



*The Athenian Acropolis*



*The Roman Forum*

## **In Celebration of Our Classical Heritage**

To mark 100 years of classical education at The College of New Rochelle, the department of Modern and Classical Languages offers this year-long program for the faculty. Its goal is to provide opportunities for better understanding of the cultures and achievements of ancient Greece and Rome and to support the integration of classical topics and texts into the liberal arts curriculum.

Please join us in welcoming to campus the following three distinguished classicists, scholar-teachers who will speak with us about an aspect of ancient culture relevant to our world. Each will engage us in discussion of the materials they have prepared for us, which they invite us to use in our courses.

**March 4, 2004, 4-6 pm (light refreshments)**

**Dr. Lillian Doherty, Classics Department, University of Maryland, College Park**

***“Ancient Greek Drama in its Social and Cultural Context”***

The drama of fifth-century Athens is still widely read, staged, and cited in evidence by historians, philosophers, and social scientists as well as by literary scholars. This workshop and the accompanying source packet is designed to introduce or review basic background information about the staging of this drama in its original social and cultural context. Comedy and the lesser-known genre of satyr-play will be considered along with tragedy. Elements to be discussed include the religious and civic setting of the dramatic festivals; the details of staging and costuming; the relationship between the theater and the political institutions of the Athenian democracy; and the significance of gender conflict in the plots of the surviving plays. A slide-illustrated presentation, including images of modern productions, will be followed by general discussion.

**October 28, 2003, 12:15-2 pm, Student Campus Center, Room C (light lunch)**

**Dr. Barbara McManus, Classics Professor Emerita, CNR**

***“Gender Perspectives on Roman Society”***

Ironically, the democratic ideals of classical Athens were predicated upon a strict gender dichotomy and radical "othering" of females which greatly disadvantaged women, while the hierarchical nature of Roman society allowed class to trump gender in many areas of life, especially as government became less democratic in the transition from Republic to Empire. We shall examine the ways that Roman women were perceived as simultaneously "same" and "other" with regard to such basic aspects of Roman life as names, social class, public display, and education, thus creating opportunities and possibilities of eluding traditional gender expectations that were not available to Athenian women. Our evidence will include not only written texts (in a packet of handouts), but also images of material remains ranging from coins and various artifacts of daily life to paintings and sculpture (PowerPoint presentation).

**September 30, 2003, 4-6 pm, Student Campus Center, Room C (light refreshments)**  
**Prof. Jennifer Roberts, Department of Foreign Languages, CUNY, City College**  
***“The Roots of Democracy in Ancient Athens”***

Not all Greek governments were democratic, and the government of Athens was in some ways not what we could call democratic at all. Some people in Athens were aliens who could not participate in politics. Nonetheless, the Athenians developed democratic principles based on the notion that rich and poor alike should have equal input in government, and their democratic state produced some of the most remarkable literature and philosophy the world has ever seen – including the philosophy of democracy’s staunchest critics, such as Plato and Aristotle. We will read selections from this literature and explore the remarkable civilization that produced it.

*This program has been made possible by a gift from Mr. David Eisenberg, Trustee of The College of New Rochelle, and by the sponsorship of the CNR-SAS Faculty Development Committee, the Women’s Studies Committee, and the Division of Social Sciences*