

HELPFUL LINKS

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Newsletter



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February 27, 2026

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- International Woman's Day: Female Ambassadors to the US

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

SPRING REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN!

There is still time to register for the spring semester or add another class! You can see the status of each course (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 Friday, March 13.

[VIEW CLASSES/REGISTER](#)

SPRING BOOK LIST

Most spring semester books are available through Politics and Prose bookstore at 5015 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008. Politics and Prose offers OLLI members a 10% discount on books for courses. [Click here](#) for a list of spring semester books that are not available at Politics and Prose, or available, but without discount.

SPRING 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.

529: The Life and Music of Antonin Dvorak now starts March 10. It will meet for 8 weeks.

668: Fiction Writers' Bootcamp is CANCELLED.

689: Collaborative Fiction Workshop is CANCELLED

707: The Rise and Fall of Napoleon Bonaparte is CANCELLED

741: History of Atlantic Slavery is CANCELLED.

834: Mindfulness Meditation Intermediate level will now start Monday, March 9.

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 "**Register for Study Groups**" and then log in or create an account. You will see the discount when paying for the semester.

[NEW MEMBER DISCOUNT](#)



HEARING LOOPS

All of the OLLI classrooms have hearing loops installed, except for AU classrooms that may be used (see classroom assignments below).

"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
- Room 100*
- Room 165*

4th Floor

- Room 414*

5th Floor

- Rooms 1-6
- Room 519*
- Room 545*
- Social Space
- OLLI Office

6th Floor

• Room 602*

*This room does not have hearing loops.

OLLI SPRING 2026 CLASS LOCATIONS

OLLI office and Social Space: 5th Floor

MONDAY 9:45 AM 5th fl/Rm 4 Memoir Writing 5th fl/Rm 6 Meditation Class	TUESDAY 9:45 AM 1st fl/Rm A The Great Symphonies 4th fl/Rm 414 Reading Sanskrit 5th fl/Rm 2 Prehistoric Rock Art 5th fl/Rm 3 Did the 1920s Roar? 5th fl/Rm 4 Poetry Craftshop (A) 5th fl/Rm 6 Conflict Engagement 5th fl/Rm 5 Nuremberg	WEDNESDAY 9:45 AM 1st fl/Rm A The Human Brain 1st fl/Rm 100 Through a Jazz Lens 5th fl/Rm 3 Jewish Short Stories 5th fl/Rm 5 The Great French Songbook 5th fl/Rm 545 Current Events I	THURSDAY 9:45 AM 1st fl/Rm A Modern Fiction 5th fl/Rm 2 Family Narratives 5th fl/Rm 3 Nuclear Power 5th fl/Rm 4 Revolution & the Meaning of Liberty: Two Case Studies 5th fl/Rm 5 Agriculture & Food Supply	FRIDAY 9:45 AM 1st fl/Rm A Husserl and Heidegger 5th fl/Rm 3 Essential Tech Literacy 5th fl/Rm 4 Latin 5th fl/Rm 5 Medical Qigong 5th fl/Rm 6 Stakeholder Emphasis
MONDAY 11:45 AM 1st fl/Rm A Modernist Washington 5th fl/Rm 2 Understanding Medicare 5th fl/Rm 3 The Trojan War 5th fl/Rm 4 Understanding Families 5th fl/Rm 5 Les Dessous du Visible 5th fl/Rm 6 The American Revolution	TUESDAY 11:45 AM 1st fl/Rm A Assassinations! 5th fl/Rm 2 Victorian Furniture 5th fl/Rm 3 The Bronte Sisters 5th fl/Rm 5 Exploring the Aphorism	WEDNESDAY 11:45 AM 1st fl/Rm A The Great Guitarists of Rock 1st fl/Rm 165 Beginning Spanish, Part 2 5th fl/Rm 2 Photographer's Eye (A) 5th fl/Rm 3 Late Imperial China 5th fl/Rm 4 Poetry Craftshop (B) 5th fl/Rm 5 How to Live Healthier, Happier, and Longer in Retirement 5th fl/Rm 6 Conversation Avancée	THURSDAY 11:45 AM 1st fl/Rm A Founders of Washington DC's Iconic Art Museums 5th fl/Rm 2 The Printed Book 5th fl/Rm 3 Eugene Oregon 5th fl/Rm 4 Introductory Folk Guitar 5th fl/Rm 6 Intermediate German: Part II 6th fl/Rm 602 Psychology of Happiness	FRIDAY 11:45 AM 1st fl/Rm A Nonviolent Resistance 5th fl/Rm 2 Public Education 5th fl/Rm 3 Aristotle's Physics, Ethics, & Politics 5th fl/Rm 5 I Like to Be in America! 5th fl/Rm 519 Beginning Italian
MONDAY 1:45 PM 1st fl/Rm A Beethoven 5th fl/Rm 2 History of Rugs & Textiles 5th fl/Rm 3 The Poetry of T.S. Eliot 5th fl/Rm 6 Relationship Between Mathematics and Science 5th fl/Rm 5 The Age of Hitler & Stalin 5th fl/Rm 4 Cours de Lecture et Conversation en Français	TUESDAY 1:45 PM 1st fl/Rm A Asian Films IV 5th fl/Rm 3 Current Events II 5th fl/Rm 5 Today's Supreme Court 5th fl/Rm 545 1936-1954: Dynamic Years of Change	WEDNESDAY 1:45 PM 1st fl/Rm A The Jews of Spain 1st fl/Rm 100 We the Paranoid 5th fl/Rm 2 Intermediate Italian 5th fl/Rm 3 RNA 5th fl/Rm 5 Japan's "Modern" Century 5th fl/Rm 6 Washington's Soldiers	THURSDAY 1:45 PM 1st fl/Rm A Improving Brain Function 5th fl/Rm 3 Impact of World War I on Western Culture 5th fl/Rm 4 Photographer's Eye (B) 5th fl/Rm 5 Manifest Destiny 5th fl/Rm 6 Low Interim Spanish LAST	LECTURES Lectures are on Fridays from 1:30-2:30 PM in-person, in Room A. Registration is required for in-person lectures.

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

CLASS HANDOUTS AND RECORDINGS

Most classes during the spring semester are being recorded. One of the benefits of taking classes during a particular session is access to all recordings for that session. [Spring handouts](#) and [spring recordings](#) 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.

Welcome Lauren! | [Back to Superuser](#) | [Logout](#) | Text Size: [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)

[Join Email List](#)

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- Shorts
- Semesters/Minis**
- Catalog Archive
- Become an Instructor

- [View/Register Spring](#)
- [Catalog Edits/Changes](#)
- [Final Feedback Form](#)
- [Spring 2026 Handouts](#)
- [Spring 2026 Recordings](#)

REGISTER.



BE AN AMBASSADOR FOR OLLI!

Membership growth is an important part of keeping OLLI strong, and word of mouth is our most effective recruiting tool. As we get ready for the spring semester, the OLLI membership committee encourages members to tell their friends and neighbors all about OLLI! Encourage them to check out the OLLI website and listen to our podcast series, "[Curiosity Never Retires](#)," where they can learn about our wonderful courses and SGLs.

If you know of an apartment complex, village, or community group that might be interested in OLLI, please contact us or stop by the office. We will provide you with new spring flyers, catalogs, and other materials you can use to promote our program, or we can schedule an information session for your group!

LECTURES

SPRING LECTURE SERIES

Registration is required for in-person lectures. Registration will open at 10:00 AM on the Friday prior to the lecture. **Spring lectures will be held at OLLI:** 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW, in Room A on the first floor.



NEXT WEEK'S LECTURE

Jennifer Steele, *Resilience in the Age of Artificial Intelligence*

March 6

1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is no longer a "future" scenario—it is unfolding in real time, raising urgent questions

about the place of humans in the age of automation. Dr. Jennifer L. Steele, a professor in American University's School of Education and affiliate faculty in Public Administration and Policy, will explain what we mean by "AI," what makes it different from other kinds of machines, and how it is reshaping the modern economy. Drawing on her research on educational opportunity, school-to-workforce transitions, and the labor market effects of AI—as well as her experience as a former RAND policy researcher and K–12 teacher—she will also discuss the skills we can strengthen as thinkers, mentors, and citizens to remain resilient in a rapidly shifting world.

[REGISTER](#)

OLLI EVENTS

SPRING 2026 WINE AND CHEESE WELCOMER

Thank you for making our Spring Wine and Cheese Welcomer yesterday a success! About 90 OLLI members, both old and new, came together to create community, conversation, and enjoy delicious food and beverages.

A special thank you to Jeff Porter and the social committee for all of their hard work and efforts. What a way to kick off the semester!



SERENDIPITY TALK

Robert S. Olick, *Rules for Dying 50 Years After Quinlan: Putting Patients and Families First*

Monday, March 9 | 3:30-5:00 PM

Online via Zoom | No Registration Required

Today we take for granted the right to refuse unwanted medical treatment and to create advance directives at the end of life. Yet that right was first recognized just 50 years ago in the landmark case of Karen Ann Quinlan, when the New Jersey Supreme Court affirmed that patients—and their families acting on their behalf—may refuse life-sustaining treatment. This talk begins with Quinlan's story and traces how its principles shaped national law and policy, establishing today's end-of-life consensus. It concludes with an examination of the current

status, future prospects, and ongoing challenges surrounding the right to choose the time and manner of one's death.

[View more info.](#)

No registration is required for Serendipities. The Zoom link will be emailed 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.



**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON
MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL
TOUR (RESCHEDULED)**

Saturday, March 21

10:45 AM-12:00 PM

\$15/Person | No Refunds

Registration Required

Discover the [George Washington Masonic National Memorial](#), rising 333 feet above Alexandria on Shuter's Hill! Built starting in 1922, this striking granite landmark was funded entirely by citizens across the country and even laid with the same ceremonial trowel Washington used at the U.S. Capitol in 1793—a real connection to history you can almost feel.

This private guided tour begins in the Memorial Hall, followed by the Replica Lodge Room, and concluding on the Observation Deck.

This tour requires a minimum of 10 registrants to take place.

REGISTER

DOI AND WAMU TOUR

OLLI members had a great time visiting the Department of Interior New Deal Painted Murals and WAMU American University Radio station. Thank you to OLLI's tour coordinator, Elena Vejarano for guiding another spectacular set of tours!



OLLI

Lunch Club

OLLI LUNCH CLUB

12:00 PM

Millie's Restaurant | Registration Required

[Monday, March 9](#)

[Tuesday, March 24](#)

[Wednesday, April 8](#)

[Thursday, April 23](#)

The OLLI Lunch Club will hold its first luncheon of the fall semester on Monday, March 9 at 12:00 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.**

OLLI CONCERT SERIES: RITUALS

April 1, 2026

4:00-6:00 PM

Katzen Arts Center in Abramson Recital Hall

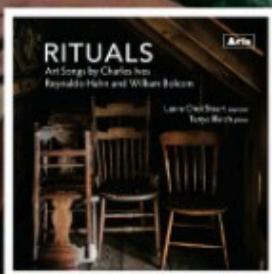
4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW

Registration Required; Light refreshments following performance

Soprano Laura Choi Stuart and pianist Tanya Blaich present a recital and discussion featuring the art songs of three contrasting composers: Charles Ives' American experience of community and family, ancient rituals and passions of Reynaldo Hahn's *Études latines*, and the intimate domestic rituals of William Bolcom's vivid miniatures in *Briefly It Enters*. RITUALS is a full recital program shaped into an album-length narrative—song as ritual: memory repeated, language tasted...life, love, and death revealed in a few concentrated minutes.

ART SONGS by Charles Ives,
Reynaldo Hahn,
& William Bolcom

Laura Choi Stuart, SOPRANO
Tanya Blaich, PIANO



OLLI CONCERT SERIES
RITUALS

APR 01 | 4 PM | FREE
Registration
Required

Abramson
Recital Hall
KATZEN ARTS
CENTER

4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW | Parking \$2/hr

[MORE INFO/REGISTER](#)

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.



David Hensler, *Modernist Washington*

David Hensler is a trial lawyer who has studied modernist architecture for over 30 years. He has taught two prior courses at OLLI on Modernism (2024) and Art Deco Architecture in Washington (2025). He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Mies van der Rohe Society. He has also served as an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University Law Center.

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Hornytown Chutzpah
March Book
Signings & Readings

March 17, 2026
Presale orders available now

The book cover features a dark, textured background with various vegetables like onions and peppers. A large yellow emoji with wide eyes and an open mouth is prominent in the center. The title 'Hornytown Chutzpah' is at the top in a bold, yellow font.

Hornytown Chutzpah

Andrew Hiller

March 4 @5pm
AWP Conference
Top of the World
Baltimore World Trade Center
Reading

March 17th from 11 am - 2pm
Parkway Deli, Silver Spring
Signing

March 18th from 11am - 2pm
Mikey & Mel's Diner, Fulton, MD
Signing

March 19 5:30
Connie Morella Library, Bethesda, MD
Book Talk

March 28th at 6:30
Mojomala Books, Silver Spring
Reading

The graphic includes a cartoon character on the left and a woman on the right, both related to the book's theme. The background is a light yellow color.

MARCH BOOK TOUR

Andrew Hiller, an OLLI at AU member and SGL will be hosting a tour this March, featuring his upcoming book, *Hornytown Chutzpah*. [Click here](#) for more information or to preorder the book. Andrew will also be giving a Serendipity Talk on March 23 related to his book, publishing, and work with The Muppets.

AU EVENTS



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION featuring Female Ambassadors to the U.S.



H.E. Ambassador
Catalina
Crespo-Sancho
of Costa Rica



H.E. Ambassador
Mathilde
Mukantabana
of Rwanda



H.E. Ambassador
Dina Kawar
of Jordan



H.E. Ambassador
Svanhildur Hólm
Valsdóttir
of Iceland



Kelly Adams-Smith
Adjunct Professorial
Lecturer, SIS
Former Diplomat, U.S.
Senior Foreign Service



Betsy Fischer Martin
Executive Director,
Women & Politics Institute

Wednesday, March 4 | 10:30 AM | SIS Founders Room, American University



[TICKETS](#)

[ZOOM LINK](#)

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

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Lesley Diaz, *Director of Academic Programming*
Lisa Olson, *Director of Operations and Projects*
Jesse Williams, *Operations Manager*
Annabel McClure, *Programs and Projects Coordinator*
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