Redevelopment Update
Starting in January 2018, serious and detailed planning will be underway for a major redevelopment plan at UCSD. As part of that plan, the Extension campus and Osher will be relocated to a new building more centrally located on the campus, near the Price Center. The current timetable calls for the move to take place sometime in 2020-21, but we all know that timelines often are extended. As the planning process goes forward, our Council will be seriously involved in helping design the Osher space in such a way as to enhance member experience. Early planning envisions our program to be in more spacious quarters on one floor, with classrooms (with modern climate control) and access to a larger auditorium for our most popular lecturers. Outside the building, we expect usable green space, more convenient parking (especially for anyone with special needs), and convenient dining and sundry needs. The facility will also be a walkable distance to the new trolley extension. As the process unfolds, we will keep you advised and will seek your input.

This Month Give Thanks To Osher
The American Psychological Association released the results of it’s annual Stress in America survey, revealing the biggest stressor Americans face is the state of the United States. This is no surprise. 2017 has been a year like none other most of us can recall. Our institutions are under attack. Our Congress is in perpetual gridlock. It is impossible to escape mass media, social media, false news, and outright lies. We face the real prospect of war; perhaps even nuclear war. Terrorism is a fact of everyday life. Instability stalks the rest of the world, with Brexit, Venezuela, Catalonia, etc. Individuals feel totally powerless.

What can we do about it to lower our stress levels that have real health consequences? According to the study, a major remedy is to actively “get involved in organizations that are in line with a person’s values.” That brings us back to Osher. I am sure members realize, as do I, that our classes and activities offer release from stress. We can lose ourselves in great art and music. We learn about the latest developments in science, engineering and medicine. We read great literature and history, and we learn about the rest of the world from outstanding scholars. When we approach law and society, international affairs, government and politics, we get in depth analysis from people in the know, and have the opportunity to question and express our positions. Tweets, fake news and overblown media are not allowed! So on Thanksgiving, give a special thanks for the treasure we share. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Marketing Report
Congratulations are in order to our Marketing and Communications team for their success in increasing our membership over the 2016-2017 academic year. We had an increase of over 20% in regular members, who form the core of our program by joining Osher, participating in our classes and seminars, and contributing financially to help sustain our Osher program. Our success last year earned us another $25,000 grant from the Bernard F. Osher Foundation in San Francisco. Well done and thanks to the team!

Mike
It has been a pleasure to welcome so many new members to Osher this fall quarter. We hope our program has met your expectations and look forward to your many contributions in the classroom, speaker recommendations, or as committee volunteers.

Our winter quarter begins on January 8, 2018, and with it, the return of our many loyal “snowbirds”. Welcome back! Come join us at our Open House and winter quarter preview at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 6.

The Osher winter 2018 catalog will soon be posted on our web site and describes another rich and varied program. Master Class I on Wednesday mornings welcomes photographic artist and art photography instructor Amanda Dahlgren to Osher. Master Class II features an update on research projects from distinguished scientists at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Registration is required for our Master Classes and opens at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 13.

Other multi-lecture series are scheduled: Osher’s own Eddie Goldberg, a Massachusetts snowbird, presents a reprise of his Brandeis University Osher class on “The History of U.S. Medicine as Seen Through the Eyes of the Presidents.” UCSD History Professor Jeremy Prestholdt will discuss “Africa and the Making of the Modern World” in a five-lecture series.

Our regular lecture series in International Relations, Law and Society, Medicine, Science, Humanities, and the Social Sciences feature a wide range of preeminent speakers. Notable this quarter are professor Philip Roeder discussing Russia’s meddling in US American Affairs; USD professor Necla Tschirgi offering two lectures on “Turkey in Flux, The Domestic and International Scene”; former U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona; Art scholar Karen Butler; Mitch Kronenberg, president of the La Jolla Institute of Allergy and Immunology, and many others.

Our small-classroom seminars will again entertain and stimulate their loyal participants from literature and history, to foreign language conversation, and instruction. Our Osher Presenter series brings our colleagues to the podium to share their Vietnam War experiences, to discuss Hong Kong’s re-integration with China, artisanal breadmaking, ink-jet printing, and living in Saudi Arabia. You won’t want to miss Theater World’s lively production of the music of Richard Rogers!

The highlights above are just a sample of the enriching program your hard-working Curriculum Committee of volunteer Osher members has assembled. Take a moment to thank them for their efforts. If you would like to volunteer to become a member of the Curriculum Committee, or have speaker recommendations, please send me an email: ssclarey62@gmail.com.

Steve Clarey, Chair, Curriculum Committee
Our Master Classes at Osher are taught by people who are highly qualified and well regarded in their respective fields. Walter A. Clark is one of those people. He fell in love with Spanish music at age fourteen and realized this would be his life’s calling. As a musicologist and performer, Professor Clark specializes in the music of Spain and Latin America.

A native of Minneapolis, Minnesota, he holds performance degrees in classical guitar from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, where he played in a master class with Andrés Segovia; and from UCSD, where he was a student of Pepe and Celin Romero.

From 1984 to 1986, Dr. Clark studied and gave concerts in Germany on a Fulbright grant. He returned to Germany in 1988 to study musicology at Munich University as an exchange student from UCLA. After receiving his PhD he taught at several different universities, including UCLA and Kansas, before joining the UC Riverside faculty, where he has since attained the rank of Distinguished Professor of Music.

Professor Clark has been with UCR for more than fourteen years, and is the founder/director of the Center for Iberian and Latin American Music there. Osher’s Fall Master Class covers the music of Latin America, and each of the five classes surveys the musical heritage of a particular country: Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Peru, and Cuba. He gave his first Osher Fall Master Class in 2016 on the music of Spain.

Dr. Clark is the author of many scholarly articles and books, including three biographies of Spanish composers. He was the founding editor of Oxford University Press’s award-winning series Currents in Latin American and Iberian Music and is now editor-in-chief of the refereed online journal Diagonal: An Ibero-American Music Review. He co-edited a groundbreaking Norton textbook, The Musics of Latin America. His latest book is Los Romeros: Royal Family of the Spanish Guitar, forthcoming from University of Illinois Press. He is currently researching a biography of Joaquin Rodrigo and co-editing The Cambridge History of Spanish Music.

Dr. Clark is a true scholar and excellent teacher. In addition to all his accomplishments, in 2016, he was awarded one of the highest honors a civilian can be granted by Spain—a knighthood (Commander of the Order of Isabella the Catholic). Upon receiving this distinction, Professor Clark said, “there are no words to describe how honored and elated I am to receive this recognition by the Spanish government.” Dr. Clark plans to continue to do as much as he can to recover, understand, explain, and promote the musical heritage of Spain.

As Osher students, we can sit back and relax, while listening to Professor Clark’s lectures and the music he plays for us; being grateful to have him as one of Osher’s premier master lecturers. His dry sense of humor also adds to the enjoyment of the lecture.
In my twelfth year of coordinating the Osher Live Music Friday program (and thinking I may want to find a replacement), Howard Aksen has asked me to summarize how it is done.

It's simple:
1) You gotta like music
2) You gotta be open-minded
3) You gotta know well-performed music when you hear it.
4) You gotta understand that other people like different music than you do.
5) You gotta be bold dealing with musicians

When I started this job, I was given a list of musicians and their contact information by Hal Jacobs, from whom I had taken over. I had been to a few LMFs and had been impressed with some and not so much with others. The difference was immediately clear to me—the performers had to be good at what they did. Fortunately, there are thousands of musicians who are good at what they do and so there is no reason to chose “the other ones” for our program.

A boon to our program is that “musicians usually need an income.” Even though we pay only $200 regardless the number of musicians, a Friday afternoon gig is easy for a musician to make and often provides sufficient rehearsal time for the evening gig they are going to play at. Therefore, don’t be bashful about inviting the best talent you can find. You won’t get many turn-downs.

You will have a built-in spot each quarter from Angela Yeung at USD, who has been bringing classic ensembles here for longer than I have been coordinator. She will always fill one of the five slots. And I have recently obtained a commitment from Fiona Chatwin, founder of Villa Musica, to take one of the slots each quarter as well. These two can be counted on to bring quality music without your needing to audition them.

I have brought in two programs by listening to the lunchtime outdoor music presentations at the UTC Mall. Anywhere live music is playing you should stop and listen. It takes about five minutes to determine if the performers will entertain Osher members.

Listen to your performers to get their recommendations on their peers who might be interested in our program. We are really into Jazz with Joshua White, Rob Thorsen, Gilbert Castellanos, and several more who will come back when asked. They all have friends who are plenty talented and can be invited sight unseen, (However, you can find virtually anyone you might want on YOUTUBE if you want to hear a sample first).

I am a barber-shopper, so we have a quartet every couple of years and a lot of our members just love the genre. Those marvelous Pizarro Brothers came to us via a high-school classmate of mine who became a music teacher and mentored the two boys, who are just fantastic performers. There are Osher members who will make recommendations to you and all you have to do is listen.

Music is a delightful mirror to great memories for many of us at this stage of our lives. It is a joy to be able to bring this gift to our community.

I’m always listening so, as Leonard Bernstein penned, “Don’t be shy, meet a guy, pull up a chair.”

Reed Sullivan
Tour of The Museum of Man
by Carol Roberts

On Saturday October 14, 2017, a large group visited The Museum of Man and were treated to two special tours. The first group climbed the California Tower, all the way to the top, and learned about it's construction and history, going back to 1915. The views all the way up were fantastic! The next group went down to the basement to enter the archives that hold over 400,000 individual items. Deputy Director Ben Garcia showed us how artifacts are gathered, restored and preserved. We saw the state-of-the-art storage units that hold these treasures and visited the beautiful chapel. It was an eye-opening experience!
SEVEN ORIGINAL PLAYS:
A Theater World Production
by Lucy Lehman

About a year and a half ago I proposed to mount a production of original short plays to be written by Osher members for Theater World. I also volunteered to direct the entries I would choose. I discussed many issues involved in this proposal with Jeff Earnest and Marcia Wyrtzen, the heads of Theater World. We were concerned that members would be willing to submitting scripts, and how would we integrate them into one production if we did receive submissions.

It was an entirely new challenge for Theater World, and a daunting project to consider. I led a workshop for Theater World members who were interested in writing a script, since some people didn’t know how to present their scenes on paper. Then I prayed we would get submissions.

We received a total of eight scripts, and I decided to showcase them all. I reasoned that anyone who had made the effort to write an original scene should see his or her work performed. We were originally scheduled to do this production in the fall of 2016, but we had to postpone the performance several times. I admit that over the year that passed I felt discouraged and full of doubts; I wasn’t sure that I would be able to face the challenges of the production. The plays we received differed greatly in tone. Several were biographical; some were humorous, and others focused on more serious topics. It wasn’t easy to bring together so many different themes and concepts, with all the scenery, costumes, music, and other details they required.

We finally put on seven of the eight plays on October 11, 2017. (One was eliminated because of the difficulty of performing it.) Four of the playwrights chose to direct their own plays, and I directed three, including the one I wrote.

The production was well received. We performed in front of so many people that we ran out of seats. It took sixteen actors to enact the seven works, plus other Theater World devotees to mount the seven scenes—a real collaborative effort.

What I saw in the end is that it takes the Theater World “village” to bring any project to fulfillment. I was just the inspiration to give original authors a chance to have their voices heard. My reward was to see all of our novice playwrights enjoy having their plays enacted—my own play included!

CALLING ALL WORDSMITHS, EDITORS, WRITERS

Active Voices, Osher’s anthology of member’s work is planning a new edition for the coming year. We are looking for members to join our team. This is a working group that meets periodically to determine all aspects of the publication. If you have had some experience in publishing, grant writing, artistic design and especially editing, we would welcome your input and participation.

Interested members should contact Janice Alper, janicealper@gmail.com directly. She will be happy to discuss how you can help with this superb endeavor.
by Howard S. Aksen

Wednesday, October 25, 2017 was not your typical day at Osher. First of all, the temperature outside was near one-hundred degrees. It was very hot for the area around UCSD. But inside the Osher classroom, the air conditioning was working quite well. The schedule for this day included a morning Master Class and an afternoon Distinguished Lecture.

Professor Stanley Chodorow’s Master Class on Greek tragedy, continued to explore the dilemma of Greek society. He discussed Aeschylus’s depiction of the story of Agamemnon. The play shows the significance of the Trojan War in Greek culture. With slides and a four-color map Professor Chodorow showed what the area looked like in the fifth century BCE. It was an informative lecture, as we learned about the conflict between the gods, between husband and wife, and between men and women in that Greek society.

The afternoon Distinguished Lecture, given by Dr. Elizabeth Blackburn was a special review of telomeres (the natural end of a eukaryotic chromosome composed of a usually repetitive DNA sequence and serving to stabilize the chromosome), and their relationship to humans staying young and healthy. Telomeres and telomerase are thought to play central roles in aging and cancer. Since Dr. Blackburn was co-discoverer of telomerase and the nature of telomeres, she presented a thorough picture of all the research, as well as her own work in the area.

Hearing directly from Dr. Blackburn was an extraordinary treat. She is currently President of the Salk Institute in La Jolla. She has received numerous awards, including the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 2009 for discovering the molecular nature of telomeres and co-discovering telomerase.

Listening to lectures from two outstanding people in the course of one day at Osher made for a very special event. Not an ordinary day by any stretch of the imagination. It proved to me once again, how fortunate we are to have such a wonderful curriculum.

WINTER ACTIVITIES

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<td>New Members’ Luncheon</td>
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<td>Thursday, January 18</td>
<td>Osher Happy Hour at the Faculty Club</td>
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<td>Saturday, January 20</td>
<td>Osher tour of Judith Dolan on Broadway exhibition at the La Jolla Historical Society led by Judith Dolan</td>
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<td>Monday, January 22</td>
<td>Brownbag Luncheon hosted by the Executive Committee</td>
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<td>Tuesday, February 20</td>
<td>Brownbag Luncheon hosted by the Curriculum Committee</td>
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<td>Friday, February 23</td>
<td>Poetry Cafe following Live Music</td>
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<td>Saturday, February 24</td>
<td>Bus trip to Broad Museum in Los Angeles for Jasper Johns Exhibit</td>
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<td>Saturday, March 3</td>
<td>San Diego Neighborhoods: Osher tour of the Tiki –themed buildings on Shelter Island Boulevard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 20</td>
<td>“Behind the Scenes” tour of the Birch Aquarium</td>
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OSHER PARTNERS WITH JOHN D. SPRECKELS CENTER IN CORONADO

by Steve Clarey

We are pleased to announce that Osher has entered into a community partnership with the newly opened John D. Spreckels Center in Coronado. The Center offers a wide variety of programs and services including health and fitness, and educational programs for Coronado residents over the age of 50.

Under terms of the agreement, the Center pays an annual partnership fee, which entitles it to access our extensive library of recorded Osher lectures for free community viewing and discussion. Additionally, the Center agrees to publicize the Osher fall and winter Open Houses and quarterly membership registrations. The Center also distributes information on Affiliate Memberships, and quite a few Coronado residents have joined this program, which provides individual access to our video library for an annual $25 fee.

Osher lectures are currently streamed monthly at the Center and attendance is between 40 and 50. A Spreckels-Osher committee selects the videos, develops questions for the group discussion, and prepares press releases for publicizing the lecture in the local Coronado print and electronic newspapers, on Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor Coronado, and others. Good publicity for Osher!

The Coronado partnership is Osher’s first with a non-residential community center, and it follows a very successful test program last year at the Coronado Public Library. If any Osher member knows of a local community center or public library (or retirement community) that might be interested in a community partnership with Osher, please contact Executive Committee members Carol Roberts, Jim Wyrtzen, or Steve Clarey.

JOSHUA WHITE PLAYS AT OSHER

The unbelievable talent of Josh White astounded all in the audience on Friday, November 3. Josh performed a medley of amazing jazz renditions with fantastic skill. He left us breathless after each number. Watching his intense concentration and devotion to his technique was an enormous treat.

Josh was born in Los Angeles and raised in San Diego. He began studying classical piano when he was six. Even before he was a teenager, he was playing organ and piano every Sunday and accompanying the choir at Encanto Baptist Church.

He was seventeen when he first attended UC San Diego Jazz camp, and jazz would become the music that would transform his life.

Listening to Josh play his own versions of Blue Skies, Take the A Train, You Are My Sunshine, Nice Work If You Can Get It, and other standards, was pure pleasure. His style is light and lyrical, as well as strong and complicated, but always playful.

With a standing ovation from the Osher audience, we all hope he will come back and play for us again.