



THE NEWS

MARCH 2024



OLLI motto: *Stay Curious. Stay Connected.*

A recent *Forbes* magazine article describes the importance of curiosity.

According to the article “The Power of Lifelong Learning: How Curiosity Forges Mastery,” curiosity is “*the spark that ignites the fire of learning. It is the desire to explore, question, and discover new knowledge and experiences, the natural human inclination that is required for lifelong learning.*”

Albert Einstein is credited with saying, “*I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious.*” Finally, the article maintains that curiosity is “*associated with higher levels of positive emotions, lower levels of anxiety, [and] more satisfaction with life.*”

So... maybe it's time to spring into action!

Consider the ways you can stay active as a member, instructor, or volunteer. Whatever you do, keep spreading the word. OLLI is a great way to connect with remarkable people.

Silver Member registration begins on Tuesday, March 5. Spring term runs March 11-May 3. The majority of our courses are in-person, but six are offered online. Thank you to everyone who came to our Spring Preview to learn about just some of our offerings.

The spring semester will “take you” to New York, San Francisco, and China via film. Or, maybe your interests run more toward the television work of director Stephen J. Cannell; there's also the stage plays of Tennessee Williams.

How about a book club? Engage with fellow whodunnit fans in the Mystery Book Club, or the wide-ranging Spring Book Club.

There are conversations around *The New Yorker* magazine as well as classic literature, and short stories.

Learn more so you can take care of your body and mind. Explore the aging process or your dreams. For music lovers, there's everything from Beethoven and operettas to '70s pop, jazz, and blues.

There are also classes for the history buff, the science devotee, or anyone interested in philosophy and religion.



Kudos to *Listening to Women 2024*

Listening to Women 2024 our popular winter term program, promised us discussions by local women “whose brilliance and fortitude have reshaped industries and who are making a difference in today’s communities.”

Over six weeks, we were the beneficiaries of inspiring discussions with women who shared their life stories, their commitment to change, and their willingness to make our world a better place.

Kudos to Charlayne Hunter-Gault, Liz Walker, Dr. Linda Billings, Rangsook Yoon, Ph.D., Stephenie Frasher, Lisa Bechtold, Dr. Rachel Shelley, Melanie Custer, Dr. Brook Parker-Bello, Dawn Sakes, Jasmin Graham, Raven Harrison, Magrieli Rodriguez Ruiz, and Carlee Jackson Bohannon.

A bouquet of thanks to Holly Freedman, creator of Listening to Women, and her talented committee.

We look forward to Listening to Women 2025.



Want to Teach for OLLI?

Do you have an idea, a passion, or a hobby that could become a course?

Tobie Van der Vorm, a member of the OLLI Advisory Council, is heading a new committee to recruit instructors. Maybe you have an interest in history, science, music, technology—or an entirely new subject?

We would like to hear from you.

To get the discussion started, email tobievdv@gmail.com. In the subject line write: **OLLI Instructor.**



Check out our Spring Offerings

Want to see the full course and program details?

[See Our Spring Catalog](#)

Important Dates

- **Silver Member Registration** begins on Tuesday, March 5
- **Member Appreciation Bash** on Thursday, March 7 • 4-6:30pm
- **OLLI Spring Semester** begins on Monday, March 11
- CONNECTIONS: The Documentary Film Series with Julie Cotton presents **American Symphony** on Tuesday, March 12 • 2:30-4:30pm.
- **Laughter and Difficult Conversations** with Kelly Garrett on Thursday, March 21 • 2:30-3:30pm
- **Tidewell: Know Us Before You Need Us** with Kelly Garrett on Tuesday, March 26 • 2:30-3:30 pm

Featured Article



Spotlight on Judy Levine in honor of Women's History Month

By Anne Perry Moore

Judy is a tireless and extraordinarily kind and giving person. She was an art educator at Montclair State College, NJ, a district art educator in Parsippany, NJ, and coordinator of teacher professional development at Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, NJ. Judy also received recognition as a local Art Teacher of the Year.

[Read the Inspiring Interview](#)

Become a Member

When you become an OLLI Member, you become part of a vibrant and dynamic community of lifelong learners who enjoy learning for the joy of learning!

Gold and Silver Members have the ability to take to multi-session courses.

In addition, Gold Members get a 10% discount on tuition and the Bistro, early registration, and three FREE lectures a year.

[Learn More](#)

Help Support Your OLLI

Donations help keep membership and course fees lower. And they help your local OLLI sustainably grow and expand learning opportunities for you and future generations.

Each contribution is an investment in yourself, your friends, and the future of lifelong learning in Sarasota and Manatee counties. Consider giving a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your annual Required Minimum Distribution.

[Donate to OLLI](#)

OLLI Membership Committee:

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

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



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

[Learn More](#)



[Click here for the online version of this Newsletter.](#)