

HELPFUL LINKS

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



Newsletter



Web: www.oli-dc.org | **Phone:** 202-895-4860 | **Email:** oli@american.edu

Location: 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20016

Mail: 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20016

February 21, 2024

Table of Contents

UPDATES

- 2025-26 Board of Directors Election
- OLLI's 2024 Annual Campaign

ACADEMIC

PROGRAMMING

- The Spring Lottery is Today!

- Spring Books

- New Member 10% Discount

- Spring Catalog Changes

- Teach a Summer Course!

LECTURES

- Spring Lecture Series

OLLI EVENTS

- Spring Wine & Cheese Welcomer

OTHER EVENTS

- Jane Austen's Britain

UPDATES

2025-26 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

This year's Nominating Committee (Mark Nadel, Chair; JoAnne Friedenthal; Larry Gondelman; Lesley Rubinger; and Lynn Lewis) have developed a list of four candidates to fill the four positions on the Board of Directors becoming vacant in June 2025. The Committee believes these candidates have amply demonstrated the skills, experience, background, and energy needed for OLLI at AU

leadership. The list, which the Board has approved, will appear on the ballot for the election that is scheduled for April.

Additionally, OLLI has a process by which any member may be nominated if a petition with at least ten signatures from active OLLI members is presented to the Nominating and Elections Committee. Once the Nominating and Elections Committee receives the completed petition, along with a brief bio of no more than 100 words, and a photo, it will consider and review such nominations for Board approval through March 7, 2025. Interested candidates should contact the OLLI office for the petition form and other details.

Please note that an asterisk by a candidate's name indicates they're a current Board member. The Board-approved candidates are:



Joe Belden

Joe Belden has taught OLLI study groups since 2017 and chaired the Lecture Committee since 2023. He has served on a number of nonprofit boards and writes regularly for *The Daily Yonder* and other publications. From 1989 to 2015 he was Deputy Executive Director of the Housing Assistance Council (www.ruralhome.org). He also worked at USDA, on Capitol Hill, and for other nonprofits. Belden is the lead author of books on affordable housing and food issues. He is a graduate of the University of Texas Austin and the Baylor University Law School.



Edward Feinberg

Ed Feinberg joined OLLI in 2017. He has been a member of the OLLI Nominating Committee and is currently serving on the Curriculum Committee and the strategic planning committee. Ed has taught the course, *Survivors and Descendants of the Holocaust: A Search for Meaning*, for the past four fall semesters. He was the founding director of what evolved into a large, multidisciplinary early intervention program that serves young children with disabilities and their families. A psychologist by training, Ed has served on many nonprofit boards and has been an adjunct instructor at George

Washington University and Johns Hopkins University. He is a docent at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.



Penny Hansen*

Penny Hansen has been a member of OLLI since 2011 and an ongoing study group leader since 2014. Her ever-evolving course, *Today's Supreme Court: A Class for Citizens*, has been presented 21 times. In 2021, she added a new class, *Populism and the Presidency* to her OLLI efforts, and now serves as co-chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. Prior to retirement, she had a 30-year career at the Environmental Protection Agency, implementing the country's first recycling, hazardous waste, Superfund, acid rain, and environmental technology verification programs. She was educated at Skidmore College, Johns Hopkins University, and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. Her post-EPA life focused on consulting on environmental issues domestically and around the world, along with other volunteer work. She is a proud fourth generation Washingtonian and a passionate believer in an educated citizenry.



Diana Jamieson*

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.

A big "thank you" to everyone who participated in OLLI's Annual Campaign thus far, but it is not over yet. We are happy to report that we met our fall match campaign that raised \$50,000 for OLLI, but we are still only at 66% of our goal of \$125,000. The campaign runs through the end of our fiscal year in June.

When you think about the courses, lectures, events, and new friends that you enjoy at OLLI, please consider a gift to support OLLI at AU if you haven't already done so this year.



ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

THE SPRING LOTTERY IS TODAY!

The spring semester lottery will occur at 10:00 AM today, **but there will still be time to register or add another class!** The spring semester is March 3-May 9. Courses meet for a varying length of time (see each study group for the number of weeks). The membership fee is \$330 and 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.

The deadline to add/drop classes and request a refund is March 14.

[MORE INFO/REGISTER](#)

SPRING BOOKS

Most spring semester 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 courses. Below is a list of spring semester books that are not available at Politics and Prose, are available only as pay-to-order, or are available but without discount.

NOT Available

581 Profile of the Eternal City - *Rome Profile of a City*

601 Le Français par la Littérature - *La Civilisation*

678 Experience Poems and Pictures - *Experience Poems and Pictures*

682 Contemporary Jewish Short Stories in Context - *Three Floors Up*

739 China's 20th-Century Revolutions - *Revolution and its Past*

806 Medical Qigong - *Healing Art of Qigong*

860 & 861 Plato's Tragedy, Comedy, and Epic - *Plato*

Pay-to-order (and no discount)

200 The Neuroscience of Conflict - *Making Peace with Conflict*

550 Expressionism: A German Destiny - *Concerning the Spiritual in Art*

589 American 20th-Century Furniture: What's Hot, What's Not - *Both Books on American furniture*

600 Intermediate Italian - *Gioielli Caffè E Firenze*

740 Japan's "Modern" Century - *Modern History of Japan*

No Discount

724 Manifest Destiny and US Territorial Expansion - *Manifest Destiny*

733 The Coming of the Civil War - *Free Soil Free Labor*

NEW MEMBER 10% DISCOUNT

Are you new to OLLI or thinking about coming back after taking a break? Use the button below to register for the spring semester. A 10% discount will be applied for those who are new or who have not taken classes in five or more years. Click "**Choose Lottery Selections**" and then log in or create an account. You will see the discount when paying for the semester.

NEW MEMBER DISCOUNT

SPRING CATALOG CHANGES

Below are spring 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.

113 *Shakespeare and Politics*: CANCELLED

201 *Theories of Consciousness*: CANCELLED

240 *Hearing Matters*: CANCELLED

476 *Practical Primary Care Medicine*: Will now meet for seven weeks

480 *The Ups and Downs of Weather*: CANCELLED

492 *The New Biology of Life*: CANCELLED

597 *Ballet to Broadway: The Influence of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo*: CANCELLED

599 *Color Theory and Practice*: Now starts Friday, March 21

675 Time's Winged Chariot: Poetry About Growing Up and Growing

Older: CANCELLED

707 The Fall of Napoleon Bonaparte: Part Two: No longer being recorded

725 Red Sea: Exploring the Waterway Uniting and Dividing Africa and the Middle East: will now start on Wednesday, March 12

755 The Holocaust in Film: CANCELLED



TEACH A SUMMER COURSE!

If you are passionate about a topic, we invite you to share your talents by leading an OLLI at AU course.

We are currently accepting June and July study group proposals from within the OLLI membership, the Washington, DC community, and thanks to Zoom, from those outside of the area, as well. With the shorter sessions, the summer is a great time to get started at OLLI and "dip your toe" in the teaching waters!

To propose a summer study group, please click one of the buttons below. You will need to log in with your OLLI username/password or create an account if it's your first time.

June Minis

June 2-27 (classes meet once a week for 4 weeks)

[PROPOSAL FORM](#)

July Shorts

July 7-11 (classes meet 2-5 times during one week)

[PROPOSAL FORM](#)

LECTURES

SPRING LECTURE SERIES

We are excited to announce the speakers for our upcoming spring lecture series! **Registration is required for in-person lectures. All spring lectures will be held in-person at OLLI (4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW) in room A on the first floor, except for the April 25 lecture, which will be in room 402 on the fourth floor.** The link to register will be included in the Friday newsletter the week prior to each lecture. Each registrant may reserve up to two seats. Your name(s) must be on the list of registrants to enter the lecture and you

must be in your seat five minutes before the lecture starts to guarantee your seat.



Debra Bruno, *New York's Enslaving Past—Memory and Historical Reckoning*

March 7 | 1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI: Room A

Debra Bruno is a longtime Washington journalist and teacher. She has worked at *Moment Magazine*, *Legal Times*, and *Roll Call*. From 2011-2014, she was a freelance writer in Beijing, covering subjects as diverse as rowing in a dragon boat for the *Washington Post*, and about Chinese hutongs for *Atlantic's CityLab*. After returning from China, she learned from a historian friend that if she had ancestors in New York's Hudson Valley, especially if they were Dutch, they were likely enslavers. She hadn't known about New York's 200 years of enslavement and was stunned to realize that her small hometown of Athens held so many hidden stories. That story is now a book—*A Hudson Valley Reckoning: Discovering the Forgotten History of Slaveholding in my Dutch American Family*.



Sunil Félix, *Nuclear Energy and Sustainable Development*

March 14 | 1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI: Room A

Since the first nuclear plant in the 1950s, the world has been divided on the use of nuclear power for energy. Using the case of France, Dr. Sunil Félix will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of nuclear energy and its contribution to sustainable growth of a country. Dr. Félix has been the Nuclear Counsellor at the French Embassy in Washington, DC since 2020, having previously served in the same position at the French Embassies in South Korea, India, and Japan. Following a PhD and post-doctoral studies in Mathematics, he joined the

French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA – France) in 1990. Since then, he has been working as a research engineer in the Structural Analysis field.



Undine Nash, *The Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress: Read It Like a Book*

March 21 | 1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI: Room A

Undine Nash is a volunteer docent at the Library of Congress where she provides tours of the Jefferson Building for the public and dignitaries, interpreting the architecture and symbolism of it both in English and German. During her professional career as a microbiologist, she taught at medical schools and acted as chief infection control officer of two university hospitals. She also worked as an editor for a scientific journal published by Elsevier.



Lance George, *Manufactured Homes: Affordable Housing Solution? ... Or Trap?*

March 28 | 1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI: Room A

Lance George is the Director of Research and Information at the Housing Assistance Council. With more than 20 years of experience, Lance leads the organization's research, data, and information efforts. He works at the intersection of housing, research, and data to help Americans who have quality and safe homes, understand and care about those who do not. Lance's research encompasses a wide array of issues and topics related to demographics and housing. *A displaced Kentuckian, who currently splits his time between Washington, DC and Minnesota, Lance embodies the adage, "Northern Charm and Southern Efficiency."*



Charles Trueheart, *Diplomats at War*

April 4 | 1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI: Room A

Charles Trueheart is the author of *Diplomats at War: Friendship and Betrayal on the Brink of the Vietnam Conflict* (University of Virginia Press), winner of the 2024 Douglas Dillon Award for the best book of the year on American diplomacy. He was director of the American Library in Paris from 2007 to 2017. Most of his earlier career was in journalism, including 15 years at the *Washington Post*, first covering book publishing and literary topics, then as a correspondent in Canada and France. Before joining the *Post*, Trueheart was associate director of the Institute of Politics at Harvard University and director of the Kennedy School of Government's Public Affairs Forum.



Liza Mundy, *The Sisterhood: The Secret History of Women at the CIA*

April 18 | 1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI: Room A

Liza Mundy is an award-winning journalist and the *New York Times*-bestselling author of five books, including her latest work, *The Sisterhood: The Secret History of Women at the CIA* (2023). *The Sisterhood* recounts the true story of the women espionage officers—tough, brilliant, resilient—who helped build the world's foremost spy agency. It received starred reviews from Booklist and Kirkus, which named it one of the most anticipated non-fiction titles of fall 2023. Her previous book, *Code Girls: The Untold Story of the American Women Code Breakers of World War II* (2017), tells another true story of women's contributions to American intelligence, recounting the lives and legacy of more than 10,000 women recruited to break Axis codes during World War II.



Terry Hartle, *American Colleges and Universities: Challenges on the Road Ahead*

April 25 | 1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI: Room 402

Terry W. Hartle was senior vice president of the American Council on Education's Government Relations and Public Affairs division from 1993 to 2023. At ACE he engaged federal policymakers on issues of student aid, government regulation, scientific research, and tax policy. Prior to joining ACE, he was education staff director for the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. He also worked at the American Enterprise Institute and the Educational Testing Service. Hartle has authored and co-authored numerous publications and contributes regular book reviews to The Christian Science Monitor. He is a member of Smith College's board of trustees.

We are pleased to welcome American University President Jonathan Alger, who will be introducing Terry Hartle at the start of the lecture.



Alexa Chopivsky, *A Generational Battle for our Shared Future: The Necessity to the West of a Free, Secure, and Prosperous Ukraine*

May 2 | 1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI: Room A

Alexa Chopivsky is the Executive Director of the Women's Foreign Policy Group. Previously, as the inaugural Executive Director of Ukraine House Davos, Ms. Chopivsky led the creation and elevation of Ukraine's country investment promotion platform alongside the World Economic Forum, both before and after the war. She serves as deputy Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board at Ukraine Invest and was an adviser to the Minister of Economic Development, Trade, and Agriculture of Ukraine. Since 2012, she has served as the Director

of the Program on the World Economy at the Aspen Institute.



Robert J. Lieber, *Is the US Still Indispensable?*

May 9 | 1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI: Room A

Robert J. Lieber is Professor Emeritus of Government and International Affairs at Georgetown University where he previously served as Chair of the Government Department and Interim Chair of Psychology. He is author or editor of 18 books on international relations and US foreign policy and has been an advisor to presidential campaigns, to the State Department, and to the drafters of US National Intelligence Estimates. His latest book is *Indispensable Nation: American Foreign Policy in a Turbulent World*, published in 2022 by Yale University Press. His other recent books include *Retreat and Its Consequences: American Foreign Policy and the Problem of World Order* (Cambridge University Press, 2016); and *Power and Willpower in the American Future: Why the United States Is Not Destined to Decline* (Cambridge, 2012).

OLLI EVENTS



SPRING WINE AND CHEESE WELCOMER

Wednesday, February 26 | 3:30-5:00 PM

Spring Valley Café, 6th Floor

\$15/person | Registration Required | No Refunds

OLLI Facilities Tour at 3:15 PM

Join us for an in-person spring semester wine and cheese welcome event! Various wines and hors d'oeuvres will be served. New to OLLI? A tour of the OLLI facilities will also be given at 3:15 PM on the fifth floor by the elevators.

Attendance is limited to the first 120 members that register. **The deadline for registration is today.**

[MORE INFO/REGISTER](#)

OTHER EVENTS

JANE AUSTEN'S BRITAIN

SGL Leslie Frantz is once again working with Discover Europe Ltd. on a tour of Jane Austen's Britain. If you are interested in learning more about this experience, please contact Leslie directly at lesliefrantz7@gmail.com.

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 | **Phone:** 202-895-4860 | **E-mail:** oli@american.edu

Location: 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW

Mail: 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW | Washington, DC 20016

Tony Long, Executive Director

Lesley Diaz, Director of Academic Programming

Lisa Olson, Director of Operations and Projects

Jesse Williams, Operations Manager

Amya Bertrand, Programs and Projects Coordinator

Annabel McClure, Administrative Coordinator

This email was sent to {{contact.EMAIL}}
You've received it because you've subscribed to our newsletter.

[View in browser](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Subscribe](#)