



December 8, 2017 OLLI News

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Thank You!!!

A heartfelt thank you to our study group leaders, study group reps, committee members, and all of our volunteers who help make OLLI such a remarkable place.

Lost and Found Items!

Please be sure to visit the OLLI Social Space closest to the OLLI Office to view items recovered and now waiting to be reunited with their owners in the **Lost and Found Box**. Plenty of books, reading glasses, items of clothing, and other

Letter from the Chair



HOLIDAY PREPARATIONS

Just as we are busy getting ready for the holidays, OLLI too is busy. Recent festivities included two celebrations. Over a hundred guests enjoyed the Fall Study Group Leader Appreciation Luncheon on Dec. 1, at which Barry Bortnick, SGL and songwriter, presented his video-enhanced "Musicals in the Second Half." The annual Holiday Party on Dec. 6 was held for the first time "on campus" on the sixth floor. The party featured generous hors d'oeuvres, wine, and best of all, the company of one another. Attendees were surrounded by artwork from Rose Mosner's collage class, Sarah Whitener's watercolor class, and music provided by two excellent violinists from AU's Music Program. Jeanne Kent, Social Committee Chair and her "Ambassadors" greatly contributed to this event's success.

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND COMPASS

Our Compass team, nine nonprofit specialists, has begun the first phase of their process -- interviewing Board and Committee members to understand OLLI -- so they can provide advice for our strategic planning and development efforts. The Compass report and Strategic Plan are scheduled to be completed by May 2018.

CAMPAIGN 2020

Campaign 2020, led by our Development

ephemera are waiting to be reclaimed.

Committee Chair Sue Rolnick, is underway. Although the campaign has just begun, we are pleased to announce that we have received in cash and pledges more than \$30,000 toward our initial goal of \$150,000 by June 2018. Thank you to those who have given so generously. A reminder letter has been sent for those who wish to give by the end of this year.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY LECTURES

Eight outstanding lectures are booked from Jan. 9 through Feb. 1. Chaired by Judy Havemann, the Lecture Committee has arranged lectures on a stunning array of topics, including art, poetry, health, education, civil rights, immigration, and national security.

FEBRUARY SHORTS & SPRING SEMESTER

The Board just approved the Curriculum Committee's recommendations of 20 February Shorts and 96 Spring study groups. ***For the first time, we are combining information on the February 2018 Shorts and the 2018 Spring semester into a single catalog. The catalog should be arriving by mail in early January.*** Spring's offerings include study groups led by ten new study group leaders and a science study group offered by the the AU College of Arts and Sciences.

Due to his many other commitments, Stan Newman will step down as Curriculum Committee Chair on Jan. 1, succeeded by Marianne Soponis as the new Committee Chair. With many thanks to Stan and welcome to Marianne.

ENHANCED FACILITIES

Screens near the 5th floor elevators and in the Social Space now provide bold reminders of OLLI events. A late November demonstration and test of a hearing loop temporarily installed in Room 1 proved so successful that the Board has approved installation of hearing loops in all of the small classrooms early next year.

We've initiated discussions with AU to have longer classroom hours and/or more classroom space. Most of the January lectures will be held in the larger, 140-seat 6th floor lecture hall. The Board

also has instituted a plan to give OLLI members a two-day lead to sign up for lectures before the public can sign up. Last, but not least, efforts are underway to see if AU can implement a permit system for OLLI members to park in the garage.

We're looking forward to 2018 -- to new members, classes, lectures, trips and initiatives, familiar faces and friends -- all in now familiar surroundings. Best wishes to all for the Holiday season!

Myra Barron

Chair, Board of Directors

Terracotta Warriors at VMFA



On Saturday, Dec. 2, OLLI members and friends had a wonderful day at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond. Three docents guided the group through the Terracotta Army exhibit, providing information on the warriors and on the Emperor who had them built. The group also spent several hours exploring the museum's Fabergé collection, Art Deco and Art Nouveau collections, as well as painting and sculpture from many countries and periods.

"... We loved seeing the warriors close up — we have been to Xian and that experience is unmatched, but one is not able to get close to them in their pits, so this exhibit immensely enhances our acquaintance with them. And we loved the other items -- especially the tiny silk worm! The entire exhibit revived treasured memories of China."

"We love that place, it's a gem."

Thanks to Gordon Appleby for the photo.

Upcoming Events at American University

SELECTED EVENTS

AU Town Hall & Community New Year's Reception

January 4

Community Town Hall, 7:00 pm

Katzen Arts Center, Admissions Welcome Center,
Room 201

New Year's Reception, 8:00 pm

Katzen Arts Center, 2nd Floor Rotunda

*Discuss community issues with American University
President Sylvia Burwell at the town hall, then
enjoy food and music with AU neighbors at the new
year's reception.*

**RSVP to communityrelations@american.edu or
202-885-2700.**

Arab Modern and Contemporary Works from the Barjeel Art Foundation

Through Dec. 17, 11 am - 4 pm

LOCATION: Katzen Museum First Floor Exhibition

ADMISSION: Free

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

View American's [online community calendar](#) to
find information on all of the upcoming events at the
university.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Website www.oli-dc.org | Phone 202-895-4860 | E-

mail oli@american.edu

Mailing Address 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW | Washington, DC 20016

Anne Wallace, *Executive Director* | Tony Long, *Deputy Executive Director*

Mary Fran Miklitsch, *Communications Director* | Besith Pineda, *Operations
Coordinator*

Susan Kalil, *Administrative Assistant*



