

HELPFUL LINKS

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Newsletter



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October 17, 2025

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UPDATES

SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT JESSE WILLIAMS

Many of you know and care deeply for our beloved OLLI staff member, Jesse Williams, who has been dealing with a personal health crisis recently. In fact,

Jesse is currently undergoing cancer treatment. In response to many people asking how they can help, Jesse's friends and family have created a private GoFundMe page to support him during this challenging time. The fund is not sponsored by OLLI but was established so that anyone who wishes to contribute or share words of encouragement may do so easily. Participation is, of course, entirely voluntary, but we wanted to make the link available for those who would like to help. Jesse has asked me to let everyone know that he misses his OLLI friends and looks forward to returning as soon as he's able.

Click here: [GoFundMe link](#)

Thank you,
Tony Long

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

PRELIMINARY FEEDBACK

The [preliminary feedback form](#) is available on the OLLI website under "Classes" and then "Semesters/Minis." As always, feedback is anonymous.

We encourage you to take a few minutes to provide feedback about each of your study groups after attending two class sessions. **If you have any suggestions for improvement, please be mindful of stating them in a constructive and respectful manner.**

Paper copies of the feedback form are also available in each class folder (just ask your SGR for one) as well as outside the OLLI office. If you choose to complete a paper form, please drop it off at the office when you're finished. Preliminary feedback will be accepted through **today, Friday, October 17.**

CALLING ALL FEBRUARY & SPRING PROPOSALS



We welcome proposals from both new and previous study group leaders! For more information about being an SGL at OLLI, please visit the [Become an Instructor](#) page on the website. If you or someone you know is interested in leading a study group for the first time and would like to speak with someone, please email olli@american.edu with your contact information and we will get in touch with you.

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

February Shorts

February 2-6

Classes meet 2-5 times during one week, either in-person or online.

PROPOSAL FORM

Spring Semester

March 2-May 8

Classes meet once a week for 7-10 weeks, either in-person or online.

PROPOSAL FORM

Proposal deadline for both: Sunday, November 23

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The [Fall 2025 Membership Directory](#) is now available on the OLLI website.

Members must be logged in to access the directory. Go to "Documents," and then



2025 FALL OLLI at AU MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Where Curiosity Never Retires

LECTURES

FALL LECTURE SERIES

Fall lectures are being held at OLLI: 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW, in Room A on the first floor.



TODAY'S LECTURE

David Boul, *The Art of Jack Boul*

October 17 | 1:30–2:30 PM

Room A

An accomplished television producer and former print journalist, David Boul has won seven Emmy Awards over the course of his career. Today, he devotes his energy to honoring and preserving the legacy of his father, Jack Boul, a beloved longtime art professor at American University. Jack Boul's work can be found in the National Gallery of Art, the Phillips Collection, the Smithsonian, the

Library of Congress, the Katzen Art Center, and numerous private collections. His powerful Holocaust series, originally exhibited at the Corcoran Museum, is now housed in the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust.

There is space remaining, so registration is encouraged, but not required.

REGISTER



NEXT WEEK'S LECTURE

Josh Silver, *The Community Reinvestment Act*

October 24

1:30–2:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI

Josh Silver is a consultant and Senior Fellow at the National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC), where he has worked for over 30 years to strengthen the Community Reinvestment Act, fair lending laws, and financial data transparency. He previously served as development manager at Manna, Inc., a nonprofit housing developer in Washington, DC, and as a research associate at the Urban Institute. Silver holds a master's degree in public affairs from the Lyndon B. Johnson School at the University of Texas at Austin and a bachelor's degree from Columbia University.

Silver's book, *Ending Redlining through a Community-Centered Reform of the Community*

Reinvestment Act will be available for purchase and signing immediately following the lecture.

[REGISTER](#)

OLLI EVENTS



HAPPY HOURS

A happy hour will take place each Friday after the lecture (about 2:30 PM) at Pizzeria Paradiso across the street from OLLI. There is space for up to 25 people. Each person pays their own way. Registration is encouraged, but not required.

[REGISTER](#)

SERENDIPITY TALK

Lauren Schwabish, *Cognitive Health in Aging: What's normal, what's not, and why lifelong learning habits matter*

Monday, October 20 | 3:30-5:00 PM

Online via Zoom

This webinar will explore normal age-related changes to thinking and memory, highlight which changes may signal concern, and share current research, practical insights, and actionable strategies to promote cognitive well-being throughout the aging process. Topics will include a review of brain structures and functions, an overview of cognitive domains from attention to executive function, an understanding of typical age-related changes, recognition of cognitive-communication shifts that may affect daily life, and practical strategies and brain-healthy behaviors to help sustain cognitive wellness throughout life.

Lauren Schwabish, MS, CCC-SLP, is the owner of Neuro Speech Services, a private practice in Northern Virginia specializing in person-centered care for cognitive-communication disorders related to stroke, brain injury, ADHD, and other neurologic conditions. She also consults with nonprofits such as Brain Injury Services and Can Do Multiple Sclerosis, and advises the National Aphasia Association's Parenting with Aphasia group. With more than 25 years of experience in hospitals and rehabilitation centers, Lauren is dedicated to making brain health education meaningful, accessible, and evidence-based for patients, families, and professionals.

No registration is required for Serendipities. The Zoom link will be e-mailed to all those subscribed to the OLLI newsletter the morning of each talk. If you do not receive the newsletter and would like to attend, please join the email list at https://www.ollie-dc.org/join_email_list.



NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM TOUR

LAST DAY TO REGISTER

Sunday, October 19

1:00-2:00 PM

**401 F Street NW | Registration
Required | Tickets \$10 per person**

Join us for a private, docent led tour of the historic home of the [National Building Museum](#) which was built between 1882 and 1887 for three distinct purposes: to house the headquarters of the U.S. Pension Bureau, to provide a suitably grand space for Washington's social and political functions, and to commemorate the service of those who fought on the side of the Union during the Civil War. It is an important early large-scale example of Renaissance Revival architecture, and was designated a [National Historic Landmark](#) in 1985. This

tour also includes access to all the current exhibits.

Today, Friday, October 17 is the last day to register.

REGISTER

FREE MINDS POETRY WRITE DAY

Thursday, November 6

1:30-3:00 PM

Location: OLLI's Social Space on the 5th floor

OLLI and the local nonprofit Free Minds Book Club & Writing Workshop are excited to co-sponsor our 7th "Free Minds Poetry Write Day." Workshops ceased during COVID and are now finally back. Jenny Pierson is coordinating this event.

Free Minds conducts literacy programs, including poetry classes, for incarcerated youth in DC. They will provide us with a packet of poems written by incarcerated young men for us to read and provide comments.

We are seeking a community of 20-25 OLLI members who will give the youth's poetry encouraging comments. Providing feedback on these poems is an enjoyable community activity and a great way to show these youth that others respect their work and appreciate their dedication. A few men who have participated in and benefited from this program will be with us to share their experiences in the program and express their appreciation.

If you have questions, please contact Jenny Pierson at piersonjen17@gmail.com or 202-248-8288.

REGISTER



DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR NEW DEAL PAINTED MURALS TOUR

Friday, November 14

9:45-11:00 AM

1849 C Street NW | Registration Required

Discover the art and architecture that made the Stewart Lee Udall Department of the Interior Building a “symbol of a new day” during the Great Depression.

There are almost 1,600 works of art, including two of Thomas Moran’s masterpieces of the American West. Designed by local architect Waddy Butler, the interior headquarters structure features more Public Works Administration (PWA) artwork than any other Federal building and has the second most PWA artists represented. This hour-long special tour of the New Deal era murals for OLLI members and guests will be conducted by Interior Department museum staff.

REGISTER

OLLI
Lunch Club 

OLLI LUNCH CLUB

12:15 PM

Millie's Restaurant | Registration Required

[Wednesday, October 22](#)

[Thursday, November 6](#)

[Monday, November 17](#)

The OLLI Lunch Club is holding several luncheons during the fall semester, each at 12:15 PM at Millie's Restaurant across the street from OLLI.

There is space for up to 12 people. Each person pays their own way. **Please register using the links above.**

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

AUTHOR AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Ralph Buglass, a current SGL and OLLI member, is the author of a newly published article, "A Daunting Mission: The Freedmen's Bureau in Montgomery County." It is the first article in what will be a series of publications for Montgomery History on the "Unfinished Revolution."

[Read here](#) for more details.

UNFINISHED REVOLUTION



A DAUNTING MISSION

The Freedmen's Bureau in Montgomery County

By Ralph Buglass

Ralph will also be featured as a keynote speaker for the general session at this year's annual Montgomery County History conference on November 8, 2025 at the Germantown campus of Montgomery College. [More info/register.](#)

ART EXHIBITION

Beverly Logan, a current SGL and OLLI member, is hosting an art exhibition at the Women's National Democratic Club. RSVP information is below.

YOU ARE INVITED TO AN ART EXHIBITION



TAXI, 2025, 17x22, Photo Collage

BEVERLY LOGAN: *RE-VISION*

November 7, 2025 - January 27, 2026

Opening Reception: November 7, 2025 6:30-8:00pm

RSVP: pfitzgerald@democraticwoman.org (202-232-7363)

Woman's National Democratic Club 1526 New Hampshire Avenue NW, DC

Gallery Hours: Monday - Friday, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Call 202-232-7363 to ensure gallery access.

MEDIA

OLLI PODCAST

Listen to episodes from OLLI at AU's podcast, [*Curiosity Never Retires*](#).

This series provides information about some of the wonderful courses and people at the heart of our OLLI at AU, while sparking curiosity and maybe a conversation or two. Each 13–15 minute episode features interviews with instructors about upcoming courses, offering prospective registrants insight into what the course will offer and an introduction to the instructor. At *CNR*, we believe there's never a good time to stop learning or laughing.

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of POLICY & POLITICS
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WOMEN'S
NETWORK

WOMEN & POLITICS INSTITUTE
SCHOOL of PUBLIC AFFAIRS

2025 Sine Institute Distinguished Lecturer



Amb. Brooke
ANDERSON

President, Pivotal Ventures

**"How to Build Lasting Impact
in a Complicated World"**

Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025 - 1 p.m. (EST)
Mary Graydon Center Room 305

[MORE INFO/REGISTER](#)

DISARMING GIRLS
by Sarah Caroline Billings and Kallen Prosterman

OCTOBER 16-26

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY'S
HAROLD AND SYLVIA GREENBERG THEATRE

Tickets at american.edu/arts



[MORE INFO/REGISTER](#)

AMBASSADORS UP-CLOSE

MOLDOVA'S FUTURE IN A CHANGING GLOBAL LANDSCAPE



Ambassador
Vladislav Kulminski

Ambassador
Kelly Keiderling

SIS Visiting Practitioner
Kelly Adams-Smith

AMBASSADORS UP-CLOSE: MOLDOVA'S FUTURE IN A CHANGING GLOBAL LANDSCAPE

Wednesday, October 22

4:00 - 5:00 PM

American University | School of International Service | Founders Room
4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW

[MORE INFO/REGISTER](#)

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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