CINEMA CONVERSATIONS

Cinema Conversations takes movie-viewing to another level by offering multiple sessions to really tackle a film and the readings related to it.

1. Two Great Dames of British Film: Judi Dench and Maggie Smith
   Thursdays, October 13, 20, and 27
   10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
   Peoria Public Library North Branch
Judi Dench and Maggie Smith, both Dames of the Order of the British Empire, and born a couple of weeks apart in 1934, met and became friends in 1958. Both are Oscar winners, both had husbands who died a few years ago, both are a bit under five and a half feet tall, and both, at age 80, remain major attractions in both American and British film productions. Using film clips and handouts, we’ll discuss the careers of each actress, the films they have made together, and their nearly 60-year friendship. Featured film clips will be taken from *A Room With A View*, *Ladies in Lavender*, *Tea with Mussolini*, *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *Mrs. Brown*, *Skyfall*, *Notes on a Scandal*, *Philomena*, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, *California Suite*, various *Harry Potter* films, and more.

$29 – moderated by Catriona Ritenhouse, cinema committee member

DINNER AND A MOVIE

Dinner and a Movie combines the screening of a film and the conversation that follows by visiting a theatre, sharing a meal with your peers, and enjoying a unique cinema experience.

2. The Palace Theatre in Elmwood:
   *The African Queen*
   Tuesday, September 20
   12:45 – 6:30 p.m.
After being re-built following a destructive tornado in 2010, the Palace Theatre in Elmwood was nearly closed for good earlier this year due to financial stress. Thanks to dedicated community members who raised funds to keep the theatre in operation, OLLI will have another chance to visit this historic building. After touring the nostalgic theatre, we will enjoy a private screening of *The African Queen*, a classic drama featuring Humphrey Bogart as a gin-swilling riverboat captain who is persuaded by a strait-laced missionary, played by Katharine Hepburn, to use his boat to attack a German warship at the onset of World War I. Following the film, Randy Wilson, popular OLLI instructor and cinema committee member, will lead a brief discussion about the movie and its themes, then we will enjoy a catered dinner at the Community Center in nearby Yates City.

$55 – includes tour, film screening, moderated discussion, dinner, gratuities, and shuttle transportation (participants may choose to drive on their own, if desired)

OLLI CINEMA

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

3. Argo
   Tuesday, November 15
   1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
   Peoria Riverfront Museum Giant Screen Theatre
OLLI presents a special screening of *Argo*, a drama based on events that took place in 1979 when 52 Americans were taken hostage during the Iranian revolution. Winner of three Academy Awards, the film describes the story of six Americans who attempted to escape the hostage crisis under the guise of producing a Hollywood film. Following the movie, our moderator, Doug Frank, will discuss his former role as President of Music Operations for Warner Pictures. He will also discuss his supervision of the music for *Argo* and many other films, such as the *Harry Potter* series, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and *The Dark Knight*.

$5 – includes admission and discussion. Transportation not provided – meet us at the Peoria Riverfront Museum! Free parking available in the deck accessible from Water Street.

4. The Intern
   Thursday, November 17
   10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
   Peoria Riverfront Museum Giant Screen Theatre
Those of us who were never cool young guys live with an enduring hope: that someday we’ll be cool old guys. In director Nancy Meyers’ comedy, *The Intern*, 70-year-old widower Ben Whittaker (72-year old Robert DeNiro) has discovered that retirement isn’t all it’s cracked up to be. Desperate to stay busy, he signs up for a “senior internship” position with a thriving Brooklyn online fashion company run by Jules Ostin (Anne Hathaway). Drawing upon his years of corporate experience, Ben becomes precisely the trusted adviser Jules needs. OLLI has partnered with AARP, the Heart of Illinois Senior Care Network, and the Peoria Riverfront Museum to present the film, which will be followed by a light lunch and lively conversation at the museum.

$5 – includes admission and light lunch. Transportation not provided – meet us at the Peoria Riverfront Museum! Free parking available in the deck accessible from Water Street.
SCRIBE TO SCREEN

Scribe to Screen compares a book or a play with its film counterpart to explore the process in depth. View the film at the Peoria Public Library North Branch during the first session, and then meet the following weeks to discuss the book and film at length.

5. *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*
   **September 12, 19, and 26**
   **1:00 – 3:30 p.m.**
   **Peoria Public Library North Branch**

*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, a play by Tennessee Williams, was first performed in New York in 1955 and awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Said to be the playwright’s favorite of his own works, this drama reveals contentious issues and untruths about the southern family of Big Daddy Pollitt as they gather to celebrate his birthday. In our discussion we’ll explore how the Motion Picture Production Code, also known as the Hayes Code, weakened the film adaptation’s treatment of homosexuality, homophobia, and sexism. Participants should read the original 1955 play (ISBN numbers 0-82-220189-5 and 978-0-82-220189-2), available from local or online retailers and libraries.

$29 – moderated by Nancy Varness, retired Illinois Central College English instructor and administrator, and Carol May, retired Illinois Central College Social Science Professor, OLLI cinema committee chair, and frequent OLLI facilitator/moderator.

---

We had so much fun last year, we’ve already finalized the details for the Second Annual OLLI Trivia Night Fundraiser! Join your OLLI friends for a fun night of trivia, once again emceed by WMBD 1470-AM radio personalities (and OLLI instructors) Dan DiOrio and Greg Batton!

For just $45 per person ($360 for a table of 8), the evening will include:
- Plentiful hors d’oeuvres, coffee, tea, water, and a cash bar
- Ten rounds of trivia fun
- Prizes for the first (and last) place teams
- Prizes for the best-decorated table and best-dressed team – come dressed to match the “1950s: At the Hop” theme, and decorate your table with creativity (think poodle skirts, pony tails, bobbie socks, saddle shoes, leather jackets, 45s and LPs, Elvis, Buddy Holly, hula hoops, and more!)
- Interactive competitions during breaks
- Outstanding customer service in the form of table runners (Continuing Education staff and friends), who will deliver your answers, fetch your drinks, and even sell you free answer tickets!

The questions will be organized into categories that mirror OLLI programming, such as: Music and Entertainment, History, Political Science, Community Awareness, Literature, Topical/Pop Culture, Religion and Philosophy, STEM, Bradley University/OLLI History, and Sports.

Teams will consist of up to 8 players – if you don’t have a team, no worries! We’ll place you on one!

Support OLLI on this fun and relaxing evening. Proceeds will be used to help OLLI raise funds for audio improvements to the Michel Student Center ballrooms.

Register on Page 29