

President's Corner



Deborah Seiler

President

The Renaissance Society
of Sacramento

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Renaissance Website:
<https://csus.edu/rensoc>

Key Dates

June 1 – Registration Portal opens

June 9 – July 28 - Summer Program (see page 5)

August 4 -- At A Glance mailed

August 7 -- Catalog posted

August 14 – Program Enrollment begins

August 18 -- Orientation and Open House

Sept. 5 – Renaissance classes begin



New Beginnings

With the conclusion of our spring semester, we look into the rearview mirror and celebrate the abundant and varied programming in the 2022-2023 academic year. With the hard-working leadership of Pam O'Brien and Kathryn Tobias, as well as the steady hand of Senior Clerk Lorene Sarne, Renaissance members enjoyed 83 Seminars, 75 Single Presentations, 55 Shared Interest Groups, and 15 Community Presentations, all presented in two magnificent catalog versions and a handy Schedule at a Glance. We even added a brand new Science Series.

Michele Finerty, Tom Suchanek, and the entire Forum Committee, with all their good ideas and great connections, brought us 25 Forums with speakers ranging from Andrew Tang to Craig McNamara to Dr. Shirley Weber.

There were parties at parks, parties at Engrained, parties at the Round Table in the University Union as well as parties at a few local watering holes. Good times had by all thanks to the hard work of Allan Keown.

We succeeded in endowing our first two scholarships, continued to fund a full seven scholarships once again, and won the ASI Food Pantry's Golden Plate Award for the second consecutive year. Our ushering and mentoring programs were robust, and we look forward to walking, climbing, squatting, and bending for the benefit of the Physical Therapy doctoral candidates this month.

With great emotion, we say goodbye to our dear President Robert S. Nelsen and Mrs. Nelsen along with so many top Sac State executives. They could not have been more welcoming or kind to Renaissance. We are fortunate to continue with our amazing liaison, Dean Dianne Hyson of the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies. Find a video of the Annual Meeting held on May 12 at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsMSdfzqHwk>.

As we gaze into our crystal ball, we wonder about the new Sac State President and his or her leadership team. We wonder if our membership will grow back to pre-pandemic levels. We ask ourselves if we can achieve greater diversity of our membership, our presenters, and our programming.

We need your help. Share this renewal edition with your friends and other organizations. Join us for a summer program that celebrates diversity in the Sacramento region. Volunteer to help one of our committees to contribute to our society. Don't simply gaze into that crystal ball but help us make our dreams a reality!

Deborah

Fall 2023 - Spring 2024 Academic Year
MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION INFORMATION

This special **Membership Edition of The Recorder** explains the process for signing up for the upcoming Fall 2023— Spring 2024 Academic Year.

Renaissance Society will send a Constant Contact email message on **Thursday, June 1**, with a link to our Registration site inviting you to either renew your membership or to join us for the first time for the upcoming 2023-2024 academic year. ALL Renaissance members will receive a printed June Recorder newsletter in the mail.

Membership for the 2023-2024 Academic Year is
\$100.00 per person.

There are two ways to **Renew or Sign-up** for a Membership:

- 1) **Online** with a credit card payment or
- 2) **By Check** using the form on the next page of this Membership Edition of the Recorder and mailing it in with a check.

Registering online is the fastest, most efficient method and saves us administrative costs. The Paper version is available if your online access is limited. The paper form can also be found on the Renaissance Society website, under “Membership” which can be printed, filled in, and mailed in with your check starting on June 1, 2023.

Note: If you will be 90 years old before July 1, 2023, you are eligible to become an Honorary Member and you will no longer be required to pay membership dues. Do not register online. Instead contact the office at (916) 758-5133 to be processed and registered for the new year. Also, members who **already are Honorary Members** must also register with the office: (916) 758-5133 or email renaissa@csus.edu

ONLINE CREDIT CARD PROCESS:

To **renew your membership online** you will need to know your **Renaissance Society membership number** which you can look up online with your Last Name and Zip Code at

apps.cce.csus.edu/sites/renaissanceSociety/index.cfm?lookup

The online internet process is simple and safe.

- Go to the Renaissance Society website at csus.edu/rensoc
- Click on the “Online Registration” box, then
- **Returning Members** click on “Sign Me In” or “Help me Login”
- **New Members** click on “Sign Me Up”
- The system will ask for credit card information to make your payment but it does not retain credit card information once the transaction is completed

It’s simple and in a flash you are up-to-date with your Renaissance Society membership for the Fall 2023 Spring 2024 Academic Year. Do not complete the online registration information more than one time because your credit card will be charged each time. If you think that your payment did not go through, phone the Renaissance Office at (916) 758-5133 or email renaissa@csus.edu.

Note: Instructions for purchasing parking permits are available at <https://tinyurl.com/RSparking>.

Parking Permits cost \$40 and will be good from July 1, 2023 — June 30, 2024.

You can purchase your parking permit for the new fiscal year starting on July 1, 2023. Go to the UTAPS online parking portal at https://sacstate.t2hosted.com/cmn/auth_ext.aspx





**RENAISSANCE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION FALL 2023-2024**
PLEASE COMPLETE ONE FORM FOR EACH MEMBER

Please Print

HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER PRIOR TO THIS YEAR? YES NO

FIRST NAME	LAST	DATE
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
ADDRESS: STREET	CITY	ZIP
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
PHONE	EMAIL	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
EMERGENCY CONTACT: NAME	PHONE	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

Membership Fee	\$100.00
Library Card Fee (\$10)	\$ _____
Donation for Renaissance Society General Programs**	\$ _____
TOTAL:	\$ _____
** Do you want your donation to be anonymous? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Note: There will be no refunds

Make check payable to:

The Renaissance Society
California State University, Sacramento
6000 J Street – Mail Stop 6074
Sacramento, CA 95819-6074

QUESTIONS

1. What is your ethnicity?

- African American
- Asian American
- Hispanic/Chicanx/Latinx
- Native American
- Other/Multi-racial
- Pacific Islander
- White
- Decline to state

2. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary
- Decline to state

3. Year of birth: _____

4. Original Renaissance join date: _____

5. Do you want your name, email, and phone number listed in the Membership Directory?

- Yes No

Signature and Date: _____

Your Dues Are a Huge Part of Our Success

By Norv Wellsfry, Controller

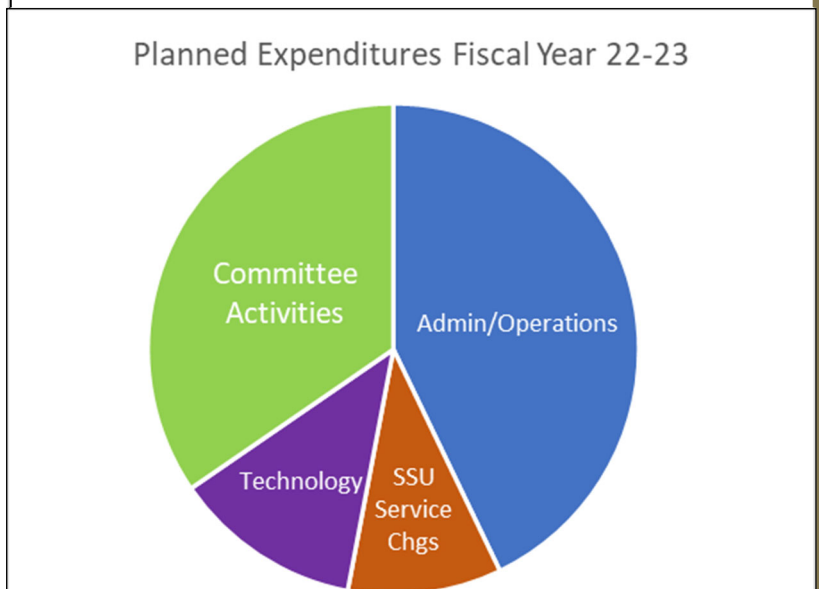
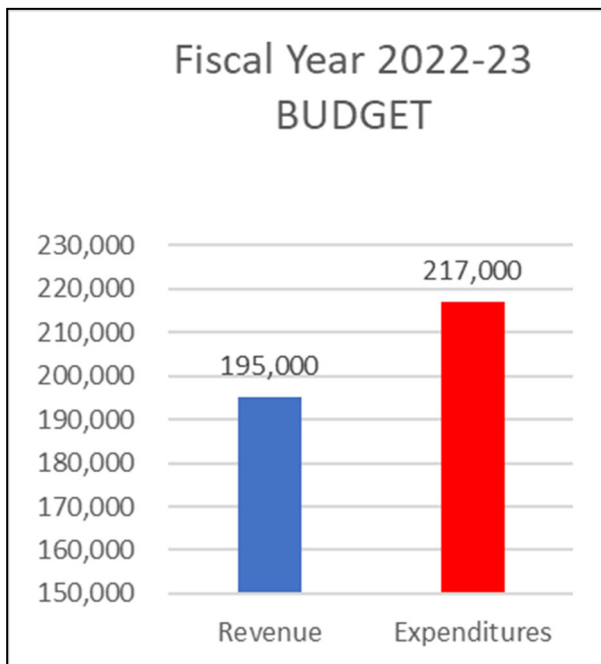
When the Pandemic shut down Sac State several years ago, the members of the Society, especially the Program Committee, planned and executed an extraordinary pivot to on-line Seminars and other programs. We anticipated and had a loss of 25% of our membership. At present, our membership has stabilized but we have been unable to recover the lost members. As the on-campus program on Friday recovers and expands, it is anticipated that the lost membership will return.

The generosity of many members who contributed to the "Give a Little Extra" campaign by giving more than the \$100 for membership has been a significant factor in improving the stability of our finances.

Renaissance will continue its careful approach to the next year. We will continue with a restricted budget. However, we will continue to deliver a high quality and exciting program that offers more options than members have ever had.

We look forward to expanding our return to the campus. When we do, it will be because our members have supported the Society and demonstrate their confidence in our ability to provide one of the best senior learning programs in the country.

The two charts below illustrate our current budget and the expenditures that support our programs.



2023 SUMMER PROGRAM

Celebrating Diversity: Telling Stories That Haven't Been Told

DATES: Fridays, June 9 - July 28, 2023
LOCATION: Sac State Campus (Del Norte Hall, Room 1004)
COST: Free and Open to the Public (Register through Eventbrite)
TIMES: 10 am – 11am Presentation, followed by BYO bag lunch and guided tours

Programs

- June 9:** *The Native American Experience:* A conversation with Al Striplen, Native American (Amah Mutsun Ohlone & Aztec heritage), university student counselor and Native Studies professor, artist, musician, author & illustrator
Tour: State Indian Museum 1pm
- June 16:** *Juneteenth, a History and Celebration:* Sac State professor and Renaissance member Darryl Freeman introduces us to Juneteenth, the oldest commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States
Tour: Campus Murals
- June 23:** *Veteran's Panel – WWI, WWII, Viet Nam, Iraq, Afghanistan:* Air Force Lt. Col., KC 135 pilot, and Renaissance member, Frank Martinez leads a panel discussion with descendants of the WWI “Harlem Hell Fighters” and the WWII Japanese-American 442 Army unit as well as recent veterans, who share their stories as minorities & women in the military.
Tour: Campus Planetarium show at noon
- June 30:** *Little Richard. A Celebration and Documentary:* Bob Lang to present. (Folsom Hall)
Tour: Campus Planetarium show 1 pm
- July 7:** *Meet the Students – A Diverse Panel of Sac State Students:* A dynamic panel of current Sac State Students will share their personal journey to university and college life; moderated by Cathy Mayorga, Coordinator, Multi-Cultural Center at Sac State
Tour: Campus Student Affinity & Equity Centers
- July 14:** *Multicultural Business and Community Outreach Panel– Challenges/Successes:* Bobbie Singh- Allen, Mayor of Elk Grove; Larry Lee, Publisher of Sacramento Observer; Cathy Rodriguez Aguirre, CEO, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Jose Bodipa-Memba, Chief Diversity Officer, SMUD. Moderated by Renaissance President, Deborah Seiler
Tour: To be announced
- July 21:** *Hmong Experiences in California Central Valley:* Pachia Lucy Vang, Sacramento-area expert in Hmong and Southeast Asian textiles who curated the Library Gallery Hmong exhibit “Cloth as Community.” To be confirmed
Tour: Campus Green Houses
- July 28:** *Gospel Choir Musical performance at St. Andrews AME Church*
End your summer with a joyous concert, featuring a Gospel choir and other artists at St. Andrews AME Church, Sacramento, followed by catered lunch. To be confirmed

In Memoriam David Warren

By Allan Keown



Our beloved member David Warren left us on April 12, resting peacefully in his bed at home. He has donated his body to UC Davis.

David's knowledge, teaching, tour leading, friendship, and love endeared him to thousands of Renaissance Society members since he joined in 2003. He initially led seminars with his beloved wife Lois and then taught solo from 2013 to 2022 after she passed in 2013.

Four Renaissance members sum up his life of devoted friendship, service, teaching, and compassion:

"Clarence and I welcomed the happy newlyweds, David and Lois Warren, as our next door neighbors in 1971. We knew them as close friends and neighbors and regularly shared meals, visited each other, attended neighborhood meetings, and welcomed other new neighbors. During the pandemic, our neighbors kept in contact by meeting almost daily. David, especially, looked forward to these gatherings which eventually convened in his driveway. He was extremely knowledgeable and a great conversationalist with a good sense of humor. May he rest in peace." *Clarence & Callie Smith*

"I was a longtime colleague of David's during his tenure at Sacramento City College from 1969 to 1993 where he served as Chair of the Humanities Department. David always attempted to motivate his students to reach beyond their experiences and worlds with integrity and caring. His life was continuously in balance and a powerful presence. After I joined Renaissance Society in 2014, I became a student of his, too. I relished the stimulation and joy which David provided to Renaissance members just as he had to his college students. I have always felt privileged and extremely grateful for our years of close friendship, both as a colleague and then as a lifelong learning student." I expect we will appreciate David more and more as the years roll on without him." *Barbara Davis-Lyman.*

"David was the quintessential Renaissance man. His classical education, life in Italy, service as a priest and college professor made him especially suited to lead Renaissance Society humanities seminars for 20 years. A highlight of his teaching was portraying key historical figures in full costume. Renaissance members treasure memories of David's intellect and friendship. He will be missed." *Wade Brynelson*

"After taking David's seminars, I noticed my Jeopardy scores improved noticeably. It was an honor and a privilege to help with his Egypt seminar and My Story video." *Craig McCullough*

A memorial service will be held on David's 93rd birthday, May 27 at Trinity Cathedral, and a Renaissance Society service in his honor will be held in September, with a formal notice provided in August.

In Memoriam Mark Heckey

Condolences to the many members who knew Mark Heckey. His passing stunned our community, particularly because he was in great spirits recently at Earth Day. He was especially interested in climate issues and added greatly to our conversations on these topics. We hope the memories of his life which are treasured by family and friends will help sustain them through this period of transition. Mark will be missed. *Robert Benedetti, Secretary.*

In Memoriam Wayne Wilson

Phyllis Mills reported this month that her husband, Wayne Wilson, passed in December, 2020.

They both joined Renaissance in 2000. Wayne made presentations on travel and both he and Phyllis were active in many seminars and made many friends through the Society.



Financial Help Available to Members in Need

By Debbie Martinez

The Renaissance Society Board has made a commitment to keep dues at \$100 per year, despite inflation and rising costs. While this is great news, we also know that there are those who could benefit from Renaissance membership, but it would be financially difficult for them to join. Renaissance has a member scholarship program to address that dilemma. We encourage current and prospective members who have financial hardship and a commitment to lifelong learning, to apply for the scholarship.

The Member Scholarship Program waives annual and mid-year membership dues as well as UTAPS parking permits, if needed, for a limited number of applicants for the current academic year. Qualified members can apply each year that they have an identified need. Payments will be internal accounting transfers. No cash will be disbursed directly to individuals. There will not be any retroactive reimbursements for previous semesters. The Board is committed to removing membership barriers that keep new and existing members from joining due to their financial hardship.

To apply, please complete a Member Scholarship Application including a 500-word or less narrative explaining in detail the applicant's need for a scholarship. You can find a PDF of the application on our website: [Member Scholarship Application](#). You can also request one from the office at renaissa@csus.edu or (916) 758-5133.

Applications for Fall 2023 must be received by August 18, 2023 but sooner is better!

Submit applications: Electronically to renaissa@csus.edu or by mail to:

The Renaissance Society,
CSUS 6000 J Street, MS 6074
Sacramento CA 95819-6074.

Applications will be reviewed for completeness and meeting the need criteria.

Questions, please contact MDCE Chair Debbie Martinez: Debralyn78@pacbell.net or call (916) 802-6530.



A Membership Gift

By Debbie Martinez

Looking for the perfect birthday, anniversary, or retirement gift? Why not give an annual Renaissance membership? At \$100 a year, about \$2 a week, it would mean that you can share a year of Renaissance experiences with someone else in your life. Now, with the option of taking seminars over Zoom, you can give a membership to someone living outside of Sacramento, even out of state!

To give a Gift of Membership is easy and straightforward: simply go to Gift Membership. Then click on "Sign Me Up" for new members; fill out your family member, relative, or friend's personal information; click submit; and then enter your credit card information. You can also get a specially designed gift certificate to send to your recipient! Contact the office at renaissa@csus.edu for the certificate. Please consider this concept; it really is a meaningful gift!



Our 2023 Sac State Scholarship Winners!

Recipient	Field of Study
Amanda Oakes	Physical Therapy
Alyssa Lee	Health Science
Emily Bolas	Physical Therapy
Kimberly Lopez-Leon	Health Science
Cesar Medina	Physical Therapy
Michelle Silva	Gerontology
Josiah Graham	Criminal Justice

DINING TOGETHER

By Cheryl Nelson

The Dining Together group will meet on

Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 5:30PM at
Wildwood Kitchen, 556 Pavilions Ln.

for **outdoor dining**

(<https://www.wildwoodpavillions.com>).

Individual checks will be provided.

Parking is available.

RSVP to Cheryl Nelson, slynnsearch@yahoo.com, no later than June 5, 2023.

Seating is limited. You will receive a confirmation email if space is available.

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Sacramento
The Renaissance Society
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Sacramento, CA 95819
80700128**

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July/August Submissions Due: **June 2**

NATIONAL HERITAGE/DIVERSITY MONTHS

JUNE

LGBTQ+ Pride Month

June 19 = Juneteenth

