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Where Curiosity Never Retires



September 13, 2019 OLLI News

Fall Open House

The annual open house for the fall semester will take place on **Tuesday, September 17 at 10:00 AM**. It will be held in our Spring Valley building at **4801 Mass. Ave NW, on the 1st floor in Room A**. Please join us as we welcome returning members back for another semester and introduce each other to OLLI newcomers! There will be coffee available.

Fall Registration

The lottery was conducted on Tuesday, September 3. As such, classes have started filling up or are full. If a class is closed, you may join its waitlist. Over 40 classes are still open. Please visit our website to view study group statuses, as registration is still open. **The fall semester starts the week of September 23**. To view study groups and register online, please click [here](#).

Our Sympathies

We would like to extend heartfelt condolences to the family of Coilin Owens, who passed on July 9, 2019. Coilin led several study groups on Irish literature, including ones on James Joyce and Ulysses. His memorial service was held on July 15, 2019 in Fairfax, VA. To view Coilin's obituary, click [here](#).

Upcoming Trip

OLLI will be hosting a trip to Philadelphia, PA to visit the Museum of the American

Revolution on Saturday, October 26. This museum has a vast collection of several thousand objects, works of art, manuscripts, and printed works from the period of the American Revolution. It is located just two blocks from Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, and the U.S. Mint, which you can also visit. On that day, we will meet at nearby Temple Baptist church, where parking will be available for the day, to board the bus to Philadelphia, and return in the evening. **The cost will be \$55**, which includes museum admission and transportation. For more details and to register for this trip, you may visit the events calendar on our website, or click [here](#).

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.

Members who have hearing aids with t-coils can simply turn on their t-coils to take advantage of the loops. If you don't know whether or not your hearing aids have t-coils, consult your audiologist.

Members who do not have t-coils in their hearing aids, as well as members who have difficulty hearing but do not have hearing aids, can use a hearing loop receiver with headphones (or their own earbuds). You may wear the headphones with your hearing aids in or out. If you have your hearing aids in with the receiver on, and it makes a high-pitched sound or whistle, the hearing aids and receiver are both amplifying the sound, creating a feedback loop.

The receivers and headphones are available in each classroom from the plastic bin in each classroom. Each pair is in an individual plastic bag. Place the receiver on over your head (like a lanyard) so it hangs vertically or stand it up on the table vertically. (The vertical position is essential for the receiver to work correctly.) Put on the headphones. Turn the receiver on. (You'll see a green light.) Then, turn the volume dial on the receiver up slowly to find the appropriate volume for you.

For OLLI, one of the advantages of the hearing loops in the smaller classrooms is that the SGL and all class members' voices are amplified, allowing all to participate in discussions. Room A is too large to utilize the same configuration. Instead, the SGL uses a lapel microphone and if there are questions, a handheld microphone is passed around.

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.

Updates on Courses and Books

There is a listing of book availability at the Politics and Prose bookstore on our website. Some books are not available and some are pay-to-order only. For books not available in-store, suggestions of other online booksellers are listed. For detailed information, please click [here](#).

OLLI Book Exchange

There is now an OLLI book exchange located in the Social Space on the 5th floor. Members are welcome to donate books from past study groups, as well as take books they would like. **It would be especially helpful to donate any books that are on the [booklist](#) for this upcoming fall semester.**

There is a box with slips of paper, pens, and paper clips in the book exchange area. If you donate a book, please fill out one of the slips of paper with as much information as you know (title, number, and study group leader from the class in which the book was used) then clip it to the cover of the book. **The book exchange will be ongoing.** Jacqui Gallagher, the organizer, hopes this will be an activity that will enable members to share interests and make new connections – both intellectual and personal. If you have any questions, please contact Jacqui at gallagherjacqueline@gmail.com or 202-333-7957.

Steven Pearlstein to Speak at Book Club Meeting

The third annual OLLI Book Club will discuss the incisive and provocative book by acclaimed Pulitzer Prize author and *Washington Post* columnist Steven Pearlstein, *Can American Capitalism Survive?* This book is particularly relevant, given the current political climate. We hope many members will read the book and come to the discussion, which will be led by Pearlstein. **The Book Club will meet on Wednesday, September 18, at 10:00 AM in Room A.** There is no cost to attend. Please click [here](#) to register. If you have any questions, please contact our office at olli@american.edu.

Upcoming Events at American University

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

FALL EVENTS AT THE AU MUSEUM-KATZEN ARTS CENTER

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

Free and fully accessible

Grace Hartigan and Helene Herzbrun: Reframing Abstract Expressionism

September 3-October 20, 2019

Curated by Norma Broude, American University Art History Professor Emerita

Free and open to all, no RSVP required

Grace Hartigan (1922-2008) and Helene Herzbrun (1922-1984) were both remarkable painters of the second Abstract-Expressionist generation who lived and worked as influential artists and teachers in the Baltimore/Washington region for many decades. Accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue, with an essay by Norma Broude, this show brings together more than two dozen large-scale and rarely seen works by Hartigan and Herzbrun from private and public collections, many in the Baltimore/Washington area. For more details, click [here](#).

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. ***There will be a gallery talk on Saturday, September 7, from 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM, followed by the Fall Opening Reception. Please RSVP for the talk [here](#).***

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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