

THE OBSERVER
February 14, 2022

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GMM: This Friday at 2:00PM
You definitely don't want to miss it!
To receive the Zoom link, click: <https://formfaca.de/sm/bUqcaUNXL>.



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear members,

We are looking forward to seeing you and kicking off the Spring term at the General Membership Meeting (GMM) this Friday, February 18 at 2PM. We will have special videos and announcements that you don't want to miss. Please sign up here to receive the Zoom link: <https://formfaca.de/sm/bUqcaUNXL>.

I'm happy to announce that we will have a new team member joining us next week. Her name is Joanna Micek and we will feature a bio and headshot in an upcoming Observer. She will be working primarily on LP² operations and events in a full-time capacity.

I will have Director's Office Hours this week, Wednesday 2/16 from 3:30-4:30pm. The link to join is: <https://gc-cuny-edu.zoom.us/j/87450295130?pwd=Q3FMMUlqeWQzYVFUU1hhMmQzaWdpZz09>.

And remember, next Monday, February 21, is a holiday. All study groups are canceled for Presidents' Day.

For those who are coming to campus for study groups (HyFlex or in-person groups), please take note of a few important reminders:

- Masks are still required in all campus spaces regardless of vaccination status. The governor's announcement last week does not apply to schools or higher education.
- You may receive a notice that your Cleared4 pass (or "Blue Pass") is set to expire. Please disregard this message as the system will automatically renew passes on the day it is set to expire. If for some reason it is not renewed and you lose your pass, please email me directly and we will manually extend.
- If you do not have your booster dose loaded into your Cleared4 profile and are planning to be on campus this semester, please upload that documentation by March 1. You have received a message through the system if you are in this category.

Looking forward to seeing more of you on campus in the coming weeks as we realize the HyFlex plans. All others – I'll see you at the GMM!

Best,
Mariel

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

LP² General Membership Meeting

This Friday, February 18 @ 2:00PM

Featuring:

- Video of the highs and lows of first-time coordinators (*Entertaining*);
- Interview with the first Graduate Center recipient of an LP²/IER Fellowship (*Inspiring*);
- News about the upcoming 60th anniversary celebration of IRP/LP² (*Commemorative* – and, we hope, anticipating, in person);
- Highlights of members' art and photography (*Aesthetic*);
- Tour of the new LP² website (*Professional-Easy to Use*)

All this and more (with a video surprise!) for your pleasure and delight at the Spring 2022 LP² General Membership Meeting. Join your friends and colleagues for an update on our activities and an opportunity to be together, and see old and new members, if only on Zoom. We're making Virtual as good as it gets! Click here to receive the Zoom link: <https://formfaca.de/sm/bUqcaUNXL>.

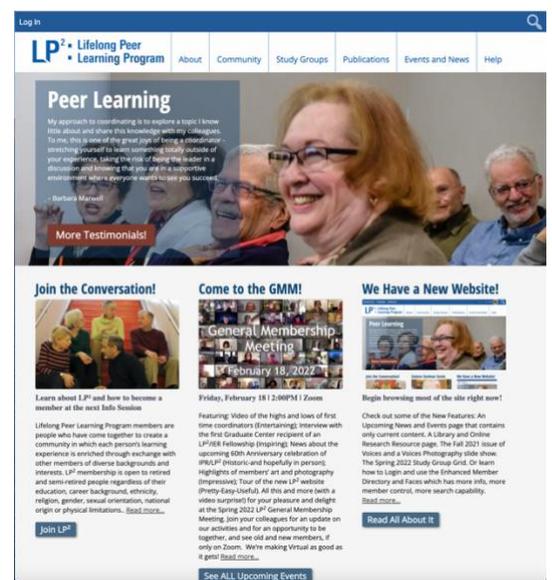
The New LP² Website is Live.

Come to the GMM on Friday, February 18 at 2:00PM for an Overview
Visit [LP2NYC](#) Now...

- Click [LP² website](#) or the image on the right
- Most pages are public so prospective members can find us.
- The Member Directory, Faces and Members' Profiles are not public.
- Hover over the menu at the top of the new homepage to see all pages and click to view. (About, Community, etc.)
- Bookmark <https://www.lp2nyc.org> in your browser to get to it again quickly and easily.

New Features include:

- An [Upcoming News and Events](#) page with only current content.



- A [Library and Online Research Resource](#) page.
- The [Fall issue of Voices](#) and [Voices Photography slide show](#)
- [This Week's Observer](#).
- The [Spring 2022 Study Group grid](#) (with direct links to Coordinators' Profiles for logged in members).
- [LP² and GC Help](#) and [Tech Help](#) pages.
- A [Forms page](#) for access to the [Suggestion Box](#) & [Website Feedback](#).

About Member-Only Content:

The Member Directory, Faces and each member's Personal Profile (and a few other areas) are viewable only by logged-in members.

This helps keep everyone's personal information safe.

When logged in, you will be able to see:

- **The Directory** as a list with emails, addresses, and phone numbers.
- **Faces** with links to the Directory and the full profile of all other members
- **Member Profiles** for all members, which include bio information for more than half of our members and space for additional phone numbers and emails, skills, interests, emergency contacts and more.

When logged in, you will be able to update your own Profile and add a new photo of yourself to make yourself more findable to others.

NOTE: Many member pics are not yet on the Faces page. This is because the old Zine photos are generally not usable on the new site.

- Photos for most Members who joined in Spring 2021 and thereafter are in Faces.
- Some Members who joined before Spring 2021 need to add their photo to Faces.

View Member-Only content:

Create your own unique personal password:

- **If you are familiar with the password reset process generally:**
 - Click on **Login** at the top left of the Home page
 - On the Login page click on **Forgot Password**
 - **Follow** the step-by-step instructions that appear.
 - **NOTE: Use the email for YOU in the Zine member directory.**
- **If you need HELP with Password and Logging in:**
 - Use the **detailed step-by-step Password Reset instructions**
 - **Get one-on-one help** from a Tech Helper. See GET HELP:

GET HELP:

- Visit the [Tech Help page](#) for more info about using the new site, logging in, and the new Member Directory.
- Write to website@lp2nyc.org to get the step-by-step Password Reset instructions, or one-on-one help.

Protect ALL Members' Privacy – including your own: PLEASE DON'T....

- Share your login information with non-members.
- Reproduce or share Member Directory information with non-members

Unmasking Bias



Nicole Javanna Johnson, Dismantling Systemic Oppression in the Theater Industry

Thursday, February 24 @ 7-8:30PM

Nicole Javanna Johnson is Founder & Creative Director of the Harriet Tubman Effect Institute, a human resource center and institute of research and strategy for justice advocacy. Nicole is also Founder of Javanna Productions M.O.V.E (MOTIVATION OPPORTUNITY VISION

ENTERTAINMENT), a non-profit arts and education company that provides community members with the resources and platforms necessary to address social issues creatively. A member of SAG-AFTRA and a leader in the educational theater community, Nicole is currently pursuing her PhD at New York University in the Music and Performing Arts Department of the School of Culture, Education and Human Development.

In Dismantling Systemic Oppression in the Theater Industry, Nicole will share her experience as a researcher and consultant in the theater industry, offering LP² members insight into the education, principles and rhythms of effective initiatives in Broadway and regional houses. Through case study and power point style presentations Nicole will share the ups and downs of her work, encouraging participants to consider how they are participating in institutional change in their own communities.

To register for this event, go to: <https://bit.ly/3BihIWZ>



Fridays@1

Jesse Eisinger, Why Billionaires Don't Pay Taxes
Friday, March 4, 1PM

Investigative reporter **Jesse Eisinger** led a team at ProPublica that obtained a vast trove of IRS

data on the tax returns of the nation's wealthiest people. 15 years of data show that billionaires like Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk and Warren Buffett pay little in income tax compared to their massive wealth – sometime nothing at all. Their reporting undermines the cornerstone myth of the American tax system: that everyone pays their fair share and the more money you earn the more you pay. Jesse will talk about the implications of what their investigation discovered and also how they managed to obtain the information.

Jesse Eisinger is a senior editor and reporter at *ProPublica*. He is a Pulitzer Prize winner, former columnist for Wall Street Journal and author of *The Chickenshit Club: Why the Justice Department Fails to Prosecute Executives*.

To see Jesse discussing the *Propublica Report*, click here: [Bombshell Tax Report](#).

To register for the lecture, click here: <https://bit.ly/3gLk2fH>

Upcoming Curriculum Committee Workshops

How *YOU* Can Access Those Guilty Pleasures of Coordinating (from The Curriculum Committee)

Even if you missed last week's workshop, it's not too late.

It may be that you have forgotten – or perhaps never even knew – how easy it is to get started with coordinating. It can be as simple as joining others in giving one of the group classes led by experienced leaders in which you can be responsible for just one or only a few sessions.

If you'd prefer to come up with your own study group, with or without the help of a co-coordinator, a Curriculum Committee member can coach you through the



whole process one-on-one and the Tech Committee can help with the mechanics.	
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To find out more about how to take advantage of the opportunity to coordinate, come join us in a workshop and see what you think – no commitment necessary. There's one tomorrow...	
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Tuesday, February 15 @ 4PM (TOMORROW): More Than One Way to Present Study Groups

This week we'll be continuing the series of Coordinator Development Workshops with a discussion of More Than One Way to Present Study Groups. **Tomorrow** at 4PM we'll consider how to find the format that fits your style and use it to share your ideas effectively. Click on this link to join the Zoom meeting: [Join Zoom Meeting: More Than One Way...](#)

Tuesday, February 22 @ 4PM BONUS – Two workshops next week! (same day, same time, *different links*)

Speed Dating for Prospective Co-coordinators

Designed for those who would like to find someone sharing their interests who might like to cooperate in putting together a study group, this is a chance to see if you can locate a compatible collaborator. Maybe you'll find a match next Tuesday, February 22 at 4PM. The Zoom link will be sent before the workshop. To register, click on this link: [Speed Dating for Prospective Co-coordinators](#)

or

How's it Going? for current coordinators

This will be an opportunity for both new and experienced coordinators to discuss how their current study groups are progressing and to share problem-solving strategies. Next Tuesday, February 22 at 4PM we'll be getting together to talk about what's working, what isn't, and what to try next. The Zoom link will be sent before the workshop.

To register, click on this link: [How's it Going?](#)

Attention Poets and Poetry Lovers: The Poetry Group is Restarting

Tuesday, February 22 @ 2PM (live!)

Join us on Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 2:00PM to set a new agenda for the Poetry Group. We will be meeting at Carol Shoen's apartment 70 E 10th St., Apt. #2V. Interested but can't attend, call Carol at (212) 260-0282.

ART SIG EVENT

Saturday, March 5 @ 4:00PM

Tour of the Outsider Art Fair

Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 18th St., (btw. 6th and 7th Aves)

Under one roof for the first time in two years, the annual Outsider Art Fair promises to be a lively event. Work by self-taught artists from all over the world will be displayed by 62 dealers. Old favorites like Bill Traylor and Howard Finster will be on view along with special curated exhibits and many new discoveries.

Carol Millsom, who has been attending the fair since its inception in 1993, will lead a tour of the exhibits and introduce you to artists and dealers

Tour is free, but tickets to the fair are \$35. Available online (with a fee) or at the door. RSVP to Dick Kossoff (chemkos@aol.com). For questions: Carol Millsom (carolmillsom35@gmail.com).

New Member Bios

Barbara Confino

barbaraconfino@yahoo.com



Barbara is a writer and visual artist working in video, sound, text, stills, and the web. Her preferred forms are mixed-media installations and artists' books. Her work has been featured in the Brooklyn Museum's groundbreaking show, *Digital Printmaking Now*, and is housed in such collections as the Bibliotheque Nationale de France, the British Museum Library, the Staatsbibliothek of Berlin and the National Film Board of Canada. Her video, *HUM*, has been seen in concert in New York's Symphony Space. She was Artist-in-Residence at Polytechnic University and is currently at work on the Genetic Wars, a complex piece exploring the future consequences of cloning and hybridization.

She is Managing Editor of the New York Photo *Review* where she writes about the current photography scene. She has also contributed writings on art and digital culture to such periodicals as *The Village Voice*, *CITIWEEK*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, *ArtsCanada* and *Travel and Leisure*.

She lives in New York City where she exhibits regularly and teaches at the International Center for Photography and CUNY's New York City College of Technology.

Myrna Weiss

mzwnyc1@gmail.com



Myrna writes: An “old” Brooklynite, I was introduced to opera when I was five years old – on New Year’s Eve – Die *Fledermaus*. I am not certain if it was the very special surprise of being able to stay up so late or all that wonderful music, but I was hooked for life. I even got my future husband to expand his taste from jazz to opera! At 16, I basically became a ‘city girl’ and have spent most of life here enjoying the cultural offerings that are available- until Covid. However, viruses like people never stay exactly the same.

Though I love the wide-open spaces, the fact is that I come from many generations of concrete dwellers, and I need my fix of carbon monoxide as much as a rancher requires the waft of air filled with odors of horses and grass. Thus, extensive travel from canoeing on the Amazon or trying to learn the tango in Buenos Aires has given me a balance between plein and indoor air. Since I have been grounded for several years, my diversion besides part-time work, is being in the kitchen concocting creative quick meals and following baking recipes. Fortunately, my daughters are much more inventive and diligent, and I like to think I inspired can one to be a great baker and the other a first-rate cook. We live near each other, so I designated myself The Chief “Schmecker” (taster). The LP² study groups I have had to date have exceeded my expectations. I am looking forward to enjoying lots more great study groups and meeting everyone in them – eventually.

Judd Kahn

juddkahn@gmail.com



Judd writes: Except for a brief interlude in the mid-1990s, when I spent a year at Bank Street College of Education, LP² is my first venture back into the classroom, virtual or real, since I left college teaching in 1978. I went to graduate school to study history. Fortunately for me, the graduate school was Cal Berkeley and the decade was the 1960s. It was my luck to see history being made as well as to try learning about it in the library. I spent one summer teaching at an historically black college in the South, taking away much more than I contributed. Most of my college teaching took place at a smallish liberal arts school in New England. I was happy to be there and happy to leave.

Since then, I have worked in city government, in a business school, in a family business, and for the last two decades in the investment “racket.” There I learned the lesson that William Goldman taught about Hollywood, “Nobody knows anything.” One can avoid a great deal of pain by just keeping that in mind. The two topics that interest me most, at least as measured by my reading and sometimes writing choices, are 1) how we understand things, and 2) deciding on

the right balance for this country at this time between market fundamentalism and political intervention. Any ideas?

ONLINE ART SHOW

From: Susan Smahl

Title: The Furnaces at Bethlehem Steel



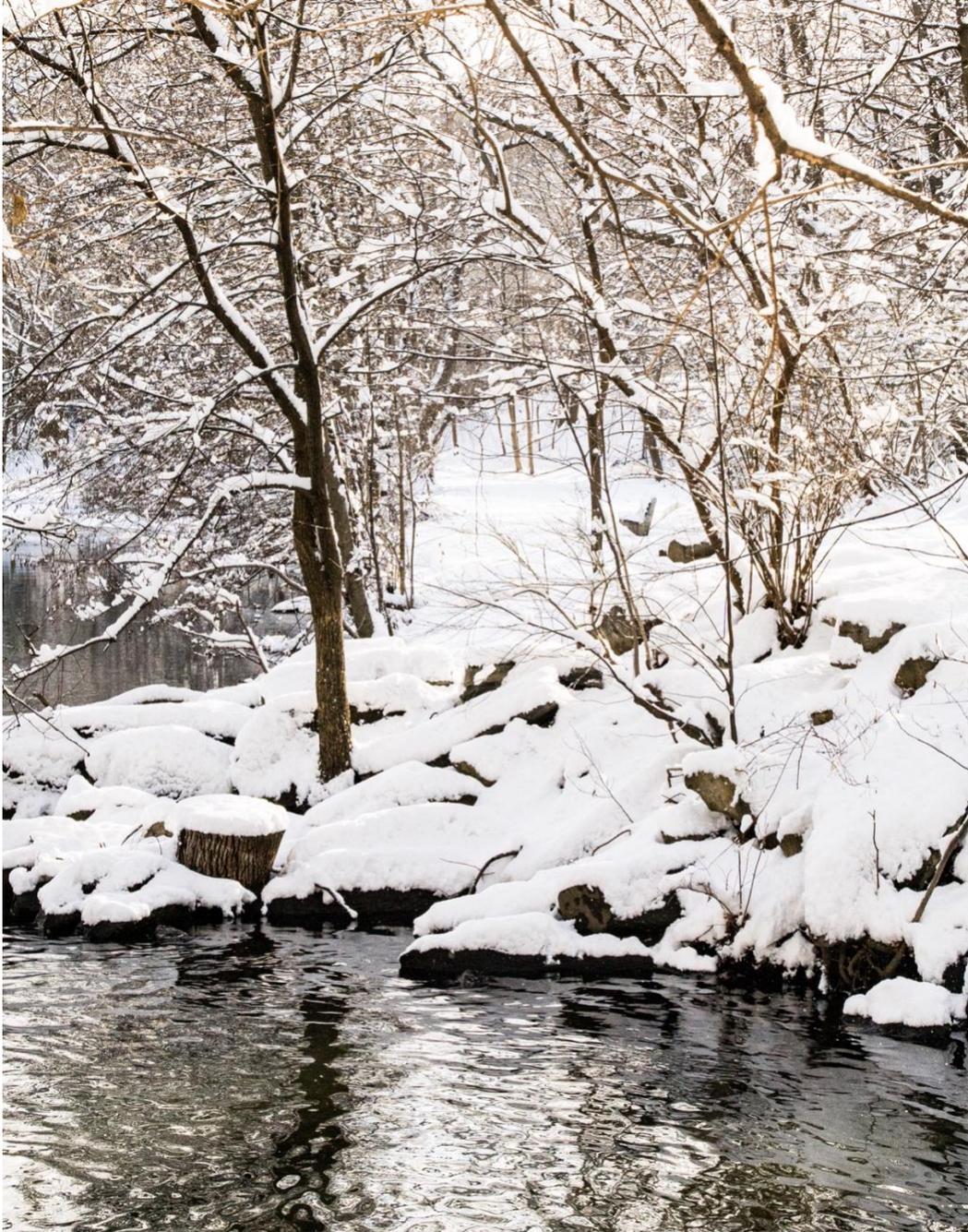
Susan says: Looking rather battered against the sky, the once mighty furnaces have been reborn as an arts district.

Calling All Painters, Sculptors, Photographers, Block Printers, Ceramicists and
Textile Artists!

Display the creative work you have been doing this summer in the Online Art Show. Send a photograph of your work with a title and a brief statement about it to Carol Millsom at cmillsom@gc.cuny.edu. Art works appear in The Observer in the order in which they are received.

MEMBER FORUM

Jonathan Gaines sent us this lovely “country” snowscape, ***First Snow of the Season***. For a different take on snow, you might want to view ***First Snow*** along with its “urban” cousin, by Alec Rill, which ran in last week’s Member Forum. Download it here: <https://www.irpzine.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/The-Observer-February-7-2022.pdf>.



ONGOING LP² EVENTS

The Women's Group meets at 3:45PM on Thursdays. Contact Arlyne LeSchack at aleschack@gc.cuny.edu.

The Men's Group meets at 3:45PM on Wednesdays. Contact Jay Fleishman at efleishman@gc.cuny.edu.

Stitch Away Stress meets at 4PM Tuesdays. Members share skills and enjoy the meditative benefits of handwork. Contact Michelle Harris at mharris@gc.cuny.edu.

Observer Submissions Send items for the next week's Observer to Micky Josephs at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu by 5PM on Friday. Send Online Art Show entries and suggestions for virtual tours to Carol Millsom at cmillsom@gc.cuny.edu.

Member Forum If you have something to share with the LP² community, e.g., a photo, an article, a book or a web site that you've discovered and think would be interesting to members, send it to Micky at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu for inclusion in the Member Forum.