This past week the English Conversation Practice Group held their first meetings of the semester. If you are interested in signing up for the English Conversation Practice Group please request membership to the group on our website!

On Tuesday the long awaited Smart TV we purchased was installed in the Neighbors room at Loeb House. We are all so excited about this new purchase! The Smart TV will allow interest groups more versatility and variety in their group meetings. The Smart TV allows users to access applications like YouTube, Pandora, Rhapsody, Netflix and Facebook right from the TV. You can also access a web browser directly from the TV. If you are interested in incorporating the TV into your group meetings please email neighbors@harvard.edu so that someone will be available to assist you if necessary. Additionally, if you are interested in forming an interest group centered around movies or film and wish to use the TV please email us to get the process started.

This semester we would also like to begin the “Neighbors Book Exchange.” In an effort to make the Neighbors room more comfortable and welcoming we invite Neighbors members who would like to participate to bring one book to donate to the book shelves in the room. Neighbors can then peruse the “library” and choose a book they would like to borrow. We hope to build a small collection of great books for our members to enjoy!

Finally, the Feng Shui Committee has made some real progress with the Neighbors room. We have added a rug and updated the furniture as well as moved a lot of the unnecessary file cabinets out of the space. Artwork will be ordered soon as well. The room looks wonderful so please feel free to stop by and take a look!

Save the Date! Wine Tasting

Please save the date for our annual Wine Tasting. The Wine Tasting will be held from 5 to 7 pm on Friday, February 13 in the Neighbors room at Loeb House. The cost for the event is $15.00 in advance, $20.00 at the door. The limit for the event is 20 guests. Please email us at neighbors@harvard.edu to RSVP for this event. RSVP’s will be taken on a first come first serve basis. In addition to wine, food will be available as well as a selection of chocolates to celebrate Valentine’s Day. This event will be hosted by longtime member José Lopez. We are so grateful for José’s continued help and dedication to this event!
MIT Women’s Chorale

The MIT Women’s Chorale welcomes women from throughout both the Harvard and MIT communities. Chorale members, who represent many cultures and a wide span of ages, are serious about making music and having fun while they sing. Women from throughout the Harvard community are invited to sing with the MIT Women’s Chorale, directed by Kevin Galie, as they prepare for their Spring Concert on May 2. The repertoire will include “Four Songs for Women’s Chorus”, “Horns and Harp of Johannes Brahms” and Eric Whitacre’s “Five Hebrew Love Songs.”

No audition is needed, though it is important that you can “tone match,” that is, sing the same note that others are singing.

Rehearsals begin January 21 and are held on Wednesday from 7:30 - 9:30 pm in Room 10-340 at MIT. The last day to join for the semester is February 4. Interested singers should arrive by 7:15 pm for the first rehearsal and contact the Chorale at defazio@conmcast.net.

For more information visit http://web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale/

Art Explorations Metal Tape Workshop

The Art Explorations group will host a special collage workshop with artist Catherine Weber on Thursday, February 26 - snow date, Thursday, March 5 in the Neighbors room at Loeb House. The cost for this workshop is $10. The workshop will focus on demonstrating how metal tape can be used in the creation of mixed media artwork. Please click the link below for an example of what the workshop will demonstrate. If you are interested in attending this workshop please email neighbors@harvard.edu to RSVP. RSVP’s are due by February 19. http://youtu.be/HLJ08W-OiPk?list=FLurY4u73gb_yuxQ58BNZXug

The Harvard Semitic Museum

Founded in 1889 the Harvard Semitic Museum is home to more than 40,000 Near Eastern artifacts. Since undergoing a recent renovation which added a beautiful new lobby, elevator, and collection space the Semitic Museum urges members of the Harvard Community to visit and view their collection. Just around 95% of the collection is housed in the basement space where pottery shards, Roman glass, cuneiform tablets, urns and much more is on display. The third floor is dedicated to ancient Mesopotamia, the second Egypt, and the first to revolving visits. The museum is open Monday-Friday 10am-4pm and Sunday from 1pm – 4pm. For more information visit their website here: http://semiticmuseum.fas.harvard.edu/