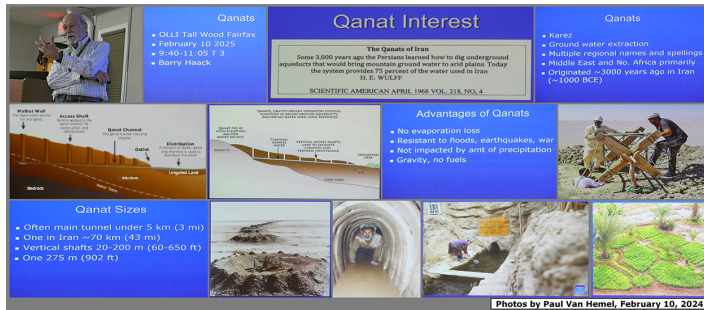


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**Barry Haack, Geographer and Career Faculty Member, Described a Unique and Still Important Irrigation System Developed in Iran About 3000 Years Ago with Underground Aqueducts, February 10**

## February 14, 2025

Editor of the Week: Paul Van Hemel

### Table of Contents

- [Alerts & Notices](#)
- [Notes From the Nominating Committee](#)
- [Memory loss](#)
- [Save the Date: Science, Technology, and Health Program Planning Group Meeting](#)
- [Save the Date: LLT Program Planning Committee to Meet](#)
- [Humanities and Social Sciences/Current Events Program Planning Group Meeting](#)

- [OLLI's Clubs](#)
- [Poet's Corner](#)
- [The Spheres Project Presents . . .](#)
- [Arts & Music at George Mason](#)
- [Meetings & Clubs](#)
- [About OLLI E-News](#)

### Alerts & Notices

- Nominations continue for Board of Directors candidates for the 2025 election (see article below).
- *Reminder:* There is a 3rd Saturday meeting of the OLLI Personal Computer User Group February 15 (tomorrow) at 1:00 in person at Tallwood and via Zoom (Zoom session opens at 12:45).
- *Reminder:* The Mason Jazz Festival with free concerts (no tickets required) is February 15 (tomorrow) from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm.
- The next issue of *OLLI E-News* will be published Friday, February 28; the regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, February 25, at 6:00.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

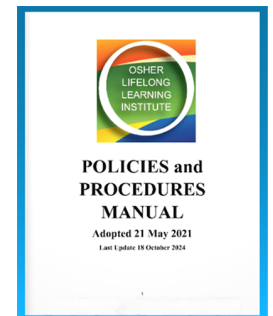
### Notes From the Nominating Committee



By Norma Jean Reck, Chairperson, Nominating Committee

Members of OLLI's Nominating Committee continue identifying candidates for the Board of Directors and verifying that they are interested in being a candidate for Director. All qualified OLLI members interested in being a candidate must notify the Nominating Committee of your interest by emailing Chairperson Norma Jean Reck at [njreck@cs.com](mailto:njreck@cs.com) no later than Friday, March 7. The qualifications for being a Director can be found in Section B of Appendix A, Director Nomination and Election Procedures in OLLI's *Policies and Procedures Manual*, which you can find online at [olli.gmu.edu](http://olli.gmu.edu), under Documents on the Main Menu.

[Back to Top of Page](#)





**Memory loss...Is it early Alzheimer's/dementia or normal aging? The differences between normal aging and dementia | Alzheimer Society of Canada. Know the difference. Be proactive. There is no cure at this time but there is a lot that can be done to slow down the progression.**

(From the Healthcare Advisory Workgroup)  
[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Save the Date: Science, Technology, and Health Program Planning Group Meeting



**By Michele Romano, M.D., Science, Technology, and Health Program Planning Group Co-Chair**

There will be a Science, Technology, and Health Program Planning Group meeting on Thursday, March 6 at 10:00, via Zoom only. The meeting is open to all OLLI members, and we would love to have you. Drop in, check us out, see what we are up to. We will be discussing present and future classes and getting updates from OLLI staff. We need your input and ideas for future classes or instructors you would like to recommend. And if you would be willing to teach a class yourself, we would love you even more. The Zoom link will be in the Daily Schedule email that morning.

Thank you for all you do to make our OLLI so special. Hope to see you at the meeting.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Save the Date: LLT Program Planning Committee to Meet



**By Patricia Bangs, Literature, Language, and Theater Program Planning Group Co-Chair**

Date: Tuesday March 4  
 Time: 10:00-11:00

What: Literature, Language, and Theater (LLT) Program Planning Group Meeting  
 Via Zoom; see link below

We would welcome your inputs and recommendations if you enjoy the classics, spy novels, science-fiction, poetry, or memoirs. We need your thoughts and ideas if you want to learn a language, explore playwrights and the world of theater, or hone your writing skills.

Please join us for our quarterly all-campus program planning group meeting for literature, theater, poetry, writing, and language programming on Tuesday, March 4, at 10:00 via Zoom.

We will be reviewing past terms and looking forward to planning for fall 2025 and beyond. All OLLI members are invited to contribute to the excellent programming OLLI Mason offers. Bring ideas for literature, theater, writing, or language classes, and possible instructor resources for these popular classes. And, of course, if you or anyone you know would like to join our group, here is your opportunity to see the process in action. Spread the word; see you on March 4 at 10:00. The meeting Zoom link is below.

Any questions, please feel free to contact me at [pbangs46@outlook.com](mailto:pbangs46@outlook.com).

### Topic: Literature, Theater, and Writing Program Planning Meeting

Time: March 4, 2025, 10:00 Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://gmu.zoom.us/j/93265816341>

Meeting ID: 932 6581 6341

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,93265816341# US (Washington DC)

+12678310333,,93265816341# US (Philadelphia)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 267 831 0333 US (Philadelphia)

Find your local number: <https://gmu.zoom.us/u/ad6nh5KJfX>

Join by SIP: [93265816341@zoomcrc.com](mailto:93265816341@zoomcrc.com)

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Humanities and Social Sciences/Current Events Program Planning Group Meeting



**By Camille Hodges, HSS/CE Program Planning Group Co-Chair**

Happy February!

Hope you have had a chance to check out the spring catalog. It is sensational! Thanks to Shannon Morrow and all who had a hand in its production.

A meeting of the Humanities and Social Sciences/Current Events (HSS/CE) Program Planning Group will be held via Zoom on Friday, February 28, at 10:00; save this on your calendar. Here is the Zoom link and other information for the meeting:

<https://gmu.zoom.us/j/98382243840>

Meeting ID: 983 8224 3840

One tap mobile

- +12678310333,,98382243840# US (Philadelphia)
- +13017158592,,98382243840# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

- +1 267 831 0333 US (Philadelphia)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 983 8224 3840

Find your local number: <https://gmu.zoom.us/j/98382243840>

Join by SIP: [98382243840@zoomcrc.com](mailto:98382243840@zoomcrc.com).

All OLLI members are welcome to join us. We have a secretary; its name is AI. It does not take attendance, but records dialogue.

My current endeavor is finding a speaker/presenter for "A History of the Courts in Fairfax County" (working title). Looking forward to hearing your course ideas. Independent submissions are also encouraged.

Meanwhile, **Happy Valentine's Day!**

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## OLLI's Clubs



**By Doris Bloch, Program Planning Committee Co-Chair**

Sometimes new OLLI members are unaware of the plethora of clubs, groups, and ongoing activities sponsored by OLLI. Some are virtual, some are in person, some are both. Some meet weekly year-round, some just during a term, some monthly or sporadically. But they cover a wide range of interests. Clubs are one of the very best ways to meet other members who are likely to share interests with you. They give you an opportunity to meet in small or intimate groups, talk to people on a one-to-one basis, or just discuss topics in a low-key setting, without pressure. Groups are a means to bond with other members—much easier than in a lecture class environment.

Three things to know about groups:

- **One:** You can find the list of groups and ongoing activities on pages 25-29 of the spring catalog. There are 29 of them!
- **Two:** If you register on the OLLI Portal, you can find the groups under **Ongoing Activities**. However, the club registration process differs from the course registration process. You select **Add To Cart**, and then once you have completed your course selections and prioritization, you must select **Check Out** to get the cart contents into your account. The cart checkout is a separate processing step.
- **Three:** You have to renew your membership in any club for each term; memberships expire at the end of the previous term.

And, of course, if you have a desire for a new club, you can start up another one!

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Poet's Corner

*Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop*

### Valentine

When I was a boy and dreamed of being with a woman,  
I never dreamed of you.

When I became a man and dreamed of living with a woman,  
I never dreamed of you.

When I was in college and dreamed of marrying a woman,  
I never dreamed of you.

When I thought of my career with my wife having her own,  
I never dreamed of you.

When I dreamed of my wife being a mother, holding our baby,  
I never dreamed of you.

When I thought about building a home, raising a family,  
I never dreamed of you.

When I thought of our retirement, beginning new adventures,  
I never dreamed of you.

When we fell in love,  
I never dreamed a single person could play all those roles,

Yet you have, yet you do.

And while I never dreamed of you,  
You have made all my dreams come true.

– Mike Folsom

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## The Spheres Project Presents . . .



By Linda Harber, Friends of Music at Mason Co-President

Recently at OLLI, a small music group from Mason, led by Professor June Huang, Director of Strings at the Dewberry School of Music at Mason, performed a program on *The Spheres Project Presents Prokofiev's Quartet No. 2 in F Major Op 92*. It was very well received, and the OLLI participants asked about other musical events they will be playing. The audience really wanted to attend more. These programs are all free. Professor June Huang provided the following information.

- **Sunday, February 16**, 3:00, Harris Theatre. This performance of Prokofiev's *Quartet No. 2* will also include some harp/flute duos.
- **Tuesday, March 4**, 4:30, Fenwick Library Atrium. We will perform the first movement of the *String Quartet No. 9 in A Major* by Sergei Taneyev in addition to the Prokofiev quartet that we played at OLLI.
- **Tuesday, April 22**, 7:00, Fenwick Library. This Music in the Library concert will feature works by nine student composers.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances, February 14 through March 3



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.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

### At the Fairfax Campus Venues

#### West Coast Street Dance Fundamentals and Q&A with Versa-Style Street Dance Company

Fri, Feb 14, 7:00

Concert Hall

Free, registration required.

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/s1/afHpRIx/westcoaststreetdanceversa>

#### Versa-Style Street Dance Company: Rooted Rhythms

Sat, Feb 15, 8:00

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

A post-performance open session with members of Versa-Style Street Dance Company will take place in the Center's main lobby. High-energy, low-pressure—all styles welcome. Come get down with us at this celebratory afterparty, DJed by Diyanna Monet!

Concert Hall

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

#### The Acting Company: August Wilson's Two Trains Running

Sun, Feb 16, 7:00

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

Concert Hall

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

#### Kodo: One Earth Tour 2025: Warabe

Sat, Mar 1, 8:00

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

Concert Hall

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

#### Angélique Kidjo

Sun, Mar 2, 7:00

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

Concert Hall

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

[Back to Top of Page](#)**Mason Student and Faculty Performances**(see [music.gmu.edu](http://music.gmu.edu) for additional student recitals)**Faculty Artist Series: *Spheres Project***

Sun, Feb 16, 3:00

Performers include:

June Huang and Suyuan Carrasco, violin

Alyssa Cabassa, viola

Gerald Fowkes, cello

Taylor Fleshman, harp

Thomas J. Wible, flute

Harris Theatre

Admission: Free.

**NPHC 2025 Step Show**

Sat, Feb 22, 7:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$15.

**Faculty Artist Series: Duo-Piano Silver Anniversary Concert**

Dr. Anna Balakerskaia and Dr. Linda Apple Monson

Sun, Feb 23, 3:00

Harris Theatre

Admission: Free.

**Mason Wind Symphony & Symphonic Band Concert**

Tues, Feb 25, 8:00

Concert Hall

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

**Faculty Artist Series**

Kathleen Gardiner Mulcahy (clarinet)

Sun, Mar 2, 3:00

Harris Theatre

Admission: Free.

**Faculty Artist Series**

Songs of Jesse Guessford

Sun, Mar 2, 7:00

Harris Theatre

Admission: Free.

**Mason Symphony Orchestra Concert**

Mon, Mar 3, 8:00

Concert Hall

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

[Back to Top of Page](#)**At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)****The Acting Company: *The Comedy of Errors***

Sat, Feb 15, 8:00

A pre-performance discussion begins one hour prior to the performance.

Merchant Hall

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

**The United States Army Band: *The Music of Janelle Monáe: Love, Liberation, and Joy***

Thu, Feb 20, 7:30

Merchant Hall

Admission: Free.

**Czech National Symphony Orchestra**

Sun, Feb 23, 4:00

A pre-performance discussion begins one hour prior to the performance.

Merchant Hall

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

**Manassas Symphony Orchestra: *Expressions***

Sat, Mar 1, 7:30

Merchant Hall

Admission: \$30.

**Keyboard Conversations® with Jeffrey Siegel: *A Few of Our Favorite Things***

Sun, Mar 2, 2:00

Merchant Hall

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

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

## 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 Feb 15	10:30 am 1:00 pm	Tai Chi Club – online Personal Computer User Group
Mon Feb 17	9:30 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm	What's in the Daily News? – online Poetry Writing Club – online Chair Yoga and More – online
Tue Feb 18	1:00 pm 2:00 pm 3:45 pm 4:00 pm 4:30 pm	Stay Active and Independent for Life – online Chair Yoga and More – online Caregivers Support Group – online Mah Jongg Club – online Tai Chi Club – online
Wed Feb 19	10:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 noon 1:30 pm 2:00 pm 4:00 pm 4:00 pm	Board Game Club Bridge Club Investment Forum Chair Yoga and More – online Dabbling Artists Club – online Memoir and More Writing Group – online Spanish Club – online Conversation with Team Bloch – online
Thu Feb 20	1:00 pm 3:00 pm 4:30 pm	Stay Active and Independent for Life – online Chair Yoga and More – online Tai Chi Club – online
Fri Feb 21	9:30 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:00 noon	Crafts and Conversation <b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> Mah Jongg Club Homer, etc. – online Chair Yoga and More – online
Sat Feb 22	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club – online

Mon Feb 24	9:30 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm 4:00 pm	What's in the Daily News? – online Poetry Reading Club – online Family History/Genealogy Club – online Chair Yoga and More – online
Tue Feb 25	1:00 pm 2:00 pm 4:30 pm	Stay Active and Independent for Life – online Chair Yoga and More – online Tai Chi Club – online
Wed Feb 26	10:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 noon 4:00 pm	Bridge Club Investment Forum Chair Yoga and More – online Theater Lovers' Group – online
Thu Feb 27	11:50 am 1:00 pm 3:00 pm 4:30 pm	All the News – online Stay Active and Independent for Life – online Chair Yoga and More – online Tai Chi Club – online
Fri Feb 28	9:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am 12:00 noon	Photography Club Crafts and Conversation Homer, etc. – online Chair Yoga and More – online
Sat Mar 1	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club – online

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## 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: Thomas Appich, David Gundry, John Nash, Paul Van Hemel  
Proofreaders: Rebecca Jann, Susan Van Hemel, Thomas 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: [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.

**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.

[Back to Top of Page](#)