World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” – officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country’s service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday—a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation’s history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs
BROADWAY AND PRESIDENTS IN THE UCONN LIBRARY

Today’s quiz question: Who followed Alexander Hamilton as president of the United States? Because the Broadway play, “Hamilton”, has attracted so much attention including winning several Tony Awards this year, many people think that Alexander Hamilton was a president of the United States. He wasn’t because the Constitution requires that any candidate for president must be born in the United States and be at least 35 years old. Hamilton was born in St. Kitts and Nevis.

If you look at the display case in the UCONN-Waterbury Library, you will see a playbill advertising the play “Hamilton”. Look closer and you might be amazed to learn how many plays, both on and off Broadway involve presidents.

Some plays featured several future presidents such as “1776” about events surrounding the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Some have a president as a major character such as “Nixon and Frost” or “Teddy and Alice”, Teddy being the 26th president of our country and Alice was his daughter.

“Clinton, The Musical “is a satire. It shows the two sides of WJ; the Bill Clinton who is both mature and charismatic and reckless and funny. This play never reached the Broadway stage.

“The First Lady Suite” is a chamber musical about several first ladies including Jackie Kennedy, Eleanor Roosevelt and Mamie Eisenhower. In this play, presidents are not major characters but are merely mentioned.

“MacBird “ might be a worthy revival in the immediate future. The play superimposes the transfer of power following JFK’s assassination, onto Shakespeare’s” Macbeth”.

“All the Way” “How to Steal an Election” and “Mister Ronnie” have playbills in the display case but I had little luck in getting more information on all of them.

The display case featuring the Broadway playbills will be available through November 11th.

Remember, OLLI members are entitled to take out material from the UCONN-Library or ask the staff to get you a book not available locally. I am been amazed how helpful the staff is and how incredibly widespread the University’s non-fiction collection is.

Evelyn Marshak

METROPOLITAN OPERA LOCAL LIVE

STREAMING SCHEDULE

WINTER/SPRING 2016-2017

by Mary Fitzpatrick Peitler

As a followup to our previous article (OLLI News-letter, Sept. 16) about this terrific opportunity to watch live-streamed performances of the Metropolitan Opera at the Brass City Theater in Waterbury, the Warner in Torrington, and other Connecticut locations, OLLI member and opera buff Richard Albro wants to remind everyone that there are some fantastic operas on tap to enjoy this winter while we are on OLLI break and during our spring semester. They are broadcast on Saturdays.

L’AMOUR DE LOIN:

Waterbury  Dec. 10, 2016 @ 12:55 PM—

RUSALKA:

Waterbury  Feb. 4, 2017 @ 12:55 PM—Warner

Warner  Feb. 25, 2017 @ 12:55 PM—

March 4, 2017 @ 12:55 PM—

Performances in-both theaters at the same time

NABUCCO----Jan. 7, 2017 @ 12:55

ROMEO et JULIETTE---Jan. 21, 2017

LA TRAVIATA---March 11, 2017

IDOMENEO---March 25, 2017 @ 12:55

EUGENE ONEGIN---April 22, 2017

DER ROSENKAVALIER--May 13, 2017

@ 12:30 PM  Note special start time

I am still on a high from last Saturday’s great OLLI trip to the Metropolitan Opera’s Aida. Now I look forward to seeing one or more other performances locally this winter! Opera and popcorn, anyone?

REMEMBER

Voices and Visions submissions are welcomed.

OLLI Winter Session 01/13/2017
Adulthood and Aging: For the second year in a row, Dr. Laura Donorfio’s (Associate Professor – Human Development And Family Studies) will team up with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in leading a one-of-a-kind intergenerational service learning opportunity. Throughout the Fall 2016 semester, nearly 40 UConn undergraduate students will be actively engaged, in various capacities, with OLLI members. Come join us for a fascinating presentation, which will feature students’ findings and reflections on their involvement with OLLI?

**OLLI CANADA Trip**

Are you looking for a trip that includes history, incredible scenery and overnight stays at great hotels? Then OLLI’s trip to the Bay of Fundy, Campobello and Bangor, Maine might be the perfect adventure for you.

Before I try to tempt you to call Friendship Tours and make a reservation for this trip from July 10-16, 2017. I want to remind you that you need a passport for this June trip.

On July 16th you’ll be off to Bangor, Maine, on a deluxe motor coach with an experienced tour guide who likely knows the answers to 98% or more of the questions you have.

Campobello is the home to Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s 34 room summer residence and its magnificent gardens. On Day 3, the tour continues on to Kingsbrae Garden, named one of Canada’s Top Ten Public Gardens with 27 glorious acres, a Dutch windmill, alpacas, peacocks and 50,000 perennials spread among several gardens with various themes. Tonight you have dinner at the 4 Star Hilton Hotel which is the only waterfront hotel in Saint John.

Day 4 will give you a chance to explore Saint John with its nearly 400 year old history and considered the greatest little city in eastern Canada. Then onward to an incredible natural phenomenon, the Reversing Falls Rapids, where the tides are so high, they cause the river to reverse its direction twice a day. After, there will be time today to explore the city and poke through the Old City Market.

Day 5 includes touring a true natural wonder, the Bay of Fundy and enjoy some of the remaining wilderness in the southern part of the New Brunswick province. The bus will stop to give you a chance to see St. Martins, where the world’s highest tides have eaten away at the cliffs and gouged out four -story sculptures from the rock.

Day 6 -it will be hard to bid adieu to New Brunswick. You will cross the border and spend the night in Boothbay Harbor, Maine and enjoy a farewell dinner that will give you a chance to write down email addresses of newly made friends. You’ll have time to shop in the Boothbay Harbor Village before heading home.

Canada has two official languages but English is the major language spoken in New Brunswick. American dollars are accepted everywhere in Canada as are the major credit cards. If you mail postcards to the friends or family in the United States, you must use Canadian stamps.

The cost for either a double or triple room is $1487. Cost for a single room is $2017 if there are 40 to 50 people on the trip. Non-OLLI members pay a $20 surcharge.

Your $400 deposit is due April 7, 2017 and final payment is due May 26, 2017. Mail checks to Friendship Tours, Overnight Department, 705 Bloomfield Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002.

For questions and reservations, call Friendship Tours at 860-243-1630.

Friendship Tours highly recommends you buy trip protection coverage.

Your trip will begin at the Chase Parkway Commuter Lot, 750 Chase Parkway, Waterbury. Likely departure time is 8 am.

We all have dreams. But in order to make those dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort.

Jesse Owens
Once some robbers broke out in the bank, one of them pointing the gun to the cashier said, “Give me all your money, or you’ll be GEOGRAPHY!”

The cashier laughed and said, “You mean to say ‘HISTORY.’”

The robber answered, “Don’t change the subject.”

A man walks into a bar and asks the bartender, "If I show you a really good trick, will you give me a free drink?" The bartender considers it, then agrees. The man reaches into his pocket and pulls out a tiny rat. He reaches into his other pocket and pulls out a tiny piano. The rat stretches, cracks his knuckles, and proceeds to play the blues.

After the man finished his drink, he asked the bartender, "If I show you an even better trick, will you give me free drinks for the rest of the evening?" The bartender agrees, thinking that no trick could possibly be better than the first. The man reaches into his pocket and pulls out a tiny rat. He reaches into his other pocket and pulls out a tiny piano. The rat stretches, cracks his knuckles, and proceeds to play the blues. The man reaches into another pocket and pulls out a small bullfrog, who begins to sing along with the rat’s music.

While the man is enjoying his beverages, a stranger confronts him and offers him $100,000.00 for the bullfrog. "Sorry," the man replies, "he's not for sale." The stranger increases the offer to $250,000.00 cash up front. "No," he insists, "he’s not for sale." The stranger again increases the offer, this time to $500,000.00 cash. The man finally agrees, and turns the frog over to the stranger in exchange for the money.

"Are you insane?" the bartender demanded. "That frog could have been worth millions to you, and you let him go for a mere $500,000!" "Don't worry about it," the man answered. "The frog was really nothing special. You see, the rat's a ventriloquist.'"
Now that the fall semester is coming to a close, you may be anticipating a little break in your busy schedules. But most of us are also looking for fun things to do during the winter to keep our minds active and our spirits up. There is absolutely no shortage of events to attend and places to see in Connecticut with a seasonal theme. The performing and fine arts are alive and well in New England all year long.

Beginning with music, it seems every local singing group and church offers a holiday concert. One of my favorite groups is The Kent Singers who will give two concerts. Bach’s “Wachet Auf Christmas Oratorio” will be performed on Sun., Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. at Saint Andrew’s in Kent. A Christmas concert to benefit the New Milford Fuel Bank will take place at St. John’s on the New Milford Green on Sat., Dec. 17 at 5 p.m. The other is Chorus Angelicus, a group of young singers who are becoming internationally known and will be traveling to Spain this coming year. Locally, they will join with The Waterbury Symphony on Sun., Dec. 4, at 3 p.m at Naugatuck Valley Community College to present “A Connecticut Christmas.” They will also give five other concerts in venues around the state during December. Check chorusangelicus.com for dates and places. And should you want to do some singing yourself, many communities offer Carol Sings right before Christmas. Santa even manages to attend a few of them, in spite of his busy schedule.

In addition to The Waterbury Symphony, the Connecticut Pops will present their holiday concert on Sun., Dec. 11 at 3 p.m at the NVCC Fine Arts Center. They are a semi-professional concert band composed of musicians primarily from Western Connecticut who meet weekly to make music and hone their skills. Trust me, they are terrific! This is a free concert and the public of all ages is warmly invited to attend.

Moving on to dance, the Nutcracker seems ubiquitous every year. I have discovered awesome talent in our Connecticut dance schools such as The Brass City Ballet and The Nutmeg Ballet. This is a great opportunity for your grandchildren to be introduced to the ballet at a very young age. Seeing children and teens on stage can be a very inspiring thing. Clara’s magical journey to the Lands of Snow and Sweets will be performed by the Nutmeg at the Warner Theater in Torrington on Dec. 10 and 11 and again at the Bushnell on Dec.17 and 18. The Palace in Waterbury will also host the Woodbury Ballet’s Nutcracker rendition on Dec. 17 at 4 p.m.

Theater-lovers have so much to choose from! From the Bushnell which will offer “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical” Dec. 9 - 11, to Hartford Stage where you can relive Ebenezer Scrooge’s night of terror (and redemption!) in “A Christmas Carol”, running from Nov. 25 through Dec. 30. The Palace will showcase “A Christmas Story” on Nov. 18 at 8 pm and Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. Smaller local theaters also have a lot to offer (and much lower ticket prices!) Castle Craig Players in Meriden presents humorist David Sedaris’ “The Santa Land Diaries” from Dec. 8 through 11. Adults only for this one, please! TheatreWorks in New Milford is a lovely small local theater which will present Noel Coward’s classic sophisticated comedy of errors “Private Lives” weekends from Dec.2 through Jan. 7.

Lastly, museums offer great special exhibitions during December. The Mattatuck will open “Winter Scenes” (Dec. 11 – Mar. 12) paintings of simple life by folk artist Linda Nelson inspired by her childhood in Illinois. The Connecticut Community Foundation has loaned the museum 25 of her paintings for this lovely show. Venture a little farther afield to The Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford and enjoy their annual “Festival of Trees and Tradition,” opening Dec. 1, 5 to 8 pm, and continuing daily through Dec. 11. You can purchase a beautifully decorated tree or wreath at this fundraiser and enjoy the museum’s art collection. Make a day of it!

So, remember, don’t settle in for your “Long Winter’s Nap” until you have partaken of some of the terrific cultural offerings of the arts community in Connecticut. Pair an event with a lunch or dinner out in one of our many topnotch restaurants, and you’ve got yourself a memorable experience. Enjoy your break!
**MEET YOUR PRESENTERS**

**Dr. Roger Levy** brings a true international perspective to the classes he teaches at OLLI.

He was born in Lyon, France, during World War II and grew up in that city considered the center of French Resistance to the Germans. As a young man, he served with the French army in Algeria.

Dr. Levy had a successful career in international business and traveled back and forth across the Atlantic as the liaison of an IBM plant outside of Paris and its sister plant in East Fishkill, New York, for some time. He later worked at Richardson -Vicks where he became Director of Sales and Marketing Information Systems.

Eventually, he embarked upon an academic career, teaching for 25 years at Saint Thomas Aquinas College in Sparkill, New York, until retiring in 2013.

His interest in living in America began when he first visited on a study tour taken with fellow students from the Ecole Superieure de Commerce de Lyon where he earned his degree in business.

They were a collegial group of people – in October 2015, they met for lunch at a Lyon restaurant, having “kept in touch for 52 years!” He remembers flying from Paris to New York with the study group that then went by bus to Chicago, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco and Los Angeles, staying with American families, visiting major corporations and doing some market research for French firms that helped finance the trip.

As soon as he arrived in New York City, Dr. Levy knew he wanted to stay longer in the U.S. than the time scheduled. When responding to a series of written questions in an email interview, he wrote, “One major attraction was the interest the young American college-educated females paid to young Frenchmen, ah that accent!” He became an American citizen in 1977.

Dr. Levy extended that first trip by getting an internship with the Burroughs Corporation’s headquarters in Detroit for 18 months on a J-1 (exchange student) visa. He then sailed back to France on the SS France. The French Army was waiting for him to complete his service as his student deferment had ended. Dr. Levy served 18 months in Algeria while “itching to return to the states.”

The opportunity to return came when IBM offered him the position of liaison between the Paris and East Fishkill plants. At Saint Thomas Aquinas College, he taught *Fundamentals of International Business* and other courses. International business, he observed, is a “close cousin of economic geography” and “I always loved maps.” He decided to focus on East Asia, which is a very “dynamic” region.

Dr. Levy still travels extensively but flies over the Pacific rather than Atlantic routes as he explores the Asian countries. He and his wife have visited China four times as tourists and he enjoyed being in Japan’s greater

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Tokyo area on a faculty development trip. On a sabbatical semester he taught at High Tech, a college then associated with Saint Thomas Aquinas College, in Rabat, Morocco. Among his degrees are a MBA from Temple University and a DBA in Marketing from the University of Sarasota.

Why teach at OLLI? “I still get ‘charged up’ from teaching a class and having to prepare for those classes keeps me involved in the region...” He loves having OLLI students who really want to learn about East Asia, not because they have to, as often is the case with college students. He finds some in his OLLI class come because they think it important to know more about East Asia while others who have visited or worked in that area or have children there, like to compare notes on what they have seen, read or learned about that part of the world. Their knowledge often enriches his presentations.

–Mary Ann Martin