TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF... FEATURING ALFREDO MARTINEZ

This week, we welcome our newest administrative team member, Alfredo Martinez. We asked Alfredo to give us a little more information to help us get to know him just a little bit better:

**Where are you from?**
I was born in Los Angeles, but mostly raised in Walnut, CA near Pomona/Diamond Bar area. Graduated from UC Irvine and spent the last ten years working on the Irvine campus.

**If you could live anywhere, where would it be?**
Surprisingly always wanted to live in a big city, happy to be living here in San Francisco. Traveled here a few times when I was younger, so I am glad to have an opportunity to have a true living experience.

**What is your proudest accomplishment?**
Getting a job and moving to San Francisco since I have spent most of my life in southern California.

**Who knows you best?**
My friend Vicki who used to work with me at UC Irvine has known me ever since 2009 and my mother.

**What would you do if you won the lottery?**
Take an opportunity to travel abroad since I have never been out of the country besides Mexico.

**What’s your favorite holiday?**
Christmas because of being able to be with family and enjoying traditional Christmas food.

**What movie do you most identify with?**
Probably can’t relate to a movie but in terms of TV show, I really like FRIENDS.

**What interest do you have that you are ashamed to admit you love?**
Watching movies/tv episodes over and over again.

**What traits do you look for in others?**
People who have a positive attitude and are willing to share more about themselves.

**What do you like most about the Fromm Institute for Lifelong Learning?**
The friendliness of all the students. It is nice to see the students genuinely wanting to get to know all the students and other staff members. It is nice to see the positive impact that the Fromm Institute has on individual lives.

---

A LOVE LETTER TO MY STUDENTS - FROM CHARLES FRACCHIA

Or, I should say, former students; for after 30 years and more than 50 classes taught, I will no longer be teaching at the Fromm Institute. The debilitations of old age and the invasion of colorectal cancer have ended what has been one of the most extraordinary experiences of my life: the sharing of ideas, the passing on of knowledge, the creative exploration of the mysteries of the human experience, all conveyed to individuals who had no other reason for being in class (e.g., earning an undergraduate degree.)

Your interplay and your exploration of the themes of my classes beyond what I conveyed in class gave me great pleasure. There are tears in my eyes and sorrow in my heart as I say goodbye. I thank you all for your participation and for some of the most pleasurable and significant experiences in my life.
KINDNESS BEGETS KINDNESS

While walking in the Ferry Building recently, I noticed a framed picture on the wall at #30, Recchiuti Confections. From the corridor I couldn’t tell if the art was of people or of something else, so I went inside for a closer look. The sales associate I spoke with explained that their company supports an organization called Creativity Explored, “a nonprofit visual arts center where artists with developmental disabilities create, exhibit, and sell art.” The picture I asked about, as well as the smaller framed ones on display on the side walls were all from there. Recchiuti has Creativity Explored art reproduced on some of their chocolates. A portion of the proceeds from this supports their programs. I was impressed with the knowledge of and time taken to explain this company’s connection with Creativity Explored. I gave her a Kindness coin to thank her, and (unexpectedly) she gave me a chocolate! Once home, I looked at the website to find out more. I recommend that you take a look also. www.creativityexplored.org

ELECTION 2019 BALLOT MEASURES: SF PROPOSITIONS

What are the issues? Hear the arguments. Be prepared to share your views.

FISA (your student association) is planning an Election 2019/2020 series at lunchtime looking at some of the more controversial ballot proposals. There are six ballot measures facing San Francisco voters on Nov. 5. For more details check out: https://tinyurl.com/y3x9nu4x

Heather Sterner from the League of Women Voters will explain the 6 San Francisco propositions, laying out pros and cons, setting the stage for a lively discussion of the issues on Thurs., October 10th, noon-12:45pm in Maraschi.

Proposition A: would allow the city to sell $600 million worth of bonds to build, rehabilitate or acquire affordable housing.
Proposition B: would rename several city agencies that coordinate services for older adults and people with disabilities, establishing The Department of Disability and Aging Services.
Proposition C: would restrict the sales of vaping products, limiting how many devices and cartridges can be purchased at a time.
Proposition D: would place a tax on every Uber and Lyft ride to ease some of SF’s crippling traffic congestion. *
Proposition E: would allow for 100% affordable and educator housing to be built on parcels of public land, where such projects are currently prohibited.
Proposition F: the “Sunlight on Dark Money Initiative,” would force independent expenditure committees, known as Super PACs, to disclose who’s bankrolling their political spending.

*We will focus on Proposition D which is inviting the most controversy.

NOTE: The Fromm Institute never takes political positions or advocates for/endorse any particular candidates or ballot measures.