On Thursday, March 21, Out and About Interest Group will visit the Museum of Fine Arts, for a guided tour of the “Art of the Americas” exhibit. The group will meet at 11am in front of the museum’s Huntington Entrance. At the end of the visit, they will have a lunch together in the museum. The tour is limited to 9 people only. If you want to join it, RSVP to neighbors@harvard.edu.

You are invited to a Spring Celebration at the Neighbors on Friday, March 29 at 12pm! Join us for a presentation of Spring traditions around the world! Learn about the popular customs still followed today and have a taste of homemade dishes prepared by our members! We will be glad if you want to share a dish or a story of your own homeplace with us! You are welcome to bring your family to the celebration! An invitation is coming soon!

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Kitty Pechet, one of Art Explorations Interest Group’s Leaders and renowned local artist will lead an Introduction to Calligraphy Class on Thursday, April 11 from 5:30pm to 8pm. Kitty will show you the basic calligraphy alphabet and teach you beginner techniques you can use to practice making letter forms. You’ll learn about the tools and materials every calligrapher needs, and how to hold and use the pen, starting with simple strokes. At the end of the class you’ll be able to write letters you love, play space games with them using the broad-nib pen and learn some simple calligraphy rules to enjoy a visual harmony. Invitation to this class is coming at the end of March.
Crafts Jewelry and Metalwork

From the Neighbors’ Kitchen

Harvard Faculty Club’s executive chef, Ronaldo Abaquin has a soup suggestion for the end of winter chilly days.

Vegan butternut squash bisque

Ingredients
- 2 tablespoon canola oil
- 2 tbs. chopped garlic
- 1/2 cup diced onion
- 3/4 cup diced carrots
- 4 cups peeled and cubed butternut squash
- 3 cups water
- salt and ground black pepper to taste
- ground nutmeg to taste
- ground cinnamon to taste
- 14 oz. cream of coconut or almond milk
- ½ cup toasted pumpkin seeds

Directions
Heat the oil and melt the butter in a large pot over medium heat.
Mix the carrots and squash into the pot.
Pour in vegetable stock, and season with salt, pepper, and nutmeg.
Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer until vegetables are tender.
In a blender or food processor, puree the soup mixture until smooth.
Return to the pot and stir in the coconut cream. Heat through, but do not boil.
Serve with a dash of nutmeg, cinnamon and toasted pumpkin seeds.

If you have a simple recipe, that is your family’s favorite, share it with us and we will add it to our next newsletter.

Weekend Ideas

Have a Heart Day!
Greater Boston Food Bank and Y2Y homeless shelter can use your help this weekend! If you are around, consider giving them a hand! On Saturday, March 23 from 9:30am to 12pm, the Food Bank will welcome volunteers to help sorting food for the low income families at their headquarters at 70 S Bay Ave Boston. Y2Y Youth Homeless Shelter needs volunteers during the spring break. From March 18 to March 24. They have various shifts available and will greatly appreciate your help. Click here to sign and learn more.

Spring Open House at Brookline Arts Center
Stop by for a day full of FREE creative family fun! On Sunday, March 24 from 1pm to 3pm at Brookline Arts Center at 86 Monmouth Street, Brookline. You can explore the studio spaces and try out exciting projects in mixed media, comic creation, jewelry making, 3D sculpture and more! Enjoy light refreshments as you watch a live pottery demo.

Lights Off for Earth Hour
On March 30 at 8:30pm people and businesses around the world extinguish all non-essential lighting during this one hour. Boston is among over 5,000 cities and towns worldwide that have pledged to shut off lights for Earth Hour. The world’s biggest landmarks – such as the Sydney Opera House, Empire State Building, the Eiffel Tower, Buckingham Palace, and Edinburgh Castle – switch off lights as a visual display of their commitment. Starting as a symbolic lights out event in Sydney in 2007, Earth Hour is now the world’s largest grassroots movement for the environment, inspiring millions of people to take action for our planet and nature.

Around Harvard

Celebrate Nowruz at Harvard Semitic Museum
On Tuesday, March 26, 2019, 5:30pm to 7:00pm come to celebrate the Persian New Year and the beginning of spring with poetry, live music, traditional sweets, and an introduction to the traditional haft seen table. More than 3,000 years old, Nowruz (“new day”) originated in ancient Persia and became a popular celebration in communities influenced by Persian culture, including Iran, the Caucasus, Central Asia, and Western China. Drop in for a presentation of Nowruz customs and activities and help build community for 1398, the new year in the Persian calendar.

The event is free with registration and offers a free parking at 52 Oxford Street Garage, Cambridge.

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