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**Some Photos from Photography Club Field Trip to National Building Museum, November 19.**  
**Photos by George Bradshaw (GB), John Olsen (JO), Lynn Cline (LC), and George Addison (GA)**

## December 24, 2021

Editor of the Week: Paul Van Hemel

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#### Alerts & Notices

- You may still register for 2022 winter-term classes on a space-available basis.
- Periodically check [this link](#) to stay up-to-date on winter term changes.
- OLLI Mason will be closed on holiday break through January 2.
- The next issue of OLLI E-News will be published Friday, January 7; regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, January 4, at 6:00.

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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](mailto:smorrow4@gmu.edu)  
**Nancy Klein**, Communications and Program Associate—[nklein4@gmu.edu](mailto:nklein4@gmu.edu).

OR complete the course proposal form available at [this link](#).

We encourage multiple sessions, if possible. Thank you!

*Editor's Note: This article appeared in recent issues; the Program Planning Group requested the repeat for emphasis and to encourage your participation in sharing the benefits of OLLI.*

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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**

Sign up for OLLI Course #977 in the winter 2022 course catalog and get the answer to this question and more. You will find this class listed in the "Special Events" section (page 23). Three distinguished Mason professors discuss their research on this topic on Friday, February 18 from 2:00-3:30 and show how ethical behavior is essential when using technology. Share this critical information with your friends, associates, and young people in your social circle.

*Editor's Note: This article appeared in recent issues; the Program Planning Group requested the repeat for emphasis and to encourage your participation in sharing the benefits of OLLI.*

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### Photo of the Month



The December 2021 Photo of the Month theme was Look Up/Look Down. We selected John Olsen's photo "Harper's Ferry," which may also be viewed at [this page](#). To view other photos by members of the Photography Club, visit the club's photo [website](#).

-- By John Olsen and Ed Marion, Photography Club Coordinators

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## Poet's Corner

*Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop*

### Mid-century Trees

It was often like a Frost poem,  
although I couldn't have  
told you that back then.

We got in the car, my mother  
and I, and my father drove  
down Route 58 toward Cape Cod  
for about an hour to Carver, just  
after the two-lane road enchantingly  
split into two sides lined by  
evergreens, right, left, and center.

If we were lucky, it snowed as we  
roamed through the woods  
owned by a man my father knew,  
looking for the perfect tree,  
the soft crunch of pristine snow

under our feet and the blacks  
and dark greens of trees against  
the white all around us.

When we found our tree—  
quickly when it was very cold,  
more slowly when it wasn't—  
always huge and beautiful,  
my father cut it down with his saw.  
Then we carefully pulled it back  
to the car, struggled to rope  
it safely on the roof.

Paid the dollar, sometimes a dollar  
and a quarter, and headed home.

This huge beautiful perfect tree,  
every year we found one.

— Betty Smith

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## Arts & Music at George Mason

*Performances, December 24 through January 6*



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](mailto: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.

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### At the Fairfax Campus Venues

No events scheduled

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### Mason Student & Faculty Performances

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

No events scheduled

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### At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

**Gallery Exhibition: Zia Palmer - Women of the Same Blood**

Ongoing through Sun, Jan 9

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For further details on any of the above events, see the [CFA event calendar](#) and the [Hilton Center event calendar](#). [Back to Top of Page](#)

## 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, with the exception of a few activities testing a hybrid of in-person and online events. 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. 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.*

Dec 25 – Jan 2	Winter Break	***
Tue Dec 28	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Thu Dec 30	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Mon Jan 3	9:30 am	What's in the Daily News?
	11:00 am	Poetry Club
Tue Jan 4	9:30 am	Annex Art
	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Wed Jan 5	10:00 am	Mah Jongg Club
	11:50 am	Tom Crooker Investment Forum
	2:00 pm	Memoir and More Writing Group
Thu Jan 6	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Fri Jan 7	9:30 am	Craft and Conversation
	11:00 am	Homer, etc.
Sat Jan 8	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club

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**Best Wishes for the Holiday Season and the New Year from the E-News Team!**

## About OLLI E-News

OLLI E-News was created by Rod Zumbro, 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 Slesseger, 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: [ollinewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:ollinewseditor@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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