Friday, May 25
Meet The Speakers

10:25am - 10:50am – Monica Escalante-Ochoa, Monica Dimino, Priscilla Costello, Arielle Guttman, Ray Merriman, Komilla Sutton, Michael Erlewine, Wade Caves, Chris Brennan, Jane Ridder-Patrick, Frank Clifford,
12:25pm-12:50pm – Kelly Surtees, Meira Epstein, Grace Morris, Lynn Bell, Christine Arens, (Chris McRae, April Elliott Kent, Barry Rosen, Mary Shea, Edith Hathaway, Christopher Renstrom, Christina Collins, Gray Crawford, Darrelyn Gunzburg.
3:55pm-4:20pm – Hakan Kirkoglu, Benjamin Dykes, Claudia Rizzi, Claude Weiss, Gary Caton, Adam Gainsburg, Ana Andrade, Charlotte Benson, Safron Rossi, Michael Lutin, Demetra George, Glenn Perry, Ronnie Dreyer, Diane Swanson.
5:55pm-6:20pm – Izabela Podlaska-Konkel, Eric Myers, Nadiyah Shah, Karen Hamaker-Zondag, Bruce Scofield, Joyce Levine, Dennis Harness, Caroline Casey, Maurice Fernandez, Cassandra Butler.

Hot Chicago
By Michelle Gould

EATS
Need a place to eat and want to go someplace a little different? Check out **Sayat-Nova**, a Chicago gem at 157 East Ohio Avenue, featuring Armenian cuisine. The bar is funky, the space intimate, and the food is great, with plenty of dishes that cater to the Vegan and meat-eater alike. If you enjoy Middle Eastern food, many of the dishes will be familiar, but with Armenian twists. For more information, visit http://sayatnovachicago.com or call 312.644.9159.

EATS/PLAY
Away from the hustle of the Magnificent Mile but worth the trip is the **Goose Island Brewpub**. Play board games, eat tasty pub-grub and hang out in a cozy space, all while trying craft beers. (Beer aficionados: If you like saisons, the Matilda and Sophie are especially delicious on draft.) The brewpub, located at 1800 N Clybourn Avenue, is a 30 minute jaunt on the Redline from Michigan Avenue. If you're up for an adventure, take the two-hour trip to Goose Island's Taproom. Located at 1800 W Fulton Street. You can book a tour at www.gooseisland.com.

5 Questions with Lesley Francis
Mercury Rising Editor

What's the scariest thing you've ever done?
Go skiing. Put on the rental skis. They moved 1/64 of an inch and I was terrified. Still I persisted. Took me half an hour to get down the bunny hill. My skiing career ended there.

What annoys you the most about other people?
Lack of accountability. Life really isn't a test as much as an experience and the need to never be wrong or inappropriate means avoiding accountability. Which only disconnects people from their lives and robs them of their freedom.

Your favorite quote.
"This above all: to thine own self be true. And it must follow, as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man." *Shakespeare*

A vivid childhood memory?
Watering my grandmother's garden in the summer time. Seeing the earth soak up the water, smelling the sweet peas, and feeling happy looking at the pansies.

What's your favorite book?
Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen. And, all her other books as well. Also love me some Shakespeare, historical novels, murder mysteries and a Canadian classic, As for Me and My House by Sinclair Ross. Oh, and anything by Robertson Davies. On a non-fiction level, Conscious Loving by Gay and Kathlyn Hendricks. I should stop now.