



June 2018 Newsletter

Highlights of ELLA 2018

- ELLA membership continues to grow with over 900 people on our current roster
- Excellent variety, high quality instruction and more classes to choose from at Spring Session 2018
- 613 people participated in Spring Session (an increase of 3 % over 2017.)
- Volunteer photographers took Spring Session photos, some of which are posted in the photo gallery. [Click here to view the gallery.](#)
- The Wind Up reception was well attended..... providing delicious food, congenial company and engaging conversation in a lovely setting at the Faculty Club.
- Beautiful music at the AGM ...thank you to the ELLA Community Chorus!



Twelve of this year's attendees also attended ELLA Spring Session the first year it was offered, in 2001!

[Click here to view full-size images.](#)

From left to right top to bottom: Marika Brenneis, Kenneth Miller, Wendy Davis, Cecile Lord, Blanche Lohner, Joan Fargey, Marlene Dickson, Muriel Kuchson, Bertha Strembicke, Lavoine McCullagh, Natalie Wilson, Lois Field.

Tai Chi - Bodies in Sync



ELLA Wants to Know ...

What were your favourite classes Spring 2018? Any favourite moments? Epiphanies? Send in your submissions to newsletter editor [Rusti L Lehay](#) with the subject line: ELLA newsletter submissions.

Did You Know ...

ELLA has a memorial page. If you have lost a loved one or friend who was a member of ELLA please contact the ELLA Office at 780.492.5055 or [by email](#). To visit the page, [please click here](#).



Art Classes Produce Beauty

Maybe next year you want to take watercolour or sketching. You can view the images up close. [Click here to view some of this year's art.](#)

A Round of Applause Please!

Over 160 volunteers contributed to the success of this year's Spring Session and made things happen this year at ELLA. A big shout out to all the facilitators, photographers, guides, greeters, registration table helpers, technology assistants and more.

Thank you!

Science of Maps

Students were out of their chairs and even on their knees studying cartography. Maps are beautiful!

[Click here to view more pictures of maps!](#)



Message from your ELLA President

Hello ELLA members. It is my pleasure to serve as your President for the 2018/2019 term.

I hope that all of you that attended our 2018 Spring Session had a wonderful time – tried some things that you had never done before, learned a great deal, renewed acquaintances and made some new friends.

Thank you to those of you who took the time to make suggestions for next year's curriculum. Your ELLA volunteers will be taking your suggestions into consideration when designing next year's program. Our partnership with the University of Alberta is a very special one and we try very hard to accommodate as many of the wishes of our members as possible.

If you have not volunteered for ELLA in the past, perhaps this is your year to get involved. We specifically need volunteers to work on our Program Implementation Committee (do you like logistics and organizing events?), and our two new committees, the Board Recruitment Committee and the Fundraising Committee. The jobs are big or small – your choice. At this stage of life many of us travel (especially in the winter to get a break from the cold weather). Many of our volunteer positions are seasonal so that you can travel and volunteer as well.

Just a reminder, the membership system is up and running and we would be delighted if you would renew your membership as soon as possible. Early membership renewals give us an indication of how many attendees we will have at



Shirley Forrest

the 2019 ELLA Spring Session and therefore the number of classes we can support.

Enjoy your summer and we will see you at ELLA!

Regards

Shirley Forrest



Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour Recognized with Awards

Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour, one of our long time instructors at Spring Session, was recognized twice with recent awards. [Click here to read more](#) about the Sage 2018 Science and Technology Award. [Click here to read more](#) about the 2018 Community Service Hall of Fame Inductees

What You Said - Feedback from the Spring Session Evaluations

You put your learning into practice—evaluations for *The Blank Page: Writing for the health of it* were a descriptive paragraph (or two!) and a comment on *Mathemagics & more* was [RU/18] QT[]? *(see if you can decipher the formula....the answer is at the bottom).

- You had lots of ideas for next year..... (8 pages of them!) and provided food for thought on the Volunteer Luncheon and the Windup Reception.
- 98% of registrants rated Spring Session as Good or Very Good and provided comments like “...*is the best instructor I’ve ever had...improving my skill, knowledge and understanding...*” The instructor's name is removed because this is a typical comment; most instructors were rated as “best ever” by at least one participant. Other common comments were: “*Fascinating*”... “*Please bring back next year*”... “*I’d take any course taught by*”... *there was a lot of positive feedback!*
- Spring Session participants come back: 75% of the respondents to the on-line survey have attended before. You are our best publicity..... more attendees heard of ELLA from another ELLA member than from all other methods of communication put together!
- As is to be expected, not every course was a perfect fit for every student. Some concerns noted were: facility issues (hot rooms, uncomfortable seats), content and instructor issues (the course or instructor wasn’t as expected) and, while travelling to another building for a class may be necessary, it isn’t always easy.
- The survey says that: almost half of us are in our 60s, over one-third are in our 70s and 6% are over 80. On the other end, 9% are 50-59 years.

Thank YOU for all your feedback. The Program Development Committee is already meeting to put your suggestions into action for 2019!

ANSWER Are you over 18, cutey pie?

Mary Anne Yurkiw

Our Mission:

To offer adults, in partnership with the Faculty of Extension, high quality and affordable non-credit educational courses, seminars and workshops which

stimulate both mind and body by exploring liberal arts, fine arts, sciences, humanities and physical activities.

[Renew Your Membership now with the easy online registration process ...](#)

Use our ELLA online membership system! It's back up and running! No need for paper, envelopes and stamps! Go to my-ella.com and select Purchase a New Membership OR Renew Your Membership from the Membership tab. Follow the steps outlined.

No computer access? No problem. Contact the ELLA office by: mail, phone or in-person! An ELLA volunteer can enter your membership information for you.

ELLA's membership year runs from October 1 – September 30. A membership purchased after May 1st is applied to the next membership year.

[For detailed instructions on how to renew your membership, please click here.](#)