

'The Persian Room Presents' Reveals the Halcyon Nights at the Famed New York Plaza Hotel

NEW YORK: Call it, the biography of a place, a collaborative memoir, a history, but whatever you call it, Patty Farmer's *The Persian Room Presents* will transport you to the most elegant and magical nightclub New York has ever known. In this dishy, personal, and compulsively readable book, dozens of celebrities reminisce about their experiences performing and partying at the Plaza and they all agree on one thing: there's never been anyplace like it.

For more than forty years, from 1934 to 1975, the Persian Room was the place to be in New York City. An unparalleled array of performers graced its stage. And, though more than three decades have passed since the final ovation, there are many from both sides of the footlights who remember its charms.

Among the many stars who spoke for the record are Andy Williams, Marge Champion, Polly Bergen, Diahann Carroll, Connie Stevens, Lesley Gore, Patti Page, Carol Lawrence, Jack Jones, Michele Lee, Lainie Kazan, Julie Wilson, Tony Butala, Tony Sandler, Celeste Holm, Kaye Ballard, and Roslyn Kind. Don Dellair regaled the author with humorous tales of both Hildegard and Liberace. Hilary Knight, the legendary illustrator who brought *Eloise* to life, spoke wistfully of Kay Thompson and Lisa Kirk.

Just a taste of the great stories Farmer collected once she got the celebrities talking, include:

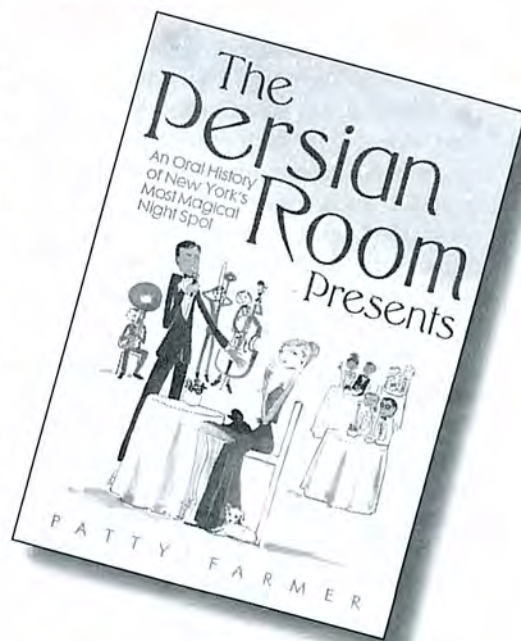
- Carol Lawrence relives the chills she felt when Cary Grant marched up to the stage and gave her a kiss (during an act proclaimed by Ed Sullivan to be "the best nightclub extravaganza he had ever seen").
- Andy Williams talks about his time as a member of Kay Thompson's

quartet—before he became the suave, solo crooner we all know and love.

- Leslie Uggams reminisces about the rollicking New Year's Eve party she threw after her show.
- Constance Towers reveals the time she accidentally insulted Joan Crawford (and the revenge Joan took—in front of a paying audience).
- Diahann Carroll remembers taking one sleeping pill and a bottle of Champagne up to her suite to mount a half-hearted suicide attempt.

Today, the entertainment landscape has shifted. Nightclubs are scarce and excuses to dress in eveningwear are few. But readers everywhere (those who remember the club as well as fans of New York history, nightlife, and musical entertainment) are sure to enjoy a trip back to the halcyon days evoked in *The Persian Room Presents*.

Patty will speak November 13, 2012 at the OCC Library Lecture Room. It will begin at 7:00PM.



Great Used Books at Incredible Prices!

The Friends of the Library will host the Fall Book Sale on Tuesday, October 23rd from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. exclusively for Friends of the Library members. The public and students are invited to shop from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

A variety of books will be available from bestsellers, romance and mysteries to science, art, history and computers. Most books sell for \$1. The sale will culminate with a "buck-a-bag" sale from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Anyone may join the Friends of the Library prior to the book sale to take advantage of the one hour "pre-sale"

exclusive for Friends members. Annual dues are \$20 for individuals, \$30 for couples and \$5 for OCC students. Lifetime membership of \$150 includes an annual parking permit for non-students.

Membership applications are available on the FOTL website at tinyurl.com/OCC-Friends.

The sale will be held in the library instruction room near the front entrance (Room 112). Metered parking is available in Lot E (take Merrimac Way to the southwest corner of campus). Please call 714-432-0202 x21058 for further details.



Billie Holiday at the Persian Room (inset-Patty Farmer)

Message from the Dean

After a very quiet summer session at OCC, historically one of the quietest, it is with renewed energy that the library faculty and staff return to a new academic year. Overnight the campus has been transformed from a sleepy park-like setting into a bustling city with immaculate grounds and open areas complete with seasonal ducks, rabbits and squirrels.

Our library performs a special role not only in the education of our 16,000 or so full-time equivalent students at OCC, but also our staff, faculty and administrators. The huge collection of information contained within the library; books, journals, DVD's, sound recordings, periodicals and databases are a potent asset for student learning and creative activity.

We especially value the Friends of the Library and all of our volunteers who put together special events, organize book sales and fund raising activities. The entire OCC community cannot thank you enough.

Even with our almost draconian budget issues our library is indeed among the largest at a community college in California and without any doubt is the most student-friendly library in this state.

With this in mind we continue to seek out ways to make the library even more student-friendly.

We look forward to seeing everyone often in our library and always let us know how we can meet your needs.

Sincerely,

Joe Poshek, Dean

Visual & Performing Arts/Library

Upcoming Events From The Friends...

Radical Reels

Wednesday, September 26, 7:00 PM:
at OCC Robert B. Moore Theatre.

Faster, Steeper, Higher, Deeper !!! This will be an evening of extreme footage of extreme sports.

Check out the video trailer www.youtube.com/watch?v5UARB2TFkFg

\$10 advance tickets, \$12 at the door; for tickets call 714-432-5880

Tickets are also available at REI Tustin and REI Huntington Beach

The Persian Room:

An Oral History of New York's Most Magical Night Spot.

Tuesday, Nov. 13, 7:00 PM at the OCC Library Lecture Room.

Patty Farmer will discuss her recently published book. Patty has a Manhattan condo and became fascinated by the history of the Persian Room which closed its doors in 1975 after more than 40 years as "The most elegant and magical night spot New York has ever known." In researching her book Patty interviewed many of the stars who performed there.

Be sure to come to this evening of informative history and glittering gossip. OCC students and FOTL members free. All others may donate \$5 or contribute a gently used book.

Fall Book Sale

Tuesday, Oct 23 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM: Friends of the Library will sell used books at the campus library. A variety of books from bestsellers, romance and mysteries to science, art, history and computers will sell for \$1. The sale culminates with a "Buck-a-Bag" sale from 2:00 to 3:00 PM.

A special pre-sale will begin at 9AM for Friends of the Library members. Anyone may join FOTL prior to the book sale to take advantage of the one hour "pre-sale" exclusive. All proceeds benefit OCC Library. For more information, please call 714-432-0202 x21058

Visit the Friends of the Library website for up-to-date event information and past issues of the FOTL Newsletter at <http://tinyurl.com/OCC-Friends>.

This year, **Lido Village Books** again collaborates with the Friends of the Library to bring a wide variety of books for purchase at our programs.

A generous portion of the proceeds from these sales is donated to the Friends, and over the years, this has proved to be a significant avenue for us to support the OCC Library. We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to support our organization.

Banff Adventure Films Slated for Sept. 26

Faster, Steeper, Higher, Deeper!!!



Orange Coast College will host the The Radical Reels Film Tour which features an international selection of the steepest and deepest in high-adrenaline outdoor sport films. Hurtle down steep untouched powder snow, feel the cold spray of stomach-dropping kayak first descents, skateboard down Europe's bobsled tracks at breathtaking speeds, and a whole lot more in extreme mountain sports.

Radical Reels has grown out of the famous Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour and screens the best in action sports filmmaking. It has been audience-tested and programmed for maximum excitement!

Experience Radical Reels Film Tour on Wednesday, September 26.

The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Robert B. Moore Theatre, located on the OCC campus at Fairview and Arlington, Costa Mesa.

Advance tickets are \$10 for regular admission, and \$5 for OCC students. Admission will be \$12 at the door, but audience members can save \$2 on at-the-door admission by bringing two or more books, DVDs or CDs per person to donate on the night of the show. Ticket buyers can simply show their donation receipt at the ticket window for a \$2 discount. The discount does not apply to student \$5 tickets.

Tickets are available on campus at the OCC Bursar's Office. For your convenience, tickets may be purchased by phone at 714-432-5880 or online at occtickets.com.

Tickets will also be sold at REI, Tustin and REI, Huntington Beach.

For information, call (714) 432-0202 x21058. Proceeds will benefit OCC Friends of the Library.

Friends of the Library President's Message

Welcome to the beginning of another school year! As you may have heard this one promises to be another fiscally challenging year. That's why I feel our Friends of the Library organization is so important. We help the library by funding requests for purchases that cannot be covered in their very restricted budget. The OCC Library holds an important and unique position on campus. It offers a quiet and safe place for students to study and conduct research. The collection enhances and supports the curriculum of all the classes offered at OCC. The librarians offer bibliographic instruction to help students in their research. Library staff are always available to answer questions. It also offers a place of respite where students can indulge in reading for pleasure.

Our Friends group is currently providing funds for staff so that the library can be open on Saturdays and for the much-used Best Seller Shelf and paperback collection.

We would like to be able to do more so I encourage you to support our many fund-raising events throughout the year. We host a series of lectures highlighting OCC faculty and/or local authors. Annually we present

our hugely successful film series which has now expanded to three screenings including Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour, Radical Reels World Tour, and Wild & Scenic Film Festival. Our very popular book sales provide students and the public with the opportunity to enhance their personal collections with gently used books.

If you are not already a member, I encourage you to join our organization. Attend as many of our events as you can. You can also donate directly to us through the OCC Foundation online or by calling Rene at 714-432-5749. We also have room on the Board of Directors if you would like to become more involved. We are a casual, fun group with the common goal of raising awareness of the OCC Library and supporting its functions in any way we can.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of the Board members for the important work that they do for our Friends organization. Each person's participation helps to move us toward our goals. I feel fortunate to serve with such a great group of people. I really appreciate all you do for our organization.

Claudia Ackley
President

An Invitation to Join the Friends of the Library

Annual dues: \$20 individual, \$30 couple, \$5 student
Lifetime membership: \$150 (includes annual parking permit)
Online FOTL Membership Application: <http://tinyurl.com/OCC-Friends>

Benefits of Membership:

- Access to OCC's new \$33 million Library, with free parking (pick up your day-use permit in the Library office)
- Early-bird shopping at annual spring and fall book sales
- Free admission to FOTL programs
- Volunteer opportunities
- Friends of the Library newsletter

Watch for special activities for FOTL members we are planning throughout the year!

Send your membership dues to:
Friends of the OCC Library
P.O. Box 5005, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa, CA 92628-5005

Please make checks payable to "OCC Foundation"

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FOTL Members can pick up a free parking permit in the Library office.

*Subject to change

Dec. 15 – Jan. 27

Nov. 12; Nov 22-25;

the following days:

Closed Sundays and on

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday

8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mon-Thurs

Library Hours*

Fall 2012

Orange Coast College
2701 Fairview Rd., P.O. Box 5005
Costa Mesa, CA 92628-5005

Friends of the Library