



OLLI @ WVU

Helping You Stay Connected

**Spring 2021 Charleston
Online Course Catalog
April - June
www.olliatwvu.org**

Dedicated to enriching the lives of older adults throughout West Virginia, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at West Virginia University (OLLI at WVU), an affiliate of the WVU School of Public Health, is a member-driven organization whose mission is to promote connection, curiosity, exploration, discovery, and discussion through learning and social engagement in non-credit classes, lectures, field trips, and events designed for adults 50+.

During four terms each year, OLLI at WVU offers courses, lectures, seminars, and field trips in such areas as music, literature, art, science, politics, nature, history, health, medicine, technology, and economics. Live drama, movies, and interest groups add to the choices.

Courses are developed and taught by volunteers from the community who are passionate about their topics, avocations, and interests, and who love to share their ideas.

Supporters

OLLI at WVU continues to grow as an organization with the unwavering commitment and generosity of our patrons and supporters. We acknowledge and thank the following:

- The Bernard Osher Foundation
- West Virginia University, President's Office
- WVU Foundation
- WVU School of Public Health (SPH)
- OLLI Board Members, Committee Members, and Volunteers
- OLLI \$100K Club, Donors, and Sponsors
- Our Distinguished Instructors
- OLLI Members

The Bernard Osher Foundation

The Bernard Osher Foundation seeks to improve quality of life through the support of lifelong learning institutes such as OLLI at WVU. The Foundation was founded in 1977 by Bernard Osher, a respected businessman and community leader. The Foundation has now funded 124 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes on campuses of colleges and universities from Maine to Hawaii. Funding for OLLI is contingent upon membership growth goals, so **membership matters**. To learn more about The Bernard Osher Foundation, please visit their website at www.osherfoundation.org.

OLLI stimulates one's mind with great courses and provides social interaction to enliven the whole person.

- OLLI member

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Contact Us

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Morgantown, WV 26506-9123

(304) 293-1793 • www.olliatwvu.org • olli@hsc.wvu.edu
Like us on Facebook at Osher Lifelong Learning at WVU

OLLI Office Hours

The OLLI office will be open for in-person visits
by appointment only.
By phone, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday
Closed Saturdays, Sundays, and University holidays

Let Me Count the Days

As I write this, West Virginia is caught in a cold, wintry blast of arctic air. We have had a snowy start to February 2021. Our winter term at OLLI is well underway and I hope you are taking some interesting classes. I know I have learned many new things just this week (who knew about Mona Lisa's knots before?).

As we turn our sights to the spring term, I am reminded of the phrase from Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poem, "How Do I Love Thee?" I want to modify "Let me count the ways" to read "Let me count the days." Daylight savings time arrives in 38 days on March 14th and we celebrate St. Patrick's Day three days later. In 44 days, the season of spring arrives. Easter will be here in 59 days and Memorial Day is in 116 days. And yes, the winter holidays will roll around again in just 324 days for those of us who haven't taken down our holiday lights yet.

But the most important day to me right now is next Friday when I will receive the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. I don't know if you have been vaccinated yet, but I know you share with me the hope that comes with this vaccine...hope that this disease will be brought under control, hope that our daily lives will return to the routines to which we were accustomed, and hope that our OLLI classes can be held in-person once again.

Although our Board has decided that OLLI classes are going to continue to be held online until July, we are planning to have some courses taught in the great outdoors of West Virginia during the spring. Fresh air and sunshine will allow us to socially distance and yet see some of our OLLI friends in person again.

Even if you can't participate in these outdoor classes, I hope you will enjoy these sunny days we surely will have after winter's gray days have ended. And enjoy the variety of OLLI classes that are being offered this spring as we count the days until we see each other again.

Beverly Kerr
OLLI Board President

As you browse this catalog, you will read about nearly 50 lectures, discussions, workshops, and social events for OLLI members this spring. But it may not, and probably doesn't, include every opportunity to be offered. To be included in the catalog, classes and events have to be scheduled at least 10 weeks in advance of the first day of the term. Potential instructors and presenters often spend additional weeks prior to the course proposal deadline considering the topic and content of a course they might offer. Thus, it is not surprising that occasionally OLLI has a late addition to our schedule.

To stay informed about new classes and events, schedule changes, community news, and more, members and friends are encouraged to read OLLI's weekly ebulletin, distributed via email on Friday afternoons. If you are not receiving OLLI's Friday bulletin, you can sign up at <https://mailchi.mp/DCF3C4945C81/olliatwvu>. To stay abreast of late-breaking OLLI news during the week, I encourage you to visit OLLI's blog at <https://olliatwvu.wpcmsstaging.com/> on a regular basis.

The blog is also the place to stay in the loop as we plan OLLI's future.

April 2021 marks one year of online learning with OLLI at WVU. Although this has not been the year that we imagined, members, volunteers, and friends have continued to embrace OLLI's mission and support our efforts to adapt and grow. We've updated our technology skills, brought our Morgantown and Charleston communities together, heard from instructors and presenters from around the country, and welcomed new friends.

As we anxiously await the day that we can meet face-to-face again safely, the OLLI board and staff are looking at what changes in programming and format we can make to best serve our members and communities. To help us stay connected, online classes and events, offered along side the in-person meetings, will continue to be a part of our learning environment.

Jascenna Haislet
Director, OLLI at WVU



Look for this icon next to the course titles.

The gold star indicates that the instructor is a member of the OLLI Honor Roll and has taught at least 10 courses and 60 class session hours. If more than one instructor is listed, the Honor Roll member is in **bold**.

OLLI Membership

Membership is open to curious adults interested in programming designed specifically for those 50 and over who want to engage socially and intellectually.

*The Benefits of OLLI Membership**

- A voice in OLLI governance
- The right to run for the OLLI Board or serve on a committee
- At least two free members-only events per year
(no term registration fee required)
- The right to be added to a class wait list
(members will be given priority when a seat opens up in a class)
- Reduced prices for OLLI trips and special events
- The opportunity to make new friends and learn new things
- The right to register for unlimited classes with payment of term registration fee. OLLI classes are open to members only!

Term Registration Fee

- OLLI members may register for **unlimited courses for \$25 per term.**
- Other fees may apply and are noted on individual courses, events, or groups.
- **Special Member Events are free** to all current OLLI members unless otherwise noted.

Discounts are available for our volunteer instructors. Contact the OLLI office at 304-293-1793 for more information.

Financial Assistance Available

OLLI at WVU tries to keep fees to a minimum while providing the highest quality experiences to our members. However, we recognize that membership and registration fees may be out of the reach of some individuals. Therefore, fee waivers are available. To apply, ask for a confidential application at the OLLI office or fill out the form on our website at www.olliatwvu.org.

How to Register

Spring term runs April 4th through June 30th. Most programming is scheduled between April 12th through May 29th. To register, you must have a current membership and have paid the required fees for the term.

Individuals may purchase or renew a membership and register for classes in any of the following ways:

- Online at www.olliatwvu.org.
- By mail, using the enclosed membership/registration form.
Mail the form to: OLLI at WVU - PO Box 9123 - Morgantown, WV 26506-9123

Please make checks payable to the WVU Foundation.

If you pay with a credit or debit card, the charge will show as: West Virginia Treasury Basics

Membership is non-refundable. Refunds for registration and other fees are considered on a per-case basis.

Spring Registration begins March 22, 2021

Annual membership

is \$20

Membership year runs
July 1st to June 30th.

**Some member benefits may not be available during terms when OLLI, for the sake of public health, is holding classes online only.*

Giving to OLLI

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at WVU is dedicated to providing the highest quality educational, recreational, and social opportunities possible to our members. For many years, we have been able to offer 200 or more classes, workshops, lectures, discussions, and field trips annually.

In order to sustain and grow the program, your financial support is needed. Although OLLI receives support from WVU and earnings from the Osher Endowment, this funding covers only about 50% of our expenses. Membership and registration fees cover another 25%. Therefore, the remaining 25% must be raised through donations, gifts, sponsorships, and grants.

Your donation to OLLI can help keep the lights on in the classrooms, support community outreach, provide hand-outs in a class, buy coffee for our member lounge, pay the printing and postage for course catalogs, and more.

OLLI members and friends may give during the Annual Giving Campaign, when you renew a membership or enroll for classes, or any time during the year. You may choose to set up a monthly recurring gift.

You can choose to designate your gift to OLLI's area of greatest need, the \$100K Club, the scholarship fund, or the OLLI endowment. You may choose to leave a Legacy Gift, make a Tribute Gift, or give through an IRA Charitable Rollover.

With a variety of giving options, you can choose the gift that works best for you.

For more information, call the OLLI office at 304-293-1793.

To give today, visit <https://give.wvu.edu/OLLI> or add your tax-deductible donation to the enclosed class registration form.

Thank you for your continued support of lifelong learning and OLLI at WVU.



The Village at Heritage Point

Inspired senior living in the heart of Morgantown

**The Village at Heritage Point is proud
to be a sponsor of OLLI at WVU.**

**Please call 304-285-5575 or
visit www.Heritage-Point.com**

Spring 2021 Schedule at a Glance

Page #	Class, Instructor	Time	Sessions	Date(s)
Monday				
9	Zoom Training for iPads & Smart Phones (Klishis)	10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	1	April 5
10	More Lap Dulcimer (Werner)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	6	April 12 - May 17
15	The New Yorker Discussion Group (Racin)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	6	April 12 - May 17
9	Yarn Arts	12:30 - 2:20 p.m.	ongoing	April 5 - June 27
11	Verona Romana: History, Art, Architecture (Cann)	12:30 - 2:30 p.m.	1	April 12
10	An Art History Tour of Inferno (Cann)	12:30 - 2:30 p.m.	2	April 26 & May 3
10	Mosaic Art of Ravenna (Cann)	12:30 - 2:30 p.m.	3	May 10 - 24
11	Walker Evans American Photographs (Harris)	1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	1	April 19
14	The Borders of Our Minds (Mould)	3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	3	April 12 - 26
13	SPAM@ Museum: A Virtual Tour (Bergstrom)	3:00 - 4:50 p.m.	1	May 3
12	Timber/Timbre: Logging and Music (Pettrak)	3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	1	May 10
Tuesday				
8	Ask-a-Geek (Klishis)	8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	ongoing	April 6 - June 29
9	Zoom Training for iPads & Smart Phones (Klishis)	10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	1	April 6
14	Wildflower Identification (Fowler)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	1	April 13
12	I Am Lost without My Boswell... (Harnois)	10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	1	May 4
15	WVU Food Justice Lab (Marple)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	1	May 4
15	Hiking West Virginia State Parks (Klishis)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	1	May 11
13	Magic & Judaism (Blair)	11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	1	April 13
13	Jewish Short Stories for Discussion (Blair)	11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	2	April 20 & 27
15	Science of Emotions (Gentzler)	12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	2	April 13 & 20
15	Using Your Apple iPhone & iPad (Wittig)	12:30 - 2:30 p.m.	1	April 13
14	Great Scientists (Melby)	12:30 - 2:20 p.m.	2	April 20 & 27
12	Holocaust Survival & Immigration... (Kikel)	12:30 - 1:45 p.m.	4	May 4 - 25
12	Scottish Contributions to the Modern World (Reddy)	12:30 - 2:20 p.m.	2	May 4 & 11
14	"Other" Mining in West Virginia (Rentch)	3:00 - 4:50 p.m.	2	April 13 & 20
11	Yoga for Anxiety & Insomnia (Layton)	3:00 - 4:50 p.m.	7	April 13 - May 25
8	Twilight Trivia (OLLI Staff)	7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	3	April 5, May 4, & June 1
Wednesday				
14	Spring Wildflowers...Core Arboretum Presentation (Fowler)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	1	April 14
10	Playing the Tin Whistle (Werner)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	6	April 14 - May 19
12	Quirky Elections: 1876 and More (Hammersmith)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	3	April 21 - May 5
15	Technology Security (Klishis)	10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	1	May 19
9	Zoom Training for Laptops & Desktops (Klishis)	12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	1	April 7
11	Downsizing and Decluttering... (Misiti)	12:30 - 2:00 p.m.	1	April 14
10	History of the Movies, Part V (Held)	12:30 - 2:20 p.m.	4	April 14 - May 5
11	Poison Prevention for Seniors (McBurney)	12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	1	April 21
13	Vegetable Container Gardening (Scott)	12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	1	April 28
12	Unpacking The Elizabethan World Picture (Held)	12:30 - 2:20 p.m.	1	May 12
13	Star Trek and Shakespeare (Cole, Haislet)	3:00 - 4:30 p.m.	5	April 14 - May 12
15	Environmental Awareness Series 2 (Elkins)	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	2	April 21 & 28
Thursday				
9	Zoom Training for Laptops & Desktops (Klishis)	10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	1	April 8
13	Dysfunctional Families of the Old Testament (Hample)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	6	April 15 - May 20
15	Disney Night Pageants and Spectaculars (Johnson)	12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	9	April 15 - June 10
12	The American Muscle Car (Colvin)	12:30 - 2:20 p.m.	4	April 15 - May 6
10	The Ukulele: An Appreciation (Venable)	12:30 - 2:20 p.m.	1	May 13
14	Non-Forested Plant Communities of West Virginia (Rentch)	3:00 - 4:50 p.m.	2	April 15 & 22
8	Conversations on Racism and Antiracism (Montgomery, Held, Haislet)	3:00 - 4:15 p.m.	5	April 15 - May 13
8	Zen Doodling (Patrick, Bogandich)	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	1	April 15

Spring 2021 Schedule at a Glance

Page #	Class, Instructor	Time	Sessions	Date(s)
Friday				
10	The Great Hits and Albums of 1970 (Wendell)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	6	April 16 - May 21
13	Native Plants for Difficult Landscapes (Layton)	10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	1	April 23
14	Bridges of Pittsburgh (Wilson)	1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	1	April 30
Saturday				
10	Public Art: Living Room Edition (Dolan)	10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	5	April 17 - May 15
15	Take a Hike (Klishis)	11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	1	May 22
Sunday				
8	OLLI Virtual Happy Hour (Haislet, Klishis)	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	8	April 11 - June 6

*** Class will be held in-person, outdoors. See class description for location. Masks are required.
All other OLLI classes and events will be held online via Zoom.
Zoom links will be emailed to all enrollees on the morning of each class.**

Travel with Collette

Tropical Costa Rica

January 29 - February 6, 2022

9 Days • 14 Meals

Highlights include: San Jose, Coffee Plantation, Guanacaste, Monteverde Cloud Forest, Choice on Tour, Arenal Volcano, Lake Arenal Cruise, Cano Negro Refuge, Zarcero

Double: \$2,198 Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Pittsburgh Intl Airport or from Yeager Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers
Single: \$2,698

Reservation deadline: July 29, 2021

Final payment due November 30, 2021

For more information, visit

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1050451>

Sunny Portugal

March 5 - March 14, 2022

10 Days • 12 Meals

Highlights include: Portuguese Riviera, Lisbon, Belem, Obidos, Sintra, Choice on Tour, Arraiolos, Cork Factory, Evora, Winery Visit, Alentejo, Monsaraz, Lagos, Algarve, Faro, Tavira, 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Azeitao

Double: \$2,498 Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Pittsburgh Intl Airport or from Yeager Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers
Single: \$2,998

Reservation deadline: September 6, 2021

Final payment due January 4, 2022

For more information, visit

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1050450>



Special Member Events and Opportunities

***Special Member Events, unless otherwise noted, are free or discounted for current OLLI members!
Payment of term enrollment fee is not required.***

Ask a Geek

Michelle Klishis

Tuesdays, April 6 - June 29, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Sometimes you have questions about technology that don't fit into a specific class or course or maybe you just have something that is driving you crazy. For those times, OLLI's Professional Technologist, Michelle Klishis, has created a regular technology question & answer session.

Be aware that sometimes the answer is "No, you can't do that," and sometimes the answer is, "I don't have a clue." As long as you're okay with getting "No" for an answer, Michelle is willing to field any and all questions. Also, feel free to send an email ahead of time if you think your question is going to be really complicated or beyond the scope of an hour-long session. Reach out to olli@hsc.wvu.edu with the subject Geek Question.

No question is too small or too silly to answer! And even if you think you don't know enough to ask your own question, you can usually learn a lot listening to someone else's questions! And Michelle can always ramble on about any tech topic if you get her started.

As a warning, Michelle's strengths are Android phones, Windows PCs, MS Office software, and digital security and privacy. Her weaknesses are Apple products and AV equipment. (i.e., Apple questions are most likely to be answered, "I don't know; I'll have to look into it.")

Conversations on Racism and Antiracism

Florita Montgomery, Jim Held, and Jascenna Haislet

Thursdays, April 15 - May 13, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Maximum Enrollment: 20

Materials Needed: *How to Be an Anti-Racist* by Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo, and *Caste, The Origins of Our Discontents*, by Isabel Wilkerson

Although large public protests are no longer in the headlines every night, racism continues to be a very real and dangerous problem for many people in this country. It doesn't always reveal itself through derogatory comments and names or overt threats and other actions. Oftentimes racism presents through microaggressions, support of discriminatory policies, or implicit bias. So what does all of this mean? How can we recognize racist thoughts and behaviors? How can we move toward being antiracist? Your co-hosts will facilitate a discussion of the books listed above while exploring our individual beliefs, behaviors, questions, and struggles to understand what racism is and how its eradication will benefit all.

OLLI Virtual Happy Hour

Sundays, April 18 - June 6, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Join us for an on-line happy hour with OLLI members! We're going to chat and socialize and check in on each other! Take this opportunity to dress up and chat with people you haven't seen for awhile or maybe haven't met in person before! If we have a large number of participants, we'll attempt to break this into several "smaller" rooms so conversation is possible. And once you've got the hang of this, you can set up your own video chats with friends.

Twilight Trivia

Tuesdays, April 6, May 4, & June 1, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Grab a beverage and some snacks, settle into a comfy chair with your laptop, tablet, or smart phone, and test your knowledge of trivia, and the trivial, against your fellow OLLI members during our monthly virtual game night!

Zen Doodling

Sharon Patrick, Holly Bogdanich

Thursday, April 15, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Maximum Enrollment: 15

Materials Needed: drawing paper, coloring utensils of your choice

Enjoy a relaxing, but focused, hour exploring your creativity through Zen doodling, the art of drawing designs and repetitive patterns. Using music as a background, the instructors will support participants as they draw and talk about the importance of health, relaxation, and mental exercise.

Can't make it to class? Ask if a recording is available.

With permission of the instructor, OLLI records some classes to make available to our members* on our YouTube channel.

Recordings are posted within 3-5 days of the class and are available until the beginning of the following term. A list of available recordings may be found at <https://olliatwvu.wpcomstaging.com/>. To watch a recorded class, email the OLLI office at olli@hsc.wvu.edu to request the YouTube link.

* must be a current member and pay enrollment fees for the current term to access recorded classes.

Taking an OLLI Class with Zoom

UPDATED INFORMATION:

When you are enrolled in an OLLI class or event, you will receive an email by 9:00 a.m. on morning of the class with the Zoom link and meeting ID. **Please check your inbox, as well as spam and junk boxes, for the email at least 30 minutes prior to the start of your class.** If you do not see an email for your class, call the OLLI office at 304-293-1793. We're happy to resend the email.

If you do not use email, please call the OLLI office on the morning of the class to ask for the meeting ID.

Zoom Training classes

Interested in taking an OLLI class this spring but not sure how to use the online meeting software, Zoom? Join OLLI's professional technologist, Michelle Klishis, for a session where she will walk you through the steps you'll need to take, from downloading and installing the Zoom app on your device, to entering the virtual classroom, to using the chat function, and more. If you don't have a computer or personal electronic device, learn how you can join Zoom with your phone. Choose a session based on your device and stay connected this spring with OLLI and Zoom.

For iPads and smart phones:

Monday, April 5, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, April 6, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

For laptops and desktops:

Wednesday, April 7, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 8, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Get to Know Each Other

Launched in the summer of 2020, the OLLI at WVU podcast engages listeners with discussions about classes and current events related to the program, interviews with members of the OLLI community, and much more.

Episodes are available at <https://olliatwvu.podbean.com/>



A Taste of OLLI

a Virtual Open House

Wednesday, March 24

2:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Free and open to the public

Register at <http://bit.ly/3tK9i6c>

or join us on Facebook Live!

Learn how you can stay engaged and connected this spring with OLLI's online classes. Hear from instructors and meet other OLLI members!

OLLI membership has opened a whole new world for me and has given me a challenging and very rewarding activity for my retirement years.

- OLLI member

Mark Your Calendar!

Other Important Dates

April 9	OLLI Board Meeting
April 19	Summer course proposals due
May 14	OLLI Board Meeting
May 27	2021 OLLI Annual Meeting
June 14	Summer registration begins
July 5	Summer term begins

An Art History Tour of *Inferno*

Melora Cann
Mondays, April 26 & May 3
12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

While this may not be the first attempt to chart the art-laden historic sites scattered throughout the book, *Inferno*, by novelist Dan Brown (2013, Doubleday), it is very personal to the instructor. She lived, studied, and taught in most of the locations featured in the book. She's been a fan of Brown's work since *The Da Vinci Code* was published and was excited to see *Inferno* in the bookstores. This class is Cann's chance to share the lovely art and locations as we trace the story plot of Brown's *Inferno*. And yes, of course there is Dante too! Not read the book? Not required – it's all about the art!

The Great Hits and Albums of 1970

Barry Wendell
Fridays, April 16 - May 21
10:00 - 11:50 a.m.



The 60s were over, so what's next? The top 40 is for boppers, "The Revolution" is still going on in some places but "The Summer Of Love" is definitely over. Sticking to albums this time, we're moving on to 1970, listening to the music of Eric Clapton as a soloist, Delaney and Bonnie, and Derek and The Dominoes. We'll hear solos from the four ex-Beatles and new artists like Carpenters. Some tunes will be familiar, some not, but we can all learn something about the era and about ourselves.

History of the Movies, Part V

Jim Held
Wednesdays, April 14 - May 5
12:30 - 2:20 p.m.



To complete this brief history of the movies, we'll review 1980 to the present. Topics will include the sounds of Dolby and THX, the special fx of Industrial Light & Magic, the rise of Steven Spielberg and George Lucas, great foreign director/auteurs, and

some of the films or series that have been wildly successful, such as *Star Wars*, *Indiana Jones*, *The Godfather*, and *Harry Potter*, and why prequels and sequels have been so successful. Lots of pictures and film clips reveal who did what and when. Mysteries solved. Did you know who invented the MRI?

More Lap Dulcimer

Judy Werner
Mondays, April 12 - May 17
10:00 - 11:50 a.m.



The dulcimer is an easy instrument to play, but you can keep learning more forever. No previous musical experience is required. Come and enjoy learning more songs, as well as some new skills (such as simple chords and fingerpicking) on your lap dulcimer. This class is designed for those who have some knowledge (but not a lot) on the dulcimer and want to learn more old-time fiddle tunes, waltzes, and patriotic songs. There are some dulcimers available for loan during the class, but please indicate this need when you register.

Mosaic Art of Ravenna

Melora Cann
Mondays, May 10 - 24
12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Ravenna, Italy, is renowned for its incredibly brilliant mosaics created from the 5th through the 7th century A.D. It's a showcase for first early Roman Christian art, art of the Ostrogoth reign, and finally the Byzantine Empire into the 670s. Ravenna has eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Roman archeological sites, museums, and, to top it off, Dante's tomb. We will explore some of most famous of the remarkably extant mosaics, some of the history related to the art, and the art of mosaic itself.

Playing the Tin Whistle

Judy Werner
Wednesdays, April 14 - May 19
10:00 - 11:50 a.m.



If you want to celebrate St. Patrick's Day all year long, learn to play the tin whistle. We will learn a variety of Irish songs while learning about Irish culture, history, and geography that relate to the songs. You need to have a tin whistle in the key of D. This class is designed for the complete beginner (never played before) and the advanced beginner (have had some experience but want to learn more). No previous musical experience is required. Tin whistles are available in the OLLI office for \$10.

Public Art: Living Room Edition

Cristin Dolan
Saturdays, April 17 - May 15
10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Journeying through Charleston's cityscape, Public Art: Living Room Edition will showcase our city's public art installations. Participants will be taken on virtual tours of murals, sculptures, and other art installations across town, all from the comfort of your home! This class will dive into the history of art works and artists through discussions and videos. Participants will also make their mark on local public art through a hands-on painting workshop where viewers learn to create self-portraits that will become part of the Martin Luther King Jr. mural at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center.

The Ukulele: An Appreciation

Wallace Venable
Thursday, May 13, 12:30 - 2:20 p.m.



The ukulele is thought to have been invented in Hawaii by Portuguese immigrants in 1879. Its use has spread throughout the world. This class will cover the types of ukulele, along with some history. Ukes are used for basic music education, recreation, and professional performance. Most of the

class time will be spent on music videos ranging from movies of the 1930s to contemporary performances. Artists will include George Formby, Roy Smeck, Arthur Godfrey, George Harrison, The Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain, and EmiSunshine and The Rain.

Verona Romana: History, Art, Architecture

Melora Cann
Monday, April 12, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Take a virtual walk through Verona, Italy, with a focus on the ancient city's Roman heritage in its history and architecture. The instructor will use many of her own photographs as well as images from other sources. Verona has one of the few remaining Roman arenas still in existence and still used for public performances including summer opera seasons. Signs of Roman life, engineering design, and occupation abound. A Roman hillside theater still stands and hosts theatrical performances. This class is for the art tourist at heart!

Walker Evans American Photographs

Heather Harris
Monday, April 19, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Join us for a virtual tour of the works of American photographer and photojournalist, Walker Evans, on exhibit at the [Art Museum of WVU](#). The WVU museum is the first venue on a national tour of an installation that celebrates Evans's landmark solo exhibition at New York's Museum of Modern Art in 1938.

Downsizing and Decluttering: Rightsize Your Life Size

Patsieann Misiti
Wednesday, April 14, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Are you overwhelmed by a lifetime of treasures? It's time to simplify your life, but you don't know where (or how) to start? The physical and emotional obstacles of later-in-life transitions such as downsizing and moving are real. Sorting through overstuffed closets, garages and filled-to-the-brim attics can be a daunting task, especially without help. Join Patsieann Misiti, professional move manager, organizer, and transition expert to learn helpful tips and coping strategies. As the Chinese proverb states, a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. You don't have to walk the road alone.

Poison Prevention for Seniors



Carissa McBurney
Wednesday, April 21, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Learn tips from the West Virginia Poison Center on medication safety and ways to stay safe from poisons. The instructor will also share what to do if a poisoning occurs.

Yoga for Anxiety & Insomnia

Deborah Layton
Tuesdays, April 13 - May 25
3:00 - 4:50 p.m.

Anxiety and insomnia may be constant companions or only crop up once in a while; both can have a negative effect on overall health with changes in alertness, digestion, pain levels, relationships, energy, and more. Causes may be overlapping (family concerns) or unrelated (job loss vs. uncomfortable bed or pillow). Often, however, both conditions may be helped with a yoga practice that slows breathing, draws attention to the body and its sensations, and reduces mental chatter. This series of classes will provide participants with practices that can be used at home and when needed.

Class Disclaimer

OLLI at WVU presents programs of interest for general guidance only. It does not engage in rendering legal, medical, financial, or other professional advice and services. Information presented in an OLLI program should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a professional legal, medical, financial, or other competent adviser. Before making any decision or taking any action, program participants should consult a professional legal, medical, financial, or other competent adviser.

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The American Muscle Car

Kenton Colvin

Thursdays, April 15 - May 6
12:30 - 2:20 p.m.



What is meant by the term “muscle car”? This course will discuss the beginning, the decline, and the resurrection of the muscle car era in America. The muscle car is the ultimate expression of American automotive power. Come learn about the automobile revolution that began in the 1960s. These cars became so popular in the beginning that many hit songs were written about them. The course will also include an introduction of the “pony” cars which began with the Ford Mustang, as well as the history of the American two-seat sports car.

Quirky Elections: 1876 and More

Jack Hammersmith

Wednesdays, April 21 - May 5
10:00 - 11:50 a.m.

Many U.S. presidential elections have been fraught with procedural anomalies and bizarre (not to mention undemocratic) results. A prime example was 1876, when, by an 8-7 vote, an electoral commission named the new president (Rutherford B. Hayes) less than a week before his March 7th inauguration. The first of three classes will focus on this strange but important election; the remaining two sessions, on other examples. Two of these presidential elections were settled in the House of Representatives, and four saw the popular vote winner lose in the Electoral College.

I Am Lost Without My Boswell:

David Harnois

Tuesday, May 4, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

After playing Sherlock Holmes onstage in 2013, David Harnois wanted to keep playing the famous detective. The following year, he founded *I Am Lost Without My Boswell*, an international and entirely volunteer-driven podcast which aims to produce audio dramatizations of the entire Sherlock Holmes canon.

Unpacking The Elizabethan World Picture

Jim Held

Wednesday, May 12, 12:30 - 2:20 p.m.



The Elizabethan World Picture is required reading for many literature, history, and arts students. Its focus includes the Great Chain of Being, the cosmos of microcosm and macrocosm, the Humours, and their effect on literature.

Holocaust Survival & Immigration: Oral History and Genealogy

Lee Kikel

Tuesdays, May 4 - 25
12:30 - 1:45 p.m.

A Holocaust survivor and proud American immigrant, Melvin Goldman, said he was, “commanded to remember, forbidden to despair” the atrocities he lived through. Memories of a “normal childhood” in Pre-WWII Poland, the Nazi invasion, the ghetto, and concentration camps, to the postwar United States, are all told by a survivor who settled in the Pittsburgh area. First-person accounts tell the story of a man who lost his youth, family, and health, and remained in Europe as a broken man, trying to recover. Melvin’s story of loss turns to one of unbreakable spirit in pursuit of the American dream. Genealogy will also be explored.

Scottish Contributions to the Modern World

Sumitra Reddy

Tuesdays, May 4 & 11
12:30 - 2:20 p.m.



The Scots made important contributions to the world, starting in the 18th century, in a wide variety of fields: science, engineering, medicine, literature, education, and many more. This list includes steam engine, pedal bicycle, laws of electrodynamics, penicillin, golf, TV, piano foot pedal, kaleidoscope, flush toilet, and refrigerator, to name a few. This course will briefly describe each contribution with its impact on modern society.

Timber/Timbre: Logging and Music

Danielle M. Petrak

Monday, May 10, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The [WVU Watts Museum](#)’s exhibit, *Timber/Timbre: Falling Trees and Rising Voices - Logging and Music in West Virginia, 1880-1930*, uses folk music to explore the history of logging in the Allegheny Highlands of West Virginia. The exhibit, on display through June 2021, examines industrialism’s impact on the region through the musical expressions of individuals who experienced the timber boom firsthand. Join OLLI for a virtual guided tour of the exhibit.

You cannot help but get excited about the subject when the instructor is so passionate and knowledgeable about the subject.

- OLLI member

Native Plants for Difficult Landscapes

Deborah Layton
Friday, April 23, 10:00 - 11:50 a.m.

Challenging landscapes, such as areas with dry shade, steep slopes, excessive wetness, or excessive dryness can often be transformed from barren to interesting through use of native plants suited to site conditions. We'll look at potential plants for some of the more common difficult sites. Thinking outside the box of hostas and English ivy, we'll consider a range of shrubs, herbs, ferns, and well-behaved vines that can add color and texture with a little extra thought and planning.

SPAM® Museum: A Virtual Tour

Terri Bergstrom
Monday, May 3, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Introduced by Hormel in 1937, SPAM® gained popularity worldwide after its use during World War II. By 2003, it was sold in 41 countries on six continents. The SPAM® museum tells the history of the Hormel company, the origin of the canned meat, and its place in world culture. Join OLLI for a virtual tour lead by a SPAM™bassador in Austin, Minnesota.

Star Trek and Shakespeare

Jay Cole, Jascenna Haislet
Wednesdays, April 14 - May 12
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

From its episode and movie titles to quotes in the dialogue to entire plotlines, Shakespeare has had a significant influence on the *Star Trek* franchise, from the 1960s original series through the new series *Picard*. Many *Star Trek* actors, from William Shatner to Patrick Stewart to Avery Brooks, also have extensive Shakespearean experience. This course will examine all of these topics and more. To quote the Bard: "The heavens speed thee in thine Enterprise!" (*Julius Caesar*, Act II, Scene IV)

Vegetable Container Gardening

H.R. Scott
Wednesday, April 28, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Enjoy learning about growing in small spaces: containers to use; types of vegetables which will produce in containers; nutrient elements required; watering needs; container location; growing media; use of compost; planting and care of vegetables; and much more.

Dysfunctional Families of the Old Testament

Rabbi Joseph Hample
Thursdays, April 15 - May 20
10:00 - 11:50 a.m.

Encore



Know anyone who killed their brother, offered their daughters to a mob, bound their son for the sacrifice, threatened to burn their daughter-in-law, sold Dad's favorite child into slavery? And that's just Genesis! The good book is full of bad relationships, required reading before any family reunion.

Jewish Short Stories for Discussion

Rabbi Joe Blair
Tuesdays, April 20 & 27
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Participants will read and discuss a pair of Jewish short stories drawn from the traditional corpus.

Magic & Judaism

Rabbi Joe Blair
Tuesday, April 13
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

This class will offer a brief look at the relationship of Judaism to magic in texts.

Be an OLLI Ambassador!

Our members are our best recruiters. Share your OLLI experience with a friend.

- Invite a friend to a class
(when we're safely meeting face-to-face again)
- Offer a catalog
- Suggest a membership*
- Give a gift certificate



*If you refer a friend who purchases a new membership, you will be entered in a drawing to receive a **free term of OLLI courses**. The referral must be confirmed by the new member.

Great Scientists

Earl Melby
Tuesdays, April 20 & 27
12:30 - 2:20 p.m.



These are the geniuses and visionaries who transformed our world. We will explore not only the scientific discoveries that made them great but also much about their personal lives. In addition to famous scientists like Einstein and Newton, we will learn about many others, not as well known outside of the scientific community, who also made significant discoveries that have affected our lives.

Non-Forested Plant Communities of West Virginia

Jim Rentch
Thursdays, April 15 & 22
3:00 - 4:50 p.m.

West Virginia is 78% forested, third-most in the nation. Non-forested natural communities are rare, much harder to find, and much less visited; however, they provide the visitor with a striking array of plants, animals, and unusual natural histories. This course will look at grass balds, heath balds, cedar glades/limestone barrens, shale barrens, rock cliffs, and boulderfields. Of particular interest will be how plants and animals have adapted to sometimes very difficult living conditions.

“Other” Mining in West Virginia

Jim Rentch
Tuesdays, April 13 & 20
3:00 - 4:50 p.m.

Coal, oil, and natural gas get all the press in West Virginia, but the extraction of salt, clay, sand, and limestone have been going on just as long, if not longer. This class will examine the history of mining for salt, clay, sand, and limestone, the industries they built, the products produced, and the communities that grew up around them.

Pittsburgh Bridges

Todd Wilson
Friday, April 30, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Bridges are a ubiquitous and sometimes romantic part of the Pittsburgh landscape. The area's challenging topography of deep ravines and mighty rivers - set the stage for engineers, architects, and contractors to conquer the terrain with a variety of distinctive spans. Many were designed to be beautiful as well as functional. Join us as Todd Wilson takes a comprehensive look at the design, construction, and, sometimes, demolition of the bridges that shaped Pittsburgh, ranging from the covered bridges of yesterday to those that define the skyline today.

Spring Wildflowers of the WVU Core Arboretum Presentation

Zachariah Fowler
Wednesday, April 14
10:00 - 11:50 a.m.



Participants will learn about the spring ephemeral wildflowers of the [WVU Core Arboretum](#). This will be a classroom discussion about what spring ephemeral wildflowers are and a slide-show introduction to species that occur in the arboretum. There is a separate class listing for a field trip to the Arboretum, where we will observe these flowers in their natural setting. The WVU Core Arboretum has an unrivaled display of spring ephemeral wildflowers!

Wildflower Identification Using *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide*



Zachariah Fowler
Tuesday, April 13, 10:00 - 11:50 a.m.

Learn how to confidently identify flowering wild plants! *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide* is a popular, easy-to-use book for identifying blooming plants in this area. Participants will learn how to use this book and practice identifying plants that grow in the Morgantown area. Participants will need to bring a copy of *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide*.

Social Sciences, Politics, and Current Events

The Borders of Our Minds

David Mould
Mondays, April 12 - 26, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

What are borders? Are they simply political and geographical, marked by posts, walls, and fences, or should we think of them more broadly? Some borders take no account of geography, language, and culture. There are borders within countries and there are the borders in our minds—the way we may think of unfamiliar places. David Mould's journey begins with maps and cartoons that poke fun at how we view parts of the U.S. He moves on to the carve-up of Africa, the 1947 partition of British India, and how independent countries emerged after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Non-Discrimination Statement

WVU is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer. Underrepresented class members are encouraged to apply. This includes minorities, females, individuals with disabilities, and veterans.

Environmental Awareness Series 2

Kathi Elkins

Wednesdays, April 21 & 28

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Building on previous OLLI classes on environmental issues, Series 2 is a cohesive approach to understanding the current status of human impacts on the environment, climate change, and what we can do to be “cleaner and greener” consumers. Topics include transitioning from coal to “green,” business and workforce opportunities and the “Break-Free from Plastics” challenge. The concepts of Reduce-Reuse-Repair-Recycle will be reinforced in each class.

The New Yorker Discussion Group

Margot Racin

Mondays, April 12 - May 17

10:00 - 11:50 a.m.



Join us to discuss a range of topics from recent issues of *The New Yorker*. Members of the group choose articles, fiction, and topics to be discussed each week. All viewpoints welcome! A subscription to *The New Yorker* is strongly recommended.

Science of Emotions

Amy Gentzler

Tuesdays, April 13 & 20

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

This course will cover basic research on emotions, including what they are, why we have them, factors that predict them, and potential outcomes of emotions. Hopefully the material will allow people to better understand their own and others' emotions.

WVU Food Justice Lab

Amanda Marple

Tuesday, May 4, 10:00 - 11:50 a.m.

The [WVU Food Justice Lab](#) is an experimental space for research and action focused on challenging food-system inequalities. Participants will learn how the lab's action research connects anti-hunger activists, farmers,

community development organizations, governments, foundations, and civil society advocacy groups to help us to make sense of the integrated and complex social dynamics contributing to injustice in our food system.

Technology Security

Michelle Klishis

Wednesday, May 19

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Encore

“If you are not paying for it, then YOU are the PRODUCT.” As more of our lives becomes digitized, it's important to make sure you are being safe with your electronic gadgets and online information. Anti-virus, malware, hacking, identity theft: all of these things make computers and smart phones sound terrifying, but there are simple steps you can take to make your data more secure and to feel more comfortable surfing the web and shopping online.

Using Your Apple iPhone & iPad

Emma Wittig

Tuesday, April 13, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Maximum Enrollment: 16

This course covers iOS 14 for the iPhone and iPad. We'll look at features of this state-of-the-art operating system and the incredibly useful devices on which it runs. We'll explore the basic knowledge and skills you'll need to use your device effectively and efficiently, like the various gestures you use to control the operating system and how to find and install third party apps.

Disney Night Pageants and Spectaculars

Ed Johnson

Thursdays, April 15 - June 10

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.



Not quite a repeat of a previous Lunch and Lights/Floats and Fireworks presentation, we will pay virtual visits to many of the Disney theme parks in nine one-hour sessions. There will be overviews of the parks and some backstage looks and anecdotes by the presenter, a former cast member at Walt Disney World. Some of the videos will be the same as used previously but several will be of different versions. One video, BraviSEAmo!, will be entirely new.

Hiking WV State Parks

Michelle Klishis

Tuesday, May 11, 10:00 - 11:50 a.m.

The weather is warming up, so it's a perfect time to visit West Virginia's state parks and forests. In this class, we'll look at hiking and climbing areas and the younger (but still historical) areas preserved as state parks. Although Michelle absolutely doesn't climb, that doesn't mean she doesn't clamber and hike to some of the gorgeous views we have here in the mountain state.

Take a Hike

Michelle Klishis

Saturday, May 22

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[Kanawha State Forest](#)

Take a hike with Michelle at Kanawha State Forest and maybe even enjoy some spring flowers. We'll decide the trails ahead of time, but a good loop will generally include three. Check your email for details about how we'll decide on the trails. If it's raining heavily on the scheduled day, the hike will be postponed one week.

About the Instructors

Terri Bergstrom is a SPAM™bassador with the Hormel Foods Corporation SPAM Museum in Austin, MN.

Rabbi Joe Blair is the spiritual leader of Temple Israel in Charleston, WV. He has taught several other courses for OLLI.

Melora Cann has been an art educator for over 33 years. She has studied art history internationally in Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Great Britain, Germany, and Mexico.

Jay Cole is Senior Advisor to WVU President Gordon Gee. He taught a WVU honors course on science fiction. Jay has been published in *Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine* and *ANALOG Science Fiction and Fact Magazine*. He is an associate member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America. He has also taught or co-taught numerous OLLI courses on Pearl Buck.

Kenton Colvin retired from WVU Student Life after 18 years. Previously he spent 26 years in manufacturing management with several corporations. He has a Masters Degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering and has taught engineering courses for 26 years. He is vice president of the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society and enjoys reading history and teaching classes at OLLI.

Cristin Dolan is a young engineer with a keen interest in art and music. She loves exploring all that Charleston has to offer and finds immense joy in discovering and sharing art with others. She also is an avid hiker, book reader, and board game player.

Kathi Elkins has a teaching background in biology and chemistry, experience in solid waste management, data and graphics, and is personally committed to Reduce/Reuse/Repair/Recycle. She is also committed to expanding her involvement in environmental advocacy and to reach/teach others. She is a retired epidemiologist from the WV

Health Statistics Center, WVDHHR.

Zach Fowler is Director of WVU Core Arboretum and Clinical Assistant Professor of Biology at WVU. He has a passion for learning about nature in a scientific fashion and for sharing his knowledge with others.

Amy Gentzler, PhD, Professor of Psychology at WVU, has training in social psychology, developmental psychology, and developmental psychopathology. Gentzler joined WVU in 2007, and teaches various courses (on emotions, social psychology, child psychology), runs her research lab, and publishes their work on emotion-related processes in youth and adults.

Jack Hammersmith, a 48-year WVU history department veteran, with appropriate battlefield stories and scars, has tested the patience and good will of many OLLI members in previous classes.

Rabbi Joe Hample was born in Buffalo, educated at Harvard, and long employed at Wells Fargo Bank in California. Ordained in 2009, he worked as a full-time prison chaplain before coming to Morgantown in 2012. Now the spiritual leader at Tree of Life Congregation on South High Street, Rabbi Joe seeks to make Judaism accessible to everyone.

David Harnois is a technical theatre artist and customer service rep from Washburn, IA. After playing Holmes onstage in 2013, he got to bug to keep playing him, and founded *I Am Lost Without My Boswell* in 2014.

Heather Harris is the Educational Programs Manager at the Art Museum of West Virginia University. Harris is a Morgantown native who has worked in arts education in a wide variety of contexts, both nationally and internationally. Her background is in drama education, and she holds an MA from New York University in Educational Theatre. She then became Education Coordinator at Krannert Art

Museum in Champaign, Illinois. She returned to Morgantown in August of 2015 to head the new Art Museum's education initiatives.

James Held, a lifetime cineaste [film enthusiast], had a prominent role in the film industry, ushering and snack barring in Oceanside, CA, while still in his teens. He went on to live in Los Angeles, so close to Hollywood that he could often be found driving up and down Hollywood Blvd. late at night or stalking Pickwick Books for movie stars.

Ed Johnson is the creator/curator of a website for students and educators of West Virginia Studies, mh3wv.org.

Michelle Klishis, OLLI's professional technologist, is a jack-of-all-trades and certifiable geek. Her degree in biology and work in a microbiology lab gave her absolutely no preparation for becoming a technology consultant, yet here we are.

William Koehler, DMA, has studied and practiced T'ai Chi over a period of 25 years, including the Cheng Man-ch'ing 37 posture Yang style, "Small Space T'ai Chi," and the Yang 24 posture form. He studied for five years with Robert Larsen, a student of Cheng Man-ch'ing.

Lee Goldman Kikel, the daughter of a Jewish immigrant and Holocaust survivor, grew up in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood. In 2015, she stumbled across a four decade old telling of her father's life story in a series of audio tapes—which she turned into a gripping account of the Holocaust, including the tragedy and hope of her late father's story.

Deborah Layton, a yoga student since 1995, has been teaching since 2004 in the Viniyoga tradition. She is an Experienced Registered Yoga Teacher at the 500-hour level and is currently working toward certification in yoga therapy. She holds a BS in Recreation Therapy from Virginia Commonwealth University.

About the Instructors

Miriam Leary is a teaching assistant professor in the division of exercise physiology at WVU and a co-director of student internship.

Amanda Marple is the program director of education and outreach for the WVU Center for Resilient Communities. She conducts action research focused on cooperatives enterprises as an alternative means of grassroots economic organizing.

Carissa McBurney has been the Community Outreach Coordinator for the West Virginia Poison Center for 10 years. She educates West Virginians on poison prevention and poison safety.

Earl Melby, PhD, is an organic chemist who worked in universities and industry for many years. He has previously taught OLLI courses on polymers, adhesives, safety of plastics, Vikings, Normans, Kings of England, French Revolution, Napoleon Bonaparte, famous inventors and the Churchills.

Patsieann Misiti, a Beckley native, combines her passion for serving others with years of professional and life experiences to guide older adults and their families through major life transitions. Whether clients are relocating to a new residence or interested in living more safely and independently in their current home, she is known for delivering client-centered services with compassion, integrity and care.

Florita Montgomery was a communication professor for WVU Extension for 34 years before retiring.

David Mould, PhD, Professor Emeritus of Media Arts and Studies at Ohio University, has traveled widely in Asia and southern Africa. Born in the UK, he worked as a newspaper and TV journalist before moving to the US. He is the author of three books on history, travel and culture, the latest *Postcards from the Borderlands* (2020).

Danielle Petrak is the curator of the Watts Museum at WVU.

Cecil Pollard has been practicing T'ai Chi for almost five years under several different instructors. He has experience teaching this class, but doesn't consider himself an expert. He continues to take classes when possible.

Margot Racin is retired after 30 years in the WVU English Department. She has coordinated these *New Yorker* discussions in previous terms and looks forward to even more stimulating discussions.

Sumitra Reddy grew up in India and "had" to learn her mother tongue (Bengali), Hindi (India's national language), Sanskrit, and English in school (and three different scripts) as most Indians do even today. She came to the U.S. for graduate studies and received her PhD in Physics.

Jim Rentch taught silviculture and field botany courses at WVU for 16 years.

H.R. Scott is an Extension Agent with Agriculture & Natural Resources at WVU.

Crystal Smith is a Teaching Associate Professor in the Division of Animal and Nutritional Sciences within the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources & Design. Her background and experience led her to pursue a B.S. in Animal Science at Penn State. After working as an assistant trainer, she returned to Penn State to pursue a master's degree in Animal Science where she planned programs for Penn State's Equine Science Program and conducted research for the American Youth Horse Council. At WVU, she leads the Equine Studies minor and manages the horse unit at the JW Ruby Research Farm.

Wallace Venable arranges music for crank organs. He also plays several musical instruments and sings in local groups. He resumed an interest in model railroading as part of his dealing with COVID-19 distancing, after several decades of un-involvement.

Barry Wendell has been teaching about pop music at OLLI for many years now, including covering years from 1960- 1968 and classes about Motown, the British Invasion, The Beach Boys, and Laura Nyro. Barry has a Bachelor of Arts in Humanistic Studies from Johns Hopkins University, and used to sing Jewish liturgical music at synagogues in California and Idaho.

Judy Werner has enjoyed playing the lap dulcimer for more than 12 years, and she plays in two different dulcimer groups. She likes old-time traditional music and enjoys going to concerts and music festivals. She continues to direct the Gardner Winter Music Festival held every February. She also enjoys playing the tin whistle and the bowed psaltery.

Todd Wilson is an award-winning professional engineer in Pittsburgh who has been photographing and writing about bridges his entire life. He graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a double major in civil engineering and engineering and public policy. He serves as a trustee of Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation.

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