relax and celebrate the holiday season. Please feel free to bring a friend! If you think your office colleagues would like to attend you are more than welcome to bring them along. No RSVP necessary but let us know if you plan to attend by emailing us at neighbors@harvard.edu. Feel free to bring a dish or holiday cookies to share!

Another seasonal event we have coming up is the MIT Women’s Chorale Concert on Saturday, December 5 at the Harvard Epworth Church at 6 PM. Consider coming out to support this group and enjoy seasonal music! Learn more on their website.

What’s Next?
Save the date for the Harvard Neighbors Holiday Party on Monday, December 14 at 5:30 pm! Festive fare will be served alongside beer, wine and a specialty Beverage, the Merry-Rita. Join friends and colleagues to socialize, save the date for the Harvard Neighbors Holiday Party on Monday, December 14 at 5:30 pm! Festive fare will be served alongside beer, wine and a specialty Beverage, the Merry-Rita. Join friends and colleagues to socialize,
**French Book Club**

Do you enjoy speaking French or reading French Books? If so, the French Book Club is for you! The French Book Club will meet Tuesday, December 1 at 5:30 PM in the Neighbors Room at Loeb House. They will discuss the novel, *Nadja*, by surrealist writer André Breton. One of the iconic works of the French surrealist movement, *Nadja* is the second novel published by André Breton. It begins with the question, "Who am I?" It is based on Breton's actual interactions with a young woman over the course of ten days, and is presumed to be a semi-autobiographical description of his relationship with a mad patient of Pierre Janet. Borrow a copy of *Nadja* from the library if you would like to participate in this discussion!

The group will meet again on January 5 at 5:30 PM to discuss *Meursault: Contre-Enquête*, by Kamel Daoud. Meursault is the title character of *L'Etranger* by Albert Camus. Daoud's book stands the story of *The Stranger* on its head, telling it from the perspective of the brother of "the Arab", shot by Meursault.

Looking ahead, in May the group will read an even more controversial work: *Soumission* by Michel Houellebecq. A best seller in France as well as Italy and Germany, the novel imagines an Islamic political party coming to power in France peacefully in 2022. By a horrible coincidence, the book was published on January 7, 2015, the day of the Charlie Hebdo massacre. The attacks of last Friday will cast a shadow over the group discussion.

Y2Y Opening Ceremony

Y2Y Harvard Square hosted its opening celebration on Friday, November 6. More than 500 people were in attendance including U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren. Y2Y Harvard Square will be the first student run overnight shelter for young adults. The shelter will officially open in December, just in time for the cold weather. Read more about the opening ceremony [here](#). If you are interested in volunteering at Y2Y Harvard Square please email neighbors@harvard.edu

Brickbottom Open Studios

Do you enjoy perusing art shows? If so, [Brickbottom open studios](#) might interest you. Join local artists for one of the oldest open studio events in Somerville this weekend—November 21 and 22 from 12-6 PM. Over 60 artists will open their live work studios to the public to show and sell their artwork. A wide variety of art and artists will be present—artists work in mediums from paints and watercolors to metal to create 2D, 3D, pop up, installation art and more. Somerville’s The Biscuit will set up a pastry and coffee bar in the Brickbottom lobby so come hungry! There will also be space for young children to play.

Also at the open studios this year is Harvard Neighbor’s very own Kitty Pechet. Kitty will be selling some of her work and all proceeds will go to TEDxBeacon Street.

Upcoming Harvard Events

The Harvard Radcliffe Collegium Musicum will sing Handel’s Messiah accompanied by a professional orchestra on Friday, December 4 at 8 pm in Sanders Theater. Renowned musicologist Thomas Kelly will give a brief introduction before the show begins. Purchase tickets [here](#).

Also coming up is the Harvard Divinity School’s Seasons of Light: A Multireligious Service to Honor the Holy Darkness and the Sacred Light. The Seasons of Light Ceremony will be held at the Andover Chapel at 45 Francis Ave on Tuesday, December 1 from 5:30 - 7 PM. This celebration honors the interplay of holy darkness and sacred light in the world’s different religious traditions during the darkest time of the year. The service will include choral and instrumental music, readings by HDS students, communal prayers and songs and the ritual kindling of many flames.