

**Salem Lutheran Home Inaugurates Acclaimed Elderhostel's Road Scholar Discover Series in Oakland for 2011**

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**For Immediate Release**

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**THREE SPECIAL EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**The Great American Songbook – Jan. 6, 2011**

**The Literary Garden – Feb. 7, 2011**

**The Joy of Comedy: Great Jewish Comedians – Mar. 7, 2011**

Dec. 10, 2010 – Oakland, Calif. – Some of the greatest songs of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the great heritage of English gardens inspired by literature, and comedians that are legends of America's famed vaudeville, radio and the Borscht Circuit, will be featured in a new three-part Elderhostel Road Scholar Series hosted by Salem Lutheran Home (SLH), 2361 East 29<sup>th</sup> Street in Oakland's Dimond district beginning January 6, 2011.

In a new partnership Salem Lutheran Home continues its dedication to active retirement and lifelong learning by offering three half-day seminars are followed by a special luncheon that is open to public.

Programs are: The Great American Songbook, Jan. 6; The Literary Garden, Feb. 7 and The Joy of Comedy: Great Jewish Comedians – Mar. 7, 2011. Each program begins at 9:15 a.m. and runs though 12:45, followed by lunch for all participants. Admission per program, which includes lunch, is \$39.00.

**The Great American Songbook – Jan 6, 2011**

This multi-media presentation is an in-depth look at the life and music of Academy Award-winning lyricist Johnny Mercer, the big Broadway songwriting partnership of Rogers and Hart and Ella Fitzgerald, hailed as the First Lady of Song. From the sparkling lights of Broadway to the romance of Hollywood in its heyday, American's have treasured these songs which are the gems of the Golden Age of American popular music. With recorded music and video footage, this insider's look at the lives of these great artists is led by Jerry Frodmader, composer, performer, teacher and arts administrator. Former Assistant Dean at Music School of the California Institute of the Arts, Jerry Frodmader is also a saxophone and keyboard player. He has led Bay Area Classic Learning for Elderhostel for over 10 years and was recently featured on KQED's Spark.

**The Literary Garden – Feb 7, 2011**

The great Gardens of England are the centerpiece of this special program. Two unique focus points intersect as the program examines how literature intersects and manifests in historic and

renowned gardens. From the quaint English countryside and its lovely tradition of cottage gardens, to the grand estates of the royalty to very unique gardens created by famous literary figures, The Literary Garden program is sure to intrigue any gardener or reader. Learn about the many links between authors and their gardens, including the themed Shakespeare gardens that showcase the many plants cited in the Bard's plays and the flowery inspirations of Bloomsbury's renowned author and poet Vida Sackville West. Her Sissinghurst Castle Gardens, which she designed in the 1930's, are now part of England's National Trust.

### **The Joy of Comedy: Great Jewish Comedians – Mar 7, 2011**

Some of the greatest stars of show business built their careers on the foundation of their years in vaudeville, radio, the Borscht Circuit and the Yiddish Theater. They offered, for the first time, a kind of comedy the world had not experienced before. These comedians rose to the highest acclaim and stardom on radio, television and the movies. Get a refreshing and humorous look at the lives and careers of audience favorites such as Danny Kaye, Milton Berle and many more. Noted entertainment writer John Stanley shares some of his personal one-on-one interviews and stories that he has collected throughout his career.

For tickets or information on Elderhostel's Discovery Series at Salem Lutheran Home, please call (877) 426-8056 or visit [www.roadscholar.org/dayofdiscovery](http://www.roadscholar.org/dayofdiscovery). For more information about Salem Lutheran Home please call (510) 534-3637 or visit the website at [www.salemlutheranhome.org](http://www.salemlutheranhome.org)