



Wednesday, September 1 LLI/NOVA FORUM VIA ZOOM

Social Zoom: 9:30 a.m. Announcements: 9:50 a.m. **Forum Presentation: 10:00 a.m.**
(Click on the link in the email announcement)

Coral Reefs: Their Importance, Their Challenges, and Possible Solutions

Half a billion people around the world depend on coral reefs for food, their livelihoods, and shelter from natural disasters. A quarter of all marine species depend upon coral reefs for food and shelter.

Yet coral reefs face unprecedented challenges and destruction due to climate change, acidification, pollution, and other factors. Our presenter, **Dr. Madhavi Colton**, will address these issues in a Zoom presentation from California.

Dr. Colton, who holds a PhD in Marine Ecology from the University of Melbourne, Australia, is an accomplished conservation scientist who is focused on helping the world's ecosystems cope with the effects of climate change.

She believes that coral reefs—one of the world's most threatened ecosystems—can be saved for generations to come. Through her research, she has developed a new approach to conservation that will help reefs around the world adapt to the effects of climate change.

As executive director of the Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL), Dr. Colton is turning this science into action by building alliances across environmental, scientific, and political sectors.

CORAL is a non-profit, environmental NGO whose mission is to save the world's coral reefs. It works collaboratively with communities worldwide to reduce direct threats to reefs in ways that provide long-term benefits to people and wildlife.



In parallel, CORAL is actively expanding the scientific understanding of how corals adapt to climate change and is applying this information to give reefs the best chance to thrive. CORAL's broad expertise uniquely positions it to rally the conservation community around scalable and effective solutions for coral reefs around the world.

As climate impacted reefs, CORAL realized that it had to do more to achieve its mission to save coral reefs; it had to start acting both locally and globally. CORAL launched a pioneering research project to define a science-based, global solution that would save reefs and preserve their benefits for people and wildlife. With knowledge from this research project, CORAL created an innovative approach called

Adaptive Reefscapes that optimizes environmental conditions to allow corals to adapt.

Dr. Colton says her personal mission is to help the world's ecosystems cope with the effects of climate change. To achieve this, she applies scientific expertise to discover answers to our biggest environmental challenges, and emphasizes communication skills and high emotional intelligence to build collaborations with conservation practitioners, resource users, managers, funders, and policymakers to implement durable conservation solutions. She launched and secured more than \$2 million in funding for a multi-institutional research program that is articulating what can be done to help ecosystems adapt to the effects of climate change. She has directed three multi-institution, interdisciplinary research projects to improve resource management and deepened the field's understanding of evolutionary rescue and ecological resilience.



President's Message

Your LLI/NOVA Board convened for a full day on July 15 at our annual Board retreat. We decided to use a hybrid mix

of live and Zoom classes for our fall session. NOVA will be open for in-person classes, and we will follow all school, CDC and governmental guidelines. As of Friday, August 5, face coverings will be required on campus regardless of vaccination status.

We are still waiting to hear which of our off-campus class sites will allow us to offer programs. Because of our age demographic, we will respond conservatively to reopening in all of our class locations.

Our September 1 Forum will be conducted via Zoom, but our October Forum will be in person if our agreement for the use of the Ernst Center is completed in time. Thereafter, we will have a combination of live and Zoom Forums.

Most of our Special Interest Groups (SIGS) will be reactivating in either August or September, with the exception of the French SIG, which is

likely to be discontinued. Planning for a series of cultural excursions is under way.

At the retreat, the Board also decided to create a Membership Outreach Committee. This committee will incorporate our publicity/marketing and social media (we now have Facebook and Twitter accounts) efforts. We brainstormed ideas for membership growth and retention; appointed committee chairs; reviewed our committee structure, membership and charts of work; and approved several board reports.

Another initiative that resulted from this year's Board Retreat is to recruit members onto our committees. Most of the programs and services that LLI/NOVA offers are made possible by the work of our committees. Participating on a committee not only enriches LLI/NOVA, but also provides wonderful socialization opportunities for participants. Please read on.....

Volunteer Job Opportunities

The LLI/NOVA Board urges you to volunteer to serve on a committee. The experience will be rewarding, and your contribution is important and will be appreciated. Committee chairs are sensitive to members' time limitations, and meetings are scheduled at convenient times and locations. The experience of working with a group of highly talented people with diverse professional experiences has been gratifying to those who have participated. Your involvement will ensure a strong future for LLI/NOVA as we emerge from the covid-19 pandemic.

The following is a list of current LLI/NOVA Committees:

- Membership Outreach (includes publicity, marketing and social media)
- Budget & Finance
- Automation (website and technology)
- Forum
- Cultural Excursions (formerly Day Trip Committee)
- Curriculum
- Nominating
- Scholarship

- Social Events
- Newsletter
- Financial Review
- Study Travel



Special Interest Groups

Contact LLI/NOVA President Derick Malis at derickmalis@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer to serve on a committee.

Community Outreach



Our Community Outreach team again reminds us of those in our community struggling for enough food. Our Community Outreach team consists not only of Betsy Pugin and Joyce Pomeroy, but **each of you** as you decide how you can help our neighbors each month, whether by check, online donation, or direct food donation.

Outreach partners also include those members of LLI who have sponsored a food collection when the Forums met in person. If you sponsored a food pantry for a community group or your faith congregation, please stay in touch with them and let Joyce and Betsy know of current needs. Once the Forums meet in person again, we hope you will resume your sponsorship of the group.

In the meantime, ECHO (Ecumenical Community Helping Others) is in need of food and has three options to make donating food easier. You can leave donations at the following:

- Braddock District Government Office next to the Kings Park Library on Burke Lake Rd, weekdays 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- West Springfield Government Office on Rolling Rd, 24-hours-a-day at the police station
- Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Dept, Bingo Hall, open during Bingo.

ECHO itself is open five days a week from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 7205 Old Keene Mill Rd, Springfield. See their web site at Echo-inc.org.

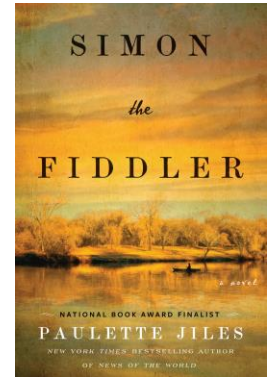
Thanks for all you do!

Favorite Books Club

Zoom meeting:

Thursday, September 16
11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

Our selection this month is "Simon the Fiddler," a historical novel by Paulette Jiles. The setting is Texas, during the last days of the Civil War. Here we are introduced to Simon, a young itinerant fiddler, a ragtag band of musicians with whom he travels while trying to make a living, and Dora, the young Irish woman who captures his heart. As the story unfolds, we learn about the chances that he is willing to take, and the obstacles that he will overcome to fulfill his heart's desire.

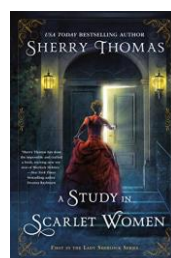
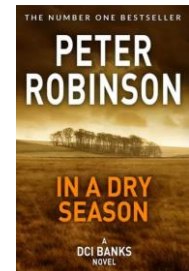


Questions? Contact Lynne Smaldone, smaldonega@hotmail.com

Mystery Book Club

Next Meeting:

Monday, September 13
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Kings Park Library to discuss "In a Dry Season" by Peter Robinson.



The book for the October 4 meeting will be "A Study in Scarlet Women" by Sherry Thomas.

Questions? Contact Mary Lu Bednarsky, mlbednarsky@gmail.com

Tabletop Games

Upcoming meetings at Kings Park Library:



- Tuesday, August 24, 1:30 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.
The featured game will be TRIPOLEY. Come join us for fun and laughter!
- Tuesday, September 28, 1:30 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Questions? Contact Mary Lu Bednarsky, mlbednarsky@gmail.com

Financial Discussion



Upcoming meetings will be held Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. at the Kings Park Library:

- September 9
- October 14
- November 11

Questions? Contact Doug Johnson, llinovadoug@gmail.com.

Bridge

We're back! At least that's our plan now that the Mason District Governmental Center will be open. Our first planned game will be Wednesday, September 8. If you are already a Bridge SIG member you will be getting a reminder email.



Not currently a Bridge SIG member, but looking for a friendly Bridge group? Well, look no further than your very own LLI/NOVA Bridge SIG. Check out our SIG page ([Bridge – LLI NOVA](#)), and join us at our next game, but let Bob Huley know you are coming. We are always looking for new members. Haven't played in a while? No problem! We haven't either. We welcome all skill levels because what we are serious about is having fun, and the more the merrier. Want more information? Contact Bob Huley, roberthuley@cox.net

Cultural Excursions

Registration and payment for LLI/NOVA excursions is easy – for both members and their guests – through the Class Calendar on the LLI website.

Upcoming Fall excursions:



Barrel Oak Wine and Beer Tasting, Delaplane, VA. September 25 (afternoon)

You may want to combine this with the morning guided hike at nearby Sky Meadows State Park, which requires separately signing up for the "Time for Monarchs! (Field Trip)" in the Class Calendar. After the hike, join us at the winery for lunch and tastings.

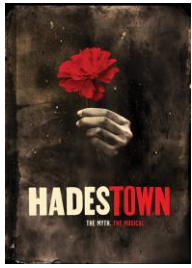


Afternoon Tea, The Tea Cart, Berryville, VA, a premier British tea room destination. October 27

The O Street Museum, Dupont Circle. Explore a mansion with 100 rooms and 70 hidden doors! Join us for the Secret Door tour. This museum inspires creativity, diversity, and imagination through the fusion of the arts, music, science, and sports. November 9



If you like being with people, making friends, and exploring nearby historical and cultural landmarks, please consider serving on the Cultural Excursions Committee. We work as a team, so no one has too much work to do. Contact the Chair, Carol Fagnani. Contact info is available on the LLI website.



“HadesTown,” at the Kennedy Center – October 28 at 1:30 p.m.

LLI/NOVA members get a limited number of discounted tickets for Tony and Grammy Award-winning "HadesTown" at the Kennedy Center, a production that the Center's sales staff

thinks will sell out early. **Sign up and pay for this event before September 19 at noon.**

Purchasing our specially negotiated tickets ensures that we will sit near one another in the front center orchestra. Further, you will have a first-come, first-served choice in your seat selection from these seats: C6, C4, C2, B10, B8, B6, B4, B2, B101, B102, A10, A8, A6, A4, A2, A101, A102, A103, A104, A105.

Additionally, we secured a special "HadesTown Talk-Back" session in early October for our members/guests who are attending the show. Others may join, space permitting.

"HadesTown" won eight 2019 Tony Awards, including Best Musical, and the 2020 Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album. The show, by singer-songwriter Anais Mitchell and director Rachel Chavkin, is a love story intertwining two mythic tales—that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of King Hades and his wife Persephone.

This is a special group discount rate for LLI/NOVA members and guests. No refunds will be available once tickets are purchased by LLI/NOVA, approximately 30 days prior to the show. Registered participants will be notified.

- LLI/NOVA Members - \$97
- Non-member Guests - \$102

Sign up and pay for tickets on [LLI's website](#).

LLI History Available on Website

The history of our first 25 years, “Celebrate & Anticipate 1996-2021,” is available for you to access on the [website](#). You can browse specific articles, read the entire book and/or print your choice of pages.

New Members

Welcome, new members! We hope you will participate in our classes and volunteer your time and talent.

Cathy Harlow
 Karen Kelly
 Sarah Larson
 Marty Rine
 Barbara Swecker

[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 “Member Area” and then “Member Directory”]



Save the Date for LLI’s Holiday Party Thursday, December 2

Our annual Holiday Party will be held at the Country Club of Fairfax on Thursday, December 2. The reception will begin at 11:00 a.m. and lunch will be served at 12:00 noon, followed by music and a brief program. Please save the date.

If you would enjoy serving on the planning team for this year’s Holiday Party, contact Bonnie Hopley at bdhopley@gmail.com or 703-978-9381. The initial planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 28 at 1:30 p.m. Team members will be notified of the meeting location.



Contact Info for Dick DiBuono

Dick DiBuono was president of LLI from 2007 to 2009. Bonnie Hopley needs contact info for him to invite him to the Holiday Party, which will also recognize the finale of our 25th Anniversary. Please get in touch with Bonnie if you have Dick’s contact information.

Social Hosts for Foreign Students at NOVA Needed Now!

Register no later than September 17, 2021

LLI/NOVA members have a unique opportunity to get to know 36 visiting students from 11 developing countries under the U.S. Department of State's Community College Initiative (CCI) Program, administered by NOVA. The students receive a full scholarship to spend up to one academic year at a U.S. community college.

The students hope to strengthen their English language proficiency and to immerse themselves in the culture and day-to-day life of Americans. They plan to participate in community volunteer service projects, thereby enhancing local host communities. They also will serve as leaders on their host campuses and make public presentations as part of International Education Week and other community engagement activities.

After completing the CCI Program, participants return home with a deeper understanding of U.S. culture and new skills, and are expected to contribute to the social and economic development of their home countries.

There are several opportunities for LLI/NOVA members to get to know these students on a personal level and to hear about the situations they faced for an opportunity to learn in the United States. This is a chance to engage with these students while their impressions of our culture are fresh. As Mark Twain said: "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime."

LLI/NOVA's eight "Fireside Chats" will be held on Sundays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.; each session features a deep dive on the students' home country beginning with a country overview PowerPoint presentation by the students before the LLI/NOVA host opens the event for interactive discussion.

Consider hosting one of these students by contacting Sara Mohamed in NOVA's Office of International Education and Sponsored Programs: samohamed@nvcc.edu.

To join the "Fireside Chats," register on our website. The first one is linked [here](#).

Children's Book Drive

It's that time once again! This will be the fifth year for our annual LLI/NOVA Children's Book Drive.



What organization are we supporting?

Our recipient this year is R.E.A.D. (Read Early And Daily). The donations will be used for "Give a Book, Nourish a Mind," a program that was launched in 2020 in response to covid-19. Their Book Bus visits food pantries and food distribution sites so that families can choose a book for each of their children. So far this summer, over 300 children have been served.

How can we help?

There is a pressing need for NEW books for children from birth to eight years of age. See the Wish List on the last page of this newsletter (Elephant and Piggie books are popular). Purchasing the books online is a safe and easy way to donate.

Where do we donate?

You can choose from either of the following options:

- Between now and Monday, October 18: Place an online order and have the books sent directly to the following address: Lynne Smaldone, 232 North Edgewood Street, Arlington, VA 22201.
- On Monday, October 18, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Drop off your books at Braddock District Governmental Center, 9002 Burke Lake Road. There will be two cars with open trunks in the parking lot, ready to receive your donations.

Questions? Contact Lynne Smaldone, smaldonega@hotmail.com



Read Early and Daily 2021 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

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

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

Alphablock by Christopher Franceschelli

Any of the DK Touch and Feel series (English or Spanish)

Plastic bath books or cloth books for babies

Lift-the-flap books for toddlers

PICTURE BOOKS

Eyes That Kiss the Corners by Joanna Ho

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 or *Big Feelings* by Alexandra Penfold

The Rabbit Listened by Cori Doerrfeld

Dozens of Doughnuts by Carrie Finison

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

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 Nuurali

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