

THE OBSERVER
March 7, 2022

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NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear members,

New York City has hit a big milestone and will be changing masking and vaccine requirements for many aspects of our (once and now again) daily lives. Following guidance from the CDC, the governor, and the mayor, CUNY campuses are making masks optional. Those in our community who are not vaccinated are encouraged to continue to wear masks on campus. Vaccinated people are of course welcome to wear a mask when preferred. The details of Friday night's announcement are here: <https://www.cuny.edu/coronavirus/university-updates/mask-policy-update/>

This policy change does not change our study group modality in the Spring term. All hyflex groups remain hyflex and those who wish to attend in person need a Cleared4 pass to enter the building. If you are enrolled in a hyflex group and would like to start attending in person but do not yet have a Cleared4 pass or a Graduate Center student photo ID, please be in touch with us at engagement@gc.cuny.edu. All of the fully Zoom classes (all of those on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays) will remain fully on Zoom. The Advisory Board and I are working on a plan for the Fall term.

Please note that the University's [quarantine guidance](#) will remain unchanged. A reminder that if you are fully vaccinated and have received a booster shot, or if you tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, and you come into close contact with someone with COVID-19 you do not need to quarantine and can return to work or class. **But you need to wear a mask for 10 days from the**

date of your last close contact and get tested at least 5 days after the close contact.

The situation with the pandemic and cases at the Graduate Center and across CUNY will of course be monitored on a continuing basis and changes to this policy will be made as appropriate. I will keep you updated.

I thought you might be interested in this piece by Graduate Center faculty who offer their perspectives on Russia's invasion of Ukraine, including its historical parallels, the refugee situation, and the role of the U.N.: <https://www.gc.cuny.edu/news/echoes-stalingrad-experts-weigh-war-ukraine>

Thank you for joining us last week for the kickoff of Fridays@1. We will share the link to watch the recording once available.

Did you miss the first speaker Nicole Javanna in the Unmasking Bias Speaker Series? [See it here.](#)

Take good care,
Mariel

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Going to a Study Group on Campus?

MASK MANDATE LIFTED FOR ALL CAMPUS SPACES!!

For those who are coming to campus:

- **Masks are no longer required in all campus spaces.** (See above.)
- **The rest of the Covid-19 policies remain in place.** Cleared4 pass (or "Blue Pass") system automatically renews passes on their expiration date. If for some reason you lose your pass, please email Mariel directly to manually extend it.

Nominations for Advisory Board Due by March 18

An election for four vacant seats on the LP² Advisory Board will be held online in mid-April. One seat, reserved for representing newer members, must be filled by a member who has been in LP² for three years or less. **Nominations are due**

by March 18 and the slate of candidates will be presented to the membership before Spring Break (March 25).

Any LP² member may run for the Board after one year's membership. Members may nominate themselves or other members.

Board elections are run by the Nominations and Elections Committee, this year comprising Micky Josephs, Jay Martin and Michele Harris. Members interested in running for the Board should contact Committee Chair, Micky Josephs, mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu, by **March 11** for information on how to submit their applications for the election and then must submit the completed applications by **March 18**.

The Advisory Board is the principal body advising the LP² Director, with primary responsibility for suggesting and implementing LP² policy as it affects the needs and interests of LP² members. The Board meets every two weeks during the academic year and as needed, during the summer.

Advisory Board members serve for three years. In addition to attending Board meetings, members of the Board may have responsibilities on Board committees or as liaisons to other LP² committees.

The Board consists of 15 voting members: 12 members elected by the LP² membership and the chairs of 3 standing committees: Admissions, Curriculum and Diversity. The Executive Committee of the Board, consisting of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary, is elected annually by Board members. The elected members of the LP² Board, also serve as the Directors of the Institute for Education in Retirement (IER) with the members of the Advisory Board Executive Committee plus a Treasurer serving as the officers of the IER.

Upcoming Curriculum Committee Workshops

This Could Be Your Last Workshop (from The Curriculum Committee)

This coming Tuesday will be the very last in the initial series of coordinator development workshops. If you come, you can learn about the last step in creating your study group – how to prepare a **syllabus**. Then you'll have a month to actually make a plan and prepare a Study Group Proposal before the deadline of April 7 for summer and April 14 for fall classes. In order to qualify for the next sessions, the New Coordinator Workshops, you're going to need to have your Proposal accepted. If you don't have a representative yet, you'll need to choose a contact from the Curriculum Committee to help you prepare it and to present it for approval. Here's a list of the members:

Lynn Brenner, Ed Brill, Mary Connelly, Ted Dreyfus, Aileen Gitelson, Judy Goldman, Susan Herman, Michael Kessler, Meera Kumar, Ruth Mackaman, Sheila O'Connell, Mary Padilla, Randy Ross, Tom Sear, Judy Siegel, Sue Yellin

In addition, new coordinators will be eligible for workshops given by the Tech Committee on technical aspects from the basics of preparing slides and screen sharing to the bells and whistles of using videos and beyond.

We invite you to continue the process and keep learning to coordinate by doing. Hope to see you at **Making It Happen** this Tuesday, March 8, at 4.



UPCOMING CURRICULUM COMMITTEE WORKSHOP **Tuesday, March 8 @ 4PM: Making it Happen**

You've come up with a great idea. You've been thinking about the first few sessions a lot and you're ready to get started. But soon you will have to come up with a semester's worth of weekly lessons. It's time to think about long-term planning. You're invited to come tomorrow, Tuesday, March 8, at 4 pm to talk about creating a syllabus

Click on this link to join the meeting: [Making it Happen](#)

CO-COORDINATOR(S) WANTED

One or more co-coordinators wanted for a 12-week study group in Fall 2022 on

*DISNEY ANIMATED FILMS
MAGIC, MEANING, MESSAGES,
MORALITY, & MORE*

Contact Dan Kaslow dakaslow@comcast.net



ArtSig Event

Architecture Walking Tour Wednesday, March 30 @ 2PM

We are happy to announce that our Patrick Siconolfi will lead a series of architecture walking tours. Patrick will use his background in architecture and real estate development to interpret Manhattan's buildings for us. Join us for the first tour: lower Broadway between 18th and 32nd Streets. Tour will be about an hour concluding with a coffee/wine stop. No charge.

To sign up: Dick Kossoff: (dkossoff@lp2nyc.org). For questions about the tour: Patrick Siconolfi (psiconolfi@lp2nyc.org).

The Voices of VOICES

Friday, March 18 @ 1PM.

Coming to a Zoom session near you in living color!

You've seen our photos at the General Membership Meeting. Now hear what LP² members can do with the written word.

The writers of VOICES will read prose and poetry from the recent issue—on subjects ranging from the silly to the sublime. It promises to be an entertaining hour on a Friday afternoon so. . . DON'T MISS IT! Watch this space for information about linking to this great show.

Library Information from the Curriculum Committee Workshop

Last week's Curriculum Committee Workshop demonstrated several useful methods for accessing and benefiting from resources offered by the GC-CUNY Mina Reese Library. Some of them are listed here for you. You might want to make a hard copy or enter some of the links in your Contacts.

(FYI: Your "User GC Network Name" is the first part of your email address before "@", i.e., firstinitiallastname#, and your password is your GC email account password.)

The **Library and Online Research** page of the LP2NYC.org website (in the Study Group menu) is dedicated to sharing a selection of useful research tools, including, but not limited to, the [GC-CUNY Mina Rees Library](#). It features key libraries, a range of important online resources, and the best used book source online to assist members with research into scholarly articles, images, books, databases and other materials. You can access it at any time.

LP2 Research Guide: GC-CUNY Librarian Katherine Pradt has created a research guide specifically for LP² members, including links to free, online resources - as well as a link to Mason Brown's workshop, viewable online.

Ask a Librarian: **Mason Brown** is LP²'s contact for the Graduate Center library; you can contact him directly at mbrown3@gc.cuny.edu. You can always email the librarians or chat online at: ref@gc.cuny.edu. More contact information is available via the Ask a Librarian link above.

Additional Library Information:

Check out these resources about using the library research databases: <https://libguides.gc.cuny.edu/c.php?g=1079794> as well as this short YouTube video:

<https://youtu.be/zX8vQsrPVpl>

"Not quite ready for prime time" LP² Member's Guide to the Website:

Last Stop: Working on our Profiles

Now that we can look at everything on the website, it's time to enter our own profiles. After logging in, click on your name on the upper right-hand side of the page. Choose ***Edit my Profile***. You will see links for: [General Information](#), [Contact Information](#), [Personal](#), [Membership](#) and

[Emergency Contacts](#). You can click on each one and fill it out. You will also see links for Profile Photo and Cover Photo.

Your Profile Photo will also be your Faces photo. You can take it with your computer camera (keep going till you get a good one) or you can use an existing photo that you can upload from your desktop.

Your Cover Photo is the image that appears across the top of your profile. If you don't choose an image of your own, the default cover photo is an image of the entrance to the Graduate Center. If you'd like to know what others have used, go to the Member Directory and click on the names of members to see their choices for their Cover Photos.

Well, that's it. You've done it all. Congratulations, you're prime time now!

ONLINE ART SHOW

From: Carol Sterling

Title: Nude



Carol says: I completed this drawing while enrolled as a senior learner in a life drawing class at FIT.

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

Password Reset

Judy Goldman wrote about members losing the instructions for the **CUNY Password Reset link**. For all members, here are the instructions and the link.

We recommend that you bookmark this link for future reference: <https://passwordreset.gc.cuny.edu/> However, should you need to reset your GC Network Password in the future, you can also find a link to the service on the website or via the [GC Portal](#).

In addition, you can highlight the instruction paragraph above and slide it off onto your desktop. Then you can retitle it on your desktop to "GC-CUNY Password Reset."

Scam Protection Advice on Website

Following several examples of members having had their emails hacked, **David Lerner**, LP²'s technical "Member for All Seasons" has sent us helpful advice on **Protecting Yourself from Hackers, Fraud and Scams**. Those tips remain available on the website, under [Tech Help](#).

NYPL and Library of Congress List of Resources on Ukraine

Judy Siegel wrote:

The New York Public Library and the Library of Congress have compiled a list of resources to learn more about the history of Ukraine. Some of those are available as ebooks. For the [NYPL resources click here](#), for the [Library of](#)

[Congress resources click here.](#) Scroll below for some additional readings we are providing in PDFs.

LP² Member **Sara Petit** has a show hanging at the Carter Burden Gallery.



Carter Burden Gallery

SARA PETITT

ON THE WALL

Dates: Feb. 17th - March 16th, 2022

Tuesday to Friday 11-5

Saturday 11-6

548 West 28th Street

Rm. 534

New York, NY

Between 10th and 11th Ave

212-564-8405

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.