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



Where Curiosity Never Retires



November 1, 2019 OLLI News

Beloved Member Passing

It is with our deepest sympathies that we announce the death of Carol Bird Ravenal. Carol Bird, an OLLI member and former Study Group Leader, passed away at her home in Maryland on Monday, October 28. She worked as a professor of Art History at AU, and led many art study groups at OLLI. Nicknamed Birdie for her love of birds, as you could see in much of her artwork, Carol was just shy of turning 93 years old. Her husband had preceded her in death just eight weeks prior. There will be a joint memorial service for the two on Sunday, November 24 at 2:00 PM at the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC.

Serendipities!

Our Social Committee-sponsored series called *Serendipities!* is underway. Throughout the year, OLLI members who wish, for example, to share a thought-provoking or unusual experience, talk about a book they have written, or be part of a small panel on a timely topic can express their interest by e-mailing Social Committee Chair Jeff Porter at jeff.portermia@gmail.com or by filling out a *Serendipities!* proposal form [here](#).

Our next talk will be led by Matthew Fink. The title of this discussion is *Carter Glass: The Single Most Important Lawmaker In The History Of American Finance*. Carter Glass served as a Congressman, Secretary of the Treasury, and Senator from 1902 to 1945. Glass authored three of our most important financial laws: The Federal Reserve Act of 1913, The Glass-Steagall Act of 1933, and The Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The issues that Glass dealt with are with us today. Our current president is threatening to fire the Federal Reserve Board chairman because he disagrees with its policies; and in 1999, Congress repealed the Glass-Steagall Act's provisions prohibiting banks from engaging in securities.

We welcome you to join us for this talk, which will be held on **Monday, November 18 at 11:45 AM in Room A** on the 1st floor of our Spring Valley location. No registration is required.

Study Group Proposals



The OLLI office is now accepting study group proposals for both the February Shorts and Spring Semester 2020. February Shorts are February 3-7 and the Spring Semester is March 2-May 8. During the February Shorts, study groups meet between 3-5 times over the course of one week. In the Spring Semester, study groups are 8-10 weeks long and meet once a week. OLLI's Curriculum Committee and Board of Directors review proposals for each academic session and approve the final list of classes.

New proposals from first-time study group leaders are welcome! For more information about leading a study group, please click [here](#). You may also call the OLLI office at 202-895-4860 and we'll be happy to answer your questions.

If you would like to propose a study group, please click one of the links below. You will be prompted to login with your OLLI username/password or create an account if it's your first time. **The proposal deadline for both sessions is Monday, December 2 at 8:00 AM.**

[February Shorts 2020 Proposal Form](#)

[Spring 2020 Proposal Form](#)

Are You A Member of a Retirement Association

Last year, as part of OLLI at AU's diversity efforts, OLLI representatives spoke at meetings of the retirement organizations of the National Education Association (NEA), the State Department, and the World Health Organization (WHO). Also, the 1818 Society (of the World Bank) recently included an article about OLLI in its newsletter. We hope to continue speaking with such groups. If you are a member of a similar organization, please let us know by calling 202-895-4860 or e-mailing olli@american.edu.

Adventures in Research

OLLI at AU members excel at exploring ideas. And Washington has fantastic research libraries open to the public—for example, the Library of Congress, the US Archives, and the US Holocaust Museum. Can we support and include members' research in the OLLI experience? Several OLLI members are experienced librarians and researchers. And those interested in doing original research might appreciate some guidance from fellow OLLI members to develop and carry out a project.

If you are interested in setting up a research support group at OLLI, and its possible uses in the curriculum, please come to an **exploratory meeting on Wednesday, November 6, at 1:45 PM in Room 2**. If you're interested, but can't make the meeting, please contact Helen Schwartz at helenjs29@gmail.com to share your ideas and questions and get on a list of interested members.

OLLI Jackets

OLLI is now selling navy blue fleece jackets with the OLLI logo embroidered in white across the

left front. These jackets have a collar, full zip front, and zippered pockets. Sample jackets in all sizes are available to try on in our office. The cost per jacket is \$26 and all sales are final, no refunds. Purchases will be available for pick-up at the OLLI office on Mondays approximately two weeks after the order is placed. To place your order for an OLLI jacket, click [here](#).

WOMEN'S



MEN'S



DC Kids Need Your Help

OLLI member Alan Romick and a group that he works with, the DC Tutoring & Mentoring Initiative (DCTMI), are asking for your help with DC youth.

With the school year underway, there's no better time to get involved as a volunteer tutor or mentor. **Nearly two out of three students in DC read below grade level, and many more have other academic and social-emotional needs.** The need is real and urgent. [Sign up](#) to tutor, read with a child, or simply provide a listening ear for as little as an hour per week.

DCTMI is eager to match you with one of our 50+ partner organizations and schools based on when and where you are available and other preferences. Our partners need help mornings, afternoons, and evenings throughout DC as well as in the surrounding suburbs.

Opportunities include...

- Fostering a student's love of reading during lunch at School Without Walls @ Francis Stevens
- Coaching a high schooler through college applications Thursday nights at the American Institutes for Research on Whitehurst Freeway
- Mentoring a foster child through monthly outings and weekly communication
- Helping small groups of middle schoolers with homework weeknights in Southeast
- And many more!

For more information and if you are interested in volunteering in this program, contact Alan at alan@headsweats.com.

Upcoming Events at American University

For any AU-specific event, please contact the sponsoring department directly.

EVENTS AT AU SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

SIGNATURE SERIES, FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

FILMS ACROSS BORDERS: STORIES OF WATER - NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

HIGH TIDE IN DORCHESTER

Malsi Doyle and Michael Forman Theater (McKinley Building)

Tuesday, November 4, 7:00 PM

High Tide in Dorchester is a film that encourages discussions and actions concerning sea level rise, erosion and climate change in Dorchester County, MD. The film creates a powerful, intimate story that looks at a worsening global threat through the lens of Chesapeake Bay's most vulnerable county. Following screening, there will be a panel discussion. Light refreshments in theater lobby at 6:30 PM before program begins. Free parking nearby in SIS building. Reservations suggested: <https://HighTideInDorchesterAU.eventbrite.com>

EVENTS AT AU CENTER FOR ISRAEL STUDIES

***AMERICA'S JEWISH WOMEN: A HISTORY FROM COLONIAL TIMES TO TODAY* BOOK TALK WITH PAMELA NADELL**

Wednesday, November 6, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Butler Board Room, Butler Pavilion

Pamela Nadell, Patrick Clendenen Chair in Women's and Gender History and director of American University's Jewish Studies Program, will speak about her new book, *America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today*. After the talk, a panel of Jewish Studies students, will provide comments, before audience Q&A. Panelists: Hannah Gelfand '20, Jamie Gottlieb '20, and Rose Haas '20. Co-sponsored by AU's Department of History, Center for Israel Studies and Jewish Studies Program. Books available for sale and signing at dessert reception following the discussion.

Open to the public and free, with RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/NadellBookTalkAU>

EVENTS AT THE CENTER FOR CONGRESSIONAL AND PRESIDENTIAL STUDIES

Impeachment: The Constitutional Remedy of Last Resort

Stephen S. Weinstein Courtroom, AU Washington College of Law

November 6, Lunch Served 12 PM, | Panel 12:15 PM - 1:30 PM

Distinguished Adjunct Professor of Law Louis Caldera and two attorneys — Daniel Freeman and Alan Baron — who worked for the House Judiciary Committee on every impeachment inquiry in the past 40 years — will discuss the impeachment process including the House's role in an impeachment investigation and its adoption of articles of impeachment, as well as the Senate's role in the subsequent trials. They will also discuss the philosophy behind the creation of the impeachment remedy contained in the constitution and how effective that philosophy has been. Panel hosted by David Barker. Click [here](#) to RSVP.

Barbara Sinclair Lecture

Warren Building, Terrace Level, Room NT01

November 18, 6:00 PM

The American Political Science Association and the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies invite you to the second annual Barbara Sinclair Lecture. Awarded to a prominent congressional scholar, this lecture is given in honor of Dr. Sinclair's significant and lasting contributions to the study of Congress. Professor Frances Lee of Princeton University will deliver the 2019 lecture. Reception to follow. Click [here](#) to RSVP.

LATE FALL EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS AT THE AU MUSEUM-KATZEN ARTS CENTER

Open Tuesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Free and fully accessible

Opening Reception is Saturday, November 9, from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM.

Radical Link: A New Community of Women, 1855-2020

Curated by Sarah Gordon

November 9-December 15, 2019

Radical Link is the latest project by Tel Aviv-based multi-media artist Michal Heiman. Traversing time, space, gender, race, and institutional practices of asylum, Heiman offers a new way to extend solidarity to those who engage in acts of resistance by creating a new community. It includes women who have been subjugated by the Surrey County Asylum in London, and the San Servolo Asylum in Venice, asylum seekers, artists, activists, prosecutors, gatekeepers, and those who have suffered under the violence of racism and misogyny. Through the strategies of intervention and the use of archival materials, photographs, films, sound work, and her presence in the gallery, she generates the political, cultural, gendered, and psychic conditions of a potential “radical link.”

The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated book, including essays by curator Sarah Gordon; Sharon Sliwinski, Professor of Information and Media Studies at the University of Western Ontario; Orna Ben-Naftali, Émile Zola Chair for Human Rights and Lecturer at the Haim Striks School of Law; and artist Michal Heiman.

Dark World: Photographs by Frank Hallam Day

November 9-December 15, 2019

Over the past dozen years, Frank Hallam Day’s personal work has been devoted largely to exploring the world at night. The visually intriguing dark world offers mysteries and ambiguities, and lends itself to the introspective creative space he prefers. His work comments on a number of salient themes: the relationship between contemporary society and nature and the pace of technological change, aging, isolation, and obsolescence. The markedly formal, unabashedly elegiac images also investigate influences from the history of painting to a degree unusual in contemporary photography. Day’s work has been described as “intimate yet subtly epic.” He looks for an “annunciatory light” transforming everyday things, like plastic market bags and public phones, into objects of special significance. In the words of Louis Jacobson at the Washington City Paper, he “showers a ray of almost spiritual light into the night’s dark corners.”

Ongoing Exhibitions:

Topographies of Life: Pam Rogers, Lynn Sures, Mel Watkin

September 3-December 15, 2019

Curated by Jennifer Riddell, Presented by the AU Museum Project Space

Using the medium of drawing to varied and distinctive effect, Rogers, Sures, and Watkin trace human connections to the natural world—across time and varied landscapes. The three artists work from both a consciousness of drawing’s ties to illustration and evidence; and, the medium’s unique ability to transmit the artist’s “hand” and personal response to their subject. From the deserts of Kenya, forests of the Midwest, to the Potomac watershed, these artists are deeply attuned to the mutually affecting relationship between the anthropological and natural worlds.

Our Mission

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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Tony Long, *Executive Director* / Mary Fran Miklitsch, *Deputy Executive Director*
Lesley Diaz, *Academic Programs Coordinator*
Jesse Williams, *Operations Coordinator*
Terri Greene, *Administrative Coordinator*

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