

Stipend for Summer Interns

This past year, through LLI's "Stipend for Summer Interns for the Bard High School Early College Program," we awarded several \$400 grants to students in support of their summer activities program.

One of these students was Alena Kuczynski, who went to India for five weeks with Global Routes, a program of international volunteer work, community service and teaching. Working closely with the Group for Urban and Rural Development (GUARD) to

improve living conditions for the villagers of Devalpura, Alena experienced the hardships of living in a rural, third world country.

She especially enjoyed helping to build a meeting hall for the women's self-help group. In a country where women suffer inferior status, Alena was excited to see them forming alliances to increase their power. Through translators, she was able to learn their stories.

Alena's letter of thanks and brief report of her experiences, will

be available at the desk in front of the hospitality room. She reported that all the money was spent on construction materials, to cover host families' costs, and the rest donated to GUARD. The \$400 grant went a long way!

The Stipend Program is in its second year. LLI also subsidizes selected Bard College seniors with grants to complete their senior projects, through our "Seniors to Seniors" program, currently in its fourth year. —Dorothy Baran

Upcoming Events at Bard

As the holidays approach, Bard College has many offerings to help us celebrate the season.

Concerts on the horizon include "An American Thanksgiving" by the Woodstock Chamber Orchestra on Friday, Nov. 4; Bard Conservatory Chamber Orchestra concerts on Sundays, Nov. 20 and Dec. 11; the Bard College Community Chorus on Wednesday, Dec. 10; and the Bard College Orchestra on Tuesday, Dec. 13. All except the Dec. 11 concert will be held at the Sosnoff Theater, Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts.

The Bard Dance Program will present its winter program Dec. 10 through 12 in Theater Two at the Performing Arts Center.

Author Jonathan Lethem will present a reading as part of the Morrow's Contemporary Fiction Reading Series in the Weis Cinema, Bertelsmann Center on Monday, Nov. 14.

As always, Monday afternoons are dedicated to the First Year Seminar. Lectures are at 4:45 each Monday. They expand on the theme "What is Enlightenment? The Science, Culture and Politics of Reason." Coming up are "Mozart's Final Reconciliation," Nov. 7; "Captain Cook's Endeavor," Nov. 14; a student debate on science and religion, Nov. 21; "Philosophy, Science and Cultural Principles of Reason,"

Mark Your Calendars!

LLI Intersession, 2006,
January 4, 11, 18.

LLI Spring Semester
March 24 to May 19.

NOTE: No classes
April 14 & 21.

Council Meetings are open to
all LLI members.

Enjoy a greater participation
with your school.

Next Meeting: November 21,
10 a.m., Bertelsmann Campus
Center.

Nov. 28; and "Gender Trouble in the Age of Reason," Dec. 5. These events are held in the Sosnoff Theater, Performing Arts Center.

Times and ticket information can be found in the Fall Calendar either in print or online at www.bard.edu/news/calendar.

—Midge Russo

Do you go away for the winter?

If you don't have email, please remember to give us your winter address. You can mail it to LLI, Bard College, PO Box 22, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504, or just drop it off in the Hospitality Room.

Volunteer Spotlight A One-Woman Show

Karen Abramson chairs the Volunteer Committee and views the entire LLI membership as her staff. You know those emails you get? —Volunteers Needed—that's Karen. In this way, she is able to supply help to committees wherever and whenever it is needed. (She's fun to work with, too, so do get involved!)

Karen and her husband, Bill, lived in NYC and have had a second home here since 1985. When Bill retired, they moved to Willow full time. They love the winters here when they snowshoe and cross-country ski. But their real passion is hiking, usually with their big dog, "Woody." As members of the NY & NJ Trail Conference, they maintain a trail near the North-South Lake in the Haines Falls area which has a campsite and wonderful views of the Hudson Valley. Karen is an avid reader and belongs to two book clubs and a short-story club at her local library and still manages time to coach computer classes for SeniorNet in Kingston. Go, Karen!

—Dorothy Baran

News Flash

Josette Lee has been designated "Dean of LLI" by Dean Emeritus, Stuart Stritzler-Levine!

Curriculum Committee Commendations

(Second in a Series of Three Articles)

Class Assistants

As each semester begins, Class Assistants aid Presenters in making copies, communicating changes and cancellations to class members, and generally handling problems as they arise in the class room. Our thanks go to several exemplary Class Assistants:

Claire Luse, Class Support Chair. Several semesters back when the details of managing the Class Assistants program became overwhelming, Claire Luse came forward to help “as needed.” An eager, well organized, inventive co-worker, she soon became indispensable. With a very small committee, Claire oversees the Class Assistants, plans the preview and sign-up for

Class Assistants, the Orientation for Presenters, and assists the Curriculum chair. All with cheerful demeanor and a tactful smile!

Arthur Fenaroli. Class Assistant and enthusiastic Coordinator. For two years running, Art has developed the workshops for the Inter-session and has acted as Class Assistant for the same. In addition, Art petitioned IBM for a grant and has made possible two laptops for LLI. One is currently being used by our Administration and the other is on hand for use by our presenters.

John and Betty Kennedy. *Very Special People and exceptional Class Assistants!* Not only do they attend to the smallest details . . . they do

it with a sense of humor. Unassuming and a model of reliability, they support, anticipate needs, find solutions and are ready to help at a moment’s notice!

Al and Toby Eisman. Another outstanding couple. Starting as a coordinator, Toby now mentors new committee members and is also involved with two new programs: The Olympics of the Mind and the Peer Study Committee. Husband, Al has never turned down a plea for help. Quietly efficient, Al has gladly served as a class assistant and audio visual team member each semester since our inception in 2001.

—Josette Lee, Curriculum Chair

The Newsletter Committee

The Newsletter Committee (part of the Public Relations Committee) is composed of some pretty talented people, who’ve never never shared LLI’s spotlight. Here’s some insight into who they are:

The Can-Do Gal

Marcie Woodruff studies watercolor painting with dedication, determination and exquisite results. Retired from a decade of writing, editing and laying out programs and study guides for plays at The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Mo., Marcie has been designing our newsletters since she joined LLI in 2001. (How’d we get so lucky?)

She has written a couple of published vignettes and an as yet unpublished biography based on her great-grandfather’s Civil War experience. Marcie also directed a privately funded school improvement program in the St. Louis City elementary school system. She’s been a psychotherapist, junior and senior high school English teacher, and describes herself as a “Jack of all trades, master of none.” But, there she’s mistaken. She has mastered it all!

Ace Reporter

Midge Russo came to Rhinebeck four years ago and spends lots of time with her five sons, one daughter and 16 grandchildren. She graduated from St. Mary’s

College, Notre Dame, IN and was a reporter for the LaSalle, IL Daily News Tribune and Editor of the Quaker Magazine for the Quaker Oats Company. When her kids were in college (three tuitions at a time — ouch!) she worked for seven years with the Greenwich, CT Library and then 12 years with the US District Court Library in Norfolk, VA.

Midge covers many of the cultural events in and around Bard. She has tremendous enthusiasm for the arts and it shows in her work!

Another Ace

Dorothy Baran has been writing for LLI for several years, always bringing us interviews with interesting women both on and off campus. She consistently attends the LLI Council meetings (open to all members) and has become more involved and taken on more responsibility within the institute.

Big Man on Campus

Nick Annas, a retired engineer, was on the Newsletter Committee and then became LLI’s Administrative Vice President. He was a force behind many of the decisions that shaped LLI and was indispensable in registration, membership and other areas. He and his wife, Carol, an elementary school teacher in her final year before retiring, are currently building their dream house high on a ridge

in Red Hook. This, and his affiliations with other volunteer groups, have necessitated his recent resignation as VP. His good counsel and even temperament will be missed, but he’s still attending classes, and easily recognizable as big man on campus!

Health Alert!

from the Dept. of Health and Human Services

- Stop the Spread of Germs that Make You and Others Sick!
 - Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
 - Do not sneeze into your hands. Put your used tissue in the waste basket. After coughing or sneezing, wash your hands with soap and water or anti-bacterial cleaner.
 - If you’re not feeling well, stay home. Please don’t infect your classmates!
- Thank you!

In Memoriam

Joan McPartlin passed away early September. Joan was the first person who volunteered to teach a course for us. Called Women and Self-Esteem, it explored a variety of religious traditions and female leaders in history. She was warm, talented and generous and she will be missed.