



Where Curiosity Never Retires



OLLI NEWS — November 5, 2021

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Support What You Love

Within the next few days, you will receive an email from Martha Cutts, Chair of OLLI's Development Committee, reminding you of our fall fundraising campaign and directing you to our website where you can contribute. Martha's email will also provide useful information on how to enjoy possible tax benefits by contributing directly from your IRA. Please read it carefully.

For those of you who have already contributed, thank you. For those of you who have not yet done so, I hope you will take this opportunity to give back to an organization—your organization—that gives us so much. Each week, more than 1,100 of us meet in 90-plus stimulating classes to explore and share new ideas and experiences—a labor of love by 104 committed, volunteer Study Group

Leaders. Yet, each year, only 24 percent of us donate to OLLI—to maintain our quality offerings, pay our bills (membership fees cover only about 80 percent of our operating budget), and position ourselves for the future (we love our space but we are tenants, not owners, affiliated with a university that has space problems). Let us work together to keep our shared OLLI experience vibrant and resilient. [Please support our annual fund drive now.](#) Any amount is appreciated and every contribution is valuable. Let's push past that 24 percent!

John Bargeron

Board Chair

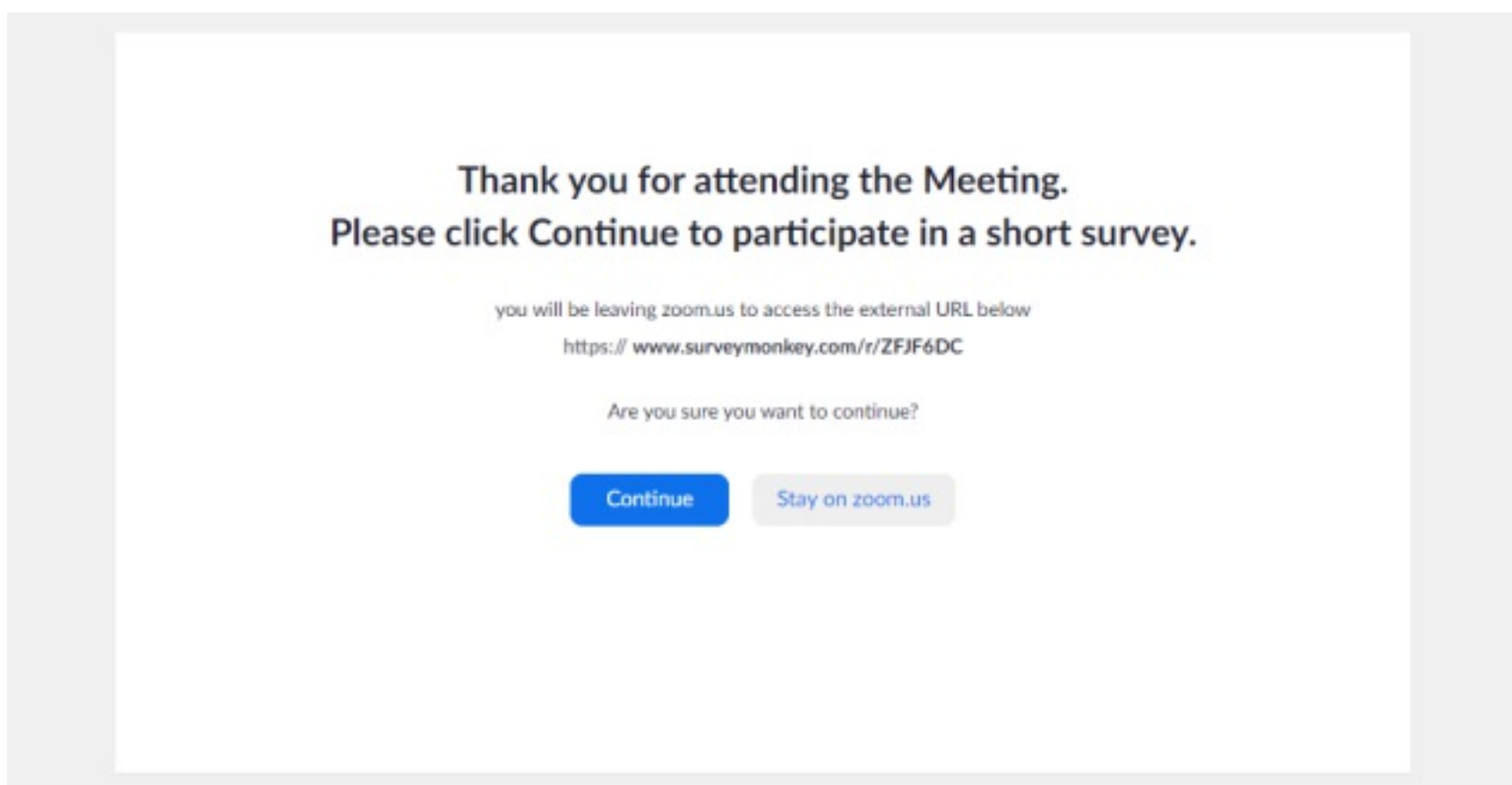
Fall SGL Gifts

All of OLLI's Study Group Leaders are volunteers. Each academic session, we invite members to give them a gift in honor of all of the work they do to prepare and deliver their courses. This is completely voluntary on our members' behalf. Members may make a gift to Fall SGL(s) through December 17. Gifts can be made [online](#) or by mailing a check to OLLI. Members can give gifts to all of their Study Group Leaders in a single form and with a single credit card transaction. The OLLI office will collect all gifts, write a check to each SGL, and mail the check with any notes from members to the SGL(s).

Daylight Saving Time: November 7

Members are reminded that Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, November 7, at 2:00 AM. Please adjust clocks and watches accordingly.

Feedback Pop-Up at the End of the Last Zoom Class



This semester, at the end of each study group's last session (over Zoom), a screen will pop-up inviting members to complete final feedback for the course. The more feedback we receive from members, the better. Feedback provides valuable information to improve current and future courses. In the pop-up, click on **Continue** and you will be taken to the feedback form on the OLLI website.

Propose a Study Group or Short!

The OLLI Curriculum Committee is accepting study group proposals for both the upcoming February Shorts and spring semester. We welcome proposals from both new and veteran Study Group Leaders. For more information about being a study group leader at OLLI, please visit the [Become A Study Group Leader page](#). If you or someone you know is interested in leading a study group and would like to speak with someone, please email olli@american.edu and we will get in touch with you.

To propose a study group, please click one of the links below. You will be prompted to login with your OLLI username/password. If you don't yet have an account, you will be able to create one. Both February and spring classes will again be offered as in-person, online, and hybrid formats. Study Group Leaders select their format preference on the proposal form.

February 2022 Shorts

The Feb. Shorts will be February 7-11. Shorts meet 3-5 times over the course of one week.

[February Shorts Proposal Form](#)

Spring 2022

The spring semester will be March 7-May 13, 2021. Study groups are 8-10 weeks long and meet once a week.

[Spring Proposal Form](#)

Proposal deadline for both sessions: November 29

Today's Friday Lecture: 1:30 PM

The Original Black Elite

Elizabeth Dowling Taylor

Friday, November 5

1:30-2:30 PM (via Zoom)

[Zoom Link](#)

Webinar ID: 933 4061 0181

Passcode: 047020

Beth Taylor is an independent scholar, lecturer, and author. She received her PhD at the University of California at Berkeley. She will be discussing her book, *The Original Black Elite: Daniel Murray and the Story of a Forgotten Era*. Additionally, she is the author of *A Slave in the White House: Paul Jennings and the Madisons*, a *New York Times* bestseller, as well as the forthcoming *Outside Her Proper Sphere: Margaret Bayard Smith, Washington Insider in the Early Republic*.

Next Friday's Lecture: November 12

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

Claudia Kalb

Friday, November 12

1:30-2:30 PM (via Zoom)

Claudia Kalb is a *New York Times* bestselling author and independent journalist who reports on

health, science, culture, and human behavior. Her most recent book, *Spark: How Genius Ignites, From Child Prodigies to Late Bloomers*, focuses on creativity and inspiration in 13 great achievers, from Isaac Newton and Yo-Yo Ma to Maya Angelou and Eleanor Roosevelt. In her work for *National Geographic* magazine, Claudia is exploring genius through the lens of biography, history, culture, and science. In her books, she investigates the attributes of individuals who have soared to great heights —throughout history and today. Her first book, *Andy Warhol Was a Hoarder: Inside the Minds of History's Great Personalities*, delves into the challenges and triumphs of 12 icons, including Albert Einstein, Charles Darwin, and Marilyn Monroe.

Registration not required. The Zoom link will be included in the OLLI newsletter the morning of the lecture.

Serendipity Talk: November 15

Uncovering New Possibilities: Insights From Our Time

Kimberly Weichel

Monday, November 15

3:30-4:45 PM (via Zoom)

Author, thought leader, and OLLI Study Group Leader, Kimberly Weichel will share highlights from her new book, *Uncovering New Possibilities: Insights From Our Time*, which explores how this pandemic era is affecting us personally and collectively, and what new possibilities might emerge. The ten chapters explore: why women's leadership has been so effective and why its important now; wisdom from Eastern healing and spiritual traditions; how our emotions subconsciously shape our behavior and life decisions; charting our second half of life with renewed vigor and grace; living a more resilient, peaceful life even during a crisis; how we transform gender norms and educate men and boys; and tuning our moral compass to live a more enriching life. She and her husband Carl, who co-authored four chapters, will highlight together several key themes covered in their OLLI courses.

Registration not required. The Zoom link will be e-mailed the morning of the talk to all OLLI newsletter subscribers.

Calling All Language Instructors!

OLLI is hoping to expand its language offerings and is looking for Study Group Leaders to teach beginning Spanish, as well as other languages, such as Yiddish, Arabic, and Farsi, etc. If you speak another language and are interested in possibly becoming a Study Group Leader at OLLI, please e-mail olli@american.edu. For more information about being a Study Group Leader, please visit the [Become A Study Group Leader page](#).

OLLI is on Facebook



Curious about what we are up to? OLLI’s members and study group leaders are at the heart of the work we do. If you're looking for ways to find out about OLLI events, connect with other members, and spread awareness of our mission, we hope you will follow and join in the conversation on our recently launched [Facebook page](#). Facebook attracts a very diverse audience of retirees and is a way to reach out to lifelong learners who might not know about us.

Virtual Tour Series: Heart of DC - Part 2

Virtual Tour Series: The Heart of DC - Part 2

Tammy Belden

Tuesday, November 9

3:30-4:30 PM (via Zoom)

Join OLLI for a second virtual tour in a series of illustrated talks, led by Tammy Belden, on our capital’s “historic center” and its most iconic memorials and sites.

In July, we began with the western end of the National Mall covering such sites as the Lincoln, Viet Nam Veterans, and Korean War memorials. We now progress down the Mall to its center: the Washington Monument, the White House, and the Jefferson, discussing smaller and lesser known spots along the way. Did you know that the White House was originally considered riverfront property; that the Washington Monument is sited approximately 390 feet from its original planned location; and that the original statue in the Jefferson Memorial was made of plaster painted a bronze color? Although you may already be familiar with many of these facts, we will cover some controversies, engaging anecdotes, and facts that you may not have heard!

No registration is required. The Zoom link will be emailed to all members the morning of the event.

American University News & Events

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Seeing Climate Change Symposium

Friday-Sunday, November 5-7 (Streaming)

This weekend attend events at the university's first annual Seeing Climate Change symposium, inspired by the exhibition [Diane Burko: Seeing Climate Change](#), on display through

December 12 at the American University Museum. [Register](#).

SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

What Next for the Western Balkans?

Tuesday, November 9

10:00-11:00 AM (Streaming)

Ambassadors to the US from Bosnia and Slovenia join SIS professor Mirjana Morosini as they discuss the future of their countries and the potential enlargement of NATO. [Register](#).

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Women on Wednesdays: Senator Mazie Hirono

Wednesday, November 10

6:00 PM (Streaming)

Senator Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii, talks about her journey as an immigrant and her new book *Heart of Fire: An Immigrant Daughter's Story* with Women and Politics Institute executive director Betsy Fischer Martin. [Register](#).

AU ARTS

Home of AU's performing, visual, literary, and media-based arts. [View the schedule and registration links](#).

AU MUSEUM

Fall Schedule: until Sunday, December 12

Friday-Sunday only

11:00 AM-4:00 PM

The [museum](#) is again open to visitors. View [upcoming exhibitions](#). Patrons and university community members can now experience shows on display at the [Katzen Arts Center](#). Follow the museum on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MISSION

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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