

HELPFUL LINKS

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Newsletter



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January 30, 2026

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UPDATES

OLLI WEATHER POLICY

We follow American University's weather policy. If AU is closed, OLLI's online and hybrid classes will be held as scheduled (hybrid classes will be online only). In-person classes will be moved online, if possible. Members will receive

an email with the status of their classes for the day, and Zoom links as applicable. We will work with in-person SGLs regarding makeup sessions for any class that can't move online. *If AU has a delayed opening, all OLLI classes will still be held at their originally scheduled times.*

VOLUNTEER

SUMMER CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

OLLI's Summer Curriculum Committee is looking for an OLLI member with an interest in helping recruit new and previous Study Group Leaders (instructors) for the June Minis and July Shorts.

The Summer Curriculum Committee, just as our regular standing Curriculum Committee, is responsible for OLLI's core mission of providing members with the highest caliber of courses. Committee members actively seek out new Study Group Leaders and solicit proposals from previous ones. They acknowledge receipt of summer study group proposals, offer any suggestions of improvement/edits, and communicate with and support Study Group Leaders to ensure a successful experience.

Committee members attend two meetings, one in early February and one in March, and work from home from February-April. Members preferably have interest and/or experience in at least one of the subject areas.

An orientation is provided for new committee members. If you're interested in being considered for this volunteer role, or have any questions, please e-mail olli@american.edu.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

FEBRUARY SHORTS: LAST DAY TO REGISTER

The February Shorts start next week and will be held for two weeks: **February 2-6 and 9-13**. 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, January 30.**

[VIEW CLASSES AND REGISTER](#)

FEBRUARY BOOK LIST

Most February shorts 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. Below is a list of February Shorts books that are not available at Politics and Prose, or available, but without discount.

Not Available

9600 *Ein Sommer in Heilderberg*

No Discount

9791 *ENDURANCE - A Parallel History of the American Experience in Vietnam*

Prepayment Order and Not Returnable

9793 *To Save a City: 1948-1949, Roger Miller*

FEBRUARY 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 401*

5th Floor

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

6th Floor

- Room 602*

**This room does not have hearing loops.*

2026 FEBRUARY SHORTS ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

9:45 AM

LOCATION	COURSE	DATES
1st fl/Rm A	The Fall of the Berlin Wall & German Unification	February 2-6
5th fl/Rm 4	Three-Dimensional Collage: Book Arts Workshop	February 2, 4 & 6
5th fl/Rm 6	The Enduring Appeal of Antique Engravings	February 5-6
5th fl/Rm 545	Perspectives on Congress	February 2-5
1st fl/Rm A	Shall I Stay or Shall I Go?	February 12-13
5th fl/Rm 3	Your Taxes After the One Big Beautiful Bill Act	February 9-12

11:45 AM

LOCATION	COURSE	DATES
1st fl/Rm A	The Chatbot Revolution	February 2-6
5th fl/Rm 2	Vietnam: Echoes and Answers	February 2-5
5th fl/Rm 3	Sharpen Your Creative Thinking	February 2-3 & 5-6
5th fl/Rm 5	Reflections on Wealth	February 2-4
5th fl/Rm 5	Visual Fitness 4 All® Workouts	February 5-6
5th fl/Rm 6	Was Gibt's Mit Nico?	February 2-6
6th fl/Rm 602	Classic Supreme Court Cases	February 2-6
1st fl/Rm A	Commemorating the Nation's Founding	February 9-12
5th fl/Rm 2	Screening for Cancer: More Harm Than Good	February 9-11
5th fl/Rm 3	Race, Trauma, Home in the Novels of Toni Morrison	February 9-13
5th fl/Rm 6	Creating a Local Healthy Ecosystem	February 9-10
6th fl/Rm 602	Russia and China's Contentious Cooperation	February 9-13

1:45 PM

LOCATION	COURSE	DATES
1st fl/Rm A	Theodore Roosevelt in the Badlands: 1883-1887	February 2-5
5th fl/Rm 3	All About Mah Jongg	February 2-4
5th fl/Rm 5	Case Studies in Ethical Decision Making	February 2-5
5th fl/Rm 6	Do Only the Rich Have Trusts?	February 2-3
5th fl/Rm 6	Learning American Sign Language	February 5-6
1st fl/Rm A	A User's Guide to Brain and Heart Health	February 9-12
4th fl/Rm 401	A Wicked War? US-Mexico Conflict 1846-1848	February 9-12
5th fl/Rm 3	Thailand Deciphered	February 9-12
5th fl/Rm 5	Anxious About Our Country, the World?	February 9-12

The OLLI office & Social Space are on the 5th floor.

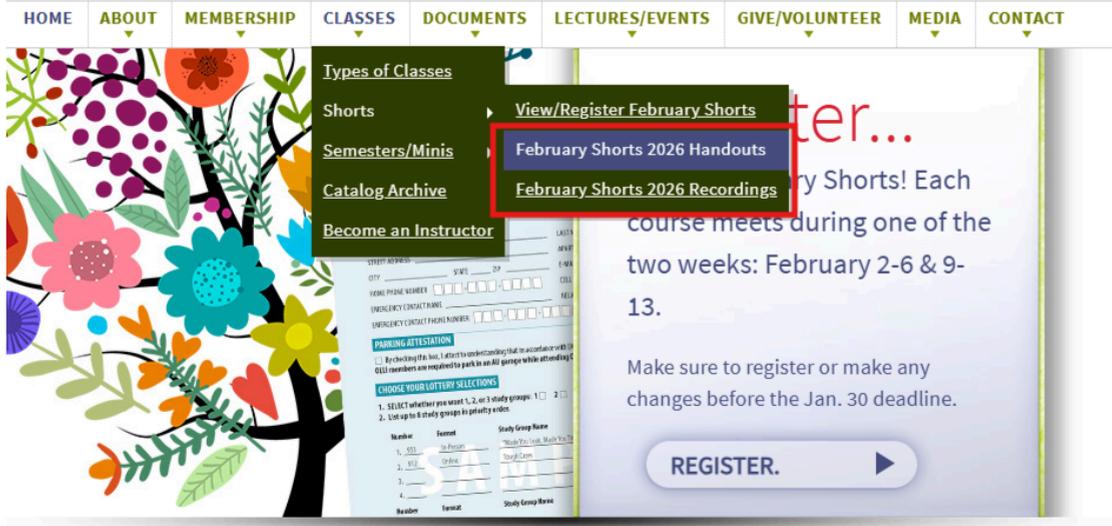


HEARING LOOPS

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.

CLASS RECORDINGS AND HANDOUTS

Most classes during the February Shorts are being 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). February Shorts recordings are added each afternoon. **You must first [log into your member account](#) in order to view the recordings and handouts.** Recordings are available for viewing up until two weeks past the end of each session.



SPRING SEMESTER: REGISTRATION IS OPEN

The spring semester is March 2-May 8. Courses meet for a varying 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.

Make sure to register before the spring lottery on Wednesday, February 18.

[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 [February & spring catalog changes](#) page.

February Shorts:

9620: Experience Poems and Pictures is CANCELLED.

Spring:

707: The Rise and Fall of Napoleon Bonaparte (In-Person) is CANCELLED

741: History of Atlantic Slavery has been added to the spring. View details/register [here](#).

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 "**Choose Lottery Selections**" and then log in or create an account. You will see the discount when paying for the semester.

NEW MEMBER DISCOUNT

OLLI AT CMU SPRING CLASS

We are excited to continue our joint program with the OLLI at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. Jeffrey Swoger's "A Night at the Movies" course from CMU will be available to OLLI members from American University. Members interested in the course will register through OLLI at AU, at no additional cost, as part of the typical spring semester registration process.

595: A Night at the Movies: The Films of Robert Altman

Jeffrey Swoger

6 Tuesdays (3:15-4:15 PM)

March 10

Online

[View more info.](#)

LECTURES

Reservations are not required for online lectures. We will send the Zoom link the morning of each lecture to those subscribed to the newsletter.



TODAY'S LECTURE

Bob Friedman, *Creating Wealth: Closing the Racial Wealth Divide*

Friday, January 30

11:00 AM-12:00 PM

[Join Zoom](#)

Robert E. Friedman is a leading advocate for closing the racial wealth divide and expanding economic opportunity. A fourth-generation

Californian and graduate of Harvard College and Yale Law School, he founded and helped lead Prosperity Now, a national nonprofit advancing economic participation for all. Friedman pioneered key asset-building strategies, including Individual and Child Development Accounts and Baby Bonds, helping shape US and global enterprise development fields. He is the author of *A Few Thousand Dollars* and serves on the boards of the San Francisco and Rosenberg Foundations and the California HOPE Accounts Board.

OLLI EVENTS

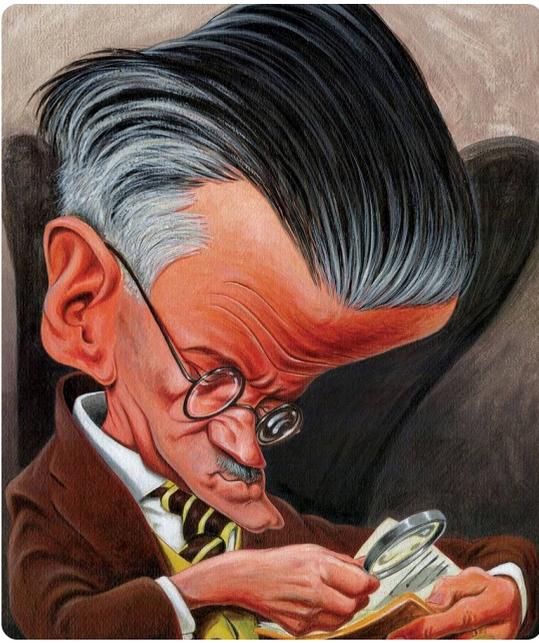
WINTER/SPRING 2026 MUSIC-THEATRE GROUP

Registration Deadline: Sunday, February 1

\$285/person for 5 performances

Join the Alliance for New Music-Theatre in the winter/spring 2026 season of the "Live and About" series. This curated subscription series includes [five performances](#) occurring once per month at various theatres around the DMV. Register below to join this upcoming season.

[MORE INFO/REGISTER](#)



JAMES JOYCE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

POSTPONED to Wednesday,
February 18

3:30-5:15 PM | Room A

We will celebrate James Joyce's birthday with a reading from *Ulysses*, a film showing, and a party starting at 3:30 PM. **The program is free, but registration is required to facilitate planning.** More information/resources at event website: [James Joyce Birthday Party 2026](#)

[MORE INFO/REGISTER](#)

DISCUSSION OF BOTH CURRENT DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN ISSUES

Tuesday, February 3 | 1:45-3:15 PM

Wednesday, February 4 | 9:30-11:00 AM

Registration Required

Jeff Porter and David Callet will host an extra current events discussion surrounding topics of current domestic and foreign issues. These groups are open to all OLLI members, but space is limited. Refreshments will be supplied by OLLI board member and Social Committee Chair, Jeff Porter. **Please register for only one of the two sessions.**

[REGISTER FOR FEB 3](#)

[REGISTER FOR FEB 4](#)

SERENDIPITY TALK

Michael W. Farrell, *Thomas Mann at 150: How His Antinomies Still Enliven His Characters*

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

Online via Zoom | No Registration Required

In this talk on the recent occasion of Thomas Mann's 150th birthday, we examine how antinomies – dualisms or antagonisms – still enliven his main characters: Hans Castorp in *The Magic Mountain*, Gustav von Aschenbach in

Death in Venice, Thomas Buddenbrooks in *Buddenbrooks*, and the composer Adrian Leverkuhn in *Doctor Faustus*.

[View more info.](#)

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.oli-dc.org/join_email_list.

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

ART EXHIBITION: EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER

Due to icy weather conditions, Saturday's opening at Studio Gallery has been **rescheduled to February 14.**

Beverly Logan, a current SGL and OLLI member, is hosting an art exhibition from February 14-February 21.

YOU ARE INVITED TO AN ART EXHIBITION



BEVERLY LOGAN: "EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER"

February 6 - February 21, 2026

Opening Reception: February 14: 4pm-6pm

First Friday: February 6: 6pm-8pm

**Studio Gallery
2108 R Street
Washington, DC 20008**

**Gallery Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 1pm-6pm
Saturday 11am - 6pm**

AU EVENTS

BOOK LAUNCH

RUNAWAY CAPITALISM

BY PROF. JAMES H. MITTELMAN

Monday, February 9
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.



SCHOOL of INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
OFFICE OF RESEARCH

James
Mittelman



Maria De Jesus



Julie Radomski



Yang Zhang



Patricia
Aufderheide



Clarence Lusane

REGISTER

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

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*

Andrew Smith, *Operations Assistant*

Lauren Petrillo, *Administrative Coordinator*

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