THE FRIENDS WHO SUSTAIN US

In November 2017, Peter K. Maier resigned from his post as Chair of the Friends of the Fromm Institute Board of Directors, however he will continue to serve on the Board and as a member of the Fromm Institute faculty. Called to board service by his family, Peter Maier joined the Friends of the Fromm Institute as a member of its Board of Directors in 1991. Later in 1996, at the request of Alfred and Hanna Fromm, and with the unanimous support of all directors, he became the Chairman of the Friends of the Fromm Institute Board of Directors, succeeding our co-founder, Alfred Fromm.

During his tenure, among other accomplishments, Mr. Maier worked to secure permanent, dedicated space for the Fromm Institute. To that end, Mr. Maier represented our Board in presenting the largest private donation in the University's history up to that time.

A graduate of Claremont McKenna College, UC Berkeley and New York University, Peter Maier is a financier, lawyer and professor. He taught courses on federal income, estate and gift taxation, as well as a seminar on investments at the UC law schools (Hastings & Boalt Hall) and Stanford University for over thirty years. Since 2000, he has taught at the Fromm Institute. He is also the founder of Maier Siebel Baber, an investment management firm specializing in real estate; President of Private Wealth Partners, LLC, an investment management firm in Larkspur, CA; and a former trustee of the University of San Francisco. Mr. Maier has served on the Investment Committees of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, The Jewish Home of the Aged, the Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco and the Episcopal Grace Cathedral. He is a member of the California Bar, The U.S. Supreme Court, and is the author of numerous articles on taxation, real estate, and investments.

In expressing our gratitude, Benjamin Franklin said it best, “To the generous mind the heaviest debt is that of gratitude, when it is not in our power to repay it.” It is with this profound gratitude that we thank Mr. Maier for his guidance, dedication, and continuing service to the many who have benefitted from the Fromm Institute program he so graciously supports.

Rabbi Brian Lurie was unanimously selected as the new Chair of the Friends of the Fromm Institute Board of Directors. Like Peter Maier, Rabbi Lurie was called to board service by his parents-in-law, Alfred and Hanna Fromm. His wealth of experience includes service on the Friends of the Fromm Institute Board, as Board Chair & President of the New Israel Fund (NIF), as Executive Director of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties, and as President of the San Francisco Jewish Museum. He has worked in Israel and America to promote equality for Israeli Arabs, and as Executive Vice President of the United Jewish Appeal (UJA).

We look forward to our continued success under Rabbi Lurie’s leadership.

Derek S. Leighnor, Fromm Institute’s Executive Director
2018 SPRING SESSION SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

MONDAY 10 A.M.
- Huckleberry Finn and Invisible Man
  Prof. Thomas Lorch
- The Films of Alfred Hitchcock: 1940 – 1963
  Prof. Cary Pepper
- The British Invasion: British Rock of the 1960s
  Prof. Richie Unterberger
- The Brain is Lovely, Dark, and Deep: Neuroscience and the Wonder of Poetry
  Profs. David Watts & Thomas Lewis

MONDAY 1 P.M.
  Prof. Pazit Zohar
- ‘Deportation Nation’ and its Discontents, 1990s to 2018
  Prof. Susanne Jonas
- More Great Women Singers of the 20th Century
  Prof. Sunny Buxton
- History of Astrology
  Prof. Darrel Rutkin

TUESDAY 10 A.M.
- The Second Machine Age
  Prof. John Levy
- Managing Your Money
  Prof. Peter Maier
- The 60’s Revolution
  Prof. Stephen Kaufman
- Eight Symphonies
  Prof. Scott Foglesong

TUESDAY 1 P.M.
- The Story of Wine
  Prof. Richard Monson
- California Dreaming: Art in California, the First One Hundred Years
  Prof. Andrea Husby
- The Golden State in the American Century
  Prof. Chris O’Sullivan

WEDNESDAY 10 A.M.
- Casanova: The Life of a Libertine
  Prof. James Kohn
- Overlooking the Obvious: Concealed Biblical Narratives
  Rabbi Stephen Pearce
- The Art of Story Telling: Eight Live Performances
  Prof. Lynne Kaufman
- Seminar Movies: The Music of Benjamin Britten
  Prof. Jonathan Bailey

WEDNESDAY 1 P.M.
- A Man for All Seasons: Henry David Thoreau and America
  Prof. Rodger Birt
- Hollywood & Newspapers: Portrayals of the Press Onscreen
  Prof. Ruthe Stein
- Ancient Egypt: A Cheerful Theocracy
  Prof. Douglas Kenning
- Seminar: Spoken Spanish for Beginners, Level 1
  Prof. Almendares-Berman
- Seminar: The Music of Benjamin Britten
  Prof. Jonathan Bailey

THURSDAY 10 A.M.
- The Progressive Conscience in E. L. Doctorow and Kurt Vonnegut
  Prof. Alan Goldberg
- Modern Social Philosophy: from Hobbes to Habermas
  Prof. David Peritz
- The Eighteenth Century Grand Tour: From London to Naples
  Prof. William Eddelman
- Seminar: Writing For Self/Writing For Others
  Prof. Joan Minninger

THURSDAY 1 P.M.
- Dogs and Humans: Evolutionary Allies
  Prof. William Garrett
- Art of Persia
  Prof. Patrick Hunt
- Napoleon I, Napoleon II, Napoleon III – Promise, Tragedy, Tyranny
  Prof. Nikolaus Hohmann
SIGN UP NOW . . . OR LATER, IT’S YOUR CHOICE

The Spring 2018 Course Catalog will be on-line on Tues., March 6, after 5 p.m., or with you through the U.S. Mail shortly thereafter. Winter Pre-Enrollment, that time when everybody has an equal chance of getting all their first choice classes, runs from Wed., March 7 through 3 p.m. Fri., March 9. If signing up for courses that won’t begin until the week of April 9 seems frantic, remember that more than 1,000 people enroll during this Pre-Enrollment period! That’s more than two-thirds of all students who’ll register for classes.

For the really eager among those of you who are enrolled this Fall, (new students must wait to March 7 when they can review the full Courses Catalog) if you want to avoid sending an email or leaving your enrollment choices on our phone line during Pre-Enrollment, and you know the classes in which you’d like to enroll based on the newsletter published course titles and professors teaching them, you can pick up an Earli-Enroll Form in the Fromm Institute Office now. Select your classes and pay your membership fee or scholarship contribution in-person by credit card or check. We’ll cash your check/process your credit card and keep your application, handling it right along with all the others received before 3 p.m. on Fri., March 9. Written confirmation of your enrollment will be mailed after March 15.

For those who get anxious about classes, or are travelling, enrolling early is a great way to get the task of your Spring Session registration out of the way. As noted above, your applications will be randomly processed with all the others received during the Pre-Enrollment Period. There’s no preferential advantage to Earli-Enrollment, but you’ll have the peace of mind that you’ve taken care of business before this session ends, and that’s always worth quite a lot.

SIGNING UP FOR SEMINARS . . .
Your confirmation letter will note that we have recorded your interest in the seminar(s) you have selected, but it will also say that we have not confirmed a place for you. Seminar courses are enrolled by lottery and confirmed/denied in writing after March 27. If you are signing up for a seminar, also make an alternate choice. If you are not selected, you’ve got a space in your alternate course.

AND WHAT ABOUT PARKING?
For those interested, there will be an application for an On-Campus Parking Permit included in your confirmation of enrollment packet. The deadline for the return of these applications will be Wednesday, March 27, but your check will be cashed upon its receipt. On-Campus parking is expensive and is always limited at USF, that’s why we encourage you to share the ride and costs through carpools. In our limited inventory of parking permits we will consider Disabled Drivers first, then Carpools second in the distribution. If there are any left after that, the distance from campus determines who gets a Single Driver, non-disabled permit. Should we not be able to offer you a permit, your application fee will be fully refunded.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR
Spring Classes begin the week of Monday, April 9 and end the week of Thursday, May 31. “Make-Up” Week for classes cancelled by a holiday or a faculty commitment/illness will be June 4 through 7. One holiday comes up during the Spring Session (May 28) meaning all Monday courses meet one more time during “Make-Up” Week.
WHAT ‘WONDERS’ ARE LEFT TO DISCOVER?

In the final weeks of the session you might just find a “wonder” in the Wonders of Science Series that appeals to you. In Week Six, Seven and Eight of the Fromm Institute’s Winter Session, here’s what lies ahead. Remember, all lectures take place in Xavier Auditorium at 10 a.m. and all lectures are welcoming of any Fromm Institute student and her/his guests.

On Feb. 14, California Academy of Sciences Nathalie Nagalingum will speak on “Cycads.” What the heck is a cycad? If you want to find out, stop by and hear Dr. Nagalingum divulge all. Dr. Nagalingum is Associate Curator and McAllister Chair of Botany.

On February 21, enter the “strange” world of the ichthyology with California Academy of Sciences Luiz Rocha, as he lectures on “Exploring the Ocean’s Twilight Zone.” His research interests are in the ecology and ecosystems of coral reefs, using advanced DNA sequencing systems to learn all about the diversity of the ocean.

On February 28, the Xavier Auditorium will be seeing little green men or one-eyed giant robots when Wonders of Science staple lecturer Seth Shostak asks “What Might Extra-terrestrials Look Like?” Seth Shostak is Senior Astronomer at the S.E.T.I. Institute but he doesn’t just look at the stars, as he has written extensively on astrobiology.

Remember there has been a revision of the Schedule of Lectures and a flyer detailing that is now at the Welcome Booth and in the Fromm Institute Office.

THANK YOU!

Each year, the Fromm Institute offers a program that is only fractionally funded by the membership fees its students pay, relying instead on the community we serve to assist us. Because we know how much so many of you value the Fromm Institute, we now ask for help once again from all of you and those you know.

Please consider the following. Our thoughtful faculty offers many engaging courses each session. Our understanding and welcoming staff provides first-class service. Our experienced peer age student body creates an intelligent and interactive community. Finally, the USF campus provides a contemporary, collegiate environment in which to learn.

Thoughtful, engaging, understanding, welcoming, first-class, experienced, fun, interactive, contemporary and collegiate...the Fromm Institute is all this and more!!

How you can help. Contributions to the Fromm Institute come in many forms and in all sizes from the faculty, board, staff, students, and all the people that make up their families and friends. Honor a birthday or anniversary and we will notify that person in writing of the gift. Similarly, memorial contributions are notified to the person you specify. Donations can be made in the office or on our website. You can also join the Alfred & Hanna Fromm Legacy Society by including the Fromm Institute in your estate plan. Remember, Derek Leighnor is an Estate Planning Attorney, so he is available to assist you in this regard.

Finally, THANK YOU! From the bottom of our hearts, all who have benefitted and continue to benefit from the Fromm Institute join in a resounding chorus of gratitude.
FROM THE PRESIDENT

“Your Voluntary Student Association Dues & FISA Events” by Lois Roach

Did you attend the “Experience Venice” tour presentation on Tuesday, January 16th and/or the “Performing Arts Q&A” on Thursday, January 18th? Or, perhaps, you enjoyed the 3 p.m. concert on Thursday, January 25th or “sped” around the Maier Room at the “Speed Meeting” on Tuesday, January 30th and/or listened to the solo performance by Sarah Feeder on Thursday, February 8th. All five of those events were provided for your information and pleasure by your Fromm Institute Student Association (FISA).

Your voluntary FISA dues paid for the concert musicians and solo performer and for the cookies and other refreshments. Without your $5 per Session dues, none of the above experiences and treats would be possible. FISA functions to sponsor, coordinate and provide for your social life at Fromm Institute. The FISA Council would not be able to do this, without your $5 per session ($15 per year). If you have not yet paid your dues for this year/Session, please visit the FISA Dues Booth at the entrance to the Atrium where a FISA Officer or Steering Committee member will be, in the mornings before class and at noontimes, to welcome you and give you a gift for joining.

DO YOU RECOGNIZE THIS RABBIT, WOMAN?
Children’s Theater Association by Linda Allan, FISA Steering Committee

For the last two years, Fromm has been supporting the Children’s Theater Association when we bring The Songbirds here for noontime concerts. This year, Fromm student Laura Klapper is starring as the White Rabbit in the CTA’s production of Alice in Wonderland under the musical direction of Bill Keck, director of Beach Blanket Babylon. Yes, there are some hats! CTA has produced and performed musicals in a major theater for every grade school child in the San Francisco Public School system, at no cost to them for 83 years! This year’s show runs from January 17th to March 3rd at Cowell Theater in Fort Mason. In addition to this year’s weekday performances for over 7500 school children, Alice in Wonderland will be performed on Saturdays, February 3rd, 10th, 24th, and March 3rd, for the general public. If you know a young child, or are very young at heart, come see Alice in Wonderland. Meet the entire cast of characters in the lobby afterwards. This many performances requires two casts. If you see the Ruby cast, be sure to say “hi” to Laura Klapper. If you see the Emerald cast, say “hi” to me. I have small parts but great costumes as an Oysterette and Playing Card #2. I’ll personally introduce you to our White Rabbit and to Alice.

WELCOME COMMITTEE

“Spring Session Preview!” by Frances Pinnock

Towards the end of the semester we will have one meeting on the Spring classes in which “seasoned” Frommies will give their candid opinions on the upcoming classes and the professors to first time, new members. This session, join us at Noon on February 20th in the Broad Room. And also don’t forget DON’T LOOK NOW...

WELCOME COMMITTEE presents

Join a Fromm Conversation group of that small masterpiece of British creepiness: Daphne du Maurier’s Don’t Look Now. Roeg’s movie adaptation makes brilliant use of Venice’s wintertime shades of to evoke a mood of exoticism and mystery. Read the story, watch the movie and join our conversation.

**MOVIE:** Thursday, February 22nd at 3 p.m., Maraschi Room

**CONVERSATION:** Thursday, March 1st at Noon, Berman Room
TOUR & TRAVEL NEWS

“More Tours Coming Up!” by Susan Kennelly
Details are now available on our ever-popular Ashland Shakespeare Tour to be held from June 19-22. As customary four plays are included but new this year is a choice among two: you can choose between Shakespeare’s Henry V being performed in the new Thomas Theater with its versatile stage, or the gender-neutral production of the Rodgers & Hammerstein musical Oklahoma! in the traditional proscenium Bowmer Theatre.

Other plays include Sense and Sensibility, adapted from Jane Austen’s popular novel, Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet wherein the pair of star-crossed lovers are transported in the Elizabethan Allen Theatre and on the final night, Othello set in contemporary times and directed by Ashland Artistic Director Bill Rauch.

All of this is coupled with 3 nights at Ashland’s finest hotel the 4-star Ashland Plaza with daily European breakfast, afternoon tea and each night a midnight snack of hot chocolate and fresh-baked cookies, time to talk over the plays. Plus two private lectures, a choice of backstage tour of all three theatres or a Q&A with a Company member, a Welcoming Dinner at one of Ashland’s finest restaurants. There is roundtrip transportation direct from Fromm by private air-conditioned motorcoach with stops for rest and refreshment along the way. Pick up a flyer and join us for our 18th Annual Tour.

Joining the roster of adventures for Frommies is an August excursion to the Canadian Rockies & Glacier National Park. For seven days of beauty in high mountains set with sparkling lakes and flowering meadows Aug. 15-22, you will travel from Calgary to Banff, visit Waterton Lakes National Park in Canada, drive on the Going-to-the-Sun Highway, see Lake Louise and ride on the Athabasca Glacier Ice Explorer. Hotel accommodations, most meals, air, motorcoach, tour manager and baggage handling are all included. Details on the flyers in Activities Hallway.

Finally remember the special Art Tour to Venice October 11-21 with Dr. Sunnie Evers. A few places remain on this very special tour with the Renaissance expert! Whichever you choose, may you have Happy Travels!
Command Performances

“Welcome to Winter 2018” by Robert Morgan
Here we are in the 6th week of the Winter Term already but there is lots ahead yet.

San Francisco Conservatory Concerts: We have two more concerts coming up. This Tuesday 2/13 at noon in the Maraschi Room we will have our “Valentine” concert for you. A Guitar and Cello duo will perform and promises us some very romantic songs to put you in the mood. For all those who attend we will have special Valentine treats for you. You know it will be a full house so get there early and settle in for a mood pleasing musical treat. Then to end the Winter term on Thursday 2/22 at noon (also in the Maraschi) we will have a Jazz Quartet from the new Jazz program at the Conservatory. They promise a classical Jazz program filled with sounds of Bass, Trumpet, Saxophone and Drums which should excite and have you toe tapping along. Put these on your calendar now and be sure to attend one or both. As always these concerts are sponsored by your Student Association and its your voluntary student dues that make them possible. If you have have forgotten to pay them, be sure to stop by the Student Association booth in the Atrium before classes or during lunch time.

San Francisco Symphony: The SF Symphony annual “WINTER SALE” begins this week. All tickets will be $25 or $35 and the sale ends on 2/23 at 6:00. Go online and check out the dates and concerts available for the remainder of their season. If you are already a subscriber you will get an email from them and if you are not, then be sure to look it up. It is a great way to save money and see a lot more great Symphony performances from now through June. A great way to order tickets “in advance” and not wait for student rush on the day of performance.

San Francisco Opera: Some of you have already been asking about the Opera Student 50% series discounts for Fromm Institute Students for the Fall Season. These will not be available until March and I will have them in our middle display racks for when you return in the Spring Term. Sorry I have to repeat that there will be no discounts for THE RING cycles this June. Hopefully there will be some individual full price tickets available for some performances but I would suspect that that will not be until May.

Be sure to check out the two middle display racks for the performing arts materials for current and upcoming shows before you leave for March month-long break. This is my last column for this term, so I wish you all a great break and see you in April, when I will begin my 22nd year at Fromm.

Fromm Institute Playwrights

“Short Play Tuesday” by David McClure
Presented by Fromm Playwrights, a seven year old group of Fromm Students who meet each month to read, critique and improve each other’s work. We do short works (15 min max): plays, short stories, poems, book chapters, memoirs, and improv. On Tuesday, February 27, at Noon in Maraschi join the Fromm playwrights for “Short Play Tuesday.” Some short works you’ll hear are: Oldyweds at Home by Dorothy Auerbach; Angel on the Patio by Frank Stillman; Hope by Judy Shulman and Hydrangia by Joan Minninger. You’ll also hear from Terry Terry, Diane Price & Ron Jones. If interested in writing, reading, performing or just observing, contact either: Judy Shulman: judyshulman@hotmail.com or David McClure: dgm9sf@gmail.com. Fromm Playwrights performances as well as the refreshments provided are sponsored by your Fromm Institute Student Association (FISA) voluntary $5 per session dues.
LUNCHTIME & AFTERSCHOOL EVENTS

Mon 2/12  “Haas Sisters of Franklin Street” Noon, Maraschi Room
Tues 2/13  “Conservatory Concert: Guitar/Cello Duo” Noon, Maraschi Room
Tues 2/13  “Library Pop-Up” Noon, Fordham Atrium
Tues 2/13  “Library Tour” 3 p.m., Library Lobby
Wed 2/14  “Library Tour” Noon, Library Lobby
Thur 2/15  “Gleeson Library - Welcome & What’s New” Noon, Maraschi Room
Thur 2/22  “Conservatory Concert: Jazz Combo” Noon, Maraschi Room
Mon 2/26  “The Oscars 2018” Noon, Maraschi Room
Tues 2/27  “Short Play Tuesday” Noon, Maraschi Room

SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
Did you know there is a professional orchestra in town that offers FREE concerts several times a year? The next concert by the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra is Friday, February 23 at Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue, SF at 7:30 p.m. and all interested Frommies are invited. This concert features works by Dvorak, Brahms and Villa Lobos. To reserve a seat, email constancebernstein@gmail.com For more information visit www.thesfco.org.

Fromm Institute student Meta Pasternak would like to share this special volunteer opportunity with the Jewish Coalition for Literacy. The JCL is actively looking for volunteers & tutors. If interested contact the JCL of SF, East Bay or Peninsula at jclread.org.

HELPING A CHILD AND FINDING JOY
by Meta Pasternak

Each Tuesday I walk to my local public elementary school to tutor three adorable second graders in reading. In San Francisco more than half of public school students are reading below grade level in K-5 underserved schools. I was trained and placed as a volunteer by the Jewish Coalition for Literacy (JCL).

Over 300 JCL tutors volunteer in San Francisco, the East Bay, and the Peninsula, but more are needed to fill the demand. The JCL training session included wonderful ways to connect with the students and a binder full of good ideas. During the year, tutors meet to discuss best practices and share ideas. My hour each week is spent doing individual tutoring; other tutors might work with a small group of children, or volunteer for the after school program. The goal is to help students learn to read while instilling a love of reading.

The JCL provides books for the appropriate levels, donates books to schools, and conducts Parent Education workshops. In this time of uncertainty and negativity, the smile of a child who has learned to read gives me hope for the future.

Register for a free training workshop at jclread.org or call 415.977.7436.