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Holiday Party at Country Club of Fairfax, December 4

## December 14, 2018

Editor of the Week: John Nash

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### Alerts & Notices

- OLLI is closed Monday, December 17, and reopening on Monday, January 7.
- Winter term begins January 22.
- The next issue of *OLLI E-News* will be published January 11; regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, January 8, at 6:00.

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### From the Desk of the Executive Director



Jennifer Disano, OLLI Executive Director

Dear OLLI Mason Family,

As I reflect on our activities for 2018, I want to thank you all for your efforts to make OLLI Mason the best lifelong-learning program in the nation! This year, we've produced more courses than ever before, offering more than 600 programs and hosting a record number of volunteer teachers! Our OLLI is prosperous due to the love and attention of all our members, the selflessness of our volunteers, the generosity of our donors, and the help of our fantastic staff. Thank you all for your various, kind, and generous contributions. We appreciate you!

Thank you, teachers, board members, program planners, editors, office helpers, gardeners, audiovisual assistants, and so many more people that

make OLLI Mason terrific! Thank you, donors for your constant support of our goals to enrich the lives of our members and help our Mason students. Thank you, staff for your steadfastness, attention to detail, and caring attitude. And, thank you members for being a part of OLLI Mason, renewing your dues, recruiting your friends and neighbors to join, and sharing your experiences to champion our organization within the community at Mason and beyond.

I learn from each of you every day. I'm humbled by your energy, kindness, and efforts. It is my pleasure and honor to serve as your executive director and to be a part of this amazing organization.

Be safe over the winter break and accept my best wishes for a wonderful New Year!

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## Friends of OLLI Fundraiser Winners



*Lesley Bubenhofer, Development Committee Chair*

The lucky winner of the annual OLLI registration fee raffle at the holiday party on December 4 was Peter Mersey. Congratulations, Peter.

The lucky winner of the 50/50 event was Karen Simon. Congratulations, Karen.

And many, many thanks to all of OLLI's friends who so generously supported these profitable and fun fundraisers.

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## Washington National Cathedral Trip



*By Sally Burdick, Trip Coordinator*

Thirty OLLI members enjoyed the guided tour at the Washington National

Cathedral on November 14. It is an amazing structure with its soaring buttresses, neo-gothic architecture, stained glass windows, medieval-style gardens, and menacing gargoyles. We learned some interesting facts about the cathedral. There is no steel or iron in the structure. It is built entirely from Indiana limestone.

Inside, the oak stalls were designed by cathedral architects and carved by furniture makers. Building started in 1907 and was finished in 1990. This time line is in contrast to cathedrals that took hundreds of years to build in Europe. It is one of the largest in the world.

At the heart of the great choir sits the console for the cathedral's 1938 Skinner pipe organ composed of nearly 10,000 pipes. We were fortunate to meet the organist, who explained the complexity of this magnificent instrument. We enjoyed the piece he played. The acoustics are awe-inspiring.



The tour was followed by a traditional English tea and a scenic view of Washington, DC from the seventh floor Pilgrim Observation Gallery. (Photos by Sally Burdick)

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## Computer Club

*PC Clinic: Hands-on Help – In the Annex  
Technological Advances Stimulated by the Civil War  
3rd Saturday, December 15*



*By Paul Howard, OPCUG Program Chair*

The Computer Club (OLLI Personal Computer User Group, or OPCUG) will meet with its partner, the Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society (PATACS), on Saturday, December 15 (tomorrow!), at Tallwood. Join us at

12:30 for socializing in the Annex. Program activities begin at 1:00 in TA-1.

**Technological Advances Stimulated by the Civil War – Presented by Jim Anderson:** In many ways, the Civil War (1861-1865) was the first “modern” war. It both stimulated new techniques in existing technologies and led to the creation of new technologies that would continue to be enhanced into the 21st century.

This lecture will cover some of the most obvious advances in weapons technologies (e.g., small arms, artillery, and naval weaponry), as well as war-related techniques and technologies that were advanced by the conflict. Finally, it will address ancillary technologies such as canned foods, grain harvesters, sewing machines, and pocket watches.

Jim Anderson spent over 30 years with the CIA. He has been an OLLI instructor for the past nine years, teaching courses and leading tours focusing on American history.

**PC Clinic in the Annex (Club Membership and Registration Required):** Get hands-on help with your computer problems from OPCUG and PATACS experts. Bring in your computer, and we'll help you lose the 'blues' - system slowdowns, unwanted programs, virus and malware. **Be sure to read the Clinic Rules – click this link:** <http://patacs.org/clinicpat.html>.

See full details on this meeting by [clicking here](#). For information on the Computer Club, see the [OPCUG website](#). OPCUG dues of \$5 for 2019 will be collected at this meeting.

**Can't make the meeting in person?** Dues-paid club members may attend via Zoom's cloud meeting service, beginning at 12:45. Send a message to [webinarhosts@patacs.org](mailto:webinarhosts@patacs.org) if you plan to attend in this way. Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/2080042114> (Meeting ID: 208 004 2114).

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## The Hello Girls Movie on PBS



*By Martha Powers, OLLI Member and Instructor*

If you missed OLLI's Veterans Day event last month – or even if you were there – you may be interested to know that the movie *The Hello Girls* has won the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) All About Women & Girls Film Festival. You can view a 24-minute version of this movie on Friday, December 21, at 5:30 on PBS (channel 26), on the show “To the Contrary with Bonnie Erbé.”

For those not familiar with the documentary, *The Hello Girls* is about 223 female members of the US Army Signal Corps who served as telephone operators in Europe in WWI—yet were not recognized for their service for 60 years afterward. The 80+ OLLI members who have seen it were very impressed, and you will be, too!

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## Poet's Corner

*Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop*

### Now

Temperature falls  
Wind wails  
Robo calls  
Pundit rails

Skills wane  
Scammer preys  
Joints pain  
Hair grays

Nonetheless  
Dispense with dread  
I am blessed  
With daily bread

Chamomile tea  
A purring cat  
Squeal of glee  
A welcome mat

Fluffy pillow  
Shower's heat  
Double rainbow  
Catbird seat

Words to write  
Cheeks to kiss  
Pure delight  
Not to miss

Bounteous fate  
Prompts a vow  
Appreciate  
The gift of now

*Sandy Myles*

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## Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances, December 14 through January 14



*By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer*

For tickets for either Center for the Arts Concert Hall (CFA) or Hylton Center, call 1-888-945-2468, buy tickets online through the event calendar (see links below), or visit the venue's box office. For more information, see the [CFA ticket page](#) or the Hylton Center [ticket purchase page](#).

### At the Fairfax Campus Venues

#### ***A Canadian Brass Christmas***

Sat, Dec 15, 8:00

A pre-performance discussion with a member of the company begins 45 minutes prior to the performance.

Concert Hall

Admission: \$60, \$51, \$36.

#### **Fairfax Symphony Orchestra and Fairfax Ballet: *The Nutcracker***

Sun, Dec 16, 4:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$89, \$69, \$49.

#### **Moscow Ballet's *Great Russian Nutcracker***

Fri, Dec 21, 4:00 and 8:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$89, \$69, \$49, \$28.

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### Mason Student & Faculty Performances

(see [music.gmu.edu](http://music.gmu.edu) for additional student recitals)

No student or faculty performances.

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### At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

#### **Gallery Exhibit: *Hidden Narratives***

Oct 30 - Dec 15

Buchanan Partners Art Gallery

The Buchanan Partners Art Gallery is open to the public Tue-Sat, 10:00-6:00, and two hours before each performance.

#### **Gallery Exhibit: *Ambry***

Dec 18 - Jan 19

Gallery Reception: Thu, Jan 10, 6:00

The Gallery Receptions are free and open to the public, but an RSVP is required. RSVP to [smeyer3@gmu.edu](mailto:smeyer3@gmu.edu)

Buchanan Partners Art Gallery

The Buchanan Partners Art Gallery is open to the public Tue-Sat, 10:00-6:00, and two hours before each performance.

#### **Manassas Ballet Theatre: *The Nutcracker***

Thu, Dec 13 and Fri, Dec 14, 7:30

Sat, Dec 15, 3:00 and 7:30  
 Tue, Dec 18 – Thu Dec 20, 7:30  
 Fri, Dec 21, 3:00 and 7:30  
 Sat, Dec 22, 3:00 and 7:30  
 Sun, Dec 23, 3:00  
 Merchant Hall  
 Admission: \$75, \$65, \$55, \$45, \$35.

**Prince William Little Theatre: *It's a Wonderful Life*, A Live Radio Play**

Fri, Dec 14, 8:00  
 Sat, Dec 15, 2:00 and 8:00  
 Sun, Dec 16, 2:00 and 6:30  
 Gregory Family Theater  
 Admission: Adults, \$20; seniors, \$17.

***A Canadian Brass Christmas***

Sun, Dec 16, 2:00  
 A pre-performance discussion with a member of the company begins 45 minutes prior to the performance. Merchant Hall  
 Admission: \$60, \$51, \$36.

**Pied Piper Theatre: *NEWSIES***

Sat, Jan 12, 2:00 and 7:00  
 Sun, Jan 13, 3:00  
 Merchant Hall  
 Admission: Adults, \$20; children, \$15.

**Dance Etcetera: *38th Annual Winter Concert***

Sat, Jan 12, 7:00  
 Gregory Family Theater  
 Admission: \$20.

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For further details on any of the above events, see the [CFA event calendar](#) and the [Hylton Center event calendar](#).

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**Meetings & Clubs**

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office, with direct web links added when available. The list is accurate as of mid-week but for the most up-to-date information, please view the latest forecast of coming events on our website ([News/OLLI Calendar](#)). *Note: All OLLI members are welcome at, and encouraged to attend, meetings of the Board of Directors, committees and resource groups, kick-off coffees, etc.*

|            |                   |  |
|------------|-------------------|--|
| Sat Dec 15 | 10:30am<br>1:00pm | Tai Chi Club–TA-3<br>Personal Computer User Group–TA-1 |
| Wed Jan 9  | 1:00pm            | Special Events Planning Group Meeting–Annex            |

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**About *OLLI E-News***

*OLLI E-News* was created by Rod Zumbro, who served as its editor from 2005 to 2013.

**Editorial Staff**

Chief Editor: Paul Van Hemel  
 Associate Editor: David Gundry  
 Weekly Editor Team: David Gundry, John Nash, Sheri Siesseger, Leslie Vandivere, Paul Van Hemel  
 Proofreaders: Rebecca Jann, Susan Van Hemel, Linda Randall, Tom Appich, Roz Stark  
 Marian Drohan, Jane Hassell  
 Backup Chief Editor: Alice Slayton Clark

**Submissions:** Members are encouraged to submit letters to the editor, letters to Ms. Ollie Ettakit (on etiquette matters), OLLI-related news items, articles, and photos. Submit material to: [ollienewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:ollienewseditor@gmail.com).

**Deadline:** Tuesday, 6:00, for that week's issue (Monday, 6:00, for letters to the editor); early submissions are greatly appreciated. Please limit articles to about 250 words.

**Note:** You can view past issues of *OLLI E-News* on the DocStore. To search the content of issues, use Search Our Site or put your search term in Google followed by "site:olli.gmu.edu/" without the quotes.

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