

In League...

MIT
WOMEN'S
LEAGUE

A quarterly newsletter

February – March 2012

Arthur M. Sackler Museum at Harvard University

Wednesday, February 15 • 1:30 pm

February Guided Tour of Featured Exhibits:

Art of the Fan: China, Korea, Japan

The fan evolved in East Asia from a functional cooling device to a symbol of high status and an art form in its own right. This installation features painted fans, works depicting fans, and paintings in fan shapes, inviting the viewer to appreciate this very distinctive subject in East Asian art.

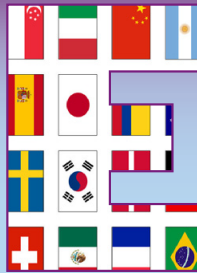
Beyond the Surface: Scientific Approaches to Islamic Metalwork

Combining art-historical and scientific analyses, this installation examines key examples of Harvard's Islamic and pre-Islamic metalwork from the 4th through the 14th centuries. Essential to understanding Islamic metalwork is an appreciation of the ways in which metalworkers in the Islamic era adapted the technological and stylistic legacies of Roman, Byzantine, and Sasanian precursors.

We will meet in the museum at 1:30 pm for the one-hour tour. The museum is located at 485 Broadway, a short walk from the Harvard Square Red Line stop and across the street from Sanders Theater. There is limited street parking and indoor parking at the nearby Broadway Parking Garage. "T" Bus #1 stops at the museum.

Admission is \$6 unless you have a membership or pass from your local library. For more information visit www.harvardartmuseums.org/collection/sackler/.

Please register for the tour at wleague@mit.edu or 617.2533656 by **Friday, February 10.**



English Class Registration

Tuesday, February 14 • 9 am to 11 am
Stratton Student Center, Room 491

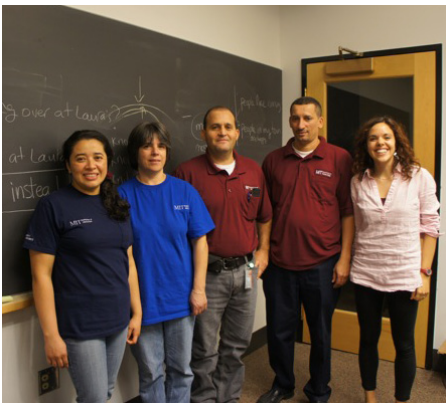
Sponsored by the Women's League, these conversational English classes are a perfect home away-from-home for international women arriving at MIT whose first language is not English. From around the globe, these visitors meet and come together to practice and learn English under the guidance of dedicated Women's League teachers.

Our classes provide a warm venue for practicing "survival" English, enlarging vocabulary, and engaging in conversations upon a variety of subjects with others. In addition to learning about American culture, the women also share their own cultures and interests. Teachers as well as fellow students

provide information about MIT and Boston and offer helpful suggestions to accomplish everyday tasks. As stories and experiences are shared, speaking and listening abilities improve.

The classes offer women of all cultures and countries the chance to learn or improve their English skills, to make new friends, and to gain confidence while living their new life in the United States.

Classes are held from February to May on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:15 am to 11:00 am. Three levels of classes (Basic to Advanced) are offered and after a brief interview with one of our teachers each student is placed in an appropriate level class. Babysitting is provided for children, age 6 months to 4 years at a cost of \$150 a semester per child. Textbooks are provided and included in the class fee of \$80 per semester. All questions will be answered by calling Jan Kirtley, coordinator of the English Classes, at 617.277.2628.



ESL Night Pilot Program

Despite the late hour, eighteen students, thirteen teachers, and six substitutes participated in the ESL Night Pilot Program for MIT service employees that began September 29, 2011. Classes ran from 11:00 pm to midnight on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The students brought different levels of academic experience and skills to their classes. Similarly, the teachers — graduate and undergraduate students, staff, and an untiring retiree — came to the job with varying degrees of experience teaching ESL, from having no experience to being ESL trained and certified.

The teachers were enthusiastic. Asked if she will be continuing, one graduate student teacher remarked, "I will definitely be doing it in the spring!"

Jim Eggleston
Night Pilot Coordinator

In the photo above: Participants in the Pilot ESL Night Program, Silvia Valle, Maria Resendes, Diego Arango, Jose Amado and their teacher, Alejandra Menchaca.



William M. Kettyle



J. Benjamin Crocker



Winthrop M. Hodges

CATHERINE N. STRATTON AGING SUCCESSFULLY SEMINAR Leaping Ahead to More Effective Delivery of Medical Care Medical Care Specialists Share Their Visions for Future Care

Wednesday, February 29, 2012
4:00 – 6:00 pm

Free and Open to the Public

Sponsored collaboratively by MIT's Medical Department, Women's League, and Age Lab, the 25th year of the Catherine N. Stratton Aging Successfully Seminars brings together three experts strongly committed to the effective delivery of medical care.

While reviewing former styles of medical care, this seminar will consider some current trends — e.g., electronic medical records, email and secure patient portals, disease-specific educators, hospitalists and travel clinicians to name a few — and then look ahead using the work done at MIT's Age and Media Labs as well as the Massachusetts General Hospital's (MGH) model for future care, The Ambulatory Practice of the Future.

The audience will be equipped with response devices to indicate their preferences for the various care delivery options presented.

Moderator and Discussion Leader

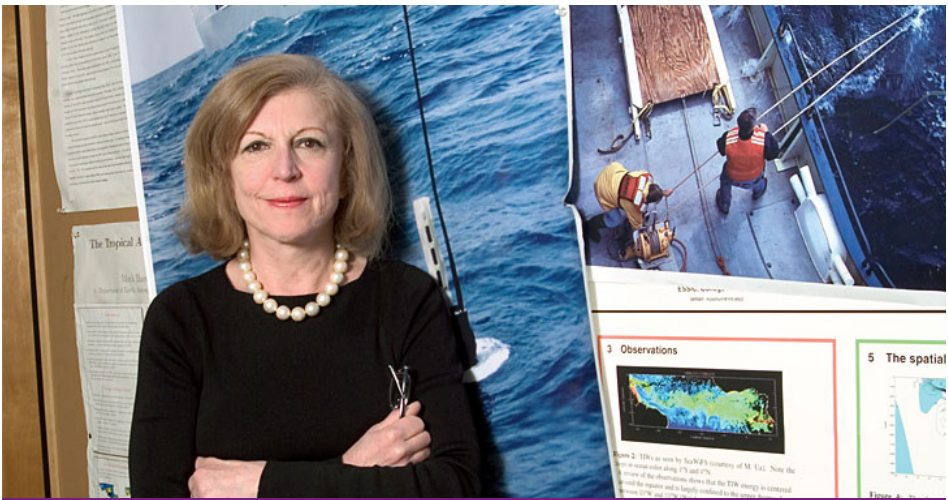
William M. Kettyle, MD, Internist, Geriatrician and Endocrinologist, is Director of MIT's Medical Department. He will frame this seminar's message on effective medical care delivery over the next few years with portions of a video recently produced by MIT's Media and Age Labs, and a technique called "the anatomy of a clinical encounter" that he uses in teaching students of the Harvard-MIT Health Sciences and Technology Program

Panelists

J. Benjamin Crocker, MD, Internist, is an Instructor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Associate Medical Director of the Ambulatory Practice of the Future at MGH. A recent recipient of several grants and awards including Compassionate Doctor as well as Patients' Choice, he leads an ongoing team effort in medical practice redesign and improvement with a particular focus on patient access and chronic disease management.

Winthrop M. Hodges, AB, is a member of the Steering Committee and the Core Design Team for the Ambulatory Practice of the Future Team for Internal Medicine at MGH. A cancer survivor, he is a Patient Advocate in so many ways: at the MGH Cancer Center where he is writer/editor for SUPPORT, a quarterly publication by and for patients and their families; the Kenneth B. Schwartz Center; The Moon Balloon Project, Inc.; and often participates in the education of Harvard Medical School students by role-playing as a patient receiving a cancer diagnosis.

"Leaping Ahead to More Effective Delivery of Medical Care" continues the Catherine N. Stratton Seminars on Aging Successfully to honor Kay Stratton, whose energy, grace and intelligence have enriched the MIT community for more than fifty years. Kay is an active participant in the planning of the seminars which are designed to encourage attendees to become their own well-informed health advocates.



Breakfast Series with Paola Rizzoli

Wednesday, March 7 • 8:00 am
Emma Rogers Room (10-340)

The Women's League is planning its Spring Breakfast Series program for women in the MIT community. These popular, twice-yearly "breakfast talks" are informal, early morning get-togethers that explore the role of women in the academe. Guest speakers are drawn from the academic and administrative sides of the Institute to share personal accounts of their professional accomplishments.

Our guest speaker, Dr. Paola Malanotte-Rizzoli is a professor of Physical Oceanography in the Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences (EAPS). Paola was inspired by the plight of Venice, her hometown, to devote her professional life to understanding how and why coastal waters ebb and flow. Her field is especially important in an age of climate change. "The climate problem is a prediction problem," Rizzoli says. "We need to predict the different scenarios that may occur in 100 years, particularly the sea level rise in coastal regions. The ocean is critically important

to make these predictions, being one of the least understood and observed components of the Earth's system."

Paola Rizzoli's Group is currently working on modeling tropical ocean behavior and data assimilation in the Singapore Strait, as well as regional climate simulations connecting to the Integrated Global System Model (IGSM) of the JPSPGC (Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change).

Her talk will touch on what led her to MIT, the importance of her mentors, and the influences that helped to steer her towards her current path of academic exploration.

Breakfast seating is limited. Tickets are available on a "first-come, first-served, basis" at a cost of \$12.00 and can be purchased from Sis de Bordenave in the League office, 10-342. Breakfast is served promptly at 8:00 am.



MIT Women's Chorale Winter/Spring Term

The MIT Women's Chorale welcomes new singers from the MIT community to join us in our spring season, preparing for our May concert. This congenial group, representing a wonderful diversity of cultures and range of ages, is directed by the affable and talented Kevin Galiè. Our repertoire for this semester includes a lovely French Mass for women's chorus and organ, probably a North American premier for this work. Other pieces include a catchy song from South America, excerpts from a Mahler symphony and a Wagner opera, a new arrangement of an African-American spiritual, and a beautiful arrangement of a Hebrew love song.

New singers may join through February 9th. Rehearsals are held in Room 10-340 at MIT (the Emma Rogers Room) at 7:15 pm on Thursday evenings. For more information, please see our website, web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale/.

To be placed on our mailing list, please contact the MIT Women's League office, wleague@mit.edu.

Connections

February 9 • March 8

Each month during the academic year, the Women's League hosts Connections in the Emma Rogers Room (10-340) from 4 pm to 6 pm.

Held on the second Thursday of the month, these informal open houses with coffee, tea and sweets began in 2001 and provide ways for the League to meet and welcome newcomers as

well as stay in touch with its members.

Our upcoming gatherings will be held on February 9 and March 8 and we hope you can join us. Feel free

to bring a newcomer, a colleague, or a friend along with you. Come when you can and stay for as long as you wish.

You meet the nicest people!



Otis House Museum, 1796

Wednesday, March 14 • 2:00 pm
141 Cambridge Street, Boston

The March 14th outing of the MIT Women’s League returns to Beacon Hill for a tour of the Otis House Museum on Cambridge Street.

The Otis House Museum is the last surviving mansion in what was Boston’s most elite eighteenth century neighborhood. Charles Bulfinch designed the house for Harrison Gray Otis. Otis was a lawyer who made a fortune developing nearby Beacon Hill, served in Congress, and was a mayor of Boston.

The Otis House is the first of three houses Bulfinch designed for Harrison Gray Otis and his wife Sally Foster Otis. The house design reflects the classical proportions and delicate detail of the Federal style.

Visitors learn about the upper-class Otis family, life in the Federal Era, and the later history of the house, when it served as a clinic and boardinghouse. The restoration of the Otis House, with its brilliantly colored wallpapers, carpeting, and high-style furnishings, is based on meticulous historical and scientific research.

The tour, led by a member of Historic New England, will begin at 2pm and last approximately one hour. The group rate for the Otis House is \$7 and payable at the door. To reserve your place, please contact the League office by **February 29** at 617.253.3656 or wleague@mit.edu.

The tour of the Otis House Museum requires a considerable amount of standing and walking. A limited number of folding chairs are provided if necessary. The second floor is accessible only by a flight of stairs.

The Otis House is located at 141 Cambridge Street in Boston and is a short walk from either the Charles/MGH stop on the Red Line; the Government Center stop on the Green Line or the Bowdoin stop on the Blue Line. To learn more visit www.historicnewengland.org/historic-properties/homes/otis-house/otis-house.

For those interested, lunch before the tour can be organized at one of the nearby Beacon Hill restaurants.



Transition House Donation Request

Our affiliation with Transition House is one we value and wholeheartedly support. The Women’s League collaboration began in February 2006 and since then, with the help of League members, we’ve developed a strong partnership.

One of the ways we help is to give monthly contributions of specified items for the shelter. MIT family and friends are a continuous means of resources, as each month community members bring in either the specified items or something a member would like to give.

The items requested for the months of **February** and **March** are:

- Twin and full size sheets and comforters
- Washcloths, hand and bath towels

Always needed are gift cards to Shaw’s, Market Basket, Whole Foods, CVS, Rite Aid and Target; and Charlie Cards with added value. Monetary donations are always welcome. Other items on their Wish List can be found at www.transitionhouse.org/get-involved/wish-list.

Notable

2/22
Book Discussion:
The Children
by David Halberstam

3/21
Book Discussion:
Dark Star
by Alan Furst

Christina Johnson (with Ellen Essigmann)



2011 Wiesner Awards

The Wiesner awards, honoring former MIT First Lady Laya Wiesner, are presented annually at the Institute Awards Convocation. Last May, President Susan Hockfield presented these two prestigious awards to Christina Johnson and Michelle Bentivegna for their contributions to improving the quality of life at the Institute.

Senior **Christina Johnson** was the recipient of the 2011 Laya Wiesner Award, which honors the undergraduate woman who has enhanced community life while maintaining a good academic record. Involved with the governance of Simmons Hall since her freshman year, Christina's service there spread to other leadership involvement on campus where she served on the House Dining Advisory Group, the Housing Strategy Group for summer housing policies and President of DormCon.

In each of her endeavors, the leadership, character, and commitment she displayed reflected the role she played in the community during her MIT undergraduate career, making her an indispensable representative for students and a trusted voice on issues relating to student life. Her nominators agreed that the integrity, collaborative spirit, and grace shown throughout her career made a broad and deep impact on community life at MIT.

Michelle Bentivegna (with Sandy Boynton)



The Laya Wiesner Community Award recognizes a member or friend of the MIT community for service that reflects Mrs. Wiesner's concerns for enhancing life at the Institute and in the world. Senior **Michelle Bentivegna** was named the 2011 award winner and cited for her enthusiasm and heartfelt dedication to the MIT Educational Studies Program (ESP). Through an extensive offering of academic and non-academic classes, ESP is dedicated to providing a unique, affordable educational experience for motivated seventh grade to twelfth grade students in the Boston area and beyond.

Serving as Program Director twice and as Chair and Publicity Director, Michelle worked steadily to increase the program's outreach to low income students by spreading the word about its offerings, fee waivers and transportation subsidies, and to build relationships at area schools with those who know which students would benefit the most from ESP.

We congratulate and applaud the 2011 award recipients for their achievements and invite League members to take part in nominating candidates for the 2012 awards. Each award carries a financial prize. Letters of nomination, briefly describing the candidate's qualifications, should be sent to the League office, Room 10-342, or via email to wleague@mit.edu by **March 12**. For further information, please call 617.253.3656.

League Interest Groups and Classes

LEARNING MORE

Book Discussion

Barbara Donnelly
781.646.4617
Judith Lippard
jacs@mit.edu

Chorale

Kate Fontanella
617.324.5931
kfontane@mit.edu
web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale

Looking Together

Ann Allen
617.527.7292
annallen@rle.mit.edu

INTERNATIONAL

Japanese Tea Ceremony

Kyoko Wada
chado@mit.edu
web.mit.edu/chado/www/index.html

Middle Eastern Dance

Loni Butera
617.491.5657, loni@mit.edu

WORKING WITH YOUR HANDS

Informal Needlework

Beth Harling
781.749.4055
Nancy Sweeney
781.646.3107
n-j-sweeney@verizon.net

MIT Gardeners' Group

League Office
617.253.3656
wleague@mit.edu
web.mit.edu/womensleague/gardeners

Women's League Community Craft Fairs

Brenda Blais
bmlblais@mit.edu

NEW FRIENDS AND CONTACTS

CitySide Dining

League Office
wleague@mit.edu

MIT Japanese Wives Group

Kimie Shirasaki
781.721.2517
jmitjwg@yahoo.co.jp

Groups meet weekly, bi-monthly or monthly. Contact the above women to learn more about their groups.



Furniture Exchange Volunteer Opportunities

You Can Help

As winter moves into spring, volunteers are needed to help this growing MIT service effort! With each passing year our customers increase, as do our donations. Our helpers contribute in unpacking and pricing incoming goods, arranging these items in an attractive and tempting manner, and assist in the sales process.

International volunteers find working here a comfortable way to improve their English language skills in an informal setting!

Join us and meet the most interesting people — from area university communities and from around the world.

Who We Serve

With the realization that university students needed to furnish their living spaces on a minimal budget, the MIT Student Furniture Exchange (the FX) began in 1958 to address this basic necessity. Located at 350 Brookline Street (WW15) in Cambridge, the FX sells used furniture and housewares at bargain prices and is open to the communities of MIT, Harvard University, Boston University, and Suffolk University.

All proceeds benefit the MIT Women's League Scholarship Fund, a growing endowment that provides annual financial support to undergraduate women at MIT.

Find Out More

Contact the Furniture Exchange at 617.253.4293, email fx@mit.edu, visit the FX on a Tuesday or Thursday anytime between 10 am and 4 pm, or go to our website at <http://web.mit.edu/womensleague/fx/> to learn more about this amazing organization.



16th Fall Fashion Free For All!

Students and volunteers filled the Emma Rogers Room on October 21, 2011 for the MIT Women's League's annual Fall Fashion Free For All.

Since 1996 the Clothing Service Program of the MIT Women's League has held the event to supply **free** clothing to international undergraduate students who arrive unaware of the rigors of our local winters and unprepared to enter the local business communities. Generous clothing donations by members of the MIT community throughout the years continued to ensure this event's success.

Joining the students was an enthusiastic group of fashion consultants ready to help each student stock up with just the right thing for those cold winter days, business interviews and formal holiday occasions. The room was filled with happy chatter and students left with bags full and smiles aplenty.

The Clothing Program accepts donations throughout the year.

If you would like to participate:

Donate

We accept new and clean, gently used clothing, especially:

- **Winter Clothes** for women and men: Coats, Jackets, Hats, Gloves, Mittens, Scarves, (like new) Snow Boots
- **Men's Clothing** – Small sizes!
Slacks: 30–32" waist, 28–29" length
Suits: 38–40" regular
Shirts: 15/15 ½/16 collar, 32–33" sleeve
- **Clean clothing** may be left at the League office, Room 10-342, during business hours or you may mail them to us. Your donation is tax deductible and we supply a receipt for income tax purposes. Please call League office beforehand (617.253.3656).

Volunteer

- Be a **'Fashion Consultant'** at our annual 'Fall Fashion Free For All'
- Join the **Prep Team** once a quarter to prepare donations for the annual event. Refreshments are served!
- Help the **Display Team** unpack, sort and display the clothing before the event.

Ready to Join the Fun?

- Please call the League office, 617.253.3656, or email wleague@mit.edu if you have questions about donations or if you would like to volunteer.

Daffodil Days at MIT 2012

This year the Women's League celebrates its fifteenth year of participation in the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days fundraising effort. Shelagh Joyce, Chair of Daffodil Days at MIT, has once again drawn together a dedicated group of women to plan the MIT campaign. Shelagh Joyce, Jen Currie, Mary Curtin, Gracie Dorneus and Marcia Tench-Mora, (all Daffodil Days department coordinators themselves), as well as former Daffodil Days chair Janet Plotkin, will organize the Institute's 100+ participating departments, labs, and offices and oversee this project.

This year's Daffodil Days ACS Kick Off Luncheon was held at the beautiful new ACS Hope Lodge. Hope Lodge provides supportive home-like accommodations for over 40 cancer treatment patients and their families who need a place to stay while receiving treatment in Boston. They come from around the country and the world. At the Daffodil Day's Kick Off, Marcia Tench-Mora accepted the ACS Award for the MIT Women's League from Joyce Kulhawik. MIT raised the second largest amount of money in the state of Massachusetts last year.



Left photo: Marcia Tench-Mora accepts the 2011 American Cancer Society award from Joyce Kulhawik, Honorary Chair of Daffodil Days in Massachusetts. Right photo: Deb Versackas, Community Executive-Development of the American Cancer Society, joins Janet Plotkin and Marcia Tench-Mora, Women's League Daffodil Days committee members, at the January ACS Kick Off Luncheon hosted by the ACS.

The League started MIT's Daffodil Days campaign with sixteen departments in 1998 and has continued to add to that number each year. Last year, over \$32,000 was raised for cancer research, treatment, and education. Over 200 Gifts of Hope were delivered to MGH and Mt. Auburn Hospital cancer patients and over 400 Teddy Bears were delivered to children being treated for cancer at MGH and Children's Hospital. During the fourteen years of Institute-wide participation, MIT faculty, staff and students have raised over \$350,000.

March 19 has been designated as Daffodil Delivery Day this year. Volunteers are needed to tabulate the 100 department orders on **Tuesday, February 28th**, and to help bundle daffodil bouquet orders at MIT Mail Services Monday morning, March 19.

If you would like to join this team of volunteers please call Sis de Bordenave in the League office at 671.253.3656. Over time, this has become a very joyful and enriching happening at MIT of which the Women's League is rightfully proud. Consider becoming one of those people who makes it happen!



Email update

If you have become an email user and would like to receive our notes and reminders or if your email address has changed, please advise the League office at wleague@mit.edu.

General Information

The MIT Women's League newsletter is published four times during the academic year. The deadline for the April/May issue is March 1. All items should be sent to the Women's League office.

Please call the League office for a hard copy of the newsletter and for answers to questions you may have. The office can also arrange for your membership.

Staff Associate

Sis de Bordenave

League Chair

Kim Watson

Honorary Chair

Priscilla Gray

Design

Tim Blackburn Design



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