Introducing the Clothing Cube!

As part of the Women’s League's ongoing commitment to support our student community, we’re proud to announce the opening of the Clothing Cube! A spin-off from the ever-popular Fall Fashion Free-For-All, we now have a dedicated space on campus for students in need to stop by, year-round, if they need warm clothes or an interview-appropriate outfit, free of charge. We’ve partnered with Career Advising & Professional Development, Class, Awareness, Support & Equality, the First Generation Program, the International Students Office and Student Support Services to help get the word out. If you or someone you know would benefit from a trip to our free closet, ask for a referral from one of these departments.

Thank you to Mary DesPrez, Noreen Hagerty-Ford, Elaine Kweicen, Sis de Bordenave and Kate Baty and for getting the Cube up and running!

*We can’t do this without you! We’re always looking for donations for the Clothing Cube and the FFFFA - particularly warm clothes and interview-ready threads in smaller sizes.* Email wleague@mit.edu for more information.

Chorale Spring Concerts

The MIT Women’s Chorale will hold its spring concert on May 11, our last concert under the baton of our inspired and inspiring Music Director, Kevin Galiè. Sadly, Mr. Galiè will be leaving the Chorale after 11 years with us, and he will be sorely missed. Our main work will be the beautiful Stabat Mater of the 18th century Maltese/Neapolitan composer, Girolamo Abos, with string ensemble and organ. The program will also include three French opera choruses, and an example of Gregorian chant.

Our main concert will take place at on May 11th at 5pm at Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church, 1555 Massachusetts Ave., Harvard Sq., with a reception to follow. All are invited to an open rehearsal in the theater of MIT’s new performing arts building at 345 Vassar St., May 4th at 1pm.

Both events are free and open to the public. Parking suggestions will be posted on our website:

web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale/

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

**Fiber Crafts Group**
Mar 20, Apr 17, May 15
Emma Rogers Room (10-340)
11:30am - 1:00pm

**Book Discussion**
Mar 27, Apr 25, May 22
Emma Rogers Room (10-340)
11:30am - 1:00pm

Mar 21 **Tour of Koch Institute**
12:00pm (SOLD OUT)

Apr 8 **MITell hosted by the ICEO**
W20-306
12:00pm - 1:00pm

Apr 16 **Stratton Lecture on Aging Successfully**
Wong Auditorium
4:30pm - 6:30pm

Apr 25 **Appreciation Lunch**
Emma Rogers Room
12:00pm - 2:00pm

May 21 **Annual Meeting**
Emma Rogers Room (10-340)
12:00pm - 2:00pm

May 23 **Springtime Tea**
Gray House
3:30pm - 5:30pm
The Women’s League holds its annual meeting in May, at which time a summary of the activities and business over the past academic year is given, returning Board Officers are introduced, and new officers for the election slate are presented. This year, the MIT Women’s League is pleased to announce Debbie Douglas, Director of Collections and Curator of Science and Technology at the MIT Museum, as our speaker for this event. Debbie oversees the MIT Museum’s extensive science and technology collections. Prior to joining the museum’s staff in 1999, she worked as an independent scholar specializing in the history of technology and science. From 1994 through 1999, she served as the Visiting Historian for the NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia and as adjunct assistant professor of History at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. Her subjects include the history of technology, gender and technology, and U.S. history. Douglas is the author of American Women and Flight since 1940. She received her A.B. in history from Wellesley College and holds A.M. and Ph.D. degrees in the History and Sociology of Science from the University of Pennsylvania. Her exhibit, Hub of the Air Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts, opened at the MIT Museum in November 2003.

Before Debbie’s talk, enjoy a delicious lunch in the company of women with various affiliations in the MIT community. To reserve your place at the annual meeting, contact the League office. The cost of the luncheon is $15.00. Seating is limited.

Springtime Tea at Gray House

Christine Reif and the MIT Women’s League invite you to celebrate the season at a Springtime Tea at Gray House, the residence of MIT presidents since 1917. Designed by William Wells Bosworth ’89, architect of the 1916 campus, the house was built as a gift for the MIT President by Charles A. Stone ’88 and Edwin S. Webster ’88. Renamed Gray House in 2002, in honor of former MIT president Paul Gray and his wife Priscilla, is the perfect setting for a spring gathering of League friends.

Please join us as we toast a wonderful year with the Women’s League and the thank our Honorary Chair, Christine Reif, for her support and hospitality. Don’t hesitate to embrace the spirit of the occasion and wear your favorite hat — cartwheel, cloche, toque, pillbox, turban, or fascinator!

Kindly reply by May 13 to the League office if you plan to attend.
MIT CASE receives MLK Leadership award

MIT Women’s League continues to partner with Student Support Services (S3), the Division of Student Life and CASE: Class Awareness Support & Equality.

CASE is a student run organization founded in 2016, dedicated to improving MIT’s community awareness of class disparities and knowledge of the social class system. Their great work in their area saw them recognized in 2018 with an Institute Bridge Builder Award, and in 2019, the Women’s League was delighted to support the nomination of CASE for the 2019 Martin Luther King Jr Leadership Award. Members of CASE accepted the MLK award in February this year.

Both these awards are a testimony to dedication and the outreach of this valued organization, embraced by the administration at MIT. Congratulations to CASE on their success and recognition!

- Ellen Stordy

Volunteer with the Fall Fashion Free For All!

The Fall Fashion Free-For-All (FFFFA) is a Women’s League public service project that provides gently used clothing to a targeted population of MIT undergraduates. And we are looking for volunteers!

While the FFFFA’s big clothing event happens in the fall, preparing for the event is an ongoing, year-round effort of collecting, sorting and preparing donations. We are looking for assistance with sorting a veritable mountain of clothing that arrives in our space at the FX in early June. Shortly after graduation, we receive items donated from all of the dorms. Last year, we processed 3 tons of apparel, shoes, and accessories over four fun and busy weeks!

Additionally, we are looking for assistance with prepping the items that are set aside. This involves laundering, sewing on buttons, etc., and these tasks do not require being at MIT. We can deliver these times to you to be processed at times convenient for you prior to the event in mid-October. And, as always, we are looking for age appropriate clothing donations, specifically winter wear and business casual fashions. Donations can be dropped in the Women’s League office, or at the FFFFA drop boxes at the FX. Pick-ups at a mutually convenient time and place can be arranged.

Sorting clothing will take place at the Furniture Exchange (FX) 350 Brookline Street, MIT Building WW15-182. Please contact Mary DesPrez, charlesbridge@comcast.net, for further information.
2019 Stratton Lecture on Aging Successfully

Protecting Elders with Cognitive Impairment from Financial Vulnerability

Specialists Present Strategies to Consider

A collaborative project of MIT's Medical Department, Age Lab and Women's League, the 2019 Catherine N. Stratton Aging Successfully Lecture brings together panelists from the fields of Ethics and Neuroscience, Geriatric Medicine, Nursing Management, and Elder Law who attend to the many issues facing older adults, and are especially sensitive to the needs of those with cognitive impairment.

Moderator
Stephanie J. Bird, PhD, Neuroscientist/Ethicist, Science and Ethics Policy Consultant, Founder and Editor of The Journal of Science and Engineering Ethics, and member of the C N Stratton Committee on Aging Successfully, will outline our topic, introduce each panelist, and moderate audience questions as time allows.

Panelists
Shoshana Streiter, MD, Geriatrician, Advanced Research Fellow at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, also member of the Stratton Committee, will begin our discussion by describing the differences between normal aging, mild cognitive impairment and dementia.

Cathleen A. Dwyer, RN BSN, Nurse Case Manager at MIT Medical, will present examples of her work that involves assisting and supporting the elderly who are aging successfully at home to create plans, including legal forms and documents, to continue aging successfully at home and thus avoid the threat of both physical and financial fraud.

John G. Dugan, Esq., a lawyer experienced in representing elders and other victims exposed to financial exploitation via mail, phone, the internet, or personal interaction, will provide advice, suggest means of protecting personal assets, and present ways to identify and prevent this form of abuse.

After the presentations and a short discussion among the panelists, Stephanie Bird will serve as moderator for audience questions to be answered by the panelists as time allows.

Protecting Older Adults with Cognitive Impairment from Financial Vulnerability continues the Catherine N. Stratton Lectures on Aging Successfully honoring Catherine Stratton whose energy, grace and intelligence enriched the MIT community for more than seventy-five years. These lectures are designed to encourage attendees to become well-informed health advocates for themselves and their families.
League Interest Groups

LEARN MORE

BOOK DISCUSSION
Barbara Donnelly
781.646.4617
Nancy Hollomon
nancyredsox@gmail.com

CHORALE
Sharon Lin
hlin@mit.edu
Sally de Fazio:
de_fazio@alum.mit.edu
web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale

MITELL STORYTELLING
Kirsty Bennett
kbennett@mit.edu
mitell.mit.edu

WORK WITH YOUR HANDS

FIBER CRAFTS GROUP
Carol Clark
cclark@med.mit.edu

COMMUNITY CRAFT FAIRS
Brenda Blais
bmbiais@mit.edu

MAKE NEW FRIENDS

CITYSIDE DINING
Jennifer Sousa
jfsousa@mit.edu

MIT JAPANESE WIVES GROUP
Kimie Shirasaki
mitjwg@mit.edu

Spring Cleaning?

If you have items that no longer spark joy, The MIT Furniture Exchange (FX) is looking for donations. Sofas, chairs, tables, bookcases, desks, and dressers, as well as lamps, small appliances, cooking utensils, and dishes are all needed. Your generous donations are tax-deductible.

Proceeds from those donations benefit the MIT Women’s League Scholarship Fund, a growing endowment that provides annual financial support to undergraduate women at MIT.

Contact Manager Julie Parker at the Furniture Exchange at 617.253.4293, or by email fx@mit.edu for more information.

The MIT Women's League Newsletter is published four times during the academic year. Our next newsletter will be September, 2019, and submissions are due by August 1. All items should be emailed to the Women's League Office, wleague@mit.edu.

Please call the office for a hard copy of the newsletter or for any questions you may have.

Manager Kirsty Bennett
Chair Cheryl Vossmer
Honorary Chair Christine Reif
Visual Identity Ink Design
Layout Kirsty Bennett

MIT Women’s League
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Room 10-342
Cambridge, MA 02139-4307

Contact
Kirsty Bennett, Manager
617.253.3656
wleague@mit.edu

Find us online!
facebook.com/womensleague