Creativity Matters:
Miami Arts and Aging Symposium on Lifelong Learning
December 9-10, 2008
Sponsored by:
The University of Miami
With the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.

Photography by Joeseph Hackney, OLLI at UM Student

December 9-10, 2008
Miami Arts and Aging Symposium on Lifelong Learning
Creativity Matters:
MetLife Foundation

Photo by Joseph Hackney, OLLI at UM Student

Miami Arts and Aging Symposium on Lifelong Learning
MetLife Foundation

Miami, Florida
Why focus on arts education and aging?

As life expectancy increases, more attention is being given to the meaning and purpose of later life. The National Center for Creative Aging (NCCA) is proud to present the first Metlife Foundation Creativity Matters Symposium in Miami, Florida focusing on quality lifelong learning experiences for older people and their communities through arts education. Additional symposia in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco, CA will assist professionals in aging services, education, healthcare and the arts in providing improved services and care for older people and their communities through the arts.

What is involved?

• Master artists will present bilingual (English and Spanish) instruction in various art forms – storytelling and improvisational theater, creative movement and dance, the visual and literary arts.
• Specialists in the field will discuss creativity theory and practice, life review theory and practice, understanding and practice of oral history interviewing and life review interviewing techniques.
• Presenters will provide tips for the creation of arts programming for older adults, including a focus on arts program development, implementation and evaluation for the older learner.

Who should attend?

These workshops are designed for teaching artists and professionals working in the fields of aging services, education and the arts. Though anyone with an interest is encouraged to attend, the program is especially beneficial to social workers, program planners, creative arts therapists, educators, community organizers, and volunteers.

Conference Registration

First Name ___________________ Last Name ___________________
Organization ____________________________________________
Mailing Address (home ☐ work ☐) __________________________
City _______ State _____ Zip _______ E-mail ________________
Phone (home ☐ work ☐) ___________ Phone _____________
Emergency Contact _____________ Phone _____________
☐ I require a vegetarian meal.
☐ I require accommodations in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. Please specify needs.

For registrations postmarked before November 26, 2008

Full Conference Registration
December 9-10, 2008 ☐ $ 125
Per Session Registration
(for registrants attending 1 or 2 sessions only)
December 9, 2008
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm ☐ $ 50
December 10, 2008
9:00 am to 2:00 pm ☐ $ 50
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm ☐ $ 50
TOTAL $ ___________

For registrations postmarked after November 26, 2008

Full Conference Registration
December 9-10, 2008 ☐ $ 185
Per Session Registration
(for registrants attending 1 or 2 sessions only)
December 9, 2008
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm ☐ $ 75
December 10, 2008
9:00 am to 2:00 pm ☐ $ 75
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm ☐ $ 75
TOTAL $ ___________

*Scholarships are available. For more information, please call NCCA at 202-895-9456.
### Presenter Biographies

**Gene Cohen, MD, PhD**  
Director, *Center on Aging, Health and Humanities*  
George Washington University  
Washington, DC

**Gay Hanna, PhD, MFA**  
Executive Director, *National Center for Creative Aging,* an affiliate of George Washington University  
Washington, DC

**Stuart Kandell, PhD**  
Founder and Director, *Stagebridge,* the nation’s oldest senior theatre company  
Oakland, California

**Jorge Merced**  
Performing artist, OBIE Award-winning *Pregones Theater*  
The Bronx, New York

**Susan Perlstein, MSW**  
Founder, *National Center for Creative Aging* and *Elders Share the Arts*  
Brooklyn, New York

**Jaime Permuth**  
Internationally exhibited photographer and writer  
New York, New York

**Patricia Samples**  
Published writer and Director, *Minnesota Creative Arts and Aging Network*  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

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### Programming for Lifelong Learning Participants

(open to older adult [65+] students only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity/Media</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, December 9</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 am-9:30 am</td>
<td>Registration and Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am-12:00 pm</td>
<td>Break a Leg! Theatrics for Your Inner Thespian</td>
<td>(Presented in both English and Spanish)</td>
<td>Bitten by the theater bug? Or just want to be? Now’s your chance! By participating in this hands-on workshop, you will learn how to bring out your inner thespian using voice, movement and improvisational techniques. Taught by Stuart Kandell, Founder and Director of Stagebridge, the oldest senior theater company in the US, and Jorge Merced, performing artist with the Obie-Award winning Pergones Theater in the Bronx, NY, this promises to be a morning of engagement and enjoyment! No prior experience is necessary to participate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 pm– 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch with Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, December 10</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am-12:00 pm</td>
<td>The Right to Write-- Anyone Can Author!</td>
<td>(Presented in both English and Spanish)</td>
<td>Want to pen the Great American Novel and just need that creative spark? Let Patricia Samples, published writer and Director of the Minnesota CAAN and Jaime Permuth, internationally exhibited photographer and writer, show you how! Using a whole-bodied approach to creative writing, Patricia and Jaime will help you unlock your literary potential to produce vibrant and vivacious writing. Anyone with a diary to a professional writing dossier is encouraged to participate. Come let out the creative writer within!</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 pm– 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch with Poetry Reading</td>
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Programming for Professionals in the Fields of Aging, Education, Healthcare and the Arts

Tuesday, December 9
Lifelong Learning Through the Arts: Program Research & Development

11:00 am-12:00 pm  Registration
12:00 pm- 1:00 pm  Lunch with Performance
1:00 pm- 2:00 pm  Keynote Address- Creative Aging: The Next Frontier

*Gene Cohen*, MD, PhD, internationally renowned researcher in creativity and aging, will discuss the findings of his study “The Impact of Professionally Conducted Cultural Programs on the Physical Health, Mental Health, and Social Functioning of Older Adults”

2:00 pm– 2:30 pm  Break
2:30 pm– 5:00 pm  Tapping Our Treasures: The Challenge of Creating Vital Arts Programs

*Gay Hanna*, PhD, MFA
*Susan Perlstein*, MSW

Often talents and insights of older people may lie dormant. Quality arts programming can tap the unique assets of every participant, enriching their lives and the culture of our institutions. This session will document exemplary and replicable arts programs, and examine their pitfalls as well as their successes. Participants will be guided through the pragmatic steps of creating arts programs for their institutions.

Wednesday, December 10
Lifelong Learning Best Practices in Performing, Visual and Literary Arts

9:00 am-9:30 am  Registration
9:30 am-12:00 pm  Break a Leg! Best Practices for Older Adults in the Performing Arts

*Stuart Kandell*, PhD and *Jorge Merced*

Performing arts can engage and enliven, strengthening the mind, invigorating the body, and building rapport with the surrounding community. Working side by side with master teaching artists, utilize voice and movement exercises to learn simple improvisation techniques designed for older adult learners. These exercises will stimulate the senses, evoke emotions and develop the imagination. Learn how to turn improvised responses into stories and transform them into creative arts presentations.

12:00 pm– 1:00 pm  Lunch with Poetry Reading
1:00 pm– 2:00 pm  Keynote Address: Best Practices for Lifelong Learning for Older Adults in Arts Education

*Susan Perlstein*, MSW, Founder, Elders Share the Arts and the NCCA; Presidential award winner for intergenerational arts programs will discuss the value of older adult arts education and lifelong learning programs across the country.

2:00 pm– 2:30 pm  Break
2:30 pm– 5:00 pm  Anyone Can Author! Best Practices for Older Adults in the Visual and Literary Arts

*Jaime Permuth* and *Patricia Samples*

Explore writing and visual arts instructional methods proven to challenge and engage older adults in meaningful creative work. Writing and body awareness activities will be demonstrated that involve a whole-body and sense memory approach to creative writing, generating a wealth of memories and producing vibrant writing. Master teaching artists will also highlight criteria for successful arts education programming for older adults in visual and literary arts and will suggest ways to tackle possible obstacles.