

SPRING 2026

## **At-a-Glance Program Schedule**

**Learn. Connect. Share.**



Photo Courtesy: Michael Macias

- *Digital Catalog posted Monday, January 12*
- *Join us for Orientation and Open House on Friday, January 16, from 10am — 12:30 pm in the Student Union*
- *Enroll in your programs starting Tuesday, January 20*

### **How to Contact Us**

Renaissance Society Office:

350 University Ave., Suite 108, Sacramento, CA 95825 916-758-5133 [renaissa@csus.edu](mailto:renaissa@csus.edu)

Renaissance Society Website: [www.csus.edu/rensoc](http://www.csus.edu/rensoc) **Office Hours: M-F; 10-1**

# Welcome to Spring 2026



We hope you had wonderful holidays filled with family, friends, and great food and fun! 2026 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Renaissance Society, and we have much to look forward to.

We hope to reach 2,000 members by the end of the Spring semester, when we wrap up our 2025-2026 year. Please help us reach this goal by sharing your enjoyment with friends, family members, and neighbors. Remember, we have no age limits, no geographic limits, and we offer topics so broad that everyone can find something of interest to them. Membership makes a great gift at only \$70 for the Spring semester. We also have a Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). Learn more [here](#), including eligibility requirements and to get an application.

We continue to add community partners and are looking forward to offering a broader variety of programs. If you frequent specific types of entertainment venues, let us know, and we will reach out to them.

We appreciate the calls and emails we've gotten from many of you. You are telling us what we are doing right, and most importantly, where we can improve. Please continue! Again, thank you for all you do and for your generosity. Please introduce yourself to me - in person or on Zoom. During the rain and fog, remember - Spring will be blooming soon!!

We have an exciting semester ahead, with lots of great presentations, seminars, Forum speakers, and plenty of fun. Thank you for all you do! We look forward to seeing you in class or on Zoom!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deanna Hanson".

Deanna Hanson, Renaissance Society President



Photo Courtesy: Cary Spatz

# At-a-Glance Program Schedule

This At-a-Glance Program Schedule (AAG) organizes programs by day of week, time of day, and type of program. Use the Abbreviation Key below to identify each program's delivery format and recording status.

## Abbreviation Key

D = Diversity program; Z = Zoom-only; IP=In-person only; H = Hybrid (IP + Z) program; IP+R = In-person (live) & recorded; R = Program recorded; NR = Program not recorded; WI = Walk-in program – enrollment helps us notify you of changes, seats available first-come/first-served

 The on-campus classrooms were not available at the time of printing. See the catalog for the classroom locations. 

## Program Definitions

**Seminars** – led by one or more members, range from 3-14 weeks, and focus on one subject.

**Shared Interest Groups (SIGs)** – facilitated by members, offer activities centered on what people enjoy doing together. These groups usually meet off campus or on Zoom.

**One-Time Presentations** – feature a variety of single presentations by member and guest speakers.

- *Monday Big History Series, Tuesday Speaker Series, Friday Morning Series; and Friday Afternoon Series.*

**Forums** – Friday's premier speaker program held at 3 pm and features prominent community leaders who address newsworthy issues.

## Program Identifiers and Delivery Formats

**Changes this Semester:** You can't be in two places at once. Programs will be grouped based on date and time, and members can only enroll in one of the programs in each grouping. Starting this semester, for all programs that are recorded, there will be a Recording-Only option in the registration system. There is no limit to the number of programs you can enroll in using the Recording-Only option, and there will be no maximum number of participants or waitlists for that option. Our goal is to get an accurate picture of live attendance so we can accommodate as many members as possible.

**Diversity (D)** programs address in detail or in part, issues encompassing various aspects of culture, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, age, ability, sexual orientation, or social economics, to foster mutual understanding. This understanding is essential for creating inclusive environments where all individuals feel valued and respected.

**In-person and Recorded (IP+R)** programs are offered live in-person but not live on Zoom. They are recorded for future viewing.

**Walk-in (WI)** programs allow you to enroll in advance, which allows us to notify you of last-minute program changes. However, available seats are first come/first served.

# SPRING 2026 AT-A-GLANCE PROGRAM SCHEDULE

See Abbreviation Key for Delivery Formats!

DELIVERY FORMATS	MONDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE			
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates
<b>Seminars</b>				
Z/R	11 am to 12:30 pm	<b>Heterodox Economics: Modern Money Theory</b> (6 weeks)	Mark Dempsey	Feb 2 to Mar 9
Z/R	12 to 1 pm	<b>Your Money, Investments, and Markets: How to Invest Now</b> (7 weeks)	Sanjay Varshney	Mar 23 to May 4
<b>Shared Interest Groups</b>				
Z/NR	9:30 to 11 am	<b>Third Monday Book Club</b> (Year-round monthly)	Marian Kile	Feb 16 to Apr 20
D/IP/ NR	10:30 am to 12:30 pm	<b>Friends of The New Yorker Magazine</b> (Year-round weekly) (KOH Library, The Center at 2300)	Judy Day David Bowles	Feb 2 to May 4
D/Z/R	3 to 4 pm	<b>Qi Gong</b>	David Mitchell Marilyn Bradford	Feb 2 to May 4
<b>Monday Big History Speakers Series</b>				
D/Z/R	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Monday Big History Series</b>	Ranny Eckstrom	Feb 2 to May 4

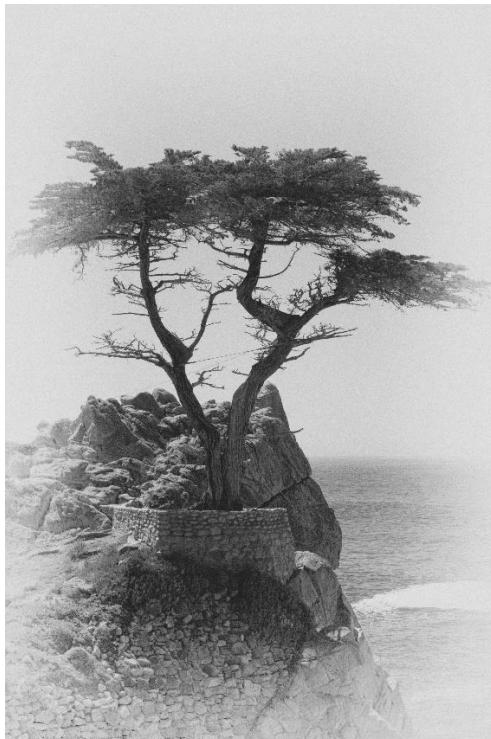


Photo Courtesy: Barrie Burr

**See Abbreviation Key for Delivery Formats!**

Delivery Formats	Tuesday Programs at a Glance			
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates
	Seminars			
D/R/Z	10 to 11 am	<b>Genetics: The Past, Present, and Future</b>	David Lewis	Feb 3 to Apr 21
Z/R	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>You're Dead. Now What?</b> (5 weeks)	Patricia Pavone	Feb 10 to Mar 10
Z/R	1 to 3:30 pm	<b>Movies to Devour</b>	Chip Zempel	Feb 3 to May 5
<b>Shared Interest Groups</b>				
Z/NR	9:30 to 11 am	<b>Third Tuesday of the Month Book Club</b> (Year-round monthly)	Marian Kile	Feb 17 to Apr 21
Z/NR	10 to 11:30 am	<b>First Tuesday Book Club</b> (Year-round monthly)	Linda Rahn	Feb 3 to May 5
D/IP/NR	10 am to 12 pm	<b>Digital Photography - A Creative Journey</b> (Location to be Announced)	Jay McKeeman	Feb 10 to Apr 28
IP/NR	1 to 3 pm	<b>Tuesday Afternoon Chess Club</b> (Year-round bi-monthly) (Raleys, Fair Oaks/Howe Ave., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)	Ivy Hendy	Feb 3 to May 5
D/IP/NR	7 to 9 pm	<b>Do You See What I See? Exploring the Art of Self-Portrait</b> (6 weeks) (Location to be Announced)	Julia Stagg Linda Stagg-Brown	Feb 3 to Mar 10
Delivery Format	<b>Tuesday Speakers Series</b>			
	Time	Program Title	Speaker Name	Dates
Z/R	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Poetry: An Antidote for When Media Makes You Nuts</b>	Marc Ely	Feb 10
Z/R	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Six Pillars of Brain Health</b>	Kris Ritualo	Feb 17
Z/R	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Advance Care Planning and End of Life Options in California</b>	Reina Galanes	Feb 24
Z/R	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Cancer Prevention and Survival: Replacing Dairy and Meat</b>	Linda Middlesworth	Mar 10
Z/R	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Is American Democracy failing?</b>	Jeff Ferreira-Pro	Apr 7

**Abbreviation Key**

D = Diversity program; Z = Zoom-only; IP=In-person only; H = Hybrid (IP + Z) program; IP+R = In-person (live) & recorded; R = Program recorded; NR = Program not recorded; WI = Walk-in program – enrollment helps us notify you of changes, seats available first-come/first-served. See page 3 for definitions.

**See Abbreviation Key for Delivery Formats!**

DELIVERY FORMATS	WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE			
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates
	<i>Seminars</i>			
Z/R	1 to 3 pm	<b>Reversal and Prevention of Chronic Conditions</b> (6 weeks)	Don Forrester	Mar 25 to Apr 29
Z/R	1 to 3 pm	<b>Climate and Individual Actions</b> (3 weeks)	Don Forrester	Feb 4 to Feb 18
Z/R	3:30 to 5 pm	<b>Why Do We Do What We Do?</b> (6 weeks)	Lorill Bean	Feb 4 to Mar 11

<i>Shared Interest Groups</i>				
IP/NR/	9:25 to 11:30 am	<b>Walkabouts</b>	Donna Eash Alan Wong	Feb 4 to May 6
Z/NR	9:30 to 11:30 am	<b>Wednesday Writers Group</b> (Year-round weekly)	Marian Kile	Feb 4 to May 6
D/IP /NR	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Singing For Fun</b> (Location to be Announced)	Michael Hersher	Feb 4 to May 6
Z/NR	10 am to 12 pm	<b>iPhone Photography 101</b>	Carolyn Monson	Feb 4 to May 6
IP/NR	10 am to 12 pm	<b>Le Cercle Français</b> (Year-round weekly) (Campus Commons Clubhouse)	Ruth Scodel Ana Facio	Feb 4 to May 6
D/IP/ NR	5:30 to 7:30 pm	<b>Dining Together</b> (Year-round monthly) (Second Wednesdays) (Location varies)	Susan Wheeler Marge Tarbell Susie Fogg	Feb 11 to Apr 8



Photo Courtesy: Judy Maben

**See Abbreviation Key for Delivery Formats!**

DELIVERY FORMATS	THURSDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE			
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates
	<i>Seminars</i>			
Z/R	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>A Wine Journey: From the Grape to the Glass</b> (8 weeks)	Lester Bennett	Feb 5 to Mar 26
Z/NR	1 to 3 pm	<b>Relationships: How to Build Strong, Healthy, Loving Relationships</b>	Nanci Kuzins Anamaria Pasquier	Feb 5 to Apr 28

<i>Shared Interest Groups</i>				
H/NR	10 am to 12 pm	<b>Procreate iPad Art Workshop</b>	Melissa Green Cynthia Nicholson	Feb 5 to Apr 30
IP/NR	12:30 to 1:30 pm	<b>Intermediate Contract Bridge</b> (Sierra 2 Center for the Arts/Community)	Trent Levinson	Feb 5 to May 7
Z/NR	3:30 to 5 pm	<b>The Music of Your Life</b>	Loretta Burdeaux Lester Bennett	Feb 5 to May 7
Z/NR	7 to 8:30 pm	<b>The Economist</b>	Wayne Luney	Feb 5 to May 7



Photo Courtesy: Geraldine Nicholson

**See Abbreviation Key for Delivery Formats!**

Delivery Formats	Friday Programs at a Glance			
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates
	Seminars			
D/IP/NR	9:30 to 11 am	<b>TransForMission</b> (6 weeks)	Donna Apidone	Feb 6 to Mar 13
D/H/R/WI	9:45 to 11:30 am	<b>From Gregorian Chants to Bohemian Rhapsody: Evolving Vocal Groups</b>	Mike Agron	Feb 6 to May 8
IP+R	9:45 am to 12 pm	<b>Delving into Dementia: The science, The caring, The hope</b>	Mynga Futrell	Feb 6 to May 8
IP/NR/WI	10 to 10:45am	<b>Life-improving Skills</b>	Richard Kowaleski	Feb 6 to May 8
IP/NR	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Chess For Beginners</b> (7 weeks)	Ivy Hendy	Feb 6 to Mar 20
IP/NR/WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Improving Your Learning and Memory Skills</b> (3 weeks)	Rob Crutcher	Feb 6 to Feb 20
H/R/WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Topics in Revolutionary America</b> (9 weeks)	Cathy Minicucci Kevin Collins	Mar 6 to May 1
IP/NR	12 to 2 pm	<b>Coming Together: From Conflict to Connection</b> (7 weeks)	Jerry Talley	Feb 6 to Mar 20
H/R	12 to 2:30 pm	<b>Transitions: What will I do with the rest of my life?</b>	Ken Cross	Feb 6 to May 8
D/IP/NR/WI	12 to 2:45pm	<b>Favorite Films of Mine I've Yet to Feature</b>	Alan Miller	Feb 6 to May 8
IP/NR	12:30 to 2:45 pm	<b>Classical Music</b>	Gordon Garcia Leo Eylar	Feb 6 to May 8
D/IP/NR/WI	1 to 2 pm	<b>A More Perfect Democracy: Modernizing the US Constitution</b>	Raymond Leo Blain	Feb 6 to May 8
H/R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Golden Years Masterclass: Health And Family Caregiving</b> (Monthly)	Lou Basinal Helen Justice	Feb 20 to May 8
H/R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Retirement Money Mastery</b>	Nash Bailey Bill Bailey	Feb 6 to May 1
D/H/R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>The Middle East: The Impact of Religion, Empire, and Colonialism</b>	Norv Wellsfry	Feb 6 to May 8
IP/NR/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>The Beatles: Like You've Never Heard Them Before</b>	David Abelson	Feb 6 to May 1
D/IP+R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Power of Presence: Being. Belonging. Becoming</b> (3 weeks)	Maureen White	Apr 10 to Apr 24
IP/NR/WI	1 to 2:45 pm	<b>Critical Thinking</b>	Richard Kowaleski	Feb 6 to May 8
IP/NR/WI	1 to 2:45 pm	<b>Conversations</b> (8 weeks)	Maryellen Burns	Mar 20 to May 8

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	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates
	<b>Shared Interest Groups</b>			
IP/NR	9:30 to 11:30am	<b>Knitting with Friends</b>	Barbara Kletzman	Feb 6 to May 8
IP/NR	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Exploring Spanish</b> (Year-round weekly)	Sandy Britton	Feb 6 to May 8
IP/NR	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Protecting Democracy</b>	John O'Neal Ken Cross	Feb 6 to May 1
D/IP/NR	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Travel and Adventure</b>	Frederick Chapman Cindi Matsumoto	Feb 6 to May 8
IP/NR/WI	12 to 12:45 pm	<b>Social Dancing</b>	Richard Kowaleski	Feb 6 to May 8
D/IP/NR/WI	12 to 2:30 pm	<b>Watercolor Studio</b>	Judy Hawkins Kathleen Ellertson	Feb 6 to May 8
D/IP/NR/WI	12 to 2:45 pm	<b>Do You See What I see? Art Exhibition</b> (1 day)	Julia Stagg Linda Stagg-Brown	Mar 13
D/IP/NR	12:45 to 2:45 pm	<b>Meeting Each Other Through Sharing Life Stories</b> (6 weeks)	Karen Gierlach	Feb 6 to Mar 13
IP/NR/WI	1 to 2 pm	<b>English and Scottish Country Dance</b> (Year-round weekly)	Ruth Scodel	Feb 6 to May 8
IP/NR	1 to 3 pm	<b>Take your best shot: Digital Photography 101</b> (8 weeks)	Sandy Britton	Feb 6 to Mar 27



Photo Courtesy: Walter Borland

**See Abbreviation Key for Delivery Formats!**

DELIVERY FORMATS	FRIDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE			
	Time	Program Title	Speaker Name	Dates
<b>One-Time Presentations - Friday MORNING Series</b> [Dale Good]				
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Science vs. Regulation: An Oceano Dunes Case Study</b>	Will Harris	Feb 6
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Advance Care Planning and End of Life Options in California</b>	Reina Galanes	Feb 13
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Static in the Attic: Understanding Memory and How to Preserve and Enhance It</b>	Alice Vestergaard	Feb 20
D/IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Australian Aboriginal Rock Art: Stories in Stone</b>	Anne Rewell	Feb 27
D/IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Return to Gold Mountain: Rails Over the Sierra</b>	Phil Sexton	Mar 6
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>A History of US-Canada Relations</b>	Milo Turaylich	Mar 13
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Politics and Scandal: The Abdication of King Ludwig I of Bavaria</b>	Marjorie Wade	Mar 20
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Returning to Nature: The Benefits of Green Burial</b>	Stephanie Brow	Mar 27
IP+R/ WI	<b>10 am to 12 pm</b>	<b>Drinking in the Sunshine</b>	Mary Jane Sutliff	Apr 3
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>John Wesley Powell: Exploration of the Grand Canyon</b>	David Abelson	Apr 10
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>What Is a Fiduciary and Do You Need One?</b>	Nashoba Bailey	Apr 17
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Navigating the Senior Care Maze</b>	Christine Grmolyes	Apr 24
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Managing Electronic Screens in Your Life</b>	Alan Candee	May 1
IP+R/ WI	10 to 11:30 am	<b>Leviathans of Lake Tahoe: Lahontan Cutthroat Trout</b>	David Abelson	May 8

**See Abbreviation Key for Delivery Formats!**

DELIVERY FORMATS	FRIDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE			
	Time	Program Title	Speaker Name	Dates
<b>One-Time Presentations - Friday AFTERNOON Series</b> [Deborah Seiler]				
D/H/ <b>NR</b> / WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>The Fantastical History of the Swastika</b>	Gopal Kapur	Feb 6
D/H/R/ WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>The Folk Singers, the FBI, and the Second Red Scare</b>	Aaron J. Leonard	Feb 13
D/H/R/ WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>When Bodhidharma comes to China</b>	Mrea Csorba	Feb 20
D/H/R/ WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>When Tea comes to Japan</b>	Mrea Csorba	Feb 27
D/H/R/ WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>California Reparations: What's Now, What's Next!</b>	Christopher Lodgson	Mar 6
D/H/R/ WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Contemporary Challenges of a College Presidency I</b>	Luke Wood	Mar 13

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DELIVERY FORMATS	FRIDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE			
	Time	Program Title	Speaker Name	Dates
<b>One-Time Presentations - Friday AFTERNOON Series [Contd.]</b>				
D/H/R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Contemporary Challenges of a College Presidency II</b>	Luke Wood	Mar 20
D/H/R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Contemporary Challenges of a College Presidency III</b>	Luke Wood	Mar 27
D/H/R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Contemporary Challenges of a College Presidency IV</b>	Luke Wood	Apr 3
D/H/R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>The United Arab Emirates</b>	Milo Turaylich	Apr 10
D/H/R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>The Amazing Ancient Cave Art of Lascaux, France</b>	Theo Goodwin	Apr 17
D/H/R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>What Does History Teach Us About Preserving Democracy in America?</b>	Jeff Ferreira-Pro	Apr 24
D/H/R/WI	1 to 2:30 pm	<b>Cultivating a Culture of Conversation</b>	Kyle Williams	May 1

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DELIVERY FORMATS	FRIDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE			
	Time	Program Title	Speaker Name	Dates
<b>FORUMS</b>				
H/R/WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>Survivors and Heroes Expedition: The Stephens-Townsend-Murphy Story</b>	Bob Crowley	Feb 6
H/R/WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>Building the Future of Public Media</b>	Chris Bruno	Feb 13
D/H/R/WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>Grass Roots</b>	Mike Madrid	Feb 20
D/H/R/WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>Her Side of the Story</b>	Marcia A. Eymann	Feb 27
H/R WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>Accomplishments and Challenges</b>	Jim Cooper	Mar 6
H/R WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>Fraud and Scams</b>	Katie Carruesco	Mar 13
H/R WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>To Be Announced</b>	To Be Announced	Mar 20
H/R WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>Challenges, Accomplishments, and Future Opportunities</b>	Lisa Kaplan	Mar 27
H/R/WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>To Be Announced</b>	To Be Announced	Apr 3
H/R/WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>How the Gold Rush Shaped Today's Medical Practices</b>	John Vallee	Apr 10
D/H/R/WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>WWII Japanese American incarceration: Lessons to Protect Democracy</b>	Julie Thomas	Apr 17
H/R/WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>Path to Sacramento Police Department</b>	Sabrina Briggs	Apr 24
D/H/R/WI	3 to 4 pm	<b>Mayan Art: A Deep Dive Into the Tomb Lid of Pakal</b>	Mya Dosch	May 1
H/RWI	3 to 4 pm	<b>Annual Meeting</b>	Luke Wood Deanna Hanson	May 8

California State University, Sacramento  
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## **Parking on Campus – Now Virtual!**

Sac State no longer issues parking stickers. To find information about the new License Plate Recognition system type: [www.csus.edu/rensoc](http://www.csus.edu/rensoc) into your browser to access the Renaissance Society Home Page and click *Virtual Parking Permits*.

## **Do You Need a Paper Schedule? Pick Up One (or More) in the Office**

Use this document to look for programs and then find in-depth program descriptions and leader/speaker bios in the catalog on our website. Take one or more to share with your friends. The PDF Catalog version allows you to print selected pages.

## **How to Contact Us**

Renaissance Society Office:

350 University Ave., Suite 108, Sacramento, CA 95825 916-758-5133 [renaissa@csus.edu](mailto:renaissa@csus.edu)

Renaissance Society Website: [www.csus.edu/rensoc](http://www.csus.edu/rensoc) **Office Hours: M-F 10-1**