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## HELPFUL LINKS

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



*Where Curiosity Never Retires*

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## November 15, 2019 OLLI News

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**OLLI will be closed Wednesday through Friday of Thanksgiving Week, NOVEMBER 27-29.**

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## Letter From The Chair



Many thanks to those who have already contributed to our Annual Fund appeal! Those who are still considering a donation will find an envelope in the Annual Report that was mailed this week. If you are celebrating a big birthday, anniversary, or holiday and, as is often the case at our age, simply do not need another gift to bring into the house, encourage friends to make a donation to OLLI instead of bringing a gift. If you are giving a gift to someone who is an avid OLLI member or want to make a gift in tribute to a favorite Study Group Leader, consider a donation in that person's honor. I think many of us would be grateful for such a thoughtful gift, so please consider this option. You can find tribute envelopes on the bulletin board in the Social Space or in the OLLI Office, or you can donate online: <https://olli-dc.org/donate>.

Martha Cutts

Chair, OLLI Board of Directors

## Snack Potluck

From Tuesday, November 19, to Thursday, November 21, we are planning on having social breaks between classes. We are asking members to bring snacks to share with other OLLI members. These could either be made at home or store-bought, and placed in the social space either after the first class of the day at 11:15 AM, or before the last class of the day at 1:15 PM. Please e-mail Jeff Porter at [djporter2@mac.com](mailto:djporter2@mac.com), our Social Coordinator, indicating your interest.

## Encore National Cathedral Tour

Due to such a rapid sell-out of our first National Cathedral Tour, we've added a second! **The encore cathedral tour will be on Thursday, December 12 at 10:00 AM.** We will meet at the entrance of the building.

The National Cathedral is one of the crown jewels of Washington, DC. While many of us have had the pleasure of visiting the Cathedral and hearing its story, there are many sights unavailable to the average visitor. This tour will take us to areas not available on the general public tour. Discover the Cathedral's hidden stories on the behind-the-scenes tour as you marvel at the building's artistry and engineering. Journey through stone stairwells and passageways to see stained glass windows up close and magnificent views from the heights. Be prepared for stair climbing, close quarters, and heights. This tour runs approximately 90 minutes. Please note that this a private tour for OLLI members and their guests and space is very limited. To register, click [here](#).

## Trip to Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

**We will be taking a trip to Richmond, VA on Friday, January 24, 2020 to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA) and explore the premiere of the Edward Hopper and the American Hotel exhibition,** the first in-depth study of hospitality settings depicted in the works of one of the most celebrated American artists. Edward Hopper (1882-1967) found artistic value and cultural significance in the most commonplace sites and settings. Hopper's spare depictions of familiar public and private spaces are often understood within the contexts of isolation, loneliness, and ennui of early and mid-20th-century America. Join us to get an exclusive glimpse of Hopper's immersion into the world of hotels, motels, hospitality services, and mobility in general. The exhibition has simulated spaces and other unique design components, including an actual functional hotel room. Please note that refunds for trips are available only if the trip is cancelled. We will meet at a location, later to be determined, at 8:00 AM to board a chartered bus. The tour starts at 11:00 AM. We will return from VA to DC by 8:00 PM. To register, click [here](#).

## Lecture Series

There are still seats left in next week's lecture. Next Friday, November 22, the topic will be *Lost Farms and Estates of Washington, DC*, given by Kim Williams, an architectural historian.

Kim Williams has over 25 years of experience researching historic buildings and places in the DC area. She currently serves as the National Register Coordinator for the DC Historic Preservation Office where she identifies and evaluates properties for listing in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places. In the process, Kim has conducted large scale cultural resources surveys and has discovered more than 70 buildings, objects and remnants of buildings

still standing from the city's rural beginnings. In 2018, Kim published a book on the city's rural heritage, *Lost Farms and Estates* of Washington, DC, the topic of today's talk, and is currently working on another publication on the city's historic alleyways and alley buildings. To register for this lecture, click [here](#). You will be prompted to create a username and password. **If you do not have a username and password, you may call the OLLI office at 202-895-3860 to register.**

## Study Group Topics and Leaders

Many OLLI members have suggested topics they would like for future study groups, by way of the survey last spring and on the bulletin board in the Social Space. OLLI at AU is always looking for new class topics and study group leaders to teach them. Below is a list of some of the top suggestions by members. Do you or someone you know have an interest in leading a study group about one of these topics? The shorter February Shorts and summer sessions (June Minis and July Shorts) are a great way to get started teaching at OLLI. During the February and July Shorts, study groups meet 3-5 times during one week. During the June Minis, study groups meet once a week for four weeks. Alternatively, the regular semester is a good option for anyone wanting to delve into a topic in greater depth. OLLI offers an orientation for new SGLs before each fall and spring semester.

OLLI is currently accepting study group proposals for the [February Shorts](#) and the [Spring Semester](#). The submission deadline is Monday, December 2.

Please let the office know at [olli@american.edu](mailto:olli@american.edu) if you or someone you know might be interested in teaching one of these topics or another one. We'll be happy to contact you to answer any questions and provide more information.

1. Art History
2. Architecture
3. Archaeology
4. Latin
5. Geology
6. Civil War
7. Classical music
8. Greek mythology (*A proposal has been submitted!*)
9. Civil Rights Movement
10. Vikings
11. Women's history
12. *Crime and Punishment*
13. *Buddenbrooks* by Thomas Mann

## 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](mailto:jeff.portermia@gmail.com) or by filling out a *Serendipities!* proposal form [here](#).

Our next talk will be given by Matthew Fink, titled *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 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](mailto:olli@american.edu).

## Upcoming Events at American University

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

**AU JAZZ ORCHESTRA: FALL FOR JAZZ**

**Friday, November 15, 7:30 PM**

**Katzen Arts Center, Recital Hall**

**Tickets: \$5 - Senior Citizens, AU Students/Faculty/Alumni; \$10 - General Public**

From big band to funk-rock to Latin sounds, AU's own jazz orchestra brings the swing. Conductor Josh Bayer is a guitarist, composer, and director who has performed at the Kennedy Center, The Detroit Opera House, and National Public Radio.

Featuring Marshall Keys on saxophone. "Marshall Keys' dulcet tones and earthy compositions conjure the spirits of jazzmen past and future. From mainstream to contemporary, from bebop to hip hop, he plays the saxophone with a sense of grace and emotion that is wholly without cliché." - Mike Sager, Esquire

To register, click [here](#).

## **EVENTS AT THE CENTER FOR CONGRESSIONAL AND PRESIDENTIAL STUDIES**

### **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*

### ***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.

## **OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY**

### **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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Study Group Location **4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW**

**Mailing Address** 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW | Washington, DC 20016  
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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