

## HELPFUL LINKS

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



# Newsletter



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

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

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

## October 3, 2025

### Table of Contents

#### ACADEMIC

##### PROGRAMMING

- Fall Semester Information
- Classroom Assignments

##### LECTURES

- Today's Lecture: Refreshments Provided

- Next Week's Lecture

##### OLLI EVENTS

- Happy Hours
- Fall Wine & Cheese
- October 6 & 20 Serendipity Talks
- October & November Tours
- OLLI Lunch Club

#### MEDIA

- OLLI Podcast

##### AU EVENTS

- Dangers to Democracy
- Impact in a Complicated World

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING



## REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN!

There is still time to register for the fall semester or add another class! You can see the status of each (open or closed) on the OLLI website. The membership fee (\$330 for the semester) allows you to sign up for three courses before the lottery. Now that the lottery has passed, you can add a fourth study group by logging into your account.

**The deadline to add/drop classes or request a refund is October 10.**

**REGISTER**

## NEW MEMBER 10% DISCOUNT

Are you, or someone you know, new to OLLI or thinking about coming back after taking a break? Use the button below to register for the fall semester or share it with a friend. A 10% discount will be applied for those who are new or who have not taken classes in five or more years. On the main website, click "Register for Study Groups" and then log in or create an account. You will see the discount when paying for the session.

**FALL DISCOUNT**

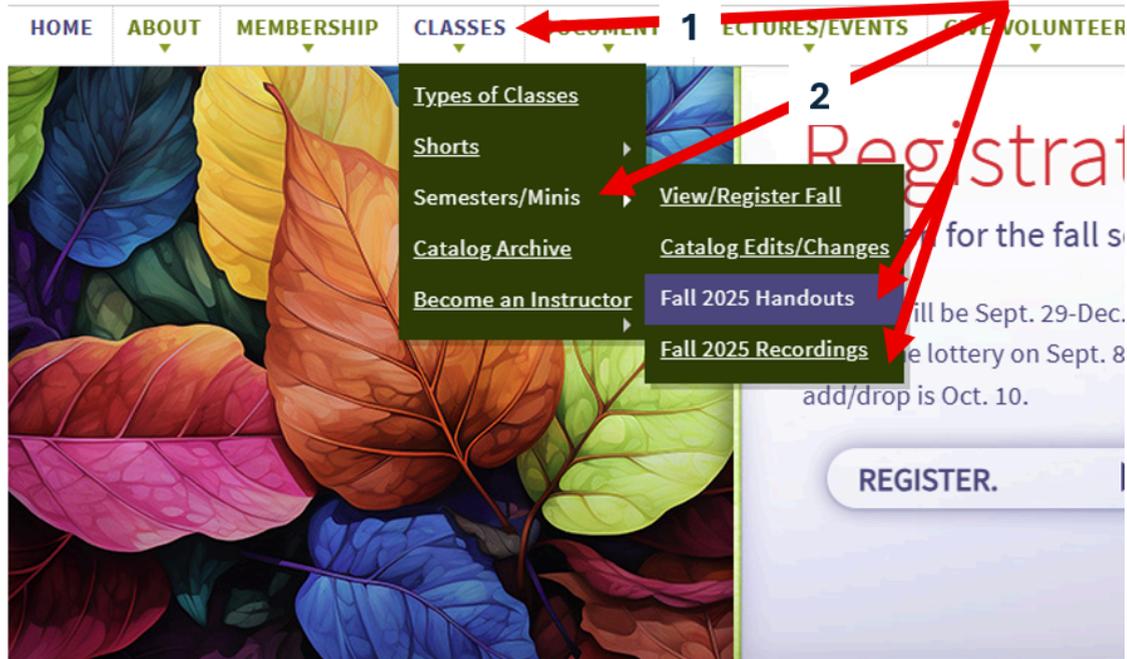
## FALL CATALOG CHANGES

Class changes are available on the [fall catalog changes](#) page of the OLLI website and are updated as they occur.

## CLASS HANDOUTS AND RECORDINGS

Most classes during the fall semester are being recorded. One of the benefits of taking classes during a particular session is access to all recordings for that session. [Fall recordings](#) and [fall handouts](#) are listed under "Classes," (1) then "Semesters/Minis" (2) (see image below). Each day's recordings during the semester are posted the following business day. You must first [log into](#)

[your member account](#) in order to view recordings and handouts. Both are available for viewing until two weeks past the end of the session.



## HEARING LOOPS

Most 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.

## CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Click on the image below to view classroom information. The room assignments will also be on signs in each elevator lobby of the parking garage, in the main lobby on the first floor, and as you walk out of the elevator on the 5th floor.

### 1st Floor

- Room A

### 4th Floor

- Room 402\*
- Room 414\*

### 5th Floor

- Rooms 1-6
- Room 545\*
- Social Space
- OLLI office

### 6th Floor

- Room 603\*

\*This room does not have hearing loops.

## OLLI FALL 2025 CLASS LOCATIONS

OLLI office: 5th Floor

<p><b>MONDAY 9:45 AM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> The Eastern Question  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> Favorite Operas  <b>5th fl/Rm 4</b> Meditation Class  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> Meso-America  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> Art of Communication</p> <p><b>MONDAY 11:45 AM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> O Canada!  <b>5th fl/Rm 1</b> Understanding Families  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> Understanding Medicare  <b>5th fl/Rm 4</b> Issues in Medical Ethics  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> Evolving Role of Federal Support and Regulation of Science and Technology</p> <p><b>MONDAY 1:45 PM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> Mozart  <b>5th fl/Rm 2</b> "Let's Get It Write!"  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> The Federal Reserve  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> Cartooning  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> Conversation en Français</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY 9:45 AM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> Wagner's <i>The Ring</i>  <b>5th fl/Rm 2</b> Poetry Craftshop (Section A)  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> The Founding Fathers  <b>6th fl/Rm 603</b> How Literature &amp; Drama Illuminate Politics &amp; Gov't</p> <p><b>TUESDAY 11:45 AM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> Food, Culture, Relationships  <b>4th fl/Rm 414</b> Science Fiction &amp; Fantasy Writing <sup>107</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 1</b> Science and Public Policy  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> Colonial and Federal Furniture  <b>5th fl/Rm 4</b> Take Better Travel Photos  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> Reading Greek  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> Latinoamérica y España</p> <p><b>TUESDAY 1:45 PM</b>  <b>5th fl/Rm 1</b> The Silent Clowns  <b>5th fl/Rm 2</b> The Poetry of T.S. Eliot  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> Dante's Inferno  <b>5th fl/Rm 4</b> Children's Book Workshop <sup>107</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> Today's Supreme Court  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> The Medieval Book  <b>5th fl/Rm 545</b> Current Events II</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY 9:45 AM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> Jazz From the Ground Up  <b>5th fl/Rm 4</b> Dive into Collage  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> Adapting to a Hotter World  <b>5th fl/Rm 545</b> Current Events I</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY 11:45 AM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> One Hit Wonders  <b>5th fl/Rm 2</b> Poetry Craftshop (Section B)  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> Conversation Avancée  <b>5th fl/Rm 4</b> Photographer's Eye (Intro)  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> Intermediate German  <b>5th fl/Rm 545</b> Off the Beaten Path in the DC Area</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY 1:45 PM</b>  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> Practicum on Productive Conflict Engagement  <b>5th fl/Rm 4</b> Latin for Developing Translators  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> Intermediate Italian  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> Sustainability and Negotiating Climate</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY 9:45 AM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> The Russian Short Story <sup>109</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 1</b> Making Choices  <b>5th fl/Rm 2</b> Qur'an and Modern Society <sup>109</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> Jerusalem and Washington <sup>109</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> Jewish History <sup>109</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> Nuclear Power <sup>109</sup></p> <p><b>THURSDAY 11:45 AM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> China's Early History  <b>4th fl/Rm 402</b> US Social Safety Net <sup>109</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> The Renaissance <sup>109</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 4</b> Photographic Vision <sup>109</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> The Bronte Sisters</p> <p><b>THURSDAY 1:45 PM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> Wisdom Matters  <b>5th fl/Rm 2</b> Low Intermediate Spanish  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> Does Europe Have a Future? <sup>109</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 4</b> Learning to Look at Ballet <sup>109</sup>  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> Japan's Early History  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> Mexico: From Its Struggle for Independence Through the Mexican Revolution <sup>109</sup></p>	<p><b>FRIDAY 9:45 AM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> Wandering the World  <b>5th fl/Rm 2</b> Collaborative Fiction Workshop  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> Plato's Academic Works  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> Medical Oigong  <b>6th fl/Rm 603</b> Essential Tech Literacy</p> <p><b>FRIDAY 11:45 AM</b>  <b>1st fl/Rm A</b> Film Analysis  <b>5th fl/Rm 1</b> Digital Storytelling Beginners  <b>5th fl/Rm 2</b> Beginning Spanish  <b>5th fl/Rm 3</b> The China Challenge  <b>5th fl/Rm 5</b> Aristotle's Metaphysics, Psychology, and Epistemology  <b>5th fl/Rm 6</b> Importance of Sports in the Struggle for Civil Rights</p>
				<p><b>LECTURES</b></p> <p>Lectures are on Fridays from 1:30–2:30 PM in-person, in Room A. Registration is required for in-person lectures.</p>

In accordance with AU's "Good Neighbor Policy," all members are required to park in the building's garage while attending OLLI.

## LECTURES

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

To kick off the semester series, refreshments will be provided prior to today's lecture! There is space remaining, so registration is encouraged, but

not required.



## **TODAY'S LECTURE**

### **Edwaard Liang and Elvi Moore, *The Washington Ballet: Past and Present***

**October 3 | 1:30–2:30 PM**

#### **Room A**

Edwaard Liang is a Taiwanese-born American dancer and choreographer who grew up in Marin County, California. He began dancing at the age of five and joined the School of American Ballet in 1989. Liang danced with the New York City Ballet starting in 1993 and was promoted to soloist in 1998. He briefly left in 2001 to perform on Broadway in *Fosse*, then returned from 2004 to 2007.

Elvi Moore is the former General Director of The Washington Ballet. She remained at the helm of The Washington Ballet for almost seventeen years. After retiring from the ballet, she founded The Laurel Fund which gave scholarships to young artists in dance, music and theater.

**REGISTER**



## NEXT WEEK'S LECTURE

**Philip Shenon, *From Pope Francis to Pope Leo: The Modern Papacy***

**October 10 | 1:30–2:30 PM**

### Room A

Philip Shenon is an award-winning investigative journalist and former New York Times reporter of more than 20 years. He is the author of three major books, including the bestsellers *A Cruel and Shocking Act: The Secret History of the Kennedy Assassination* and *The Commission: The Uncensored History of the 9/11 Investigation*.

Shenon's latest book, *Jesus Wept: Seven Popes and the Battle for the Soul of the Catholic Church* 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, at 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**

### **FALL WINE & CHEESE WELCOMER**

Thank you for making our Fall Wine and Cheese Welcomer this past Thursday a success! About 100 OLLI members, both old and new, came together for conversation, delicious food and beverages, and to create community. What a way to kick off the semester!



### **SERENDIPITY TALKS**

**Doug Stowell, *Where on Earth is the US? Are We in the Top 10?***

**Monday, October 6 | 3:30-5:00 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

How does the US compare in meeting the challenges that exist in 2025? We will examine some 24 topics including: GDP, wages, taxes, trade balance, tariffs, environment, energy, education, healthcare, climate change, immigration, safety, prosperity, etc. We will use the "Top 10" format which provides a quick "snap-shot" of the US rank relative to other nations. Our sources are international surveys by highly credible and impartial world-wide organizations.

*Doug Stowell is a consumer and political polling veteran in both U.S. and EU markets. His career includes Market Research Director for the Xerox Corp., US Clients Director for the UK firm NOP, Ltd. in London and Sr. Polling Executive - Wirthlin Worldwide in Washington, DC. He launched Market Resource Associates, in 2008 and conducts opinion research on global issues today. He is a member of the Furman University OLLI in Greenville, SC and conducts Zoom programs for more than 80 organizations world-wide.*

**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.ollidc.org/join\\_email\\_list](https://www.ollidc.org/join_email_list).



**US CAPITOL GROUNDS TOUR**

**Sunday, October 19**

**1:00-3:00 PM**

**68 First Street SE | Registration Required**

**Tickets \$25/person | No Refunds**

Originally a wooded river terrace, the [US Capitol Grounds](#) now provide a park-like setting for the nation's [Capitol Building](#), offering a picturesque counterpoint to the building's formal architecture. Join us on a unique and beautiful walk with **Steve Livengood**, Chief Guide

and Public Historian of the United States Capitol Historical Society, for a private tour of the US Capitol grounds, originally landscaped by Frederick Law Olmsted in 1874. It was named an accredited arboretum in 2017. Steve is also on the board of The Olmsted Network, the national umbrella organization for the Olmsted legacy.

**REGISTER**



## **DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR NEW DEAL PAINTED MURALS TOUR**

**Friday, November 14**

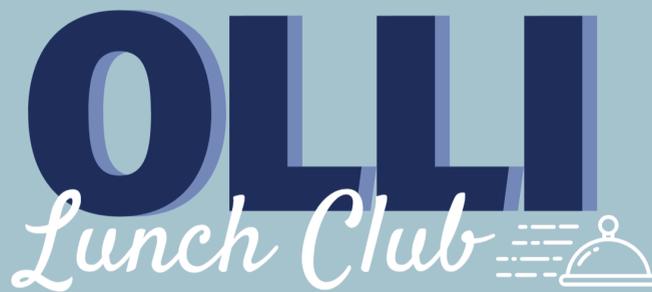
**9:45-11:00 AM**

**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

12:15 PM

Millie's Restaurant | Registration Required

[Tuesday, October 7](#)

[Wednesday, October 22](#)

[Thursday, November 6](#)

[Monday, November 17](#)

The OLLI Lunch Club will hold its first luncheon of the fall semester on Tuesday, October 7 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.**

## 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.



**Don Ross, [Plato & Aristotle](#)**

Don Ross received his bachelor's degree in philosophy from Wake Forest University in 1970, his master's from the University of Iowa in 1972, and his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1979. His publications include articles on ancient and medieval philosophy. He has also done work in Asian and modern European philosophy.

## AU EVENTS

CCPS PRESENTS:  
**THE THURBER  
DIALOGUES  
ON DEMOCRACY**

FEATURING FMR. SEN. RUSS FEINGOLD  
IN CONVERSATION WITH RON ELVING



**OCTOBER 7**  
6 - 7:30PM ET



**FOUNDERS ROOM**  
IN THE SCHOOL OF  
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

(PARKING AVAILABLE AT SIS OFF NEBRASKA AVE)

**RSVP  
HERE:**

**[american-spa.swoogo.com](https://american-spa.swoogo.com/Populists-Plutocrats-Dangers-to-Democracy)  
/Populists-Plutocrats  
-Dangers-to-Democracy**



**Russ Feingold**

*Former Democratic  
Senator from Wisconsin*



**Ron Elving**

*Editor,  
National Public Radio;  
SPA Executive in  
Residence Emeritus*

**MORE INFO/REGISTER**

## 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](#)

### 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:** [olli@american.edu](mailto:olli@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*

Annabel McClure, *Programs and Projects Coordinator*

Lauren Petrillo, *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](#)