OPEN FORUM WITH OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Last Tuesday we held a lunchtime Open Forum with the leaders Friends of the Fromm Institute Board of Directors. Chairman Brian Lurie, Vice-Chairman Roy Eisenhardt, Executive Vice-President Albert Fraenkel and I answered questions and listened to concerns from Fromm Institute students. Your questions and concerns will inform the way we proceed in to the future. Additionally, it quickly became clear that there are many things you do not know about our Board and the inner workings of the Fromm Institute, which I would like to share.

One question was about the relationship between our Board, our Program, and the University of San Francisco. Our Board is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose responsibilities are fundraising and to provide financial support to the Fromm Institute. USF considers the Fromm Institute a third-party affiliate. In short, this means that we are housed at USF and have a contract with USF to use the permanent dedicated space in which you attend classes. However, membership fees and our Board cover all the costs of program operation. An example is our salaries and benefits. USF provides their human resources infrastructure, so the staff receives their salaries and benefits through USF’s system, but the costs of our salaries and benefits are covered by Fromm student membership fees. The same is true for educational/office supplies, furniture/equipment, maintenance, postage, duplicating/printing, catering, etc.

Now, as you know, Fromm Institute membership fees only cover about 60% of our costs. We turn to our Board to cover the remaining gap. This is where fundraising becomes important. The Board currently has an endowment of about $5.3 million. Our annual budget this year is about $2 million, and we anticipate student membership fees to cover about $1.2 million of that budget, which means that our Board will cover about $800,000 of our budget. While our endowment seems high, you can see how quickly that would deplete without contributions. At one time, our endowment was about $10 million mostly thanks to the Fromm family, and that is what our Board would like to return to. Albert Fraenkel pointed out that a Fromm student who pays $300 for four classes is actually paying $9.38 per one-and-a-half-hour lecture. A Fromm student at the meeting pointed out that it is not uncommon to pay $20 for a one-hour yoga class, making the Fromm Institute quite a deal.

Finally, many people did not know about the Board members themselves. Our Board is composed of Fromm family members, USF representatives including the President of USF, and members of the greater San Francisco community. Current members of our Board are:

- Rabbi Brian Lurie, Chairman
- Roy Eisenhardt, Esq., Vice-Chairman
- Caroline Fromm Lurie, President
- Albert Fraenkel II, Executive Vice-President
- Ray Wright, Vice-President
- Lisa Wagner, Ph.D., Secretary
- Gregoire Calegari, Treasurer
- Rev. Paul Fitzgerald, S.J., USF President
- Barry Baron, M.D.
- Jonathan Bailey
- Ronald Berman
- John Boas
- Margie Chen, M.D.
- Rev. Donal Godfrey, B.L., S.J.
- Charles Goodman
- Richard L. Greene, Esq.
- Sam Lauter
- Susan Letcher
- Joseph Lurie
- Peter Maier, Esq.
- Jay Mall, M.D.
- Howard Nemerovski, Esq.
- Raquel Newman, Ed.D.
- Julie Orio
- Lois Roach
- Wayne Robins
- Joelle Steefel

Thank you to everyone who attended the Open Forum last week. We intend to have more in the future.

DON'T FORGET TO TURN THE PAGE TO SEE OUR SPRING 2019 COURSE OFFERINGS!!!
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<td>Poems of the Earth — Poems of the Spirit</td>
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<td>Computers and the World Wide Web – A 50 Year Perspective</td>
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<th><strong>MONDAYS AT 1 PM</strong></th>
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<td>Prof. Andrew Fraknoi</td>
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<td>Not Just Another Pretty Flower: Plants in Human History</td>
<td>Prof. Rob Rosborough</td>
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<td>I Got Rhythm; Inside Jazz and the Business</td>
<td>Prof. Sonny Buxton</td>
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<td>Melodrama in Film: Arousing Emotions in the Dark</td>
<td>Prof. Ruthe Stein</td>
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<td>Understanding the US Economy</td>
<td>Prof. Michael Arnold</td>
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<td>Russian Music</td>
<td>Prof. Scott Foglesong</td>
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<td>Financial, Tax, Estate Planning under the 2018 Tax Legislation</td>
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<td>Prof. Chris O’Sullivan</td>
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<td>Tagore &amp; Gandhi: The Great Debate</td>
<td>Prof. Clare Fischer</td>
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<td>Water Wars in the Age of Global Warming</td>
<td>Prof. Richard Covert</td>
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<td>Prof. Thomas Lorch</td>
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<td><strong>SEMINAR</strong> – Speaking: Influencing Others/Telling Our Stories</td>
<td>Prof. Joan Minninger</td>
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<td>Prof. David Clay Large</td>
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<td>Louis XIV and the Age of the Baroque</td>
<td>Prof. Nikolaus Hohmann</td>
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<td>Byzantine Art</td>
<td>Prof. Patrick Hunt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Of Whales and Men (and a Few Women): A History of Whaling</td>
<td>Prof. Joan Boothe</td>
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* Please note some course titles have been shortened. Complete course titles can be found in the Spring 2019 Course Catalog released Tuesday, March 5 after 5 p.m.
The Spring 2019 Course Catalog will be on-line on Tues., March 5, after 5 p.m., or with you through the U.S. Mail shortly thereafter. (Remember, if you want a paper version of the catalog mailed to you, you must let the office know. Everyone will receive an email notification that the catalog is “live” at the website.) Spring Pre-Enrollment, that time when everybody has an equal chance of getting all their first choice classes, runs from Wed., March 6 through 3 p.m. Fri., March 8. If signing up for courses that won’t begin until the week of April 8 seems frantic, remember that more than 1,000 people enroll during this Pre-Enrollment period! That’s more than two-thirds of all students who’ll register for classes.

For the really eager among those of you who are enrolled this Winter, (new students must wait to March 6, when they can review the full Courses Catalog) if you want to avoid sending an email or leaving your enrollment choices on our phone line during Pre-Enrollment, and you know the classes in which you’d like to enroll based on the newsletter published course titles and professors teaching them, you can pick up an Earli-Enrollment Form in the Fromm Institute Office now. Select your classes and pay your membership fee or scholarship contribution in-person by credit card or check. We’ll cash your check/process your credit card and keep your application, handling it right along with all the others received before 3 p.m. on Fri., March 8. Email confirmation of your enrollment will be sent after March 13. Remember, There’s no preferential advantage to Earli-Enrollment, but you’ll have the piece of mind that you’ve taken care of business before this session ends, and that’s always worth quite a lot.

SIGNING UP FOR SEMINARS . . .
Your confirmation letter will note that we have recorded your interest in the seminar(s) you have selected, but it will also say that we have not confirmed a place for you. Seminar courses are enrolled by lottery and confirmed/denied in writing after March 27. If you are signing up for a seminar, make an alternate choice. If you are not selected, you’ve got a space in your alternate course and can always drop it if your are selected.

AND WHAT ABOUT PARKING?
For those who request an application, there will be an On-Campus Parking Permit included in your confirmation of enrollment packet/confirmation email. The deadline for the return of these applications will be Wednesday, March 27, but your check will be cashed upon its receipt. On-Campus parking is expensive and is always limited at USF, that’s why we encourage you to share the ride and costs through carpools. In our limited inventory of parking permits we will consider Disabled Drivers first, then Carpools second in the distribution. If there are any left after that, the distance from campus determines who gets a Single Driver, non-disabled permit. Should we not be able to offer you a permit, your application fee will be fully refunded.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR
Spring Classes begin the week of Monday, April 8 and end the week of Thursday, May 30. “Make-Up” Week for classes cancelled by a holiday or a faculty commitment/illness will be June 3 through 6. A Federal Holiday during the Spring Session (Memorial Day, May 27) means all Monday courses meet once again during “Make-Up” Week, on Monday, June 3. Additionally, classes will not meet on May 16 for USF Commencement so all Thursday classes will meet during “Make-Up” Week on Thurs., June 6.

When considering your enrollment needs, remember that the Fromm Institute has a shorter enrollment period between the end of the Winter Session and the beginning of the Spring Session. Consider getting in your enrollment choices quickly to avoid being closed out of a class because it has closed to further enrollment.
High Above the Trees & The Story of Apes
The Wonders Come to a Close

Open to all members of the Fromm Institute and their guests, the Wonders of Science Series coordinated by Dr. Jerry Lowenstein is coming to a close. Here’s what’s coming in the last few weeks of the session.

Feb. 13: “Secrets of the Rain Forest Canopy” with frequent Wonders of Science lecturer Meg Lowman, Ph.D., Director of Global Initiatives, Lindsay Chair of Botany/Senior Scientist in Plant Conservation at the California Academy of Sciences. Nicknamed the “real-life Lorax” by National Geographic and “Einstein of the treetops” by the Wall Street Journal, Lowman pioneered the science of canopy ecology. For more than 30 years, she has worked tirelessly to map biodiversity in forest canopies and to champion forest conservation around the world, innovating new research methods and conservation strategies along the way. Her designs for hot-air balloons and treetop walkways are now used by scientists and students around the world.

Feb. 20: “Inside Story of the Apes” with Adrienne Zihlman, Ph.D., Emerita Prof. of Anthropology, UC Santa Cruz. After a brief lesson in the ‘how to’ of anatomical research, Adrienne Zihlman reveals surprising findings from her decades-long study of Asian and African ape anatomy. What do female and male apes – from the small gibbons to the large gorillas – have in common, and how do they compare to the modern human species? What lessons might we apply to the fossil record?

Feb. 27: “Science Update 2019” with series coordinator Jerold Lowenstein, Ph.D., Clinical Prof. of Medicine, UCSF. Each series ends with Dr. Lowenstein’s lecture focused on major discoveries/advances the past year. On behalf of the whole Fromm Institute community, thank you Dr. Lowenstein for coordinating this series each year and for bringing such thoughtful and intriguing guest lectures to the Wonders of Science Series.

The New San Francisco Campus for Jewish Living

Below is an invitation from the former Jewish Home on Silver Avenue. They are building a state of the art campus and invite you to come and listen to what they are doing for the greater San Francisco community. This Listen and Learn Lunch offers boxed lunches for $10. Pay for one in the office or on that day. Quantities are limited.

Discover Your Future. Know Your Choices. Plan Wisely:
What’s the one thing you want most as you age? Maybe it’s connections to family, friends, and the community. Maybe it’s living with purpose and joy, and to truly flourish. Maybe it’s staying relevant with the changing times and being prepared for the future. Or simply knowing how to get the support that makes your day easier. Whatever your one thing is – let us talk about it.

The Jewish Home, or now known as the San Francisco Campus for Jewish Living, invites you to come and join us on Thursday, February 28th at 12 pm in the Maraschi Room to learn about how to prepare for your future and what your options are. You want to know your choices so you can plan wisely.
EXPRESS YOURSELF

This is our newest Fromm Focus featured section, Express Yourself. Submissions are accepted on a rolling basis and can include all sorts of articles, opinion pieces or notes, written by you, the students, who want to share something with the larger Fromm Institute community. Drop them off or email your submissions to Scott Moules, in the Fromm Institute office (fromm@usfca.edu). We have two Express Yourself articles in this issue of the Fromm Focus, a tale of dinner time folly from Dorothy Auerbach, and a request from former Fromm Institute faculty member, Wendy Rouder.

LOVE AND STRING BEANS

By Dorothy Auerbach

My family was not demonstrative. During the entire years of my childhood, I never remember anyone of us saying to another, “I love you,” yet I never doubted that love pervaded our home. We expressed affection by feeding each other. My mother and grandmother did all the actual cooking, but as we passed the platters around the dinner table, we were passing our devotion to one another as well. We almost always ate dinner together. Occasionally my parents were invited out to friends’ homes, but I was never left alone at the table. Except, that is, when we had string beans.

The only food I hated was string beans. They came in a can and were slimy. We had them twice a week, and, though I tried to choke them down, more often than not, when the others had finished, had their dessert, and moved on to the living room to listen to the radio, I was still sitting disconsolately at the table, pushing a pile of cold string beans around my plate.

My mother’s mantra was, “clean your plate; children in China are starving.” For years I failed to make the connection between what I ate and what befell children on the other side of the world. But one day the light dawned. Children in China wanted my string beans. The solution was obvious; I ran to what we called “the messy drawer,” got an empty box that had held kitchen matches, scraped my string beans into it, wrapped it in brown paper, tied it with twine, and addressed it to “Starving Children, China, Asia.” When I gave it to my mother to mail, she thought I was sassing her and confined me to my room for the rest of the evening.

But apparently she took pity on me and thereafter served me peas on nights when everyone else ate string beans.

Dear Fromm Students:

My name is Wendy Rouder and I am a former Professor at the Fromm Institute. Hopefully several of you remember me! I currently live in Denver but am hoping to return to the Bay area for a few months in either May or June.

I write this to ask if any of you are looking to sublet your apt/house for 2-3 months. There are several current students at Fromm who could serve as my reference.

Thanks for your thoughts. Wendy Rouder (wprouder@gmail.com)
Well here we are in the 6th week of the Winter term and lots ahead before our Spring Break.

SAN FRANCISCO CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC NOONTIME CONCERTS: I know that those of you who were able to join us last Monday for the first of our 3 concerts this term enjoyed a wonderful Spring Trio performance. The remaining 2 are this Tuesday 2/12 when a Flutist and Guitarist will perform. The final one will be on Thursday 2/21 when a Jazz Quartet from the new Jazz degree program will perform for us. Those of you who have heard these amazing musicians over the past 2 years know these will be outstanding performances. As always these performances will start promptly at noon in the Maraschi Room, so bring your lunch, turn off your cell phones and enjoy the music. These concerts are sponsored by your Fromm Student Association (of which you are all members) and made possible by your voluntary dues. For those of you who have already given we thank you and for those who have not done so this term please stop by the Student Association booth in the Activities Hallway before morning and afternoon classes so that we can continue to bring you these wonderful musical events and others that you have told us are what you enjoy the most that your Student Association does.

HUMANITIES WEST: A reminder that the next program from this amazing group is coming up the weekend of February 22-23. Titled “CELEBRATING 500 YEARS OF LEONARDO’S LEGACY.” This is 2 days of lectures and performances and takes place at the Marines Memorial Theatre at 600 Sutter St. Performances include Music by Clerestory (introduced by our own Prof. Kip Cranna) and reading by the wonderful bay area actor James Carpenter. You can attend 1 or both of the days and be sure to tell them you are a Fromm Student as you are entitled to discounted tickets (The Fromm Institute is a sponsoring member). Pick up a postcard in the far right display rack and learn more.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY: Their “Annual Winter Sale” usual begins this month. I have tried to confirm with them when it will begin but all I can tell you at this point is to look out for it sometime this month. It is a great deal and only lasts for a couple of weeks. You will get an email if you are on their email list and will be able to order tickets for many of the remaining performances for this season through June. Call the box office if you have not heard by the time you read this and see what they are offering.

Be sure to check out the 2 middle display racks for the next couple of weeks before you leave for Spring Break as there are lots of postcards of performances that will be going on while we are away.

Sadly I have to continue to remind you that there is never enough of all the materials in the display racks for all 1,300 Fromm Students. And so I mark carefully “FROMM HALL COPY: DO NOT REMOVE” on Season brochures and especially on Programs from performances to be shared by all Fromm students. I have noticed that many of those Programs are missing. If you have “borrowed” them to look at please return them to the lower left middle rack so that your fellow students can also see them. I hope this will be respected by all in the future.

This is my last column for the Winter Term so wishing you all a great Spring Break and look forward to seeing you all back here in April when I begin my 23rd year at the Fromm Institute and end my 18th year as your Voluntary Fromm Institute Student Association Performing Arts Representative.
FROM THE PRESIDENT
“Who We Are and What We Do... For You”  by Lois Roach

The Fromm Institute Student Association was founded in 1978 to address the Fromm students need for a social agenda when here on campus — and like the rest of Fromm, “Boy, have we evolved over the years!” From the simple practice of just having a congratulatory sheet cake as a Session was ending, to the dynamic program of diverse social activities we offer you this academic year, we’ve come a long way!

One thing that has never changed is the voluntary nature of the dues we ask from you to be part of FISA (Fromm Institute Student Association) and the amount we request you pay. We are proud to say we have been doing it all, for all these years, with your support of just $5 per Session. Amazing, isn’t it!

We can meet our activities budget when about 50 – 52% of attending students pay their dues ... we understand that some do not choose to take part in the program (they are just not “joiners’”). So on behalf of the FISA Officers, Steering Committee and the volunteers, I sincerely thank all those who do pay the $5 dues. It would be great and we could do more concerts or other noontime events, if more than the current 43% of students stepped up to the FISA Dues Desk and offered their $5 or $15 for year. The Dues Desk is located in the hall between Maraschi and Xavier rooms. A FISA Council member is there before classes in the morning and during the noontime break. Enjoy the noontime concerts on February 12th and 21st in the Maraschi Room!

MATINEE
“Come to the Movies”  by Maxine Einhorn

Four movies are left in this session’s Matinée Series. The first is in conjunction with Prof. Zimmerman’s class on James Joyce’s The Dubliners, “The Dead” will screen at 3 p.m. in Maraschi on Monday, Feb. 11. The next two films relate to Prof. Eilenberg’s Spy Movies class and they are: “Another Country” screening on Tuesday, Feb 12 at 3 p.m. in Maraschi. Then on Tues., Feb. 26, at 3 p.m. “Argo” is showcased in the Maraschi Room. Finally, as a special session’s end movie/literature event will take place on Monday, Feb. 25, at 2:50 p.m. in the Maier Room - Bartleby the Scrivener. Nancy Berry has coordinated this movie screening/book discussion and she encourages all those interested in taking part, to read Melville’s Bartleby the Scrivener (found online) then come see the film adaption and stick around to discuss both the film and the original story.

NEW MEMBERS COMMITTEE
“Come to Lunch, Again and Get the Inside Scoop!”  by Frances Pinnock

BRING A SANDWICH AND CHAT ABOUT THE UPCOMING SPRING CLASSES
Would you like to have a first look at the new classes catalog before it is published? Have you been coming to Fromm for years but still wondering which classes to take in the spring? Are you the kind of person who often chooses classes according to who is teaching it? Are you a new student and dazed by all the choices?

If you fit into any of these categories and would like to meet with some "seasoned" students who are prepared to speak the truth about classes they like and dislike then why not join us Thursday, February 21, at Noon in the Broad room.
HERMAN MELVILLE’S
“BARTLEBY THE SCRIVENER”

BARTLEBY: A WEIRDO? A WORKING CLASS HERO? OR A REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE?

Read the story (very short and can be read online). On Monday February 25th at 2:50 pm in the Maier room, come and watch a short film made from the story and brilliantly selected by Nancy Berry. Afterwards stay for our conversation about the story and the film adaptation. See you there!

UPCOMING EVENTS & LUNCHTIME TALKS

SF Conservatory: Flute & Guitar
Ashland Shakespeare Tour 2019
SF Conservatory: Jazz Trio
New Session Preview
Fromm Playwrights
SF Campus for Jewish Living
Book Reading: David Dalin

SF Conservatory: Flute & Guitar
Tuesday, Feb. 12, Noon
Maraschi Room
Ashland Shakespeare Tour 2019
Thursday, Feb. 14, Noon
Maraschi Room
SF Conservatory: Jazz Trio
Thursday, Feb. 21, Noon
Maraschi Room
New Session Preview
Thursday, Feb. 21, Noon
Broad Room
Fromm Playwrights
Tuesday, Feb. 26, Noon
Maraschi Room
SF Campus for Jewish Living
Thursday, Feb. 28, Noon
Maraschi Room
Book Reading: David Dalin
Monday, Mar. 4, Noon
Maraschi Room

SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Did you know there is a professional orchestra in town that offers FREE concerts several times a year? The next concert by the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra is Friday, Feb 22 at Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave. SF at 7:30 p.m. and you are invited! No tickets required! This concert features a semi-staged performance of Handel’s opera Acis and Galatea. To make sure you have a seat, email constancebernstein@gmail.com and give her your name and how many tickets you require. All are welcome but those who reserve will be guaranteed seats.

A JOB OPPORTUNITY TO FEEL GOOD ABOUT

Engage As You Age (www.engageasyouage.com) is looking to hire smart and compassionate recent retirees to work with the elderly in San Francisco. Engage As You Age provides homebound and isolated seniors with social interaction, conversation and education in an effort to slow the progression of dementia and improve quality of life.

Clients and "activity specialists" are paired with seniors who share their passions and interests, making for great conversation and eventual friendship. A college degree and interesting life experiences are required. The work is paid, not to mention rewarding, and the schedule is flexible. Application is found at: www.engageasyouage.com/about-us/work-for-us and questions can be sent to Ben at blewis@engageasyouage.com or call 415-690-6944.

Are you a recent retiree looking for meaningful (but very part-time) job opportunities?

The Fromm Institute For Lifelong Learning at the University of San Francisco
2130 Fulton Street San Francisco, CA 94117-1080 | 415 422 6805 (T) FROMM@USFCA.EDU (E) FROMM.USFCA.EDU (W)