

**OBSERVER  
JANUARY 21, 2020**

**FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD**

Happy New Year: Good News about Parties, Registration, and Fund Raising

Clearly our members have remained committed to our program through our recent somewhat rocky times.

Our annual New Year's Day open house was a big success, as usual. Thanks to the organizing efforts of Arlene Spiller, about 80 members, with their families and friends, gathered at the lovely apartment of Ted Gannon on Sutton Place for several hours of conversation, food, and wine to recall the old year and welcome the new.

As of now, 298 members have registered for the spring semester! This is an increase from the fall when 280 members were registered.

In addition, 222 members have contributed approximately \$85,000 to the Institute for Education in Retirement (IER), our tax exempt fund raising arm. This means that about 75 percent of our members have contributed thus far. The fund raising campaign that will help to secure our future continues. We are hoping to reach \$100,000 with as close to a perfect response rate as we can get. If you have not received the appeal letter from the IER, please notify Carolyn Preiss via email to [preic920@newschool.edu](mailto:preic920@newschool.edu) or Colette Siegel at [colette4788@aol.com](mailto:colette4788@aol.com) and they will mail you another one.

Negotiations with the CUNY Graduate Center about our future relationship with them continued over the break. All sides remain committed and optimistic that we will work out a mutually satisfactory arrangement. More to come.

Mark Your Calendars for GMM & SG Schedules!

Save the date, General Membership Meeting, Friday, February 14, 1-3PM.

All of our study groups this semester will meet at SLU at 25 West 43<sup>rd</sup> Street. Classes are on the 18<sup>th</sup> floor on Monday through Thursday and on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> floors on Friday. Room assignments will be posted by the elevators on the 18<sup>th</sup> floor.

Here are the end dates for the SG, listing the day the class meets, the 12-week end date, followed by the 13-week one. Wednesday study groups have the latest end dates because the spring break includes two Wednesdays. We will also have Lincoln's Birthday off as well as Presidents' Day.

Monday: April 27; May 4  
Tuesday: April 21; April 28  
Wednesday: May 6; May 13  
Thursday: April 30; May 7  
Friday: April 24; May 1

### Those Were the Days

Our new space has a storied past. Here's a note from Linda Gottlieb, who is co-coordinating the study group on The New Yorker, quoting from a January 26, 2015 New Yorker article.

Before 4 Times Square and the decade or so at 20 West 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, the magazine spent more than fifty years at 25 West Forty-Third Street. That's the building with the "Literary Landmark" plaque out front, which, backward-runningly, depicts the place as having been a Luddites' den: "Characteristic of the magazine was a suspicion of advanced technology." Brendan Gill, describing the office's "bureaucratic squalor," called it "penitentiary-like," but more beguiling is what went on outside the prison walls, in the old Theatre District haunts: the Algonquin, the Century, the Teheran; Joe Mitchell and A. J. Liebling at the Red Devil, dining on baby squid; all the editors dressed up and out every night for dinner and a show, under the watchful eyes of policemen on horseback. It was acceptable in those days to pass a woman on the street and say, "Great hat."

And here is another note about our new space from Leslie Davis.

Janet Groth, who worked for The New Yorker for many years and wrote a memoir about it titled "The Receptionist," told me the 18th floor, where our classrooms are, was where the writers had their individual offices. The 16th and 17th

floors were business offices -- advertising, circulation, etc. 18th was writers, 19th was editors, including Mr. Shawn. So we're not only in their old building, but on the right floors. But what was then chopped up into small offices for individual writers has apparently been opened up for larger spaces.

### **EVENTS**

#### ArtSig

#### Tour Winter Antiques Show

- Where: Park Avenue Armory, 68<sup>th</sup> Street and Park Avenue
- When: Wednesday, January 29, 3:45PM (meet at 3:40 at ticket desk with coats checked)
- Cost: Tour is free but admission to show is \$30

Join us on our annual tour of the Winter Antiques Show. Our leader, Alice McAdams, an antiques dealer and appraiser herself, will introduce us to dealers who will talk about the objects on display in their booths. It's your chance to ask questions and hear the stories about museum-quality antiques.

To sign up, email Dick Kossoff at: [chemkos@aol.com](mailto:chemkos@aol.com). For questions, email Carol Millsom at: [carolmillsom35@gmail.com](mailto:carolmillsom35@gmail.com).

#### And Save the Date for these Upcoming ArtSig Events

- February 18, 3:30PM, The new Brant Foundation exhibition (thanks to Nancy Small for making the arrangements)
- March 17, 3:30PM, Agnes Denes at the Hudson Yards "Shed"

### Online Art Show

Carol Sterling provides the third contribution to our online art show.



According to Carol:

"My watercolor was created "en plein air." It brings back happy memories of times with friends and family at Alexander Bay in upstate New York."

To participate in the Online Art Show, send a photograph of your work to Carol Millsom at [carolmillsom35@gmail.com](mailto:carolmillsom35@gmail.com) and to Adam. Include title, medium, and dimensions. All work submitted will appear in an issue during the semester. The only rule is that it must be work that has not appeared in Voices or been displayed in previous IRP art exhibits. For help in photographing your work, see Peter Houts at [psh2@psu.edu](mailto:psh2@psu.edu) or Adam.

### Out of Town Travel

Road Scholar Best of Portugal, 10 Days, May 20- June 8, and June 13- June 22

Price change as of January 14: from \$2,229 to \$2,449. Single rates on request. Plus roundtrip airfare: \$800. Deposit \$250. Final payment due March 31. For all other details, check the link below or call 1-800-454-5768.

If you are interested, please email Bob Gerace at [rgerace234@yahoo.com](mailto:rgerace234@yahoo.com).

<https://www.road scholar.org/find-an-adventure/20983/The-Best-of-Portugal-From-the-Age-of-Discovery-to-To-day/dates/>

### **OPPORTUNITIES**

#### Diversity/Outreach

The Diversity/Outreach Committee is seeking new members to help fulfill its progressive vision of a more vibrant and diverse community at the IRP. If you believe that interacting with members of different races, creeds, ethnic backgrounds, and walks of life will enhance our academic and social experience; if you have a diverse group of friends and colleagues whom you can invite to join us; if you are a member of a professional organization with a multi-racial membership you can reach out to; if you simply think it is time for our community to be more relevant to the year 2020, we are interested in meeting you! Your participation will have the potential to determine the future of the IRP. Interested persons should send an email to Doris Wallace at [dwally44@aol.com](mailto:dwally44@aol.com) by February 10.

#### A New Outlook!

A New Outlook! Thanks to everyone for your enthusiastic response to the first

edition of *Outlook*, our new IRP newsletter. We're now preparing the spring 2020 issue—and you can be part of the team.

Here's how:

- Letters to The Editors: Send us your comments, and we'll print as many as we can.
- We Were There: A new feature for members who attended seminal events of the past, such as Woodstock, Altamont, the Martin Luther King "I Have A Dream Speech," an early Beatles concert, any of the marches against the war, or for women's or gay rights. You get the idea. If you, indeed, were there, please tell us about it.

Contact the editors, Pat and Audrey at [irpnewsletters@gmail.com](mailto:irpnewsletters@gmail.com)

### Register Voters

We are looking for IRP members who can help in our drive to register New School students during the spring 2020 semester. We will offer a 2 hour training the first week of the semester and begin registering students immediately after. Please contact Rita Silverman via email to [Ritasilverman11@gmail.com](mailto:Ritasilverman11@gmail.com) for additional information or to sign up. As you know, this upcoming election is critical, and registering students to vote is essential to the future of all of us.

## **MEMBERS**

Do You Like To Sing? Consider joining the Encore Chorale along with Eileen Brener, Carol Groneman, and Mary Houts. There are no auditions, and the group will sing a new repertoire – some traditional, some modern – in a December Holiday Concert and in a concert in the Spring. Rehearsals are on Monday,

1:30-3PM at Third Street Music School, 235 E. 11<sup>th</sup> St. under the leadership of a professional choral master. Learn more at [www.encorecreativity.org](http://www.encorecreativity.org).

## **RESOURCES**

### IRP Zine

- To access the IRP Zine, go to [www.irpzine.org](http://www.irpzine.org). To view the directory or IRP Faces, you must login with these credentials:
  - Username: IRPNewSchool
  - Password: Fall2018
- For the fall and spring calendars, [click here](#).

### New School Events Calendar

- [Learn more](#) about upcoming events at The New School.

### CUNY Events

- Learn about [Music in Midtown](#), a program of free concerts at 1PM on Thursday afternoons at the Graduate Center on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 34<sup>th</sup> Street
- School of Labor and Urban Studies (SLU) [public programming schedule](#), 2019-2020
- [Public programs in Midtown Manhattan](#)