



## Ten Restaurants that Changed America

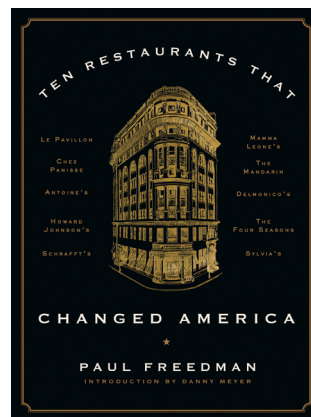
Author Paul Freedman in conversation with *SF Chronicle* Food & Wine Editor, Paolo Lucchesi



Paul Freedman  
Photo Credit: © Bonnie Roe

Thursday, October 20 | 12:30 pm  
4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

From Delmonico's to Chez Panisse, *Ten Restaurants that Changed America* is a daring and original history of dining out in America as told through ten legendary restaurants. Combining an historian's rigor with a foodie's palate, author Paul Freedman reveals how the history of our restaurants reflects the history of America itself. Lavishly designed with more than 100 photographs and images, including original menus, this book is a significant and highly entertaining social history.



**Paul Freedman** is a history professor at Yale University. The editor of the ICP Award-winning *Food: The History of Taste* and the author of *Out of the East: Spices and the Medieval Imagination*, he lives in Pelham, New York.

**Paolo Lucchesi** served as the founding editor of *Eater San Francisco* and *Eater National* before joining *The San Francisco Chronicle* as its "Inside Scoop" columnist. He is the Food & Wine editor of *The Chronicle*.

**Members Free; Public \$15 Register at [milibrary.org/events](http://milibrary.org/events) or 415.393.0102**



Paolo Lucchesi



### Giving Back to the Community: SF-Marin Food Bank

The Mechanics' Institute is partnering with the San Francisco-Marin Food Bank by sponsoring a food drive this October. Please donate to our barrel located in the lobby. Most needed foods include: Peanut Butter, Low Sugar Cereal, Whole Grain Rice, Pasta and Oats, Low Sodium Soups & Stews, Tuna & Canned Meats, Canned Fruits and Vegetables. Thank you for your generous participation! If you have questions, please contact Taryn Edwards at [tedwards@milibrary.org](mailto:tedwards@milibrary.org) or 415-393-0103.

# Programs at the Mechanics' Institute

Call 415.393.0102 or visit [milibrary.org/events](http://milibrary.org/events) to see what's coming up next and to make reservations.



**Tuesday, October 18 | 12:30 pm**

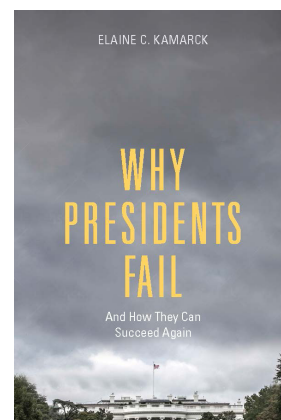
4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

## ***Why Presidents Fail: And How They Can Succeed Again***

**With Author Elaine C. Kamarck**

Author Elaine C. Kamarck explores the failings of three presidents; Jimmy Carter's attempt to rescue the Iranian hostages, George W. Bush's handling of 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina, and Barack Obama's botched rollout of the Affordable Care Act. Using a bipartisan analysis of how and why each fiasco occurred, author Elaine C. Kamarck takes lessons from these failures to help future presidents handle the challenges of implementation and create a world where presidents are expected to succeed.

**Reservations required. MI members free; Public \$15**



**Friday, October 21 | 12:00 pm**

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

## ***Writers' Lunch with Susie Hara***

**An Introduction to "Kinetic Writing"**

Susie Hara's novel, *Finder of Lost Objects*, was a finalist for a Lambda Literary Award and received an International Latino Book Award. Michelle Richmond called it "a smart detective story, a meditation on romantic and familial love, and a celebration of the lesser-known corners of the author's city, San Francisco." Susie will introduce you to Kinetic Writing – a technique for enlivening your writing process with strategies for tapping into the body's sensory know-how. She'll share a couple of writing exercises, so come prepared to do some writing during Writers' Lunch. Bring a notebook!

**No reservations required. Free**



**Thursday, October 27 | 6:00 pm**

4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

## ***Free to Make: How the Maker Movement is Changing our Schools, our Jobs, and our Minds***

**With Author Dale Dougherty**

In the ten years since the first Maker Faire in the San Francisco Bay Area, Maker Faires have exploded into a global sensation, with dozens of off-shoots around the world, from New York to Shanghai. Dale Dougherty—founder of Maker Media—has been on the front lines of this worldwide renaissance of creating, designing, inventing, and personalizing. In *Free to Make*, he acts as a tour guide to the phenomenon we now call the Maker Movement.

**Reservations required. MI members free; Public \$15**

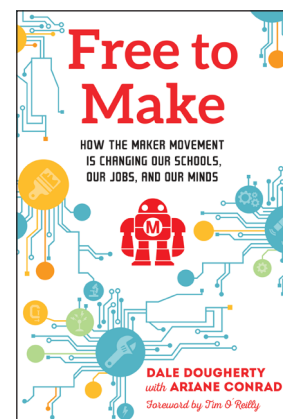


Photo Credit: © Becca Henry

# Professional Workshops

Call 415.393.0102 or visit [milibrary.org/events](http://milibrary.org/events) to register for workshops with professional writers and teachers, hosted by Mechanics' Institute.

~~Saturday, October 1 | 1:00 – 4:00 pm~~

~~4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM~~

~~**Plots and Subplots in the Novel** a Workshop with Jessica Levine~~

CANCELED



Are you stumped by a plot or its subplots? Join Jessica Levine in an examination of E.M. Forster's *Room with a View* and F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* in order to glean basic story structure and determine the relationship between the novels' plots and subplots. Learn about beginnings, middles, endings, and pacing as well as how film affects the contemporary novel. There will be time for several in-class writing exercises and brainstorming. This workshop is suitable for writers at all levels.

Jessica Levine spoke to a rapt audience at the Mechanics' Institute's May Writers' Lunch on Turning Life Into Fiction. She is the author of the novel *The Geometry of Love*, selected as a Top Women's Fiction Title for 2015 by Booklist which called it "an outstanding first novel."

She has also published *Delicate Pursuit: Discretion in Henry James and Edith Wharton*. Her stories, non-fiction, and poetry have appeared in many publications including *The Huffington Post*, *North American Review*, and *The Southern Review*. She holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of California, Berkeley, and is a former Mellon Fellow. You can learn more about her at [www.jessicalevine.com](http://www.jessicalevine.com)

**Reservations required. MI members \$45; Public \$55 | To register, visit: [www.milibrary.org/events](http://www.milibrary.org/events)**

**Saturday, October 22 | 10:30 am – 2:30 pm**

3RD FLOOR CLASSROOM B

**Get the Grant!** a Workshop with Lyzette Wanzer



Get the Grant! is open to writers who plan to apply to the Literature Cultural Equity Grant, the Literature Investing in Artists grant, or for a writers' residency program. Those applying for other writers' grants are welcome, though the focus will be on these specific grant opportunities.

We will cover:

- Applicant qualifications
- Defining a clear, feasible goal that costs a specific amount of money
- How to demonstrate a rising trajectory (remembering that most people who are awarded local grants are on their way up, not already "there")
- Tips for writing clear, concise statements
- Using headings and "buckets" to make your statement navigable
- The dreaded Project Statement, Work Plan, or Goals and Objectives portions of grant/residency applications

Lyzette Wanzer is a San Francisco fiction writer and essayist who recently hosted an outstanding Writers' Lunch at the Mechanics' Institute on professionalizing one's writing practice. She received her MFA in Creative Writing from Mills College. A flash fiction connoisseur and essay aficionado, her work has appeared in *Callaloo*, *Tampa Review*, *The MacGuffin*, *Ampersand Review*, *Journal of Advanced Development*, *Journal of Experimental Fiction*, *Pleiades*, *Flashquake*, *Glossalia Flash Fiction*, *Potomac Review*, *International Journal on Literature and Theory*, *Fringe Magazine*, *Aesthetica Magazine*, and others. She is a contributor to *The Chalk Circle: Intercultural Prizewinning Essays* and *642 Tiny Things to Write About*. Lyzette has been awarded writing residencies at the Blue Mountain Center (NY), Kimmel Harding Center for the Arts (NE), Playa Summer Lake (OR), Horned Dorset Colony (NY), and Virginia Center for Creative Arts. She is the recipient of an Investing in Artists grant from the Center for Cultural Innovation (2012), an Individual Artist Commission grant from San Francisco Arts Commission (2013), and two Professional Development Grants from the Creative Capacity Fund (2012, 2013). With the support of the grants, Lyzette is currently at work on an essay collection entitled *Gelatin Prints*.

**Reservations required. MI members \$85; Public \$100 | To register, visit: [www.milibrary.org/events](http://www.milibrary.org/events)**

# LITQUAKE at Mechanics' Institute

San Francisco's foremost literary festival, now in its 17th year, will be held October 7th through October 15th.

Mechanics' Institute serves as one of the central venues for many great programs, listed here. For complete descriptions of these events and more, visit [www.litquake.org](http://www.litquake.org).

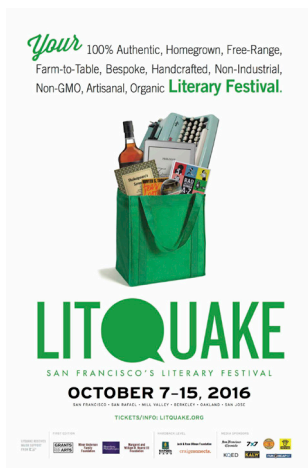
Watch for an exciting week of author events, panels, and conversations. Be part of this literary movable feast!

### DETAILS:

Reserve your spot for these events at [www.litquake.org](http://www.litquake.org).

**All of the listed programs will take place on the 4th floor in the M.I. meeting room.**

**Events which do not require reservations will welcome attendees on a first come, first served basis, so arrive early to ensure that you get a seat!**



**Saturday, October 8** *Off The Richter Scale Series*

**11:30 am – 4:30 pm**

Jungle of Stone: Discovering the Maya with William Carlsen ~ Anon Was a Woman: A Celebration of Female Poets ~ Debut Fiction: Daring and Inventive First-Time Novelists ~ Each Unhappy Family: Helen Klein Ross and Elizabeth Percer

**No reservations required; Free**

**Sunday, October 9** *Off The Richter Scale Series*

**11:30 am – 4:30 pm**

That Really Happened: Four Memoirists Share Stories ~ Making Literature Now: The Art and Business of Contemporary Literature ~ Equality or Progress: Urban Development in the Bay Area ~ Latina Fiction: Books, Social Justice, and Equality

**No reservations required; Free**

**Wednesday, October 12** *Literary Lunch: Miguel de Cervantes Co-presented by Stanford Humanities*

**12:30 pm; doors open at noon**

Litquake's inaugural brown-bag lunch lecture features Stanford professor Roland Greene, speaking on the Renaissance and baroque worlds of Miguel de Cervantes.

**No reservations required; Free**

Wednesday, October 12 *In My Humble Opinion Peter Orner and Mark Greif on the art of essay*

**6:30 pm; doors open at 6:00**

San Francisco Chronicle books editor John McMurtrie will moderate a provocative conversation with two masters of the essay form.

**Reservations Required; Public \$15; Mechanics' Institute Members \$10 with code mechLIB; Tickets at [www.litquake.org](http://www.litquake.org)**

**Thursday, October 13** *The Good, the Bad, and the Bestseller* A Panel Discussion  
Moderated by Ransom Stephens

**6:30 pm; doors open at 6:00**

A publisher with a track record for calling bestsellers, a literary critic, an expert on the neuroscience of value, and a neuroanthropologist discuss the subjectivity of art, what constitutes literary taste, and your questions as well.

**No reservations required; Free**

**Friday, October 14** *Global Fiction: Litquake's International Night, Co-presented by Transit Books, Goethe-Institut, Cultural Services of the Consulate General of France, and Mechanics' Institute*

**6:30 pm – 8:30 pm; doors open at 6:00 for special reception**

Litquake convenes a stellar selection of authors from Australia, Ecuador, France, and Romania, to discuss and read from their latest works. **LIMITED SEATING.**

**No reservations required; Free**

**Friday, October 14 *Art of Writing* Panel Discussions 11:30 am – 4:00 pm**

Art of the Young Adult Novel ~ Art of the Thriller ~ Art of the Novel

**Reservations Required; Tickets and Pricing at [www.litquake.org](http://www.litquake.org)**



# Chess

INTERNATIONAL MASTER JOHN DONALDSON, DIRECTOR OF THE CHESS ROOM

## Chess Club News ~ October Events

### ---BREAKING NEWS---

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Captained by John Donaldson, the U.S. Chess Team participated in the 42nd Chess Olympiad in Baku, Azerbaijan, winning the United States' first gold since 1976! Mechanics' Institute member Sam Shankland also represented the M.I. in this team victory. Congratulate them both on a well-earned win!



.....

Josiah Stearman of Martinez has won or tied for first place in the past four Tuesday Night Marathon tournaments. The 12-year-old Master has made tremendous improvement the past six months and is now rated 2316 by the U.S. Chess Federation, making him the 3rd ranked player for his age in the United States. Josiah has been playing tournament chess since he was five years old!



Josiah Stearman ponders his next move.  
Photo credit: Anna Nolan for *The Daily Californian*

### PLAY

#### Tournaments

Saturday, October 1  
10:00 am – 7:00 pm  
16th Annual J.J. Dolan Memorial G/45

Saturday, October 29  
10:00 am – 7:00 pm  
45th Annual Carroll Capps Memorial

Sunday, October 30  
10:00 am – 7:00 pm  
45th Annual Carroll Capps Memorial

#### Tuesday Night Events

October 18, 25  
5:15 pm – 6:15 pm  
Lecture by John Donaldson  
6:30 pm – 10:30 pm  
Fall Tuesday Night Marathon

#### Wednesday Night Blitz

October 5, 12, 19, 26  
6:30 pm – 8:50 pm  
Directed by Jules Jelinek

### LEARN

#### Chess for Women

Sundays, October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
11:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Taught by Ewelina Krubnik

#### Saturday Morning All Ages Chess Class

October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
11:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Taught by International Master Elliott Winslow

Information: 415.393.0110 or [chessclub.org](http://chessclub.org).

# Librarian-Led Classes

Classes are **free** and for **members only**. **Pre-registration** is strongly recommended; if space is available, members may join a class without registering. *Classes without sufficient registration may be canceled.* For additional information, contact Heather at 415.857.6727 or [hterrell@milibrary.org](mailto:hterrell@milibrary.org), or visit [milibrary.org/classes](http://milibrary.org/classes).

## Tech Office Hours

**Wednesday, October 5 | 10:00 -- 4:00 pm** 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Reserve a 30-minute appointment to work one-on-one with a librarian. We can help with questions regarding your email, ebook readers, making the best use of the Library's online features, safely managing your social media accounts, or other computer- or technology-related questions. To register, contact Heather Terrell with available time frames and a brief description of your question or problem by emailing [hterrell@milibrary.org](mailto:hterrell@milibrary.org). **Walk-ins are welcome, but registration is strongly recommended to ensure a spot.**



## Mergent Intellect

**Thursday, October 6 | 12:15 pm** 3RD FLOOR CLASSROOM A

Looking for timely business information? Developing a list of key contacts for sales or as a potential employer? Researching competitive intelligence or exploring industry developments? Through sample searches, class attendees will discover the breadth of information that can be retrieved using Hoover's Mergent Intellect – a powerful upgrade from Hoover's basic database offering.



## Second Tuesday TED Talk: Topic TBD

**Tuesday, October 11 | 12:00 pm** 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Bring your lunch and curiosity to talk about ideas, stories, and concepts with fellow Mechanics' Institute members and staff. An informal discussion will follow the viewing. Walk-ins welcome. **No registration required.**



## Information Sources on Private Companies

**Thursday, October 20 | 12:15 pm** 3RD FLOOR CLASSROOM A

It can be a challenge to find information on companies that are not publicly traded, but did you know that Mechanics' Institute offers access to databases and other sources that can help in your search for information? This tutorial demonstrates various web-based and print resources which provide relevant information.



## Getting Started: Blogging Series, II

**Tuesday, October 25 | 6:00 pm** 3RD FLOOR CLASSROOM A

In this beginner class, we'll cover choosing a platform and setting up your blog, using Wordpress as an example for the demos. We'll discuss design and content, and this class will include several examples of successful, well-designed blogs to help you make choices about your site.



## NaNoWriMo Kickoff

**Friday, October 28 | 12:00 pm** 3RD FLOOR CLASSROOM A

Are you using the month of November to kick your writing practice into high gear with **Na(tional)No(vel)Wri(ting)Mo(nth)?** Attend this librarian-led introduction to the annual writing challenge, with tips on planning your work. This class includes a tutorial on how to use our Mechanics' Institute online community space to keep up with one another's progress, find inspiration and encouragement, and look forward to weekly motivational postings. **Register at [milibrary.org/classes](http://milibrary.org/classes).**

# Library Book Discussion Groups

Book discussion groups select, read, and discuss books of their choosing. New members are welcome. Please note that **Book Groups are not author events and authors will not be present during the discussions.** Unless otherwise indicated, pre-registration is not required, and book groups are for members only. A copy of each book is held at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor circulation desk for one-week checkout. For additional information, contact Heather at 415.857.6727 or [hterrell@milibrary.org](mailto:hterrell@milibrary.org), or visit [milibrary.org/events/book-group-meetings](http://milibrary.org/events/book-group-meetings). (Book descriptions courtesy of the publishers.)

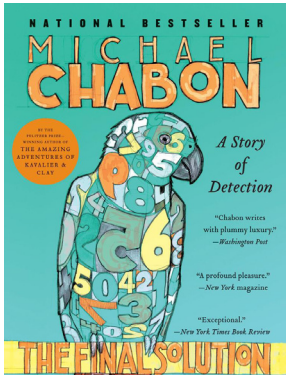
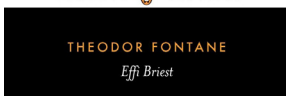


## World Literature Book Group Wednesday, October 12 | 6:45 pm

4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

**Effi Briest** BY THEODOR FONTANE

This luminous tale of a socially suitable but emotionally disastrous match between an enchanting seventeen-year-old and an austere, workaholic civil servant twice her age, is considered by many to be the pinnacle of the nineteenth-century German novel. This is the 2nd of a two-part discussion, beginning with chapter 19.

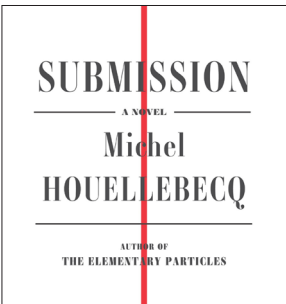


## Brown Bag Mystery Readers Monday, October 17 | noon

4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

**The Final Solution** BY MICHAEL CHABON

Retired to the English countryside, an eighty-nine-year-old man, rumored to be a once-famous detective, is more concerned with his beekeeping than with his fellow man. Into his life wanders Linus Steinman, nine years old and mute, who has escaped from Nazi Germany with his sole companion: an African gray parrot. What is the meaning of the mysterious strings of German numbers the bird spews out – a top-secret SS code? The keys to a series of Swiss bank accounts? Or do they hold a significance both more prosaic and far more sinister?



## World Literature Book Group Wednesday, October 26 | 6:45 pm

4TH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

**Submission** BY MICHEL HOUELLEBECQ

It's 2022. François is bored. He's a middle-aged lecturer at the New Sorbonne University and an expert on J. K. Huysmans, the famous nineteenth-century Decadent author. Meanwhile, it's election season. And although François feels "about as political as a bath towel," things are getting pretty interesting. In an alliance with the Socialists, France's new Islamic party sweeps to power, and François is offered an irresistible academic advancement, on the condition that he convert to Islam.



## Virginia Woolf Readers' Group

The Virginia Woolf Readers' Group will be on hiatus in October. On November 16th, the group will discuss two books: Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway* and Michael Cunningham's *The Hours*. Look forward to complex and spirited discussion!

## Registration Open: Walking Tours in November

For more  
information and to  
register, visit: [www.  
milibrary.org/events](http://www.milibrary.org/events)

### Walking Tour of San Francisco's Chinatown

November 2

2:00 – 4:30

\$45 per person

### Financial District Architectural Walking Tour

November 3

10:00 – 12:30

\$45 per person

### San Francisco's Mid-City

November 3

10:00 – 1:00

\$50 per person

(includes MUNI  
transit and Mission  
admittance)





# CinemaLit *Power Plays*

CURATED & HOSTED BY MICHAEL FOX

Fridays | 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM | Cafe Opens at 5:30pm | Program at 6pm

Members Free | Public Suggested Donation \$10



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Courtesy Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

**October 7**

**The Best Man** (1964) 102 min.

DIRECTED BY FRANKLIN J. SCHAFFNER

*Starring Henry Fonda, Cliff Robertson*

William Russell, is an "egghead," a thoughtful, erudite Secretary-of-State intent on sticking to the high road while pursuing his party's nomination. Senator Joe Cantwell, his rival, is a fiery red-baiter who will do anything to get what he wants. Which of them will the party's venerated former President endorse? This witty, often cynical examination of the gritty machinations of backstage election politics draws heavily on 20th century politics and politicians, but it remains relevant today.

**October 21**

**Primary Colors** (1998) 143 min.

DIRECTED BY MIKE NICHOLS

*Starring John Travolta, Emma Thompson*

Director Mike Nichols and screenwriter Elaine May masterfully adapted Joe Klein's novel as a funny, insightful film about the realities of sex and politics. What makes this movie crackle, however, are the performances. John Travolta is truly charismatic as the philandering candidate, and Emma Thompson is perfect as his shrewd, exasperated wife. Most convincing of all is Billy Bob Thornton as a redneck political operative. Only James Carville could have played him(self) more believably.

**October 28**

**Election** (1999) 103 min.

DIRECTED BY ALEXANDER PAYNE

*Starring Matthew Broderick, Reese Witherspoon*

Tracy Flick is a familiar high school type, the go-getter running for student council president. History teacher Jim McAllister sees something sinister behind that perky smile and is determined to stop her. Is Tracy a monster in the cradle, or is McAllister projecting his own dissatisfaction with his life and marriage? Reese Witherspoon brilliantly reveals the brittle cracks beneath Flick's cheerful, hyper-competent surface in this dark comedy about the clash between the personal and the political.



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Courtesy Paramount Pictures.



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Library Hours

Monday - Thursday:

9 am - 9 pm

Friday: 9 am - 6 pm

Saturday: 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday: 1 pm - 5 pm

## Next Month:

Look forward to the M.I. Annual Report, films, author events, classes, book groups, chess updates, and more!

Heather Terrell, *This Month at the*  
*Mechanics' Institute Editrix*