support for outings and social events.
2. Multi-term study groups involving compelling topics are welcome.
3. Participant participation via Zoom is challenging; training and support will be offered and break-out discussion groups encouraged.
4. "Just for The Joy of It" will be our ongoing philosophy.
5. Engagement is key.
6. Lecture and Study Group descriptions will be more explicit and enticing.
7. Inter-generational and external groups will be encouraged.



Making Learning Accessible for All



Mark your calendars for March 13th, as McGill Community for Lifelong Learning (MCLL) gears up for McGill24 – a day of giving that aims to transform the learning experience for seniors. The goal is to raise \$20,000 to enable seniors with hearing loss to participate in an inclusive classroom environment, to increase our digital accessibility and to upgrade the signage in our physical spaces. It will also allow for improvements in hybrid learning modes that will strengthen the reach among seniors in Montreal and beyond.

[**CLICK HERE TO DONATE NOW**](#)

Winter Registration Continues

[**To view ongoing winter workshops and lectures click here**](#)

[**To view ongoing winter study groups click here**](#)



The deadline for proposals for spring study groups is **February 2nd**. For more info, contact [Ana Maria Klein](#)

February Indigenous Events of Interest

Thursday, February 15

When Two Worlds Met: Art in Everyday Items

[FREE TICKET INFO](#)



Thursday, February 15

The Legal Landscape: Child-welfare Reporting Tips and Landmark Cases

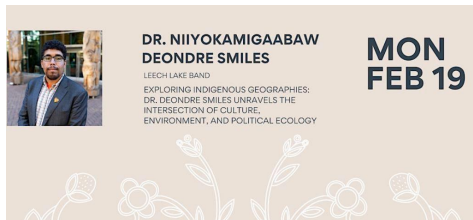
[FREE TICKET INFO](#)



Monday February 19

McGill Winter Indigenous Speakers Series presents Dr. Niiyokamigaabaw Dondre Smiles - in Person

[FREE TICKET INFO](#)



Wednesday, February 21

Language Keepers: Celebrating Indigenous + Newcomer Language Revitalization

[FREE TICKET INFO](#)



Thursday, February 22

An Exploration of Indigenous Autism in Canada: A Nêhiyaw Perspective

[FREE TICKET INFO](#) **SOLD OUT**

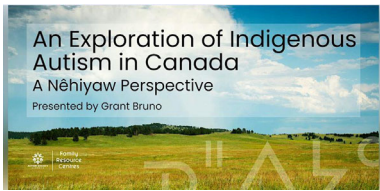
**Anytime Online Podcasts
Perfect for Winter Listening**

Storykeepers:

Let's Talk Indigenous Books

[CHECK OUT THE PODCAST SCHEDULE](#)

26 episodes hosted by GoodMinds.com



eBulletin editor

sharon.bishin@mail.mcgill.ca



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