



## November 10, 2017 OLLI News

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## Coffee & Conversation

The next **Connect with Coffee & Conversation** will be from **1:15-1:45 pm, Tuesday, Nov. 14**, in the Fifth Floor Social Space. The theme is **OLLI Humanities courses**.

## New Events

### HANDBAGGED

***Play by Moira Buffini***  
**Round House Theatre**  
**Sun., Feb. 11, 2018**  
**2:00 pm**

**Orchestra seats:**  
**\$53.00**

**Tickets must be purchased by**  
**1/25/2018**

**10 seats available**

"An Olivier Award-

## Notes from 2017 Town Hall



We had a robust, engaged turnout for our town meeting on Oct. 27. For those of you who did not attend, here is a summary.

### WHERE ARE WE?

**AU Relationship.** We have had a longstanding

relationship with AU. AU professors enhance our curriculum. More than 40 OLLI members are AU alumni and emeriti professors. We have a financial connection to AU through the Bernard Osher Foundation, which has funded university-affiliated Osher Institutes across the US. AU received on our behalf \$1 million in 2008 and an additional \$950K in 2016. The AU Osher Endowment is now approximately \$2.225 million, from which OLLI receives yearly distributions from its earnings. We are in the second year of a 10-year lease with shared space in AU's Spring Valley Building, and we recently changed our name to "OLLI at AU."

**Academic Excellence.** Of the 120 OLLIs nationwide, we are one of the top two or three with respect to our strong academic curriculum. This fall, we have 90 study groups and nearly 1,000 members. Combining both semesters, February Shorts, and June Minis, we'll have over 1,300 members this year. We have achieved this growth with only 5 full-time, paid staff, making us practically an "all-volunteer" college!

**Building Community.** As a "commuter" college, we strive to develop a sense of community. This

winning West End hit ... wickedly funny comedy that imagines what the world's most powerful women talk about behind closed palace doors."

"The Iron Lady. The Queen. Born six months apart, each woman had a destiny that would change the world. But when the stiff upper lip softened and the gloves came off, which one had the upper hand?"

Contact [Alice Weinstein](#).

**NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE**

**February 15, 2018**

**10:30 am Entrance**

**17 timed tickets**

**available**

Reserve a ticket ahead of time by contacting [Alice Weinstein](#). Meet outside the Museum at 10:15 am.

semester we've held a Meet and Greet for new members, an Open House, weekly Coffee and Conversations, and a trip to Gettysburg, as well as a planned trip to view the Terracotta Warriors at the Virginia Museum of Fine Art. You may still reserve a space by clicking here: [Museum Visit](#)

Last month, OLLI sponsored a concert by the AU Department of Music at the Katzen Center Museum. Our annual Holiday Party will be held on December 6. Please click here to reserve a space: [Holiday Party](#)

**Financial Matters.** About 75% of our operating budget comes from tuition. Our annual earnings distribution on the Osher Endowment, through AU, goes towards the balance of expenses. We also can draw from our "Friends of OLLI" Reserve Fund's \$1 million, made up of donations, gifts, etc. This reserve fund is also used for capital expenditures, such as the cost of installing hearing loops in our six classrooms. To accommodate our growth, including 144 new members this fall, we need more classroom space and/or hours, as well as expensive software updates. To meet these needs, we are beginning a \$150,000 fundraising effort, Campaign 2020, with a final goal of \$1.5 million over the next few years.

**WHERE ARE WE GOING?**

In August, we were awarded a highly competitive Compass grant worth \$150,000 of consulting services. Our Compass team leader, Patrice Feinstein, assisted by several nonprofit specialists will help us better align our resources, programs, and mission. The Strategic Planning Committee is developing a strategic plan, due in June. Tentative goals will address growth, space, diversity, and building community. Whether you prefer that OLLI at AU grows and changes or stays as it is, we will seek your views through focus groups and/or a survey.

**Questions.** Attendees raised a number of issues. One concern is the limited number of seats available at weekly lectures. Some urged that OLLI members be given preference over non-members for lecture reservations. The Board will consider this

at its November meeting. Another concern was our limited space. We have the six classrooms on the Fifth Floor plus the auditorium on the First Floor. We are beginning discussions with AU to address our need for additional classroom space and hours. Another inquiry concerned how OLLI members could access AU facilities. Look for this on the OLLI website, on the “Benefits of Membership” page under the “Membership” menu.

**Parking.** Dan Nichols, AU Executive Director of Risk, Safety and Transportation Programs, along with Andrew Huff of AU Community Relations, addressed AU parking policies. As Mr. Nichols explained, **the DC Zoning Commission, not AU,** requires the entire AU community, including OLLI members, to follow the “Good Neighbor Policy.” No map showing neighborhood boundaries exists because there are no specific limitations. When visiting AU, even with a DC Zone 3 sticker, OLLI members must park in the garage or at metered spaces. AU is required to issue parking tickets to vehicles violating the policy, and the first ticket is \$200. If you live in the neighborhood and AU accidentally tickets your car when parked in front of your house, call the parking office at 202-885-3111. The parking office will delete the fine and add your license plate to a DO NOT TICKET list in their database. To sum up, the rule is simple: If visiting AU, park on AU property.

Mr. Nichols also said the parking staff will consider providing parking permits for OLLI members, in addition to the use of kiosks and the parking phone app. OLLI staff will follow up with him.

## Upcoming Events at American University

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### SELECTED EVENTS

#### 15 years of Trawick Prizes

**Nov. 11, 5:00-6:00 pm: Gallery Talk. Free. RSVP required.**

**Nov.11-Dec. 17: Exhibition. Free**

Annual winners of one of the first regional

competitions recognizing visual artists discuss their work and practices.

Katzen Museum

**Conference: Israeli Cuisine as a Reflection of Israeli Society**

***Monday, November 13, 9:30 am-6:00 pm***

**[American University East Campus Constitution Hall](#)**

For schedule and RSVP, please see:

**<http://www.american.edu/cas/israelstudies/cuisine/index.cfm>**

Questions: Email **[Laura Cutler](#)** or call 202-885-3780

**Unjustifiable Means: The Inside Story of How the CIA, Pentagon, and U.S. Government Conspired to Torture**

***November 14, 5:30-7:30 pm***

Book discussion by author Mark Fallon with panel of specialists: Juan Mendez, Washington School of Law; Daphne Eviatar, Amnesty International; and Raha Wala, Human Rights First.

Washington College of Law, Warren Building NT01

**[Registration requested.](#)**

**ADDITIONAL EVENTS**

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

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