

HELPFUL LINKS

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



Newsletter



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Table of Contents

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

- Welcome Diana

ACADEMIC

PROGRAMMING

- Registration is OPEN!
- February Shorts

- February Books
- Spring Semester
- Catalog Changes

EVENTS

- Music-Theater Group
- Washington National Cathedral Tour

OLLI HAPPENINGS

- Final Call for Thespians!

AU EVENTS

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

WELCOME DIANA

Happy New Year!

I want to welcome Diana Jamieson (pictured) to the OLLI at American University Board of Directors. Diana will be completing outgoing board member Linda Miller's term. The Board thanks Linda for her service to OLLI over many years.

Diana has been an enthusiastic member of OLLI for 12 years and spreads the message that OLLI classes have enriched her life. She has often been a Study Group Representative and has served on the Nominating Committee for two years, once as chair of the committee. She previously was a mental health professional in the field of clinical social work. Since retirement she has worked as a Hospice volunteer and continues to be a docent at a historic house in DC.

I wish you a great upcoming February Shorts and spring



semester.

Mark Nadel

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

The February Shorts and spring semester registration is open! OLLI is continuing to offer classes in three formats: **in-person**, **online**, and **hybrid**. The format for each course is listed online and in the print catalog. When registering for a hybrid class, you must select whether you want to attend in-person (hybrid in-person) or online (hybrid online). List both formats if the class is a priority and you're willing to attend either format. You can prioritize up to 12 classes for the lottery. As always, the lottery will then assign you to up to three classes.

FEBRUARY SHORTS

The February Shorts will be held for two weeks: February 5-9 and 12-16. Each Short course runs for 2-5 days during one of the two weeks. You may register for up to three courses in the lottery for the \$100 fee. **Your courses do not have to be all within the same week. After the lottery, once you receive your class assignment letter, you can add additional courses—as many open courses as fit in your schedule—by logging into your OLLI account!** To take more courses, you can even stack several within the same time slot. For example, if you have a course scheduled for February 5-7 (Mon-Wed) at 11:45 AM, you can add another that meets February 8-9 (Thu-Fri), also at 11:45 AM, instead of having to choose between the two.

Make sure to register before the February Shorts lottery on **Wednesday, January 24.**

[VIEW CLASSES AND REGISTER](#)

FEBRUARY BOOKS

Most February Shorts books are available through Politics and Prose book store 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 not available at Politics and Prose, are available only as pay-to-order, or are available without discount.

Class 9600: *German Short Stories for Beginners* and *Practice Makes Perfect German Vocabulary*: **Pay-To-Order and No Discount**

Class 9602: *Experience Poems and Pictures: Poems that Paint Pictures that Speak:* **Pay-To-Order, No Discount and Non-Returnable**

Class 9701: *Slavery and Public History: The Tough Stuff of American Memory* and *Back of the Big House: The Architecture of Plantation Slavery*: **No Discount** *Slavery in the United States: A Brief Narrative History* and *Guidebook to African American History in the National Parks*: **Not Available**

SPRING SEMESTER

The spring semester is March 4–May 10. Courses meet for a varying length of time (see each study group for the number of weeks). The membership fee remains \$300 and hasn't been increased since fall 2017; the fee allows you to sign up for three courses in 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 lottery on Tuesday, February 20.

[VIEW CLASSES AND REGISTER](#)

CATALOG CHANGES

Below are changes made to classes after the catalog went to print. Class changes are also available on the [spring catalog changes](#) page of the OLLI website and are updated as they occur.

- **681 *What's New in the Essay***: This study group will now have ***The Best American Essays 2023*** by Vivian Gornick with ISBN: 978-0063288843 as a required reading.
- **788 *Fateful Documents***: This study group will now meet IN-PERSON.

EVENTS

NEW MUSIC-THEATER GROUP

Live & About - Spring 2024 Season | OLLI at American University

Alliance for New Music-Theatre is pleased to announce that they are re-launching their "**Live & About**" series this spring, in collaboration with **OLLI at AU**, for an eclectic program with outings to six different productions in the DC area.

"**Live & About**" is an outreach and community engagement series representing different Washington, DC theatre companies and shows across the spectrum of music-theatre. 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 discussion to understand the deeper intentions of the show's creators.

Please contact Duane Gelderloos at duane.gelderloos@newmusictheatre.org with any questions.

[MORE INFO & REGISTER](#)



WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR

Monday, January 29

In-Person Tour | 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

Registration Required; Tickets \$30/person

Join us for a fascinating behind-the-scenes private tour of Washington National Cathedral. This is their most popular guided tour! Discover the Cathedral's hidden stories as you marvel at the building's artistry and engineering. Journey through stone stairwells and passageways to see stained glass windows up close. Step out secret doors to witness magnificent views from the heights.

Note: this tour is not for those with fear of heights or those with limited mobility. Be prepared for close quarters, stair climbing, and heights.

Registration is limited to the first 15 people that sign up. Ticket price is \$30/person for this event. This event will occur regardless of rainy weather. Tickets are non-refundable.

[MORE INFO & REGISTER](#)

OLLI HAPPENINGS

FINAL CALL FOR THESPIANS!

A small coterie of OLLI playwrights is putting on a reading of their works this spring. They are still looking for actors (we are especially short some males) of all skill levels and background. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, OLLI member or not, please email Joe Oppenheimer (joeaoppenheimer@gmail.com) and Chuck Jones (cjones1860@gmail.com). Our first meeting will be in early February. You would be committing to a few rehearsal times and a performance date that would be arranged with your schedules in mind.

The four short plays [and their needs for Male and Female, or Gender Flexible actors] are:

- 1) **Gutter Day** (Sean Finnell): A widow is stunned by the return of a younger man from her past, moments before her hostile, imperious and sanctimonious oldest brother and others arrive [3M, 2F]
- 2) **Some Scenes from a Homecoming** (Chuck Jones): A Marine returns from Afghanistan deeply troubled by grief and challenged to find his familiar world now gone [3M, 1GF]
- 3) **How Can I Be...?** (Jeanne Kent): When a loss of her professional life, and staying at home and caring for her two very young children drives Jeanette out of her mind, she turns to friends and then AI for help [1F, 2M]
- 4) **The Writers' Group** (Joe Oppenheimer) When a writers' group of homeless meets, misunderstanding of the members' motivations by the volunteer leader leads to conflict [2M, 1F, 3GF]

AU EVENTS



Amos Perlmutter Memorial Lecture

“Challenges of the Free World in Ukraine, Russia, and the Middle East”

Delivered by *Natan Sharansky*

Monday, January 29 | 7:30 PM ET | Constitution Hall

RSVP: american.swoogo.com/Perlmutter2024

Born in Donetsk, Ukraine when it was part of the USSR, Mr. Sharansky was a leading Soviet dissident and Human Rights activist.

He was imprisoned by the Soviets and sentenced to thirteen years of forced labor. Following a series of hunger strikes while in prison, and an international Human Rights campaign to win his freedom, he was released in 1986 in an international prisoner exchange. After his release he moved to Israel, was involved in the Human Rights campaign that helped facilitate the collapse of the Soviet Union, served in the Israeli Knesset and was twice a Minister in the Government of Israel.

An author of three books, Mr. Sharansky will speak about the “Challenges of the Free World in Ukraine, Russia, and the Middle East.”



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Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University

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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