

PROGRAM GUIDE

OCTOBER 5–17, 2012
E. MEDITERRANEAN

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Times JOURNEYS
EXPERIENCE. LEARN. ENJOY.

Friday, October 5 (Venice)

1 p.m. **Boarding Begins**

Saturday, October 6 (Venice)

10 a.m. **Hospitality Suite Hosted by Insight Cruises**
C.E.O. Neil Bauman and C.O.O. Theresa Mazich, M.D.
[Hudson Room]

We'll be handing out final Program Guides, name badges, and offering coffee and snacks. Check in and say hello!

2 p.m. – 3 p.m. **Bon Voyage Cocktail Party and Briefing From Your
Insight Cruises and The New York Times Hosts**
[Crow's Nest]

If you didn't pick one up at our Hospitality Suite, we'll be handing out final Program Guides, name badges and making important last-minute announcements that you won't want to miss. At some point during the festivities we'll introduce you to our staff and speakers and our New York Times hosts Alice Ting and Greg Miller. To optimize your week, be sure you don't miss this event!

2:30 p.m. **Depart Venice**

Sunday, October 7 (Kotor, Montenegro)

9 a.m. – 10 a.m. **Ancient Greek Theater: The Origins and Architecture
of Western Drama**
William Payne — [Hudson]

Ancient Greek drama, at its peak in the 5th century BC, continues to have a huge influence on the world. Explore the performance traditions that merged to create Greek tragedy and comedy. The lecture will help create a complete picture of what a performance of the plays of Aeschylus or Sophocles was like, including its cultural and political context at the time. Special emphasis will be placed on the history of the performance space, as we get ready to tour the amazing ruins at Ephesus. Though built by the Romans, these theaters are incredible examples of the Greek performance space.

11 a.m. **Arrive Montenegro**

5 p.m. **Depart Montenegro**

5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. **The West Wing Comes to Life: A Viewer's Guide
to the 2012 Presidential Campaign**
Dan Schnur — [Hudson]

How are the presidential candidates and their advisors preparing for the last few weeks before the election? How have the strategic decisions they've made shaped the current political landscape? What lessons can be learned from recent political history about how this election may play out? Learn how politicians develop, adjust and deliver effective messages to the voters, and how their campaign teams move those messages through news, paid and online media. Hear what it's really like inside a campaign strategy session when the stakes are at their highest.

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Gender and Sports: Will Women Ever Climb the Sports Mountaintop?

William C. Rhoden — [Hudson]

2012 marks the 40th anniversary of Title IX of the Education Amendments becoming a law. This legislation has been monumental in womens' and girls' sports participation. But can womens' sports ever become a financially viable commodity on the sports landscapes in America? How do attitudes about women — by women and men — impact this viability? And does it help that many sports are inaccessible to the economically disadvantaged? While the enactment of a federal gender-equity law 35 years ago has spurred significant growth in women' intercollegiate athletics, certain racial disparities persist. We'll take a look at the persistent gender, economic and racial divides that exist even as Title IX attempts to bridge the gap.

Monday, October 8 (At Sea)

9 a.m. – 10 a.m. Reporting Science in a Changing World

David Corcoran — [Hudson]

Every time you turn on the TV there is another recommendation. We are told to take aspirin and then told not to. We are told coffee and red wine are good for us and then we hear, well, maybe they are not. And it does not stop with health and medicine. By its very nature, scientific news keeps changing. But how are consumers and those who want to understand the latest findings supposed to deal with that shifting landscape? We will look at some of the biggest scientific mistakes and changing advice, talk about how science reporters try to explain complicated material, and give some tips on how to sort it all out.

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Who Are the Voters Who Will Decide the Election? Dissecting the Electorate by Demography, Geography and Ideology

Dan Schnur — [Hudson]

Why are some voters more equal than others? How do candidates prioritize their time and money in a closely fought campaign? (And why does a presidential election always seem to come down to Ohio?) This session will focus on the means by which the two presidential campaigns are targeting the demographic, geographic and ideologic communities that will decide this election. Join a conversation that will outline how political strategists decide which voters to target, which states and communities receive the most attention and how critical voting blocs can impact an election's outcome.

1 p.m. – 2 p.m. Critiquing Election Drama: Performing the Candidate

William Payne — [Hudson]

'Tis the season. We'll examine the 2012 presidential election as theater, with critiques of the "performances" by the candidates. Break down the staging of political events, analyze the iconic imagery used around the candidates and discuss the role of the debate in the electoral process. Hone your ability to break political performance into its components, and learn to assess how effectively politicians make their case.

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Intercollegiate Athletics: What's Wrong and How Can We Fix It?

William C. Rhoden — [Hudson]

Intercollegiate athletics combines a test of body and mind and provides opportunity in the form of scholarships. College presidents and educators have failed to meet the challenge of bringing intercollegiate athletics into the academic mainstream, while using high-profile programs as cash registers and on-campus entertainment.

Academia does not respect intercollegiate athletics as a viable field of study that deserves — no, requires — its own department. Athletics shares a bond with drama, art and music in that each of those disciplines had to claw their way to respectability on liberal arts campuses.

We'll discuss the roots of the siloed nature of college athletics and academics, what the nature of the problem is and its implications for all involved. You'll find out how athletics, both in practice and as an academic discipline, can become an integral, not reciprocal, part of the college experience.

4 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. RED, WHITE AND BLUE CARPET NIGHT — American Politics on Film

A. O. Scott — [Culinary Arts Center (CAC)]

In honor of the impending election, we kick off a discussion of the frequently complicated relationship between Hollywood and Washington with the screening of a classic political film.

Tuesday, October 9 (Athens)

8 a.m. Arrive Athens

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. OPTIONAL Times Journeys Exclusive Excursion: Athens

Neil Bauman and Theresa Mazich, M.D. — [Shoreside, bottom of the gangplank]

The Parthenon and its Acropolis setting are stunning, no doubt about it. They don't require interpretation and compose the perfect DIY Athens excursion. On the other hand, visiting the new Acropolis Museum and the National Archaeological Museum with a skilled guide who's on your wavelength adds immeasurably to the experience. You'll see the Parthenon frieze, exquisite sanctuary relics and Archaic sculpture at the Acropolis Museum. Lunch, of course, is tucked away at a taverna favored by Athenian families. For dessert, we'll visit the richest array of Greek antiquities anywhere — at the National Archaeological Museum. *Guests must be able to stand for several hours (with frequent breaks) and walk approximately one (1) mile. If you haven't booked and are interested in joining us, ask us about availability.*

5 p.m. Depart Athens

5:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. MOVIE SCREENING: *Summer Hours* (103 minutes)

[CAC]

Summer Hours (French: *L'Heure d'été*) is a 2008 French drama film directed by Olivier Assayas. It is the second in a series of films produced by Musée d'Orsay, after *The Flight of the Red Balloon*. In the film, two brothers and a sister witness the disappearance of their childhood memories when they must relinquish the family belongings to ensure their deceased mother's succession.

Wednesday, October 10 (Istanbul)

9 a.m. – 10 a.m. **Politics in an iPod Nation: How Advances in Communications Technology Both Empower and Polarize Us**
Dan Schnur — [Hudson]

What are the consequences for democracy when voters can construct an information environment in which they only receive news and opinion with which they already agree? Online communications and the growing influence of social networking have allowed voters to have unprecedented levels of influence in an election campaign, but these tools have also made it easier than ever to avoid hearing from other points of view. How can voters navigate a political world dominated by Fox News and NBC News? Share thoughts on both the benefits and downsides of technology on the way our campaigns are run, fought and won.

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Why Criticism (Still) Matters: Viewers and Reviewers in the Digital Age**
A. O. Scott — [Hudson]

We live in an era of mind-boggling cultural abundance, with a dizzying array of products — movies, art, television, music, books, games — competing for our time, money and attention. Thanks to the Internet and social networks, there are also new ways to find consumer advice and exchange opinions. Does this mean that traditional criticism is now obsolete, or that everyone is a critic? Join a discussion of how criticism has and has not changed and its continued importance as a way of thinking about the arts and the larger world.

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Getting Paid to Dine Out**
David Corcoran — [Hudson]

So they have good restaurants in New Jersey? What it was like to spend 10 years as a food critic for The Times — and why I gave up everybody's dream job.

3:30 p.m. **Times Journeys Excursion: Istanbul at Night**
Neil Bauman and Theresa Mazich, M.D. —
[Meet in the Hudson Room before disembarking]

4 p.m. **Arrive Istanbul**

4:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. **OPTIONAL Times Journeys Excursion: Istanbul at Night**
Neil Bauman and Theresa Mazich, M.D. —
[Shoreside, bottom of the gangplank]

Get your cultural bearings in Istanbul with a three-hour visit to touchstones of Istanbul's identity. Wrapped in Turkish twilight, we'll visit the Basilica Cistern, rich in Roman and Byzantine history and Greek architectural elements. We'll peruse the multitudinous vendors of the Grand Bazaar, now in its sixth century of tempting shoppers with jewelry, pottery, carpets and spices. On a short Bosphorus cruise we'll glimpse the beauty, romance and geographic significance of a city that spans continents, ages and cultures.

Guests must be able to walk over uneven dirt paths and approximately up and down 25 stairs. Participants should be aware that there are certain inherent risks involved in any walking excursion. If you haven't booked and are interested in joining us, ask us about availability.

Thursday, October 11 (Istanbul)

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **OPTIONAL Times Journeys Exclusive Excursion: Daytime Istanbul**
Neil Bauman and Theresa Mazich, M.D. —
[Shoreside, bottom of the gangplank]

Istanbul is impossible to describe, and has mesmerized travelers for millennia. Layered, amalgamated, flowing. Ancient and modern, secular and sacred. Plunge into Istanbul's cultural whirlwind with our expert staff, who have been there, done that. On your itinerary: Hagia Sophia. It was the largest cathedral in the world for a thousand years, then a mosque, now a secular museum (so Istanbul). The Blue Mosque is defined by its 20,000 Iznik tiles. We'll peruse the sweets, spices and nuts at the Spice Bazaar. (A little hazelnut-pomegranate nougat, perhaps?) Onward to our learning lab in Turkish hospitality doing lunch at Topkapi Palace's former guard-house. Then we'll immerse ourselves in the context and treasures of Topkapi, including the Treasury, Harem and Holy Relics sections. Risking total sensory overload, and time permitting, we'll conclude our day at the Istanbul Archaeology Museum.

Guests must be able to walk approximately 1.5 miles over uneven dirt paths with inclines. This excursion involves many stairs as well as walking on slippery marble. Guests should be in good physical condition. Participants should be aware that there are certain inherent risks involved in any walking excursion. If you haven't booked and are interested in joining us, ask us about availability.

5 p.m. **Depart Istanbul**

5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. **The State of the Economy**
Joe Nocera — [CAC]

With a month to go before the presidential election, Joe Nocera surveys the economic landscape and gives his views on how the economic trends of the past few months have affected each of the candidates — and their party's fortunes.

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. **Covering Obamacare**
David Corcoran — [CAC]

In the old days, covering a big story out of our nation's capital was pretty straightforward. The New York Times and other media would mobilize their Washington bureaus to do a play-by-play of the legislative process, from introduction through passage to Supreme Court challenges. These days, it's much more complicated, and when President Obama proposed overhauling the nation's health care system, a host of journalists had to get involved — often in surprising ways. We'll look at this huge, continuing story from the perspective of The Times's science desk.

Friday, October 12 (Mykonos)

9 a.m. – 10 a.m. **Taking on the Wallbuilders: Understanding and Confronting Political Obstacles to a Global Economy**
Dan Schnur — [Hudson]

Once the dust from the campaign trail has settled, the next president and the new Congress will be forced to deal with an unprecedented array of global economic, security, environmental and diplomatic challenges. Throughout our nation's history, post-war and post-recessionary time frames have led to extended periods of inward focus. Can the U.S. afford a new isolationism in an era when the world continues to draw closer together? How would the two parties handle these challenges differently, and which issues are beyond partisanship? Discuss the path ahead for the country's leaders — and for the rest of us — on issues ranging from trade to immigration to economic and cultural integration.

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Is "Too Big to Fail" Here to Stay?**
Joe Nocera — [Hudson]

Two-plus years after the passage of the Dodd-Frank law, designed to reform financial institutions, surprisingly little has changed. Banks have been involved in one scandal after the next — the Libor rate manipulation scandal, the HSBC money laundering scandal and much more. Questions have been raised about whether we should bring back the old Glass Steagall Act, which separated commercial and investment banking. Joe Nocera takes you on a tour of the financial landscape and discusses how to fix banking, once and for all.

1 p.m. **Arrive Mykonos**

7 p.m. – 8 p.m. **Cocktail Party: *free drinks for all!*** — [Crow's Nest]

11 p.m. **Depart Mykonos**

Saturday, October 13 (Ephesus)

7 a.m. **Arrive Ephesus**

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **OPTIONAL Times Journeys Exclusive Excursion: Ephesus**
Neil Bauman and Theresa Mazich, M.D. —
[Shoreside, bottom of the gangplank]

Many civilizations have left their mark at Ephesus. It has a complex and many-splendored history, often oversimplified. We pull together three important aspects of understanding Ephesus which are rarely presented together. You'll meander the Marble Road, visit the legendary latrines, check out the Library, and visit the political and commercial centers of the city. A visit to the Terrace Houses will enliven your picture of Roman-era Ephesus.

We'll take a break for Mediterranean cuisine in the Selcuk countryside, and then visit the Ephesus Museum in Selcuk, where finds from the excavation of the city are showcased, and you get a fuller look at local history, from the Lydians to the Byzantines.

Guests must be able to walk approximately two (2) miles over uneven dirt paths with inclines as well as up and down approximately 75 stairs (each direction). Guests should be in good physical condition. Participants should be aware that there are certain inherent risks involved in any walking excursion. If you haven't booked and are interested in joining us, ask us about availability.

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. **Do Shareholders Matter?**
Joe Nocera — [CAC]

Joe Nocera has watched the evolution of shareholders' rights and shareholder activism since the early 1980s, when he wrote several stories about T. Boone Pickens, one of the original corporate raiders. In this discussion, he talks about the rise of "shareholder value," and whether it has helped — or hurt — companies and those who run them.

7 p.m. **Depart Ephesus**

Sunday, October 14 (Santorini)

8 a.m. **Arrive Santorini**

5 p.m. **Depart Santorini**

5 p.m. – 6 p.m. **The \$40 Million Slave: Race and Power in Sports**
William C. Rhoden — [CAC]

The recent lockouts of professional football and basketball players by their respective owners illustrated just how powerless professional athletes really are and how they all are voluntary residents of the sports plantation — black athletes, white athletes and everyone in between. African American athletes are merely symbols of that powerlessness. Focusing on African American athletes, we'll take a look at the troubling dualities accompanying black participation in professional athletics, the "conveyor belt" that cultivates individual talent but often encourages a disconnect with communities from which they come.

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. **Global Change: Theater and the Seven Trends Transforming Our Lives**
William Payne — [CAC]

Using the lens of dramatic literature, examine seven global trends that are changing everything about the way we live and work. Learn how theater arts can help us understand and interact with contemporary global change in the realms of population, resource management, technology, information flow, economic integration, conflict and governance. We'll discuss how storytelling has become influential in a variety of sectors, including business, politics, advertising and science, as a way to transmit information and facilitate actions as citizens of our country and the world.

Monday, October 15 (At Sea)

9 a.m. – 10 a.m. **Looking for Joe Louis: the Search for an All-American Hero**
William C. Rhoden — [Hudson]

Joe Louis, the former heavyweight champion of the world, was the first universally embraced black American hero. In a time of war, Louis united a divided country, not by words but with deeds. Is it possible for an athlete or entertainer to galvanize the country today? Denver broncos quarterback Tim Tebow struck a chord during the 2011 National Football League season. But Tebow's popularity ignited a national debate around religion and freedom of speech. Have we become a nation hopelessly divided by differences and distinctions, unable to agree upon an "All-American Hero"?

11 a.m. – Noon

Beyond Hollywood: World Cinema in the 21st Century

A. O. Scott — [Hudson]

Foreign films account for a tiny fraction of the annual American box office, but we are living in an extraordinary era of global cinematic creativity. Political, economic and technological changes have spurred innovative storytelling — and in some cases a commercial revival — across Asia, Latin America, Europe and Africa. We will survey this landscape, with attention to national cinemas (Eg., Romania, Brazil, South Korea, Iran) and filmmakers (Hong-Song Soo, Jia Zhiangke, Lucretia Martel, Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardennes) who deserve to be better known to American movie-lovers.

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Creating a New Play — Diverse Collaborations

William Payne — [Hudson]

Trace the course of the new play development process, from inception to world premiere. Go behind the scenes and learn how theater is made, start to finish, focusing on the involvement of writer and director. You'll take home lessons in collaboration, interdisciplinary thinking and managing creative minds.

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The Ethics of Perversity: Pedro Almodovar's Melodramatic Imagination

A. O. Scott — [Hudson]

In the 1980s, Pedro Almodovar played an important role in Spain's post-Franco cultural awakening, winning a cult following for his irreverent and risqué sex farces. In the decades since, as his mastery of filmmaking has grown, he has become a leading figure in world cinema, maturing as an artist without surrendering his taste for provocation. Our discussion of his remarkable career will include examinations of his early and later work, his collaborations with (and discoveries of) international stars like Antonio Banderas and Penelope Cruz, and his explorations of the themes of love, sexuality, honor and revenge.

5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

MOVIE SCREENING: *All About My Mother* (101 minutes)

[CAC]

All About My Mother is a 1999 Spanish-French drama film written and directed by Pedro Almodóvar. The film deals with complex issues such as AIDS, transvestitism, faith and existentialism. The plot originates in Almodóvar's earlier film *The Flower of My Secret* which shows student doctors being trained in how to persuade grieving relatives to allow organs to be used for transplant, focusing on the mother of a teenager killed in a road accident. —wikipedia.com

Tuesday, October 16 (Split)

8 a.m.

Arrive Split

4 p.m.

Depart Split

4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

A Conversation With Joe Nocera

Joe Nocera — [CAC]

It's the last night, and the last talk. Joe Nocera has been a columnist for The Times for seven years, first as a business columnist and then as an Op-Ed columnist, covering everything from fracking to public schools, from housing to college sports. He'll talk about how he sees his role as a columnist, how he approaches his work — and will entertain questions about just about anything.

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Farewell Cocktail Party — free drinks for all!

[Crow's Nest]

Wednesday, October 17 (Venice)

8:30 a.m.

Disembarkation Begins

SPEAKER PROFILES

David Corcoran is the editor of Science Times, The New York Times's weekly science section. He joined The Times in September 1988 and has worked in a variety of positions, including education editor, deputy graphics director, deputy New Jersey editor, deputy Op-Ed editor and national editor for weekend news. In 2001 he edited The Times's special 150th-anniversary issue, *From the Newspaper Age to the Information Age*.

He came to The Times after a 19-year career at The Record, then in Hackensack, N.J., where he was chief news editor and, before that, editor of the editorial pages. In 1976–77 he was a journalism fellow at Stanford University.

Born in New York City, he grew up in Nyack, N.Y., graduated with a B.A. in English from Amherst College and taught English at Rockland Country Day School in Congers, N.Y., before joining The Record.

As a writer, he reviewed restaurants in New Jersey from 2000 to 2010 for the Sunday Times. His poetry has been published in Podium and Barrow Street. He lives in Nyack.

Joe Nocera is an Op-Ed columnist. Before joining The Opinion Pages in April 2011, he wrote the Talking Business column for The New York Times each Saturday and was a staff writer for The New York Times Magazine. In addition to his work at The Times, he serves as a regular business commentator for NPR's Weekend Edition with Scott Simon.

Before joining The Times in 2005, Mr. Nocera spent 10 years at Fortune Magazine, where he held a variety of positions, including contributing writer, editor-at-large and executive editor. His last position at Fortune was editorial director. He was the Profit Motive columnist at GQ until May 1995, and he wrote the same column for Esquire from 1988 until 1990. In the 1980's, he served as a contributing editor at Newsweek, as executive editor of New England Monthly and as senior editor at Texas Monthly. From 1978 until 1980, he was an editor at The Washington Monthly.

Mr. Nocera's column ranges widely over the world of business and finance, with a particular focus on the intersection of business and public policy. Slate magazine wrote that his Talking Business column, which ran in The Times for six years, "demystifies the world of business with original thinking, brainy reporting and the ability to see around corners."

Mr. Nocera has won three Gerald Loeb awards, including the 2008 award for commentary, and three John Hancock awards for excellence in business journalism. A 2007 Pulitzer finalist, he is the author of three books. *A Piece of the Action: How the Middle Class Joined the Money Class* (Touchstone, 1995), won the New York Public Library's 1995 Helen Bernstein Award as the best nonfiction book of the year. He has also written *Good Guys and Bad Guys: Behind the Scenes With the Saints and Scoundrels of American Business (and Everything in Between)* (Portfolio, 2008), and, most recently, *All the Devils Are Here: The Hidden History of the Financial Crisis* (Portfolio 2010), which he co-authored with Bethany McLean.

Mr. Nocera earned a B.S. in journalism from Boston University in 1974. He was born in Providence, R.I., on May 6, 1952, and lives in New York City.

William Payne is currently a professor of theater and the dean of the School of Fine Arts at the University of Minnesota Duluth (U.M.D.) where he has taught directing, acting, new play development and theater liberal education courses for the last 18 years. He has been an active proponent of new approaches to liberal education and has integrated community-based learning strategies in innovative ways. Most recently he became the dean of the School of Fine Arts, where he is providing leadership in new approaches to arts education, international exchanges and collaborations, and a community-based movement to expand arts programming as economic development in downtown Duluth and the northern Minnesota region.

He is a co-founder and company member of the American Blues Theater Company of Chicago, which recently celebrated its 25th anniversary. He has been a professional director and producer for over 30 years with a special focus on the development and premiere of new plays, Latino theater and teaching and directing classic American drama for the early and mid-20th century. His directing credits include world premieres of *Half of Plenty* by Lisa Dillman (Chicago 2007); *My Buddy Bill* written and performed by Emmy Award winning author Rick Cleveland (Berkshire Theater Festival 2005); *La Tectonica De Las Nubes* (Cloud Tectonics) by Jose Rivera translated by Otto Minera at the Teatro Centro Hellenico (Mexico City 1999); and highly acclaimed productions of works by Eugene O'Neill, Sam Shepard, Thornton Wilder and Melanie Marnich. Bill received his M.F.A. in directing from Northwestern University in 1990.

Two of his productions have appeared at the Region 5 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, most recently *Lloyd's Prayer* (2004) by noted storyteller and playwright Kevin Kling. He has collaborated with celebrated playwrights, designers and actors in the professional theater for over 30 years.

Bill Payne is a Global Challenge Scholar for the American Democracy Project of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and began creating Global Change courses at U.M.D. in 2007. The online course *Theater and Global Change* was first offered by The New York Times Knowledge Network in the spring and fall of 2011. The course utilizes dramatic texts to explore the human impact of global trends transforming the way people live and work.

William C. Rhoden is a sports columnist for The New York Times, where he has been writing about sports since 1983. He came to the paper in 1981 as a copy editor in the Week in Review section. Rhoden has written the Sports of The Times column for more than 20 years and written two critically acclaimed books: *Forty Million Dollar Slaves: The Rise, Fall and Redemption of the Black Athlete* and *Third and a Mile: The Trials and Triumphs of the Black Quarterback*. He was the writer on the Peabody Award winning HBO documentary *Journey of the African American Athlete* and won an Emmy Award as the writer on the HBO documentary *Breaking The Huddle: The Integration of College Football*.

Before joining The Times, Mr. Rhoden spent more than three years with The Baltimore Sun as a columnist. Prior to that, he was associate editor of Ebony magazine from 1974 to 1978. He attended Morgan State University in Baltimore and while there acted as assistant sports information director.

Mr. Rhoden is married and has a daughter.

Dan Schnur is the director of the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics at the University of Southern California (U.S.C.), where he works to motivate students to become active in the world of politics and encourage public officials to participate in the daily life of U.S.C.

For years, Dan was one of California's leading political and media strategists, whose record includes work on four presidential and three gubernatorial campaigns. Schnur served as the national director of communications for the 2000 presidential campaign of U.S. Senator John McCain and spent five years as chief media spokesman for California Governor Pete Wilson. In 2010, Schnur was appointed as Chairman of the California Fair Political Practices Commission, a position he held through that year's elections and until spring of 2011.

In addition to his position at U.S.C., Schnur is an adjunct instructor at the University of California at Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies. Schnur has also held the post of visiting fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government's Institute of Politics at Harvard University and taught an advanced course in political campaign communications at George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management. In addition, he was the founder of the Center for Campaign Leadership, a non-partisan effort to equip young people with the skills essential for professional involvement in political campaigns.

He has served as an advisor to the William & Melinda Gates Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Broad Education Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, and the Stuart Foundation on a variety of K-12 education, college and workforce preparedness, governance and political reform efforts. He is also the co-chairman of the Voices of Reform project, a bi-partisan statewide organization devoted to making state government more responsive to the needs of California voters.

Schnur writes a regular column for The New York Time's political opinion Web Site, Campaign Stops. His commentaries have appeared in several California newspapers, including the Los Angeles Times, the San Francisco Chronicle and the Sacramento Bee. In addition, he has been an analyst and political commentator for CNN, MSNBC, Fox News and National Public Radio.

Schnur is a graduate of the American University in Washington, D.C.

A. O. Scott joined The New York Times as a film critic in January 2000. Previously, Mr. Scott was a Sunday book reviewer for Newsday and a frequent contributor to Slate, The New York Review of Books and many other publications. He has served on the editorial staffs of Lingua Franca and The New York Review of Books. He also edited *A Bolt from the Blue and Other Essays*, a collection by Mary McCarthy, which was published by The New York Review of Books in 2002. In addition to his film-reviewing duties, Mr. Scott often writes for the Times Magazine and the Book Review. He was born on July 10, 1966, in Northampton, M.A., and now lives in Brooklyn, N.Y. with his wife and two children.