

HELPFUL LINKS

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Newsletter



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May 1, 2026

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ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING



SUMMER REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

The June Minis and July Shorts registrations are OPEN! Our study group leaders and Summer Curriculum Committee have outdone themselves to bring you an exciting set of 32 June Minis and 23 July Shorts. Click the applicable button below to register!

June Minis (June 1-26)

June Minis meet once a week for four weeks, either in-person or online. Members can select up to three courses before the lottery for \$100. After the lottery, members can add a fourth class. **The June Minis lottery will be held on May 20.**

[REGISTER](#)

July Shorts (July 6-10)

July Shorts meet 2-5 times during one week, either in-person or online. Members can select up to three courses before the lottery for \$100. After the lottery, members can add however many classes fit in their schedule. **The July Shorts Lottery will be held on June 24.**

[REGISTER](#)

NEW MEMBER 10% DISCOUNT

Are you new to OLLI or thinking about coming back after taking a break? Use one of the buttons below to register for either summer session. 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.

[JUNE MINIS DISCOUNT](#)

[JULY SHORTS DISCOUNT](#)

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 June, July, and fall registration, 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. Another way to spread the word is wearing the OLLI jacket; you would be surprised how many people ask you about OLLI. If you know of an apartment complex, village, or community group that might be interested in OLLI, please contact the office. We will provide you with materials you can use to promote our program!

SPRING FINAL FEEDBACK & SGL GIFTS

Spring Final Feedback

The spring [final feedback form](#) is now available on the OLLI website under "Classes" and then "Semesters/Minis." As always, feedback is anonymous. If you have suggestions for improvement, please be mindful of stating them in a constructive and respectful manner.

In an effort to increase response rate, paper copies of the feedback form were distributed by the SGR of each in-person class last week. Paper copies are still available to be picked up outside the OLLI office and dropped off at the office when you're finished.

Final feedback will be accepted through Friday, May 15.

SGL Gifts

All of OLLI's study group leaders are volunteers. Each academic session, members are invited to give them a gift in honor of all of the work they do to prepare and deliver their courses. This is completely voluntary.

[SGL gifts](#) can be made on the OLLI website under "Give" and then "SGL Gifts." **You must log into your account on the website to see the gift form.** SGL gifts can also be made by mailing or dropping off a check made payable to **OLLI at AU** with the course number(s) listed in the memo field. The OLLI office will write and mail a check to each SGL.

SGL Gifts will be accepted through Friday, May 15.

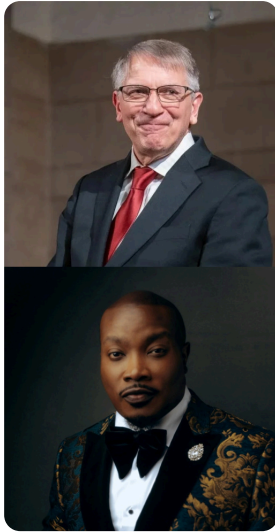
FALL PROPOSALS

OLLI is currently accepting [study group proposals](#) for the fall. The fall semester will be **September 28-December 4** and classes meet for 7-10 weeks. **The submission deadline is Sunday, May 3.**

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. Visit the [Spring 2026 Lectures](#) page for a full list of this semester's lectures.



TODAY'S LECTURE

Scott Tucker and Theodore Thorpe III, *Sacred Music in the Western Classical and African-American Traditions*

May 1

1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI

Theodore Thorpe III is a dynamic force in Washington's music community—conductor, vocalist, pianist, organist, composer, arranger, and choral master. He has appeared as artistic director, conductor, and soloist at venues such as the Carnegie Hall and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Scott Tucker is an accomplished choral conductor known for preparing choruses for leading orchestras and conductors worldwide. As Artistic Director of the Choral Arts Society of Washington (2012–2022), he led more than two dozen collaborations with the National Symphony Orchestra at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, earning critical acclaim, including for Britten's War Requiem.

REGISTER



NEXT WEEK'S LECTURE

**Marian Flaxman, *Food as Medicine*
—the Microbiome and How it
Impacts All Aspects of Our Well-
Being**

May 8

1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI

Marian Flaxman is the Communications and Advocacy Lead and host of *Conversations from the Precision Nutrition Kitchen* at the [Cornell Joan Klein Jacobs Center for Precision Nutrition and Health](#). Inspired by her childhood experience with obesity and her daughter's severe food allergies, she has dedicated nearly two decades to advancing nutrition and health policy.

REGISTER

MAY LECTURES

The two upcoming end-of-May lectures will be held at OLLI: 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW, in Room A on the first floor. They are on **Wednesday, May 27 and Friday, May 29 from 1:30-2:30 PM.**

Lectures are **free and open to the public, but registration is required.** You must have an OLLI account to register. If you do not have one, you can create an account when going to register. Each registrant may reserve up to two seats. Your name 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.



MAY 27 LECTURE

David Stewart, *The Democracy We Must Keep: Seven Founders, Nine Documents, and the Ideas That Shaped America*

Wednesday, May 27

1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI

After many years as a trial and appellate lawyer, David O. Stewart has published eleven award-winning and best-selling books of history and historical novels. In 2023, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the *Washington Independent Review of Books*. His most recent fictional series, *the Overstreet Saga*, is inspired by family stories his mother told. He lives in Maryland with the light of his life, Nancy Floreen; they have three children and six grandchildren.

Stewart's new book, *The Democracy We Must Keep: Seven Founders, Nine Documents, and the Ideas That Shaped America* will be available for purchase and signing immediately following the lecture.

REGISTER



MAY 29 LECTURE

Robert Greenstein, Poverty and the U.S. Safety Net Over the Past Half-Century and Where to Go from Here

Friday, May 29

1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI

Robert Greenstein founded and led the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities for 40 years, focusing on federal fiscal policy and programs for people with low and moderate incomes. He is now a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Institution's Hamilton Project. He previously served as Administrator of the Food and Nutrition Service at the US Department of Agriculture under President Carter, where he oversaw federal food assistance programs and helped design the Food Stamp Act of 1977. He also served on a bipartisan federal commission and led the budget team for President Obama's transition. A MacArthur Fellow, Greenstein has received numerous national awards for his policy work. He is a graduate of Harvard College.

REGISTER

OLLI EVENTS



HAPPY HOUR

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](#)



TOUR: OLMSTED'S VISION FOR THE U.S. CAPITOL GROUNDS: A LANDSCAPE OF DEMOCRACY

Saturday, May 9

12:45 PM-3:00 PM

Registration Required

Tickets \$25/person | No Refunds

Join us as we step into a living documentary of American landscape design where Steve Livengood, Chief Guide and Public Historian of the U.S. Capitol Historic Society and a board member of the Olmsted Network, guides us on a tour of the U.S. Capitol grounds.

[REGISTER](#)



Share Your Favorite
BOOK TITLES
with OLLI at AU

LOOKING FOR A GOOD BOOK TO READ?

If you are missing the Washington Post Book Review or just can't commit to a monthly book club, think about attending one of OLLI at AU's "Sharing Your Favorite Book Titles" events. Two weeks before each of Politics & Prose's four annual Member Sales when all books are 20% off, we will get together and share our favorite titles with one another.

The first meeting will take place on **Thursday, May 21 from 11:00 AM–12:00 PM in Room 3**. Please bring (at least) four titles to share!

REGISTER

OLLI HAPPENINGS

ANDERSON HOUSE TOUR

On Saturday, OLLI members attended a tour at the Anderson House. Tour docent and OLLI board member, Diana Jamieson, offered a rare and intimate glimpse into a world of elegance, global travel, and cultural refinement.



PRICE RESIDENCE TOUR - MODERNIST WASHINGTON CLASS

On Monday, class members from study group 592: Modernist Washington joined SGLs, David Hensler and Annie Parker, on the Travis Price Residence Tour. As members explored the unique architecture of his home, Travis Price, a celebrated American architect and advocate of green architecture, reflected on his inspirations for the structure of his current residence including ecology, mythology, and a particular tree still growing in the back yard.



AU EVENTS



250+ AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

The 250+ at American initiative offers a year of multidisciplinary programs that invite AU's community to reflect on the nation's past, engage in the present, and imagine the future. [More](#)

[Info/Events.](#)

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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