

HELPFUL LINKS

[ABCs of OLLI](#) | [Parking](#) | [Registration](#) | [Events Calendar](#) | [Past Newsletters](#)



Where Curiosity Never Retires



OLLI NEWS — January 20, 2023

Table of Contents

- February Shorts: Registration & Important Information
- Spring Registration is OPEN!
- Spring Catalog Changes

- Member Zoom Training
- Serendipity Talk
- Winter/Spring Music Theatre Group

February Shorts: Registration & Important Information

February Shorts Registration

The Lottery has passed, but there are still open spaces in February Shorts courses! The February Shorts are being held for two weeks: January 30–February 3 and February 6–10. Each Short course runs for 2–5 days during one of the two weeks. **Your course selections do not have to be all within the same week.** Since the lottery has passed, you may now register for up to four courses for the \$100 fee. **The last day for adds/drops or refunds is Friday, January 27.** [View classes and register.](#)

Books

Most February Shorts books are available through [Politics and Prose](#) bookstore at 5015 Connecticut

Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008. Politics and Prose offers OLLI members a 10% discount on books for study groups. Below is a list of February Shorts books that are either not available at Politics & Prose or are available without discount.

Not available

955: *American Furniture: 1650 to the Present*

981: *Plato: Complete Works*

Available without discount

971: *Subversives: Antislavery Community in Washington, DC., 1828-1865*

980: *The Children of Light and the Children of Darkness*

You can also buy books and help support Black-owned bookstores in the District, Maryland, and Virginia, including the following stores. Many offer online ordering and shipping.

- In DC: [Loyalty Bookstore](#), [Mahogany Books](#), [Sankofa](#), and [Solid State Books](#)
- In Maryland: [Black Stone Bookstore & Cultural Center](#), [Everyone's Place](#), and [Wisdom Book Center](#)
- In Virginia: [Books and Crannies](#), [Harambee Books & Artworks](#), [House of Consciousness](#), [Positive Vibes](#), and [Urban Moon Books](#)

Books also can be ordered online or purchased at other book stores. The following are some online suggestions for purchasing books, in alphabetical order: [AbeBooks.com](#), [AddAll.com](#), [Alibris.com](#), [Amazon.com](#), [BookOutlet.com](#), [BookFinder.com](#), [eBay.com](#), and [Powells.com](#).

February Shorts Study Group Rep Meeting

OLLI will be having a **meeting for February Shorts SGRs on Friday, January 27 at 10:00 AM, online via Zoom**. This meeting will explain the SGR duties in detail and be an opportunity to ask questions. Those who have served as SGR previously are also strongly encouraged to attend, since SGR duties have evolved to now include three different class formats.

A meeting reminder and Zoom link will be emailed to SGRs once they're identified for the February Shorts. If you have any questions, please e-mail the office at olli@american.edu.

Spring Registration is OPEN!

Spring Semester

The Spring Semester is February 27-May 5. Courses meet for a varying length of time (see each study group for the number of weeks). The \$300 membership fee allows you to sign up for three courses before the lottery. After the lottery, when you have received your class assignment letter, you can add a **fourth study group** by logging into your account. **Make sure to register before the Spring Semester lottery on Tuesday, February 14.** [View classes and register.](#)

Spring Catalog Changes

- **563: The Influence of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo on Broadway and**

Beyond: CANCELLED

Class changes are also viewable on the [Spring Catalog Changes](#) page of the website. Any changes are updated there right away.

Member Zoom Training

February Shorts Member Zoom Training

Wednesday, January 25

12:00-1:00 PM

[Register](#)

Learn how to use Zoom in an OLLI class:

- Navigating the controls
- Speaker view vs. Gallery view
- How SGLs will manage discussions and Q&A
- Etiquette for Zoom
- Learn how to get your class zoom link from the OLLI website
- Helpful tips
- Updating to the latest Zoom

Serendipity Talk

Dan Moskowitz, *The Lyrics of Mack Gordon*

Tuesday, February 7

3:30-5:00 PM

Online via Zoom

We will shine the spotlight on the songs of a man who worked almost completely out of the spotlight. A journeyman Hollywood lyricist, Mack Gordon didn't have the wit of Larry Hart or Ira Gershwin or the emotional insight of Oscar Hammerstein III, but he sure had the knack for coming up with the words that would turn a catch tune into a hit song. If you were in the 1940s or early 1950s anywhere near a dance floor or a juke box or a radio, Mack Gordon songs were a part of your life: *Chattanooga Choo-Choo*, *I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo*, *I Had the Craziest Dream*, *You'll Never Know*, *I Can't Begin to Tell You* - all #1 on the *Billboard* chart. In the 11 years beginning in 1940, his songs were nominated for Academy Awards nine times. We'll start our introduction to his work with a clip of Ethel Waters doing his first hit and end with Michael Bublé doing another, with in between renditions of his hits and some more obscure songs by, among others, Ella Fitzgerald, Bing Crosby, Judy Garland, Perry Como, Vera Lynn, Sarah Vaughn, Carmen Miranda, and Josephine Baker. And perhaps hear from OLLI members a memory or two triggered by one of the songs.

Dan Moskowitz has tapped his avocational interest in American popular music and Broadway musicals to lead a number of study groups at the OLLIs at American University and George Mason University. He has also given a number of Serendipity talks.

No registration is required. The Zoom link will be e-mailed to all those subscribed to the OLLI newsletter the morning of the talk. If you do not receive the newsletter and would like to attend, please e-mail olli@american.edu that morning.

Winter/Spring Music Theatre Group

Alliance for New Music-Theatre had a very successful Fall 2022 season for its “**Live & About**” series and has put together another eclectic program for the Winter/Spring 2023 season with outings to five or six different productions in the DC area, introducing our group to new hosting theatre venues.

Participants will enjoy the experience of attending performances as a group, expanding their appetites and critical appreciation for new forms, and supporting a variety of large and smaller music-theatre companies in our nation’s capital. After each show, they will have the opportunity to deepen their experience by engaging with other group members in an informal gathering and sharing in discussions to understand the deeper intentions of the show’s creators. [View more information and register.](#)

AU Events

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM

The museum is currently closed for installations and will reopen Saturday, February 4. [View more information here.](#)

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Information Forum on the Alan and Amy Meltzer Center for Athletic Performance and the Sports Center Annex (SCAN)

Thursday, January 26

6:00 PM

Constitution Hall at American University

[RSVP](#)

Members of the campus and neighborhood community are invited to attend an Information Forum to discuss AU’s proposed Alan and Amy Meltzer Center for Athletic Performance Meltzer Center (Meltzer Center) and SCAN projects on Thursday, January 26th at 6:00 pm at Constitution Hall on the East Campus. The Meltzer Center, the first new athletics and recreational facility proposed on campus in more than 30 years, will enhance the development of our student-athletes, ensure their success in and out of competition, and bolster the overall athletic and recreational experience for the entire AU community. The new SCAN will house Well-Being Commons and will prioritize and expand the critical student support services that promote and foster overall well-being. These projects are the first part of the Student Thriving Complex.

This Information Forum is designed to provide campus and neighborhood stakeholders with an opportunity to review preliminary concept renderings for the projects and to ask questions or voice comments to American University staff on the proposals. Light refreshments will be served. [View more information.](#)

CENTER FOR CONGRESSIONAL AND PRESEDENTIAL STUDIES

Thurber Dialogue on Democracy—a conversation with Bob Bauer and AU Professor Silvia Kim

Wednesday, January 25

5:00 PM

Founder's Room (SIS T7) of the School of International Service on American University's campus

[Register](#)

CCPS will welcome professor of practice and distinguished scholar in residence at NYU School of Law and co-director of NYU Law's Legislative and Regulatory Process Clinic, Bob Bauer. A reception with food and drink will follow.

Bauer served as White House Counsel to President Obama from 2009 to 2011. In 2013, the President named him to be co-chair of the Presidential Commission on Election Administration. In 2021, President Biden named him to be co-chair of the Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court of the United States. Bauer is co-author with Jack Goldsmith of *After Trump: Reconstructing the Presidency* (2020), books on federal campaign finance and numerous articles on law and politics for legal periodicals. He has co-authored numerous bipartisan reports on policy and legal reform. He is a Contributing Editor of Lawfare and has published opinion pieces on constitutional and political law issues in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and the *Atlantic*, among other publications.

In this conversation, he will discuss his ideas for electoral, presidential and judicial reform in the United States. This event is sponsored by CCPS and KPU.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MISSION

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University is an association of, by, and for the people in the Washington, DC area who wish to continue to study and learn.

OLLI at AU is dedicated to the proposition that learning is a lifelong process and that *curiosity never retires*.

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