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**Illustrations from John Quinn's course I Was There, fall term 2024, featuring the perspectives of OLLI members who were present at significant historical events**

## October 4, 2024

Editor of the Week: David Gundry

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### Alerts & Notices

- The next issue of OLLI E-News will be published Friday, October 11; the regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, October 8, at 6:00.

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### Celebrate October!



**By Camille Hodges, Board Member and Humanities and Social Sciences/Current Events Program Planning Group Co-Chair**

- In October, Americans observe **National Disability Employment Awareness Month** by paying tribute to the accomplishments of the men and women with disabilities whose work helps keep the nation's economy strong and by reaffirming their commitment to ensure equal opportunity for all citizens. This effort to educate the public about the issues related to disability and employment began in 1945, when Congress enacted Public Law 176, declaring the first week of October each year as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week. In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. Some 25 years later, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Re: [US Dept of Labor](#).
- National Italian-American Heritage** month was first recognized by the United States Congress in October 1989 as a tribute to all Italian-Americans' contributions to our nation, and to highlight the cultural impact of the Italian-American community. Re: [City of Boston](#).
- World Mental Health Day is October 10.** October is also National Cookie month! There's nothing better for your mental health than a chocolate chip cookie or two still warm from the oven!

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## The U.S. Government is again giving away free Covid Test Kits.

Order yours by clicking on this link: [COVID Home Tests | USPS](#).

(From the Healthcare Advisory Workgroup)  
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## Grab 'n' Gab Coffee Klatch on October 11



*By Toni Acton, Board Member and Member Services Committee Chair*

Are you new and still trying to meet other OLLI members? Do you still have questions and don't know who to ask? Are you a long-time OLLI member and miss seeing people in person as you take most of your classes on Zoom? Then join us at the informal Grab 'n' Gab Coffee on Friday, October 11 at 10:00 at Tallwood. Coffee, pastry, and great conversation—what's better on a Friday morning?! Register for Event 1101 either [online](#) or by contacting the Registrar's office.

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## Join OLLI Theater Lovers for Sondheim and Theater Potpourri Class this October



*By Norma Jean Reck, Coordinator, Theater Lovers' Group*

### Sondheim Tribute Revue

On Sunday, October 13, The Theater Lovers' Group and our guests will go to Creative Cauldron in Falls Church to see the 2pm matinee performance of Sondheim Tribute Review. Eight standout singers will take us on a scintillating musical journey featuring more than 20 titles from the Sondheim Song Book - Into the Woods, A Little Night Music, the recent Tony Award winner Merrily

We Roll Along, and many more of your favorites. To purchase your tickets, which are \$47, phone 703-436-9948. Be sure to tell them you are with OLLI Theater Lover's' Group (TLG).

We will lunch at Ireland's Four Provinces at 12 noon and have separate checks. Parking is free at the restaurant and in the garage to the left of the theater.

### Theater Potpourri Class

Where else can you chat with a local playwright, attend a masterclass in singing, revel in a one-on-one performance of a leading Lady, and enjoy stellar performances by Mason's talented theater students of a hit play - all from the comfort of your own sofa? Just go online and sign up for F414Z Theater and Film Potpourri class, which will be on Tuesdays, 11:50 - 1:15, from October 22 to November 12.

### Coming soon

TLG is planning to attend performances of Shawshank Redemption at NextStop Theater, Fiddler on the Roof at Reston's Center Stage, and 110 in the Shade at Mason's Center for the Arts. Stay tuned for details.

Meetings are being planned for those members (and guests) who will be going to Blackfriars Theater in Staunton November 1-3 and for the group going to New York November 19-20. We will get together to coordinate, discuss details of each trip, answer questions, etc. More to follow soon.

Questions? Email Norma at [njreck@cs.com](mailto:njreck@cs.com).

*Editor's note: At the author's request, all words are published unedited, exactly as submitted.*

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## Team Bloch's Weekly Conversation for October 9



*By Brenda Bloch-Young and Doris Bloch, Co-Moderators*

Team Bloch is proposing the topic **Alcohol** for the Wednesday October 9 conversation.

### October 9: Alcohol

Our discussion on October 9 will focus on Alcohol: non-alcoholic beverages, abstinence, healthy habits for seniors, and Sober October vs. Come Over October.

Our social conversations are held every Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 via Zoom. The sessions are fully participatory, and all are welcome to join us. You can find the Zoom link in the daily schedule

sent out by the OLLI office every Wednesday morning. There is no sign up required; just log in to the 24/7 Chat Line.

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## Luxembourg Cultural Exchange Activities (Free)



**By Darden Purcell, D.M.A., Director of Jazz Studies, Jazz Voice**

Join us for our upcoming visit with our Luxembourg colleagues and two events that are FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

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### DIFFERDANGE SCHOOL OF MUSIC PANEL DISCUSSION "Jazz in Europe: From Luxembourg's Point of View "

Wednesday, Oct 9, 12:30 Harris Theatre

Free and Open to the Public

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is a tiny country in the heart of Europe, easily overlooked due to its small size and population (670,000 inhabitants). But it also boasts a flourishing music scene as well as a very central location, keeping it well connected with Germany, France, Belgium and the Netherlands. Learn about the experience of living in western Europe as a musician: the pros and cons, the music, the backgrounds, the anecdotes, expectation versus reality—all told from the perspective of the Differdange music school faculty, whose members have studied jazz in European cities like Brussels, Amsterdam, or others and are now based in Luxembourg.



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### MASON JAZZ FACULTY / LUXEMBOURG CONCERT

Thursday, Oct 10, 8:00 Center For The Arts

Free and Open to the Public

Faculty from the Differdange School of Music in Luxembourg team up with the George Mason University Jazz faculty for an unforgettable evening of Jazz standards and beyond. This is the

culmination of a cultural exchange between these two institutions of higher learning, celebrating music education and performance. Click [this link](#) for more information.

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## Poet's Corner

*Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop*

### Ode to OLLI

Autumn leaves are falling--  
crisp air sharpens our senses—  
both sure signs that OLLI's fall  
session now commences.

Like college students returning  
to the great halls of learning...  
our minds to fresh ideas  
eagerly will be turning.

Choices are varied and many...  
art, science, history and more;  
whatever your hobby or interest,  
always plenty to explore.

Renewing old friendships,  
while making new ones, too—  
the social scene at OLLI  
always great fun...so true!

Enriching and enlivening,  
a great way to spend your time...  
being an OLLI member  
makes life more sublime!

—Sophia Elberti

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## Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances, October 4 through October 13



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. You can also 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](#).

Dr. Linda Apple Monson produces a periodic "Notes from the Director." This email is full of information on interesting online performances by the students and faculty of the 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 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

#### Friends of the Center for the Arts Artists in Conversation: *Latin Social Dance Workshop with Ballet Hispánico*

Fri, Oct 4, 7:00

Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center

3740 Blenheim Boulevard, Fairfax, VA 22030

Admission: FREE, but registration required; [click here](#).

#### Ballet Hispánico

Sat, Oct 5, 8:00

Concert Hall

A pre-performance discussion will take place in Monson Grand Tier, 45 minutes prior to curtain.

Admission: \$55, \$47, \$33.

#### Keyboard Conversations® with Jeffrey Siegel: *Franz Schubert: The Soulful and the Sublime*

Sun, Oct 13, 7:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$50, \$43, \$29.

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### Mason Student and Faculty Performances

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

#### Mason Symphony Orchestra

Mon, Oct 7, 8:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$15 Adult, \$10 Senior.

#### Mason Choirs Concert Fall 2024

Tue, Oct 8 at 8:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$15 Adult, \$10 Senior.

#### School of Music Luxembourg Jazz Concert

Thu, Oct 10, 8:00

Concert Hall

Admission: Free and Open to the Public

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### At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

#### Prince William Little Theatre: *Ken Ludwig's Baskerville, A Sherlock Holmes Mystery*

Fri, Oct 4, 8:00

Sat, Oct 5, 8:00

Sun, Oct 6, 2:00

Fri, Oct 11, 8:00

Sat, Oct 12, 8:00

Sun, Oct 13, 2:00

Gregory Family Theater

Admission: \$25 Adult, \$20 Senior.

#### Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra with Jeff Hamilton

Sat, Oct 5, 8:00

A pre-performance discussion with guest artist Jeff Hamilton begins one hour prior to the performance.

Merchant Hall

Admission: \$48, \$41, \$29.

#### Encanto: *The Sing-Along Film Concert*

Sun, Oct 6, 4:00

A family-friendly craft activity will take place in the Jacquemin Family Foundation

Rehearsal Hall prior to this performance.  
Merchant Hall  
Admission: \$48, \$41, \$29.

**Manassas Chorale: Salute to Heroes and Heroines**

Sat, Oct 12, 7:30  
Merchant Hall  
Admission: \$25, \$23.

**Old Bridge Chamber Orchestra: Not all Heroes Wear Capes, But Some Do**

Sun, Oct 13, 3:00  
Merchant Hall  
Admission: \$20 Adult, \$15 Senior.

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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:** OLLI Meetings and Clubs may currently take place in several formats: some are in person only, some are online only, and some are hybrid, meaning that they take place in person and are accessible online simultaneously. OLLI events and activities meeting online bear the identification "Z" in their course or event number (except clubs; you may need to check the [OLLI 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 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.*

Sat Oct 5	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club – online
Mon Oct 7	4:00 pm	Family History/Genealogy Club – online
	4:00 pm	Chair Yoga and More – online

Tue Oct 8	1:00 pm 4:00 pm 4:30 pm	Stay Active and Independent for Life – online Mah Jongg Club – online Tai Chi Club – online
Wed Oct 9	9:30 am 12:00 noon 1:30 pm 1:30 pm 1:45 pm 2:00 pm 4:00 pm	Dabbling Artists Club Chair Yoga and More – online Bridge Club Tallwood Book Club Spanish Club Memoir and More Writing Group – online Conversation with Team Bloch – online
Thu Oct 10	1:00 pm 4:00 pm 4:30 pm	Stay Active and Independent for Life – online Literary Fiction Book Club – online Tai Chi Club – online
Fri Oct 11	9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 12:00 noon	Dabbling Artists Club Photography Club Crafts and Conversation Grab'n'Gab Coffee Klatch Classic Literature Club – online Homer, etc. – online Chair Yoga and More – online
Sat Oct 12	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club – online
Mon Oct 14	4:00 pm	Chair Yoga and More – online
Tue Oct 15	1:00 pm 4:30 pm	Stay Active and Independent for Life – online Tai Chi Club – online
Wed Oct 16	12:00 noon 1:30 pm 1:30 pm 4:00 pm 4:00 pm	Chair Yoga and More – online Board Game Club Bridge Club Spanish Club Conversation with Team Bloch – online
Thu Oct 17	1:00 pm 4:30 pm 6:00 pm	Stay Active and Independent for Life – online Tai Chi Club – online Ethnic Eats Club – online
Fri Oct 18	9:30 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 11:30 am 12:00 noon 2:30 pm	Crafts and Conversation <b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> Mah Jongg Club Classic Literature Club – online Homer, etc. – online Cooking Club Chair Yoga and More – online Caregivers Support Club – online
Sat Oct 19	10:30 am 1:00 pm	Tai Chi Club – online Personal Computer User Group

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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, Tom Appich, Martha Kossoff, Anne Hartshorn, Bonnie Becker, Carol McManus

**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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