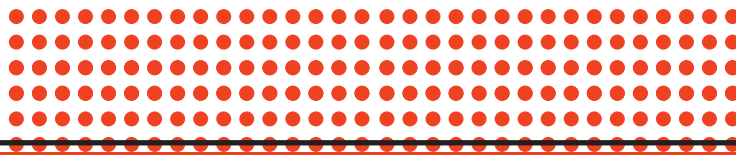


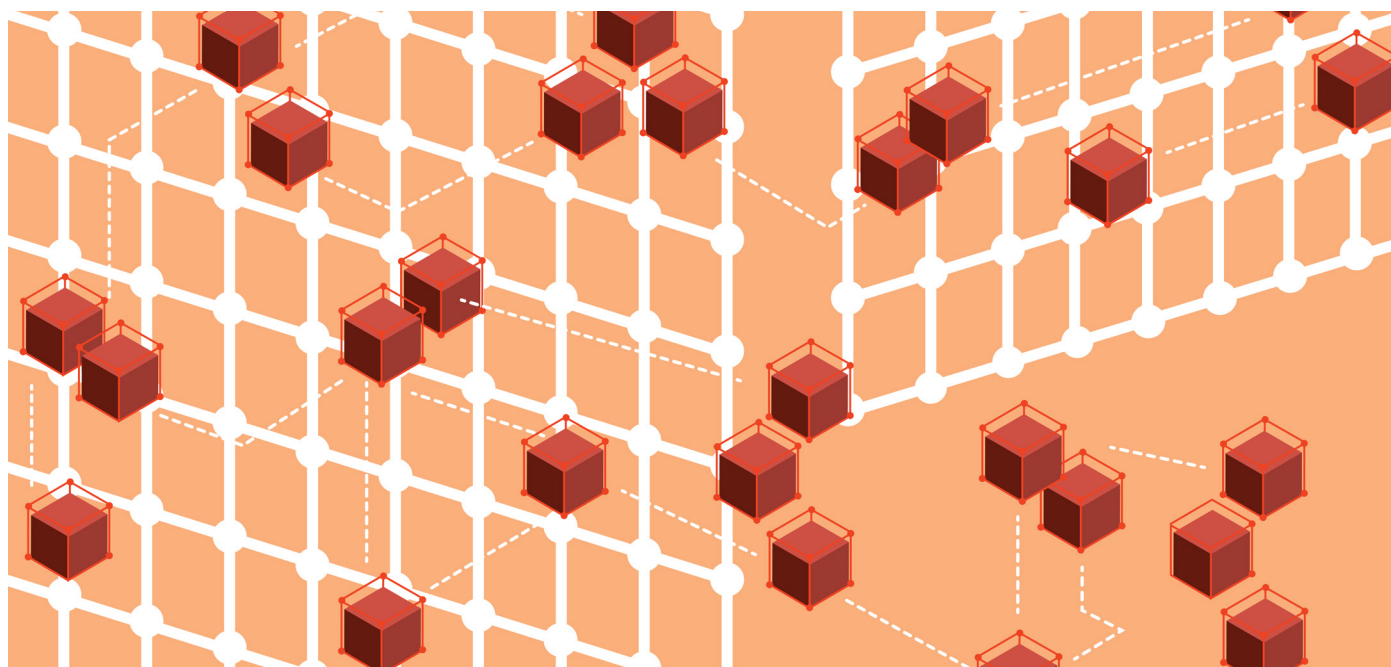
Mechanics' Quarterly



**Mechanics'
Institute**
Since 1854



**Library
Chess
Events**



Blockchain 101: Cryptocurrencies, Smart Contracts and Beyond - All You Need to Know!

An interactive presentation with MI member Professor John Villasenor, UCLA

Thursday 07.26.2018

6:00 pm 4th Floor Meeting Room

The blockchain is a novel paradigm for enabling a network of untrusted computers to collectively serve as a source of trust. The most well known application of the blockchain to date is Bitcoin, the non-state-backed cryptocurrency in which transfers are public but the identities of the individuals behind the transfers are masked. However there are many other applications of the blockchain as well, including smart contracts, tracking and management of digital assets, and supply chain management.

This presentation will provide an overview of the blockchain, including a high-level and accessible explanation of how it all works! This workshop was recently presented to Senators on Capitol Hill.

Members Free | Public \$15

Upcoming Events

Bastille Day Celebration & Concert with Le Jazz Hot



Saturday, 07.14.2018

7:00 pm (Doors open at 6:30 pm)

4th Floor Meeting Room

Our Annual Bastille Day Celebration features the fabulous Le Jazz Hot ensemble performing French cabaret songs, Gypsy jazz and Hot Club favorites. Paul Mehling, solo guitar, Evan Price, violin, Sam Rocha, string bass, and Jordan Samuels, rhythm guitar, heat up the night with their infectious beat, live wire energy and total charm! The Meeting Room opens at 6:30 pm and French wine and our Plat du Jour will be available for purchase.

Advance Reservations Required.

Members: \$15 Public: \$25

A Theatrical Evening with the Eugene O'Neill Foundation



Wednesday, 08.15.2018

6:30 pm

4th Floor Meeting Room

Join this evening with Artistic Director Eric Fraisher Hayes and actors from the Eugene O'Neill Foundation/Tao House, who will talk about their upcoming season and perform scenes from the production of *Hughie* by Eugene O'Neill which will be part of an international theater exchange in New Ross, Ireland and Danville, California.

CinemaLit



Watch our website for the CinemaLit film line-up in July! "Under the Summer Stars" will include **Four Weddings and a Funeral** and other tasty confections to whet our appetites for CinemaLit's return in September.

Fridays, Doors open at 5:30 pm, Program at 6:00 pm

4th Floor Meeting Room Registration Required



Bloomsday: A Celebration of James Joyce's *Ulysses*

By Heather Terrell, Library Manager

Mechanics' Institute has been hosting an annual Bloomsday celebration for the past 17 years, commemorating the work of modernist writer James Joyce – specifically his novel *Ulysses*, all 730 pages of which is set on the single day of June 16, 1904. On June 16 of this year, MI hosted an open mic reading of the work at DaDa Bar, including a special Bloomsday menu and Irish music.

If you decide to pick up *Ulysses*, my suggestion is to take it slow and thoughtful – not too seriously – and pause frequently to let the scenes sink in. And, by all means, pay attention to the jokes! This is a fun book, despite what students forced to read it might think. Don't worry so much about where it's going; enjoy the frequent digressions from "the point".

If you prefer to go a bit brainier with *Ulysses*, try reading it alongside Don Gifford's *Ulysses Annotated*. At first glance, the stream of consciousness narrative appears to be haphazard. Like many other modernist art works, Joyce's writing style only seems carelessly rendered, but requires practice, talent, and some serious revision. The success of a piece written in the stream of consciousness style depends upon careful structuring, rich characterization, and painstakingly crafted layers of meaning, attaching symbol to a character's interior to convey the "plot" of the story. Joyce joked that he "put in so many enigmas and puzzles that it will keep the professors busy for centuries arguing over what I meant." Readers who stick with it and dig deep are rewarded for their patience.

In *Ulysses*, we see a Dublin debased by secular and religious corruption, a wasteland of bigotry and broken cultural mores. The characters, even those whose viewpoints we primarily live in, can be despicable. By the time we're past the halfway point in the book, the reader is hit in the face with the absurdity of existence, each human being "a parenthesis of infinitesimal brevity" in the cosmic scope of heavenly bodies floating in an infinity of stars – those "evermoving wanderers from immeasurably remote eons to infinitely remote futures." (p 610)

In one sense, this is a book about oblivion. In another, it's a story of connections. The reader admires Stephen's intelligence and his quest for meaning; we root for Leopold in his good-humored acceptance of the imperfect nature of his own life; Buck and Simon and Nosey Flynn make us laugh. But Molly! We live in her head only briefly. And yet, Molly's final soliloquy is the most well-known passage of the book; the yeses, the desire, the hope for connection and reconnection.

The intention inherent in the stream of consciousness method is to render what participation in life is like: the continuous flow of thought, feeling, mood, and interaction that creates experience. The artist's statement for this book might hail Leopold Bloom, Stephen Dedalus, and Molly Bloom as the quintessential every(women) making sense of the chaos and futility of history by laser-focusing on each moment of a single day...the ripples of a thought, the smallest action, a kiss – or the memory of one – creating the future as it unfolds.

Events From the Stacks

Free Writing Activities @ MI

Are you interested in growing your writing skills? MI has a variety of free activities to help you improve your writing and make friends in our community.

The first thing you should do is start attending the monthly **Writers Lunch**. These noontime gatherings take place on the 3rd Friday of the month in our Meeting Room on the 4th floor. They are brown bag affairs (though tea, coffee and some sort of dessert is served to fuel your brain!) and open to the public. Enjoy a lecture, a craft lesson, or activity led by local speakers (many of whom are MI members!).

Friday, July 20, Noon - Stumbling Stone: Writing and Publishing A Novel Based on Real Life

August 17, Noon - Epic Reads: Secrets to Crafting Historical Fiction: a panel discussion with the Women's National Book Association

September 21, Noon - Sasha Pour One More! The adventures of a freelance foreign correspondent

Next you should attend **Teacherless Writing** on Thursdays from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Using the guidelines described in *Writing Without Teachers* by Peter Elbow, this member-led "come as you are" writing group involves timed free writes. Every participant has the opportunity to share their writing. Feedback is given according to the "movies of the mind" structure in Elbow. Participants are encouraged to read *Writing Without Teachers* as the group adheres to the book's principles. Check it out from our Library! **Teacherless Writing takes place in the 3rd floor Classroom B and is limited to MI members.**

Once you've got your manuscript sketched out you really should drop in on the **Indie Publishing Working Group** (3rd Tuesday of the month @ 4:00pm) and start learning about publishing. It is never too early to start imagining your work as a finished product! This study group explores subjects including the pros and cons of traditional publishing, editing, marketing strategies, format issues, cover design, and vendors. Sometimes the group hosts guest speakers, including literary agents, editors, designers, publicists, copyright lawyers, and representatives from local book organizations such as Smashwords and Book Promotion Forum. There also are occasional field trips to Goodreads, Facebook, and other Bay Area companies. The Indie Publishers Working Group **takes place in the 3rd floor Classroom B and is limited to MI members.**

Any questions?

Please contact Taryn Edwards, Librarian and Strategic Partnerships Manager

tedwards@milbrary.org

(415) 393-0103



Use LinkedIn to Advance Your Literary Career with Lyzette Wanzer

Friday 09.22.2018

10:30 - 4:30 pm

4th Floor Meeting Room

LinkedIn is a powerful marketing tool that writers often overlook. Learn how to maximize this social media network to increase your audience, support funding applications, meet the Bay Area’s literary movers and shakers, and open significant opportunities. In this four-session workshop, learn how to:

- Prepare a profile that marks you as a professional, rather than a hobbyist
- Promote yourself and your work by harnessing LinkedIn’s full features
- Network with author organizations that help to spread news of your work to wider audiences
- Use your profile to enhance your grant, residency, and writing conference applications
- Learn the power of LinkedIn’s Groups

A laptop, notebook computer, or tablet is required for this workshop.

Reservations required.

MI members \$49; Public \$59

San Francisco Writers Conference Classes

07.14.2018

10:30 - 12:30 pm

Elements of the Book Proposal
with Andy Ross

MI Members \$39; Public \$49

08.10.2018

10:30 - 4:30 pm

How to Become a Competitive
Creative: Building a Full-Time
Career as a Writer in the Digital
Age with Jane Friedman

MI Members \$249; Public \$289

07.21.2018

1:00 - 4:00 pm

Making Your Writing Unforgettable:
Finding the Literary Voice That Makes
Your Readers Keep Turning the Pages
with Connie Hale

MI Members \$89; Public \$109

09.15.2018

10:30 - 4:30 pm

Mastering the Emotion-Driven Story
with Eric Witchey

MI Members \$169; Public \$199

07.28.2018

10:30 - 4:00 pm

“Everyday Celebrity”: a Personal
Branding Workshop

MI Members \$169, Public \$189

07.28.2018

10:30 - 4:00 pm

The Journey from Poet to Author:
A Workshop with Diane Frank

MI Members \$99; Public \$119

Chess Room Events

Meet and Greet with Grandmaster Hou Yifan

Hou Yifan's talk at the Mechanics' Institute on **May 17th** was an outstanding success, with over 100 people crowding the Chess Room. The charismatic and accomplished Grandmaster from China held the audience spellbound as she talked about her development in chess, from a 6-year-old prodigy to competing with the world's best. Along the way she offered sage and savvy advice to the youngsters and the elders in attendance. An unforgettable evening!



WEEKEND TOURNAMENTS

10:00 am - 8:00 pm

18th Charles Bagby Memorial

July 21

5 Round Swiss - One Day G/40,d5

18th Vladimir Pafnutieff Memorial

August 4

5 Round Swiss — One Day G/40,d5

13th Bernardo Smith Memorial Under 2200

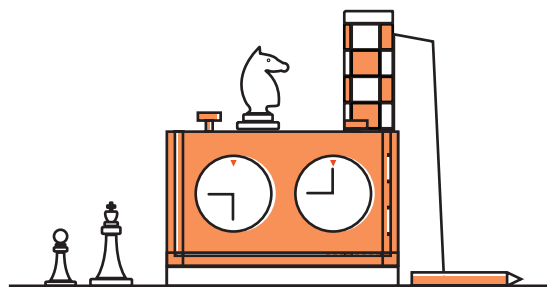
August 18, 19

6 Round Swiss

18th Howard Donnelly Memorial

September 8

5 Round Swiss — One Day G/40,d5



TUESDAY NIGHT MARATHON AND LECTURE

International Master John Donaldson

Lecture 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm

Marathon Play 6:30 pm - 10:30 pm

July 3, 10, 17

August 7, 14, 21, 28

September 4, 11, 18, 25

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BLITZ

Directed by Jules Jelinek

August 29

September 5, 12, 19, 26

SATURDAY ALL AGES CHESS CLASS

Taught by International Master Elliott Winslow

July 7, 14, 21, 28

August 4, 11, 18, 25

September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

SUNDAY MORNING CHESS CLASS FOR WOMEN

Taught by Sophie Adams and Ewelina Krubnik

July 8, 15, 22, 29

August 5, 12, 19, 26

September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

2018 Spring Scholastic Event

On March 24th we held the 5th annual San Francisco Scholastic Chess Championship in Golden Gate Park's County Fair Building. There were 227 students, grades K-12, playing in the tournament along with a couple of hundred parents and siblings who came along to enjoy the venue and side events, including the simultaneous exhibition by our brilliant young grandmaster, Daniel Naroditsky.

Daniel played 24 players at once as the competitors enjoyed the challenge of trying to beat such a star. At one point the wind in the courtyard blew away all the pieces of one board, and the player couldn't remember where they should be. Daniel came back around and set them all up in the right places. "I think I had a pawn over here," said the player. "No, I don't think so," said Daniel, "but here, have it anyway as it probably won't matter." Daniel won all the games.

The scholastic championship is the highlight of our Youth Outreach Chess Program which teaches chess to 500 children each year in 20 San Francisco schools. It is a free program for the schools, the majority of which are Title I schools in the city's challenging areas.



Make an Impact

Create Your Legacy

The Mechanics' Institute depends on generous donors to sustain its programs and services. As you may know, membership dues cover only 10% of the cost of operating the Institute. There are many ways that you can support us – and with the IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution, making a donation benefits you while making a meaningful difference to the MI.

In 2015, legislation was passed to permanently extend the popular IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution provision. This law allows persons 70 ½ or older to make transfers directly from their IRA to charity and meet their annual required minimum distribution without incurring income taxes. The IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution is a great way to donate to a favorite charity.

How it works:

- You must be 70 ½ or older on the date of the distribution to qualify
- The distribution must be from a traditional IRA or Roth IRA and transferred directly from the IRA to the Mechanics' Institute, or other charity
- The amount transferred counts toward your minimum annual distribution
- IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution to all charities combined is up to \$100,000 per person per year
- The IRS does not limit the minimum size or quantity of distributions to your selected charities
- IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gifts are not tax-deductible, but you avoid income taxation on the amount transferred

The IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution is a great way to make a big impact and help the Mechanics' Institute continue its mission.

Contact your IRA Plan Administrator for more information, and to initiate a direct transfer from your IRA. Gifts must be made payable directly to the Mechanics' Institute from your IRA custodian.

Thank You

We are grateful for the support we receive from the following individuals and foundations, who make our continued growth possible. Thank you! The following contributions were received between March 1, 2018 and May 31, 2018.

Douglas* and Stephanie Butler*

The Craft Foundation

The Charles D. and Frances K. Field Fund

Michelle and Robert Friend

Gold Rush Trail Foundation

Jerrold Moskowitz

Charles Sullivan*

** James Lick Legacy Society Member*

***Life Member*

Night Tour

09.17.2018

6:00 pm

3rd Floor Library



If you are a new, long-time, or prospective member the tour of the Institute will orient you to our building, include an overview of our history and mission, and outline our current services and the benefits of membership. Tours typically take 45 to 60 minutes. Bring a friend!

A wine and cheese reception will follow the tour.