

≈ Collegium News ≈

Volume 4 Issue 1

Newsletter of the Cannon Valley Elder Collegium

March 17, 2001



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 Ron Ronning
 Executive Director
 (507) 650-2311
 Keith Anderson
 Program Director
 (507) 645-6723

Board of Directors
 Bev Anderson
 Bob Ballentine
 Lois Burgoyne
 Alene Fink
 Stan Frear
 Jane McWilliams
 Jim Reiley
 Bettye Ronning
 Elaine Thurston
 William Woehrlin

Sponsoring Organizations
 Northfield Senior Center
 (507) 664-3700
 Northfield Care Center

Funding
 MN Humanities
 Commission
 City of Northfield
 CVEC Members

Newsletter
 Kathy Meilstrom

Spring Meeting

All members are encouraged to attend the Spring Member's Meeting on May 24, 2:30 p.m. in the Northfield Retirement Center Chapel. There will be refreshments, a program, and election of student representative

Reports from Winter Term Classes, 2001:

What is the Motive?

"Da-da-da DUMMM, da-da-da DUMMMM..." A passerby in the Senior Center hallway might hear the opening motive of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony wafting through a classroom door. On the other side of the door, students in the Musical Forms course taught by Bill Child and Ron Ronning listen intently. They are absorbing not only the strains of melodies, but terms and concepts that feed their understanding and appreciation of the composer's craft and the nature of music.

Using a CD player, a piano, and occasional vocal output, the instructors demonstrated the meaning of cadence, the role of accidentals, and more. Printed hand-outs and blackboard diagrams reinforced the aural lessons. How does a composer build expectations in the listener, then fulfill or overturn them? Why do certain musical passages make us feel the way we do? The answers to questions like these become apparent as we

Photo taken by Sorrel Bodman in Fred Gonnerman's winter term Photography Class:



listen with greater knowledge.

A highlight of the term was a field trip to one of the Minnesota Orchestra's Coffee Concerts. After the performance, class members and their companions enjoyed lunch at a Greek restaurant and critiqued

the concert. The violinist in the rarely performed Shostakovich concerto was much appreciated by this savvy audience.

The Collegium offers a music course every year, so if you have not yet taken one, tune in next year!

Short Notice

With only a month to go before the first class session, instructor Jim Reiley did not know his material. That is because the subject of his course, "Presidency II: The New Kid on the Block," was to be determined by an election which was not yet decided.

The late-breaking conclusion and compressed transition period required some intensive and up-to-the-minute scrutiny of the new president by Reiley and his students. All were

See Winter Term, Page 2

News Worthy

By the time you receive the next newsletter, the Collegium will be an **independent non-profit organization!**

CVEC has once again received a \$6000 grant from the Minnesota Humanities Commission and a \$5000 grant from the City of Northfield. Many thanks to our sponsors!

Are you a woman who is envious of the great times had

up now for a women's chorus which will meet April 18 and 26, May 2, 9 and 16 as a trial run. This opportunity is presented by Theo Wee. Sponsored by the Northfield Senior Citizens' Center; register there.

New CVEC Board member Lois Burgoyne attended her first meeting on February 23. Thank you for serving, Lois.

Special recognition is due to retiring board members Michael Foote and Ruth Dahl for their many contributions to the

Memorial Scholarships honoring Rita Hoffman, Robert Thurston, and Evelyn Marino have been donated by Ronald and Bettye Ronning, Jim Reiley, and Marion and Jake Hvistendahl. Don't let tuition deter you from enrolling; apply for a scholarship. Send application to Ronald Ronning, 704 Thye Court, Northfield, MN 55057. Mark with notation: scholarship. Confidentiality is assured.

CAN ARTS

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Kathy Mellstrom

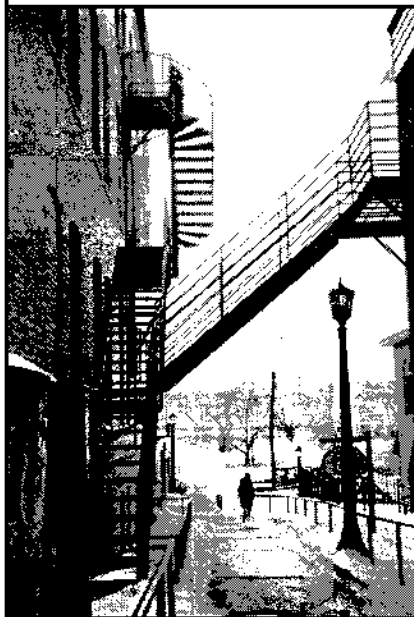
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Abondia Lecture/Performance Series: American Mavericks: Music Outside the Mainstream

April 16	Early 20th Century Music for Piano and Voice
April 23	Music of African Americans Before the Civil War
May 7	Music in the American Parlor at the Turn of the Century

See Abondia, Page 2

Register now for Spring Classes! See class listings on this page.

Winter Term from Page 1

to come to class with a political cartoon to share and the latest news about cabinet choices, press relations, and other details that would provide clues about what kind of president this "new kid" is going to be. The goal was to "fill in the blanks" in the ongoing story of George W. Bush and his administration.

Class members spanned a broad spectrum of political views, but the discussions, while very lively, centered on observation, deduction and evaluation of messages rather than breaking down into agree/disagree or party-oriented argument. The students - and instructor - were obviously interested in where this new president is going, regardless of

their own starting point. *****

Journeys

Winter term's travel-related courses took students on guided tours of life's and faith's inner landscapes and to some of their geographical focal points as well.

Ruth Hanson's Biblical Archeology course explored the ancient world of the Middle East, the cradle of Islam, Judaism and Christianity. Slides and discussion of archeological methods illustrated what we know about the history of this area and how we know it.

"Aging's Transitions" explored a path all of us are on, the path that leads through the later stages of life. Led by David Maitland through diverse readings, participants were encouraged to discuss their own visions of where

they have been and what might be around the next bend in the trail.

Bardwell Smith's wide-ranging survey of pilgrimages went all over the map, both spiritually and geographically. Covering four very diverse countries' cultures and the various reasons and destinations for religious journeys, these pilgrimages all had walking in common as the mode of arrival. It seems somehow fulfilling to translate a yearning into action as straightforward as setting one foot before the other; ideally, the spirit makes a parallel progress.

All who have been in an Elder Collegium class have taken a sidetrip to new places on life's journey. There are more lands yet to explore: Onward! (Take a look at the Spring Term course list below.)

Abondia: From Page 1

The Abondia Center of Minneapolis, with host Brooke Portmann, is bringing some of Minnesota's finest singers and instrumentalists to share seldom performed "made in America" music and stories that go with it. Snubbed by the musical "establishment," the composers were independent spirits who followed their own voices rather than mimic the Europeans.

All lectures take place on Mondays at 3 p.m. at the Northfield Retirement Center, 900 Cannon Valley Drive, Northfield. Cost is \$15.00 for the series. For reservations and information call Lois Burgoyne, (507) 645-9511, ext. 3020.

Spring Registration: A reminder Register soon to get your choice of spring term courses. Classes begin the week of March 26. Check your registration flyer or get one at the Senior Center for complete information. The Instructors and Course Titles are:

George Soule - Modern and Post-modern men: Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby and the hero of Fowle's The French Lieutenant's Woman

Ray Jacobson/David Lyon - Space and Time: The Enduring Three-dimensional Language of Sculpture and Architecture

Henry Fritz - American History: Civil War to the Present

Bill Woehrlin - Ideologies of our Time

Jim Wolf - Thomas Mann Short Stories

Eleanor Zelliot - Travel Literature

Marion Hvistendahl - Greek Mythology and its Relevance Today (Lecture format and only \$5.00 registration fee)