

HELPFUL LINKS

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Newsletter



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UPDATES

HOLIDAY HOURS

Veteran's Day

The OLLI office will remain **OPEN** on Veteran's Day, Monday, November 11, and classes will proceed as scheduled.

Thanksgiving

OLLI will be **CLOSED** for Thanksgiving on Wednesday, November 27, through Friday, November 29 and no classes will be held on those days. **Monday and Tuesday classes will still meet.**

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

CALLING ALL FEBRUARY & SPRING PROPOSALS



February Shorts

February 3-7

Classes meet 2-5 times during one week.

PROPOSAL FORM

Spring Semester

March 3-May 9

Classes meet once a week for 7-10 weeks.

PROPOSAL FORM

Proposal deadline for both: November 24

We welcome proposals from both new and previous study group leaders! For more information about being an SGL at OLLI, please visit the [Become an Instructor](#) page on the website. If you or someone you know is interested in leading a study group for the first time and would like to speak with someone,

please email olli@american.edu with your contact information and we will get in touch with you.

To propose a study group, click the applicable button above. You will need to log in with your OLLI username/password or create an account if it's your first time. Class formats in February and spring will continue to be in-person or online. Study group leaders select their format preference on the proposal form.

LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL PRESENTERS

Join Mark Stevens, Dan Moskowitz, Gary Eakes, and Larry Gondelman in presenting one or two sessions in our latest collaborative class offering this spring: "What Are the 5 Minutes You'd Play to Make a Friend Fall in Love with Music?"

This course takes inspiration from a *New York Times* feature titled "What Are the 5 Minutes You'd Play to Make a Friend Fall in Love with Music?" In this series, artists, writers, and critics choose a piece of music they believe can make someone fall in love with a particular artist, genre, or theme and then explain what makes that selection so captivating. For example, Patti Smith, John Turturro, and Renée Fleming each selected powerful opera passages to showcase the dramatic allure of the art form. Here's an example: [5 Minutes That Will Make You Love Duke Ellington - The New York Times](#)

In our course, each class will highlight 3-4 artists, genres, or themes—such as Jazz Vocalists—introducing participants to musical clips and videos that reveal the unique talents of each featured artist. The course aims to introduce participants to styles of music that may be less familiar, encouraging discovery and appreciation. Throughout, we'll explore what makes each artist or genre so distinct and remarkable.

The course is broad in scope, with a primary focus on jazz and classical music. To enrich our sessions with a diverse range of musical perspectives, we're looking to involve multiple presenters with varying tastes and expertise. Please email Mark Stevens at stevensmark1@gmail.com if you'd be interested in joining us for the spring 2025 semester!

LECTURES

Registration is required for in-person lectures. Registration is open via the direct link below or the event on the [OLLI website events calendar](#). Each registrant may reserve **up to two seats**. Your name(s) must be on the list of registrants to enter the lecture and you must be in your seat five minutes before

the lecture starts to guarantee your seat. **In-person fall lectures will be held at OLLI:** 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW, in Room A on the first floor.



TODAY'S LECTURE

Murry Sidlin, *The Defiant Requiem*

November 8

1:30–2:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI

Murry Sidlin is President and Artistic Director of The Defiant Requiem Foundation and creator of the concert-dramas *Defiant Requiem: Verdi at Terezín* and *Hours of Freedom: The Story of the Terezín Composer*, and the play *The Verdi Verdict* (Mass Appeal, 1943). He lectures extensively on the arts and humanities as practiced by the prisoners in the Theresienstadt (Terezín) Concentration Camp. Mr. Sidlin has been a conductor or artistic director of the Baltimore Symphony, the National Symphony Orchestra, the New Haven and Long Beach (California) Symphonies, the Tulsa Philharmonic, the Connecticut Ballet, the Cascade Festival of Music in Bend, Oregon, and the San Diego Symphony. He led 18 consecutive New Year's Eve Gala concerts at the Kennedy Center with the National Symphony Orchestra. He was Dean of the School of Music at Catholic University where he still serves as Professor of Conducting and Instrumental Music.

REGISTER



NEXT WEEK'S LECTURE

Esther Safran Foer, *The Capital Jewish Museum*

November 15

1:30–2:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI

Esther Safran Foer is President of the Board of Directors of the Lillian and Albert Small Capital

Jewish Museum. She was born in Poland to Louis and Ethel Safran, Holocaust survivors who met in 1945. She spent her early childhood in a displaced persons camp before moving with her family to the US in 1949. The family later settled in Washington, DC. Safran Foer founded FM Strategic Communications in 2002. For 10 years, she was the CEO of Sixth & I Synagogue, where she helped develop a nationally recognized model for young professional engagement within a historic synagogue and cultural center. She was named one of the *Forward 50 Jewish leaders*. In 2020 she published the post-Holocaust-memoir *I Want You to Know We're Still Here*, which has been translated into eight languages. She also worked as press secretary for presidential candidate George McGovern.

[REGISTER](#)

The following lecture has been added on December 6. As usual, the Zoom link will be provided in that Friday's newsletter.



Anika Prather, Anna Julia Cooper, Washington Educator

December 6

1:30—2:30 PM

Online via Zoom

Dr. Anika T. Prather obtained her BA in elementary education from Howard University, followed by multiple graduate degrees in education from New York University and Howard University. She holds a master's in liberal arts from St. John's College (Annapolis) and a PhD in English, Theatre, and Literacy Education from the University of Maryland (College Park). Her research centers on enhancing literacy among African American students through engagement with canonical literature. Recently, she self-published her book "Living in the Constellation

OLLI EVENTS

SERENDIPITY TALK

Patrick Malone, *Wanna Hear a Joke? Why Laughter Matters*

Monday, November 18 | 3:30-5:00 PM

Online via Zoom

In life we are faced with more political divisiveness, more organizational complexity, less time, and fewer resources. But laughter has the power to build bonds, forge trust, and improve productivity, even in the most challenging of times. Yet many of us are uncomfortable with letting go and connecting at the most human level. From physical and emotional benefits, laughter is essential. This session will engage attendees with the latest science supporting humor and the impact it can have on our lives and those for whom we care.

Professor Malone is the Director, Key Executive Leadership Programs at American University. He is a frequent guest lecturer on kindness, gratitude, emotional intelligence, compassion, ethics, mindfulness, and leadership at various organizations, professional associations, and universities including the Fulbright Scholars Program. His research and teaching interests include human motivation, kindness, leadership, ethics, and organizational behavior. Dr. Malone is a retired Navy Captain. While in the Navy, he served in a number of leadership and policy roles including as a professor of biometrics and preventive medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; Academic Director; and Dean of Academics for Navy Medicine.

No registration is required for Serendipities. The Zoom link will be e-mailed to all those subscribed to the OLLI newsletter the morning of the talk. If you do not receive the newsletter and would like to attend, please join the email list at https://www.oli-dc.org/join_email_list.

OLLI HAPPENINGS

OLLI LUNCH AND HAPPY HOUR CLUBS

Interested in getting together with other OLLI members for lunch or a happy hour? OLLI Social Committee Chair, Jeff Porter, is organizing two upcoming events:

- Lunch on **Wednesday, November 13** at Millie's restaurant (across from OLLI) at 12:30 PM. **Up to 12 people can attend.** Each person pays for their own lunch.
- Happy Hour on **Friday, November 22** at Pizza Paradiso (across from OLLI) at 2:30 PM, immediately following the Lecture with Carla A. Hills. **Up to 20 people can attend.** Each person pays for their own drinks/food.

If you're interested in either one, please sign up with OLLI Social Committee Chair, Jeff Porter at djporter2@mac.com.

NEW CLUB OPPORTUNITY

Do you miss hearing a book read aloud to you? Some people enjoy reading a book aloud to one another on long road trips; others have an annual family tradition of reading Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*. Hearing a book read aloud allows the listener to hear the beauty of the language, the cadence and the flow, an experience different from what we "hear" when we read.

If you are interested in exploring the possibility of an OLLI club that would focus on reading aloud, please email Martha Cutts at marthacutts1@gmail.com by **Tuesday, November 12.**

AU EVENTS

THE CIVIC LIFE

"Deciphering the Political Process: 2024"

- 10.29** "What Happens After Election Day - How the Electoral College Works"
- 11.12** "What Just Happened? What Did We Learn from Election 2024?"
- 11.19** "What Happens Next? The Presidential Transition of Power"

SINE INSTITUTE
of POLICY & POLITICS



KOGOD SCHOOL of BUSINESS
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SCHOOL of PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC

What Just Happened? What Did We Learn from Election 2024?

Tuesday, November 12 | 4:00 PM | Registration Required

Kerwin Hall, Room 301

The talk will be moderated by Betsey Fischer Martin, the Executive Director of the AU SPA Women in Politics Institute and will feature the Sine Institute's Senior Advisor, Molly O'Rourke and Republican pollster, Kristin Soltis Anderson.

It will be the second in "Deciphering the Political Process: 2024," a series of three election discussions Sine is hosting this autumn before, during, and after the election as part of The Civic Life initiative.

REGISTER

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University

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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