



News & Views

Volume 27—Number 6

June 2023

Wednesday, June 7 -- LLI/NOVA FORUM

LOCATION: Little River United Church of Christ, 8410 Little River Turnpike, Annandale

Socializing starts at 9:30 a.m.

9:45 a.m. Membership Meeting/Election of Board

Forum Presentation: 10:15 a.m.

Lifelong Learning at NOVA Annandale – A Collaborative Approach



LLI/NOVA is very pleased to welcome Annandale Campus Provost Dr. Diane Mucci as our June Forum speaker. Dr. Mucci will discuss various types of lifelong learning programs at NOVA – degree programs, certificate programs, noncredit courses, and continuing education programs. She will discuss various stakeholders involved in collaborative lifelong learning, such as faculty, staff, students, and community partners, and will highlight some of the benefits of this collaborative approach: increased access to resources and expertise, enhanced program quality, and improved community engagement. She will also share success stories of individuals

who have benefited from lifelong learning approaches and opportunities at NOVA, and will discuss the impact that lifelong learning has on people's lives.

Dr. Mucci has the strong track record of academic and community engagement that is essential to the role of provost. She has served on advisory boards for George Mason University's Science and Technology Campus, George Washington University's Health Sciences programs, and the Osbourn High School Governor's STEM Academy in Manassas.

A highly respected faculty member, Dr. Mucci has dedicated herself to serving and developing as an academic leader focused on equity in student success and advocacy for her colleagues. She has served as Chair of NOVA's College Senate, Chair of the Academic Deans' Council, and discipline coordinator for Biological Sciences. She has completed training to assist ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) student populations and address student trauma; facilitated data equity summits related to STEM disciplines; and participated in the NOVA Student Success Leadership Academy offered in partnership with Achieving the Dream, a Maryland-based organization which champions leaders at community colleges across the country.

We are indeed privileged to welcome Dr. Mucci to our Forum, and we look forward to hearing her perspectives on lifelong learning.

Masks are no longer required.

After-Forum Lunch

After the June Forum, join fellow LLI members for lunch and conversation at Silverado Restaurant, 7052 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Paul and Bonnie Hopley will host.

President's Message



Registration is now open for our summer session classes. We continue to offer a mix of live and Zoom classes to our membership. I hope you will take advantage of our new mask-optional policy and reengage with friends and members by

attending some of our live classes. Another way to reengage is to volunteer for one of our committees. Member involvement is what makes LLI run. Getting involved in a committee of your choosing is not time consuming, but does offer the opportunity to interact with interesting and engaged people while furthering LLI's mission of serving our membership. See the article on page 5 for a list of current volunteer needs, and contact [Patti Volz](#) if you can help.

Our membership stands at 302. We have grown back from our pandemic low of just over 280, but are still well below our pre-pandemic level. And since virtually 100 percent of our revenue comes from memberships, I urge you to tell your friends, neighbors, and family about LLI and all the services we offer. Let them know that our \$110 annual membership fee is almost all-inclusive and is still the best deal in town. Our Bring a Friend to Class and Gift Membership promotions are on our [home page](#) and are easy to navigate.

Please come to our annual membership meeting held in conjunction with the Wednesday, June 7 Forum. We will briefly review our fiscal year 2024 budget, provide an assessment of our financial health, and elect Board members and officers. The meeting will begin at 9:45 a.m. and be finished by 10:15 a.m., in time for our presentation by NOVA Provost Diane Mucci. More information about this meeting follows.

Derick Malis
LLI/NOVA President

Annual Membership Meeting



LLI/NOVA's bylaws require us to have an annual membership meeting to accomplish three actions:

1. Elect officers and members of the Board of Directors. Refer to the article below for details.
2. Present the approved budget for the next fiscal year. The budget is discussed below and is included in this newsletter (see page 8). We will briefly review the key budget items and considerations at the annual membership meeting.
3. Provide a statement of financial condition prepared by the Budget and Finance Committee (which is based on the annual review of LLI's finances by the Financial Review Committee, available [here](#)).

We hope that you will join us at our membership meeting on Wednesday, June 7, starting promptly at 9:45 a.m. The important tasks listed above will be completed in time for our June Forum speaker to begin her presentation at 10:15 a.m., so please plan to attend both.

Our Forum will be held at Little River United Church of Christ, 8410 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, directly across Little River Turnpike (Route 236) from the NOVA Campus main entrance. From the Beltway, drive west on Route 236, turn RIGHT at the Lake Drive traffic light, and follow the road to the church parking lot. [Here](#) is a Google maps link to the Forum location. There is ample free parking and the location is totally handicap-accessible.

Note start time: 9:45 a.m.



Voting for LLI/NOVA 2023/2024 Board Members and Officers

The election for LLI/NOVA's 2023/2024 Board of Directors and officers will take place on June 7 at 9:45 a.m. at our annual membership meeting. Our Board of Directors is made up of 15 members elected by the membership. Board members serve a three-year term with five Board member terms expiring annually. If a position becomes vacant, a new member is elected to complete the unexpired term.

Board candidates for three-year terms ending June 30, 2026:

- Patricia Brennan
- Andy James Butler
- Fritz Ernst
- Richard Martin
- Dick Robison

Candidate to fill term ending June 30, 2025:

- Richard Sigman

LLI/NOVA has four officer positions elected by the membership from among the Board members. Officers serve a one-year term. Expiration of three-year Board term is indicated after each name:

- President Derick Malis (2024)
- Vice President Patricia Brennan (2026)
- Secretary Gina Trapp (2025)
- Treasurer Richard Sigman (2025)

See the [May newsletter](#) for complete bios of these candidates.

Board members continuing their terms (no vote required):

- Steven Cohen (term ends June 2024)
- Paul Massell (term ends June 2024)
- Mary Alexander (term ends June 2024)
- Carol Fagnani (term ends June 2024)
- Debbie Cohen (term ends June 2025)
- Cathy Becker (term ends June 2025)
- Richard Ackerman (term ends June 2025)
- Anna Dixon (past president)

FY2024 Budget

BUDGET



LLI's bylaws require that the Budget & Finance Committee present the annual budget to our membership at the annual membership meeting. The LLI Board of Directors approved our fiscal year (FY) 2024 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024) budget at its May 12 meeting. The budget is included in this newsletter (see page 8) and will be reviewed at the annual meeting on June 7.

As we emerge from the uncertainties of the pandemic and look forward to our next fiscal year, the budget supports our continuing events and activities, while retaining our membership dues at the current level of \$110 per year. This conservative budget projects a small net income for the year. The Board reviews our financial position monthly and evaluates spending in accordance with the approved budget. Income and projected spending are reviewed in detail mid-year for any adjustments required.

Since membership dues provide our primary source of income, retaining our members and having new people join are critical to our ability to provide needed income. We currently have 302 members. To provide a conservative estimate going forward, the approved budget is based on a projected membership of 300. Our goal, of course, is to increase our membership to be able to maintain our dues at their current level and still provide the activities enjoyed by our members. We have an active membership outreach program, and everyone is encouraged to help increase our numbers.

Throughout the past two years, LLI adjusted to using Zoom for many classes and gatherings, including monthly Forums. This approach provided an avenue for us to continue to meet, as well as reducing some costs (e.g., rental of the Ernst Center). We will continue to use multiple venues for our classes and activities,

including using Zoom for some. Our budget supports six in-person Forums and three conducted by Zoom in the winter to allow for inclement weather and to accommodate speakers from outside our area.

In summary, LLI has applied conservative and prudent management of resources, and in so doing, has been able to emerge from the past two years without having to increase dues. To sustain that position, retaining current members and recruiting new ones is of paramount importance.

If you have any questions about LLI/NOVA's FY 2024 budget, contact [Fritz Ernst](#), Chair, Budget & Finance Committee.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

The summer class schedule is available online and registration has begun. We have another outstanding slate of classes. Be the first in your neighborhood to sign up, and have a friend sign up with you. You'll be glad you did!

Community Outreach

Donations for the June 7 Forum will go to a church in south Arlington whose food pantry has been featured in [The Washington Post](#) and on [WJLA](#).

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, a multi-ethnic parish, has been called by one reporter "what hope looks like in a crisis."

The food pantry is giving out large amounts of food each week, to increasing numbers of persons in need. The pantry needs: instant yellow corn tortilla flour (NOT cornmeal), canola and corn oil, low-sugar cereal, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned tuna, pasta sauce, white rice, dried beans, and mac and cheese.

The pantry can also put your clean, non-damaged plastic bags to use as they give out fresh items. (We are not collecting fresh items, just the bags.)

Thank you in advance for helping with this last LLI collection before summer. Please bring donations to our in-person Forum on June 7. Bring your donations to the door of Little River United Church of Christ when you come to the Forum. Our collection carts will be right in front of the church.

ACCA, the May recipient of our collection, was delighted with the items brought. Thanks to all!

Betsy Pugin and Joyce Pomeroy (see online member directory for contact information)



Welcome to our newest members:

- Robbie Comer
- Jeff and Valerie Fawcett
- Mary Reap
- Robert Rexrode
- Elizabeth Twietmeyer
- Diane White

Volunteers Still Needed



The social event of the Year! We're looking for volunteers to serve on the committee to help plan our December 6 Winter Luncheon. This event is eagerly anticipated by

many of you, but it can't be hosted without your help. Committee members will share duties and can decide among themselves who wants to handle which task. Files providing agendas, time frames, and other information for each previous party are located in the LLI office, so there will be no reinventing the wheel. It's a wonderful event in which to participate. If you are interested in helping, contact Patti Volz at pvolz63@gmail.com.

Volunteers are also still needed on many of our committees. Please contact [Patti](#) if you are interested in helping. Volunteering is a terrific way to meet new members or reestablish contact with old friends now that we've emerged from Covid. And, many hands make less work. We run on you, our members!



Encore Learning is offering the following free online event to LLI members. No advance registration is required. Click [here](#) to join these events.

- Monday, May 22, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Women in Architecture: Designing Beautiful Buildings Across the Globe
Speaker: Dr. Marcia Feuerstein
Details are available [here](#).
- Monday, June 5, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
How to Live Healthier, Happier, and Longer in Retirement
Speaker: Brad Bickford
Details are available [here](#).

Afternoon Tea

Twenty-one members and guests enjoyed a delicious Afternoon Tea at the Café Renaissance on April 29. Pictures from this fun event are online [here](#).



May Forum Presentation



Our inspirational May Forum was presented by Amir Mostafavi, an entrepreneur who founded the [South Block](#) juice bar chain. Amir's message was relevant beyond

those interested in starting a business. Focusing on his team and their communities in a changing environment, he has grown South Block to 15 locations. By creating paths and opportunities for staff and emphasizing South Block's core values (believe in yourself, spread good vibes, small acts have big impacts, and we are one community) this approach gives South Block a larger purpose. He presented eight rules he has followed in founding and growing his business.

1. Don't be a jerk!
2. Connect with your community
3. Put your team in your dream
4. Create paths and opportunities
5. Pivot, adapt & take action
6. Make your customer the hero
7. Put people over profits
8. Give it a larger purpose



Elections for our Board for next year will be held at our June 7 Forum. Please plan to attend.

Study/Travel Program



LLI/NOVA travelers are currently on an incredible trip around the entire perimeter of Ireland, from exploring the historic and bustling streets of Dublin to the Wild Atlantic Way.

The Study/Travel Committee has arranged for an exciting trip through the heart of Europe on Viking's Grand European Tour, embarking in Amsterdam on June 20, 2024, and debarking in Budapest on July 2. This 14-night trip will take us through four countries – The Netherlands, Germany, Austria, and Hungary – along the Rhine, the Main, and the Danube rivers. See the [Study/Travel Program website](#) for full information.



These trips are very popular and fill up early, beginning with the highest cabin categories. Viking has extended their reduced \$25 registration deposit for those who register by May 31.

Contact Committee Chair Rod Dyck (rd2222@aol.com or 703-328-1660) with any questions or comments.

Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetings at a Glance

KPL = Kings Park Library, 9002 Burke Lake Rd., Burke

POC = Point of Contact

Bridge – Wednesday, May 24 at Thomas Jefferson Library, and Thursday, June 8 at Mason District Governmental Center, both from 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. All levels of player are welcome. For more information, click [here](#). POC Bob Huley, roberthuley@cox.net

Favorite Books – Thursday, June 15, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at KPL, "Deacon King Kong" by James McBride (Fiction). POC Lynne Smaldone, smaldonega@hotmail.com

Financial Discussion Group – discontinued until new leader is found.

Please consider volunteering. Contact Derick Malis, derickmalis@gmail.com

Foodies & Friends – Wednesday, June 21, 12:30 p.m. – See article on next page for details.

Mystery Books – Monday, June 5, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at KPL, "Outsider" by Linda Castillo. No meetings in July or August. Our September 4 book will be "Basket Case" by Carl Hiaasen. POC Mary Lu Bednarsky, mlbednarsky@gmail.com

Photography – Friday, June 16, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at KPL

New members are always welcome. Cell phone cameras are fine. Normally meets the third Friday of every month. Contact Buck Myers, hbm@hbmphoto.com

Tabletop Games – Tuesday, May 23 (Swoop) and Tuesday, June 27 (game to be determined). Both meetings from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at KPL. All are welcome. POC Mary Lu Bednarsky, mlbednarsky@gmail.com

Foodies & Friends

Wednesday, June 21, 12:30 p.m.

Kazan Restaurant

6813 Redmond Dr., McLean



Foodies & Friends will be sampling the cuisine of Turkey this month. Please join us at **Kazan Restaurant**, a family-owned Turkish eatery which, since

opening its doors in 1980, has become a Washington institution serving delicious and unique dishes from the region. The colorful blues, greens, and golds that fill the Kazan dining room are welcoming. Kazan's menu balances spicy with savory, ensuring that there is something available for all tastes and preferences.

One of Kazan's signature dishes is its interpretation of Doner Kebab, offered only on certain days of the week. (Yes, we will be visiting on one of those days). While lamb dominates the entrée menu, with the most popular being a spicy lamb chop served with rice pilaf and yogurt sauce, there are options for vegetarians, too.

The Washington Post noted, "When you order the house special orange baklava at Kazan's, you'll enjoy a bit of royal dessert history. It's the same creation that Queen Elizabeth II proclaimed as her favorite during a 1971 state visit to Turkey. Restaurant owner Zeynel Abidin Uzun can attest to this, because he made it for her as a young chef at the famous Topkapi Palace Restaurant in Istanbul."

You can check out the menu and pricing on Kazan's website [here](#). Parking is easy and the restaurant is accessible. RSVP to Patti Volz (pvolz63@gmail.com) by June 19. We look forward to seeing you there!

Cultural Excursions

Additional information on excursions is available on LLI's website [here](#). Questions? Contact Carol Fagnani (see member directory).

Tudor Place and Dumbarton Oaks

Wednesday, May 31, 11:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Experience the historic gardens of Tudor Place and Dumbarton Oaks in Georgetown. The \$132 price includes coach, entrance, tea, and tour. Note that as of this newsletter press time, this trip is full; however, there is a wait list you may sign up for.

Gari Melchers Home & Studio and the Belmont Estate in Falmouth, VA

Thursday, June 29, 9:15 a.m. (for carpool); 10:30 a.m. tour; 12:30 lunch



Belmont, home of American artist Gari Melchers (1860-1932), is a 27-acre estate featuring an historic home, art studio and galleries, tours, gardens, historic buildings, and several miles of walking trails.

Gari Melchers built a reputation as a painter of everyday life. There are more than 1,600 paintings on exhibit. His paintings are also on display in prominent museums worldwide. Click [here](#) for more about the life of this artist and his Falmouth home and studio, and [here](#) for more info about and to register for this outing.

Admission is \$12, payable at the site; lunch (optional) at your own cost at Amy's Café in Fredericksburg after the home, studio, and estate visit. This is a meetup; you're welcome to ride with Judy Robison or Carol Fagnani. The leader for this excursion is Judy (contact info is available in the online LLI directory).

Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024) Budget

Approved by the LLI Board of Directors on May 12, 2023

<u>Account Description</u>	<u>FY 2024 Budget</u>
Income	
Dues Income	\$33,000
Social Events (Winter Party)	\$3,100
Class Fees	\$1,200
Interest	\$2,700
Total Income	\$40,000
Expenses	
Administrative Staff	\$21,712
Financial System	\$500
Conferences/Retreats	\$300
Honoraria	\$450
Insurance	\$1,600
Forum Rental	\$1,200
Classroom Rental	\$1,690
Office Supplies	\$800
Outside Printing	\$100
Postage/Mail	\$600
Teaching Materials	\$1,200
Web Maintenance	\$1,600
Web Support	\$1,000
Credit Card Expense	\$900
Refreshments	\$200
Miscellaneous	\$150
Membership Outreach	\$750
Social Events (Winter Party)	\$3,100
Taxes and Fees	\$50
Total Expenses	\$37,902
Net Income	\$2,098