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Ilya Somin, a Professor of Law at Mason, Argues in a Monday Lecture Series Class "Free to Move" that Foot Voting Offers Strong Advantages Over Ballot Box Voting for a More Open World, September 26

September 30, 2022

Editor of the Week: John Nash

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Alerts and Notices

- You may now add or drop a class using the add/drop form available at [this link](#).
- The next issue of *OLLI E-News* will be published Friday, October 7; the regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, October 4, at 6:00.

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An OLLI Summons



By Barbara Wilan, Loudoun Program Planning Group Chair

Please help us find a solution for program planning at OLLI. We all like Zoom, and it will continue to be part of the OLLI program as life continues to nor. However, many of us are committed to returning to the OLLI program that we loved prior to the pandemic: in-person classes, social events, and vibrant committees. Zoom and hybrids are going strong, but we fear for the in-person program, which brought many of us to OLLI in the first place.

Our problem has been getting our members to sign up for and come to in-person classes and social events. We need your opinions and suggestions for best way to restore a strong in-person program. We know that you know what we need to do to attract you and our other members.

To that end, we will be forming a focus group to meet in-person on the Loudoun campus during October or November. We miss you, and we miss the old. Please help us restore OLLI's live events.

If you are interested in helping us by joining our focus group, please contact Barbara Wilan at bwilan@webtv.net. Once we get a group formed, we'll pick a day and time.

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Antietam Day Trip September 23



By Luci Martel, Special Events Program Planning Group Co-Chair

On September 23, long-time OLLI instructor and civil war historian, Jim Anderson, led an enthusiastic group of 20 OLLI members on a day trip to the Antietam Battlefield in Maryland. It was a perfect fall day with the weather cooperating (albeit a little windy) and Jim provided an outstanding overview of the entire battle. It was a wonderful way to kick off the 2022 fall term!

The group toured all of the tragic battle spots which, with Jim's narrative, helped explain why this was one of the most devastating battles of the Civil War. More than 23,000 were killed or wounded that day. (Photos by Luci Martel)



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History Club Meeting



By Elizabeth Lambert, History Club Coordinator

The first meeting of the History Club for the 2022-23 season will be held on **Wednesday, October 5 at 4:00**. It will be a virtual event. Our speaker will be **Doug Snoeyenbos** speaking on **The Presidential Election of 1876**. Doug describes it as one of the closest and most controversial in American his and it has many implications for our current Presidential elections. We will look at what made the Election of 1876 so unique, how it exposed weaknesses in the Electoral College system, and how it was eventually resolved as well as the consequences of that election, which included the end of Reconstruction.

Those who heard Doug speak at a History Club presentation last year know it will be an excellent meeting. Because the meeting will be virtual, any and all OLLI members, near and far, can have access to it. Be sure to put Wednesday, October 5, at 4:00 on your calendar.

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Join the Friends of Theater for a World Premiere and Music by the Go-Gos



By Norma Jean Reck, Theater Lovers' Group Coordinator

Please join us this **Sunday, October 2, 2022, from 4:00 to 5:15** for a light-hearted theatrical treat from the comfort of your home. The **free**, virtual, two-part program begins with Mason's talented theater students performing songs from *Head Over Heels*, a laugh-out-loud love story about the hilarious escapades of a royal family set to the music of the Go Gos. Director **Erin Gardiner** and Music Director **Joe Walsh** will be on hand to expertly take us behind-the-scenes of the play. Choreographer **Stefan Sittig** and his dance students will demonstrate the process of integrating dance and movement into the play. You can see *Head Over Heels* at the Center for the Arts from Thursday, October 27 through Sunday, October 30. For tickets and more information, please go to theater.gmu.edu.



To round out this exciting program, **Djola Branner**, Director of the School of Theater, will discuss what motivated him to write *Sutta*. The fun play, choreographed by **Ahmed Maaty**, is set in 2017. Branner uses movement, music, and text as theatrical language to tell the story of a young doctoral candidate whose research takes him to a Buddhist monastery. Mason's talented theater students will bring *Sutta* to life by reading some scenes from the play. You can attend the world premiere of *Sutta* at the TheaterSpace from Friday, November 18 through Sunday, November 20. For tickets and more information, please go to theater.gmu.edu.

To RSVP or for more information, email ringie@gmu.edu or phone Rachel Ingle at 703-993-3927. The deadline to RSVP is Saturday, October 1 (tomorrow!). The Zoom link will be emailed to you shortly before the event on Sunday, October 2.

Everyone is welcome, so invite your family and friends to join you for this special Friends of Theater event. Be sure to save the date! See you there.

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OLLI Weekly Conversations Continue – October 5: Travel



By Doris Bloch, Co-Moderator

Continuing our Wednesday Conversations Series, Team Bloch (Brenda Bloch-Young and Doris Bloch) will moderate a Zoom discussion on October 5 at 4:00, where any and every OLLI member is most welcome to join us to talk about our chosen topic: **Travel** (a fascinating topic and lots to discuss!). It combine a learning experience, a getting-to-know you experience, and just a friendly outlet where we can all relax and relate. No sign-ups needed; participation is totally open and spontaneous. Check the Daily-Schedule email or just use the OLLI Chat Line meeting ID.

October 5: **Travel** – Where have you been recently? Where have you been dreaming of going? What precautions are you taking? Share any horror stories or good experiences with us. We love to hear them. Cancelled trips? Lost luggage? Quarantine stays in foreign surroundings? Tour group feedback? We can learn lessons from your tales, whether good, bad, indifferent.

Heads-up for the following week's Conversation: October 12: **Mystery Novels, Movies and TV Shows** – What are you reading? Watching? Who's your favorite? Recommendations welcomed. Should OLLI provide a future class on mysteries? Is anyone here currently writing a novel or has in the past? – p do share with us.

Each week we pre-select a topic, and advertise it in the *OLLI E-News*, the *OLLI E-Blast*, and the OLLI Daily-Schedule email (so it will be "in your face" as to miss.) If you have a suggestion for a topic that will be of interest to members, please do send it to one of us (Bblochyoung@gmail.com or dbloch50@hotmail.com). We love receiving your suggestions. Our first conversation was devoted to discussing Word Games based on apps, mainly, but exclusively, those played on cellphones. The "mothership" of these is Wordle, sponsored by the *New York Times* but available to subscribers and non-subscribers alike.

We are working on a list of games to share with OLLI members. OLLI puzzle-mad folks, stay tuned. Check your Daily Schedule for the Zoom link each Wednesday and plan on some social time with Team Bloch (who are totally non-related, in case you were wondering).

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Member Achievement News from OLLI's Poetry Workshop



By Jan Bohall, Poetry Workshop Co-Moderator

Congratulations to three of our OLLI poets who recently had poems accepted by literary publications! Susan Bennett placed her poem, 'The Coat Rack Reflects,' with the *Artemis Journal*; both Susan Rexroad and Margie Wildblood will have their poems, 'a frothy occupation' and 'Ashes' respectively, in the *NoVA Bards 2022: Anthology of Northern Virginia Poetry*.

In addition to the Workshop, all three poets are studying the craft with Ed Sadtler and Carolyn Wyatt in their course, *So You Wanna Write Poetry?* at OLLI.

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Poet's Corner

Courtesy of the Poetry W

SYMPHONIC NIGHTMARE

I've played for years in a symphony,
So I don't really need your sympathy

When I tell you of a dream I had one night

Which may hint at my precarious plight.

In the dream I was late for a concert, you see—

It started at 7:30, not eight, the prior decree.

I heard the National Anthem as I came through the door

"How could I get to my seat on stage?" I implored

The surprised stage manager (what did he know?)

Rigged up a chandelier for me, my violin, and bow.

I swung over the orchestra and descended so low

That I jumped right into my chair, and was ready to go.

No one even noticed my braggadocio.

Joan Lunsford
November 6, 2021

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Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances, September 30 through Octo



By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

Current vaccination policy for the Center for the Arts and Hylton Performing Arts Center is summarized as follows:

Audience members are not currently required to show proof of vaccination, or a negative COVID-19 test result for most events **except** when required by event organizer or artist. If proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test result is required for a specific event, it will be indicated on the webpage w event details.

Specific requirements are detailed and any future policy changes may be found here: <https://cfa.gmu.edu/plan-your-visit/vaccination-policy>.

Dr. Linda Apple Monson produces a periodic "Notes from the Director." This email is full of interesting online performances by the students and faculty of School of Music. If you would like to receive these bulletins, just sign up at [this link to stay in touch](#). Also, the Center for the Arts has a website, [Mason Home](#), which has a calendar of online events and access to many past performances. Information can also be found at [CFA ticket purchase page](#), [Center the Arts YouTube Channel](#), or the [Hylton ticket purchase page](#).

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At the Fairfax Campus Venues

MOMIX: Viva MOMIX

Sat, Oct 1, 8:00
Concert Hall
Admission: \$55, \$47, \$33.

Virginia Opera: The Valkyrie

Sat, Oct 8, 8:00
Sun, Oct 9, 2:00
Concert Hall
Admission: \$110, \$70, \$40.

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Mason Student and Faculty Performances

(see music.gmu.edu for additional student recitals)

New Sound Collective Concert

Fri, Oct 7, 8:00
deLaski Performing Arts Building, 3001, de Laski Rehearsal Room
Admission: Free.

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At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

Gallery Exhibit: Bennie Herron: Zero and One

Sep 6 through Nov 6
Hylton Performing Arts Center, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery
Admission: Free.

Keyboard Conversations® with Jeffrey Siegel: Music for the Young and Youthful

Sun, Oct 2, 2:00
Merchant Hall
Admission: \$50, \$43, \$29.

Alicia Ward: Cello Concert

Wed, Oct 5, 1:30
Gregory Family Theater
Admission: Lunch, concert, and dessert reception: \$60,
Concert and dessert reception only: \$35.

Naseebo Lal! Pakistani Folk Singer

Fri, Oct 7, 7:30
Merchant Hall
Admission: \$29 to \$250.

Manassas Chorale: Broadway in Manassas!

Sat, Oct 8, 7:30

Merchant Hall
Admission: \$25, \$23.

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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

Please note: Although some physical meetings for clubs and activities are canceled, some may be meeting in person or, in a hybrid mode, both in person and online. OLLI events and activities meeting online bear the identification "Z" in their course or event number (except clubs; you may need to check the [Q calendar](#) and daily schedule email for location and other event information). Refer to the university's [coronavirus website](#) for official university updates.

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office. 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 members are welcome at, and encouraged to attend, meetings of the Board of Directors, committees and resource groups, kick-off coffees, etc. The OLLI office has sent (or will send) emails with links and meeting passwords to club members; you may also log in at the [member portal](#) and click on ZOOM C LINKS.*

Sat Oct 1	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club
Mon Oct 3	9:30 am	What's in the Daily News?
Tue Oct 4	4:00 pm	Spanish Club
	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Wed Oct 5	1:45 pm	Bridge Club
	1:45 pm	Mah Jongg Club
	2:00 pm	Memoir and More Writing Group
	4:00 pm	History Club
Thu Oct 6	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Fri Oct 7	9:15 am	Recorder Consort
	9:30 am	Craft and Conversation
	11:00 am	Classic Literature Club
	11:00 am	Homer, etc.
Sat Oct 8	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club
Mon Oct 10	9:30 am	What's in the Daily News?
Tue Oct 11	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Wed Oct 12	1:45 pm	Bridge Club
	1:45 pm	Spanish Club
	4:00 pm	Mah Jongg Club
	4:00 pm	Conversations with Brenda and Doris
	6:00 pm	Ethnic Eats Club
Thu Oct 13	4:00 pm	Reston Book Club
	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Fri Oct 14	9:15 am	Recorder Consort
	9:30 am	Photography Club
	9:30 am	Craft and Conversation
	10:00 am	Grab 'n' Gab Coffee Klatch
	11:00 am	Classic Literature Club
	11:00 am	Homer, etc.
	11:30 am	Cooking Club
	2:30 pm	Tallwood Book Club
Sat Oct 15	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club

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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, Paul Van Hemel

Proofreaders: Rebecca Jann, Susan Van Hemel, Linda Randall, Tom Appich, Jane Hassell

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 n to: ollieditor@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.

Search E-News: You can view past issues of *OLLI E-News* at [ENews Archives](#). To search the content within issues, use [Search](#) or enter your search term(s) in [Google](#) followed by "site:olli.gmu.edu/" without the quotes.

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