Tallwood ramp built by Mason Facilities Management for Americans with Disabilities Act compliance is nearing completion as shown in panoramic view

December 10, 2021
Editor of the Week: Sheri Siesseger

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Alerts & Notices
• Winter-term priority registration ended December 7. However, you may still register for winter-term classes on a space-available basis.
• Reminder: The Investment Forum hosts a special session with Marc Rubenstein, author of the Net Interest newsletter, sharing his thoughts on the banking industry and financial technology, Monday, December 13, at 10:00. See OLLI Daily Schedule email for the link.
• Note: This month, the OLLI Personal Computer Club (OPCUG) is meeting on the 2nd Saturday, at 1:00, December 11 (tomorrow), instead of the 3rd Saturday; see article below.
• Periodically check this link to stay up-to-date on winter term changes.
• OLLI Mason will be closed on holiday break from December 20 through January 2.
• The next issue of OLLI E-News will be published Friday, December 24; regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, December 21, at 6:00.

Co-chair Needed for the Special Events Program Planning Group
By Rita Way, Special Events Program Planning Group Co-chair
The Special Events Program Planning Group is looking to fill the position of co-chair. If you are interested or would like more information about this volunteer opportunity, please contact Rita Way at email: Ritaway27@gmail.com.

Thank you.

Tallwood Book Club Meets TODAY
By Betty Ellerbee, Tallwood Book Club Coordinator
The Tallwood Book Club will be discussing Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes at our regular Zoom meeting, Friday, December 10 (today), at 2:30. The Zoom link and other information appears in today’s OLLI Daily Schedule email.

The January selection is Tightrope by Nicholas Kristof.
**WANTED: Poetry and Prose for OLLI Ink 2022!**

By Caroline McNeil, OLLI Ink Editor

OLLI writers—beginners or experienced—take note: OLLI Ink is now accepting submissions, including poems, fiction, personal essays, and memoirs, for its 2022 edition.

Now moving into its eleventh year, OLLI Ink is a well-established publication whose contributors come from a wide spectrum of OLLI members, including, but not limited to, those enrolled in writing workshops.

How to Submit: Please send your entries and/or any questions to Caroline McNeil at caromcneil@gmail.com.

Guidelines:

- Poems – limit number of lines to 30
- Prose – limit number of words to 2,500, single-spaced.

Contributions are welcome starting now through the end of February.

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**Share Your Expertise as an OLLI Instructor in 2022!**

By Camille Hodges, Humanities and Social Sciences/Current Events Program Planning Group Co-chair

OLLI is looking for instructors willing to teach a few classes:

- Examining the Biden Administration’s Domestic and Foreign Policy Agenda/2021-2024
- Democracy vs. Authoritarianism in the USA and Abroad
- Is America in Decline? Empirical Indicators and Implications for Present and Future Generations.

This could be you! Please contact one of the following OLLI program coordinators if you are interested:

Shannon Kim Morrow, Program Associate—smorrow4@gmu.edu
Nancy Klein, Communications and Program Associate—nklein4@gmu.edu

OR complete the course proposal form available at this link.

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**Correction for the Winter 2022 Catalog: R414 Literary Roundtable**

By Ben Gold, Literary Roundtable Moderator

Please note the changes to this entry that were made since publication of the catalog:

R414 Literary Roundtable

**Wednesdays, 11:50-1:15, Jan 26-Feb 16**

**Four sessions**

**Moderator:** Ben Gold

**Class limit:** 30

This continuing short story discussion class will complete The Best American Short Stories 2019, edited by Anthony Doerr & Heidi Pitlor. For those who do not have copies of the book, the four remaining stories from that volume will be provided. Stories for the last two weeks of the term will be distributed.

Ben Gold has a BA in political science from Stanford University and also holds an MS degree in computer science. He will serve as moderator.

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**Supplement for the Winter 2022 Catalog: Classic Literature Club**

By Robert Zener, Classic Literature Club Coordinator

For the winter session, club members have agreed to read and discuss Edith Wharton’s The Age of Innocence. We will also view and discuss the 1993 film based on that book, starring Daniel Day-Lewis, Winona Ryder, and Michelle Pfeiffer. The club meets Fridays, 11:00-12:30, January 28-February 18.

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**Want to Know How Algorithms Rule the World?**

By Camille Hodges, Humanities and Social Sciences/Current Events Program Planning Group Co-chair
A Fascinating Peek Behind the Scenes

By Debby Mossburg, OLLI Board Member

What a treat OLLI members enjoyed on November 15 when Ben Powell, a well-known improvisational violinist, led us on a tour through the history of, and the creative processes behind, movie scores. Born in Britain, Ben currently lives in New Orleans. He has performed with the likes of Paul Simon, Celine Dion, Andrea Bocelli, Neil Young, Barbra Streisand, Aretha Franklin, and Stevie Wonder, and has been featured on over 200 movie soundtracks including *The Lion King* and *E.T.*. Most recently he contributed significantly to the score of *Hillbilly Elegy*.

An incredibly talented musician, Mr. Powell turned out to be a gifted presenter as well. Sharing many of his own personal stories, as well as informative and entertaining video clips, he opened attendees’ eyes to the previously unknown world of movie scoring. It was fascinating to see how all the parts come together from the first few bars sparked by the movie in the composer’s imagination through the often-collaborative creative process made tangible through the efforts of varied musicians to match music to motion. One of the clips he shared that spotlights his work, and others on *Hillbilly Elegy*, can be viewed at [this link](https://www.patacs.org/fairfaxattreqmts.html).

Over 250 people attended the presentation, and it was a great public-relations event as well, featured by AARP as one of the classes offered through their Virtual Community Center. Member Stephanie Trachtenberg was responsible for bringing this very special event to OLLI.

Sorry you missed it? Not to worry. You can find it on the OLLI class video recordings page featured each day in the Daily Schedule email under Special Events: 972 Motion Picture Scores. Enjoy!

Editor’s Note: This article appeared in a recent issue; the Program Planning Group requested the repeat for emphasis and to encourage your participation in sharing the benefits of OLLI.
the OPCUG Website. OPCUG dues are $5 for 2021—see http://olligmu.org/opcug/comm.html for details on making payment.

Attend via Zoom’s cloud meeting service, beginning at 1:00. Please click this link to join the meeting and use passcode 458615 or enter meeting ID 846 0789 9770 in the Zoom app and use the above passcode.

Poet's Corner

Triage

Betty Webb

Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances, December 10 through December 23

By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

As Mason’s campuses reopen, programs are offered at both Fairfax and Manassas campuses, along with virtual events. Proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test result is required for all audience members. 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 the School of Music. If you would like to receive these bulletins, just send an email to Brianna Schoen at bschoen@gmu.edu. Also, the Center for the Arts has a website, Mason Arts at Home, which has a calendar of online events and access to many past performances.
# Meetings & Clubs

**Please note:** Physical meetings for clubs and activities are canceled until further notice in accordance with Mason’s guidelines. OLLI is conducting its classes and activities online. Refer to the university’s [coronavirus website](#) for official university updates and check the [OLLI calendar](#) for revised information.

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 OLLI members are welcome at, and encouraged to attend, meetings of the Board of Directors, committees and resource groups, kick-off coffees, etc. ([bolded](#)) below. 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 CLASS LINKS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat Dec 11</td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Tai Chi Club</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Personal Computer User Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Dec 13</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>What’s in the Daily News?</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Tom Crooker Investment Forum: Special Event</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Poetry Club</td>
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<td>Tue Dec 14</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Annex Art</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Spanish Club</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>Tai Chi Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed Dec 15</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Mah Jongg Club</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Tom Crooker Investment Forum</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Ethnic Eats Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Dec 16</td>
<td>11:50 am</td>
<td>All the News</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Reston Book Club</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>Tai Chi Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri Dec 17</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Craft and Conversation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Homer, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat Dec 18</td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Tai Chi Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 20-25</td>
<td>Winter Break</td>
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</tbody>
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**About OLLI E-News**

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

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, Tom Appich, Roz Stark, 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 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.

Search E-News: You can view past issues of OLLI E-News at [News 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. [amazon smile](#): An Amazon Smile Link appears here. When you shop using the Smile link designating OLLI as your charitable choice, we’ll receive a 0.5% donation, based on the value of your purchase.

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