



THE FROMM INSTITUTE
FOR LIFELONG LEARNING
at the University of San Francisco

FALL 2024 COURSE CATALOG

SEPT. 9 - OCT. 31, 2024

FALL 2024 COURSE SELECTIONS

Full descriptions and faculty biographies appear on pages 7 through 28. Instructions on “how to enroll” and the Academic Calendar are on page 5. Classes run eight weeks from September 9 until October 31. Consider volunteering for the Fromm Institute - more information is on page 20.

IP In person

IPOL In person & Online

OL Online

MONDAY 10 A.M. – 11:40 A.M.

IP	Prof. Thomas Lewis	<i>Something More than Night: The True Story of Watergate</i>
IPOL	Prof. Jan Wahl	<i>From Stars to Scandals to Studios</i>
OL	Prof. David Peritz	<i>The Political Economy of Democratic Capitalism</i>
OL	Prof. Gaye Walton-Price	<i>Exploring Arab Female Identity Through Culture</i>

MONDAY 1 P.M. – 2:40 P.M.

OL	Prof. Sonny Buxton	<i>Sinatra-Bennett-Cole</i>
OL	Prof. Lily Iona MacKenzie	SEMINAR: <i>Zooming the Prose Poem!</i>
IP	Prof. Aaron Almendares-Berman	SEMINAR: <i>Spoken Spanish Level 2</i>
IPOL	Prof. Joe Lurie	<i>Understanding Culture Clash in the Age of Globalization</i>

TUESDAY 10 A.M. – 11:40 A.M.

IP	Prof. Ron Glait	<i>Imagining Freedom - The Jewish Diasporic Dreams of the West</i>
IPOL	Prof. John Rothmann	<i>Making of the President 2024</i>
OL	Prof. James Sokol	<i>Exploring Opera: Legendary Signers</i>

TUESDAY 1 P.M. – 2:40 P.M.

IPOL	Prof. Drucie Belman	<i>Pioneering Women: The Abstract Expressionist Women of the 1940-1950s</i>
IPOL	Prof. Chris O’Sullivan	<i>The Fate of the Republic: Pivotal Presidential Elections in American History</i>

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IP In person

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WEDNESDAY 10 A.M. – 11:40 A.M.

IP Various Lecturers *Changing the World From Here: USF Faculty Lectures 2024*

WEDNESDAY 11:45 A.M. – 12:50 P.M.

IP Prof. Wagner *Generation to Generation: Community Engagement*

WEDNESDAY 1 P.M. – 2:40 P.M.

IP Prof. Eilenberg *The American Dream on Stage & Screen*

IPOL Prof. White *Mathematical Journeys: Exploring the Excitement When Numbers
Work Together*

THURSDAY 10 A.M. – 11:40 A.M.

IPOL Prof. Biron *Resistance, Resilience, Renewal: Poetry’s Power in Turbulent Times*

IP Prof. Kohn *Personalities of Old San Francisco*

IPOL Prof. Unterberger *The Beach Boys: The Classic California Band*

THURSDAY 1 P.M. – 2:40 P.M.

IPOL Prof. Bailey *The Broadway Stage: Conscience of Our Times*

IP Prof. Schaffer *What A Body Knows: Finding Wisdom in Desire*

MEMBERSHIP FEES



STARTING THIS YEAR, THE FROMM INSTITUTE HAS FOUR ENROLLMENT OPTIONS:

1. **Annual Membership \$1,200 per year** – Enroll in up to 8 classes each session (Fall, Winter & Spring). Includes an annual Frommcast membership and only available each Fall.
2. **Session Membership \$500 per session** – Enroll in up to 8 classes in the current session.
3. **Class Membership \$150 per class** – Enroll in individual classes for \$150 each.
4. **Scholarship Membership pay what you can afford** – Enroll in up to 4 classes. Call the Fromm Institute office (415-422-6805) to enroll. A partial payment toward membership is required.

There are no additional fees beyond membership fees. They are not tuition and cannot be prorated or applied to future sessions. All students are subsidized – the true program cost is \$378 per seat. Please consider the Fromm Institute in your annual giving and estate planning – visit <https://www.fromminstitute.org/giving> to donate now.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- Credit card online at courses.fromminstitute.org
- Credit card by phone at 415-422-6805
- Check payable to “The Friends of the Fromm Institute,” mailed to Fromm Institute at USF, 2130 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94117-1080. Include course selections if paying by check.

COURSE MODALITIES



THE FROMM INSTITUTE OFFERS FOUR COURSE MODALITIES:

SYNCHRONOUS CLASSES:

1. **In Person (IP)** – Faculty and students meet live in Fromm Hall.
2. **Online (OL)** – Students attend live online; faculty teach live online or in person in Fromm Hall.

ASYNCHRONOUS CLASSES:

3. **Recordings** – Access recordings from the current session (*included with enrollment in synchronous classes*).
4. **Frommcast** – Access recordings from previous sessions (\$10/month or \$100/year).

FALL 2024 ACADEMIC CALENDAR



FALL SESSION 2024

Gather Together Event	September 4, 2024
New Student Orientation	September 5, 2024
Classes Begin	September 9, 2024
Classes End	October 31, 2024
Make-Up Week	November 4–7, 2024
Holiday	Oct. 14 (Indigenous People's Day)

HOW TO ENROLL



1. **VISIT:** <https://courses.fromminstitute.org/>.

2. **NAVIGATE** to the left-hand menu and select "FALL SESSION 2024" to view the current course offerings. You can return to this page at any time by clicking on "FALL SESSION 2024" from the left-hand menu.

3. **CLICK ON** "Choose Plan" to choose in-person or online.

4. **FOR HYBRID COURSES**, faculty will teach in-person in Fromm Hall. **NOTE:** Buy the "in-person" option if you plan to attend any classes physically. You'll still receive Zoom links for all online sessions. Choose "online" only if you'll attend ALL classes remotely.

5. **YOUR CREDIT CARD** details will be securely saved for easy enrollment in additional classes.

6. **CONFIRMATION:** Upon enrollment/payment, you'll receive an email confirmation. Online reminders will be sent out 10 minutes before each class.

7. **QUESTIONS:** For any issues or assistance, please contact the Fromm Institute office at **415-422-6805**.

TO APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP, please call the Fromm Institute to enroll at **415-422-6805**.

GATHER TOGETHER

THE FALL 2024 GATHER TOGETHER EVENT

Wednesday, September 4, 2024 10 a.m. to Noon

Please join us at the Fromm Institute [Fall Gather Together](#) event on **Wednesday, Sept. 4, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**, in **Fromm Hall** on the **University of San Francisco** campus. This event is an excellent opportunity for you to meet with our Fall Session faculty and learn about the diverse range of courses offered. Whether you are interested in fine arts, current events, political science or history, our faculty members are passionate about sharing their knowledge and expertise with you. You can also obtain your USF student ID card, learn about the Fromm Institute Student Association (FISA) and other resources available to you as a Fromm Institute student.

The [Fall Gather Together](#) event is a great opportunity for us to reconvene in person with other Fromm Institute students. You can share your experiences, learn from each other, and make new friends. Refreshments will be served, and we'll have plenty of time for socializing. **Registration is required.** Secure your spot today at this informative and engaging event. We look forward to seeing you there!

PARKING



Parking on the USF Campus is very limited. If you are taking an In-Person class you may request a parking permit. Please complete the Parking Application [online](#). You must also pay for your parking permit by check or credit card. Online payments can be made [here](#).

CONTACT US



The Fromm Institute office is open Monday through Thursday and every other Friday. You can reach us at:

Phone: 415-422-6805

Email: info@FrommInstitute.org **Web:** FrommInstitute.org

Mailing Address: 2130 Fulton St., SF, CA 94117-1080

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

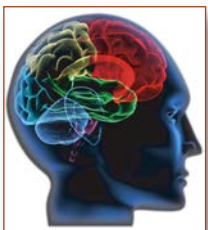
MONDAY 10 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

IP SOMETHING MORE THAN NIGHT: THE TRUE STORY OF WATERGATE

PROF. THOMAS LEWIS

"The streets were dark with something more than night." — Raymond Chandler

This year, August 9, 2024, will mark the 50th anniversary of the fall of Richard Nixon's presidency. In 1974, Nixon's resignation was the second time in a decade that a sitting American president was removed from office through extraordinary means. Most Americans long harbored suspicions that the abrupt end of John F. Kennedy's term in 1963 was a dark, complicated and sinister affair — as indeed it was. Few suspected, however, that Watergate was also a complex and clandestine matter, not the anodyne morality tale recounted by the Washington Post. Watergate has so many threads in common with the JFK assassination that it might best be viewed as a sequel to that dark event. In this class, we'll explore these parallels and we'll review a basic working knowledge of the JFK assassination that we will need to illuminate the shadowy corners of Nixon's downfall. In the end we'll confront the true story of Watergate — a Cold War tale of mayhem, blackmail, revenge, betrayal, deception, intrigue, and murder that is unlike anything you've ever heard.



Prof. Thomas Lewis

Thomas B. Lewis, M.D. is an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine (UCSF) and is the author of [A General Theory of Love](#). An expert on psychopharmacology and psychobiology, Dr. Lewis has written and lectured extensively on a broad range of topics for both professional audiences and the general public. His classes at the Fromm Institute tend to hover around the intersection between neuroscience and the humanities. "Something More Than Night" will be the 21st class he has taught at The Fromm Institute.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

MONDAY 10 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

I POL FROM STARS TO SCANDALS TO STUDIOS

PROF. JAN WAHL

We take a deep dive into stars, their abilities and backstories. We study their personas, their talent and their scandals in the shadows. Onto scandals of all kinds, from professional to personal, from covered up to explosive. Each studio had their own personality, we will study how they were different and what made them so incredibly successful. We will show movie clips and share a booklist.



Prof. Jan Wahl

Recognized as a woman of many hats, film critic Jan Wahl critiques movie releases, reviews videos, conducts celebrity interviews, and offers interesting background on show business. When she's not working in TV or radio, she emcees community events, lectures throughout the Bay Area and on international cruises, including a course she originated for corporations and schools, "Critical Thinking of the Mass Media." Before coming here, she worked for ABC in LA, as a documentary producer, and later as a stage manager and director. In 1977, Wahl won an Emmy for "They Still Say I Do," a humorous documentary on the palimony case of Lee and Michelle Triola Marvin. That year she became a member of the Directors Guild of America. In 1999, she won a second Emmy for "A Filmgoer's Bill of Rights." A movie enthusiast since her youth, she entered the journalism field as a newswriter for KGO TV, where she also produced two documentaries while attending SF State. She graduated with a degree in Broadcast Communications and Arts.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

MONDAY 10 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

OL THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF DEMOCRATIC CAPITALISM

PROF. DAVID PERITZ

**PRESENTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE ROGER BOAS CHAIR IN
GLOBAL HISTORY & WORLD AFFAIRS**

In 2024 we face another national election that many regard as in equal measures dismal and dangerous and campaigns that do little to clarify the pressing challenges facing our country and world, or to call our attention to promising approaches to policy. Rather than examining the issues our democracy would address were it not in a state of advancing decay, this course offers a deep dive into perhaps the most important cause of its dysfunction. Twenty-first century capitalism is at the root of backsliding and outright decay in many of the world's democratic societies. An increasingly global, financialized, deregulated, information-intensive and automated economy produces high levels of inequality accompanied by growing resentment at the unfairness of the distribution of opportunity and resources. This resentment in turn feeds populist politics, often with an authoritarian drift and a nativist tendency to scapegoat immigrants, minorities and/or (liberal) elites for the growing precariousness experienced by many. At the same time, unresponsive political institutions seem powerless to remedy economic precariousness and produce growing disenchantment with traditional democracy. This diagnosis begs the question: what does 21st century democracy require of its political economy? In this course we will examine these issues by seeking to identify (1) the most defensible forms of democracy for the 21st century, (2) the most important and politically relevant trends of the contemporary economic epoch, and how (3) recent economic developments are contributing to contemporary democratic decay. We will then ask (4) whether capitalism's anti-democratic drives have ever been successfully tamed in the past, and seek to evaluate the prospects of (5) some current proposals for democratically controlling capitalism's anti-democratic and destructive impulses.



Prof. David Peritz

David Peritz earned his BA from Occidental College and Ph.D. from Oxford. A professor at Sarah Lawrence College since 2000, he is the recipient of a Marshall Scholarship and has taught at Harvard, Deep Springs, Dartmouth, UC Berkeley, and Cornell. His research focuses on modern and contemporary political philosophy, especially theories of democracy and justice and their relation to issues of diversity and inequality. He has taught at Fromm since 2016 and in lifelong learning for nearly 25 years. He also directs the Minerva Academy of Lifelong Learning and recently received a Mellon Foundation Grant to support his work in this field.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

MONDAY 10 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

OL EXPLORING ARAB FEMALE IDENTITY THROUGH CULTURE

PROF. GAYE WALTON-PRICE

Text: Arab Women's Lives Retold: Exploring Identity through Writing (part of the series: Gender, Culture, and Politics in the Middle East), by Nawar Al-Hassan Golley (editor) [available through Amazon]

Examining late twentieth century autobiographical writing by Arab women novelists, poets, and artists, this essay collection explores the ways in which Arab women have portrayed and created their identities within differing social environments. This collection of essays goes well beyond dismantling standard notions of Arab female subservience, exploring the many ways Arab women writers have learned to speak to each other, to their readers, and to the world at large. Drawing from a rich body of literature, the essays attest to the surprisingly lively and committed roles Arab women play in varied geographic regions, at home and abroad. These recent writings assess how the interplay between individual, private, ethnic identity and the collective, public, global world of politics, and how these have impacted Arab women's rights.

In several instances during the last two classes that I taught at Fromm, we touched on women writers to a limited extent in the "Egyptian Short Stories in Translation", and also in the "Understanding Cultural and Religious Aspects of Islam", the topic of women in Islam came up for 1 dedicated session. However, many of the students wanted more in-depth information about Arab women across a variety of Arab countries. I am thinking that all this interest is looking for a new, dedicated course on the topic.



Prof. Gaye Walton-Price

Gaye D. Walton-Price is a highly motivated and talented college and university professor with years of teaching experience in various academic settings. Dr. Walton-Price earned her Ph.D. in Arabic language and linguistics at Georgetown University and also has a Master's degree in Religious Studies from Yale University Divinity School. She has lived and worked in North Africa for extended periods of time. After nearly 20 years of college and university-level teaching experience, she found new teaching experiences to be invigorating when she recently joined the dynamic Fromm family of instructors, students, and admins. Along the way, she has gained expertise in teaching humanities and philosophy courses, in addition to Arabic language classes.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

MONDAY 1 P.M. - 2:40 P.M.

OL SINATRA-BENNETT-COLE

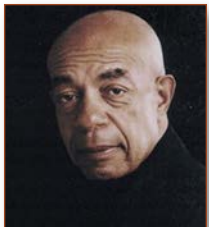
PROF. SONNY BUXTON

Three of the most significant pop/jazz performers of the twentieth century were: Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett and Nat Cole. Sinatra, a New Jersey born performer, was a masterful interpreter of a lyric. He was a major influence in the style and phrasing of many jazz instrumentalists.

Tony Bennett lived and performed past his ninetieth birthday. He too, had a career that crossed over from popular music to jazz. Remarkably, Bennett's career seemed to cover it all.

Nat Cole, known as "King Cole," or the man who built Capitol Records, was an outstanding jazz pianist, who just happened to sing. His singing kept him on top of the popular music charts for more than two decades. The style and sound of the old Nat "King" Cole Trio rings out today.

The course will take an intimate look at the lives and careers of Sinatra, Bennett and Cole.



Prof. Sunny Buxton

Prof. Buxton's lifelong passion has been music and documentary filmmaking. He has worked as a professional musician, with the likes of Peggy Lee, Billy Eckstine, and Bill Strayhorn. He has produced shows ranging in scope from the Motown Allstars to B. B. King, Ray Charles, Ella Fitzgerald, and Miles Davis. He traveled with Ellington producing an award-winning audio documentary. A longtime jazz club/restaurateur in Seattle and SF, he has also had a long career in broadcasting working for KGO as a newsman, a talk show host, and an executive producer. He is a Northern California Emmy Awardee. He hosts "Saturday Mid-Day Jazz" on KCSM. Working as a social psychologist/football player have been parts of his life now being put into Memoirs of a Jazz Junkie: My First Two Hundred Years.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

MONDAY 1 P.M. - 2:40 P.M.

OL SEMINAR: ZOOMING THE PROSE POEM!

PROF. LILY IONA MACKENZIE

As the words suggest, prose poems are prosy and not lyrical, yet they often contain some lyricism. Little boxes of language, they can cover a lot of territory in spite of their smallness. They also can present subject matter that larger forms might consider too minor to trifle with. Consequently, they're ideal for older adults who also are downsizing in their writing without losing the thrill of creation and/or reclaiming past moments.

PowerPoints will flesh out the motor behind prose poems. We'll also discuss readings from a collection of prose poems that you'll purchase. Writing prompts will help you find subjects to write about weekly, and you'll spend some class time in Zoom breakout rooms giving and receiving thoughtful feedback on these creations. Finally, I'll meet with each student individually once during the workshop while everyone else is in breakout rooms.

You needn't be a "creative writer" to take this class. As long as you can write a coherent sentence, you should have the necessary skills to complete the assignments. However, you need to use email and check it regularly. And you will need some Zoom competence. Finally, you must be visible on Zoom during our meetings by choosing "video" when you log on. Blank black squares on the screen don't work in this type of class that requires our ability to share ourselves and our writing.

The required text for this class is The Rose Metal Field Guide to Prose Poetry: Contemporary Poets in Discussion and Practice. Be sure to purchase it before the class begins as I'll be assigning readings from it early on.

ENROLLMENT NOTE: This class is limited to 25 students on a first come, first served basis.

The first meeting (September 9) is required, as is regular attendance.

Please do not apply unless you can make this commitment.



Prof. Lily Iona MacKenzie

Lily Iona MacKenzie has published four novels (Fling!, Curva Peligrosa, Freefall: A Divine Comedy, and The Ripening: A Canadian Girl Grows Up, a sequel to Freefall), two poetry collections (All This and California Dreaming) and a chapbook (No More Kings). Shanti Arts Publishing released her hybrid memoir Dreaming Myself into Old Age: One Woman's Search for Meaning in

September 2023. She has taught creative writing at the Fromm since 2016 after teaching rhetoric to USF freshmen for over 30 years. Now, with joy, she is working with adults closer to her in age. She also blogs about reading and writing at <https://lilyionamackenzie.com>

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

MONDAY 1 P.M. - 2:40 P.M.

IP SEMINAR: SPOKEN SPANISH LEVEL 2

PROF. AARÓN ALMENDARES-BERMAN

Spoken Spanish Level 2 is a continuation of the Spoken Spanish Level 1 course in which all verbs were expressed in the present tense. The course will begin by using Spanish vocabulary learned and practiced in the Level 1 class. In Level 2 the past tense will be introduced and practiced. Students will then expand their knowledge of Spoken Spanish by learning to communicate in the future, imperative and conditional tenses. Additionally, many more common and important expressions will be learned and practiced.

This class may be taken by students who did not take the Level 1 class in Spoken Spanish here at the Fromm Institute, but have a limited basic knowledge of the language and wish to expand their ability. They may be admitted if there is space available and upon approval of the professor.



ENROLLMENT NOTE: This class is limited to 25 students on a first come, first served basis. The first meeting (September 9) is required, as is regular attendance. Please do not apply unless you can make this commitment.



Prof. Aarón Almendares-Berman

Aarón Almendares-Berman is Prof. Emeritus at Sonoma State University where he taught Spanish, English as a Second Language and Language Teaching Methodology for 24 years. He was the founder of the Sonoma State American Language Institute (SSALI), an intensive English language learning program for foreign students. In addition, he was the acquisitions editor of Alta Book Center Publishers for 35 years. Alta Book Center was a publisher of books and other materials for teaching and learning languages. He completed his B.A. in Education at the University of Miami; M.A. in English Language and Linguistics at the University of Michigan and studied in the Educational Doctorate program in Language and Linguistics at New York University. He was a Fulbright Professor in Colombia and Mexico and later resided in Mexico for several years where he was executive director of MEXTESOL, the Mexican Association of Teachers of English. He is interested in developing intercultural understanding through language learning.

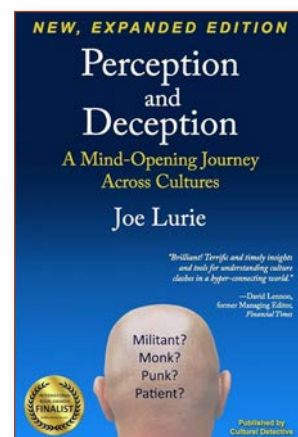
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

MONDAY 1 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

IP OL UNDERSTANDING CULTURE CLASH IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION

PROF. JOSEPH LURIE

Using the text, activities and exercises in the book Perception and Deception, A Mind-Opening Journey Across Cultures, we'll analyze cross-cultural situations and encounters from many cultures beyond and within the United States. We'll examine sources of cultural misunderstandings with immigrants, international students, and explore how language and different cultural approaches in communications reveal and conceal realities beyond our experience. From business and diplomacy to etiquette, food and health care plus the news of the day, we'll discover positive pathways for engaging with difference and polarization across cultural and generational divides.



Please note: this class will meet six times for two hours each class session.

It will meet on September 9, 16, 23, 30, October 7 and 28 - it will not meet on October 14, 21 or November 4.



Prof. Joseph Lurie

Joe Lurie, author of the award-winning Perception and Deception, A Mind-Opening Journey Across Cultures, www.PerceptionAndDeception.com, is Emeritus Executive Director of UC Berkeley's International House and currently a Cross-Cultural Communications Trainer and Speaker for corporate and nonprofit organizations. He's spoken at the Commonwealth Club, the World Affairs Council and offered intercultural training workshops at Google, American Express and LinkedIn. A former Peace Corps Volunteer, he has directed academic programs abroad in Ghana, France and Kenya for the School for International Training and lectured for Cal Discoveries in Asia, Europe and Africa. His work has been featured on NPR, PBS, C-Span's Book TV and in *Harper's Magazine*, *US News and World Report*.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

TUESDAY 10 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

IP IMAGINING FREEDOM - THE JEWISH DIASPORIC DREAMS OF THE WEST

PROF. RON GLAIT

What defines a community? How did the California Jewish diasporic experience shape the diverse and multifaceted identities of the Bay Area community? Join us on a journey through the exhibition archives of The Contemporary Jewish Museum and discover the rich tapestry of the Jewish experience in California.

In this course, we will delve into the dreams, challenges, and triumphs of the Jewish community, weaving the narrative of this particular West Coast American story. We will examine the Jewish diasporic journey, spanning from the Gold Rush era to contemporary times, and focus on the evolving aspirations and contributions within the dynamic landscape of California.

Using the lenses of art, music, pop culture, and personal narratives, we will uncover stories of resilience, entrepreneurship, and cultural evolution that have left an indelible mark on the Jewish presence in the West and find contemporary connections to our personal journey and identity.



Prof. Ron Glait

Ron Glait serves as the Adult Learning Program Manager and Museum Technology Manager at The Contemporary Jewish Museum, where he brings his passion for art and extensive knowledge of Jewish culture and history to diverse audiences. In his role, Ron oversees the development and implementation of education programs, tours, and presentations for the museum's exhibitions, catering to visitors of all ages and backgrounds.

Originally from Israel, Ron relocated to the United States in 2017 following the completion of his Master of Education degree at The Kibbutzim College of Education in Tel-Aviv. His academic focus during his studies was on Visual Literacy and Museum Studies. His academic research and work as a museum educator are centered around the power of storytelling through art to make art accessible to all, promote deeper understanding, self-discovery, and spark curiosity, all to encourage learners to apply these insights in their own journeys.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

TUESDAY 10 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

IPOL MAKING OF THE PRESIDENT 2024

PROF. JOHN ROTHMANN

This class begins on September 10 and ends on Halloween!! We will discuss the presidential election as it evolves week by week. Our focus will be in part on the candidates for president and vice president. The issues in the campaign, domestic and international, will be discussed in depth. We will analyze the national polls and the state by state polls. Included will be an analysis of the critically important campaigns for control of the House and the Senate. News coverage and campaign ads will be discussed in depth. The content of this class will trace the campaign as it evolves from beginning to end. Each week will demonstrate the vitality and the foibles of the American political process. We have scheduled a class after the November 5 election to discuss the results!!!!



Prof. John Rothmann

John F. Rothmann is a politics/foreign policy consultant specializing in the US, Middle East and the USSR. He is a frequent lecturer on American Politics and has been called “a scholar of modern Republicanism” while being acknowledged “for his unique insights, and in particular for rare and crucial materials.” He served as Director of the Nixon Collection at Whittier College, as Chief of Staff to Sen. Milton Marks, and Field Representative to Sen. Quentin Kopp, and was a founder of the Raoul Wallenberg Jewish Democratic Club. Widely published and honored, Rothmann has spoken on more than 150 campuses and has been on the faculty of USF. Both his B.A. and his Masters in Arts in Teaching are from Whittier College. He is the coauthor of Icon of Evil — Hitler’s Mufti and the Rise of Radical Islam and Harold E. Stassen: The Life and Perennial Candidacy of the Progressive Republican. His article, “An Incomparable Pope — John XXIII and the Jews,” appeared in *Inside the Vatican* in April 2014.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

TUESDAY 10 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

OL EXPLORING OPERA: LEGENDARY SINGERS

PROF. JAMES SOKOL

PRESENTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE VICTOR MARCUS CHAIR IN OPERA STUDIES

Legendary singers Callas, Sills, and Pavarotti became household names. Yet many other stunning singers became legends on the operatic stage. Some became world superstars (Sutherland, Domingo) while, in the U.S., others were known only in opera houses (Anderson, Gruberova). Discover some of these brilliant artists, highlights of their background, and signature roles. Experience their brilliance through video performance clips. Bask in the glory of voices past, hear those making their mark in the present, and discover some expected to bloom in the future. Join us for this operatic journey!



Please note: This class will be extended to two hours each session meeting from 10am – Noon for six sessions on September 10, 17, October 1, 8, 15, and 22. It will not meet on September 24 or October 29.



Prof. James Sokol

James Sokol, M.A. worked in opera for over two decades, having started his career under Beverly Sills at NYC Opera. A Founding Member of The Singers Development Foundation, James has also worked on projects with Cincinnati Opera and the Opera Company of Philadelphia. James has worked and lectured for San Francisco Opera and is a former executive director of Pocket Opera.

CLASS RECORDINGS

All classes will be recorded and available for later viewing except the following eight (8) classes:

Three (3) Monday Classes will not be recorded – Prof. Lewis, Prof. Almendares-Berman, and Prof. MacKenzie

One (1) Tuesday Class will not be recorded – Prof. Glait

Two (2) Wednesday Classes will not be recorded – USF Faculty Lectures, Prof. Wagner

Two (2) Thursday Classes will not be recorded – Prof. Kohn, Prof. Schaffer

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

TUESDAY 1 P.M. - 2:40 P.M.

IPOLE PIONEERING WOMEN: THE ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONIST WOMEN OF THE 1940s – 1950s

PROF. DRUCIE BELMAN

In this course, we will examine the unique contributions of six powerhouse women artists and explore the challenges they faced as women in a male-dominated art world.

Jay DeFeo, Helen Frankenthaler, Grace Hartigan, Elaine de Kooning, Lee Krasner, and Joan Mitchell played major roles in the development of Abstract Expressionism, which flourished in New York and San Francisco in the 1940s, 1950s and has been recognized as the first fully American modern art movement. We will also talk about the broader context of Abstract Expressionism and its impact on American Art.

There will be an optional field trip offered at the end of the class.
No prior knowledge of art or art history is required.



Prof. Drucie Belman

Drucie Saal Belman is a Professor at the Fromm Institute and UC Berkeley Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. She has worked at Pace Gallery in both New York and Palo Alto, the Catharine Clark Gallery in San Francisco and is a member of the Society for the Encouragement of Contemporary Art at SFMOMA. As a Guide at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, she has a broad knowledge of modern and contemporary art and still gives art tours to private clients. Before moving to the Bay Area, Drucie worked as an art consultant with the Loft Gallery in Paris and Hong Kong. She graduated Wellesley College with a major in Art History, going on to study Computer Design at the School of Visual Arts in New York.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

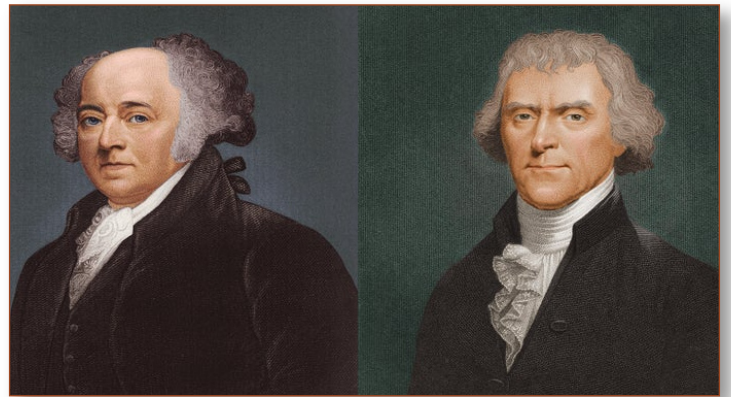
TUESDAY 1 P.M. - 2:40 P.M.

IPOOL THE FATE OF THE REPUBLIC: PIVOTAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN AMERICAN HISTORY
PROF. CHRIS O'SULLIVAN

**PRESENTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
HOWARD NEMEROVSKI CHAIR IN GOVERNMENT, SOCIETY & PUBLIC POLICY**

Amid the drama of the 2024 election, Professor O'Sullivan will lead us on a journey through several past presidential elections that proved critical to the fate of the American republic. The class will begin by exploring pivotal elections in the 19th century such as the contentious Adams-Jefferson contest of 1800, the fateful election of Lincoln in 1860 which ignited a Civil War, and the acrimonious election of 1876 which brought about the collapse of reconstruction. The course will also survey several 20th century contests such as those held during the Great Depression (1932 and 1936), the two world wars (1916, 1940, 1944), and the postwar Civil Rights Era (1948-1968). What were the key events shaping these dramatic electoral contests? How well did the nation navigate these challenges? What were the far-reaching consequences of these pivotal elections?

*The Election of 1800:
Adams was labeled a fool, a
hypocrite, a criminal, and a tyrant,
while Jefferson was branded a
weakling, an atheist, a libertine,
and a coward.*



Prof. Chris O'Sullivan

Chris O'Sullivan (BA in History, University of California at Berkeley; MA and Ph.D. in History, with distinction, London School of Economics, University of London) has taught in USF's Department of History for more than two decades, where he is the recipient of USF's Distinguished Teaching Award as well as USF's Innovations in Teaching Prize. He has published six books on historical and political topics, including Sumner Welles: Postwar Planning and the Quest for a New World Order (2008) which won the American Historical Association's Gutenberg Prize. He has been a Fulbright Visiting Professor at the University of Jordan, a Visiting Fellow at the Center for International Studies at the London School of Economics and has lectured on historical topics at universities throughout the United States, Asia, the Middle East, and Europe.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

WEDNESDAY 10 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

IP CHANGING THE WORLD FROM HERE: USF FACULTY LECTURES

USF LECTURERS

“Changing the World from Here: USF Faculty Lectures 2024” is a culmination and celebration of several projects – a concerted effort to diversify the Fromm Institute’s academic offerings, a forum to support intergenerational exchange and USF’s “Age-Friendly University” initiative, and a formal recognition of the Fromm Institute’s longtime relationship with USF. This series is intended to be ongoing and sustainable – each Fall showcasing not only USF faculty, but also leadership, research and student projects. Now, as we navigate the eminence of the Fromm Institute’s evolving program, and the challenges of current times, it seems fitting to turn to the experts right here at our doorstep. We hope you enjoy!

This series is free to all Fromm Institute members enrolled in Fall classes, and requires registration. Lectures take place on Wednesday mornings @ 10am in Xavier Room, Fromm Hall. Guest Speakers and Talk Titles will be confirmed in August.

BECOME A CLASSROOM VOLUNTEER

We seek tech-savvy Fromm students to assist faculty and students in online or in-person classes. Training is provided a week before classes start. Volunteers receive a free current Session Membership and the gratitude of the Fromm admin team and your fellow Frommies.

Online Classroom Volunteer Duties:

- Assist faculty with slides, videos, and presentation materials.
- Read chat questions to faculty.
- Help mute/unmute participants.
- Notify Fromm admin team if needed.

In-Person Classroom Volunteer Duties:

- Assist faculty with slides, videos, and presentation materials.
- Adjust room settings (volume, heating, lighting).
- Pass microphone for questions/discussions.
- Notify Fromm admin team if needed.

If interested, contact **Dawa Dorjee** at Dawa@FrommInstitute.org or 415-422-6805.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

WEDNESDAY 11:45 A.M. - 12:50 P.M.

IP GENERATION TO GENERATION: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PROF. LISA WAGNER

Do you ever wonder, “What’s it like to be a young adult in 2024?” Or perhaps, “How are young people dealing with all of the problems our society faces?” Many USF students choose USF due to its social justice mission and they want to make the world a better place. Solving societal problems will take multigenerational collaboration. This unique class enrolls both Fromm and USF students and considers questions such as: How do we develop community across different generations? How do our social identities affect our community engagement? What communities do we want to help? What communities do we tend to ignore?

Would you enjoy sitting down with USF college students and discussing issues like these? If so, here's your chance to be a part of an 'exceptional' course that promotes interaction, understanding, and appreciation between students from different generations. Each week you'll read one article outside of class and then come together to discuss it in small, mixed USF/Fromm groups. We'll talk about how prejudice affects attitudes towards other groups (age, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, etc.) and how it affects who we tend to help. Outside of class, small groups will take two field trips sharing how they engage with their own communities. Intergenerational service projects are required for USF students and Fromm students are welcome to share their own community organizations/service with USF students if possible.

Enrollment Note: This is ‘exceptional’ because it is free to Fromm Institute members enrolled in Fall classes, it may be taken in addition to the eight-course maximum; it is taught by a USF Faculty member; it takes place in the Fall term (including make-up week) on Wednesdays during lunch, 11:45 a.m. – 12:50 p.m., with a follow-up end of the semester potluck (Wednesday, December 4) and unlike other Fromm classes, regular attendance is crucial as the younger generation is counting on Fromm students. Please do not sign up if you know you will have repeated class conflicts (e.g., travel).



Prof. Lisa Wagner

Lisa Wagner is Professor of Psychology at USF and has conducted research on stereotyping and aging for the past 25 years. Prof. Wagner is interested in promoting positive, mutually beneficial interactions between younger and older adults. Her publications include two co-authored books, Psychology of Prejudice and Discrimination (4th edition) and Aging and Diversity: An Active Learning Experience (3rd edition), examining how diversity affects the aging experience.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

WEDNESDAY 1 P.M. - 2:40 P.M.

IP THE AMERICAN DREAM ON STAGE & SCREEN

PROF. LARRY EILENBERG

PRESENTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE ROBERT FORDHAM CHAIR IN LIBERAL ARTS

An inescapable phrase in our national dialogue, “The American Dream” serves as shorthand for the sum of our shared American hopes. The earliest version was of a morally exceptional “city on a hill” (a notion revived in the Reagan ’80s), while Jefferson, Lincoln, and King provided resonant language to announce American Dreams of independence and equality. Most recently, the material aspects have been foremost in the public discourse, with deep anxiety over the sustainability of our aspirations to home ownership, upward mobility, and personal fulfillment. Throughout the history of our country, the theater and cinema have provided some of our most powerful narratives of this American Dream. These lectures will examine stage and screen expressions, with special attention to the modern era: from “Death of a Salesman,” “A Raisin in the Sun” and “Glengarry Glen Ross” to such landmark contemporary plays as “Cost of Living” and “Sweat,” as well as movies including “The Social Network,” “Moonlight,” and “Nomadland.”



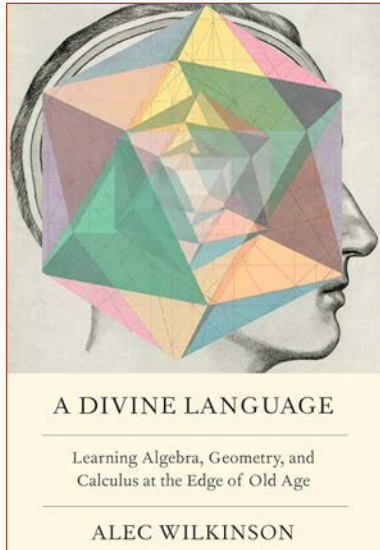
Prof. Larry Eilenberg

Larry Eilenberg has had a distinguished theatrical career as artistic director, educational leader, and pioneering dramaturg. Dr. Eilenberg earned his B.A. at Cornell University and his Ph.D. at Yale University. Professor Emeritus of Theatre Arts at San Francisco State University, he also taught at Yale, Cornell, the University of Michigan, and the University of Denver. Artistic Director of the renowned Magic Theatre during the period 1992-2003, Dr. Eilenberg has served as a commentator for National Public Radio’s “Morning Edition,” as a U.S. theatrical representative to Moscow, and as a popular lecturer on film and on comedy.

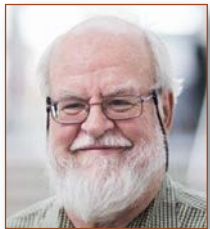
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

WEDNESDAY 1 P.M. - 2:40 P.M.

IPOL MATHEMATICAL JOURNEYS: EXPLORING THE EXCITEMENT WHEN NUMBERS WORK TOGETHER
PROF. BEBO WHITE



This course is roughly inspired by the book [A Divine Language: Learning Algebra, Geometry, and Calculus at the Edge of Old Age](#), by Alec Wilkinson. However, rather than simply being a math course (which by its very nature may be intimidating), it views math as a social and historical phenomenon and how it was used (and invented) by human civilizations as a means of expression and communication just like the spoken, written and artistic languages. Too often, math is viewed as just a tool that we are forced to learn in order to succeed in life. In later life it should be viewed for its inherent beauty and subtlety. This course is designed to be accessible and engaging to students of all backgrounds and ages, encouraging a deeper appreciation for mathematics and the lifelong journey of learning.



Prof. Bebo White

Bebo White is a retired computational physicist who worked at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, the U.S. national laboratory for high-energy physics and basic energy science at Stanford University. Professor White still holds faculty appointments at several institutions, advisory positions on a variety of academic, government, and commercial committees, and is a member of the organizing committees of several major conference series. He is delighted to be a part of the Fromm community and has thoroughly enjoyed teaching several classes. Additional information can be found [HERE](#).

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

THURSDAY 10 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

IPOL RESISTANCE, RESILIENCE, RENEWAL: POETRY'S POWER IN TURBULENT TIMES

PROF. DALE BIRON

In this course, we'll take a journey through the tumultuous landscapes of contemporary society, guided by the bright beacon of poetry. Through readings, discussions, and provocative inquiries, we will uncover the ways in which poetry serves as a practical and potent force for resistance, resilience, and renewal in the face of ecological, political, and societal upheaval. The course is tailored for those seeking to deepen their engagement with pressing issues and cultivate strategies for personal and collective empowerment through the transformative power of poetry. All levels of past poetry engagement are welcome and will feel at home.



Prof. Dale Biron

Dale Biron is one of only a handful of poet-storytellers who has presented and taught in university, community and corporate settings. Bucking tradition, Dale presents poetry in entertaining, engaging and often humorous ways that seek to ignite the mind, unleash the imagination and touch the heart. He's presented and taught classes in many venues, including: The Fromm Institute, TEDx Marin, Herbst Theatre and OLLI Dominican University. He served on the board of the Marin Poetry Center and was past poetry editor for *A Network for Grateful Living*. In 2014 he published his own book of collected poems entitled: *Why We Do Our Daily Practices*. Dale's latest prose book is entitled, *Poetry for the Leader Inside You: A Search and Rescue Mission for the Heart and Soul* and was published in 2018.

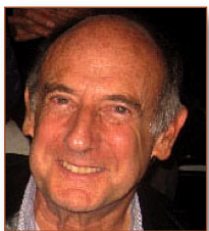
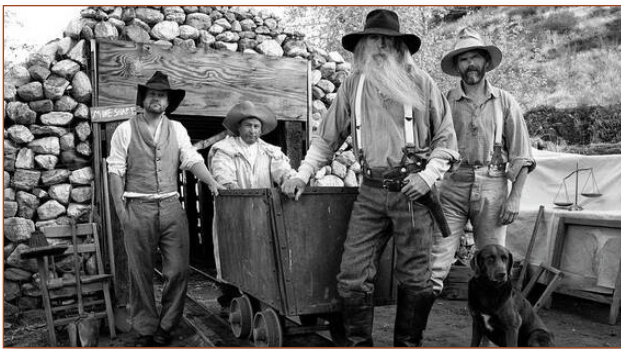
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

THURSDAY 10 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

IP PERSONALITIES OF OLD SAN FRANCISCO

PROF. JAMES KOHN

A pot-pourri of stories of personalities who once trod the streets of San Francisco, from the earliest times in the 18th century through the tumultuous times of the Gold Rush, through the Gilded Age, to the Roaring Twenties, the hard times of the Depression, and after the war, finishing in the famous Summer of Love in 1967. We will learn stories about the streets and parks for which the City is well-known. We'll be seeing pictures, music and videos to get a sumptuous taste of the City.



Prof. James Kohn

Now emeritus, Dr. Jim Kohn had been a member of the English Department at SFSU since 1975, and served as Chair from 2004 to 2007. He taught courses in social variation of language, in second language acquisition, in post-colonial literature and in training English teachers. With his wife Elaine, he has taught overseas in China, Taiwan and Switzerland. His retirement gives him the opportunity to enjoy his present vocation as docent at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, and at the S.F. Botanical Garden. At the Fromm Institute at the University of San Francisco he has taught courses "Our American English" and "The Empire writes Back," a look at post-colonial literature, and "All About Yiddish", a survey of the history and expressions of the Yiddish language. Most recently he taught a course about advertising in the U.S.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

THURSDAY 10 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

IPOL THE BEACH BOYS: THE CLASSIC CALIFORNIA BAND

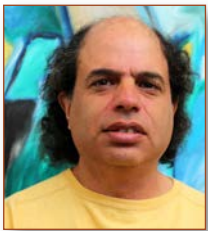
PROF. RICHIE UNTERBERGER

**PRESENTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CARRIE & RONALD LUDWIG CHAIR
IN 20TH CENTURY ROCK & SOUL MUSIC**

The Beach Boys defined the sound of California rock with many classic songs evoking the ocean, beach, and the state's culture and lifestyle. Concentrating on their best work in the 1960s, this course follows their growth from their early surf and hot rod anthems through their lyrical maturation with symphonic masterpieces like "Good Vibrations" and the Pet Sounds album. Besides exploring leader



Brian Wilson's phenomenal skills as a melodic composer and sophisticated studio producer, the group's glorious vocal harmonies will also be highlighted through a wealth of audiovisual clips and instructor commentary.



Prof. Richie Unterberger

Richie Unterberger is the author of numerous rock history books, including titles on the Beatles, the Who, the Velvet Underground, and Bob Marley, along with a history of 1960s folk-rock, *Jingle Jangle Morning*. His book *The Unreleased Beatles: Music and Film* won a 2007 Association for Recorded Sound Collections Award for Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research. His latest book, *San Francisco: Portrait of a City*, was published by Taschen in 2022.

He gives regular presentations on rock and soul history throughout the Bay Area incorporating rare vintage film clips and audio recordings, at public libraries and other venues. He has taught courses on rock and soul music history at the Fromm Institute for about ten years, as well as at other colleges in the Bay Area.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

THURSDAY 1 P.M. - 2:40 P.M.

IPOL THE BROADWAY STAGE – CONSCIENCE OF OUR TIMES

PROF. JONATHAN BAILEY



In this course we venture into the history of the American Musical Theater to study how the Broadway stage has provided a mirror reflecting who we were and who we are as a people. Through in-depth study of older shows such as “Show Boat,” and “Porgy and Bess,” “The Music Man,” “Carousel,” “West Side Story,” and newer ones – “Caroline or Change,” “Next to Normal,” “Strange Loop” and “Kimberly Akimbo” we will uncover social messages and challenges to our contemporary society. We will look at Puccini’s “Madame Butterfly” and its contemporary setting in “Miss Saigon” probing the social attitudes played out on an Asian stage. And we cannot forget the political scene in the United States as we study “Hamilton,” “1776,” and “Of Thee I Sing.”



Prof. Jonathan Bailey

Professor Bailey holds degrees in music from Northwestern, UC Berkeley, and a doctorate from Stanford University. He was dean and professor at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music prior to teaching in the Yale School of Music where he conducted the Yale Concert Choir, the New Haven Chorale and taught courses in the history of music. Currently Jonathan is professor emeritus at Pomona College in Claremont, California where he was chair of the Music Department and conductor of the College’s choral ensembles. Twice he won the coveted ‘outstanding teacher of the year’ award. He has been a program consultant for National Public Radio, an Arts Commissioner with the city of West Hollywood, and for 13 years, Artistic Director of the Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles. A recipient of two Fulbright research grants, he has traveled and studied in Europe and Australia. Professor Bailey has taught at the Fromm Institute since 2012 and has held the position of Academic Advisor since 2017.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS

THURSDAY 1 P.M. - 2:40 P.M.

IP WHAT A BODY KNOWS: FINDING WISDOM IN DESIRE

PROF. LIV SCHAFFER

This course will use excerpts from the book What A Body Knows by Kimerer LaMothe as catalysts for creative dance and dialogue based reflections. A primary aim in this book is to push beyond the idea that we have bodies, or live inside bodies, where “a body” is a material object. The reality is that our bodies are dynamic, rhythmic processes of enabling our selves to think and feel and act at all. We are rhythms of bodily becoming, we are the movements that are making us. And primary among those movements that make us are our desires. For what is desire? An impulse to move toward something we want.

Professor Liv Schaffer will facilitate students through kinesthetic and somatic processing activities that animate student ideas and inquiry related to the text read in class. Students should come prepared for gentle creative movement and exercise; wearing supportive shoes, comfortable clothing, and bringing water or snacks.

Kimerer LaMothe, award-winning author, philosopher, dancer, and playwright is co-founder of Vital Arts, a creative center for arts and ideas, located on a farm in upstate New York. We will be joined virtually by Kimerer for a few class sessions.



Prof. Liv Schaffer

Liv Schaffer is a social practice artist and educator with a focus on intergenerational dance. She has performed with AXIS Dance Company, DanceWorks Chicago, Robert Moses' Kin, and the Dance Exchange. Liv is a Community Engagement Artist with Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, and on faculty at the University of San Francisco's Performing Arts & Social Justice department, where she teaches contemporary technique and directs an on campus intergenerational dance company, Dance Generators. Liv is also the Intergenerational Programs Director with EngAGE, designing programs that bridge generational divides within affordable housing communities across California. Liv's choreography has been presented by Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, ODC Theater, Yerba Buena Gardens Festival/RAWDance SF, The Big Muddy Dance Company, and Western Michigan University. Liv was named a 2021 Gen2Gen Innovation Fellow by CoGenerate and serves on the Board of Directors of San Francisco Village.



Thank you to the following donors who supported the Fromm Institute for Lifelong Learning with a contribution to the **2024 Annual Appeal** (gifts received between **June 1, 2023** through **May 31, 2024**) and through the Students Helping Students giving program by adding an extra amount to their membership fees to support student scholarships.

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