



The News

Bringing OLLI Home to You

Volume 3, #6 - December 15, 2023

Dear OLLI Members and Friends,

Here at OLLI at Ringling College, there is much to applaud this December. We say thank you for your commitment to our growing learning community, which is back to pre-pandemic levels in the number of course offerings, lectures, and special events. We also want to thank our new Gold and Silver members.

Winter term registrations are strong, and several courses were filled early. Kudos to Jeff Ryder and the curriculum committee for providing a diverse course lineup. We are also pleased to have added 69 new instructors for the academic year. During the Winter Preview, 10 new instructors were present. Thanks!

We look to 2024 with optimism, but this year has been sobering, given the competing crises worldwide. Our experience has a name: *polycrisis*. First coined by Adam Tooze in the 1970s, it was used by the 2023 World Economic Forum to describe “the interplay between the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and the energy, cost-of-living, and climate crises,” and now we can add the Israel-Gaza crisis in the Middle East.

SAVE THE DATES

Dec. 18 - Jan. 2:

OLLI office closed (Winter Break)

Monday, Jan. 8:

Winter semester starts

Monday, Jan. 15:

NO CLASSES (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

Thursdays, Jan. 18- Feb. 22:

[Listening to Women](#)

Thursday, Mar. 7:

[Member Appreciation Bash](#)



A note from Tom Miller, Membership committee chairperson

Just a note of thanks for a wonderful, productive year.

We are in a polycrisis. All the more reason for us to continue our lifelong learning in a mutually supportive, open, and informative environment. As James Clear, an inspirational blogger, has written, “It is not too late to do what you want to do, if you stop waiting for the time to be right.”

As our community grows, reach out and spread the word. Tell your friends how OLLI at Ringling College continues to enrich your life. Stay curious! Stay connected!

Happy and healthy holidays!



Anne Perry Moore (left) and Kelly Parisi Castro (right) at the 2024 OLLI Winter Preview.

OLLI Spotlights our New Instructors

By Anne Perry Moore

This month’s new instructors are Bob Busch, Kelly Parisi Castro, and Beverly Jennings.

Click [here](#) to read their interviews.

Registration is going beyond expectations, and we are looking forward to a great winter term. Special thanks to our membership committee: Lois Altman, Millie Finkel, Dave Landsperger, Sue Miller, Anne Perry Moore, Gary Reinmuth, Jay Richter, and Marion Richter. It truly takes a village to make a difference. It is a pleasure working alongside you.

Members of the Advisory Council and the Membership Committee will be visiting classes the second week of the semester to explain Gold membership and why we feel you should consider all its benefits.

A very Happy Holidays to all— see you in January.

Best,
Tom

There's so much to see at Sarasota Art Museum

Don't miss the wonderful exhibits presently on view at SAM. Take a guided tour and learn about the wonderful works by [Judy Pfaff](#), renowned multimedia artist and pioneer of installation art. Visit the stunning glasswork in the exhibit Contemporary/Traditional: Selections from the [Basch Glass Collection](#). Cap it off by seeing the first solo show from [Juana Valdes](#), an Afro-Cuban artist who works with non-traditional materials as she explores her past.



Bob Busch at the 2024 OLLI Winter Preview.



**Ringling College
of Art + Design**

Don't miss out on a stellar exhibit at the Galleries at Ringling College. Presently, the late Sarasota treasure, Syd Solomon is celebrated in the exhibit, *Fluid Impressions: The Paintings of Syd Solomon*. What makes this even more special is that it was curated by Ringling College students.

Nanette Crist's latest blog entry provides a wonderful overview of the Syd Solomon exhibit. Click [here](#).

For information about the 2023-2024 Ringling Galleries exhibition season, click [here](#).



Mixed Scorecard

Newsletter contributor Dave Landsperger shares how his last year may have been different from yours. Read his recollection, "*Mixed*

Scorecard" [here](#).

Dave also shares his wonderful podcast, *Two Old Bucks*, where Dave and his old friend Del ruminate on current topics and things that you just may find witty!

Visit <https://twooldbucks.buzzsprout.com> to listen.

OLLI Membership Committee:

Tom Miller (Chair) and the newsletter staff: Marion Richter (editor), Dave Landsperger, Gary Reinmuth; Members: Anne Perry Moore, Jan Parker, Jay Richter, Vicki Eckl, Millie Finkel, Lois Altman, and Meghan Burrows (OLLI staff).

Stay connected with our updates and share yours. Email: mburrows@ringling.edu

[Become an OLLI Member](#)

[Learn More](#)

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Make the Most of Your Giving

Do you know if your former company matches philanthropic giving?

Class registration and membership only cover a portion of what it takes to deliver quality programming at OLLI. That's why we depend on your gifts each year to help us continue the tradition of providing a wide array of class offerings, special events, and the supporting technology. Many companies sponsor matching gift programs and will match charitable contributions made by their employees or retirees. You can double or triple the amount of your gift to make the most impact on OLLI programming. Visit [here](#) and enter your employer's name to find out if your company has a matching gift program.

Have questions? Feel free to call the [Office for Advancement](#) any time at 941-309-4733.



OLLI is located at the Ringling College Museum Campus
1001 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota 34236
941-309-5111
www.OLLlatRinglingCollege.org

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