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Where Curiosity Never Retires



September 20, 2019 OLLI News

Fall Registration

Over 40 classes are still open. If a class is closed, you may still join its waitlist. Please visit our website to view study group status. Registration is open until October 4. **The fall semester starts on Monday, September 23.** To view study groups and register online, please click [here](#).

Nuclear Arms Control: Is It Finished? Does it Matter? What Can We Do?

There is still space remaining in next Friday's lecture, *Nuclear Arms Control: Is It Finished? Does it Matter? What Can We Do?* given by James Goodby. The lecture will take place Friday, September 27, from 1:30-2:30 PM in Room A on the first floor of 4801 Massachusetts Ave NW. **If you would like to register, please click here: <https://www.ollidc.org/events/2019Sept27Lecture983426587>. You will be prompted to create a username and password.**

About the Lecture:

President Trump has tried to withdraw the US from agreements that have restrained the world's nuclear arsenals. There has been little public reaction to his announcements of US withdrawal from the agreement with Iran, or the treaty with Russia on intermediate-range cruise and ballistic missiles, or to the statement by his NSA that the New START treaty, which reduced and capped the numbers of US and Russian nuclear weapons, is unlikely to be extended beyond its expiration date. Meanwhile, Trump's efforts to "denuclearize" North Korea have stalled and Kim Jong-un is busy improving his capability to strike his neighbors with nuclear-armed missiles.

Does all of this matter? The human race has been lucky not to have endured a nuclear war or to have experienced nuclear explosions in a major city since we dropped nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. I use the word "lucky" advisedly because nuclear bombs have been inadvertently dropped but did not explode, nuclear bombs have been misplaced, and signals of nuclear attacks on the US have led to misreadings of what was happening (especially during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962). We cannot assume that our luck will last forever. Next year's presidential elections should be a time to address nuclear concerns, yet none of the leading candidates have campaigned on the issue. They will not, probably, unless the public demands it. Can we save what is left of the nuclear restraint infrastructure, first and foremost the New START treaty, then create new means to help the world reinvent nuclear arms control? or not?

*James Goodby has served in the US Foreign Service as a policy adviser, achieving the rank of Career Minister, and was appointed to five ambassadorial-rank positions by Presidents Carter, Reagan, and Clinton, including ambassador to Finland. He taught at Georgetown, Syracuse, and Carnegie Mellon Universities. Ambassador Goodby is the author and editor of several books, including most recently, *Approaching the Nuclear Tipping Point: Cooperative Security in an Era of Global Change*.*

A "Tough Love" Conversation with Ambassador Susan Rice

AU will be presenting a "Tough Love" conversation with Ambassador Susan E. Rice as a preview of her upcoming book *Tough Love: My Story of the Things Worth Fighting For*, on **Saturday, October 5 from 8:00 PM to 9:15 PM in the Bender Arena**. This event will feature AU President Sylvia M. Burwell and Dean of the School of International Service Christine BN Chin. Ambassador Rice is the former National Security Advisor and US Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Distinguished Visiting Research Fellow, School of International Service at American University.

Conversation will be followed by a Q&A and book signing. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. Seating is general admission and first-come, first-served. Copies of the book will be available to purchase at the event.

Guests are encouraged to take public transportation, but **those requiring parking may park in several campus parking garages and purchase parking at the garage pay stations**. In accordance with AU's Good Neighbor Policy, **parking in the surrounding neighborhood is prohibited**. Requests for special accommodations and accessibility should be directed to sisevents@american.edu.

To register for this event, please click [here](#).

Free Minds Poetry Workshop

On **Tuesday, October 15, from 2:00 - 4:00 PM**, OLLI and the local nonprofit Free Minds Book Club & Writing Workshop will co-sponsor our fifth "Free Minds Poetry Workshop." Jenny Pierson and Ellen Siegler are coordinating this event. This event will be held in the Social Space on the 5th floor of our Spring Valley building at 4801 Mass. Ave.

Free Minds conducts literacy programs, including poetry classes, for incarcerated youth in DC. They will provide us with a packet of poems written by incarcerated young men for us to read and provide comments.

We are seeking a community of 20-25 OLLI members who will give the youth's poetry encouraging comments. Providing feedback on these poems is an enjoyable community activity

and a great way to show these youth that others respect their work and appreciate their dedication. A few men who have participated in and benefited from this program will be with us to share their experiences in the program and express their appreciation.

If you have questions, contact Jenny Pierson at piersonjen17@gmail.com or 202-248-8288. To register, please click [here](#).

Upcoming Trip: Museum of the American Revolution

OLLI will be hosting a trip to Philadelphia, PA to visit the Museum of the American Revolution on Saturday, October 26. The 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 the day of the trip, 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](#).

Serendipities!

We have started our new Social Committee-sponsored series that we are calling *Serendipities!* 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. We also encourage you to fill out the *Serendipities!* survey [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 (study group title, number, and 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.

Senior Wellness Health Fair

Join Forest Hills of DC for a Senior Wellness Health Fair on **Saturday, October 5, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, located at 4901 Connecticut Avenue NW.** Take advantage of free health screenings, including a Blood Pressure and Balance Clinic, and receive your no-cost flu shot — provided by CVS Pharmacy — so bring your insurance cards. Nutritional tips for healthy eating will also be available. Also, bring your questions about Assisted Living at Forest Hills of DC. Information will be provided on our Respite Programs and the Memory Care Day Program at Forest Side.

Stop in and get to know your local five-star Assisted Living community. Parking conveniently located on campus. For questions, please call Janice Johnson, RN, Nurse Educator at (202) 966-7623.

Upcoming Events at American University

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

A State at Any Cost: The Life of David Ben-Gurion Book Talk with Israeli Historian Tom Segev

Tuesday, October 15

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Abramson Family Founders Room, SIS Building

The Center for Israel Studies is pleased to invite you to hear Tom Segev, Israel historian, author, and journalist who will discuss his new biography of David Ben-Gurion, highlighting the history of Zionism and Israel. Tom Segev is one of Israel's most established journalists, and he has had a number of books in the New York Times' Best Books of the Year lists. Books will be available for purchase and signing at reception after the event.

Free with RSVP <https://tinyurl.com/SegevAU>.

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.

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