

## HELPFUL LINKS

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# Newsletter



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## FFEBRUARY 2, 2024

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## UPDATES

### 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 John Aldock, Ed Feinberg, David Flaxman, Rita Hadden, and Susan Rolnick, will prepare a slate of nominees for Board approval that will be placed on the general election ballot for the membership to consider.

The Nominating and Elections Committee welcomes recommendations from the membership identifying potential nominees, including oneself. Directors are elected for one three-year term, with the opportunity to run for a second consecutive term. When considering a recommendation, please keep in mind the expectations for OLLI Board Members. Directors are expected to make every effort to attend Board meetings and are expected to support OLLI's development efforts. Ours is a working Board of Directors; in addition to their participation at Board meetings, members are also expected to participate in other OLLI activities, e.g., SGL Luncheons, Town Halls, and the Annual Meeting. During the duration of their term, Directors must retain their OLLI membership. Board members may serve as Chairs of Committees, although this is not required. Committee membership is, however, strongly encouraged.

To submit a recommendation, please provide the name of the individual along

with one or two paragraphs (not more) on the person's background, OLLI involvement, and your reasons for recommending them. Please send these written recommendations to [olli@american.edu](mailto:olli@american.edu) no later than **Friday, March 1**. Announcement of the nominees selected and approved by the Board will be presented in the OLLI Newsletter.

In addition to the Board-approved list, any member can self-nominate and run as an "at-large" candidate by submitting a petition that must include the signature of a minimum of ten OLLI members by Friday, April 5. The OLLI offices will provide petition forms and instructions to anyone wishing to self-nominate.

**Don't forget! If you have a great suggestion for a new Board Member, the Nominating and Election Committee welcomes your input. Submit your recommendation by Friday, March 1.**

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

### FEBRUARY SHORTS

The February Shorts start next week and 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 as many open courses as fit into your schedule for the \$100 fee.

**Your courses do not have to be all within the same week. Now that the lottery has passed, you can add additional courses by logging into your OLLI account!**

The last day to register or request a refund is **TODAY, Friday, February 2.**

**[VIEW CLASSES AND REGISTER](#)**

### IMPORTANT FEBRUARY SHORTS INFORMATION

#### 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**

#### 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](#).

Overview

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](#).

### MY FEBRUARY SHORTS 2024 SHORTS COURSES

Registration for the February Shorts 2024 ends 2/2/2024  
[View All Shorts Courses](#)

You may register for up to 5 shorts courses. You have 4 choices remaining.

[Add a Shorts Course](#)

Courses	Status	I want to:
<a href="#">9100: 2022-2023 Russo-Ukrainian War</a> February 5-7 9:45 — 11:15 AM Class Format: Online Zoom URL: <a href="https://oll-dc-org.zoom.us/j/99000920919?pwd=UjVockpHcE9lNVhLb3dHN2VrS2xaUT09">https://oll-dc-org.zoom.us/j/99000920919?pwd=UjVockpHcE9lNVhLb3dHN2VrS2xaUT09</a>	Registered	<a href="#">Drop this class</a>

Click on Zoom link here

### Keep Your Zoom Up to Date

Please be sure Zoom is up-to-date on your device before the start of your online class. Zoom's lifecycle policy takes effect on **Saturday, February 3**, so if you do not update Zoom before then, you will be unable to join your class. You can update and download Zoom [here](#).

## 2024 FEBRUARY SHORTS ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

### 9:45 AM

#### RM SHORTS COURSE

A	The Bloodless Implosion of East Germany in 1989	February 5-7
3	Negro League Baseball: History, Heroes, and Legends	February 5-8
5	Generations, Our Differences, and the Forces...	February 5-8
6	Understanding Arthritis	February 5-9
3	Good, Bad, or Benign?: Genetically Modified Foods	February 14-16
5	Solving Social Security	February 12-15

### 11:45 AM

#### RM SHORTS COURSE

3	Slavery and Units of the National Park Service	February 5-8
5	Four Paths of Yoga Philosophy	February 8-9
6	Expanding Your German Vocabulary	February 5-9
3	Cutting the Cord: Streaming Alternatives to Cable TV	February 15-16
5	Can We Talk...About Your Health Care Wishes?	February 14 and 16

### 1:45 PM

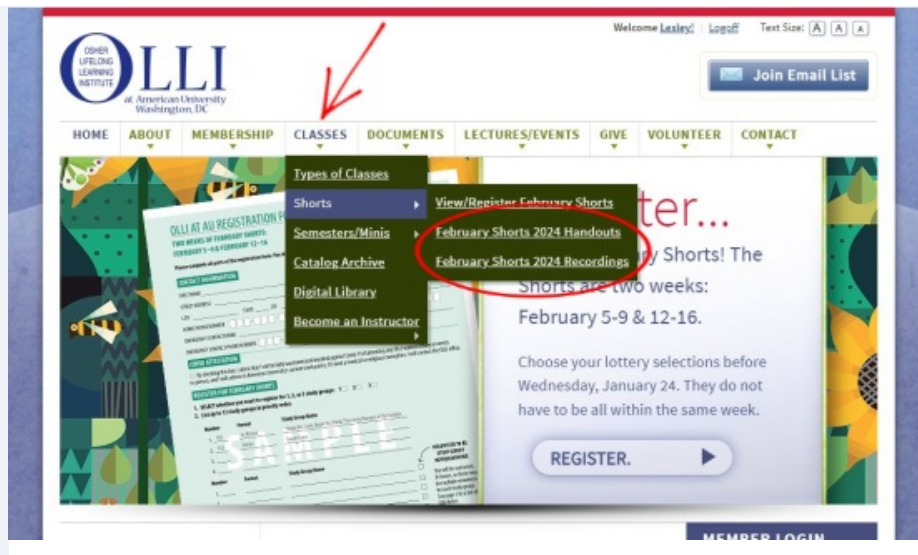
#### RM SHORTS COURSE

A	The Amazon Rainforest	February 5-8
1	Do Only the Rich Have Trusts?	February 5-6
3	Who Was the Real King Arthur?	February 5-8
4	What Do You Want To Tell Your Grandchildren...	February 5-8
5	The Ethics of Democracy	February 5-7
6	Biblical Narratives and Literary Theory	February 5-7
A	The Angkor Temples of Cambodia in the Modern Era	February 12-15
1	Winter Studio: Painting from References	February 12-14
3	Introduction to the Cloud	February 12-14

**Room A is on the first floor. All other classrooms and the OLLI office are on the 5th floor.**

#### ACCESS CLASS HANDOUTS & RECORDINGS

Most 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](#), as well as [February Shorts handouts](#), will be listed under "Classes," then "Shorts" on the OLLI website (see image below). **Spring recordings** will be listed under "Classes," then "Semesters/Minis." Each day's recordings during the Shorts are added the same day. 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 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, once 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.
- **685 *August Wilson's American Century Cycle*:** This study group will now meet on Fridays at 11:45 AM.
- **788 *Fateful Documents*:** This study group will now meet IN-PERSON.

## HELP US SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OLLI

Share OLLI with your friends and family. Now is the time to tell your friends and family, near and far, that we invite them to join the OLLI experience this February and spring. OLLI at American University is one of 125 OLLIs around the country. Each is unique in course content and delivery, but all are dedicated to lifelong learning in their communities. Whether your friends explore our program or an OLLI near them, they will be in for a treat by taking an OLLI class.

While you and your friends can register online, **we also have extra catalogs in the office.** Feel free to stop by and grab an extra one for a friend!

**VOLUNTEER**



### SGR COORDINATOR

Are you interested in volunteering with OLLI from the comfort of your own home? Become an SGR Coordinator for the spring semester! SGR Coordinators recruit Study Group Representatives (SGRs) for each class in a given academic session to ensure the classes run smoothly. Some Study Group Leaders select their own SGRs, but for the rest, SGR Coordinators are provided a list of members who have expressed interest in being SGR for each study group, or the attendance list if there are no volunteers. Coordinators then call members before classes start in order to find an SGR for each study group. For the upcoming academic sessions, SGR Coordinators will begin making calls after the lottery. This role operates on a continuous basis, so if you are unavailable for spring, but are interested in summer or fall, please let us know! Sign up online [https://www.oli-dc.org/get\\_involved](https://www.oli-dc.org/get_involved) (you must be logged into your account) or contact the office at [oli@american.edu](mailto:oli@american.edu) with any further questions.

## OLLI HAPPENINGS

### HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY, STANLEY!

Stanley Asrael celebrated his 100th birthday in January. Stanley started taking courses at the Institute for Learning in Retirement (OLLI's predecessor) 30 years ago and has been going strong ever since. He has taken countless courses in all our subject offerings, served on our Curriculum Committee for four years, acted as a Study Group Representative multiple times, and previously facilitated our Middle East Institute courses. Stanley has also been a very generous donor to the OLLI program.

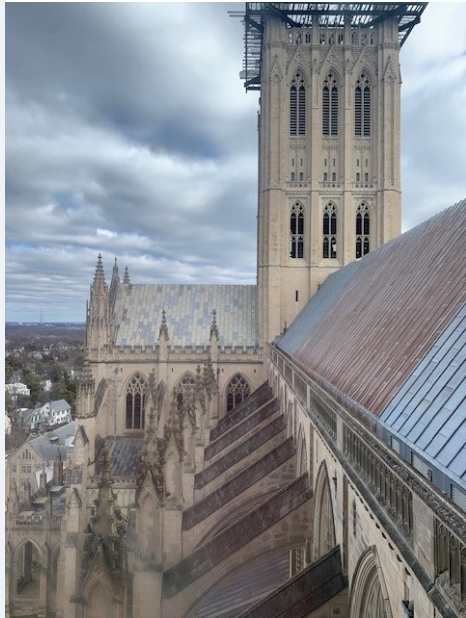
Stanley is the quintessential OLLI member—dedicated to learning, remaining curious, and being part of an engaged community. Stanley is a friend to many of us, and I, for one, will always be grateful for his friendship over these years. We wish Stanley the happiest of birthdays, and we are grateful to have him as part of our OLLI family.

Below is a picture of Stanley with Tina Fried Heller, ILR founder and OLLI member, and a link to remarks that Stanley gave at his 100th birthday celebration.

Tony Long

Executive Director





### CATHEDRAL TOUR

OLLI's first trip of 2024 was an amazing "Behind the Scenes" tour of Washington's National Cathedral. All who attended were inspired by the grand beauty, detailed artisanship, and the magnificent architectural feat in our nation's capital. Though it was a cold and windy day, that did not deter our members from eagerly taking in views atop the roof walkway around the naïve of the building. Check out OLLI's [Events Calendar](#) on our website for information about upcoming trips.

### 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](mailto:joeaoppenheimer@gmail.com)) and Chuck Jones ([cjones1860@gmail.com](mailto:cjones1860@gmail.com)). **Auditions will be held will be held on Tuesday, February 13 from 1:00 to 4:00 at 4801 Mass. Ave. in Room 1.** 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

### AU ARTS

#### Concerto and Aria Competition

**Saturday, February 3 at 6:00 PM | Sunday, February 4 at 3:00 PM**

**Free admission**

**Katzen Arts Center, Abramson Family Recital Hall**

AU musicians are tuning strings, oiling valves, and warming up their vocal cords 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.

#### Visiting Artists Series: Kendall Buster

**February 8 at 6:00 PM**

**Katzen Arts Center, Room 201**

[RSVP](#)

AU's Studio Art MFA program presents an artist talk with Kendall Buster in Katzen 201. Innovative sculptor Kendall Buster is widely known for the unusual merger of art and science in her practice. Trained as a microbiologist, Buster creates sculptures that have been described as "biological architecture," referencing the molecular world by recreating its shapes and forms on a monumental and microscopic scale.

#### *Holding Hands, Holding Space*

**Curated by Taylor Sizemore and Marie B Gauthiez**

**Opening reception: February 3, 12:00-2:00 PM**

**On view in the Katzen Arts Center Rotunda from January 26-March 2**

American University's Studio Art MFA program presents Holding Hands, Holding Space, a group exhibition curated by Taylor Sizemore and Marie B Gauthiez in the Katzen Arts Center Rotunda. This exhibition brings together sixteen artists; eight students from AU's Studio Art MFA Program and eight students from other local university MFA programs. [Learn more.](#)

#### **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*.

**Web:** [www.oli-dc.org](http://www.oli-dc.org) | **Phone:** 202-895-4860 | **E-mail:** [oli@american.edu](mailto:oli@american.edu)

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Lesley Diaz, *Director of Academic Programming*

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