ELI Activity:
Frick Gallery and Car & Carriage Museum

Unfortunately, the Carnegie Museums are not offering free admission on Thursday evenings this summer like they have in the past. Instead of the Carnegie Museum, on Saturday, July 17, we’ll visit the Frick Art Museum to view masterworks by artists such as Rubens and Fragonard and visit Frick Car & Carriage Museum to see historical carriages and automobiles dating back to 1881. Admission to both of these locations is free.

We’ll meet at the tent in Schenley Plaza on July 17 at 1:45 p.m., then catch the #67 bus at 2:11 p.m. The Frick closes at 5:00 pm, so we should be back on campus around 5:30 p.m. Please register in advance for this activity.

The Frick Historical Center in Pittsburgh is a cluster of museums and historical buildings formed around the nineteenth century home (as shown in the photo above) of Henry Clay Frick and his family. Frick was born in the Pittsburgh area and became one of the richest men in the US at that time by manufacturing coke, a product needed for the production of steel. Frick used part of his wealth to amass a very large art collection, even though he never studied art and did not graduate from college. Some of this art is still in Pittsburgh at the Frick Gallery, but the most famous pieces he owned are at the Frick Collection in New York City. This collection is considered by many to be one of the most important private collections of art in the world.

In addition to his vast art collections, car and carriage collection, and his homes that are now museums, Frick also donated land to the City of Pittsburgh for use as a public park, together with a $2 million trust fund to assist with the maintenance of the park.

IEP:
ELI Surveys: Tell the ELI What You Think!
by Heather McNaught

The ELI is very happy that you have chosen to come here to study. We always want to improve each student’s experience in our program and to make our program even better. Therefore, we hope you will participate in three different surveys and give the ELI your ideas and opinions!

The ELI has three different surveys, each one focused on a different aspect of the program. These are the surveys and a little of information about each one.

Teaching Survey
This survey asks you about your experience with each of your teachers this semester. You can provide feedback about different aspects of your teacher’s instruction in the classroom on this survey.
When: July 16-26
How to complete: The Office of Evaluations and Measurements (OMET) will send a survey to your Pitt email for each teacher you have.

Curriculum Survey
This survey is about the content of each of your courses. It includes questions about the textbook and classroom activities.
When: During the last week of classes
How to complete: Your teachers will give you instructions.

ELI Program Survey
The ELI Program Survey asks for your feedback on the ELI as an institute. The survey contains questions about the classrooms and facilities, the activities and what you like/dislike about the ELI.
When: Week 10-12
How to complete: You can complete this survey online through the university’s Qualtrics survey system. Your responses will be anonymous; we at ELI will see the total responses but we will not...
The surveys are available starting **Friday, July 16**. Please respond by **Thursday, July 29**. The survey will not be available after July 29. Please be sure to respond before that day. If you have any questions, ask any or all of your teachers.

**IEP:**

**Evaluations of Your Teachers**
by Christine O’Neill

As your ELI teachers evaluate you, you have an opportunity to evaluate your teachers. Your feedback is really very important! All evaluations are now online. Please go to your Pitt email. The Office of Evaluations and Measurements (OMET) will send you an email for each teacher you have. Just click on the link and follow the instructions. You may also access each evaluation in Canvas. Each evaluation should take you between 5 to 15 minutes.

Research indicates that people are more likely to do online surveys if they have negative responses. However, we really hope to hear from all of you. We hope to get all feedback (positive as well as negative and in the middle too). Please, your feedback helps us to be better. We can’t do it without you!

Also, be sure to read the items in the survey carefully to be certain you are providing accurate feedback. These surveys use a rating scale of 1 to 5 where **5 is the best**.

The surveys are available starting **July 16 to July 29**.

If you have any questions, ask any or all of your teachers.

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**ELI Writing Contest**

The ELI is holding a competition for students in all Writing classes. There will be one winner in each level (4, 5, 6), and the winners will be announced at the ELI Closing Ceremony.

If you have written a good composition in your writing class this semester, you should tell your writing teacher that you would like to enter it in the writing contest. Your teacher will then submit your paper for you. Your entry will be read anonymously by judges (your name will be removed from the paper, so they won’t know who you are). The judges will choose the best composition from each level.

**The deadline for entries is Thursday, 29 July at 12:00 p.m.**

If you are in level 4, 5, or 6, your entry must be an essay that you wrote in class this semester. Each student can enter only one composition.

Good luck!

**IEP:**

**ELI Final Exam Schedule Summer 2021**

**Friday, July 30**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaking</th>
<th>9:00-11:00 a.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>1:00-3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Monday, August 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grammar</th>
<th>9:00-11:00 a.m.</th>
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</thead>
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Visit the ELI NEWS online: [www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news](http://www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news)

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**Safety Tips**

The ELI believes that overall, the people of Pittsburgh are kind and welcoming to international students. The University of Pittsburgh’s goal is to be a place where all students feel like they belong and are valued. You should be treated with respect and feel safe, whether you are at school or in the outside community of Pittsburgh. There may be times when you encounter someone who is not kind and welcoming, though. If this happens, or if you feel that someone has discriminated against you, please keep the following tips in mind:

- If you encounter someone who is rude or discriminates against you in public, ignore the person and leave the area as soon as possible. Do not respond to rudeness with rudeness; the safest and most intelligent thing to do is to walk away.
- If an employee of a business discriminates against you, leave the area, and write down the time, place, what happened, and name of the employee, if you have it.
- It is important to report inappropriate behavior to a store or office manager – the company or office will want to know if their employee is using inappropriate behavior. Stacy can help you decide if you want to make a report and how to do it. Stacy’s email is sar72@pitt.edu.

The ELI is sharing these tips because it is good to be prepared in case something negative happens, but we are also confident that your time in Pittsburgh will be filled with
positive experiences! We are committed to doing everything we can to make that happen, so please don’t hesitate to contact Stacy if you have any questions or concerns.

IEP/PAEP:

**Bike Share at Pitt**

Looking for a way to commute around Pittsburgh without using a bus or car? Try Bike Share at Pitt, brought to you by the University of Pittsburgh’s Office of Sustainability, the Office of Parking, Transportation, and Services, and Healthy Ride. The partnership debuted free 30-minute rides to first-year students and resident assistants at Pitt last year, and now they are expanding those free 30-minute rides to all University students and employees. There are 100 stations, of which 17 are around the campus. There are 550 bikes across 24 of Pittsburgh’s neighborhoods, so there is probably a station within walking distance of your residence. In addition to avoiding crowded buses or expensive ride-share options like Lyft, Uber or Z-Trip, Healthy Ride bike sharing is better for the environment and your physical health.

Healthy Ride has posted directions for getting your free rides on the Pitt website in the “Commuting” section.

If you choose to use Healthy Ride’s Bike Share program with Pitt, please take the time to get the correct helmet and learn all about bike safety and the laws regarding bike riding in Pittsburgh. A good place to start is Pitt’s Parking, Transportation and Services Office page for bicycling resources and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation’s Bike Page. We’d also recommend wiping the bike down with disinfectant before and after riding to prevent the spread of germs and viruses.

IEP/PAEP:

**ELI-themed Digital Backgrounds**

The ELI has ELI-themed digital backgrounds for Zoom, phones, tablets, and computers. They are free and easy to download and use. You can show friends, family, and classmates your ELI Pitt Pride with every virtual call, class, or meeting. For tips and tricks on how to change Zoom backgrounds, check out Zoom’s Help Center.

IEP:

**Conditional Admission and TOEFL/IELTS Waivers for ELI Students**

Did you know that ELI students at the University of Pittsburgh may be eligible for conditional admission or TOEFL/IELTS language proficiency waivers for certain degree programs? The ELI currently has partnerships with:

- University of Pittsburgh
- Master’s of Law (LLM)
- Robert Morris University
- Point Park University

Visit the ELI’s website for more specific information about conditional admission or TOEFL/IELTS waivers for each of these programs. We hope to add more partner programs to this list soon, so keep checking back.

[www.facebook.com/PittELI](http://www.facebook.com/PittELI)

**Listening Corner**

The recommended podcast this week is American English Podcast. Each week, there is a new episode to listen to. Some episodes are short, “5-minute English” episodes that cover current topics you might see in the news or going on around you such as, Fall, Elections and Voting, and Wildfires. Other podcasts focus on English Expressions like, “On the edge of one’s seat,” “Through thick and thin,” and “To have a lot on one’s plate.” There are also podcasts that are chats between friends or descriptions of phrasal verbs or even just useful topics like how to correctly pronounce the names of all 50 of the United States! There’s something for everyone in this podcast and it includes transcripts as well so you can read along while you listen.

**Student Recommendation:**

INVISIBILIA by Amazon. They “…explore the intangible forces that shape human behavior—things like ideas, beliefs, assumptions, and emotions.”

**Happening Now:**

**SCIENCE Vs by Spotify. Science Vs takes on “…fads, trends, and the opinionated mob to find out what’s a fact, what’s not, and what’s somewhere in between.”**

“I love them; they not only help to improve your listening, also you will learn something new every time.” –Viviana Galvis

**Happening in Pittsburgh**

There are some fantastic events happening in the Pittsburgh region in the upcoming days. Here are some highlights. As always, double-check event information and Covid restrictions before attending, and please wear a mask and stay safe.

For more information visit www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news
course, racing in Schenley Park to conclude the week on Saturday, July 24 and Sunday, July 25. Please note that some of these events will involve road closures, so if you plan to attend, check to see if your bus or expected travel route will be affected. Please take all Covid precautions, wear (and reapply) sunscreen with a high SPF, and stay hydrated. Check website and social media for weather delays.

**Thursday, July 15**

**Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Pop-Ups:** Starts at 5:00 p.m. These pop-up concerts by PSO feature just a few of the PSO players, but you have to solve the clue on social media and in the PSO Newsletter to find the location. Today’s clue is: “Famous Jazz Musician, Daniel Carter, is form this part of Southwestern Pennsylvania. Hint: It’s a farmers’ market in this part of Southwestern Pennsylvania.” These concerts are only listed on Facebook, Instagram, and in the PSO Newsletter, so follow them and sign up for emails to keep on top of this free summer concert series!

**Saturday, July 24**

**The Original Pittsburgh Vegan Expo:** 12:00-5:00 p.m. This is Pittsburgh’s largest and longest-running vegan event. Created by local belly dancer Amethyst (real name Amy), the Vegan Expo began as a modest festival and is now housed in the Monroeville Convention Center. Cooking demonstrations, education, cultural dance and music performances, food vendors, book signings, flowers, product vendors, animal rescue organizations, and more. Free parking or take the 67 Monroeville bus and get off at the K-Mart stop (first stop after the mall) or the TGI Fridays stop (second stop after the mall). Advanced tickets are $4, or $5 at the door. See the Facebook page for information on how to get a free ticket and all of the details on who will be vending, speaking, and performing.

**Write for the ELI News**

The ELI loves to publish articles by its students. Would you like to share your thoughts or an essay you wrote? Would you like to write about your American experience? Would you like to teach us about your American experience? Would you like to share its students. Would you like to share your writing published. All levels are welcome, as are any photos you wish to submit as well! Please note that submissions to the ELI News cannot be submissions to the ELI Writing Contest.

**Pittsburgh’s Weird Weather**

There is a saying in Pittsburgh that perfectly captures the unique weather patterns this area has: “If you don’t like the weather, wait a minute. It’ll change.” This saying is a bit of an exaggeration. However, Pittsburgh weather is notorious (famous in a negative way) for how changeable it is and how hard it is to predict our weather accurately.

Pittsburgh weather is weird because of a few geographic features that make this city unique: its three rivers, its proximity to Lake Erie and Canada, and its distance from the Atlantic Ocean. This combination creates a pattern of wind flow and a lack of balance between warmth and cold all year round.

Which naturally results in Pittsburgh having frequent thunderstorms during hot summers, an average of 306 full-to-partly cloudy days a year, and very cold and snowy winters.

This also means that people living in Pittsburgh may need winter coats in the morning and swimming suits in the afternoon. Or galoshes (rain boots) and umbrellas while the sun is shining brightly through a thunderstorm.

The best way to prepare for Pittsburgh’s changeable weather is to watch weather reports approximately 24 hours in advance, and then check again at the start of your day. Have a small umbrella stored in your bag or backpack from Spring through Fall, and carry light layers in case the temperature drops suddenly in Spring and Fall.

And if you don’t like the weather… just wait a minute. It’ll change.

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