English Conversation Classes return, on Zoom!

Last Spring, like everyone else, we had to suddenly cancel all of our long-running English Conversation classes. While we still can’t meet on campus, teachers and students can get together via zoom to share stories, learn more about MIT and the US and improve English skills. Content will be determined by student interests.

Groups will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 - 11AM, starting February 9, and will continue through May 6. Current WL English Conversation Class teachers will host the meetings.

Students can attend both Tuesday and Thursday zoom meetings, or join either one. If you don’t know which level you should sign up for, take a guess! If you want to move to the other level, that is fine. Do you have children at home with you? That’s fine; many of our conversations are about parenting during the pandemic.

Students must have an MIT affiliation, either currently or in an earlier year. The signup website has a question about your MIT link. Please let us know if you are a returning student or if you are new to MIT and/or our classes.

And here’s the best part — the zoom get-togethers are free!

Visit wl.mit.edu to register.

Lighting up the night for the Holidays!

Since the 1930s, the Women’s League has created the large holiday wreaths that hang at 77 Mass Ave. This was the year it seemed that tradition might be broken - we explored multiple avenues to find a way to make the wreaths, but there wasn’t a way to gather safely.

Enter the great people at MIT Buildings & Grounds! With a donation from the Women’s League, Sogna Scott and her team, who are still on campus, made the holiday magic happen.

If you were on campus this December, or driving past, we hope you caught a glimpse of the wreaths! And for those who were not, we are happy to be able to share these wonderful photos with you.

All photos courtesy of Ron Hoffmann.
Japanese Wives Group:
Pen Pal Program

The MIT Japanese Wives Group organizes the Friendship Partner Program, arranging introductory meetings for our members to exchange their culture with that of their partners. Through this program, we are able to develop true friendships, even if we are geographically separated. Even across the Pacific Ocean, we can foster friendship.

Last year, we had to cancel meetings due to the coronavirus pandemic. Fortunately, we do have a number of activities that we are able to continue, in keeping with our social distancing responsibilities. We have launched a Pen Pal Program between members both here at MIT and in Japan. Our members exchange emails and share experiences from their different environments, and build meaningful friendships through this program.

Tseh-Hwan and I are also members of the Pen Pal Program. I met her at MIT over 20 years ago. She was a PhD student at MIT. Even after she left MIT, we stayed in touch with each other. She helped our group a lot. But I've never felt closer to her than I am now through the Pen Pal Program.

The MIT Japanese Wives Group
Kimie Shirasaki
Prior to joining the meeting, please visit zoom.us and download the app to your phone, ipad or computer. All are welcome!

Looking for an interesting read? The Book Discussion interest group will host virtual meetings via Zoom this semester. Please let Nancy Holloman (nancyredsox@gmail.com) know if you’d like to be added to their mailing list.

February 17
The Dutch House
by Ann Patchett
11:30am

March 17
Persuasion
by Jane Austen
11:30am

April 21
The Island of Sea Women
by Lisa See
11:30am

May 19
H is for Hawk
by Helen Mcdonald
11:30am

Fiber Crafts Group
It's a good time to get creative and finish that project you've been meaning to get to. The Fiber Crafts Group offers the space to craft online with friends. Meetings will be held throughout the Fall semester via Zoom. Feel free to sign in at any time over the two hours, and stay for as long as you like. For a Zoom invite, please email Claudia James (nonnajames@gmail.com).

All events are held 12-1.30pm.
February 16
March 16
April 20
May 18
June 15

The MIT Women’s Chorale: Spring Season via Zoom
The MIT Women’s Chorale will resume virtual sessions, beginning January 20. Our sessions, held from 7:30 to 8:30 pm on Wednesdays, will involve fun and interactive ear training and music reading exercises, and a bit of singing with our congenial director, Daniel Mahoney, followed by socializing. We invite all from the MIT community to join us.

For more information and a Zoom invitation, contact us at wleague@mit.edu
http://web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale/

New members are welcome. For further details, please contact us at sdef@mit.edu.
As well as working on furniture rehab, FX Manager Julie Parker has been working on fixing up the physical appearance of the store.

She painted the front facade to give a the MIT FX a distinct look from our neighbors, MIT Mail Services. Next up was the floor in the entry, which was stenciled several years ago but needed a little TLC! Julie is embracing randomness and chaos over symmetry and order - painting a star stencil over a dark blue painted floor, and it looks fantastic!
The April Honorary League Luncheon will now be held as a webcast. Invitations will be sent out mid March with details about how to access the talk by our speaker, Margery Resnick, on April 22. We hope to be able to hold an in-person event again soon.

The MIT Women's League Newsletter is published four times during the academic year. Please email the office for a hard copy of the newsletter or for any questions you may have.

Deadline for submission for the November Newsletter is October 1.

Manager Kirsty Bennett  
Chair Cheryl Vossmer  
Honorary Chair Christine Reif  
Visual Identity Ink Design