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Where Curiosity Never Retires



OLLI NEWS — January 27, 2023

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Nominations for OLLI's Board of Directors

In April, OLLI members will elect four members to the OLLI Board of Directors. This year's Nominating and Elections Committee, consisting of Mark Nadel, Lisa Leinberger, Victor Rezmovic, Penny Hansen, and Diana Jamieson will prepare a slate of four nominees for Board approval that will be placed on the ballot.

If you would like to recommend an OLLI member or yourself for the Nominating and Elections Committee to consider as one of these nominees, please provide the name of the individual along with one or two paragraphs (not more) on this person's background, OLLI involvement, and why you

are recommending him or her. **Please send these written recommendations to the Committee by email to olli@american.edu no later than Friday, February 10.**

In addition to the Board-approved list, any member can self-nominate and run as an “at-large” candidate with a petition signed by at least ten OLLI members. All candidates, whether on the Board-approved slate or at-large, run as individuals, with the top four vote-getters being elected. In March, the OLLI office will provide petition forms and instructions for any at-large candidates.

When considering a recommendation or an at-large candidacy, please keep in mind the expectations for OLLI Board Members. Directors are expected to make every effort to attend Board meetings. Directors are expected to support OLLI’s development efforts as one of their philanthropic priorities. Ours is a working board and Directors are expected to participate actively in meetings and the activities of OLLI at AU. Attendance at special events, e.g., SGL Luncheons, Town Hall, Annual Meeting, is strongly encouraged. Directors must retain their membership in OLLI for the duration of their term. Board members may serve as chairs of committees, although this is not required. Committee membership is, however, strongly encouraged.

Directors are elected for one three-year term, with the opportunity to run for a second consecutive term. **Don’t forget, if you have a great suggestion for a new Board Member, the Nominating and Elections Committee would like to know who it is and the reasons for your recommendation by February 10.**

February Shorts: Registration & Important Information

February Shorts Registration

The Lottery has passed, but there are still open spaces in February Shorts courses! **Today is the last day to register.** 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 close of business today, Friday, January 27. [View classes and register.](#)**



Hearing Loops

All of the classrooms at OLLI have hearing loops installed. "Hearing loops" are state-of-the-art "Listening Assistive" technology. There are three main parts to a hearing loop: the wire that is installed around and across the room, a microphone, and a transceiver (which picks up and amplifies the sound from the microphone). The system both amplifies the speaker's voice and suppresses

background noise.

We urge everyone who has hearing loss to take advantage of the hearing loops. The sound is remarkable. It's as if the person speaking is sitting right next to you. [View detailed information.](#)

Access Your Online Class

If you accidentally delete the daily e-mail with your class Zoom link, or cannot find it again, you can access the Zoom link for each of your classes by logging into your OLLI member account on the [website](#). The first page to come up will be your account page, which lists your classes (see image below). Under each class you will find the Zoom link for that class. Click the link to go into your class at the specified time. If you leave this page and need to get back, simply click your name (hyperlinked in blue) at the top of the page. [View a video tutorial.](#)

For tips and instructions on how to use Zoom, click [here](#).

The screenshot shows the OLLI website interface. At the top right, it says "Welcome Sara!" with links for "Back to Superuser" and "Logoff", and a "Text Size" selector. The OLLI logo is on the left, and a "Join Mailing List" button is on the right. A navigation menu includes "HOME", "ABOUT", "MEMBERSHIP", "STUDY GROUPS", "SHORTS", "LECTURES/EVENTS", "GIVE", and "CONTACT". Below the menu is a breadcrumb trail: "> [Home](#) > My Account".

The main content area is titled "Overview" and contains a message: "Thank you for registering. You'll find a summary of your shorts courses below. If you'd like to volunteer with OLLI, please [update your volunteer interests](#)." Below this is a section for "MY FEBRUARY SHORTS 2022 SHORTS COURSES" with a registration deadline of 2/4/2022 and a link to "View Shorts Courses".

A message states: "You may register for up to 3 shorts courses. You have 2 choices remaining." Below this is a blue button labeled "Add a Shorts Course".

A table lists the courses. The first row is circled in red, and a red arrow points to the Zoom URL. A handwritten note in red says "Click on Zoom link here".

Courses	Status	I want to:
910: The National Security/Military Challenges Facing the Biden Administration February 14-16 9:45 — 11:15 AM Class Format: Online Zoom URL: https://olli-dc-org.zoom.us/j/97396647628?pwd=aDdFdnRFaWp6QmpIMzJxL01vWkhr	Registered	Drop this class

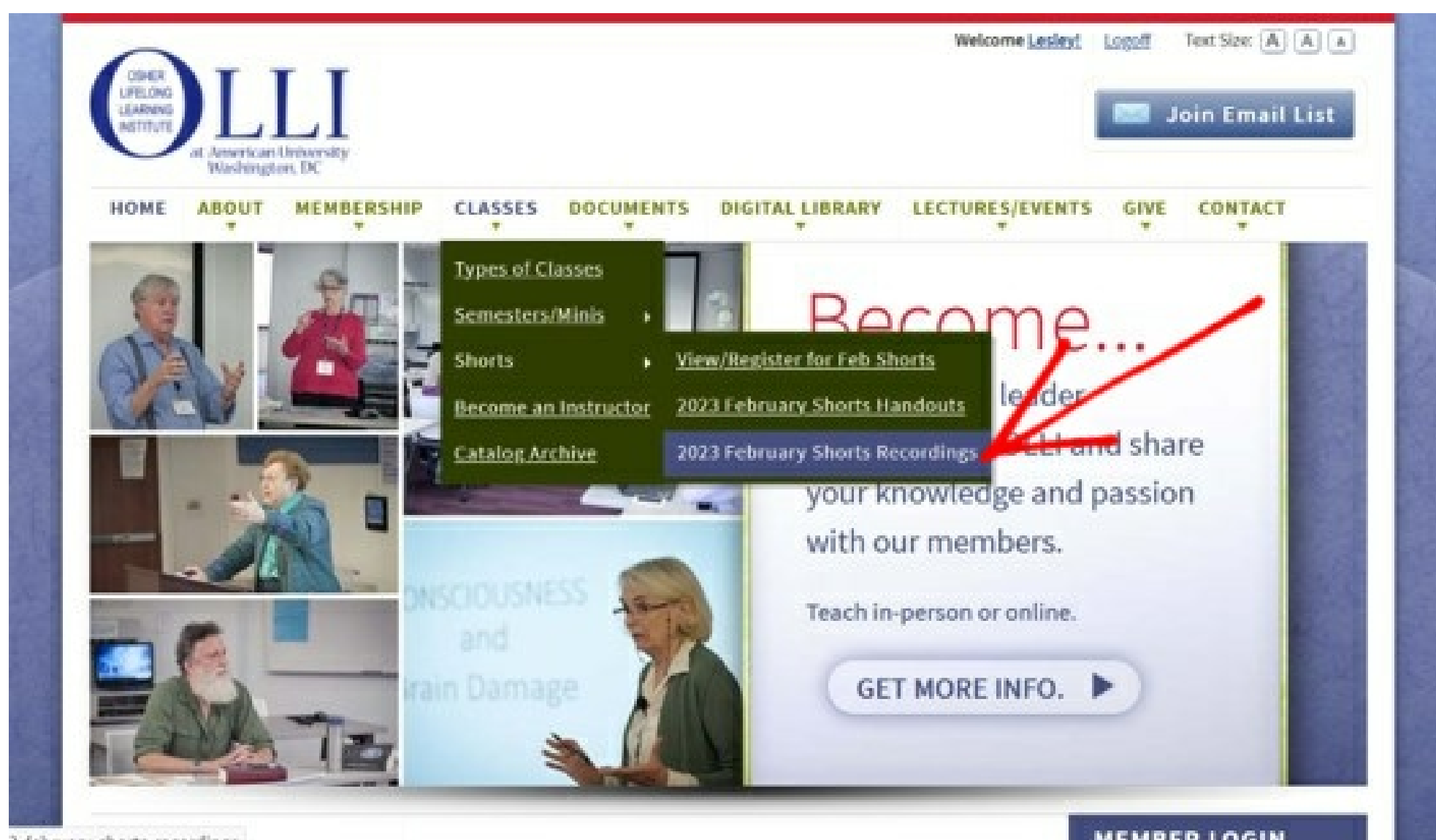
Keep Your Zoom Up to Date

Please be sure Zoom is up-to-date on your device before the start of your online class. Users on **Apple devices must be on at least iOS 11** and **Android users must be on at least Android 6** to continue to receive Zoom updates. You can update and download Zoom [here](#). Please note that if

Zoom is up-to-date on your device, the icon is no longer a camera, but a blue circle that says, "Zoom."

Access Class Recordings

Most online classes during the February Shorts and Spring Semester will be recorded. One of the benefits of taking classes during a particular session is access to all class recordings for that session. [February Shorts recordings](#) will be listed under "Classes," then "Shorts" on the OLLI website (see below). Spring recordings will be listed under "Classes," then "Semesters/Minis." Each day's recordings are added to the website by 5:00 PM. You must first [log in to your member account](#) in order to view the recordings. Recordings are available for viewing up until two weeks past the end of each session.



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 on the website, located under "Classes," then "Semester/Minis." Any changes are updated there right away.

Tour of the National Press Club

Tuesday, February 14

2:00 PM

Led by Gil Klein, Study Group Leader

Meet at lobby of National Press Building at 529 14th St. NW near the corner of 14th and F Streets

Fees: no charge

Registration is required; Limited to 15 participants

[Register](#)

Perched atop the National Press Building within sight of the White House and just down Pennsylvania Avenue from the US Capitol, the National Press Club is the meeting place in Washington for newsmakers and journalists. Through its doors have come presidents, premiers, kings and queens, cabinet secretaries, senators and house members, movie stars and sports heroes, titans of business and finance—a who's who of the 20th and the 21st centuries—eager to share their views on current events with the media and the public.

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 II, but he sure had the knack for coming up with the words that would turn a catchy 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.

An SGL's Tour of the Holocaust Museum

"During the 2021 and 2022 Fall Semesters, I had the honor of leading an in-person study group that explored the psychological, political, and social factors that shaped the lives of Holocaust survivors, their children, grandchildren, and other family members. We focused on the legacy of trauma, silence, memory, and resilience that haunted families as they embarked on creating new lives in the aftermath of the near-annihilation of European Jews.

"As a capstone to the study group, class participants from the past semester were invited to participate in one of three guided tours in January that I conducted of the Permanent Exhibition, *The Holocaust*, at the US Holocaust Museum. The tours provided context and historical insight about the horrors that families of survivors experienced during the Nazi era. Teaching this study group has been a personal and professional privilege." —Ed Feinberg, Study Group Leader

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.

[Register](#)

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.

AU Museum Exhibit on Aging

Gail Rebhan: *About Time*

Presented by the Alper Initiative for Washington Art

February 4-May 21, 2023

[Register](#)

For better and worse, nothing stays still. DC artist Gail Rebhan (b. 1953) knows that well and this, her first museum retrospective, explores her many different ways over four decades of using and reconfiguring the time-slicing medium of photography to reflect on macro-and-micro-dynamics of interactions inside families—her own and that of other immigrants—on the centuries of change in diverse areas of the nation’s capital, and on the marks of time revealed on her body (along with

periodic attempts to fight it) from young adult, to mother of two sons, then caregiver of an aging father, to the present as she continues making art and living while facing the start of her seventh decade. **OLLI is excited to be a co-sponsor for this exhibit. There are several Gallery Talks that you can register for.**

AU Events

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM

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

AU ARTS

Visiting Art Series: Holly Bass, Deirdre Darden, and Hannah Barco

Friday, January 27

6:00 PM

Katzen 201 at American University

[Register.](#)

Holly Bass is a multidisciplinary performance and visual artist, writer, and director. Her work has been presented at spaces such as the Kennedy Center, the Smithsonian Museums, the Seattle Art Museum, Art Basel Miami Beach (Project Miami Fair) and the South African State Theatre. Her visual artwork includes photography, installation, video and performance and can be found in the collections of the Corcoran Gallery of Art and the DC Art Bank, as well as private collections.

Bass will be joined in conversation by independent curator [Deirdre Darden](#), who guest curated [between a rock and a soft place](#), currently on view at [Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art \(Tephra ICA\)](#), and Hannah Barco, Associate Curator and Festival Director, Tephra ICA.

Concerto and Aria Competition

Saturday, January 28 and Sunday, January 29

6:00 PM and 3:00 PM, respectively

Abramson Recital Hall, Katzen Arts Center at American University

[Register](#)

American University musicians are tightening strings and tuning keys for a friendly competition to kick off the spring semester. The annual Concerto and Aria Competition showcases talented student musicians competing for a solo performance in the AU Symphony Orchestra spring concert. FREE and open to all.

Faculty Music Concert

Saturday, February 4

7:30 PM

Abramson Recital Hall, Katzen Arts Center at American University

[Tickets:](#) Free for AU students with ID; \$10 for alumni, staff, faculty, children, and senior citizens (55 and older); \$15 general admission

Music faculty collaborate in a varied program that includes pieces by Eric Whitacre, William Grant Still, Golijov, Ysaye, Jessie Montgomery, and songs from *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Featuring Kelly Smith Jones (voice), Susan Derry (voice), Bill Wielgus (oboe), Eric Dirksen (bassoon), Kevin Jang (violin), Nancy Jo Snider ('cello), Nobue Matsuoka (percussion), and Barbara Wilkinson (piano). From the Department of Performing Arts and the Music Program.

Bat Boy: The Musical

Directed by Clancey Yovanovich

Thursday, February 16 and Friday, February 17

8:00 PM

Saturday, February 18 and Saturday, February 25

2:00 PM and 8:00 PM

[Tickets](#)

“Heed the tale of a filthy freak.... who’s just like YOU.”

Bat Boy is an American rock musical that has become a beloved cult classic in the musical theatre world and beyond. Based on one of *Weekly World News*' most sold headlines, *Bat Boy* heeds the tale of Edgar—the half-bat, half-American teenage boy discovered in a cave in small town West Virginia. Though campy and comedic in style, *Bat Boy* explores the trials of being different, the danger in misinformation, the fear of change, the journey to acceptance, and the price we pay when that acceptance comes too late.

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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