

Mechanics'

www.milibrary.org

VOL. 2, NO. 6 JUNE 2012

EVENTS & SPECIAL PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHT



Saturday, June 16, 7:00 pm

11th Annual Bloomsday Celebration

This literary celebration held around the world with readings and performances, pays tribute to the day that James Joyce's majestic novel *Ulysses* takes place and the day he met his wife Nora Barnacle. The 800 page novel was first published in its entirety by Sylvia Beach, owner of Shakespeare & Company book store in Paris on February 2, 1922. Censored in the U.S. for its vivid,

often bawdy descriptions, the ban was lifted in 1933 and it is now considered to be one of the most important modernist novels of its time.

Full listing on page 2

CLASS SATURDAY JUNE 30, 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM



How To Get Your Novel Published

Taught by Jay Schaefer, editor, and Laurie Fox, literary agent, this class demystifies the publishing industry and reveals the best way to find a publisher, how agents and publishers evaluate your manuscript, and the advantages and disadvantages of self-publishing. You do not need to have completed a manuscript to benefit from the class. All attendees will receive a copy of *The Essential Guide to Getting Your Book Published*. Fee \$75 for MI members/\$95 for non-members. For more information contact Taryn Edwards 415.393.0103, tedwards@milibrary.org

NEW WRITERS' GROUP

SHARON MILLER, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Biography/Memoir/History/Non-Fiction

There is growing interest from member-writers to form additional writers' groups with specific focus. If you are seeking support in the writing of a biography or memoir – from research to writing, or with the process of writing a non-fiction book of an academic or technical nature, please contact Sharon Miller at smiller@millibrary.org or 415-393-0113. Mechanics' Institute writers' groups are for members only, and meet at times determined by the writers who participate in each group. The Library offers space to meet, a collection of support materials for writers, individual webpages in *The Mirror* on the Library's website, reviewing by the member-panel of professional reviewers, and programming to support writers interest and education.

Introducing the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

PAMELA TROY, EVENTS ASSISTANT

n 1831, a ship arrived in the Australian colony of New South Wales bearing a freight of about 50 Scottish "mechanics" - carpenters, bricklayers, blacksmiths, and other skilled tradesmen. These men had come to Sydney with their families and a group of teachers to build and staff a Presbyterian academy they planned to call "The Australian College." A little over a year later one of the teachers, a London based minister named Henry Carmichael, became the first Vice-President of the newly founded Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts. The colony's governor, Sir Richard Bourke served as patron and its Surveyor-General, Sir Thomas Mitchell, its first president There were some rocky years and some shifts in priorities, but today the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts thrives in its 10 story building at 280 Pitt Street and is still faithful to its original mission as an educational and cultural resource.

(continued on page 3)

| Inside | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Events & Special Programs | 2 |
| CinemaLit | 3 |
| Library Classes & Programs | 4 |
| Book Discussions | 5 |
| Institute News | 6 |
| Chess | 7 |
| Library News | 8 |

EVENTS



Thursday, June 14, 6:00 pm FLAG DAY!

America the Philosophical (Knopf) CARLIN ROMANO

Pulitzer Prize finalist and award-winning book critic Carlin Romano challenges the widely held belief that our nation is an anti–intellectual society. He argues that we are still the country of new ideas, public debate and engagement, especially with a plethora of talk shows, social media, blogs, and the new emerging "cyberphilosophy." He introduces us to the big thinkers who have shaped American life, from historical figures like William James and Ralph Waldo Emerson, to modern cultural critics such as Kenneth Burke and Edward Said, to intellectual mavericks including Cornel West, Susan Sontag, Anne Waters, and Richard Mohr, who have broadened the boundaries of American thought. Members Free; Public \$12





Saturday, June 16, 7:00 pm performance (café opens at 6:30 pm)

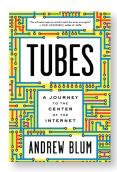
11th Annual Bloomsday Celebration

The Voices of James Joyce: Readings from Ulysses and Beyond

Sojourn though the streets of Dublin on June 16, 1904 with protagonist Leopold Bloom, as described by James Joyce in his quintessential novel *Ulysses*. The evening features dramatic readings that give voice to the book's well known characters, and selected readings from Joyce's other novels such as *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* and *Dubliners*. Traditional Irish music, song and dance enhance this convivial celebration. Performances by actors Bruce Bierman, Renee Gibbons, John Ilyin, Esther Mulligan and Laura Sheppard are accompanied by musicians Rebecca Kleinmann (Irish flute) and Darcy Noonan (fiddle). Stage direction and set design by Kathleen Blake. Our special Bloom's Menu is available throughout the evening. Bloomsday will surely delight your senses and literary sensibilities!



Members \$15; Public \$20 Reservations Required



Friday, June 22, 12:30 pm (café opens at noon)

Tubes: A Journey to the Center of the Internet (Ecco/HarperCollins) ANDREW BLUM Everyone uses the internet but few people understand how it actually works. Andrew Blum's engaging narrative takes us on a journey around the world (and the under-world)

Blum's engaging narrative takes us on a journey around the world (and the under-world) to discover how it all functions. From the room in L.A. where the Internet began to the busiest streets in Manhattan as new fiber optic cable is laid down; from the coast of Portugal as a new transatlantic undersea cable that connects West Africa and Europe is laid down to the Great Pyramids of our time, the monumental data centers that Google and Facebook have built in the wilds of Oregon — Blum visits them all to chronicle the story of the Internet's development and how these infrastructures work.



Members Free; Public \$12

CINEMALIT

CURATED & HOSTED BY MICHAEL FOX

Fridays: Cafe 5:30 pm; Program 6:00 pm. Members Free; Public Suggested Donation \$10

SUMMER PREVIEW: FAIRY TALES AND FLIGHTS OF FANTASY



Friday, July 13

Amelie (2001)

DIRECTED BY JEAN-PIERRE JEUNET

Audrey Tautou, Mathieu Kassovitz

A young woman who delights in surreptitiously helping others is unexpectedly rewarded with a paramour in this sumptuous seventeen-layer cake of Parisian whimsy.



Friday, July 27
Excaliber (1981)
DIRECTED BY JOHN BOORMAN
Nigel Terry, Helen Mirren
The best film ever made about King Arthur and his quest for the Holy Grail embraces the mythic aspects of the medieval legend.



Friday, August 10
The Princess Bride (1987)
DIRECTED BY ROB REINER
Cary Elwes, Robin Wright
A charming, comic tale of storybook heroes, monsters and a timeless love affair.



Friday, August 24
The Company of Wolves (1984)
DIRECTED BY JOHN MADDEN
Directed by Neil Jordan
Angela Lansbury, David Warner
The provocative undercurrent of this smart, stylish dream about little girls and werewolves is sexual awakening, with all its fears and desires.

Sydney's MI

(continued from page 1)

Mechanics' Institutes were a 19th century phenomenon that began in Scotland and spread to England, Australia, and much of the Englishspeaking world. Surviving institutes are rather like seeds from a single plant, sown in different countries and, over the years, growing in slightly different directions. In many ways, the SMSA is similar to San Francisco's Mechanics' Institute. The Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts occupies three floors and rents out offices in the rest of a downtown building. It boasts a venerable lending library (the oldest in Australia,) located on its second floor. It hosts book groups, author events, and workshops, and offers reasonably priced short term rental venues.

And last year, it acquired an exciting new addition, The Tom Keneally Centre. Famed Australian writer Tom Keneally, author of *Schindler's Ark* (which was later made into the film Schindler's List) has donated his own, 2,500 book library to the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, along with other memorabilia. Now the SMSA has, along with its four meeting rooms and theater, an attractive and intimate space for book launches, writing classes, and other literary events.

Their building is more modern, and there are some slight differences in emphasis, but the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts and the San Francisco Mechanics' Institute have the important things in common. Each is a significant historical treasure in a great city.



(left) Author Tom Keneally photo courtesy of SMSA

CLASSES AT THE LIBRARY

The Library offers tools useful for independent business people. Whether it be finding out more about your competitors, sharpening your financial expertise, or understanding how people are using social media to find your website, our workshops are designed to assist members' business acumen.

Thursday, June 7, 10:00 am

Gale Business & Company Resource Center

Learn to use this comprehensive database for a wealth of information on on businesses both private and small, from local to global: from news articles to investment reports, market share data to industry overviews, as well as company rankings. Included in this workshop is information about associations, one more way to learn about others in your field.

Thursday, June 21, 10:00 am Company and Industry Information on the Web



Included in this workshop are local and global sources of company information. Learn about your competitors by location and industrywide. Included are ReferenceUSA, S&P NetAdvantage, Hoover's, periodical and newspaper index sources, and one print local resource: the Bay Area Book of Lists.

Thursday, June 7, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Managing Your Business' Web Presence.

Part 1: Getting Started with Social Media

Facebook. Twitter. Google+. Tumblr. Flickr. Instagram. MySpace. LinkedIn. YouTube. Vimeo. Blogger. Wordpress. Which social media platforms are right for your small business? In this class we'll examine various social media networks from a small business perspective. We'll talk about what social media is right for your business, and what you need to do to get your business connected to your target audiences.











Thursday, June 21, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Managing Your Business' Web Presence. Part 2: What Next?

So you've set up the Facebook page, and you're Twittering and Tumbling away. How do you manage your social media presence? In this session we'll talk about and examine social media best practices for small businesses. We will also look at social review sites such as Yelp and Google Places.

(continued on page 5)

Information & registration: 415.393.0102 or reference@milibrary.org. Advance registration is required. Note start time for each class.

AUTHORS' CARNIVAL

Readings, workshops, and camaraderie in celebration of our members' creative achievements.



Wednesday, June 20, Noon

Making Time for Writing with Mary Rakow

BOARD ROOM



So you've decided you want to be a writer! The key to any writer's success is shaping your life to support your work. Come to this quick and practical lunchtime presentation for tips on shaping your life

as a writer: time, space, habits, rituals, techniques, utilizing music and art for your work and overcoming the dreaded "writer's block." Learn to create what you want to become! To reserve your spot contact Taryn Edwards 415.393.0103 or tedwards@milibrary.org. Members Free; Public \$12.

Monday, June 25, 5:30 pm

21st-Century Publishing: Report from the Front Lines
4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

What's your favorite way to read? Paperback, hardback, or e-book? Kindle, Nook, or iPad? Is there a shortcut through the million-book maze to the one book you want? If you're a writer, what's the best route for your story to find its audience? Join our panel of experts who bring news from the wild frontiers of publishing: literary agent April Eberhardt, librarian Sharon Miller and five indie publishers on their latest books and adventures. To reserve your spot contact Taryn Edwards 415.393.0103 or tedwards@milibrary.org.

Members and Guests Free.

Continued on back page

Classes at the Library

(continued from page 4)

Tuesday, June 12, 10:00 am Repeated on Tuesday, June 19, 5:30 pm Google Analytics

If you have a business website and want to understand how your customers are using it, now is the time to learn about a powerful, free web-analytic service. Participants will learn to set-up Google Analytics and use it to find out where your web traffic is coming from and how potential customers are using your site. Tips on how to use analytics to improve your site will also be discussed.

Tuesday, June 26, 10:00 am ValueLine Research Center

We no longer receive print copies of *The Value Line Investment Survey*; but we are subscribing to the web-based format of this popular newsletter, one of the most widely consulted and highly regarded investment information publications. Learn to find objective research, insightful analysis, commentary, and proven price projections and recommendations. The online version covers more than 5,000 publicly traded companies, and is accessible from your home or office, or in the Library.

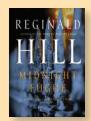
NEWS ABOUT THE CATALOG

BOBBIE MONZON, SERIALS AND REFERENCE LIBRARIAN

You may have noticed a "Request" button in our online catalog. When searching for a title this option appears in the online record. Until now that button offered little reward, but now you have the option to click that button and place a hold on any item not yet checked out.

Our online Request system places holds on materials that are currently on the shelf (excluding new books). We pull the available requested materials everyday at 12 noon. Once the item is ready for check out you will receive a notice to come pick it up at the 2nd floor Circulation Desk.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS



Monday, June 11, Noon; drop-ins welcome Brown Bag Mystery Readers' Book Group

Brown Bag Mystery Readers' Book Group Midnight Fugue

REGINALD HILL

The recent death of Reginald Hill inspires us to read the last adventure of Daziel and Pascoe, in book number 25 of the series, published in 2009. The "Fat Man" Dalziel and his mild-mannered foil, Pascoe, are solving their last crime. If you are a serious fan of the duo you may want to re-read the first book of the series, A Clubbable Woman, which this group discussed in August 2009.



Tuesday June 19, Noon; drop-ins welcome

Fiction You Wish You Had Read Billy Budd, Foretopman

HERMAN MELVILLE

Found unfinished when Melville died in 1891, this novella was completed by Raymond Weaver in 1924, and later rewritten by others. Meet, Billy, an innocent, illegitimate orphan who is impressed into service in 1797 aboard HMS Bellipotent.



Thursday, August 16, 6:00 pm; registration required Forgotten Classics

Sentimental Education

GUSTAVE FLAUBERT

You've read Madame Bovary, but have you read this book by Flaubert? Inspired by his school years in Paris, where he had a first-hand look at the Revolution, Flaubert eventually published this book in 1870. He described it: "I want to write the moral history of the men of my generation— or, more accurately, the history of their feelings. It's a book about love, about passion; but passion such as can exist nowadays—that is to say, inactive."

Information & registration: 415.393.0113 or Sharon Miller <u>smiller@milibrary.org</u> All readings are available at the 2nd floor Circulation desk. All book discussions are held in the 4th floor Board Room and are free except where indicated.

Neil Falconer Retires From the Board

JIM FLACK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND JOHN DONALDSON, CHESS DIRECTOR

Neil Falcolner has retired from the Mechanics' Institute's Board of Trustees. He is the longest running trustee in MI's history, having served from 1973 to 2012, a total of 39 years. Watch for a feature article about Neil Falconer in the July newsletter.



(*left*) This photo was taken to commemorate the 1951 California Open Chess Tournament held September 1-3 in Santa Cruz, California. Neil Falconer won this event which made him the California champion for the year. He is the one standing in the middle row on the left side, with his hands on his hips, wearing an open light colored jacket. The woman right below him, seated to his left is Jacqueline Piatigorsky who celebrated her 100th birthday last fall. She played in the US Womens' Chess Championship in the 1950s and 60s and was a famous patron of the game.

(*right*) This 1991 photo of Neil and Susan Polgar was taken during the Pan Pacific Grandmaster Tournament organized by the Mechanic's Institute. Susan, or Zsuzsa as she was called then, is a former Women's World Champion. Neil was the leader of the M.I. organizing committee which made the 1987, 1991 and 1995 Pan Pacific events possible.



(*right*) Dating from around the year 2000, this photo is of Neil and Alex Stezepfandt, a young and talented chess champion. The photo was taken as a promotional shot for an Institute membership drive. Alex was about 10 years old at the time.



CHESS

ide Master Andy Lee of Berkeley and Expert Demetrius Goins of Oakland shared top honors in the 72-player Spring Tuesday Night Marathon which ended May1st. International Master Elliott Winslow, FIDE Master Frank Thornally, and Experts Todd Rumph and Jorge Lopez were just a half point behind their winning scores of 6.5 from 8. The Summer Marathon starts on May 22.



The 6th Annual Ray Schutt Memorial Blitz, held May 6th, was dominated by youth. Leading the charge of the young was 16-year-old Daniel Naroditsky who scored 9 ½ from 10 to take home the \$300 first prize ahead of four other International Masters. Tying for second with eight points were 14-year-old Yian

Liou, Dharim Bacus and 11(!)-year-old Cameron Wheeler. The 43 participants in this 5-minute chess tournament were treated to a feast by the Schutt family which also sponsored the generous prize fund.

Photo of Andy Lee by Richard Shorman

Saturday Morning Chess Class for Kids

June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

TAUGHT BY M.I. GRANDMASTER-IN-RESIDENCE NICK DE FIRMIAN AND ANTHONY CORRALES

Chess for Women

Sundays, June 3, 10, 17, 24 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

TAUGHT BY EWELINA KRUBNIK

FUNDED BY A GIFT IN MEMORY OF R. MARTIN WISKEMANN

VISKEMANN

Tuesday Night Events

June 5, 12, 19, 26 5:15 pm - 6:25 pm

LECTURE BY IM JOHN DONALDSON

6:30 pm - 10:30 pm Summer Tuesday Night Marathon

Wednesday Night Blitz

June 6, 13, 20, 27 6:30 pm - 8:50 pm

DIRECTED BY JULES JELINEK

Thursday Night Lessons

June 7, 14, 21, 28 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

TAUGHT BY M.I. GRANDMASTER-IN-RESIDENCE NICK DEFIRMIAN

Tournaments

Saturday, June 2 10:00 am - 8:00 pm 12th Annual William Addison Memorial G/45

Saturday, June 9 10:00 am - 8:00 pm 49th Arthur Stamer Memorial

Sunday, June 10 10:00 am - 8:00 pm 49th Arthur Stamer Memorial

Saturday, June 16 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Children's Quad

Information & registration: 415.393.0110, chessroom@milibrary.org, or http://www.chessclub.org.



57 Post Street, San Francisco, CA 94104 www.milibrary.org

Important Numbers
Circulation: 415.393.0101
Reference: 415.393.0102
Reservation hotline: 415.393.0100
E-mail: reference@milibrary.org

Library Hours Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 9 pm Friday: 9 am - 6 pm Saturday: 10 am - 5 pm Sunday: 1 pm - 5 pm

Taryn Edwards, Interim Editor

The Moment of Truth: Confronting America's National Debt

SHARON MILLER, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

re you disappointed with the lack of civic discourse? Join fellow members in a Citizens' Jury to wrestle with current issues of national interest. This moderated seminar, first in a projected series, will study the Simpson-Bowles and Domenici-Rivlin reports, debate and deliberate alternative solutions, and seek to arrive at statements of agreement for governmental action to reduce the national debt.



MI members Avery Chope, retired from a career in banking and finance that spanned the globe, and Steve Weiner, retired Associate Dean of the Graduate School of Public Policy, UC Berkeley, are preparing a four-session seminar to offer members of differing opinions an opportunity to study the issue and discuss the merits of proposed solutions. Participants who wish to do so will be encouraged to write a personal opinion statement for possible publication. The Library will make copies of the reports for all participants: *The National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility* and *Reform: The Moment of Truth* (Simpson-Bowles) and *Restoring America's Future: Reviving the Economy, Cutting Spending and Debt, and Creating a Simple, Pro-Growth Tax System* (Domenici-Rivlin).

Mondays, July 9, 16, 23, 30, 4:00 - 6:00 pm.
Fourth Floor Board Room, Mechanics' Institute.
For a full description please see www.milibrary.org/momentoftruth.
Please contact Sharon Miller at smiller@milibrary.org/ / 415.393.0113.

AUTHORS' CARNIVAL

(continued from page 4)

Tuesday, July 10, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm Saturday, August 4, 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Financial District Walking Tour



MEET IN THE 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Back by popular demand! Experience the city from a unique perspective! With special emphasis on the Mechanics' Institute and its place in the socio-cultural scene of the city, veteran tour leader Rick Evans will take you

on a memorable two-and-a-half-hour walking expedition of the Financial District. Discover the architectural beauty of landmark buildings, hard-to-find rooftop gardens, and unique open spaces that you've probably never noticed! The tour will meet in the 4th floor meeting room and end South of Market. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.

Fee \$30.00 per person in cash collected at the beginning of the tour. Tour leaves promptly at starting time. For reservations, contact Taryn Edwards at tedwards@milibrary.org or 415.393.0103.

Thursday, July 19, 6:00 pm
Scenes From the Life of Julia Morgan
A Read-It-Yourself experience with Judith Offer



4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Wish you could have been an actor? Member playwright Judith Offer will lead a reading of her carefully researched play, *Scenes From the Life of Julia Morgan*. This is an opportunity for

MI members to test, hone, or revive acting skills while having fun learning about the life of Julia Morgan, California's first woman architect. If you would like to listen, or take part as a reader please contact Taryn Edwards 415.393.0103 or tedwards@milibrary.org to reserve your spot. Members Free; Public \$12.