

# The Emeritus Voice

Spring 2017

*A program of Santa Monica College for older adults*

## Who We Are: Pam Koslow

### Profile of an Emeritus Student

by Ada Hollie



Pam Koslow is a native New Yorker who moved to Los Angeles in 1966. She was a teacher and guidance counselor for the Las Virgenes Unified School District but changed careers to start a business. Around 1975, through a mutual friend, Pam met

dancer, actor and singer Gregory Hines. Mr. Hines told Pam that he was "smitten" with her and thus began a relationship that lasted more than 25 years. They were married from 1981 to 2000 and have a son together. Pam has a daughter, Jessica Koslow, from a previous marriage.

Hines, also a native New Yorker, returned home after meeting Pam and persuaded Pam to return as well. Upon returning, she landed a job selling advertising for Other Stages, an off-Broadway company.

While Hines was performing in *Eubie!*, a revue based on the life of Eubie Blake, the associate producer of the production invited Pam to be his assistant. Producing musicals for the theater became her passion and she worked tirelessly to get formal investors and other supporters of the arts to fund projects she believed in.

One of those productions was *Jelly's Last Jam*, for which Hines won a Tony. While it took 10 years to get the production to Broadway, smaller theaters staged it all around the country, including the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles. Other musicals Pam produced include... (Cont'd on Page 3)

## From the Corner Office

by Gita Runkle, Associate Dean

You may have already heard the great news in the SMC press release or in local newspapers, but in case not, I wanted to share it again with the Emeritus community.

The Santa Monica College Foundation has received a \$1 million gift from longtime Pacific Palisades philanthropist Miriam

"Mitzi" Blahd. The gift honors the legacy of our very own Emeritus instructor, Harvey Stromberg, who is also a retired SMC history professor and former KCRW talk show host. This generous gift will fund the annual filming of 'Living Histories' of eight Emeritus students – the films will be made by the award-winning SMC film production program.



Portrait by Audrey Roll



Blahd's gift will also provide SMC scholarships in Stromberg's name. One of the scholarships is the Harvey Stromberg Leadership Scholarship, which will provide ten

SMC students with \$500 scholarships annually in perpetuity. The second scholarship is the Stromberg Scholars for Dale Ride Internship endowment, which will provide four SMC students with \$5,000 internships, annually, to send them to Washington, D.C. for eight weeks, giving them the opportunity to intern in Congress and with other public organizations.

The college will also rename a lecture hall in the Humanities and Social Sciences Building on its main campus—HSS 165—the "Professor Harvey Stromberg Lecture Hall". (Cont'd on Page 4)

## ECAC Happenings: Fundraising Group

by Charlotte Horstein, ECAC Chair

Welcome to the 2017 spring semester. The Emeritus College Advisory Council (ECAC) is always busy working on behalf of all students.

We have several subgroups (subcommittees) serving on our Council. One of the most important is the fundraising subgroup. This group of dedicated volunteers raises funds to benefit our students. These funds provide much needed extras for Emeritus students; they are used to conduct events and to provide equipment and supplies for other needs not covered by state funding. For example, these funds provide for our student art gallery publicity and opening receptions, new audio/visual equipment for the classrooms, and the benches outside of the front door of the first floor office. The funds are held and invested by the Santa Monica College Foundation, a non-profit 501 (C)(3) organization.

To see your funds at work, please see the list of items on the flyer located in the glass bulletin board on each floor of our building or visit the Emeritus website page: [www.smc.edu/emeritus](http://www.smc.edu/emeritus) (see left side menu, "Support Emeritus" section).

All funds used from the SMC Foundation are approved on three administrative levels. First, the Associate Dean of Emeritus approves the request. That request then requires approval by the Dean of Noncredit and External Programs. The third and final step requires signature approval by the Vice President of Academic Affairs or designee. Once all signatures have been received, the approved expenditure is sent to the Santa Monica College Foundation for issuing.

We salute the fine work of our Fundraising subgroup, which includes Walter Coronel, Edie London, Jerry Schneir, Bob Stern, and Harvey Stromberg (with additional support from volunteer, Judy Blits). These members work tirelessly throughout the year to raise funds for the needs of Emeritus students.

Say hello to our Fundraising members and compliment them on a job well done!

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## Applications for Membership

by Charlotte Horstein, ECAC Chair

There will be five Emeritus College Advisory Council (ECAC) member vacancies in June 2017. If you would like to be considered for membership on this advisory council, applications will be available in March in the Emeritus building and website at [www.smc.edu/emeritus](http://www.smc.edu/emeritus). Applications are due by April 14, 2017.

Interviews of potential candidates will take place at the ECAC meeting in May 2017.

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## 2016 Fund Raising Report

by Walter Coronel

During 2016, our fundraising efforts raised \$126,084. This was accomplished through donations of 1,038 students. The percentage of donors was 33.48%, approximately 3% lower than last year. The goal is to raise this figure to 40%. With your help we can accomplish this. Thank you for your donations!

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## Moving Along

by Pat Gorman, Emeritus volunteer

Attending Emeritus demonstrates that we believe in moving ahead: mentally and physically. However, sometimes, when we are caught up in conversation, we forget to move along: in doorways, on pathways, and when using the stairs or elevator. Let's combine moving ahead with moving along and consider location and people traffic before stopping to chat.

Thanks for helping us all to remain *moving along!*



## ...More Than Just a Gym

by Helen Wachs

There are many resources for older adults in Santa Monica. In this column we introduce you to the Santa Monica YMCA (The Y).

The Y works to strengthen community and make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. Programs are offered for young children, adolescents, adults, and older adults.

The Older Adult Program at The Y, under the direction of Lidia Magarian, seeks to help people our age maintain healthy lifestyles that promote a continuum of health, which complements the mission here at Emeritus. However, unlike Emeritus, which does not charge a fee to attend and is open to all those over 55 years of age, the YMCA is a membership organization. There is a one-time fee to join The Y and then there are monthly dues; however, financial aid is available for Santa Monica residents who have a need. For those who would like to attend classes without joining, there is a fee structure for many classes. Contact Lidia Magarian at (310) 393-2721 or email [lidiam@ymcasm.org](mailto:lidiam@ymcasm.org) for more information.

The Y offers multiple ways to keep busy. There are **two swimming pools** and water exercise classes are offered four days a week for people with limiting physical conditions. **Twinges in the Hinges**, a water exercise class for those with pain and stiffness, joint flexibility issues, etc., is offered six days a week. There are also times for free swimming. In addition, there are **handball** and **basketball** courts, **dance** groups, as well as social and **table games** opportunities. **Health seminars** are offered by professionals in the community and by medical staff from UCLA Medical Center. For a complete listing of educational seminars, events, classes, etc., go to the YMCA at 1332 Sixth St., Santa Monica. Or, visit them online at [www.ymcasm.org](http://www.ymcasm.org).

This year, the **National YMCA Diabetes Prevention Program** will be offered. It is a one-year, twenty-five session program for people at risk of developing Type 2 Diabetes. The resources of The Y will be available to participants and there will be personal oversight of all. Overseen by an Advisory Council with members from UCLA, WISE, St. John's Hospital and Medical Center, Providence Health Care, and the City of Santa Monica, The Y is very enthusiastic to be able to offer this program to the community.

For more information, please contact Lidia Malarian at (310) 393-2721 or email her at [lidiam@ymcasm.org](mailto:lidiam@ymcasm.org).



### *Attachment + Caring + Intimacy = Perfect Love*

The triangular theory of love suggests a clear formula for the components of different kinds of love. There are three kinds of love that are a product of two different pairs of basic components: romantic love = passion + intimacy, companionate love = intimacy + commitment, and fatuous love = passion + commitment. Of course, the truest and strongest of all is consummate love, which consists of all three components.

## Who We Are: Pam Koslow (Cont'd from Page 1)

... *Jane Eyre, Mona Rogers, How I Got that Story, Smart Aleck and Handshake.*

Pam returned to Los Angeles four years ago when her daughter, who writes for *The Argonaut*, had a baby. She spends four days a week with her granddaughter and says she is the happiest grandma ever. Her son Zach is also in the arts.

A member of the Emeritus Gospel Choir, Pam has also taken exercise classes, the Current Events class and the Artistic Expression through Gardening class. She has a gardening plot at Ocean View Farms and grows organic produce. She also volunteers at the Westminster Elementary School Garden program.

## From the Corner Office (Cont'd from Page 1)

As noted by SMC's Superintendent/President, Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery, "Santa Monica College is deeply grateful to Mitzi Blahd for her expression of great generosity. The scholarships and films to be made possible by her gift will not only provide extremely deserving students an opportunity to expand their world beyond their wildest expectations, but also record for posterity the incredible life stories of some of our Emeritus College students. Moreover, Mrs. Blahd's gift acknowledges the impact SMC Professor Harvey Stromberg has made on the many students he has taught and inspired in 40 years."

Blahd—who first met Stromberg when she took a Chinese history class he was teaching at SMC in 1974—said she knew immediately that "this was somebody special." Soon after, she and her late husband, Dr. William Blahd, struck up a friendship with Stromberg that would last decades; they grew to consider him part of their family. "He is such a great teacher...that's why he stands out," said Blahd of Stromberg.

Blahd remembers how she began her lifetime of giving: "I started fundraising at the age of ten—I baked cookies and invited 25 neighbors to come hear me play *Flight of the Bumblebee*. I raised two dollars and fifty cents and sent it to a children's hospital in Denver. That was the beginning of my philanthropic career...and it has never stopped. Education is my number one reason for giving and to be able to help so many people is just my joy. I am grateful that I am able to do it."

"Mitzi is a very generous person who has supported education all her life and she knew SMC was my life for 40 years," says Stromberg, who continues to teach part-time at the Emeritus program. "She will certainly leave a legacy behind."

For more information on the Santa Monica College Foundation, please visit [santamonicacollegefoundation.org](http://santamonicacollegefoundation.org) or email Lizzy Moore at [Moore\\_Lizzy@smc.edu](mailto:Moore_Lizzy@smc.edu).



We are looking for enthusiastic and reliable go-getters to be a part of the newsletter team. If you have a story to tell, a knack for written prose, and want to help Emeritus students stay up-to-date on what's happening around Emeritus and their community, email [emeritus@smc.edu](mailto:emeritus@smc.edu) by May 21, to submit an article for the Fall 2017 edition of The Emeritus Voice.

## What's Happening: Spring Emeritus Events

### EMERITUS ART GALLERY EXHIBITS

*Emeritus College, 1227 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Santa Monica CA 90401 (Parking available in adjacent Parking Structure #2)*

#### Emeritus Students Photography Exhibition

March 9-April 26, 2017

*Opening: Reception: March 9, 2017 at 5pm*

#### Emeritus Students Group Art Exhibition

May 4-July 5, 2017

*Opening Reception: May 4, 2017 at 5pm*

### SMC PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

*1310 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 (Events are free and there is ample free parking)*

#### The Emeritus College Concert Band

June 18, 2017 at 3p.m.

*(Tentative. For confirmation, visit: [www.smc.edu/emeritus](http://www.smc.edu/emeritus))*

The Broad Stage at SMC Performance Arts Center

#### The Emeritus College Acting Troupe

July 22, 2017 at 1p.m.

The Edye Second Space at SMC Performing Arts Center

Emeritus College is committed to life-long learning for older adults. From art and literature to health and safety, personal finance, and digital technologies, Emeritus College students connect, discover, renew, and reinvent. Classes are held at the Emeritus headquarters at 1227 Second Street, Santa Monica, as well as at community sites located throughout the cities of Santa Monica and Malibu.

**Got Suggestions?** You can give Emeritus your feedback in several ways: by emailing [emeritus@smc.edu](mailto:emeritus@smc.edu); calling 310-434-4306; through the suggestion boxes located on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> floors of Emeritus; and in-person on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Emeritus administrative offices.



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COLLEGE**

1227 SECOND ST., SANTA MONICA, CA 90401  
310.434.4306 | [www.smc.edu/emeritus](http://www.smc.edu/emeritus)