



# LIRA NEWSLETTER

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION  
Office of Community and Cultural Affairs – UMass Lowell  
Member of Road Scholar Institute Network  
Tel.: (978) 934-3135 Web: [uml.edu/community/LIRA](http://uml.edu/community/LIRA)



September 2020

Vol. 27 No. 3

*Join us for LIRA'S*

## ***Fall Convocation***

**Hear about the fall Schedule**

**Sign up for classes**

**Guest Speaker:** **Joseph Hartman**,  
Provost and Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs

**Where:** **On Zoom from the comfort of your  
own home!**

**When:** **Wednesday, Sept. 9**

**Time:** **10 a.m. - noon**



## 2020 LIRA Convocation Speaker



Joseph C. Hartman was appointed Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs in June of 2019. Prior to that time, he served as dean of the Francis College of Engineering.

Between 2013 and 2019, Hartman oversaw a College serving nearly 4000 students with over 115 full-time faculty. During his tenure as Dean, the College hired 54 full-time faculty; nearly tripled research expenditures; launched new degrees in Biomedical, Environmental, Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management; established extensive experiential learning opportunities including professional co-op and interdisciplinary senior design; and increased both the size and diversity of both the student body and faculty.

An industrial and systems engineer by training, Hartman's research and teaching interests are in the areas of engineering economic decision analysis and applied optimization. He has published over 100 scholarly papers with his research funded by agencies such as the National Science Foundation, including the CAREER Award, and the Office of Naval Research along with numerous companies. He has taught courses in engineering economy, quality management, production logistics, and operations research, and is author of the textbook "Engineering Economy and the Decision-Making Process." He is a fellow of the Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers, for which he also served as President from 2016-19.

Hartman previously served as professor and chair of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Florida from 2007 through 2013. He served in a similar capacity at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania where he also held the George N. Kledaras '87 Endowed Chair. He has also held visiting positions at the University of Edinburgh and the University of Dortmund.

A native of the Chicago area, Hartman received his B.S. in General Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and his M.S. and Ph.D. in Industrial and Systems Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology.



The Convocation will be held on **September 9, 2020**. Classes begin on **Monday, September 14, 2020**.

## From the President

The highlight of the summer was celebrating long time LIRA member Betty Bayard's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. A big thank-you to all those who sent Betty birthday cards – she got over 180 cards and was overwhelmed. LIRA presented Betty with an American Flag that had flown over the Capital, along with a Proclamation from Congressman Lori Trahan congratulating her on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and citing her service in the Women's Army Auxiliary during World War II. LIRA also had flowers and chocolates delivered to Betty for her birthday.

There is a change at the LIRA Newsletter committee this quarter - we have a new Editor and Newsletter Committee Chairperson: Becky Bronson. Let us give Becky our full support in her new LIRA Newsletter role. Additionally, Carol Valcik has agreed to serve as an At Large member of the LIRA Executive Council along with Bruce Magnusson, who will continue as an At Large member for another year.

Consistent with UML Policy for classes in the fall, all our LIRA fall classes will be held exclusively on Zoom. In addition, our Fall Convocation will be online on **September 9, 2020** – Zoom invitations will be sent out to all members – so be sure to renew your membership before the meeting. I will open the meeting around 30 minutes early so people can socialize.

I want to thank members of the LIRA Curriculum Committee who put together an excellent, informative online summer program and everyone who volunteered to present, host, or facilitate a class during intersession. LIRA is an all-volunteer organization and we count on everyone's contributions. The committee has put in a lot of work and assembled a full schedule of interesting classes for the fall. Moving to Zoom classes has been a big success for LIRA. We have had many more people attending classes than ever before and anyone who ordinarily would have had to miss a class due to illness, injury, or remote distance can now come to our classes via zoom. Over the Summer Intersession we have enjoyed hosting guests from all over the country and have had speakers from as far away as Maine.

I'd like to remind everyone that our classes during the fall and spring sessions are primarily for LIRA members in good standing. As such, the Zoom meeting numbers, passwords and links to the classes will be emailed out to everyone who is a current member at the time the classes start. You are certainly welcome to invite a friend or neighbor to any class you think they might enjoy (especially if you think the class might convince them to join LIRA!) and we ask that you send them the information only for that class. Also, please notify the coordinator for that class so that he or she may welcome your guest at the beginning of the class.

Looking ahead, it is likely our December Holiday Party will also be online. This makes many of our Holiday traditions exceedingly difficult or impossible to accomplish. Other articles in this Newsletter, the December newsletter and future email notices will detail plans for the Holiday Party.

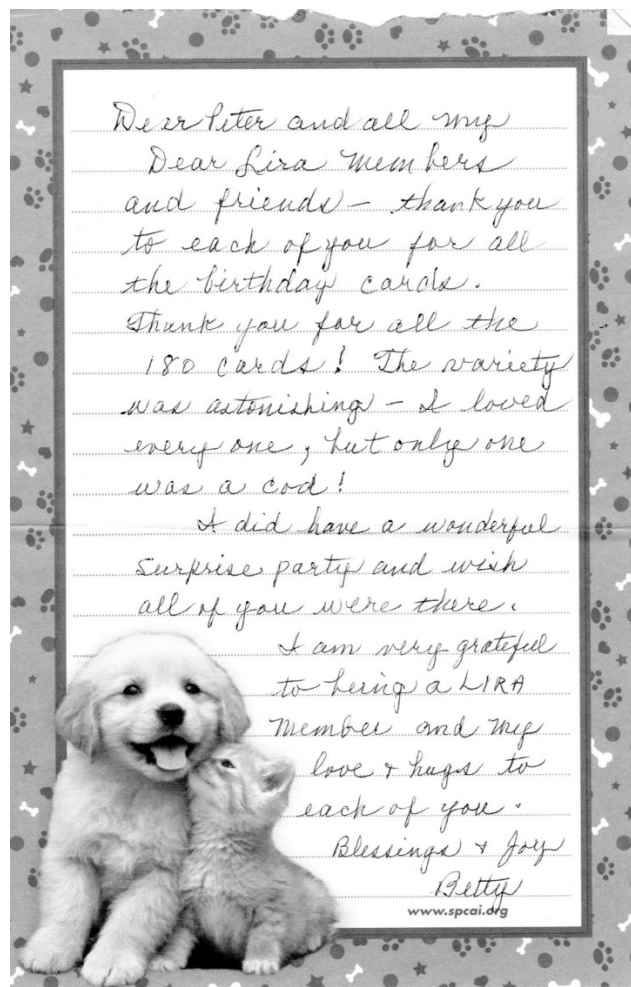
Everyone, please stay safe and enjoy the wonderful program our Curriculum Committee has put together for the Fall Session.

*Peter Sebelius*

# Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Betty Bayard!



LIRA members celebrated by sending over 180 cards. Here is Betty's handwritten response:



Link to Betty's party video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWrNASuZBxY>

## My Japan:



### Reflections On Living and Working in Japan for Over 25 Years

Irasshaimase! (Welcome!). That is how Marie Gleason-Tada introduced her LIRA presentation covering her 25-year career living and teaching in Japan. In the picture above you can see that Marie set the atmosphere for the Zoom session by hanging items she brought from Japan and wearing some Japanese garb - including a hachimaki (headband) with the Japanese character for dragon.

Marie began her talk with a brief history of Japan starting from about 13,000 BC through to today including relations with other Asian countries and with the USA. She talked about the geography of the island nation and about Japanese culture and customs. Marie also gave us a thorough overview of Japanese food!

Marie's talk covered both Japan's significant events and her personal experiences during the time she was a resident of that country. Her story about making the local news with a friend (during her early years in Japan) after using a public bath was very entertaining. After a year teaching in Japan in 1971, Marie studied Japanese at Middlebury College in Vermont and revealed that she had been recruited by the NSA to join their Japanese language and culture department. However, they took too long to process her security clearance and she had already accepted a new teaching position in Japan by the time their offer came through.

Marie's talk was thoroughly entertaining and informative; she certainly is a Japan expert.

*Peter Sebelius*

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### Class Cancellations

For LIRA cancellations or messages, everyone who has email will be notified. We have a phone squad to contact those people who don't use email. When you register and pay your membership dues, look for the box to check if you need a phone call. Feel free to call me with any questions.

*Judy Miller*  
978-256-8466

### No News is Good News!

There is no member news to report at this time. Hopefully that means that all have been well through the summer. Do continue to contact me about any member who would appreciate receiving greeting cards from LIRA.

*Simone Allard*  
603-943-7527 or  
[simone32allard@gmail.com](mailto:simone32allard@gmail.com)

## 2020 LIRA Scholarships

LIRA Executive Board has voted to award five \$1500 scholarships to five UMass Lowell junior or senior students (full-time through May 2020) with a grade point average of 3.0 or above who have participated in community service activities. Your generous contributions in the past have made these awards possible and we will solicit contributions when the fall semester gets underway. The Scholarship Fund also receives donations from membership fees: \$20 from individual members and \$30 from couples. Money from the holiday raffle, a portion from refreshments and other gifts during the year also helps the Scholarship Fund.

LIRA will award certificates for the scholarship recipients. Each \$1500 scholarship will be deposited directly into the students' accounts by the University. Remember, if you have relatives who meet these qualifications, they can apply for a scholarship as long as they are students at UMass Lowell. Sincere thanks from the Scholarship Committee for all your help.

*Co-Chairs: Janet Redman and Deanne Sferrino, Margie Berenson, Alan Kent, John Mamalis. Alan McKersie and Barbara Murch*

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## LIRA'S Scholarship Fund Annual Auction

At this time of year, we usually remind members to think ahead to what they might want to donate to the "Consumable Auction" at the Holiday Party in December. In the past, members have generously donated items and the proceeds went to the LIRA scholarship fund. Though LIRA is "virtual" this year, we still want to support the scholarship fund. We'll be asking for direct monetary donations in lieu of doing the holiday raffle. More details will come in the next newsletter at the end of November.

Sheila Pariseau

## Community Teamwork Donations

Lira has been collecting hats and books at our holiday parties to donate to Community Teamwork for many years. Since this is not possible this year and LIRA wants to keep our connection with this wonderful organization, I talked to Cynthia Perrone and we decided on a solution. LIRA members can send checks of any amount to support their programs for seniors, children and families. Please make checks out to Community Team Work and mail to: **Penny Judd, 155 Merrimack Street, Lowell, MA 01852.** In the memo line write "volunteer center" and indicate you are a LIRA member.

As you can imagine the need to help seniors, families, etc. is greater than ever during this pandemic. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Kathy Forstey at [k3and2@netscape.net](mailto:k3and2@netscape.net)

*Kathy Forstey*

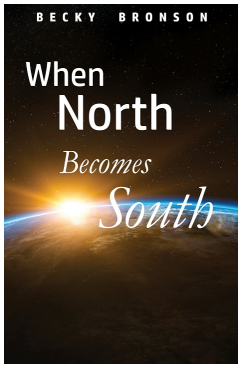
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## Save the Date!

LIRA Holiday party:

Wednesday, December  
9.

Details to follow!



## LIRA Member Publishes Debut Novel

LIRA member Becky Bronson recently published her first work of fiction, "When North Becomes South." I had the pleasure of talking with Becky recently to find out more about her experiences as an author.

Becky's love of writing was sparked when she worked on her dissertation back in the 1980's. She wrote scientific articles as a biochemist, then a blog when she owned a Yoga studio. Collaboration with her sister on a scientific book further fanned the flame. She also worked on her late mother's memoir and published it to make it easily available to others.

When Becky retired from teaching Yoga, she knew she wanted to write but wasn't sure what she would write about. The seed of an idea appeared during her trip to Liberia to visit her son while he was in the Peace Corps. She was struck by the lack of technology and how the local adults and children functioned without it. What would happen to us, here in the US, if we were suddenly deprived of our technological riches? This began the process, culminating in her self-publishing "When North Becomes South" on Amazon.

Even though the book was written in 2019, it seems appropriate for 2020 – an unexpected event causes worldwide effects, and humans must adjust. The summary on the Amazon listing begins as follows: "A massive solar flare destroys power grids and communication networks all over the globe and triggers a sudden change in Earth's magnetic field. This causes the magnetic poles of the planet to migrate. Soon, sizeable portions of Earth become uninhabitable as the unstable poles create an ever-increasing scene of destruction and radiation." If you check it out, you'll find that you can read the first few pages online, and you might be hooked.

*Sheila Pariseau*

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## Membership Directory

The LIRA Membership Directory will be emailed to you by October 1, 2020. If you need it before then, please email me at [jeridurant@gmail.com](mailto:jeridurant@gmail.com) and I will send you the current list. Those members that do not have email will receive a printed copy in the mail. At the time of this writing, print services at the university are still listed as closed so those members that have requested hard copies will not be receiving a hard copy in the mail.

*Jeri Durant*

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The next newsletter will be out on December 1, 2020; the deadline for news items is November 15, 2020. Please remember that coordinators are now responsible for getting someone to write an article about their program if you want something to appear in the newsletter. Articles may be submitted at any time before the deadline. Any format is acceptable, but if you have Microsoft Word and can use Verdana Font, size 10, that is preferred. Please email articles to: [beckybronson241@gmail.com](mailto:beckybronson241@gmail.com)

## History of the LIRA Newsletter

The LIRA Newsletter has had many changes over the years. Only a few of you will remember the first editor, Ed Croke. He wrote the whole newsletter; his wife, Mary, typed it on a typewriter and Dottie Morris reproduced it at the Copy Kyd Center in Chelmsford. At the time, I think there were about 30 members so the copies were not mailed but handed out in the classes. After Ed resigned as a one-man newsletter committee, he was replaced with a committee of ten with Toby Hodes as editor. The committee consisted of editor, layout person, distribution, member news, calendar and five writers. Toby was editor for two years and I took over for the September, 2001 issue. Toby had done such a great job that I was very apprehensive since I had never done anything like this before. Fortunately, I had great help from Suzanne Knapp who was the layout person for sixteen years and the many writers on the committee. There were many members that liked to write at that time; LIRA had writing and poetry workshops and several submitted their work to the newsletter. In 2002, we had a contest to give the newsletter a name, but a name that satisfied everyone never was submitted. Many of you might remember the 'Member Spotlight' feature that Jeanne Gunion wrote and is a feature we would like to bring back.

During the earlier years until 2007, we published an issue every month except January and August. Because of many other obligations, I could not continue to produce a monthly publication and would either have to resign or cut down the number of issues. Since they didn't want me to resign, the newsletter was changed to the four publications a year that we have now. Also in that year, the responsibility of writing articles about our programs was given to the coordinators. Previously, all the articles for the Intersession programs and the Art & Music programs were written by me. Most of the writers on the original committee had either left LIRA or stopped writing. It was also that year that UMass Lowell created a website for us and the newsletter was available on the LIRA website. The newsletters from September 2007 are all archived on the current website. Over the years, I had to be trained on three different types of maintenance software for editing the website, a job which I happily gave up!

We did not always have the luxury of using the UMass Lowell copy center. In the early days, we reproduced the newsletter at a copy center as mentioned. Suzanne found a way to send it electronically to the UMass Lowell copy center where Shirley Mitchell would pick them up, stuff and label the envelopes and return them to be mailed. At one time, we were sending out a little over one hundred copies. I remember her telling me that she used a wallpaper roller to help her fold the newsletter so that it would fit in the envelope. That was when we started a "Go Green" campaign in 2014. We asked the membership to read the newsletter online to 'help save substantial printing and mailing costs to the university as well as a few trees.' The last time we were able to send out hard copies in March, twenty-five copies were sent out and we had 181 members!

Over the last nineteen years, I have had the privilege of working with some great people. The newsletter could not be accomplished without the outstanding help I have had from the committee and contributors for each issue.

*Thank You* to Marge Nardini who took over the layout task in December, 2015 for Suzanne Knapp and never missed a beat! Her layouts are always professional looking and she was great at picking up mistakes that I made.

*Thank You* to Charlotte Evans who took over the distribution task in May, 2017 for Shirley Mitchell. She has to pick up the copies at the copy center, label and put in an envelope and bring them back to the copy center to be mailed. She is also doing a great job with the calendars for the newsletter.



*Thank You* to Simone Allard who took over Member News in March, 2012 for Kay Carroll. She does a great job at keeping up with member news and sends cards to members that we would like to remember.

I also want to thank all the members who contributed over the years without whom we would not have had an interesting newsletter. I appreciated all your informative articles.

I really enjoyed the years that I worked on the newsletter, but I felt that it was time to give someone else a chance at being an editor. A big thank you to Becky Bronson for agreeing to take over the task. I hope you will all be as helpful to her as you were to me and keep those articles coming!

*Jeri Durant*



## **Narcissism The Imbalance of Loving Self and Loving Others**

Dr Arnie Kerzner once again entertained and enlightened LIRA with a talk about Narcissism. With his typical mixture of humor, medical expertise, mythology and personal experience, Arnie gave us an introduction to what constitutes a healthy balance of self-love and love for others and how Narcissism – when the two loves become out of balance – can be so harmful. As he frequently does, Arnie related healthy mental outlook back to a healthy relationship with one’s parents and caregivers. Arnie then explained at what stage during an infant’s development he or she develops self-esteem and empathy and how the young person learns to achieve balance of the two. Dr. Kerzner then explained the fundamental deficiencies in a person with a Narcissistic Personality Disorder and the nearly impossible task of treating someone with that disorder. As always, Arnie’s lecture was informative and entertaining.

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## **Newsletters on Website**

The newsletter comes out four times a year on the first day of the following months – March, May, September and December. Everyone can read the newsletter online if you have access to a web browser. Those members that do not have email will have a hard copy sent to them automatically. At the time of this writing, the print services at the university are closed so those members that requested a hard copy will not be receiving one.

The on-line newsletter is just like the printed one only better - it's in color! This policy will help us save substantial printing and mailing costs to the university as well as a few trees.

The website for the newsletter is: [www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters/](http://www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters/)



## Our Members at Work

The following is a list of all the members that make our organization run. I think they deserve a round of applause for all their hard work! They are always receptive to having new volunteers; please speak to any one of the members if you would like to be on a committee. Note that these are the committees as they stand as of September 2020. A big THANK YOU also, to those that served on committees last year but are not continuing this year.

*Becky Bronson*

### Executive Board

#### **Officers**

President, Peter Sebelius  
Vice President, Nancy Pitkin  
Treasurer, Steve Buccieri  
Secretary, Lynn Tyndall

#### **Members-at-Large**

Bruce Magnuson  
Carol Valcik

#### **Committee Chairs**

Curriculum, Bob Hanlon  
Membership, Bonnie Heines  
Publicity, Bob Fesmire  
Hospitality, Debbie Sebelius  
Newsletter, Becky Bronson  
Scholarship, Co-chairs: Janet Redman, Deanne Sferrino  
Telephone Tree, Co-chairs: Judy Miller, Carol McCarthy

#### **Committees**

##### **Curriculum Committee**

Bob Hanlon, Chairperson  
Diane Baker  
Sally Coulter  
Bob Fesmire  
Suzanne Gamache  
Richard Grove  
Lisa Hertel  
Susan Lemire  
Bruce Magnuson  
Nancy Pitkin  
Beverly Rudeen  
James Rutter  
Peter Sebelius

##### **Membership Committee**

Bonnie Heines

##### **Publicity Committee**

Bob Fesmire

##### **Scholarship Committee**

Janet Redman, Deanne Sferrino: Co-chairs  
Margie Berenson  
Alan Kent  
John Mamalis  
Alan McKersie  
Barbara Murch

##### **Auction Committee**

Sheila Pariseau

##### **Hospitality**

Debbie Sebelius

##### **Telephone Tree**

Judy Miller

##### **Newsletter Committee**

Becky Bronson, Editor  
Marge Nardini, Layout and Reproduction  
Charlotte Evans, Distribution and Calendar  
Simone Allard, Member News

##### **UMass Lowell Website**

Richard Grove

##### **Facebook Page**

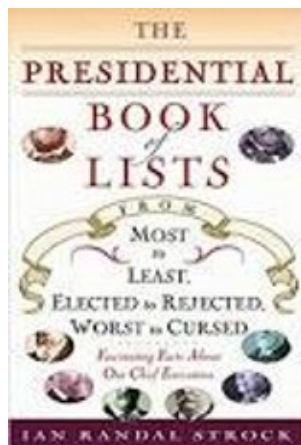
Bob Fesmire

##### **UMass Lowell Liaison**

Patty Coffey, Director of Community Relations

## Filled with Facts

Our first lecture for our 2020 Summer Semester was an interesting talk by Ian Randal Strock, author of “The Presidential Book of Lists”. He described his lifelong fascination with the U. S. Presidency and how he came to write about the people who have served. His presentation was filled with little known facts about the Presidents, their families and the historical events during their time in office. LIRA members were invited to comment and ask him their own questions, which Ian answered for us. Ian’s presentation gave us a memorable and historic look into the Office of the Presidency.



*Beverly Rudeen*

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## A Virtual Field Trip

On July 22, 2020, Associate Teaching Professor Lori Weeden of the Dept. of Earth, Environmental, and Atmospheric Sciences at UMass Lowell, took LIRA members on an engaging “Geologic Field Trip through the Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Park.” Prof. Weeden has visited many of the locations she presented with family, friends, and often as a guide for her students.

Before the actual Zoom presentation, Professor Weeden sent links for a virtual field trip through the American Southwest using Google Maps, Google Earth, and Google Earth Timelapse. She showed how those tools might be used if further exploration is desired. With most of us cancelling vacations to National Parks and elsewhere because of the pandemic, it’s useful to learn about alternate ways to explore geological wonders at many of America’s National Parks.

Prof. Weeden described how the foundations for the Grand Canyon Supergroup were laid over 1 billion years ago. Mountains rose due to the activity of tectonic plates. Later the powerful Colorado River cut through the ancient rock, which exposed the canyon as we see it today. LIRA members were treated to visually stunning slides of various locations such as Monument Valley, Capitol Reef, Painted Desert, and Arches National Park. For those who have visited the locations Lori Weeden spoke about, and for others who plan to visit someday, having the information about what caused the different formations added another dimension to the travel experience.

*Coordinator: Suzanne Gamache*

## Coming Soon to a Theater Near You The LIRA Film Discussion Group!

Have you missed going to the movies? The new LIRA Film Discussion Group is the answer. We are launching a film discussion group to meet once a month on selected Fridays starting this fall. The first series will be on topics that celebrate social diversity which is related to the activities of the new LIRA Diversity Group. You will learn about cultures, ethnicities, and minorities through film discussion.

Starting in September, we have six movies scheduled through February. We will publish the location where to find these movies from the library or streaming services and their trailers to have you screen them before discussion.

We are excited about this film discussion group and we encourage you to think of your favorite movie for later scheduling in 2021.

A huge Thank You to everyone who helped with this launch.

Carol Valcik: [valcikca@gmail.com](mailto:valcikca@gmail.com)

Marie-Anne Fernando

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## Membership Renewal 2020 – 2021

LIRA membership dues are \$125 (\$200 for couples) for the year July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, and are due by August 15, 2020. If you haven't already paid your dues for this year, please do so now! All dues must be received before the start of classes. Please note that only paid members can attend classes during the regular season. A portion of the dues (\$100 for an individual and \$150 for a couple) is tax deductible. The University will send each member a receipt for tax purposes; the remaining portion of the dues is returned to LIRA for operational expenses.

A convenient payment method is by credit card on the [LIRA website](#). Click "Join LIRA" on the left side menu and then click "Join or renew online." You will receive an immediate acknowledgement and a receipt after filling out the form.

If you would rather pay by check, use the LIRA renewal form printed in this newsletter. Every member must complete a form; both members of a couple must complete a form. Send the form(s) and check to the Alumni Office, as stated on the renewal form. Again, if you haven't already done so, please mail your check NOW to ensure the University receives it by the start of classes.

We look forward to seeing you in the next academic year.

*Bonnie Heines, Membership Chair*

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A round of applause should be given to the Curriculum Committee for a great summer intersession. As you can see from this month's newsletter, we had excellent programs; they were varied and interesting! Thanks to all who made the arrangements.



## From the Editor

I have big shoes to fill! Fortunately, I am stepping into this role with a lot of support. I am grateful for all newsletter team members and for Jeri Durant's exceptional organizing skills. I'm glad I don't need to reinvent the wheel! Thanks so much to:

Marge Nardini who is responsible for the beautiful layout

Charlotte Evans who manages the calendar and mails a hard copy to those members who have requested it.

Simone Allard who keeps up with member news and sends cards to our members.

Bob Hanlon who prepares the class schedules.

Diane Baker who prepares the Art and Music Schedule.

Of course, this is a group effort that begins with you, the contributors. Keep those articles coming! Suggestions, new ideas, comments or criticisms are always welcome.

The newsletter is on our website at <https://www.uml.edu/Community/LIRA/Newsletters>. A hard copy will NOT be sent to you unless you have requested it in the past. The newsletter comes out four times a year on the first of March, May, September and December. An email will be sent to all LIRA members when the newsletter is on the website, usually by the first of the month.

The website is updated four times a year. Richard Grove will be putting the newsletter on the website and updating the other pages. Occasionally, we run into a few problems with updating that are beyond our control and the newsletter will not be there on the first of the month. We try our best to get it to you on time! Thanks again to everyone for their support.

Also, a HUGE shout-out to Jeri Durant who did this job for the past 19 years!

*Becky Bronson*

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### **Newsletter Committee**

[Becky Bronson, Editor](#)

Marge Nardini, Layout & Reproduction

Charlotte Evans, Calendar & Distribution

Simone Allard, Member News

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[mnard1008@verizon.net](mailto:mnard1008@verizon.net)

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**LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION**  
**University of Massachusetts Lowell**  
**Lowell, Massachusetts 01854**

**Fall 2020 Schedule**

**MONDAY**

**The Story of Human Language**

Facilitator: Alan Friedman\*

**Seven Mondays**, 10 a.m. – Noon: Sept. 14, 21, Oct. 5, 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9

Human language is an amazing phenomenon. Its words have so many meanings and its grammar has so many complex rules that most of us never completely master them all. Yet a child of two years old is already able to use language to make themselves understood, and a child of six can form intricate sentences without ever having had any formal instruction. How can this be?

It is thought that there are currently at least six thousand languages spoken around the globe. Once there were many more. Why are there so many, and how did they develop? What do they have in common, and how do they differ? Is our thinking shaped and constrained by our language, or does our language reflect our thinking?

Let's investigate!

**Laughing on the Outside and Crying on the Inside**

Presenter: Arnie Kerzner

**Three Mondays**, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Sept. 14, 21, Oct. 5

As we review our favorite, ole' time Comedians--and laugh together--we shall become poignantly aware of their off stage sad and torn lives.

Hidden for years from the stage was their shame and helplessness in overcoming personal heartaches. Over their lifetime, they struggled to find ways to overcome their addiction not only to drugs, but to their desperate need for constant adulation and unconditional love.

Much like "Rouault's Clowns", they endured an inner awareness of the sadness of their existence--all the while making others laugh.

In this talk, we will laugh with them--and shed some tears, as well. Perhaps, that's what comedy is all about.

Coordinator: Peter Sebelius\*

## **The Legislation of Edith Nourse Rogers**

Presenter: Professor Patricia Fontaine

**Three Mondays**, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Oct. 19, 26, Nov. 2

The life and political tenure of Edith Nourse Rogers are tightly entwined in America's domestic and international politics in the first half of the 20th century. The first woman to be elected to the House of Representatives from New England and the Massachusetts fifth district, she was the longest-serving woman in the House until her tenure was surpassed in 2018 by Representative Marcy Kaptur of Ohio.

The three Zoom presentations about Edith Nourse Rogers will deal with the following topics.

General Introduction: A manufacturing birthright and a widow's mandate

1. Edith: the angel of veterans
  - World War I experiences
  - The Labor Day Hurricane of 1935
  - Veteran Legislation
2. Edith and World War II
  - America in the 1930s: antisemitic, nativistic nationalism, restrictionism
  - US preparedness for war: her stance against Hitler
  - Lowell and the war industry
  - The WAACs
3. Edith's Impact and Legacy

Coordinator: Nancy Pitkin\*

## **TUESDAY**

### **The History Matters: An Overview of Tumultuous Civil Rights History, 1920 to 2020**

Presenter: Professor Bob Farrant

**Four Tuesdays**, 10 a.m. – Noon: Sept. 15, 22, 29, Oct. 6

This four-week program will cover U.S. Civil Rights history in the 20th and 21st centuries. We will start with the Summer of 1919 and the bloody aftermath of the First World War, the Tulsa Massacre of 1921 and the 1920s rise of the KKK. We will look at organizations formed to resist segregation and violence including the N.A.A.C.P, and the Urban League and such important figures as Ida B. Wells, William Monroe Trotter, and W.E.B. DuBois. From there we will consider African Americans and the Great Depression and New Deal. How did Southern Democrats shape New Deal social legislation to deny African Americans the benefits of New Deal policy, and how did the Black community organize and push back? A. Philip Randolph is important here. Justice delayed and denied boiled over in the 1950s and 1960s and with much fanfare, Brown v. the Board of Education, and the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts got passed. How did organizations form? What did all of this accomplish, and what has happened in the recent past to call what progress there was into question? The last session will have as its theme: Obama, Trump, and Beyond...?

There will be recommended reading for each session. A presentation of approximately. 35 – 40 minutes and then ample time for comment and discussion.

Coordinator: Susan Lemire\*

## **Cybersecurity**

Presenters: Peter Sebelius and Richard Grove\*

**Four Tuesdays**, 10 a.m. – Noon: Oct. 13, 20, 27, Nov. 3

It seems like every day you read about hackers stealing our personal data and money, conducting ransomware attacks and the like. If you've ever received a Nigerian General letter or a phishing email you know that internet crime is widespread and persistent. Today the Internet is a world-girding, borderless domain where more than 2.5 billion people who buy goods, consult doctors, foment rebellion, send photographs, and do countless other things, both big and small. The goal of this course is to teach you about the structure of the Internet and the unique threats it breeds. We will center on a single overarching theme: that Internet openness brings risks and dangers that cannot be eliminated, but they are risks that can be understood, managed, and reduced. By the end of the course, you'll have a greater appreciation for what governments and individuals can do and are doing to reduce those threats.

## **How to Read and Understand Shakespeare**

Facilitators: Beverly and Kimball Rudeen\*

**Eight Tuesdays**, 1 p.m.– 3 p.m.: Sept. 15, 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, Nov. 3

This video course by "The Great Courses" company will give us the "tools" by which the reader will have a greater understanding and enjoyment of the Bard's work. You will not have to read each play but reading a short synopsis of the play discussed will make the Professor's lecture come to life. Our Professor, Marc C. Connor, is not only a Chair of the English Department at Washington and Lee University, but an actor as well. Eleven of Shakespeare's most noted plays will be discussed.

## **WEDNESDAY**

### **Art & Music**

**Six Wednesdays**, Sept. 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21

More dates may be added later. Please see attached schedule.

## **THURSDAY**

### **Great Decisions**

**Eight Thursdays**, 10.a.m. – Noon: Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov, 5

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD, and meeting in a discussion group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Two weekly two-hour sessions explore each topic in depth. Great Decisions topics for the fall are: China's Road into Latin America, The Philippines and the U. S., Red Sea Security, and India and Pakistan. Briefing books are available for \$22.00.

Facilitator: Richard Grove\*



## **Liberty on Trial in America**

**Four Thursdays**, 1 p.m.– 3 p.m.: Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, 8

Facilitator: Bob Hanlon\*

In Liberty on Trial in America: Cases That Defined Freedom, you will learn how liberty increased in our country when individuals sued for those freedoms, when cases were brought specifically to test the limits of the Constitution with its Amendments, and even when a jury in a local case returned an unexpected verdict that helped change the thinking of the times.

In 8 fascinating lectures of this Great Courses course, Professor Douglas O. Linder of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law takes you behind the scenes of the trials that brought us many of the freedoms we enjoy today, as well as trials whose decisions are still being fought over. You'll learn what happened when Susan B. Anthony decided to vote in a national election; when Japanese Americans were arrested and confined after Pearl Harbor; when Black Americans fought for civil rights; when a White man first married a Black woman in Virginia; when Amish parents fought to educate their children the way they wanted; when the death penalty was opposed; when citizens opposed the right of taking property by Eminent Domain; and when Citizens United opposed campaign finance reform.

## **2020 Elections**

**Four Thursdays**, 1 p.m.– 3 p.m.: Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5

Presenter: Professor Frank Talty

This class will focus on the stretch run leading up to the Nov. 3rd national election, with three Thursdays of class before, and a final class two days after, when we (hopefully) will know the outcome. In this class, we will look at the Presidential race, latest poll numbers, state by state analysis and Electoral Vote projections. We will also look at the 35 US Senate seats being decided on Nov. 3rd, and at some important US House seats. We will spend some time analyzing the Electoral College and voting by mail, and the issues raised by each. While we can't predict the impact of the coronavirus on the election, the pandemic and its disruption of all aspects of life will certainly be woven into our analysis of this important US election.

Coordinator: Sally Coulter\*

## **Moscow and Saint Petersburg**

Presenter: Bob Hanlon

**One Monday**, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Nov. 9

Many people bypass Russia in favor of countries in Western Europe when making their travel plans. Russia should be considered as well. It has a rich history, famous art and architecture and a colorful and fascinating culture. Russia has impressive religious sites as well as spectacular art and museums. Bob Hanlon will recount his 2014 trip to Moscow and Saint Petersburg. Highlights include seeing how the Tsars lived, magnificent museums, churches, palaces and more.

## **Friday**

### **Book Discussions**

Coordinator: Sheila Pariseau\*

One Wednesday, 1 p.m.– 3 p.m.: Sept. 16

Three Fridays, 10 a.m. – Noon: Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 18

Sept. 16, 2020 (1 p.m. to 3 p.m.): *The Splendid and the Vile: a saga of Churchill, family, and defiance during the blitz* by Erik Larson. 2020, 585 pages (NF).

Discussion leader: Toby Hodes\*

Oct. 16, 2020: *Waking Lions* by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen. 2017, 341 pages (F).

Discussion leader: Karen Naka\*

Nov. 20, 2020: *Big Sister, Little Sister, Red Sister: three women at the heart of twentieth-century China* by Jung Chang. 2019, 374 pages (NF).

Discussion leader: Connie Lanseigne-Case\*

Dec. 18, 2020: *Washington Black* by Esi Edugyan. 2018, 333 pages (F).

Discussion leader: Bob Hanlon\*

### **Film Discussions**

The following films can be checked out from the library or streamed for viewing prior to the discussions.

Coordinator: Carol Valcik\*

Four Fridays, 10 a.m. – Noon: Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 13, Dec. 11

Sept. 25, 2020: *Roma*

Discussion Leader Carol Valcik\*

Oct. 23, 2020: *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?*

Discussion Leader Marie-Anne Fernando\*

Nov. 13, 2020: *One Child Nation*

Discussion Leader Janice Rosenberg\*

Dec. 11, 2020: *Hidden Figures*

Discussion Leader Bruce Magnuson\*

\*Indicates LIRA member

# **Art & Music Fall 2020**

## **Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - Noon**

### **Wednesday, Sept. 16 – The Faces of the American Revolution: Portraits by John Singleton Copley – Mary Woodward**

Mary Woodward will join us again to present a lecture on John Singleton Copley. Copley was born in Boston of Anglo-Irish parents. His prodigious talent appears to have come naturally and without formal training. He rose from the son of a tobacco seller to move in Boston's highest social circles. He painted the city's influential men and women: Samuel Adams, Mercy Otis, and Paul Revere, to name a few. In this talk, we will uncover how he became the portraitist of rebels and royalists alike in the 1760s and 1770s.

Coordinator: Diane Baker\*

### **Wednesday, Sept 23 – Norman Rockwell – Inclusion, Exclusion and Evolving Views on Race – Jane Oneail**

Jane Oneail, Founder & President of Culturally Curious, will give us insight into artist Norman Rockwell. Norman Rockwell is heralded for depicting and defining American life. He often captured bittersweet images of people experiencing universal and relatable feelings of being left out or left behind. Yet, as an artist working in the 20th century, his works are curiously devoid of America's rich cultural and racial diversity. Toward the end of his career, Rockwell painted several poignant works about race in America that can be seen as an extension of his earlier sense of the power of inclusion and exclusion.

Coordinator: Diane Baker\*

### **Wednesday, Sept. 28 - A Ragtime Revolution: Vernon and Irene Castle and James Reese Europe – Susan de Guardiola**

For a few brief years in the 1910s, an English vaudeville actor, a New York socialite, and the son of a former slave were some of the most famous entertainers in America. Join us to explore their intertwined stories, ranging from Harlem to Broadway, from New York to Paris, from World War I's flying aces to the trenches of France, before this magical historical moment ended in tragedy. Social dance historian Susan de Guardiola will trace the parallel careers of James Reese Europe and the Castles, their complicated interracial collaboration, and their influence on music, dance, and entertainment.

Coordinator: Lisa Hertel\*

### **Wednesday, Oct. 7 – Gone Virtual: Historic New England in the 21st Century – Melinda Huff**

Melinda Huff, Museum Operations Manager at Historic New England, will join us for an 'armchair' tour of their properties. With 37 historic properties and 1,284 acres of landscapes, farms and gardens in five New England states, Historic New England is the oldest and largest regional heritage organization in the nation. This virtual tour will showcase examples from the vast collection of buildings, landscapes and objects and offer insight on how the current crisis offers opportunities for engagement and meaning in the 21st century. Melinda will also explain how the current crisis is changing the world of museum going and heritage tourism.

Coordinator: Diane Baker\*

### **Wednesday, Oct. 14 – And All That Jazz – Eric Kamen**

Indian Hill Orchestra will host a Zoom lecture by Eric Kamen. What is that sound that captures our ear? Exploring the architecture of jazz harmony, melody, and improvisation. We know it when we hear it! We'll get you started in understanding and appreciating the basics of this attractive art form that utilizes the same musical alphabet (the same notes/pitches) as "classical and popular music" to create a new idiomatic musical language.

Coordinator: Diane Baker\*

### **Wednesday, Oct. 21 - An Illustrator's Journey – Ruth Sanderson**

Ruth Sanderson will show highlights of her 40+ year career as an illustrator, discussing both the challenges and the rewards of being a freelance artist and writer. Among other things, she'll talk about illustrating *Nancy Drew*, *The Black Stallion*, *Heidi*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Golden Key*, her own fairy tales, and working with author Bruce Coville on a picture book retelling of Shakespeare's *Tempest*. In the second half of the talk, she will explain the process of writing and illustrating a picture book, showing examples of storyboards, picture reference and research, models, costumes, and various other aspects of working on a story for children. She'll also show stages of her artwork in progress and explain some of the techniques she uses. There will be time at the end of her talk for questions.

Coordinator: Lisa Hertel\*

\*Indicates LIRA member

### **Wednesday, Oct. 28 - Basics of Alcohol Inks – Sara Felix**

Sara Felix is a mixed media artist working primarily in inks and resins. Her favorite subject matter is typically space and the cosmos but dabbles a bit in abstract art. She has been a Hugo finalist for her art work on conventions and fanzine covers. And has been featured on HGTV's show *crafters coast to coast*.

Sara will talk through the basics of alcohol inks. What types of materials work with the inks, how they react differently on those different materials. She will talk a little about how the inks react to each other as well as show a few techniques on different ways to make the ink flow on the page. Then she will talk about the different ways to preserve your ink.

Coordinator: Lisa Hertel\*

### **Wednesday, Nov. 4 – The Wonderful World of Trees - Carole Smith Berney**

As a nature and wildlife photographer with a lifelong interest in and appreciation for trees, Carole Smith Berney will share with us, through her colorful images and narration, the diversity and beauty of, and some interesting facts about, our arboreal neighbors, with an emphasis on their vital importance for mitigating the threats of climate change. Sit back and enjoy the wonder of trees!

Coordinator: Lisa Hertel\*

# LIRA's Fall 2020 Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>September 7</b>	<b>September 8</b>	<b>September 9</b> 10 am to Noon <b>Fall Convocation</b>	<b>September 10</b>	<b>September 11</b>
<b>September 14</b> 10 am to Noon The Story of Human Language 1 to 3 pm Laughing on the Outside and Crying on the Inside	<b>September 15</b> 10 am to Noon The History Matters: Civil Rights 1920-2020 1 to 3 pm How to Read and Understand Shakespeare	<b>September 16</b> 10 am to Noon Portraits by John Singleton Copley 1 to 3 pm Book Discussion <i>The Splendid and the Vile</i> by Erik Larson	<b>September 17</b> 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm Liberty on Trial in America	<b>September 18</b>
<b>September 21</b> 10 am to Noon The Story of Human Language 1 to 3 pm Laughing on the Outside and Crying on the Inside	<b>September 22</b> 10 am to Noon The History Matters: Civil Rights 1920-2020 1 to 3 pm Shakespeare	<b>September 23</b> 10 am to Noon Norman Rockwell— Evolving Views on Race	<b>September 24</b> 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm Liberty on Trial in America	<b>September 25</b> 10 am to Noon Film Discussion <i>Roma</i>
<b>September 28</b> <b>NO CLASSES TODAY</b> <b>Yom Kippur</b>	<b>September 29</b> 10 am to Noon The History Matters: Civil Rights 1920-2020 1 to 3 pm Shakespeare	<b>September 30</b> 10 am to Noon A Ragtime Revolution: Vernon and Irene Castle and James Reese Europe	<b>October 1</b> 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm Liberty on Trial in America	<b>October 2</b>

<p><b>October 5</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  The Story of Human Language  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Laughing on the Outside and Crying on the Inside</p>	<p><b>October 6</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  The History Matters: Civil Rights 1920-2020  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Shakespeare</p>	<p><b>October 7</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Gone Virtual: Historic New England in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</p>	<p><b>October 8</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Great Decisions  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Liberty on Trial in America</p>	<p><b>October 9</b></p>
<p><b>October 12</b>  <b>NO CLASSES</b>  <b>Columbus Day</b></p>	<p><b>October 13</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Cybersecurity  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Shakespeare</p>	<p><b>October 14</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  And All That Jazz</p>	<p><b>October 15</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Great Decisions  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  2020 Elections</p>	<p><b>October 16</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Book Discussion  <i>Waking Lions</i> by  <i>Ayelet Gundar-Goshen</i></p>
<p><b>October 19</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  The Story of Human Language  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Legislation of Edith Nurse Rogers</p>	<p><b>October 20</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Cybersecurity  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Shakespeare</p>	<p><b>October 21</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  An Illustrator's Journey</p>	<p><b>October 22</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Great Decisions  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  2020 Elections</p>	<p><b>October 23</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Film Discussion  <i>Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?</i></p>
<p><b>October 26</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  The Story of Human Language  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Legislation of Edith Nurse Rogers</p>	<p><b>October 27</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Cybersecurity  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Shakespeare</p>	<p><b>October 28</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Basics of Alcohol Inks</p>	<p><b>October 29</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Great Decisions  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  2020 Elections</p>	<p><b>October 30</b></p>

<p><b>November 2</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  The Story of Human Language  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Legislation of Edith Nourse Rogers</p>	<p><b>November 3</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Cybersecurity  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Shakespeare</p>	<p><b>November 4</b>  10 am to Noon  The Wonderful World of Trees</p>	<p><b>November 5</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Great Decisions  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  2020 Elections</p>	<p><b>November 6</b></p>
<p><b>November 9</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  The Story of Human Language  <b>1 to 3 pm</b>  Moscow and Saint Petersburg</p>	<p><b>November 10</b></p>	<p><b>November 11</b>  <b>Veteran's Day</b>  <b>NO CLASSES</b></p>	<p><b>November 12</b></p>	<p><b>November 13</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Film Discussion  <i>One Child Nation</i></p>
<p><b>November 16</b></p>	<p><b>November 17</b></p>	<p><b>November 18</b></p>	<p><b>November 19</b></p>	<p><b>November 20</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Book Discussion  <i>Big Sister, Little Sister, Red Sister</i></p>
<p><b>November 23</b></p>	<p><b>November 24</b></p>	<p><b>November 25</b></p>	<p><b>November 26</b>  <b>HAPPY</b>  <b>THANKSGIVING!</b></p>	<p><b>November 27</b></p>
<p><b>December 7</b></p>	<p><b>December 8</b></p>	<p><b>December 9</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  <b>Holiday Party</b></p>	<p><b>December 10</b></p>	<p><b>December 11</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Film Discussion  <i>Hidden Figures</i></p>
<p><b>December 14</b></p>	<p><b>December 15</b></p>	<p><b>December 16</b></p>	<p><b>December 17</b></p>	<p><b>December 18</b>  <b>10 am to Noon</b>  Book Discussion  <i>Washington Black</i></p>

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- In the event of class cancellation LIRA will send email to all members.  
If you do NOT use email check here to request a telephone call. Phone \_\_\_\_\_
- LIRA distributes the Newsletter by email.  
If you do NOT use email check here to request a paper copy. Paper \_\_\_\_\_
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LIRA membership dues are \$125 (\$200 for couples) for the year July 1-June 30 payable by Aug. 15. Half-year LIRA membership dues for new members only are \$75 (\$125 for couples) for Jan. 1- June 30 payable between Jan. 1 – April 30 only. *All new Membership dues received after April 30 will be for a full year's membership, which will start on July 1.*

A portion of your membership fee will be tax-deductible and will benefit our student scholarship fund. For additional information: [www.uml.edu/lira](http://www.uml.edu/lira)

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*August 2020*