

PALAC ... where people and ideas meet

STUDY DISCUSSION PROGRAMS FALL 2021

PALAC remains vital despite the COVID-19 pandemic! Nearly 100 folks are participating in groups via Zoom. Because the pandemic rules are in flux, so are our plans regarding holding groups on Zoom, in-person outdoors, or in-person indoors. As of now, for everyone's safety, most Fall discussion groups will be held via Zoom. However, because of the CDC's recent relaxation of COVID-19 safety guidelines, the group leaders have been asked to choose their preferred location. The listed location of a group – indoors, outdoors, or Zoom – is the leader's preferred choice. It is always possible to change that with the unanimous consent of all members of the group. That might happen if the weather is unsuitable for outdoors in which case indoors or Zoom may be chosen. It might also happen that the pandemic rules change so that the chosen location is not allowed in which case indoors can become outdoors or on Zoom and outdoors can become Zoom. Changing from Zoom to inside or outside will be possible only if someone in the group agrees to be the host – the PALAC office will not find a host for you at the last minute. In-person sessions will follow these additional PALAC guidelines:

*PALAC Rules for Inside and Outside Groups During the Pandemic

Core group leader

- Decides where to hold the sessions

Host

- Has an inside space or sufficiently shady outside space to make it comfortable for participants to sit there for 1½ hours and can accommodate a dozen people, separated but not socially distanced by 6 feet
- Provides seating, and if outside, participants may be requested to bring folding chairs if needed
- Makes a bathroom with disposable towels and hand sanitizer available to participants

Participants

- Are fully vaccinated
- Are required to wear masks only where designated by health authorities
- Are encouraged to bring a hat if it's sunny or a wrap if it's cool when meeting outside
- May bring their own snacks and drinks

If our plans change, all PALAC members will be notified; and those who have registered for upcoming groups will be asked if they still want to attend the groups for which they registered.

Zoom Group Discussions: The length of a Zoom group discussion will be between 1¼ and 1½ hours, but it can go longer if the leader and the participants so choose. As a result, only starting times for groups are listed in this brochure.

If you need Zoom training, send an email to James Liu (jkliu47@gmail.com). Let him know whether you'll be using a computer with camera and microphone (Mac or PC), a tablet, or an iPhone or Android phone. (If you don't have this type of equipment, you may be able to participate by telephone, where you'll be able to hear others' views and share your own, but you won't be able to see one another.)

Because of the success of the short, one-session Zoom groups we introduced last year, more are planned for Fall. To register for these groups, buy a "subscription" which will entitle you to pick any four sessions within the quarter. If you want to attend more than four such sessions, you can purchase an additional subscription.

REGISTRATION

To register, mail a completed registration form and check payable to PALAC to the PALAC office at 1015 N. Lake Ave., Suite 108, Pasadena, CA 91104. There's a place on the registration form where you can indicate whether a couple will be attending on separate or shared screens.

We encourage all of you to mail in your form and check to the PALAC office *within a week*. Over-subscribed groups will be filled using the lottery system unless the leader agrees to hold a second or augmented group. Dues-paying members have priority, and this is the time of the year to pay your dues for the rest of 2021 if you have not already done so.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Since we cannot hold our semi-annual program planning brunch in person, in September we will contact leaders to propose new discussion groups, armchair travelers, and safaris for our winter and spring 2022 quarters.

The Fall Retreat may be either in person or on Zoom.

Fall Retreat

Saturday October 30

FALL QUARTER 2021

401 *Women in Love* by D. H. Lawrence

Women in Love is generally recognized as D. H. Lawrence's finest work of fiction. We will discuss the book and then watch and discuss the 1969 film version. Any book edition, print or digital, may be used. The office will order ISBN-13: 978-0141441542

Thursdays, 10 a.m., September 9, 16, 23, 30, October 7

Leader Charles Schufreider

Zoom

Members \$24

Non-Members \$34

CANCELLED

402 International Topic, NOW!

A spirited discussion of a specific contemporary world affairs topic/situation/conflict. Topic chosen no more than a week ahead and link for reading included.

Wednesdays, 10 a.m., September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15

Leader Brice Harris
Zoom

Members \$10
Non-Members \$20

403 Sunday Movie Group A

Discussion and review of critically acclaimed and notable movies from present and past and from all over the world. Movies selected will be available online in free, subscription, or pay-per-view. Costs will be borne by viewer. A great way to spend time every other week with fellow PALAC movie fans! The same movies will be discussed in groups A, B, and C.

Sundays, 2 p.m., October 3, 17, 31, November 14, 28, December 12

Leader James Liu
Zoom

Members \$10
Non-Members \$20

404 Sunday Movie Group B

See Sunday Movie Group A.

Sundays, 2 p.m., October 10, 24, November 7, 21, December 5, 19

Leader James Liu
Zoom

Members \$10
Non-Members \$20

405 Sunday Movie Group C

See Sunday Movie Group A.

Sundays, 4 p.m., October 3, 17, 31, November 14, 28, December 12

Leader James Liu
Zoom

Members \$10
Non-Members \$20

406 *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell

A national bestseller and winner of the 2020 Women's Prize for Fiction. Join our group to read and appreciate the world of Shakespeare in Renaissance England. Described as "all too timely," the author explores a young boy's life and family and the effects of his early death during the plague years that echo our own pandemic today. Reviewers have praised the author for the way that she brings the characters to life, matching Shakespeare with a fascinating "worthy partner." ISBN-13: 978-0525657606

Mondays, 2 p.m., October 4, 11, 18, 25

Leader Deborah Fox
Zoom

Members \$31
Non-Members \$41

407 *Kindred* by Octavia E. Butler

Octavia E. Butler is one of our own - born and raised in Pasadena. She's the rare female and African-American science fiction writer, and the first science fiction writer to receive a MacArthur genius award. In *Kindred*, Dana, a late 20th century African-American woman, is transported repeatedly to the antebellum South, each time to save the life of a distant ancestor, a slave owner. The LA Times wrote "In Butler's hands, the slaves and slave owners Dana meets - and befriends, nurtures, protects and betrays - become individuals rather than historical abstractions. The book is a marvel of imagination, empathy and detail." ISBN-13: 978-0807083697

Tuesdays, 10 a.m., October 5, 12, 19

Leader Bill Butler
Host Bill Butler

Inside (not Zoom), Altadena

Members \$25
Non-Members \$35

408 *This Is the Voice* by John Colapinto

An astonishing and resonant tour of the vocal cords transports the reader all over the body, the brain, and the world beyond - baby talk, evolution, emotion, language, sex and gender, the voice in society, the voice of leadership and persuasion, and singing. ISBN-13: 978-1982128746

Tuesdays, 2 p.m., October 5, 12, 19, 26

Leader Bob Diller
Host Susan Trauger
Inside, Altadena

Members \$35
Non-Members \$45

409 *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration* by Isabel Wilkerson

Told through the lives of three unique individuals, *The Warmth of Other Suns* is a sweeping and yet deeply personal tale of the long and difficult trek of Southern blacks to our northern and western cities. This exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. Wilkerson interviewed more than a thousand people, accessed new data and researched official records to dramatize these accounts. It won 10 awards, including New York Times 10 Best Nonfiction Books of the Decade. ISBN: 978-0679763888

Wednesdays, 2 p.m., October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 3

Leaders Jane Crane & Donna Jaffee
Zoom

Members \$21
Non-Members \$31

410 Laemmle Movies, Wednesdays

Together we will choose the best of the films offered by Laemmle, watch them ahead of time, and be ready for a lively discussion. Participants will pay for the rental of the film.

Wednesdays, 3 p.m., October 6, 20, November 3, 17, December 1, 8

Leader Carol Crique

Outside, El Portal Restaurant, Pasadena

Members \$10
Non-Members \$20

420 Fall Subscription Zoom Sessions

Subscription to participate in up to four of the following short Zoom sessions. If you want to participate in more than four, buy more subscriptions. Notify the leaders of the sessions you select by email. Leaders will conduct lotteries for their oversubscribed groups if necessary.

Members \$10 Non-Members \$20

“Letter to a Hostage” by Antoine de Saint Exuprey – short story

Friday, October 1, 2 p.m.

Susan Trauger sctrauger@sbcglobal.net

“Girl” by Jamaica Kincaid – short story

Saturday, October 2, 10 a.m.

Beth Mael awoof2u@gmail.com

“DDT’s toxic legacy can harm granddaughters of women exposed, study show” by Rosanna Xia – article

Tuesday, October 12, noon

Susan Phifer susanpphifer@gmail.com

“The Night of the Satellite” by T. C. Boyle –short story

Thursday, November 18, noon

Fran Blackwell fmbblackwell@yahoo.com

A short story or article from the New Yorker

Monday, October 18, 10 a.m.

Charles Schufreider cschufreider@yahoo.com

“The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Stetson – short story

Monday, November 1, 10 a.m.

Jane Crane jcrane5465@aol.com

“The Pedestrian” by Ray Bradbury – short story

Tuesday, November 2, noon

Lisa Darling lisadarling78@gmail.com

Krapp’s Last Tape by Samuel Beckett – play and video

Thursday, November 11, 10 a.m.

Charles Schufreider cschufreider@yahoo.com

“Desiree’s Baby” by Kate Chopin – short story

Thursday, December 9, 10 a.m.

Tom Wright tdwright2360@gmail.com

421 *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro, Group 2

See 414 for details.

Mondays, 10 a.m., November 1, 8, 15

Leader Bill Urban

Zoom

Members \$29

Non-Members \$39

FALL SAFARIS

S05 Thelma Reyna – When The Virus Came Calling: COVID-19 Strikes America

This local poet has edited an anthology of 46 poets and prose writers who wrote during the first half of the COVID-19 invasion of America, documenting the horrors, grief, and heroism of friends, family and neighbors as the disease unfolds. In 115 poems and prose pieces, the works of Poets Laureate, award winning essayists, academics, and short fiction writers, comprise a collection which will serve as a touchstone for future

generations. Dr. Reyna will invite selected poets and prose writers published in her anthology to participate and read from their works during this virtual safari.

Saturday, 4 p.m., October 16

Leader Marylouise Lau

Zoom

Members \$10

Non-Members \$15

S06 Melanie Rothschild – Art is There to Remind Us That We Can Think for Ourselves

The artist Melanie Rothschild sees mistakes as an essential piece of creativity. The role of mistakes is an "honored guest" in the world of art. She believes that art reminds us that we can think for ourselves. Melanie will discuss the background of her non-traditional journey in art and her current thinking and application. She will share images showing the evolution of her artwork with a review of her latest work.

Fridays, 10 a.m., October 22, 29

Leader Marylouise Lau

Zoom

Members \$10

Non-Members \$15

S07 Stephan Smith Collins – The Rhythm of Richard Rodgers: An Informative Musical Presentation on the Composer’s Life and Work

Join musician and actor, Stephan Smith Collins, in an informative, musical presentation on the life and work of composer Richard Rodgers and his incredible influence on American musical theater, having composed over 900 songs during his 40 year career. Seated at his piano, Stephan will perform some of Rodgers' most memorable songs from some of the greatest American musicals of all time, including *Babes In Arms*, *Pal Joey*, *Oklahoma*, *South Pacific* and *The Sound of Music*.

Tuesday, 4 p.m., November 9

Leader Marylouise Lau

Zoom

Members \$10

Non-Members \$15

Option to purchase books yourself

All books purchased for our groups will be sent directly from Amazon to your homes about three weeks before your group starts. However, if you wish to support another bookseller by purchasing your books there, the cost of any group will be \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members (unless there is a ticket or other expense involved). We have included the ISBN in our group descriptions to ensure that you purchase the correct edition of the book.

If you choose to buy your own book rather than using the office’s book delivery system, please follow these simple steps:

- On your registration form, adjust the price to \$10 for members, or \$20 for non-members.
- On your registration form, check the option that says “I will be responsible for buying my own books.”
- Jot a note to yourself to remind yourself to order or buy the book. Be sure to order your book early, to give the bookstore or online service time to check availability!
- Keep the ISBN in the brochure handy when ordering online or shopping at a store. This ensures you will have the same edition of the book as the rest of the group.

(Note: Buying your own book may end up costing you more, and may take longer to obtain than if the office orders the book for you.)