

# Sixty Plus – OLLI at San Francisco State University

## *Highlights*

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SIXTY PLUS – OLLI A Program for Lifelong Learning December, 2017

### Monday, December 11: "I Saw the World End: Exploring Wagner's 'Ring'"

#### Kip Cranna, Dramaturg, San Francisco Opera

As San Francisco Opera prepares to mount Richard Wagner's monumental four-opera cycle, *The Ring of the Nibelung*, in June, 2018, the company's Dramaturg, Dr. Clifford "Kip" Cranna, gives a brief introduction to explore the myth, music, and majesty of Wagner's unsurpassed masterpiece. Video examples illustrate each of the four operas to give a preview of this acclaimed production.

Kip Cranna is in his 39<sup>th</sup> year on the staff of San Francisco Opera. He earned his PhD in Musicology at Stanford University and is a frequent lecturer on opera throughout the Bay Area. He teaches at the San Francisco Conservatory, the Fromm Institute at USF, and OLLI at Dominican University and UC Berkeley. In 2008 he was awarded the San Francisco Opera Medal, his company's highest honor. In 2016 he was Dramaturg for the Washington National Opera's presentation of *The Ring* at the Kennedy Center.



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The meeting will be held in **The Rosa Parks Room, Cesar Chavez Student Center** at 1:00 p.m. Social time will follow. Sixty Plus members whose last names begin with the letters **Che - Di** are requested to bring treats. If you are not attending, make sure you contribute or arrange to have someone bring something for you.

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**Shuttle Bus Times:** Pick-up time for each program is at 12:15 p.m. at the Lake Merced parking lot at the foot of Sunset Blvd. A second bus will be available if necessary. The return trip leaves at 3:00 p.m. from in front of the Creative Arts Building on Holloway Avenue.

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We have only one meeting in December - Monday, December 11

Happy Holidays!



### Status of Sixty Plus 2017/2018 Membership Year

This is the second year of the Sixty Plus/OLLI merger. As of November, 2017, the Sixty Plus/OLLI Premier Interest Group has 120 members. Our Membership Committee, led by Mary Clare Bennett, has been checking in between 40 and 50 members plus three to five guests at our twice-monthly meetings. While our overall membership is down from 140 last year, our meeting attendance has remained steady.



Our treasury is now officially managed by the Ucorp group that also manages OLLI funds. We have \$28,000. in our account as of this month. It took some time for us to be able to close our account at US Bank. The Ucorp group will now pay bills out of our funds. We continue to pay the salary for Eileen Ward, but the check is issued from our Ucorp account.

Our programs have been interesting and inspiring. Vivian Imperiale and our Coordinator, Eileen Ward, have worked together to provide speakers who have been informative and, at times, even controversial. They have run the gamut from journalists to politicians and even a private detective. Seeing what topic will be covered at each meeting has been intriguing.

In an effort to increase our membership, the publicity committee worked with a graphic artist from SF State to develop a wonderful brochure. We hope to reach more San Franciscans to let them know of OLLI and Sixty Plus and encourage them to check out the group.

The tour committee has taken us on quite a few trips. The major trip was to Ashland, Oregon, for the Shakespeare Festival in October. It was a joint activity with OLLI and Sixty Plus. Everyone had a great time and returned with wonderful memories of the trip.

Doug Roberts and Sheila Birmingham arranged trips - to a farm in Half Moon Bay and to Angel Island for a picnic and tour of the historical sites on the island. Other interesting trips are planned for the next few months.

Erwin Kelly continues to provide opportunities for our group to participate in the arts and musical activities in San Francisco and the Bay Area. Trips to the Symphony, Opera, Light Opera and many other venues keep our members entertained and enlightened.

The Hospitality Committee has gotten off to a slow start, but Anne Maguire has agreed to take responsibility for arranging a host at each meeting. We all love the cookies, treats, and the coffee and tea after our speakers. I encourage everyone to help this committee by saying yes when Anne calls.

I wish to thank all of the members of Sixty Plus for their enthusiastic support of this wonderful organization. Every member is important.

**Chris Malfatti, President, Sixty Plus – OLLI at SFSU: 415-585-4811; cmalfatti@sbcglobal.net**

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## Hospitality Committee

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Members are asked to provide refreshments such as cookies, fruit, or other finger food for general membership meetings according to alphabetical order. Please make a note of your turn and bring refreshments on your assigned day. In case you cannot attend your assigned meeting, please exchange with someone in another alphabetical group.

<b>Dec. 12: Che – Di</b>	<b>Jan. 9: Do – Fy</b>	<b>Feb. 13: Gr - Hal</b>
	<b>Jan. 23: Ga – Go</b>	<b>Feb. 27: Har - Iz</b>

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## Membership

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### New Members, 2017 - 2018

A warm welcome to all of our new members from all of us continuing members! Please feel free to approach any of us at any meeting, and we'll be delighted to make your acquaintance. We hope your membership is productive of new friendships, fun, and adventures.

We'll be looking out for you and hope to welcome you personally.

**Mary Clare Bennett, Membership chair: [marycbennett@gmail.com](mailto:marycbennett@gmail.com)**

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## OLLI at San Francisco State University

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### Organization

OLLI was founded at SF State in 2003. Decisions about the curriculum and programming are made by a nine-member volunteer council, elected by fellow OLLI members, in partnership with the director. Funding is provided in part by the Bernard Osher Foundation.

Join an open and nurturing community of instructors and lifelong learners committed to the joy of learning. All membership packages are valid for one year from membership start date. If you have any questions about membership packages or course registration, please call 415-817-4243.

### Community Meeting on Program Budget and Finance - POSTPONED

Save the date for January 9. Time to be announced.

### Morrison Series – The Verona String Quartet

San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway, McKenna Theater in Creative Arts

Sunday, December 3, 2017, 3:00 p.m.

Contact us:

Phone: (415) 817-4243

Email: [olli@sfsu.edu](mailto:olli@sfsu.edu)

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## Arts and Entertainment

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### **“Avenue Q”**

**Sunday, January 7, 2018, 2:00 p.m.**

The marvelous San Francisco holiday season offering of “Avenue Q” comes to the welcoming New Conservatory Theater (wine free for Sixty Plus folks). “Avenue Q” is a delightful, ever-so-slightly off-color production. This TONY-award musical features a charming group of puppets in a neighborhood of real people. A very funny libretto and a top-notch musical score have given the show a four-year (and counting) run. I must know by our December 11 meeting who wants to go. Tickets will be in the \$30 to \$40 range. You can sign up with me, Erwin Kelly, or call me at 415-552-9435 by December 10<sup>th</sup> to get on the list.

New Conservatory Theater Center, 25 Van Ness at Market Street

Transportation: BART to Civic Center; any MUNI bus on Market or Van Ness

### **Walker Evans Exhibit**

**Saturday, January 20, 2018, 3:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 27, 2018, 11:30 a.m.**

Next on our list of events are two attractions sponsored with the Tour committee. First we have two dates for one of the most important exhibition of the photographic wing of the Museum of Modern Arts (SFMOMA) A large collection of Walker Evans’ most important and interesting photographs has been drawn from his lifelong career. Most of you will be familiar with his magnificent photos of the Great Depression, but many more examples mark a lifetime of photos by one of America’s greatest artists. The docent, Michael Gonzalez, is one of the top-rated by museum visitors. We have two times to view the imaginative Evans’ work. A maximum of ten is allowed for each group. The visit is free, but if you are not a member of SFMOMA or not with a member, the museum entrance fee gives you a chance to visit the rest of the museum for the whole day. Especially recommended is lunch at the very good roof-top cafeteria.

SF Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third Street between Mission and Howard Streets

Transportation: BART to Montgomery; MUNI underground or F to Market Street at Third Street

### **Botanical Gardens**

**Sunday, January 28, 2018, 11:30 a.m.**

Lastly is the long-promised tour of the Botanical Gardens in Golden Gate Park. Again, the docent will be Michael Gonzalez who owns a landscaping firm and who has been at the gardens for a dozen years. This is his last show, as he is retiring from this volunteer position. It is unusual to visit this site in winter, but Mike says a surprising amount of plant activity happens at this time of year. Our visit is set up for us golden agers; the walk avoids all hazards and stays as much on level ground as possible. Entry is free for S.F. residents, so bring some form of identification: driver’s license, etc. Others pay a very moderate fee.

Enter Golden Gate Park at 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Lincoln Way or 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Fulton Street

Transportation: MUNI Metro N Judah or MUNI 29 Sunset or MUNI 5 or 5R

**Erwin Kelly, Arts & Entertainment Chair: 4006 – 18<sup>th</sup> Street, SF, CA 94114; 415-552-9435**

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### **Not-quite-gourmet Dining....**

**Does not meet in December. Join us for our dining experience in January.**

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## Tours

### Holiday Luncheon: Grand Hyatt Hotel, ONEUP Restaurant

**345 Stockton Street, between Post & Sutter Streets (off Union Square)  
Tuesday, December 12, 2017, 1:00 p.m.**

Please join the Sixty Plus tour group on Tuesday, December 12, at 1:00 to enjoy a fabulous luncheon. We'll be seated at 1:00 p.m. Dining selections can be ordered from the restaurant's Small Plates menu. Payment will be cash only, with no additional fee.

To make a reservation please call Maryann Swazo or contact her at a Sixty Plus meeting.

Public transportation: BART or any MUNI bus to Powell Street

**Contact: Maryann Swazo 45-566-7621**

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### Calendar of Coming Events

December 3	Sunday	3:00 p.m.	Morrison Series – The Verona String Quartet SF State Campus, 1600 Holloway, McKenna Theater
December 11	Monday	10:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Executive Board & Committee Chairs, Rosa Parks Room D General Program Meeting, Rosa Parks Room Cesar Chavez Student Center, SFSU
December 12	Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Tour group: Holiday luncheon Grand Hyatt Hotel, 345 Stockton St. between Post & Sutter
January 7	Sunday	2:00 p.m.	“Avenue Q” New Conservatory Theater Center 25 Van Ness at Market Street
January 9	Tuesday	TBA	Community Meeting on Program Budget and Finance
January 20	Saturday	3:30 p.m.	Walker Evans exhibit
January 27	Saturday	11:30 a.m.	SF Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third St., SF, CA
January 28	Sunday	11:30 a.m.	Botanical Gardens: Golden Gate Park Enter at 9 <sup>th</sup> Avenue and Lincoln or 8 <sup>th</sup> Avenue and Fulton

### SIXTY PLUS 2017 – 2018

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# Sixty Plus – OLLI at San Francisco State University

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Items for the January *Highlights* should be submitted by **December 18** to: Jeanne Glennon: [jfglennon@comcast.net](mailto:jfglennon@comcast.net)



sixty plus

Since 1975

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