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Where Curiosity Never Retires



March 27, 2020 OLLI NEWS

Thank You to Our SGLs

As we wrap up the first full week of remote classes, we want to give a heart felt THANK YOU to all of our Study Group Leaders who have so quickly and bravely learned new technology and reconfigured their classes for a new, unfamiliar format, whether it be over Zoom, conference call, or e-mail. While observing classes over Zoom to provide support, we have been so inspired by the way you have carried on with such dedication and creativity with your classes. We have seen class members playing guitar together, watching PowerPoint presentations, discussing books and newspaper articles, and even taking notes from a wall-sized “whiteboard” one study group leader created in his home! Thank you for all you are doing in these uncertain times to still share your passion, connect with your class members, and allow members to remain engaged in the classes they love.

The OLLI staff

Annual Meeting

Looking for something to do that will keep your mind active and interested? **Join the Annual Meeting by ZOOM at 1:30 PM on Friday, April 3.** An invitation with a link and instructions to access the meeting will be sent out next Friday morning via e-mail. If you aren't able to use ZOOM, look for the recording of the meeting that will be posted on the OLLI website.

- Hear from the candidates for the Board of Directors
- Get a programmatic and financial overview of this year at OLLI at AU
- Hear about plans for the remainder of this semester and what June, July, and next fall may hold in store
- Q & A: Your chance for comments or questions

Spring 2020 Membership Directory Online

The Spring 2020 Membership Directory is now online. We won't have print copies available. You can download a copy at https://olli-dc.org/for_members_only. You must be a member and must login to download a copy.

Spring Semester Remote Classes

Many of our remote spring classes using Zoom, e-mail, or conference calling still have space available. We encourage you to take a look [online](#) to see if there are any classes you'd like to register for, especially if some of your classes were cancelled for the semester. You will see the format of each class indicated in the title. **This Monday, March 30, is the last day to register for classes.**

Spring 2020 Refund Policy

- OLLI members who take 1, 2, or 3 courses remotely are entitled, if requested via e-mail to olli@american.edu, to a 50% refund of tuition paid less a \$10 processing fee. **(Please do not request this refund from your member portal.)**
- Members who decide that online classes don't work for them will be entitled to a full refund, if requested, of their paid tuition less a \$10 processing fee.
- The deadline for requesting a refund has been extended to **March 30**.
- If you'd like this refund to be considered a donation to OLLI, please email the OLLI office at olli@american.edu.
- If you'd like the full tuition, less the \$10 processing fee, refunded to you, please click [here](#) to log on to your account to request a refund online.

OLLI Staff Working Remotely

The OLLI staff is primarily working remotely at this time. Staff will be monitoring all Zoom classes and will always be accessible via e-mail. While we will have phones forwarded, we ask that you e-mail the office at olli@american.edu for all general matters.

Board of Director Elections in the Time of COVID-19

Through wind, rain, sleet, snow, and spreading virus, the OLLI Board of Directors election goes forward.

After inviting recommendations from the OLLI membership, this year's Nominating Committee (Denise Liebowitz, Chair; John Aldock; Bob Kolodney; Sue Edson; and Elly Greene), has developed a list of four candidates to fill the four positions on the Board of Directors becoming vacant in June 2020. The Committee believes these candidates have amply demonstrated the skills, experience,

background and energy needed for OLLI at AU leadership. The list, which the Board has approved, will appear on the ballot for the election that is scheduled for April. The Board-approved candidates are:



John Bargeron, an OLLI member since 2014, is currently the Coordinator of the Welcomer program and a member of the Membership and Outreach Committee. He previously served as Chair of the Nominating Committee for the 2019 Board elections and has served as SGR for multiple classes over the years. John's professional experience includes more than 35 years with the US State Department, specializing in the Middle East and transnational organized crime. He has served in Jerusalem, Cairo, Tel Aviv, and Managua, and as Chief of Civilian Observers with the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO), the peacekeeping force between Israel and Egypt based in the Sinai. Other foreign affairs experience includes a two-year detail to the Pentagon to work on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Before joining the State Department, John taught modern European history at Cedar Crest College. He has degrees from the University of Pennsylvania (graduate) and Emory University (undergraduate).



Judy Havemann* has been a member of OLLI for six years during which she has coordinated study groups on international policy called the Scholars' World Series, chaired the lecture committee, and served as Board Vice Chair. She is a retired 30-year editor and reporter for The Washington Post, a former deputy editor of the Wilson Quarterly, and is retired from the National Endowment for the Humanities. A former foreign reporter for The Post, she has edited Virginia, Maryland, and national news, and directed newsroom recruiting and hiring. She retired as the food editor and is an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland.



Dave Hensler has been an OLLI member for five years, is currently serving on the Finance Committee and the Investment Subcommittee, and was recently asked to join the Lecture Committee. Dave assisted OLLI in getting a substantial increase in its annual payment from the AU Endowment and in improving the investment return on the Friends of OLLI Fund. In Dave's view, the Board's principal responsibilities should be to continue the good work that OLLI's recent leadership has done in strengthening the OLLI staff, rationalizing the budget process, and increasing the classroom space available to OLLI, as well as to prepare OLLI to meet the unexpected challenges that will inevitably occur. Dave is currently on the Board of Directors of the Duke Ellington Fund and is a Trustee of the Foundation of the American College of Trial Lawyers. Dave is also the outside General Counsel, on a pro bono basis, for the largest Native American scholarship fund. Dave is a Senior Counsel at Hogan Lovells US LLP.



John Thorner* began his first Board term as a participant in the Strategic Planning process. Concurrently, he worked to align the strategic plan with a financial plan. As part of that plan, he formulated an investment policy for the Friends of OLLI Fund, and now chairs OLLI's Investment Subcommittee. Additionally, John chairs OLLI's Membership and Outreach Committee with an eye to growing membership consistent with the strategic and financial plans. In his early career, John worked as a reporter, government lawyer, and association lobbyist. Later, he began leading associations, including those representing dentists, anesthesiologists, and physicists.

***Current Board Member standing for a second three-year term**

The OLLI Annual Meeting will take place on **Friday, April 3** and will be conducted online with candidates giving brief remarks to introduce themselves. Stay tuned for further information about how to remotely participate in the Annual Meeting. Online balloting will begin at this time and election results will be announced on **April 20**.

Members interested in being placed on the ballot as at-large candidates can do so by filing a self-nomination petition supported by the signatures of 10 OLLI members. Candidates meeting the 10-member signature requirement will automatically appear on the ballot. The deadline for submitting at-large petitions is **Monday, March 30**. As part of the petition, candidates should provide a photo (a smartphone photo will be fine) and a brief bio of no more than 100 words. Interested candidates should contact the OLLI office for the petition form and other details.

Artwork and Broadway Musicals From Your Home

We thought you might like to enjoy some artwork and musicals from the comfort of your own home. A big thank you to Dan Moskowitz and Lisa Leinberger for sharing the excellent links below!

Artwork:

[The Luncheon of the Boating Party by Pierre](#) - Auguste Renoir

From The Phillips Collection, narrated by Dorothy Kosinski, The Phillips Collection Director. This is the signature artwork of the museum.

Broadway Musicals:

[The Broadway Coronavirus Medley](#)

Parody (*not* from Broadway)

[Rent](#)

2008 Broadway production

[Victor/Victoria](#)

1995 Broadway production starring Julie Andrews

[Kiss Me, Kate](#)

First-rate concert version

[A Little Night Music](#)

2010 Broadway production starring Bernadette Peters and Elaine Stritch

[Chorus Line Act I Act II](#)

A high school production, but a particularly good one

[Oklahoma! Act I Act II](#)

Very good restoration by University of North Carolina

[Crazy For You](#)

Paper Mill Playhouse production

[Legally Blonde](#)

Broadway version

[Annie](#)

Huntington Beach Playhouse

[Gypsy!](#)

1993 TV version starring Bette Midler

[Music Man](#)

2003 TV version starring Matthew Broderick and Kristin Chenoweth

[The Merry Widow](#)

San Francisco Opera 2001

[Applause](#)

1972 TV version starring Lauren Bacall

[Urinetown](#)

2007 production at Studio Playhouse, Montclair, New Jersey

[Brigadoon](#)

1980 Broadway production

[Hello, Dolly](#)

Second rate production, fuzzy quality, and an aged Carol Channing, but it IS Carol Channing

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY 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*

Niranjan Singh, *Administrative Coordinator*

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