



**OSHER LIFELONG  
LEARNING INSTITUTE  
AT AMERICAN  
UNIVERSITY**

**2021-2022  
ANNUAL REPORT**

## MISSION

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The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) 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.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

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Dear OLLI Members:

In late October 2022, OLLI at AU celebrated its 40th Anniversary with a wonderful event at the Katzen Center. We were particularly honored to have Sylvia Burwell, the President of AU, as our keynote speaker. Our thanks to the Alper family for their gift which helped make the event possible.

During 2022, we wrapped up a pilot program using online courses to reach out to residents of Senior Living Centers and neighborhood Villages that we had not previously been able to reach. As part of the program, we offered four selected online courses at no cost to participating Senior Living Centers and Villages. That enabled us to introduce OLLI at AU to residents at six SLCs and neighbors in 25 Villages, at least five of which were in diverse neighborhoods. When we surveyed the participants afterward, we were gratified that all the respondents rated the OLLI courses as either “excellent” (73%) or “very good” (27%). There were no ratings below “very good”. We have since followed up by sending concise descriptions of OLLI’s 2023 Spring Semester offerings to the pilot program participants and to listservs for the neighborhoods where our members reside.

Because most of the online courses are recorded, we have also been able to create a digital library that allows members to access video recordings of courses that they may have missed. This new feature became available to members in March 2022.

During the past year, there were two notable staff changes. Mary Fran Miklitsch, our greatly beloved Deputy Executive Director, retired to everyone’s regret (except her own). We then added Lisa Olson, who has a very impressive background as a non-profit executive, as our Director of Operations and Projects. Lisa joins Lesley Diaz, our Director of Academic Programming, Jesse Williams, our Operations Manager, Sara Beatty, our Programs and Projects Coordinator, Niranjn Singh, our Administrative Coordinator, and, of course, our Executive Director, Tony Long.

The Lecture Committee, led by Mark Nadel, continued to offer a host of free lectures by notable Washington figures. In 2021–2022, there were more than 20 lectures, including ones by Marie Arana on Latin America Literature, Dan Goldman, the newly elected Congressman from New York, on the Trump impeachments, Bradley Graham and Lissa Muscatine of Politics and Prose, and Norman Ornstein on future governance. The lectures were generally quite popular, and the Ornstein lecture drew more than 400 attendees.

Our fundraising efforts are again being led by former Board Chair, Martha Cutts. During the six-month period concluding at year-end 2022, Martha had succeeded in raising nearly 95% of our annual goal for our fiscal year, which will conclude on June 30th of this year. Martha has built on that success with a match campaign that she has organized and implemented. With that new campaign and nearly four months left in this fiscal year, we are certain of exceeding our annual fundraising goal.

Our relations with AU continue to be excellent, thanks mainly to the efforts of Tony Long and former Board Chairs Myra Barron and Denise Liebowitz, who serve as the AU Relationship Committee. Our

lease at AU's Spring Valley Building will not expire until mid-2027, but to avoid any gap, we intend to begin negotiations to extend the lease now. We hope to reach a mutually satisfactory lease extension agreement with AU within the next several months.

2 The pandemic, not surprisingly, has produced several challenges that we are still attempting to resolve. One challenge is that approximately one-third of the OLLI members responding to a Fall 2022 Semester survey were not willing to return in-person, either for health-related reasons or personal convenience. Since OLLI at AU functions best as a community, it is difficult to create the personal relationships necessary to sustain the community if members don't meet in-person. In addition, despite the reluctance of some members to return, our Study Group Leaders have a strong preference for in-person classes. We are fully aware that we are still in a period of transition. Many people are eager to be back in-person or to continue to take courses online, while others took an opportunity to travel or to take a break for the semester. Therefore, for the first time, we had a decrease in registrations for the Fall Semester, resulting in a \$64,000 budget shortfall. Fortunately, thanks to successful fundraising efforts, we were able to cover that shortfall without having to raise semester fees or to engage any detrimental budget cutting.

On the plus side, from the beginning of last year's Fall Semester through today, we have added 230 new members, and we remain hopeful that in-person attendance will increase as health-related concerns diminish. In the interim, we will continue to provide a full complement of enlightening and engrossing OLLI courses, both online and in person—because, at OLLI, curiosity never retires.

Dave Hensler

Chair, Board of Directors

*“My first experience as an OLLI SGL was great. The whole operation - from Zoom orientation to my SGR to in-person help with the classroom tech – ran as if on skates. The participants in my study group were curious, gracious, and motivated. We had a good time together!”*

—Mary Mulligan

## HISTORY

Established in 1982 as the Institute for Learning in Retirement as part of the Continuing Education Department of American University, OLLI at AU was invited to become an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in 2005. As a member of the larger Osher Lifelong Learning Institute network, we are one of 125 institutes nationwide funded in part by the Bernard Osher Foundation, which is dedicated to educational opportunities for seasoned learners.

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## 2021-22 LECTURES

The Lecture Committee presented 23 lectures in 2021-2022. The lectures were offered in a combination of in-person and online formats. Below are some of the titles.

Alexa Chopivsky, *Ukraine: A Multigenerational Story of State-Building Through the Eyes of One Family*

Annie Pollard, *The Stories Told by the Tenement Museum*

“Chef Geoff” Tracy, *Restaurants and Community During the Pandemic and Beyond*

Claudia Kalb, *Spark: How Genius Ignites, from Child Prodigies to Late Bloomers*

Dayna Matthew, *Just Medicine: A Cure for Racial Inequality in American Health Care*

Elizabeth Dowling Taylor, *The Original Black Elite*

Eugene Procknow, *George Washington and His Feuding Generals*

Jack Rasmussen, *The Art of Engagement*

Jim Weill, *Hunger in America—An Ongoing Scandal*

Joelle Michaud, *Art Tells Us About the Black Experience in America*

Judy Waxman, *Women Have Always Tried to Control Their Fertility*

Larry Korb, *National Security Policy in the Biden Administration*

Lynne Olson, *Madame Fourcade’s Secret War: The Daring Young Woman Who Led France’s Largest Spy Network Against the Nazis*

Mark Eden Horowitz, *Oscar Hammerstein: Behind the Raindrops and Roses*

Shari Lawrence Pfleeger, *Who Wants to Know? Protecting Your Online Privacy in the 21st Century*

# STUDY GROUP LEADER SERVICE AWARDS

## 20-24 Years

Linda Freeman  
Larry Heilman  
Arnold Leibowitz  
Jenny Pierson

## 15-19 Years

Eleanor Heginbotham  
Iris Lipkowitz  
Helen Schwartz  
Andrew White  
Susan Willens  
Peter Wolfe

## 10-14 Years

Josh Berman  
John Bowen  
Lewis Cohen  
Bruce Eisen  
Stephen Elkin  
Leslie Frantz  
Susan Goodman  
Eleanor Greene  
Delrie Hobbs  
David Hurwitz  
Carol Light  
Rose Mosner  
Dave Palmeter  
Judith Plotz  
Mary Poole  
Jacques Read  
Karuna Srimati  
Wendel Swan  
John Vorhes

## 5-9 Years

Judy Alden  
Graham Atkinson  
Brad Bickford  
Donald Bliss  
Monroe Brett  
Paul Brown  
Phillip Brunell  
Ralph Buglass  
Ilsa Bush  
Gary Cahn  
Hanne Caraher

Marion Connell  
Dan Coyle  
Robert Croog  
William Daney  
Jeffrey Drobis  
Lisa Friedman  
Mark Gottlieb  
P. Lance Graef  
Monica Grigera  
Rita Hadden  
Penny Hansen  
Kenneth Hinga  
Edward Ingebretsen  
Arthur Katz  
Minerva Keller  
Leonard King  
Alan Kogan  
Bob Kolodney  
Lisa Leinberger  
Arthur Levine  
Karen Gail Lewis  
Lynn Lewis  
Raymond Maxwell  
Caroline Mindel  
Arrigo Mongini  
Ellen Moody  
Daniel Moskowitz  
Mark Nadel  
Lois Neuman  
Louis Nevins  
Charles O'Connor  
Richard Palmer  
John Parascandola  
Ronald Parlato  
Victor Rezmovic  
Ronald Ridker  
Don Ross  
Catherine Sandifer  
Susan Schneider  
Dan Sherman  
Martin Silfen  
Karen Stewart  
Diane Swan  
Al Taran  
Susan Urofsky  
Carl Weichel  
Kim Weichel

Xenia Wilkinson  
Peter Wilson  
Chris With

## Up to 5 Years

Raysa Amador  
Monica Batra  
Joe Belden  
Sugra Bibi  
Fred Biery  
Helen Blank  
Martin Blank  
John Burgess  
John Burton  
Russell Canan  
Larry Canepa  
Woody Carter  
Albert Cheh  
Gerald Coleman  
Ronald Collins  
Joseph Cotruvo  
Susan Drobis  
Ron Edelstein  
Caroline Farrell  
Edward Feinberg  
Elaine Férat  
David Flaxman  
Nick Glakas  
Larry Gondelman  
Margery Gordon  
Jeffrey Gorsky  
Bill Hadden  
Lisa Harper  
Jon Haveman  
Gerry Hendershot  
Jeanine Hull  
Arlette Jassel  
Mathew Jevotovsky  
John Johnson  
Catharine Keatley  
Douglas Kelly  
Anne Kendall  
Mina Kim  
Stephen Klatsky  
Gilbert Klein  
Kim Kokich  
Robert Larossa

George Lesser  
Noelle Lewis  
Keith Lindgren  
Brian MacDonald  
Patrick Macrory  
Dorothy Marschak  
Roger Meyer  
Bill Mitchell  
Gregory Mize  
Barbara Moldauer  
James Nathan  
Joy Obadia  
Jerome Paulson  
Claire Pettengill  
David Pomerantz  
Jeffrey Porter  
Liz Reilly  
Joseph Reo  
Alan Rhinesmith  
Deborah Rosenfelt  
Mark Roth  
Carin Ruff  
Richard Schubert  
Marjorie Shaw  
Jay Sherwin  
Milton Shinberg  
Joe Simpson  
Diana Smith  
Joseph Snyder  
Robert Somers  
Patricia Spector  
Michele Spittler  
Delbert Spurlock  
Mark Stevens  
Matthew Swartz  
Eleanor Tanno  
Candace Thurman  
Colette Tracy  
Michael Usdan  
James Verdier  
Reggie Walton  
Edward Ward  
Frederick Weisberg  
Carol Weissbrod  
Natalie Wexler  
Paul Zeitz

## BY THE NUMBERS

1543

Members

238

Study Groups and Shorts

120

New Study Groups and Shorts

178

Study Group Leaders

37

New Study Group Leaders

368

Donors

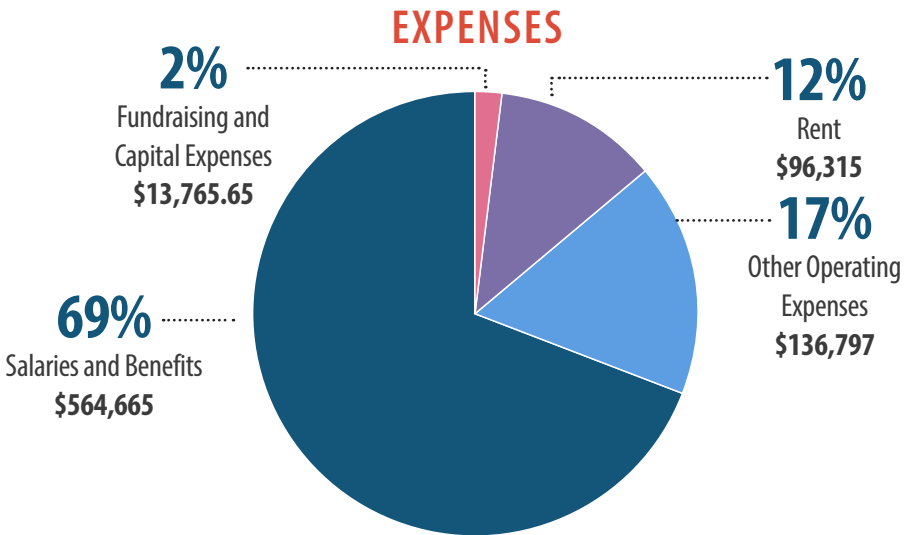
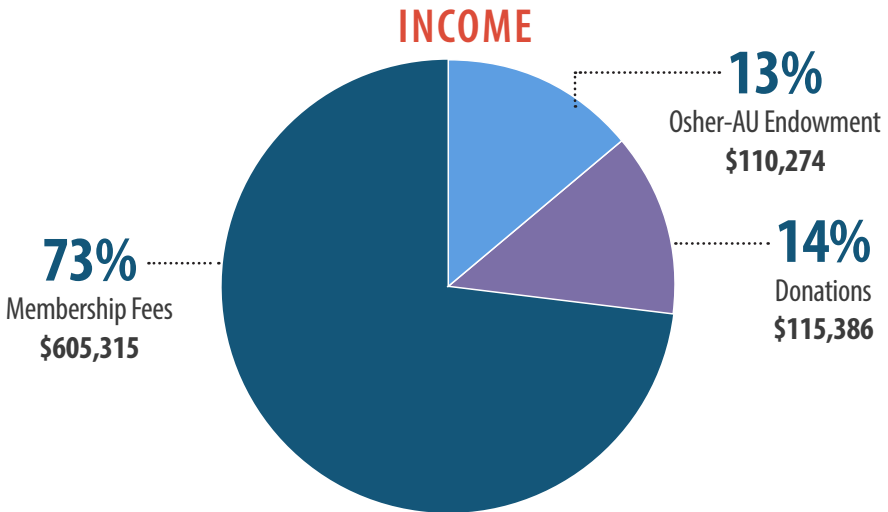
*“OLLI is so important to my well being. It keeps those little gray cells functioning, it opens the mind to new ideas, and it acquaints you with like-minded people who choose courses that reflect your own interests, while expanding those interests you had no reference to before.”*

—Phyllis Beek

# FINANCIAL REPORT

Each year, the Treasurer, Finance Committee, and the Executive Director develop the annual budget. Below is the breakdown for 2021-2022.

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## NOTES

The balance of the OLLI at American University investment account on June 30, 2022: \$1,588,081.



*"I have been involved in many organizations but very few have been as meaningful and rewarding as OLLI. OLLI provides both a high level of intellectual teaching and discourse with warm, welcoming members."*

—Stan Newman

## 2021-22 SPECIAL EVENTS

In addition to the usual four Lecture Series, during the 2021-22 academic year, OLLI offered Serendipities!—talks by OLLI members and friends, virtual tours, Happy Hours, a Faculty Lounge for SGLs, an SGL Appreciation Luncheon, and more.

Virtual Tour Series: The Heart of DC!

Serendipity Talk: On Rockingham Street: Reclaiming My Family's Jewish Identity—Our Journey from Vilna to the Suburban South

September In-Person Happy Hour

Serendipity Talk: Planning for Medicare Annual Enrollment: Know Your Options

Serendipity Talk: How to Steal Priceless French Art

Serendipity Talk: You Are Not American: Citizenship Stripping from Dred Scott to the Dreamers

October In-Person Happy Hour

Faculty Lounge Meeting

Serendipity Talk: Celebrating Frank Loesser

Serendipity Talk: West Side Story: Then and Now

Virtual Tour Series: The Heart of DC-Part 2

Serendipity Talk: Uncovering New Possibilities: Insights From Our Time

Serendipity Talk: The Power of Scenery: Frederick Law Olmsted and the Origin of National Parks

Serendipity Talk: Celebrating John Williams at 90

James Joyce Birthday Celebration

Virtual Tour Series: The Heart of DC-Part 3

Serendipity Talk: The Songs of World War II

Serendipity Talk: How Does the U.S. Rank Globally? A Top 10 Summary for 2022  
Annual Meeting

Spring In-Person Happy Hour

Serendipity Talk: In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great

Virtual Tour Series: The Heart of DC-Part 4

Study Group Leader Appreciation Luncheon

Serendipity Talk: Life in the Golden Age of Hollywood and Washington

Serendipity Talk: Danny Kaye: King of the Jesters

# 2021–2022 DONORS

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University has earned the Gold Seal of Transparency from Candid (formerly the Foundation Center and GuideStar), which “indicates that a nonprofit has provided key information in its Nonprofit Profile. By providing up-to-date information, nonprofits allow potential donors and funders to make educated decisions about the work they do to make the world a better place.”

## Friends of OLLI Fund

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- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Anonymous (26)  | Laurie Calhoun  | Virginia and Barry DeRoze                               |
| William and Carolyn Achenbach   | Ruby Carmen   | Miles Diller in honor of Beverly and Melvin Cook        |
| John and Judy Aldock  | Sara Cavendish  | Charles Doty  |
| Jennifer Angelo   | Joseph Chalmers   | Timothy Doyle   |
| Morris Antonelli  | Joyce Chandler  | Jeffrey and Susan Drobis                                |
| Jean Arnold   | Albert and May Cheh in honor of Tony Long and Mary Fran Miklitsch       | Peter Dudley and Mary Parke                             |
| Ellen Babby   | Judith Chertoff-Berman  | Maureen Duignan in honor of Mary Fran Miklitsch         |
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| Jane Bajbor in honor of OLLI Lecturers                                | Bob and Jane Coe  | Sid Edelmann  |
| John and Carolyn Barger in honor of Tony Long and Mary Fran Miklitsch | Lewis and Monique Cohen   | Richard and Isabel Edelson                              |
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| Myra and Jerome Barron in honor of Tony Long and Mary Fran Miklitsch  | Roger B. Cooper and Doral S. Cooper                                     | Tom Ehrgood   |
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| David Berk  | Carolyn Corwin  | Steve and Di Elkin                                      |
| Josh Berman   | Marjorie Corwin   | Barbara Elkus and Rodger Poore in memory of Irwin Lebow |
| David Berz  | Wilson Coudon in honor of Albert Cheh, Susan Goodman, and Ron Edlestein | Hampton Dejarnette and Leslie England                   |
| Don and Nancy Bliss   | Cora Cramer   | Beryl and Edward Feinberg                               |
| Laszlo Bockh  | Robert and Ellen Croog  | Elaine and Edme Férat                                   |
| Sue and Benjamin Boley  | Sarah “Sally” Cutler  | Matthew and Ellanor Fink                                |
| Sidney and Elka Booth   | Martha and Steven Cutts in honor of the wonderful OLLI staff            | Walter Fisherow   |
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| Andrea Brown  | Lou Davidson in memory of Ralph Davidson                                | Kathleen Frankle  |
| Phil Brunell  | Michael and Nancy-Jean Daniels  | Tina Fried Heller                                       |
| Karen and Ralph Buglass in honor of Tony Long and Mary Fran Miklitsch | Lou Davidson in memory of Ralph Davidson                                | Jo Anne and Jack Friedenthal                            |
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| Pamela and Patrick Buzzerd in memory of Irwin Lebow                   | Lou Davidson in memory of Ralph Davidson                                | Robert Friedman   |
|   | Michael and Nancy-Jean Daniels  | Stuart Frisch and Robin Chernoff                        |
|   | Lou Davidson in memory of Ralph Davidson                                | Roberta and Peter Gluck                                 |
|   | Michael and Nancy-Jean Daniels  |   |

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Larry Gondelman  
Alice Goodman  
Susan and Sam Goodman  
Susan Gordon  
Eleanor Greene  
Abraham and Dena Greenstein  
Elizabeth and Mark Greenwold  
Susan and Peter Greif  
Betty and Henry Guyot  
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Penelope Hansen  
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Roberts  
Diane Hellens  
Margaret Hennessey  
David and Margaret Hensler  
in honor of Tony Long and  
Mary Fran Miklitsch  
Sally and Stephen Herman  
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Naomi Heller  
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Mary Fran Miklitsch  
Patricia King  
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Irwin and Grace Lebow  
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in honor of Mary Fran  
Miklitsch  
Arthur Levine  
Carol & Fred Levison in honor of  
Mary Fran Miklitsch  
Lynn Lewis in honor of the OLLI  
staff  
Patricia and Randall Lewis  
Denise and Alexander  
Liebowitz  
Carol Light

Kathleen Linehan in honor of  
Tony Long and Mary Fran  
Miklitsch  
Geraldyn Lobel  
Tony Long  
Steve Lovett  
Raj Madan  
Dorothy Marschak  
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Leslie Zimberg Martin  
Susan Martin  
Carol Mates  
Daniel and Karen Mayers  
Sara M. Mazie  
Jim Mccarthy  
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Ellen Mignoni  
Mary Fran Miklitsch  
Charles Miller  
Linda B. Miller  
Lori Milstein  
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memory of Rose Mosner  
Adrian and Annette Morchower  
Anne Morrison  
William Mosher  
Daniel B. and Else Moskowitz  
Natalie Mulitz  
Ellen and Jim Myerberg  
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Bargerone and Marianne  
Soponis  
Louis and Sherry Nevins  
Nancy and Tom Newkirk in  
honor of Tony Long and  
Mary Fran Miklitsch  
Stanley and Carol Newman  
Elsa Newmyer in honor  
of James and Virginia  
Newmyer and Susan Willens

Virginia W. Newmyer in honor of the OLLI staff and volunteers	James Rosen	Ann Stewart
Barbara and David Norton	Don Ross in honor of Tony Long and Mary Fran Miklitsch	Jerilyn Stone
Joe and Edie Oppenheimer in memory of Irwin Lebow	Seymour Rotter	Michael Sumner
Lisa Oshman in honor of Beverly and Melvin Cook	Thérèse Rousseau	Mohamed Tanamly
Geraldine E. Ostrove	Blake Rubin and Deborah McIlroy	Al and Nadia Taran in honor of Tony Long and Mary Fran Miklitsch
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Mary Lynn Parke	Geane and Richard Schubert	Janice Trausch
Miria Pigato	Marinda Schwartz	Craig Tregillus
J Plaisted	Rhea Schwartz in memory of Irwin Lebow	Ruth Uhlmann
Mary and John Poole	Donna Scriven in honor of Martha Cutts	Susan L. Urofsky
Jeffrey and Donna Porter	Betsy Seastrum	Michael Usdan
Claire-lise Presel	Andrew Sens	Paul and Susan Van Nice
Karen and Aron Primack	Wendy Shapiro	Mary Verdier in honor of Delbert Spurlock
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John Radner	Betsy and Steve Sherman	Alice Weinstein
Jacques Read	Peter and Claudia Sherman	Andrea Weiss
Jim Reschovsky	Rosemarie Shomstein	Joan and Stanley Weiss in memory of Irwin Lebow
Sally Rieger	Martin Silfen	Joan Wessel
Richard Ringell	Betty Sinowitz	Elsa Williams
Carole Rogentine	Marianne and Clare Soponis in memory of Naomi Heller	John and Carol Wilner
Joseph Rogers	Jules Spector	Bruce Wolff
Joan and Jeffrey Rohlfs	Patricia Spector	Ellen and Bernard Young
Barbara Rollinson in memory of Irwin Lebow	Delbert Spurlock in honor of the OLLI Staff	Lolly Zipp in memory of Janice Frieden
Susan Rolnick		Ellen and Robert Zirin in memory of Irwin Lebow

### Raymond J. Rasenberger Scholarship Fund

KMA Zuckert

*We have made every effort to ensure all of the above information is correct. We apologize for any errors. Please contact us if a correction is needed.*

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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David Hensler\*

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Martha Cutts\*

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John Aldock

Myra Barron

Stuart Frisch

Penny Hansen\*

Alan Hausman

Judy Havemann

Mark Nadel\*

John Thorner

\*Executive Committee

# STAFF

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## **Executive Director**

Tony Long

## **Deputy Executive Director**

Mary Fran Miklitsch

## **Director of Academic Programming**

Lesley Diaz

## **Director of Operations and Projects**

Lisa Olson

## **Operations Manager**

Jesse Williams

## **Programs and Projects Coordinator**

Sara Beatty

## **Administrative Coordinator**

Niranjan Singh



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**Washington, DC 20016**  
**202.895.4860**  
**[www.oli-dc.org](http://www.oli-dc.org)**