



# 2022-2023 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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I'm happy to report that OLLI at AU continues to be the robust and vibrant organization that we all value. In the last academic year total membership was over 1400 individuals taking over 170 classes over the two full semesters.

While the two previous years presented the substantial challenges of the Covid pandemic, our 2022 – 2023 academic year presented a new set of headwinds for OLLI. Although our membership stayed steady throughout the peak pandemic years, as Covid receded last year many of us took those long-delayed vacations and family visits, and Fall 2022 enrollment dropped 20%. This made it necessary for us to draw into our reserves to make up an operating deficit. Following that drop, the Board and OLLI staff developed a strategy to restore enrollment to its previous level. This entailed aggressively spreading the word through appropriate neighborhood list-serves, personal contact, and some paid advertising. I'm happy to report that membership for the current semester has nearly matched that of two years ago. We will continue to spread the word about OLLI to those who might not know about all the benefits that OLLI offers.

In addition to the study groups, we've continued to offer other programming as well. The weekly lectures returned to an in-person format except for the January series. Among the highlights were lectures by Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky, former U.S. International Trade Representative; Molly Smith, former Artistic Director of Arena Stage; and Chuck Rosenberg, a former United States Attorney, and current MSNBC legal correspondent.

As we returned to OLLI in-person, the Social Committee under Chair Jeff Porter worked to restore the sense of community that we value. In October 2022, we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of OLLI at AU with a wonderful reception at the Katzen Art Center in October, which was attended by nearly 150 people. In the Spring there was a wine and cheese event to welcome new members to OLLI. In March we had our first Member Appreciation week, with refreshments, games, and a raffle on the Friday with several prizes.

We've continued to increase our investment in technology, which enabled us to upgrade our Zoom and recording capacity. Indeed, 40 percent of our study groups are now online. Our ability to fund those improvements demonstrate the need for continued fundraising. Those development efforts, led by Board member Martha Cutts were very successful. Last year members contributed \$122,913, which was 136% of our budgeted goal.

Finally, I want to acknowledge our excellent staff. Under the leadership of Executive Director Tony Long, our staff—comprised of Lesley Diaz, Lisa Olson, Jesse Williams, Sara Beatty, and Amya Bertrand—continues to provide the support that makes our study groups and other programming possible. Amya Bertrand recently joined the staff as Administrative Coordinator.

Mark Nadel  
Chair, Board of Directors

*“At OLLI we have found a wonderful community of people who value learning and sharing knowledge; opportunities to learn new things in a wide and diverse range of fields from art fraud to world history to weather and lots inbetween; a terrific and supportive staff to make things work almost seamlessly; and just an all around terrific addition to our life.”*

—Tammy Belden, Volunteer

## HISTORY

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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.

## 2022-23 LECTURES

The Lecture Committee presented 23 lectures in 2022-2023. The lectures were offered in a combination of in-person and online formats. Below are some of the titles.

Carolyn Clancy, *The Impact of the Pandemic on Health Care—Back to the Future or New Direction?*

Chuck Rosenberg, *Thinking about Law, Prosecutors and Politics*

Dick Wegman and Paul Hoff, *Even if the Supreme Court is Too Political, Can Congress Actually Do Anything About It?*

Gerald Torres, *Critical Race Theory: What It Is and Isn't*

John A. Lawrence, *Arc of Power: Inside Nancy Pelosi's Speakership, 2005–2010*

Juliette Kayyem, *The Devil Never Sleeps: Learning to Live in an Age of Disasters*

Ken Babby, *How to Make Baseball Fun Again*

Loretta Neumann, *Son of a Slave: A Black Man's Journey in White America*

Mark Schneider, *The Threat of Growing Authoritarianism South of Our Border*

Molly Smith, *Life in the Eye of the Hurricane: Reflections on 25 years at the Mighty Arena Stage*

Peter Marks, *Thoughts on the Broadway and Washington Theater Scenes*

Ralph Begleiter, *Adventures of a Global Journalist*

Sarah Cameron, *The Aral Sea: Environment, Society, and State Power in Central Asia*

Stephen Hadley, *A Dialogue on U.S. Foreign Policy from Bush to Biden*

Steven Steinbach, *Teaching the Constitution*

# STUDY GROUP LEADER SERVICE AWARDS

## 25+ Years

Linda Freeman  
Jenny Pierson

## 20-24 Years

Larry Heilman

## 15-19 Years

Bob Coe  
Leslie Frantz  
Eleanor Heginbotham  
Iris Lipkowitz  
Dave Palmeter  
Mary Poole  
Helen Schwartz  
Andrew White  
Susan Willens

## 10-14 Years

Josh Berman  
Hanne Caraher  
Lewis Cohen  
Bruce Eisen  
Stephen Elkin  
Susan Goodman  
Penny Hansen  
David Hurwitz  
Erich Keel  
Karen Gail Lewis  
Carol Light  
Ellen Moody  
Daniel Moskowitz  
Charles O'Connor  
Ronald Parlato  
Judith Plotz  
Jacques Read  
Karuna Srimati  
Diane Swan  
Wendel Swan  
John Vorhes

## 5-9 Years

Judy Alden  
Graham Atkinson  
Joe Belden  
Brad Bickford  
Donald Bliss  
Monroe Brett  
Paul Brown

Karen Buglass  
Ralph Buglass  
Gary Cahn  
Albert Cheh  
Marion Connell  
Robert Croog  
Martha Cutts  
William Daney  
Jeffrey Drobis  
Susan Drobis  
David Flaxman  
Lisa Friedman  
Mark Gottlieb  
Monica Grigera  
Frances Grigsby  
Rita Hadden  
Rabbi Shua Hecht  
Kenneth Hinga  
Jim Holman  
Edward Ingebretsen  
Arthur Katz  
Leonard King  
Bob Kolodney  
Lisa Leinberger  
Arthur Levine  
Lynn Lewis  
Raymond Maxwell  
Caroline Mindel  
Mark Nadel  
Richard Palmer  
John Parascandola  
David Pomerantz  
Joseph Reo  
Victor Rezmovic  
Don Ross  
Catherine Sandifer  
Susan Schneider  
Dan Sherman  
Robert Somers  
Patricia Spector  
Karen Stewart  
Al Taran  
Edward Ward  
Xenia Wilkinson  
Peter Wilson  
Chris With

## Up to 5 Years

Raysa Amador  
Ken Avis  
Monica Batra  
Martin Blank  
Avis Brock  
Samuel Brylawski  
John Burton  
David Callet  
Russell Canan  
Larry Canepa  
Gurjit Chima  
Ron Edelstein  
Elisa Evangelista  
Louis Evangelista  
Rebecca Fanning  
Caroline Farrell  
Edward Feinberg  
Elaine Férat  
Matthew Fink  
Oscar Fitzgerald  
Phil Frost  
Joel Gemmell  
Nick Glakas  
Larry Gondelman  
Samuel Goodman  
Margery Gordon  
Jeffrey Gorsky  
Bill Hadden  
Lisa Harper  
Jon Haveman  
Gerry Hendershot  
Mark Hoelter  
Paul Hoff  
Margo Hope  
Jeanine Hull  
Carolyn Jew  
Oliver John  
Donna Jonte  
Walter Kamiat  
Douglas Kelly  
Anne Kendall  
Elizabeth King  
Kim Kokich  
Robert Larossa  
Jerry Leach  
Jerry Lesser

Keith Lindgren  
Ruth Lozner  
Brian MacDonald  
Dorothy Marschak  
Jenny Masur  
Roger Meyer  
Mary Fran Miklitsch  
Robert Motyka  
Mary Mulligan  
Joy Obadia  
Robert Olick  
Joe Oppenheimer  
Jerome Paulson  
Claire Pettengill  
Miria Pigato  
Jeffrey Porter  
Liz Reilly  
Jack Riggs  
Alan Rhinesmith  
Carin Ruff  
Tanya Runyan  
Lange Schermerhorn  
Diane Sharon  
Jay Sherwin  
Brad Shingleton  
Diana Smith  
Joseph Snyder  
Michele Spittler  
Delbert Spurlock  
Samuel Steinberg  
Mark Stevens  
Matthew Swartz  
Eleanor Tanno  
Candace Thurman  
Colette Tracy  
Michael Usdan  
Paul Vamvas  
James Verdier  
Reggie Walton  
Richard Wegman  
Frederick Weisberg  
Carol Weissbrod  
Claire Williams  
Irving Williamson

## BY THE NUMBERS

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1412

Members

244

Study Groups and Shorts

134

New Study Groups and Shorts

176

Study Group Leaders

35

New Study Group Leaders

295

Donors

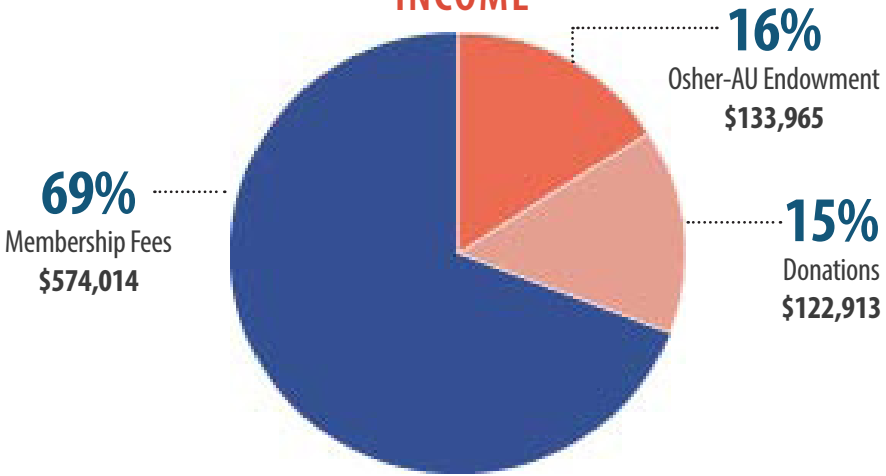
*“When I retired from teaching in the same school after 43 years, I did not know what I would do until someone suggested I look into OLLI, where I could return to being a student and also teach, since I loved it so much. OLLI has provided a rich academic and social experience, and I am so glad that it is a large part of my life.”*

—Leonard King, SGL

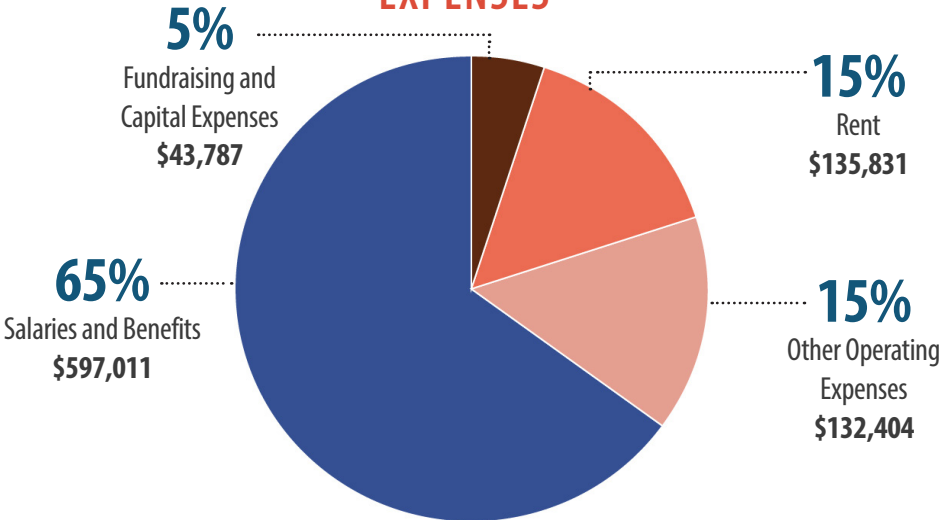
# FINANCIAL REPORT

Each year the Treasurer, Finance Committee, and the Executive Director develop the annual budget. The budget for 2022-2023 presented some unique challenges because it was difficult to predict membership enrollment as we partially returned to in-person or hybrid classes from Zoom classes. Membership fees typically account for approximately 80% of our operating budget. This year membership fees were less than the prior year and less than anticipated, and we were required to use some funds from our reserve account to meet budgetary requirements. We are fortunate to have a robust fundraising program and that our investment account has done well in a difficult financial environment.

## INCOME



## EXPENSES



### NOTES

The balance of the OLLI at American University investment account on June 30, 2023: \$1,613,390.

These are unaudited figures.

*“Once I retired, I needed a source of intellectual stimulation, social interaction, and structure that work had provided. I found that with OLLI. I enjoy repeating classes with professors I know, like advanced French, but also learning new things, like music appreciation. People are so well informed and fun to talk with. ”*

—Carolee Heileman, SGR

## 2022-23 SPECIAL EVENTS

In addition to the usual four Lecture Series, during the 2022-23 academic year, OLLI offered Serendipities!—talks by OLLI members and friends, virtual and in-person tours, Happy Hours, a Member Appreciation Week, an SGL Appreciation Luncheon, and more.

Summer In-Person Happy Hour

A Virtual Tour of Old Town Alexandria

Fall In-Person Happy Hour

Music-Theatre Group

Serendipity Talk: Death in Wartime China, A Daughter’s Discovery

Special Presentation by Former President of AU

In-Person Walking Tour of Old Town Alexandria

40th Anniversary Celebration

Serendipity Talk: We’ll Always Have Paris: Casablanca at 80

In-Person Tour of the Cryptologic Museum near Ft. Meade, MD

Study Group Leader Appreciation Luncheon

Virtual Tour: The Heart of DC—Part 5

Serendipity Talk: The Lyrics of Mack Gordon

Wine and Cheese Welcomer

In-Person Tour of the National Press Club with Gil Klein

Member Appreciation Week

Serendipity Talk: The Incomparable Katherine Hepburn

Edward Ingebretsen, Talk and Tour: Enslaved Washington DC (1790–2023)

Serendipity Talk: A Fascination with WWI Trench Art

Annual Meeting

President Lincoln’s Cottage Tour

Bloomsday Celebration

Study Group Leader Appreciation Luncheon

Enslaved George Towne (1645-2023): A Walking Meditation

Serendipity Talk: Charlie Chaplin: The Tramp Who Made Us Cry



# 2022–2023 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

Anonymous (13)	Joyce Chandler	Steve and Di Elkin
Gwen Adler in memory of Alfred Gourджи	Stuart Frisch and Robin Chernoff	Barbara Elkus and Rodger Poore
Virginia Albrecht	Robert and Jane Coe	Penelope English
John and Judy Aldock	Joanne Cogar in honor of Martha Cutts	Todd Epstein
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Ruby Carmen		Carl Hausmann
		Judy Havemann
		Eleanor Heginbotham in honor of Tony Long
		Tina Fried Heller

- Gerry Hendershot  
David and Margaret Hensler  
in memory of Jack  
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Sally and Stephen Herman  
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Judith Hetherton  
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Mindel, and Lynn Lewis  
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Elaine Learch  
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Edward and Susan Levin  
Fred and Carol Levison  
Lynn Lewis in honor of Tony  
Long and the OLLI staff  
Patricia and Randall Lewis  
Denise and Alexander  
Liebowitz
- Carol Light  
Kathleen Linehan  
Tony Long in honor of the OLLI  
volunteers and staff  
Raj Madan  
Jane Mahoney  
Beth Marcus  
Susan Martin  
Sara M. Mazie  
Deborah Mcilroy  
Alan and Amy Meltzer  
Sander and Irene Mendelson  
Sally Mennel in honor of the  
OLLI staff  
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Ellen Mignoni  
Charles Miller  
Kathleen Miller  
Linda B. Miller  
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Adrian and Annette Morchower  
Anne Morrison  
Daniel B. Moskowitz  
Natalie Mulitz  
Ellen and Jim Myerberg  
Robert Myers  
Mark and Beverly Nadel  
Lois Neuman in honor of OLLI's  
40th Anniversary and Tony  
Long  
Stanley and Carol Newman  
Elsa Newmyer in honor  
of James and Virginia  
Newmyer  
Virginia W. Newmyer  
Charles O'Connor  
Daniel O'Flaherty  
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Richard R. Palmer in honor of  
David "Mr. Music" Flaxman
- David Palmetter and Faith  
Tanney in memory of Vee  
Burke and Ed Goldin  
Nancy Peavy  
Claire Pettengill in honor of  
Leonard King  
Mary and John Poole  
Jeffrey and Donna Porter  
David Powers in honor of  
Leonard King  
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Jacques Read  
Celeste Regan  
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Smith  
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Joseph Rogers  
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Barbara Rollinson  
Susan Rolnick  
Suzanne and Irving Rosenthal  
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Seymour Rotter  
Thèrèse Rousseau  
Lesley Rubinger in honor of  
Tony Long  
Edward Samuel  
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Geane and Richard Schubert  
Marinda Schwartz in honor of  
Sue Edson  
Donna Scriven in honor of  
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Stephens  
Kathy and Ralph Smith  
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Bob Hausman  
Mark Stevens  
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Robert Olick  
Wendel and Diane Swan  
Mohamed Tanamly  
Mark Tannenbaum  
Albert and Nadia Taran  
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Candace Thurman  
Zrinka Tomic  
Craig Tregillus  
Sheldon Trubatch  
Michael Usdan  
Paul and Susan Van Nice  
Mary Verdier in honor of Del  
Spurlock  
Edward Ward  
Cyla Weiner  
Alice Weinstein  
Andrea Weiss  
Elsa Williams  
Mark Wolfman

*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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Martha Cutts\*

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John Bargeron

Stuart Frisch

Penny Hansen\*

Alan Hausman

Judy Havemann

Linda Miller

John Thorner

\*Executive Committee

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Tony Long

## **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**

Amya Bertrand



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