



Wednesday, October 7

LLI/NOVA FORUM VIA ZOOM

Social Zooming: 9:30 a.m.

Announcements: 9:50 a.m.

Presentation: 10:00 a.m.

(You will receive an email. Just click on the URL included.)



Scams and Robocalls

As Fairfax County residents are hunkering down and staying home due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are more susceptible than ever to scams. We face scams in many forms, but

the most common routes of contact are via phone and email.

Now that we are home to answer the phone, and we are spending much more time on the computer to stay connected, we could all use a refresher on current scams such as the grandparent scam, the IRS scam, the Social Security scam, Medicare scam, charity scam, sweepstakes scam, car warranty scam, even pet adoption scam, and more!

Join Michelle Margeotes with the Fairfax County Consumer Affairs Office to find out more about these scams, how to protect yourself, and what to do if you or someone you know unfortunately falls

victim.

With a passion to help others and a strong background in civil service, Michelle Margeotes joined the Fairfax County Consumer Affairs team in 2016 as a Consumer Specialist. In this position, she mediates complaints from consumers against businesses and from tenants against their landlords. As an unbiased third party, a Consumer Specialist helps the disputing parties navigate the mediation process to come to a fair and equitable resolution.

In addition to her general casework, Michelle has made it her job to bring a plethora of outreach events into the community. With the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, Michelle says she is grateful to maintain the opportunity to offer outreach events virtually.

In addition to scams, one of the most common topics brought up by Fairfax County residents is “robocalls.” As a special part of the program, Michelle will discuss robocalls, spoofing, why the “Do Not Call” List does not seem to work, and what new advanced features are rolling out to help slow robocalls.

She also hopes you will join with questions and stories as she loves to open dialogue after the program. She believes what one person may have experienced, several others probably have as well or will.



President's Message

Disparaging Monikers

Just as it appears we outlived the "OK Boomer" jeers, now several talk-show hosts refer to our post-65-year-old age group as those with a Fixed Mindset vs a Growth Mindset.

Typically, "OK Boomer" is used as a dismissal of the ideals of past generations. It is now being used as a retort for perceived resistance to technological change, climate change denial, marginalization of members of minority groups, or opposition to younger generations' ideals.

More recently we hear TV talk-show hosts describe our age group with a Fixed Mindset (vs Growth Mindset) and suggest that we should be written off because we are incorrigible when it comes to understanding and accepting emerging societal unrest/protests.

According to the LearningMind website, those with a Fixed Mindset supposedly cling to:

A Desire to Look Smart: The appearance of being smart is better than actually being smart. They continue to do things they already know they can do. They give up easily when they run into challenges, instead of overcoming an obstacle.

Not Taking Constructive Criticism: Criticism is seen as a challenge and threat and something they want to push away. Those with a growth mindset welcome constructive criticism because they see it as a chance to grow and improve.

Like it not, Boomers are aging out in Fairfax County, where roughly 80 percent of all the residents age 50 or older are less than 70 years old! [<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/who-we-are-now-the-demographics-of-fairfax-county/>] No worries: We are just pleased to "be here." We are on the front edge of Boomer bulge.

Further, it is thrilling to note that our LLI/NOVA network community is doing the things recommended for a Growth Mindset. We continue to educate ourselves so that our opinions are not uninformed. We pursue intentional and ongoing study. Our LLI/NOVA network fosters an environment where we pursue topics, special interest groups, study travel, and day trips that we are passionate about.

Do not regret growing older. It is a privilege denied to many.

Best, Anna

CHILDREN'S BOOK DRIVE

WHO: R.E.A.D. (Read Early And Daily), whose mission is to reach children in need from birth to eight years old.

WHAT: New books, especially board books for infants and toddlers. See the Wish List on page 11.

WHERE/HOW:

1. Between now and about Oct. 1, order on-line and have the books sent to Lynne Smaldone, 232 N. Edgewood St., Arlington, VA, 22201.
2. On Monday, Oct. 5, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., drop your books off at Braddock District Governmental Center, 9002 Burke Lake Rd. There will be two cars in the parking lot with open trunks, ready to receive your donations. (Social distancing and mask wearing will be observed.)

Questions? Please contact Lynne Smaldone. [Click here](#) for Member Directory.



Memories of Early Members

This is the first in an occasional series of articles written by our earliest members, those who joined in the first five years of LLI/NOVA's founding in 1996.

Eda Pickholtz joined in 1998 and remains an active participant and cheerleader to this day.

"I think LLI was always worth multiple times the dues we had to pay. I loved the forums and the lunches John Bogart organized after the forums. We often went to the Pan Am Family Restaurant, Elaine and John Bogart's favorite. I especially loved the day trips organized by Louise Sousk. I always took part in the poetry group, where Richard Risk was so welcoming to the attendees. He would occasionally invite a poet to visit us.

"The poetry group began hosting Valentine's Day parties many years ago, free for all LLI/NOVA members. They were always held in the bright, spacious room at the Little River United Church of Christ with Richard as the genial MC for many years. I can see him now with his red bow tie. The program consisted of a fellowship time, poetry, of course, jokes and a singalong with a pianist.

"The food and decorations were fantastic every year. We had balloons, hearts and fresh flowers, all from the poetry group members. Because of the uncertainty of the weather in February, and too many close calls because of the weather, we switched to a spring party in April."

Other special memories:

- A lovely trip to Bermuda organized by Louise Sousk
- An interesting river cruise, organized by the Bogarts, which went from Bucharest to Vienna

- Picnics at Alexandria and Mount Vernon area parks, which Leah Porzell organized with help from other members
 - Many beautiful holiday lunches at the Country Club of Fairfax.
-

LLI/NOVA Credits You!

The Board recognizes it is unlikely we will meet in-person for classes, trips, Forums, and other events prior to April 1, 2021, based on current government COVID-19 guidance.

Our organization is pleased with our instant and smart realignment to a Zoom platform, adjusting our delivery of services model accordingly. As usual, we delivered classes in spring, summer, and fall almost at our previous in-person level.

However, the Board also has made a one-time 90-day credit for existing memberships because of the abrupt shift from in-person to Zoom ([click here to see the email sent to all members](#)). In turn, we implore you to continue to engage with us by sharing comments, suggestions, and, most of all, staying active with all that we have to offer.

Although we are largely virtual, our members continue to engage with our offerings. For example, our monthly Forums still draw 90 -120 participants, and we have a robust enrollment in our class offerings. None of this would be possible without you. We encourage your connectivity by providing us with your input.

We resolve to work hard to bring you the unique events you love.

Anna Dixon, LLI/NOVA President



Bing Free Image



LLI/NOVA Approaches 25th Anniversary Triumph

For 22 years, LLI/NOVA has supported Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) students with scholarships. This year, the need for financial help is especially acute because of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis. We have set an ambitious goal of providing \$25,000 for scholarships, recognizing the critical needs of students and honoring our 25th anniversary. As of Sept. 9, including new contributions and a carryover from last year, we already have \$22,600. Our goal of \$25,000 is within reach!

Most community college students are in difficult circumstances financially. A community college, by definition, is designed to meet the needs of students from low-income families, who live at home and support their studies and their families with part-time or full-time jobs. Annual tuition is \$5,498, low by U.S. college standards but a huge sacrifice for many Northern Virginia families.

Through our decades-long relationship with the College, we know first-hand that NVCC students are hard-working, highly motivated, unselfish, energetic, and diverse. In spite of their financial obstacles, we have found that many are gifted with very strong academic and leadership skills.

The LLI/NOVA Scholarship Committee determines the number and size of scholarships and the qualifications of recipients. The program partners with the NVCC Educational Foundation which channels scholarship aid from community organizations to needy students. The Foundation reaches all students who apply for financial aid, selects applicants using objective faculty committees, and administers the scholarships professionally.

The LLI/NOVA scholarships are greatly appreciated. One of this year's recipients wrote: "Hello

the kind folks at Lifetime Learning Institute (LLI). My name is Han Le, and I want to send everyone a sincere thank you message for supporting my education. I am from Vietnam. My family uprooted and moved to the U.S. when I was 11. I am currently a tutor at NOVA's writing center. Two years from now, I hope to get my degree in linguistics."

The Scholarship Committee encourages LLI/NOVA members to contribute generously to this year's scholarships. The preferred way to make your tax-deductible donation is online. To make an online credit card contribution, go to the LLI/NOVA website home page and, under "News Alerts," click "New: LLI/NOVA Scholarship Program. Donate. Click Here." If you prefer to mail a check, also tax-deductible, make it payable to LLI/NOVA with a notation: Student Scholarship Fund. Mail it to LLI/NOVA, CG Building, Room 202, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003-3743.



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome, New Members: We hope you will participate in our classes and volunteer your time and talent.

Paul Massell
Susan McClean
Carolyn McKnight

Andre Pugin
Wynne Tysdal
Susan Werner

[At any time, if you have established a member ID and password, you can go to the Member Directory to search for contact information for a current member. At the website llinova.org click on the



Look both ways before crossing.



LLI/NOVA's French SIG

LLI/NOVA's French Conversation Group was started in 2009 by Don and Sally Reynolds as coordinators. They approached Al Brothers to teach the class. At the time, they were using a conversational travel book called French at a Glance. Al (who speaks about 10 languages) agreed and started in February 2010. There were approximately 12-15 students meeting in the George Mason Regional Library.

The meeting room proved to be too small, so they moved to the Fairfax County Mason District Police Station and then to Goodwin House. At this point, Lois Czapiewski became the group coordinator. After she left, Patty and Richard Steelman became the coordinators.



The French SIG depends upon the unique ability and dedication of Al Brothers. He ably runs a group of some 20 members whose French skills vary from average to fluent. We worked our way through "French in Action" a 624 page book with accompanying videos. Now that we have completed it, Al selects other lessons, leads us in conversation and tactfully, and with humor, corrects our many

errors. On occasion he will select a French film for us to watch and discuss. Every December we have a holiday luncheon at a French restaurant.

Thanks to this SIG our French has improved considerably, our knowledge of French culture has deepened and new friendships have been formed. The SIG is currently suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we look forward to resuming when things return to normal.

Cocktails with a Curator

Every Friday at 5 p.m. -- a time many recall as Happy Hour -- you can remotely join a Frick Collection curator for an insightful look at a work of Old Master paintings and outstanding examples of European sculpture and decorative arts. And you can enjoy your own favorite libation.

Chief Curator Xavier F. Salomon and others present and guide discussions on pieces within the Frick's art collection.

You must concoct your own adult elixir, but the Frick serves up an easy-to-follow recipe.

The Frick Collection in New York City is one of the most prestigious small museums in the world. Video recordings of Cocktails with a Curator are available on the Frick website, on the LLI/NOVA website, and on YouTube.

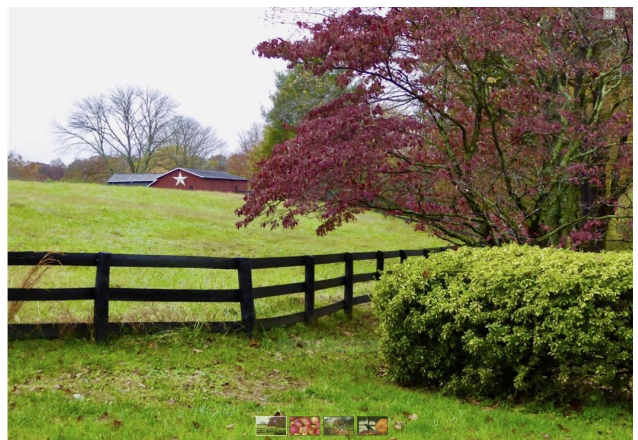


Photo by LLI/NOVA member Richard Martin



Bing Free Image

Katrin Fletcher

Longtime LLI/NOVA member Katrin Fletcher passed away on Aug. 27. Both Katrin and her husband, Malcolm, joined LLI/NOVA in 2001, and Katrin soon became involved in two of her areas of greatest interest, Richard Risk's Poetry & You class and the Favorite Books Special Interest Group. Katrin loved to both read and write poetry, and she shared some of her favorites with the poetry group. She attended the former Valentine's Day Social sponsored by the poetry group, and even invited some members to Greenspring Village, where she lived, so they could share poetry together.

Katrin had a very interesting background. She was born in Hannover, Germany in September 1939, one week after Germany invaded Poland. During the war, she stayed on a remote farm out of harm's way with her two grandmothers. For years her mother traveled to see her when she could, but she hardly saw her father, a well-known journalist. She ultimately graduated from a German trade school, specializing in the hotel industry, and in the 1960s came to Philadelphia with friends to work at a hotel and improve her English. She was supposed to stay for only a year, but then she met her future husband and the rest was history. Katrin became an American citizen in 1969.

Family was everything to Katrin, and she stayed at home until her daughters, Kirsten and Stephanie, were in middle school, after which time she became a part-time preschool teacher. Katrin had many friends: her German friends, neighborhood friends, church friends, book friends and of course, her poetry friends. She was very dedicated to St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, and especially enjoyed participating in activities that helped the homeless.

Community Outreach, Food Pantry

The Community Outreach team wants to whisper in your ear one more reminder to help the hungry in our community!

Since there is not currently an opportunity to collect food at our Zoom Forums, here's another way to help some of the charities we have supported in the past -- "Stuff the Bus."

The Capital Area Food Bank reports that, as of July, more than 72,000 people in Fairfax County are experiencing food insecurity. Non-profit partners are reporting as much as a 40 percent increase in the number of people seeking help.

To assist with these needs and make it easy for the community to donate, Fairfax County "Stuff the Bus" is increasing its collection schedule. On select Saturdays, including Sept. 26, Fastran buses will be parked in 21 locations from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to collect non-perishable food donations. Each bus has a designated nonprofit in Fairfax County to which the food will go. Many of these nonprofits are among those LLI/NOVA would normally support at our monthly Forums.

First, go to <https://www.volunteerfairfax.org/events/stuff-the-bus-food-donation-drive>. Find the location of buses where you can donate non-perishable food with no personal contact. Wear a mask, approach the bus at the backdoor, and put your package down after the person before you has left.

You also may contribute to "Stuff the Bus Virtual Food Drive," an online option beyond the September collection dates.

By making a monetary donation to one of the specific charities supported in this drive, you enable nonprofits to use the money to buy food in bulk, to purchase culturally appropriate food for diverse communities, and to purchase fresh foods not available in a bus collection.



HISTORY OF THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

LLI/NOVA was formed to present educational information to senior citizens. The Curriculum Committee was a key component of the organization.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Initially Knox Singleton and Alan Mayer led a small program committee. Later Doris Balinsky took over as chair, doing all the editing. She was followed by Norma Hughes, who left the position to become president of LLI/NOVA. Paul Hopley served for four years, also left the position to become president, then returned as chair for 18 months. Subsequent chairs are Mary Underwood, Gina Trapp, Doug Johnson and currently Richard Robison.

CATALOG

In the early stages we simply listed available courses. Later these were compiled into a booklet known as the Program or Catalog. Input was often handwritten or prepared on dot-matrix printers. Members including Laura Charron, Beverly Portman, and Doris Balinsky would format the material, type it, and edit it. Many hours of committee meetings were spent discussing punctuation, grammar, layout, and choice of words (instructor, leader, professor or facilitator). Al Brothers, who typed the final draft into a publishing program, also prepared a calendar to facilitate usage. He selected bios, locations, and other information appropriate for that semester. Using a copying place such as Kinko's, hundreds of bound copies were made for delivery to the LLI/NOVA office.

SPACE LOCATION

Originally it was understood that NOVA would not make classroom space available. For a while, the Ernst Cultural Center did make some rooms available, and currently more vacant rooms are provided, but LLI/NOVA always has sought plac-

es to meet. Earlier, the Board appointed a person to find space, but in a short time this fell to the Curriculum Committee.

Some places we used from the earliest time include Annandale United Methodist Church, St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, Falls Church Presbyterian Church, Little River United Church of Christ, Mason District Government Center, Meadowlark Gardens and the Virginian, Goodwin House and Greenspring Village retirement communities. Key people to make this work were Alan Mayer, Lorin Goodrich, Ed Sadtler, Clint Hall, Paul Hopley, Barry Newman, Debi Hunsberger, Pat Daniels, and Moe Moser, who has served for more than 12 years.

PRESENTATION OF AUDIO VISUALS

During early years, large flip charts and slide projectors were made available for instructors. We moved to an overhead projector with vellum sheets and a screen to project charts, then an LED projector from a computer screen.

From this, we moved to provide a portable projector for screen-showing from the speaker's computer or slides on a CD ROM, DVD, memory card, or thumb drive. PowerPoint was just getting underway, and we had presentations in Word, Open Office, Adobe pdf, and other presentation software.

As the Internet became more common, we arranged access by the speaker during the presentation. History instructor Michael Anderson used the Internet for the class members to interact with an expert in Poland. We also obtained a classroom speaker/amplifier and remote microphone. Our first Zoom presentation was in 2018 with a speaker in Colorado and interaction from class members. Currently, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, almost all courses are presented electronically via Zoom off location.

TRAVELING

We quickly began to support members' interest in travel. During LLI/NOVA's early years, Alan Mayer and John Bogart organized courses discussing where to go and trips taken. Doris Balinsky intro-

duced travelogue courses. Louise Sousk used local travel as an educational format. Eventually, both types of travel took on lives of their own and separate committees were formed. Terry Brittain, Doug Johnson, Arline Sachs, Pat Harrison, Debi Hunsberger and Bob Huley were the principal organizers of the study/travel type of class.

FOCUS POINTS

The most important early decision was to maximize the use of NOVA professors, and a committee member contacted the college's department heads and individual professors for presentations in history, art, literature, psychology, and more. Key members in this role were Knox Singleton, Alan Mayer, Lorin Goodrich and Nan Peck.

Many areas of interest were specialties:

Financial experts--Scott Pinckney, Mary Underwood, Delsa Hildebrandt, Doug Johnson, and Barry Newman,

Poetry--Richard Risk, Ed Sadtler, and Marianne Moerman,

Personal skills--Genevieve Thiem, Louise Sousk, Nickie Myers, Beverly Portman, and Sallie Wise,

American and English History-- Burt Greenstein, Genealogy—Arline Sachs,

Science and technology-- Doris Balinsky, Barry Centini, Paul Hopley, and Peter Schwarzkopf, National Park Service classes--Mary Underwood, Pat Daniels, and Debi Hunsberger,

Art and Music--Mary Underwood, Deanna DeMember, Lorin Goodrich, June Chalou, Ferne Beyer, Anna Dixon, and Virginia Fernbach,

Parks and Wildlife--Elaine Cherry, Doris Balinsky, Doug Johnson, and Mary Lu Bednarsky.

Discussion Groups--Helen Clark, Peter Schwarzkopf, Merry Macke, and Chuck Hulick.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Others who had key roles in making the committee work, but who are not mentioned above, were Ellen Gale, Brent Beeson, Ed McKnight, and Judy Robison.

NOVA Happenings

Bob Hull, NVCC's Community Outreach Specialist, Annandale Campus, invites our participation in Lyceum presentations.

For many years at the Annandale Campus, the Lyceum Committee has sponsored a series of speeches on topics of interest for faculty, staff, students, and the public. Events and activities have been cancelled on campus, so the Lyceum Committee is going virtual and launching the Fall 2020 Semester Lunch and Learn Justice and Equity Series via Zoom on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. LLI/NOVA members are invited to participate.

“We are excited about launching our virtual series,” said Annandale Campus Communication Studies Instructor Melissa Chabot, Chair of the Lyceum Committee. “We believe that it makes these presentations accessible to a wider audience.”

The Lyceum virtual Lunch and Learn Justice and Equity Series presentations via Zoom are open to faculty, staff, students, and anyone who wishes to register at <https://blogs.nvcc.edu/lyceum>.

Three upcoming presentations are:

- Oct. 1 – Ericka Gail presents “The Intersections of LGBTQ+ and Racially Oppressed Communities”
- Nov. 5 – Ron Kipling William presents “Leadership and Race”
- Nov. 19 – Audrey Davis presents “Alexandria’s Community Remembrance Project: Acknowledging a City’s Lynching History”

“The Lyceum Committee is pleased to present this series of talks devoted to addressing historical and contemporary issues surrounding equity and justice,” said Chabot. “We hope that these talks deepen understanding and spark meaningful conversations in our communities.”

It's That Time of the Year Again . . . and We Need Your Participation

Each year LLI/NOVA holds elections during the June Forum to replace the five Board members whose three-year terms are scheduled to expire, and to replace the four officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) whose one-year terms are scheduled to expire.

The steps leading up to this event are:

Selecting a Chairperson for the Nominating Committee

Not later than October, the President will select from the Board a Chairperson for the Nominating Committee, in accordance with Article V of the LLI/NOVA Bylaws. For the past two years, Richard Steelman performed this role, extraordinarily and thoughtfully regarding the skills needed for the Board.

Forming the Nominating Committee

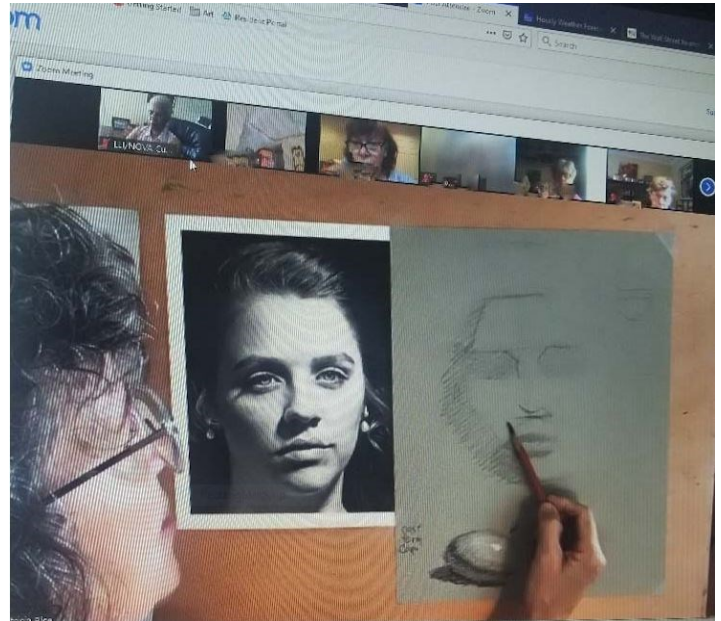
The Chairperson will then form a nominating committee to consist of two additional Board members and two other non-Board members. The newly formed Nominating Committee then meets to discuss the task at hand and to begin assembling the names of potential Board and officer candidates. It is helpful to have at least one committee member who is familiar with the members of the organization or one who has served on the Nominating Committee in the past.

The skills within the LLI/NOVA membership are very deep and broad, and we need them! We implore each of you not to let another day go by without populating our Member Directory on the website with your profile. Go to View or Edit My Account on the Member Area tab, then click on the Profile tab. Once there, you can upload your picture and tell us a little about yourself: what you did before you retired, what activities you enjoy, any special skills, and more.

Best, Anna

A Zoom Experiential Class: Portrait Drawing

Doing a portrait of yourself, or of someone you know, is the most difficult of all subjects to draw, say most artists, teachers and students.



Drawing requires lots of measuring and comparing, to and from, the model/reference and the page. Sketching is a freehand drawing, which often is the preliminary stage of a refined work, the finished product.

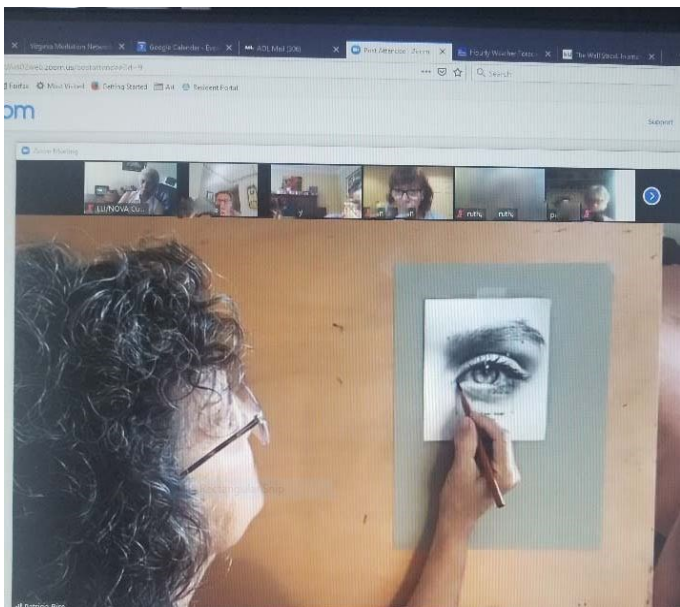
LLI/NOVA's first experiential Zoom class was taught virtually and interactively by professional artist Patricia M. Rice, who has won prizes in international and national portrait competitions. The class included one-on-one feedback, as the students sent their drawings to her for review.

Some of the participants' comments:

LLI is providing essential services to its members, in terms of emotional and mental well-being, and social support. Experimental classes like today's stimulate brain plasticity and can create new avenues to mindfulness. Our vote is Yes for more! JRaymer

We are so very thankful that we found LLI a year ago. It truly gives us something to look forward to every week, and nearly every day. 😊 RRaymer

coffeemaker.
Remember: You don't stop laughing because you grow old,
You grow old because you stop laughing.
_____ from www.everydaywisdom.com



I learned quite a lot from her, especially her attention to anatomical measurements and her emphasis on shadowing. Personally, I think drawing noses is especially hard. PBrennan

It was a pleasure teaching this class! I began my art career later in life and enjoy opening the door to drawing for others as well. -- Patricia M. Rice <https://www.patriciamcmahonrice.com/>



PERKS OF BEING OVER 50:

- Your supply of brain cells is finally down to manageable size.
- Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the national weather service.
- Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
- In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
- People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
- There is nothing left to learn the hard way.
- You can eat dinner at 4 p.m.
- You have a party and the neighbors don't even realize it.
- You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.
- You quit trying to hold your stomach in, no matter who walks into the room.
- Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.
- My memory's not as sharp as it used to be. Also, my memory's not as sharp as it used to be.
- Know how to prevent sagging? Just eat till the wrinkles fill out.
- It's scary when you start making the same noises as your

Special Interest Groups

Financial Discussion

Is the stock market going up or down, or both? Will the economy be able to continue the process of opening as we enter fall and winter? This vitally interesting group is resuming meetings via Zoom. The next meeting is Thursday, Oct. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m. [Click here](#) for more information if you are interested in joining the discussion.

Tabletop Games

Join us for our ongoing Trivia game, which will be sent out Sept. 22, with return of your answers by Sept. 29. Arlene Gribben will be the host this month to select the questions, review the answers and determine a winner.

Are you a fan of the Indiana Jones movies? Join us via Zoom as we play "Forbidden Island." You may fill the role of an Explorer, Helicopter Pilot, Diver, or others as we team up to try to retrieve four ancient artifacts before the island floods and sinks.

In this cooperative game, up to six players are a team against the game, which constantly floods the island. The host will show the map on her screen, move the players as they choose, and draw cards for them to be shared with the whole team.

We lift off at our regular SIG time of 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Oct. 27. [Click here](#) for our web page. If you wish to join us, [click here](#) to find contact information for Mary Lu Bednarsky.

For November we plan to play Big Boggle, a word game, via Zoom. More details will follow.

Read Early and Daily

2020 Wishlist

Our mission is to ensure babies and young children have new, quality, culturally relevant books of their own that are mirrors and windows into their everyday lives and communities.

BOARD BOOKS

Moo, Baa, La-la-la or other books by Sandra Boynton in English or Spanish

My Very First Bilingual Book series or other books by Eric Carle English or Spanish

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do You See? or other books by Bill Martin English or Spanish

I Know.. (Empowerment series) by Stephen Krensky

Zoom, Zoom, Baby! or other books by Karen Katz

Making Faces: A First Book of Emotions by Abrams Appleseed

I Will Talk to You, Little One by Tomie DePaola

Think Big, Little One by Vashti Harrison

Indestructibles series by various authors

Jane Cabrera's Story Time series (nursery rhymes and songs) by Jane Cabrera

Clive or Rosa series by Jessica Spanyol

Hello World! series by Jill McDonald

Baby Goes to Market by Atinuke

Any of the DK Touch and Feel series in English or Spanish

Plastic bath books or cloth books for babies

Lift-the-flap books for toddlers

PICTURE BOOKS

Red House, Tree House, Little Bitty Brown Mouse by Jane Godwin

Ada Twist, Scientist or other books by Andrea Beaty

Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña

Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes by Eric Litwin

Ruby Finds a Worry by Tom Percival

Supertruck by Steve Savage

Under My Hijab by Hena Khan

Thank you, Omu! By Oge Mora

A Big Mooncake for Little Star by Grace Lin

All Are Welcome by Alexandra Penfol

The Rabbit Listened by Cori Doerrfeld

After the Fall by Dan Santat

Vamos! Let's Go to Market by Raul the Third

Little Senses Series by Samantha Cotterill

The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson

Alma and How She Got Her Name by Juana Martinez-Neal

We Don't Eat Our Classmates by Ryan Higgins

Alphablock by Christopher Franceschelli

EARLY READERS AND CHAPTER BOOKS

Elephant and Piggie or *Pigeon* books by Mo Willems

Mo series by David Adler

Pedro or *Katie Woo* series by Fran Manushkin

Zapato Power or *Sofia Martinez* series by Jacqueline Jules

Yasmin series by Saadia Faruqi

Sadiq series by Siman Nural

My Furry Foster Family by Debbie Michiko Florence

Narwhal series by Ben Clanton

King and Kayla series by Dori Hillestad Butler

Charlie and Mouse series by Laurel Snyder

Juana and Lucas series by Juana Medina