This past week and the week prior Harvard University and the Cambridge Boston area experienced a good deal of snowfall. The “Blizzard of 2015” dumped more than 20 inches of snow in some regions. Much of Boston’s public transportation systems were out of service or experienced severe delays during the storm. Some residents could be seen skiing through the streets of Boston. More snow is expected through Monday with temperatures in the low to mid twenties. Please stay tuned for any group meeting cancellations. We will do our best to email you with as much advance notice as possible if cancellations do occur.

Provided the snow doesn’t necessitate any further cancellations the Japanese Culture & Yoga classes will resume Friday, February 13 from 11—12 pm and next Friday, February 20 from 11—12 pm. If you would like to attend one of these yoga classes please register for membership in the Japanese Culture & Yoga Group on our website as well as register for the individual meetings on the website calendar. Feel free to reach out with any questions!

The new smart TV was installed last month and we are so excited about it! Please stop by Harvard Neighbors to see the TV and discuss potential interest group activities and ideas with us. We are hoping to plan a movie night sometime in the coming months to show members what the new TV can offer. If you have any suggestions about a good movie for movie night or would like to organize your own event using the TV, please email us! We would like to remind everyone that Netflix can be accessed right from the TV, so it is easy to pick a movie and watch it without having to rent or pay anything.
Harvard Skate

This past Wednesday, February 4 was the grand opening of Harvard Skate. Harvard Skate is a seasonal ice rink located on the Plaza in front of the Science Center. Access to the rink is free and open to the public, you can rent skates at the rink for $5. Skate rental is available for young children as well. This winter there will also be curling and shuffleboards as well as fire pits, hot chocolate, and s’mores. There are also several food trucks who park on the plaza and will be vending during rink hours. The food available from the food trucks includes Vietnamese food, Captain Marden’s, Whole Foods, chicken and rice bowls, tacos, grilled cheese, vegan wraps and entrees, and more! Please find a link to the Food Truck Schedule below. The rink will be open daily from 12—9 pm, come out to the rink and skate with friends and family! For more information call 617.496.2200 or visit https://www.facebook.com/HarvardSkate

http://www.commonsplaces.harvard.edu/food-truck-schedule

Save the date for several upcoming events! The first is the Wine Tasting scheduled for February 13 from 5-7pm. The tasting will be held by an experienced long time Neighbors member. Five or six different kinds of wine will be available as well as food, cheese and crackers and chocolates. The cost is $15.00 beforehand by cash or check and $20.00 at the door. The event is limited to 20 guests so please email neighbors@harvard.edu to RSVP. RSVP’s will be taken on a first come first serve basis.

The Art Explorations interest group will hold a Metal Tape workshop with special guest 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. If you are interested in attending this workshop please email neighbors@harvard.edu to RSVP. RSVP’s are due by February 19.

Ghungroo 2015

Ghungroo is an annual show produced by the Harvard South Asian Association. It is the largest student-run production at Harvard. This year will mark the 26th anniversary of the show. 300 undergraduates direct, produce and perform a wide variety of dances, musical selections, dramatic pieces and poetry inspired by the traditions of South Asia. Recommended by the University as one of the hallmarks to participate in before graduation, Ghungroo has become a quintessential Harvard experience. Along with the dancing, students put-together an accompanying skit that offers laughs, dramatic scenes, and an overarching takeaway message to the audience. Ghungroo is scheduled for 2/26—2/27. Ticket prices are $15.00, $12.00 for students.

Upcoming Harvard Neighbors Events

Free Lecture & Reception: Volcanic Winter, Population Bottlenecks, and Human Evolution

The eruption of the Mount Toba super volcano in the Indonesian island of Sumatra 74,000 years ago brought about an era of severe environmental degradation that decimated populations of Neanderthals and modern humans. Archaeological evidence suggests that modern humans survived this era by creating cooperative inter-group social networks and behaving like tribes. Neanderthals on the other hand, behaved more like primate troops, living in small, closed territories with limited intergroup interaction. Stanley Ambrose will discuss the behaviors that contributed to the competitive advantage of modern humans and the demise of Neanderthals. Thursday, March 12, 6:00 pm Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St.
Upcoming Boston Area Events

**Hot Chocolate Walking Tour**

**Where:** South End Battery 314 Shawmut Ave. Boston, MA 02118  
**When:** Saturday, 2/7 11:30—2pm  
Sample a variety of hot chocolates and pick up tips on tasting and buying gourmet chocolate drinks. An expert guide leads the tour and takes you to premiere hot chocolatiers. Advance tickets are required, and the tour is limited to 20.

http://www.bostonchocolatetours.com/buy-tickets/

**CAM Film Series: Monk with a Camera**

**Where:** Cape Ann Community Cinema. 21 Main Street Gloucester, MA 01930  
**When:** Sunday, 2/8 6:30pm - 8:30pm  
Monk with a Camera is a documentary made by Nicholas Vreeland, son of a U.S. Ambassador and grandson of Vogue editor Diana Vreeland, who has spent the past 28 years as a Tibetan Buddhist Monk. If you are interested, visit here!  

**Jimmy Fund Snow Challenge**

**Where:** Nashoba Valley Ski Area  
**When:** Saturday, 2/14 9:00am - 5:00pm  
The 20th Annual Jimmy Fund Challenge invites skiers and snowboarders of all ages and abilities to ski and share a day of team and individual racing to support adult and pediatric cancer care and research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Registration begins at 9 am but pre-registration is encouraged!  
http://www.jimmyfund.org/events/cancer-fundraising-events/jimmy-fund-snow-challenge/

Harvard Art Museums Upcoming Events

The Harvard Art Museums have several special events and exhibitions coming up in the next couple of weeks. The first is a film, _Pray the Devil Back to Hell_. This film tells the story of a group of Liberian women who staged a silent protest outside the presidential palace to demand an end to the civil war and bring peace to their country. This event will take place on 2/18 from 6-8pm.

Another exhibition currently available is the “World Fairs” exhibition. This installation studies cultural influence by looking at the art and architecture of world’s fairs from the 19th century through the postwar era.

A last exhibition available at the Art Museums through May is “Japanese Genre Painting”. This installation showcases and explores Japanese Genre painting and how it spread from the ruling class to commoners.

Harvard Neighbors Classifieds

**Harvard Neighbors Book Exchange**

Please remember our efforts to begin a Neighbors Book Exchange where members can “take a book, leave a book” Hopefully this will create a more “home-y” feel in the Neighbors room and add yet another perk to being a Harvard Neighbors member!

**Get in touch with us!**

Write to us at neighbors@harvard.edu if you have something you would like us to post in the newsletter!

History of Harvard Memorial Church

Memorial Church was dedicated on Armistice Day in 1932 in memory of those who died in World War I as a gift to the alumni of the University. University Architects Coolidge, Shepley, Bulfinch & Abbot, were enlisted to design the new building. They planned a structure that would complement the Widener Library. This created the open area now known as the Tercentenary Theatre, where Commencement is now held.