

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Newsletter

April 2014 Newsletter



OLLII

at American University Washington DC



Fall 2014 Study Group Proposals Due

Members may submit proposals for Fall 2014 Study Groups online.

The deadline is Wednesday, April 23, by close of business.

The Study Group Proposal Form can be found on the OLLI website under the "Study Groups" menu item.

Fall 2014 Semester Dates

The Fall semester begins on Wed., Sept. 24. Because of the holiday, Thursday classes will begin on October 2.

Volunteering to Support History in DC Schools

Are you a retired secondary school history teacher interested in staying connected to history and to middle or high school students?

"I SHOULD SAY SO!"



Many of you probably know that the "O" in OLLI stands for Osher. Bernard Osher made his fortune in the Savings & Loan business and started the Bernard Osher Foundation to support lifelong learning opportunities throughout the U.S. Recently, the Bernard Osher Foundation asked us whether OLLI at AU provides

continued excellence in curriculum and programming. My response is: "I should say so!"

This year we have:

- Offered nearly 90 study groups each semester ranging from politics to science to literature to art to philosophy.
- Built membership to well over 1,000.
- Twelve dedicated Curriculum Committee members recruiting, overseeing, and evaluating our outstanding study group leaders.
- Four study groups involving American University faculty from various schools and departments.
- Presented study groups primarily for seniors on using computers, writing memoir or family history, and protecting and maximizing retirement income.
- Given a first-time, on-line course for those who can no longer physically attend classes -- and those who want to be involved in more discussions.
- Provided more than 200 members participation in 11 OLLI Shorts -- intense learning opportunities for 2-hours daily for 3, 4, or 5 consecutive days in February.
- Offered one-hour weekly lectures each semester and three two-hour lectures per week in January and June.
- Delivered a four-session class each semester on how to lead a study group. Led by an outstanding veteran, this class is encouraged for new study group leaders and those who want refresh their teaching techniques.
- Furnished opportunities for fascinating trips, hiking and theater experiences.
- And many of our members support us with annual contributions to supplement their membership fees.

"I should say so!"

The National Archives, which coordinates DC's National History Day program, is looking for skilled volunteers to help teachers involve students in National History Day during the 2014-15 school year.

As you may know, National History Day makes history come alive for students who discover the historical, cultural, and social experiences of the past. Students choose historical topics related to next year's theme -- Leadership and Legacy -- and conduct extensive primary and secondary research through libraries, archives, museums, oral history interviews, and historic sites. After analyzing and interpreting their sources and drawing historically significant conclusions, students present their work in original papers, websites, exhibits, performances, or documentaries. In the spring students enter these products into competitions at local, state, and national levels where they are evaluated by professional historians and educators.

To learn more about volunteering with National History Day, you are invited to attend

If you want to learn more about OLLI or comment on your own OLLI experiences, **please attend our Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 22, from 12:15 to 1:15 pm, at Temple Baptist Church.** You also will be able to hear from the six nominees who are running for your Board of Directors.

On Thursday, May 15, please join our year-end celebration at River Road Unitarian Universalist Church from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. And please have a wonderful time attending your remaining (snow-free) study groups this semester.

Regards,
Phil Schwartz, Chairman of the Board

Spring Lecture Series

Tuesday, April 15, 12:15-1:15pm
Temple Baptist Church Lower Level

Trish Savage, *Planting Bulbs This Spring*

While spring bulbs are best planted in the fall, summer-blooming bulbs can be planted now. A general discussion of bulbs (species and varieties), site selection (acidity, moisture, drainage, and light), soil preparation (aeration, amendments, and fertilizer), and planting techniques will supplement a colorful slideshow presentation -- with an emphasis on bulbs that can be planted after this spring's last-freeze date.

After she retired, Trish Savage studied horticulture and landscape design at Radcliffe and SUNY-Cobleskill. She graduated from Schenectady County's Cornell Master Gardener Program in 2003.

April 26 Trip to Winterthur

Trip to Winterthur
Saturday, April 26, 2014

Registration deadline is close of business, Wed., April 16.

Winterthur is situated at the former estate of Henry Francis du Pont near Wilmington, Delaware. The estate houses a prized collection of American decorative arts and the du Pont's personal acquisitions. There is a 60-acre garden to enjoy as well. For more information check the Winterthur website - www.Winterthur.org

- We'll leave AU at 8:15 am SHARP to arrive at the estate via private bus (with a restroom!). Meet the bus at the AU parking lot (at New Mexico and Nebraska Avenues) at 8:00 am. Parking is

an exploratory meeting on Wednesday, April 23 from 3:30 to 4:30 with Elly Greene (OLLI member and DC National History Day Advisory Council member), at Elly's house in Chevy Chase D.C. Please email Elly at elly.greene@verizon.net to respond and/or with questions and she will send directions.

free on Saturday.

- Upon arrival at Winterthur, we will take a 25-minute tram ride to view the gardens.
- At noon we will have a one-hour tour of the house.
- Lunch on your own: The Garden Cafe or the Cottage Cafe (check website for menus). You may bring your own lunch.
- At 2:00 pm, we have a tour of the special DOWNTON ABBEY exhibit.
- We will leave at 4:00 pm for the trip back to AU.

To sign up, download a PDF of the flier from the OLLI website. Mail the completed form with your check to: Liz Nicholas, 4109 Stanford St., Chevy Chase, MD 20815. **Any questions? Feel free to call Liz Nicholas at 301-652-7652 or email her at liznicholas@earthlink.net**

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