

In League...



November 2016 – January 2017

A quarterly newsletter



Stargazing at MIT

Monday, November 14*
5:00–7:00 pm
MIT, Room 37-294

Preparatory to our stargazing adventure, we will meet in Room 37-294, at 5:00 pm, for a short presentation by Dr. Amanda S. Bosh, of MIT's Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences Department. Dr. Bosh will introduce us to New England's November sky and the art of using a telescope to reveal the many secrets hidden there. With her guidance, we will observe the sky from MIT's rooftop observation deck using sophisticated and powerful telescopes.

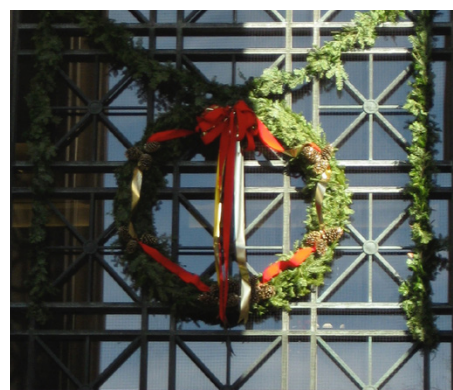
The deck is located just one floor above our meeting place and is the perfect spot to explore the heavens above MIT! Unfortunately, it is only accessible by a

narrow staircase so wear walking shoes.

Also, it will be about 10 degrees colder there than you might expect, so dress warmly. The program will last about two hours or until the more interesting planets and stars disappear from our view.

This program is limited to 25; please contact the League office to reserve your place: 617.253.3656 or wleague@mit.edu. Deadline is November 11.

*In case of cloudy weather, we will postpone this event until Wednesday, November 16. The rescheduling decision will be made on Monday, November 14, at 3:00 pm.



Holiday Wreath Making

Wednesday, November 30
9:00 am to 11:00 am
Student Center, 20 Chimneys (W20-306)

The League tradition of making the holiday wreaths for the main entrance to MIT began in the 1930s during Karl Taylor Compton's term as MIT's president. Since then League volunteers have come together at the end of November/beginning of December to make the three large evergreen wreaths that hang above the 77 Mass. Ave. entrance.

Though a bit cumbersome to craft on their 4' and 5' wooden frames, the resulting creations are beautiful and lend a holiday presence to the main entryway. Once again we invite new and experienced wreath makers to help with the greenery design and assembly of the wreaths. League member Brenda Blais will guide the creative process and practiced League volunteers will assist her.

If you've never done something like this before, this morning activity is a fun way to learn and a fragrant way to begin the holiday season. At the end of the morning you, too, will be a seasoned crafter of this traditional holiday decoration!

Please contact the League office at 617.253.3656 or wleague@mit.edu to volunteer. We welcome your assistance for as long as your time permits that morning.



MIT Women's Chorale Holiday Concert

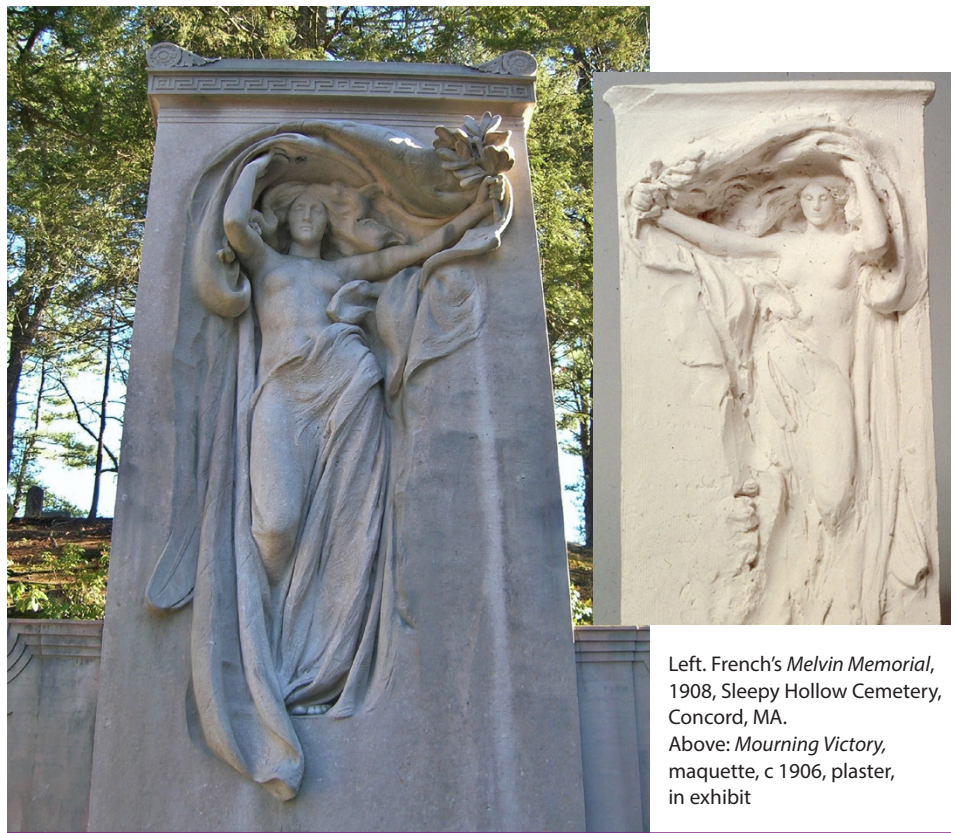
Open dress rehearsal
Saturday, December 3, 1:00 pm
MIT Chapel, 88 Massachusetts Avenue

Concert performance
Saturday, December 10, 5:00 pm
Harvard-Epworth United
Methodist Church,
1555 Massachusetts Avenue

Under the direction of Kevin Galiè, the Chorale's holiday concert will feature two pieces written for women of the 18th century Venetian *Ospedali* by Baldassari Galuppi: *Dixit Dominus* and *Nunc dimittis*. These will be performed with string quartet and organ. The Chorale will also perform a lively and witty piece by Chorale member and MIT alum, Sonya Huang '05. We are proud to premier a composition written for us by Mr. Galiè, *Hanukkah Prayer and Dialog with a Diaspora*, which will be sung over an ethereal violin line by the 17th century composer, Heinrich Biber.

The public is invited to our open dress rehearsal, December 3rd, at 1 pm in the MIT Chapel, 88 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge.

Our December 10th concert will be held at the Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church, 1555 Massachusetts Avenue, Harvard Square, Cambridge. A reception will follow. See our website for parking information, <http://web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale/>



Left: French's *Melvin Memorial*, 1908, Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, Concord, MA.

Above: *Mourning Victory*, maquette, c 1906, plaster, in exhibit

Daniel Chester French Exhibition

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 • 11:00 am
Boston Athenaeum • 10 ½ Beacon Street, Boston

Born in Concord, MA, Daniel Chester French is known to most New Englanders as the sculptor of the **Minute Man** statue (1875) at Concord's historic Old North Bridge. Nationally and internationally he is known as the sculptor of the **Abraham Lincoln** monumental statue (1906) in the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C..

We hope you will join us to view yet another theme of his work at the Boston Athenaeum's special exhibition *Daniel Chester French: The Female Form Revealed*.

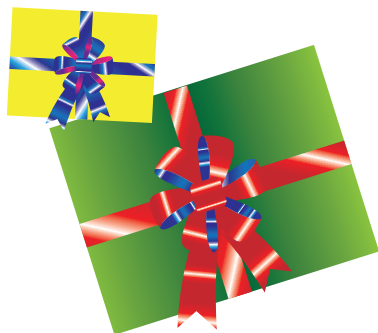
"For nearly half a century, from the late 1870s to the late 1920s, Daniel Chester French (1850–1931) was America's foremost sculptor of public monuments. His outdoor masterpieces can be seen in cosmopolitan centers as well as in smaller American towns. A sculptor of historic male-oriented works, French was equally proficient at modeling the female figure, especially in its classicizing, idealized form, but this aspect of his career has rarely been acknowledged.

It is the goal of this exhibition to help fill that gap in French scholarship. *Daniel Chester French: The Female Form Revealed* will explore French's career primarily as seen in a group of preliminary models and studies that he made not only for major public commissions but also for a number of his more intimate and personal works."

Our Athenaeum visit is limited sixteen people. Eight will have a guided tour of the exhibition while the other eight will explore the building's great artwork and architecture. Then each group will switch and discover what they didn't see in their first session.

The tour begins at 11:00 am. You may meet a group at the Kendall T station on the inbound platform at 10:15 am and travel together. Or you may choose to go directly to the Athenaeum at 10 ½ Beacon Street, Boston (across from the State House). The tour cost is \$10 per person (no discounts provided).

To reserve your place, please contact the League office at 617.253.3656 or wleague@mit.edu.



Holiday Community Craft Fair

Thursday & Friday, December 15 & 16
Lobby 10 • 9 am to 5 pm

Come to browse! Come to shop!!

The perfect gift may be as close as Lobby 10 — from beautifully crafted cutting boards to fragrant soaps to hand-knit scarves and hats to semi-precious jewelry, and that one of a kind gift. All can be found at the annual Holiday Craft Fair sponsored by the MIT Women's League Community Crafters.

If you are a crafter and would like to sell your creations at the fair log on to the Women's League website. From "Get Involved," go to "Community Craft Fair" to learn about fair policies and to fill out the online application form. The Craft Fair Committee will review all applications.

Connections

November 3, December 8, January 12

Meets from 4:00 – 6:00 pm on the second Thursday of each month during the Academic Year in the Emma Rogers Room (10-340) unless otherwise specified.

Connections is an informal monthly open house with light refreshments and conversation. These occasions offer opportunities for the League to meet newcomers while staying in touch with members.

Bring a newcomer or colleague and join us for conversation and conviviality. It's pleasing way to end your workday.

Come when you can and stay for as long as you wish.

MIT IAP

During the month of January MIT runs a special four-week term, Independent Activities Period (IAP for short). For over forty years, IAP has provided members of the MIT community (students, faculty, staff and alums) with a unique opportunity to organize, sponsor and participate in a wide range of activities: — from how-to sessions, to forums, athletic endeavors, lecture series, to films, tours, recitals, and contests.

Listings for the January 9 – February 3, 2017 term will become available in November 2016 at web.mit.edu/iap/listings.

We encourage you to take part!

Notable / Books for discussion

12/14/16

Book Discussion:
My Brilliant Friend
 by Elena Ferrante

1/25/17

Book Discussion:
Hamilton
 by Ron Chernow

League Interest Groups and Classes

LEARN MORE

Book Discussion

Barbara Donnelly
 781.646.4617
 Nancy Hollomon
nancyredsox@gmail.com

Chorale

Sharon Lin: hllin@mit.edu
 Sally De Fazio: de_fazio@alum.mit.edu
web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale

Looking Together

Ann Allen
 857.259.6007
acallen@mit.edu

EXPAND YOUR WORLD

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

WORK WITH YOUR HANDS

Informal Needlework

Beth Harling
 781.749.4055, oharling@mit.edu;
 Claudia LaBollita-James
cljames@mit.edu

MIT Gardeners' Group

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

Women's League Community Craft Fairs

Brenda Blais
bmbalais@mit.edu

MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND CONTACTS

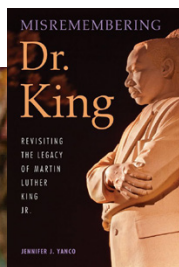
CitySide Dining

League Office
wleague@mit.edu

MIT Japanese Wives Group

Kimie Shirasaki
mitjwg@yahoo.com

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



Jennifer J. Yanco



Joseph R. Gallo, Jr.

January 2017 Brown Bag Lunch Authors Series

This month we are featuring two Boston-based authors who will talk about and sign their recent books about our history.

Jennifer J. Yanco

Thursday, January 5 • 12:00–2:00 pm
Emma Rogers Room (10-340)

We all know the name. Martin Luther King Jr., the great American civil rights leader. But most people today know relatively little about King, the campaigner against militarism, materialism, and racism—what he called the “giant triplets.” Jennifer J. Yanco takes steps to redress this imbalance in her book *Misremembering Dr. King: Revisiting the Legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.* “My objective is to highlight the important aspects of Dr. King’s work which have all but disappeared from popular memory, so that more of us can really ‘see’ King.”

Dr. Yanco is a Visiting Researcher at the African Studies Center at Boston University. She holds a masters degree from the Harvard School of Public Health where she specialized in the social and political determinants of health and worked for a number of years as a women’s health advocate. Dr. Yanco has a Ph.D. in Linguistics and African Studies from Indiana University and has taught for many years for the Boston University African Language Program.

You might enjoy seeing this link about Dr. Yanco and her book at www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=41411.

To reserve your seat, please contact the League office by **December 29** at 617.253.3656 or wleague@mit.edu. Feel free to bring your lunch and we will provide beverages and dessert.

Joseph R. Gallo, Jr.

Tuesday, January 24 • 12:00–2:00 pm
Emma Rogers Room (10-340)

Have you ever wanted to know more about some of Boston’s public sculptures? We have just the right person coming to help answer your questions about them. Joe Gallo, author of *Boston Bronze and Stone Speak to Us*, will introduce us to several Boston monuments and how they tell Boston’s 500 year history.

Neither a historian nor a sculptor, but rather an educator and entrepreneur, Mr. Gallo has created a simple-to-use guidebook to teach “the purpose and reason why such beautiful works of art embellish our fair City of Boston.”

His presentation is sure to inspire you to buy his signed guidebook (\$15 — a great gift!) and take the walking tour to see these monuments for yourself!

To register for this program, please contact the League office at 617.253.3656 or wleague@mit.edu by **January 20**. Again, feel free to bring your lunch and we will provide beverages and dessert.

Email update

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 February – March 2017 issue is January 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.

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