



OLLI

2026 SPRING COURSE CATALOG

URI.EDU/OLLI
401.874.4197
SPRING 2026



Contents

How to Register	3
OLLI Staff	3
Director's Message.....	4
Instructors.....	5
Index of Classes	6-7
Classes by Category	8-9
Monday.....	12-16
Tuesday.....	17-21
Wednesday.....	22-26
Thursday.....	27-31
Friday.....	32-36
Great Decisions	33
OLLI Extras.....	38
OLLI Zoom Classes.....	39
Osher Online	40-43
Travel with OLLI	43
Learn Here/Explore There	44-47
Tours & Trips.....	48-53
Special Interest Groups.....	55
Volunteers.....	57
Registration Form	59-61
Membership Form	62
OLLI Interns.....	65
Parking Information	67

SPRING SEMESTER AT OLLI

Semester dates: April 6, to June 18, 2026

Office Closings/Holidays

Monday, May 25, Memorial Day

Friday, June 19, Juneteenth

On the cover:

Artwork created by OLLI members in the recent class "Watercolor is for the Birds," taught by OLLI member and instructor Pike Powers. The course blended drawing, composition, value study, and color mixing to support the intermediate watercolorist.



ABOUT OLLI

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at URI provides learning opportunities to enhance the enjoyment, meaning, and direction of adult lives, as well as the health and well-being of adults, while developing a community of older learners.

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
OSHER LIFELONG
LEARNING INSTITUTE



Established in 2009 and offering diversified courses and activities, the OLLI at URI enjoys a rich relationship with the University. Membership is open to anyone fifty years of age or better. Whether teaching, learning, playing, or exploring, OLLI members constitute a vibrant lifelong learning community.

The OLLI at URI is part of the national network of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes funded by the Bernard Osher Foundation. Closer to home, OLLI has ties with local community and civic organizations. OLLI members are essential in shaping, managing, and leading the organization.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Your membership must be valid throughout the duration of the classes you register for. If you're not sure of your renewal date, call the office at 401-874-4197.

OLLI DISCLAIMER

The courses offered by OLLI do not imply the endorsement of a particular philosophy, product, or procedure. The content is the view of the presenter and is for educational and informational purposes only and not as professional advice for specific cases or circumstances. Participants need to be aware of the potential risks of using limited knowledge when integrating techniques and procedures that are new to them. Participants need to consult their own financial, legal, and medical professionals for advice.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a disability and need an accommodation, please call the OLLI office at 401.874.4197. A two week advance notice is suggested. We are committed to equal access for persons with disabilities and we will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations.



STAFF

Welcome to Spring 2026 at URI OLLI!

Online registration begins Tuesday, March 17, at 7:00 AM. The office will open at 9:00 AM for phone and walk-in registration.

WAYS TO REGISTER

REGISTER ONLINE

This is the easiest way to register. To log on to your OLLI account go to URI.EDU/OLLI and click on Member Login. Payment is accepted with a credit card: Visa, Mastercard or Discover.

REGISTER BY PHONE

Call us to register! 401-874-4197. Office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Friday, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. If you leave a message, we will do our best to return your call within 24 hours.

REGISTER BY MAIL

Download the registration form from our website (or pick one up in the office). Fill it out and include a check (or call with credit card #) for payment.

REGISTER IN PERSON

Visit us! URI OLLI is located at 210 Flagg Rd. Take the stairs or elevator to the second floor.

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Director

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Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

University of Rhode Island

210 Flagg Road, Room 212,

Kingston, RI 02881

401.874.4197 | olli@uri.edu

REFUND POLICY



Memberships are non-refundable. To withdraw from a class and receive a full refund or credit, you must notify the OLLI office at least **two weeks** before the start of the class. Call the office at 401-874-4197 or email olli@uri.edu. No-shows forfeit their course fees. Day trips and special tours are prepaid so there are no refunds for cancellation or withdrawal. Classes that do not meet minimum student registration numbers are subject to cancellation.

There is always something to learn and OLLI at URI is the place to be!

How would you describe Lifelong Learning? I am sure the OLLI members at URI would offer their own interpretation, explaining what it means to them and how their involvement has enriched their lives.

Wikipedia defines it this way: Lifelong learning is the voluntary, self-motivated, and continuous pursuit of knowledge for personal or professional growth, extending far beyond formal education. It is a mindset driven by curiosity to adapt and acquire new skills throughout life, whether through structured training or informal self-education

We know that the benefits of lifelong learning are endless! Learning keeps the brain active, social interaction combats loneliness and isolation, purpose and fulfillment provide a sense of accomplishment, engaging in hobbies can reduce stress, increase self-esteem, and improve mood, and mental stimulation keeps one adaptable and open to change

Our OLLI members are not complacent, rather they are always eager to pursue new interests, whether it be learning a new language, trying their hand at painting, or engaging in enriching classroom experiences in the sciences, history, literature, and more.

Never be afraid to try something new. There are over 100 courses and activities to consider this Spring!!!!

We are here for you, and we are always open to your suggestions and ideas to enhance our program offerings.



CHEERS TO LIFELONG LEARNING

Join your OLLI friends for a night at Tilted Barn Brewery.

Thursday, June 4, 5:00PM-7:00PM

Check the website for details and to register! URI.EDU/OLLI



INSTRUCTORS

Abramovitz, Emmanuel	43	Jadosz, Roger	29	Shaker, Tom	22
Aguilar, David	24, 30, 35	Jerome, Susan	50	Shirley, Heather	40
Armor, Jan	25	Kaiser, Ames	45	Shotick, Catherine	52
Berardo, Stephen	39	Kaplan, Lloyd	22	Smayda, Norma	48
Billings, Rick	19	Kelly, Rebecca	50	Sorrentino, Mary Jane	50
Blanco Vidal, Fernanda	42	Kostrzewa, John	13	Stein, Paul	23
Blum, Charles	41	Kurman, Melba	41	Sullivan, Kimberly	49
Bovy, Kris	49	Kreutler, Kent	53	Tackach, James	28
Brown, Mary	52	Landstreet, Julia	47	Tonelli, Kathy	12
Burks, Vincent	22	Lataille, Michele	16	Turman, Karen	26
Burnham, Mark	19	Leibovitz, Elizabeth	53	Vadivelloo, Maya	30
Buxton, Jim	14	Lipson, Hod	41	Vogt, Peter	20
Carothers, Karen	15	Little, Hannah	20	Wallin, Brian	24, 25
Carpenter, Stanley	14	Lourenco, Gianna	31	Wardwell, Julie	52
Cherney, Melissa	44	Loxton, George	21	Wasson, Lisa	26
Cornell, Nathan	21	Mack D'Amario, Maria	28	Waters, Dora	12
Cunningham, Dorothy	28	Martino, Tom	16	Weibezahl, Robert	39
Daly, Joanne	38	Mather, Rod	49	Wells, Barbara	35
DeCesare, Cathy	49	Mayne, Nancy	32	Welters, Linda	50
Delima, Lynn-Ann	29	McCloskey, Kevin	47	Zaks, Ilana	41
Eaton, Gale	18	McLane, John	34	Zielinski, Ernest	30
Erickson, Lars	26	Mello, Mark	48		
Espin, Olivia	42	Morawicki, Ruben	36		
Fellman, Bruce	44	Morse, Brett	34, 36		
Ferrante, Ann	23	Morse, Linda	34, 36		
Fish, Harry	18	Muller, Robert	51		
Fulton, Scott	42	Nazzaro, Cynthia	22		
Gagnier, Jean	13	Parkhurst, Colin	46		
Gardiner, Joan	14	Peck, Ron	15		
Gibbons, Carol	35	Pereltsvaig, Asya	40		
Gray, Jennifer	43	Persons, Bob	19		
Grey, Paula	21	Powers, Pamela	27		
Harris, Marilyn	26	Primavera, Lyn	29		
Holst, Anne	17, 47	Puglia, Frank	25		
Horrocks, Allison	48, 51	Runci, Matthew	17		
Jackson, Francine	18	Schoos, Geoffrey	20		



CLASS INDEX

A Beautiful Brain	42	Introduction to Drone Photography	20
A History of Street Art.....	40	Island Countries of the Caribbean	14
A Walk in a Cemetery Conjures Stories from Saylesville.....	48	James Baldwin & Toni Morrison: Banned at West Point	28
A Walking Tour of the URI Campus.....	49	JFK's Quest for Peace: Lessons for Turbulent Times	41
AI for Regular People.....	41	Journey Through the Camino de Santiago: History, Regions, and Practical Tips from a Seasoned Pilgrim.....	15
Aliens, Cryogenics and Cosmic Catastrophes!..	23	Kinetic Knowledge: Let's Capture and Appreciate the Extraordinary Power of Dance.....	22
Barns and Animal Pounds of R.I. - A Vanishing Landscape	17	Let Writing Lead to Wellbeing	20
Beginning Italian and Conversation: La Bella Lingua & Dolce Vita	12	Let's Juggle - for Beginners and Beyond	18
Blood Diamonds: The Search for an Ethical Alternative	17	Let's Skate!	28
Cancer Essentials: Understanding and Navigating the Cancer Journey.....	15	Meditation: An Old Practice for Renewed Wellness	34
Carolina Hatchery Tour and Learn to Fish.....	49	Meet the Players, Rhode Island's Revolutionary Leaders	13
Cinema Classics: The Best of Foreign Films: Part 2	23	Modern Irish Authors: A Remarkable Abundance (Zoom).....	39
Clouds Hill Museum Tour	47	Music: Controversies and Curiosities.....	43
Colonial Kings Towne, Rhode Island.....	22	Of Earth and Sky: An Introduction to Astronomy	18
Economic Geology in Rhode Island	30	One Hit Wonders of the Music World	36
Empowered Living: Planning Ahead with Dignity	26	Overcoming Adversity with Resilience, A Brain Injury Survivor's Story	14
Explore Watercolor I (Beginner)	27	Painting Set Free: The Work and World of J.M.W. Turner	28
Explore Watercolor II (Advanced)	27	Peace Dale Museum and Village Tour.....	52
Fabulous Fibonacci.....	35	Place, Memory, and Environmental Psychology	42
Favorite Children's Chapter Books: Then and Now.....	35	Portraits in Charcoal and Conte Crayon	16
Forest and Shrub Identification: Around Campus	45	Praised but Controversial: John Steinbeck's <i>Of Mice and Men</i>	22
Forest Bathing Walk.....	50	Qi Gong	32
Frank Lloyd Wright and Modern Architecture....	43	Qi Gong - Deeping Practice.....	32
Free Money! Fundamentals of Grant Writing	22	Qi Gong Tian Gan	32
From Leo XIII to Leo XIV: History of the 20th and 21st Century Popes	42	Road to Independence: Revolutionary Newport. 51	
Gentle Beacons and Their Keepers: A Look at Light- house History	25	Russian Classical Music: 1850-1950.....	22
Geocaching: Finding Hidden Treasures.....	46	Saunderstown Weaving School Tour	48
Historic Cemeteries: Preservation in Practice ...	46	Save Rhode Island's Forests	22
Historic Plagues and Epidemics	18	Shorts Stories from England II (Zoom).....	39
Homespun as Resistance.....	50	Siberia: Russia's Frozen Wasteland or Economic Heartland?	40
How Food Banks Work: A Look Inside Hunger Relief in Rhode Island.....	44	Slater Mill Tour	51
Ida Lewis: The Legendary Lady Lightkeeper of Lime Rock.....	24	Square Foot Gardening: Taking It to the Next Level.....	12
In This Moment: Mindfulness Meditation	16		
Integrating Social Security into Your Retirement Planning	38		

Stephen Hopkins, Signer of the U.S. Declaration of Independence 19

Take a Breath..... 36

The Charlestown Land Trust: Preserving and Protecting What You Love 53

The Constitution as Applied: Further Exploration20

The Cultural Diversity of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire..... 26

The FBI's War on Terror: Prevention or Provocation? 19

The Great Gatsby: A Revisitation 23

The History and Evolution of Evidence-Based Medicine 34

The Legends of Country/Western Music- PART 1 OF 3..... 34

The Migration Photographers: From Ellis Island to ICE..... 25

The Perry Grist Mill: History in Action..... 47

The Prospects for Extraterrestrial Life in Our Solar System and Galaxy 25

The Role of Food in the Rising Rates of Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases 36

The Six Wives of Henry VIII 29

The UFO Chronicles: Personal Stories Involving UFO's..... 35

The Watershed Model and Brookie the Brook Trout..... 31

Time Travel, Quantum Mechanics and the Future of Artificial Intelligence..... 30

Tour of URI's Medicinal Garden..... 53

Understanding Climate Change 29

Understanding Ultraprocessed Foods and Cardiometabolic Risk..... 30

Violinists: Performers and Composers 41

Voting: Why is it so Difficult? ([Zoom](#)) 39

Walking Rhode Island: Spring Hikes 13

Westerly Museum of American Impressionism. 52

"Wicked Big Puddles": A Naturalist Explores Vernal Pools 44

Women of the Revolution 26

World War II in the Pacific: An 80-Year Retrospective 14

Writing, Illustrating and Self-Publishing A Children's Picture Book..... 19

Your Soil and Amendments to Improve It..... 29



PLEASE SUPPORT RHODY OUTPOST

RHODY OUTPOST PANTRY

DONATE

Rhody Outpost is URI's principal basic needs pantry for students experiencing food insecurity. The Outpost provides fresh and non-perishable food and personal care items at no charge to students.

Donations can be dropped off in the OLLI office.

EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS!

MEETS IN THE LOBBY ON TUESDAYS AT 1:00PM

GAME ON

CATEGORIES

CURRENT EVENTS

Contemporary Issues

Free Money! Fundamentals of Grant Writing	21
How Food Banks Work: A Look Inside Hunger Relief in Rhode Island	44

Government

The FBI's War on Terror: Prevention or Provocation?	19
---	----

Health

The History and Evolution of Evidence-Based Medicine	34
The Role of Food in the Rising Rates of Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases	30

HISTORY & GOVERNMENT

Politics

Island Countries of the Caribbean	14
Voting: Why is it so Difficult? (Zoom)	39

Rhode Island

Barns and Animal Pounds of R.I. - A Vanishing Landscape	17
Colonial Kings Towne, Rhode Island.....	22
Economic Geology in Rhode Island	30
Meet the Players, Rhode Island's Revolutionary Leaders	13
Stephen Hopkins, Signer of the U.S. Declaration of Independence.....	19

U.S. History

Gentle Beacons and Their Keepers: A Look at Lighthouse History.....	25
Ida Lewis: The Legendary Lady Lightkeeper of Lime Rock	23
The Constitution as Applied: Further Exploration.....	20
The Perry Grist Mill: History in Action.....	47
Women of the Revolution	26
World War II in the Pacific: An 80-Year Retrospective	14

World History

Blood Diamonds: The Search for an Ethical Alternative	17
Historic Plagues and Epidemics	18
The Six Wives of Henry VIII	29

HUMANITIES

Arts

Explore Watercolor II (Advanced)	27
Explore Watercolor I (Beginner)	27
Homespun as Resistance.....	50
Kinetic Knowledge: Let's Capture and Appreciate the Extraordinary Power of Dance	22
Painting Set Free: The Work and World of J.M.W. Turner.....	28
Portraits in Charcoal and Conte Crayon	16
Westerly Museum of American Impressionism	52

Film

Cinema Classics: The Best of Foreign Films: Part 2	23
--	----

Foreign Language

Beginning Italian and Conversation: La Bella Lingua & Dolce Vita.....	12
---	----

Literature

Favorite Children's Chapter Books: Then and Now	35
James Baldwin & Toni Morrison: Banned at West Point	28
Modern Irish Authors: A Remarkable Abundance (Zoom)	39
Praised but Controversial: John Steinbeck's <i>Of Mice and Men</i>	22
The Cultural Diversity of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.....	26
The Great Gatsby: A Revisitation	23
Shorts Stories from England II (Zoom).....	39
Writing, Illustrating and Self-Publishing A Children's Picture Book.....	19

Music

Russian Classical Music: 1850-1950.....	22
The Legends of Country/Western Music- Part 1 ..	34
One Hit Wonders of the Music World	36

Photography

The Migration Photographers: From Ellis Island to ICE.....	25
Introduction to Drone Photography	20

OLLI EXTRAS

Lunch and Learn

Integrating Social Security into Your Retirement Planning.....

OSHER ONLINE

A Beautiful Brain 42
 A History of Street Art..... 40
 AI for Regular People..... 40
 Frank Lloyd Wright and Modern Architecture.... 43
 From Leo XIII to Leo XIV: History of the 20th and 21st Century Popes..... 42
 JFK’s Quest for Peace: Lessons for Turbulent Times 41
 Music: Controversies and Curiosities..... 43
 Place, Memory, and Environmental Psychology 42
 Siberia: Russia’s Frozen Wasteland or Economic Heartland? 40
 Violinists: Performers and Composers 41

RECREATION AND WELLNESS

Fitness

Let’s Skate! 28
 Let’s Juggle - for Beginners and Beyond 18
 Qi Gong for Vitality 32
 Qi Gong - Deeping Practice..... 32
 Qi Gong - Tian Gan 32

Health

Cancer Essentials: Understanding and Navigating the Cancer Journey 15
 Overcoming Adversity with Resilience, A Brain Injury Survivor’s Story 14
 Take a Breath..... 36
 Understanding Ultraprocessed Foods and Cardiometabolic Risk..... 30

Leisure

Your Soil and Amendments to Improve It..... 29
 Square Foot Gardening: Taking it to the Next Level 12

Mindfulness

In This Moment: Mindfulness Meditation 16
 Meditation: An Old Practice for Renewed Wellness 34

Personal Growth

Journey Through the Camino de Santiago: History, Regions, and Practical Tips from a Seasoned Pilgrim 15
 Let Writing Lead to Wellbeing 20
 Historic Cemeteries: Preservation in Practice .. 46
 Forest Bathing Walk..... 50
 Empowered Living: Planning Ahead with Dignity 26

Tours/Travel

A Walking Tour of the URI Campus..... 49
 A Walk in a Cemetery Conjures Stories from Saylesville..... 48
 Clouds Hill Museum Tour 47
 Road to Independence: Revolutionary Newport 51
 Peace Dale Museum and Village Tour 52
 Saunderstown Weaving School Tour 48
 Slater Mill Tour 51
 Tour of URI’s Medicinal Garden..... 53

STEM

Environment

Save Rhode Island’s Forests 22
 Understanding Climate Change 29
 “Wicked Big Puddles”: A Naturalist Explores Vernal Pools 44
 Forest and Shrub Identification: Around Campus 45
 Walking Rhode Island: Hikes in the Spring 13
 The Charlestown Land Trust: Preserving and Protecting What You Love 53
 The Watershed Model and Brookie the Brook Trout..... 32
 Carolina Hatchery Tour and Learn to Fish..... 49

Math & Science

The UFO Chronicles: Personal Stories Involving UFO’s..... 35
 Time Travel, Quantum Mechanics and the Future of Artificial Intelligence..... 30
 Aliens, Cryogenics and Cosmic Catastrophes! . 23
 Fabulous Fibonacci..... 35
 Of Earth and Sky: An Introduction to Astronomy 18
 The Prospects for Extraterrestrial Life in Our Solar System and Galaxy 25

Technology

Geocaching: Finding Hidden Treasures..... 46

2026 THEWLIS LECTURE ON GERONTOLOGY AND GERIATRICS
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

OPTIMISM AND KINDNESS

INGREDIENTS
FOR A LONG AND
HEALTHY LIFE



**Laura
Kubzansky**

Professor of Social and
Behavioral Sciences,
Harvard T.H. Chan School
of Public Health

Join social psychologist Laura Kubzansky as she shares her unique perspective on aging and longevity research. Kubzansky's research focuses on how personal attributes such as optimism, gratitude, kindness, and a positive outlook relate to living a long and fulfilling life.

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

5:30 p.m. Doors open, light refreshments

6–7 p.m. Lecture followed by Q&A

Edwards Hall, URI Kingston Campus

Free and open to the public. Registration is encouraged but not required.

Use the QR code below.

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

SPONSORS: URI Program in Gerontology, Rhode Island Geriatric Education Center,
URI College of Health Sciences, URI Office of the Provost

*If you need a reasonable accommodation or have a question about accessing this event, please call 401.874.5311
at least five business days in advance. For TTY assistance, please call the R.I. Relay Service at 711.*



uri.edu/rigec/thewlis

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WHERE LEARNING NEVER RETIRES

NO TESTS
NO GRADES
NO PAPERS

Membership Only \$65



URI.EDU/OLLI

Scan to visit our website.

MONDAY

Beginning Italian and Conversation: La Bella Lingua & Dolce Vita

8 Sessions with Dora Waters

Mon, Apr 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18 (skip 25), Jun 1

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Max: 15 Fee: \$65.00

This course is for students who have little or no basic knowledge of Italian. Each class will consist of oral tasks incorporating pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar, reading aloud, writing, asking/



responding to questions, listening attentively, and cultural discussions. Everyone will be expected to take

risks and actively participate in each weekly class, while having fun with La Bella Lingua!

Required Reading: Donatella Melucci and Elissa Tognazzi, *Piazza* (ISBN-13:978-1-285-07481-8 or ISBN-10:1-285-07481-5) Paperback or used copies of this text may be available from certain bookselling sites at a substantial discount. We will complete the first 4 capitoli of the text.

Assignment for first class:

Capitolo Preliminare, *Piazza*. Read aloud & know pp. 6-19. Learn vocabulary pp.7, 8, 11. Learn conjugation of verbs stare and essere p.13. Complete WRITTEN exercises p.8, P-2 to P-5; p.9. Comprensione and Osserviamo, p.11, P-8 to P-9; p.12.

Dora Waters is a retired foreign language teacher of Spanish and Italian with more than 40 years' experience in public and private schools. She is a graduate of URI who earned a B.A. and M.A. in Spanish and is a lifelong speaker/instructor of Italian.



Online registration begins at on Tue, March 17, at 7:00 AM. The office will open at 9:00 AM for in-person and phone registration.

Square Foot Gardening: Taking It to the Next Level

6 Sessions with Kathy Tonelli

Mon, Apr 6, (skip 13), 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Max: 18 Fee: \$55.00

If you have taken the Square Foot Gardening course, or you're an established gardener looking for creative ways to increase yield and beauty and control critters, this is the course for you! It is highly hands-on. You will learn how to build a variety of trellises, protective cages and domes, and full box-plant support systems. You'll learn the basics of seed starting and experiment with starting some of your own vegetables for your summer garden. The final session will cover how to "put your garden to bed" after the harvest so you're ready to go come spring! All skills taught can be used with raised beds and in-ground systems.

Suggested Reading: Both editions contain instructions for many of the vertical and critter protection systems you will be learning in class. The 4th edition is preferred.

All New Square Foot Gardening, 4th edition (The Square Foot Gardening Foundation: Cold Springs Press, 2025) OR Mel Bartholomew, *All New Square Foot Gardening, 3rd edition* (Cold Springs Press, 2018).

Assignment for the first class:

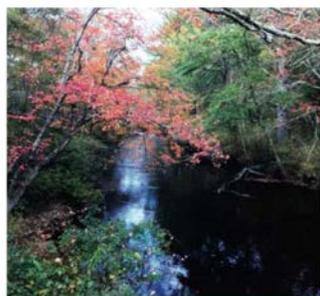
Get your mind back on gardening! Think about what types of additions would make your Square Foot Garden(s) more productive, attractive, tidy, etc.

Kathy Tonelli is a certified Square Foot Gardening instructor. She has been an organic gardener for many years. She is now also an organic microgreens farmer, and she owns Meadowland Greens, a small microgreens farm that offers local home delivery. In recent years, she has developed a keen interest in sustainability and food independence. This has led her down the permaculture and food forest path, which incorporates creating self-sustaining, perennial food systems. She also does garden consulting and coaching locally.

Walking Rhode Island: Spring Hikes

1 Session with John Kostrzewa
 Mon, Apr 6
 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
 Max: 45 \$15.00

John Kostrzewa, who writes the “Walking Rhode Island” column for *The Providence Journal*, has been hiking for decades across the state. He has lectured at OLLI before, but this is a new presentation with new hikes, new slides, and more information about the trailblazers - the men and women who cleared the way. He’ll discuss the history of the areas where he has hiked and the variety of birds, trees, and



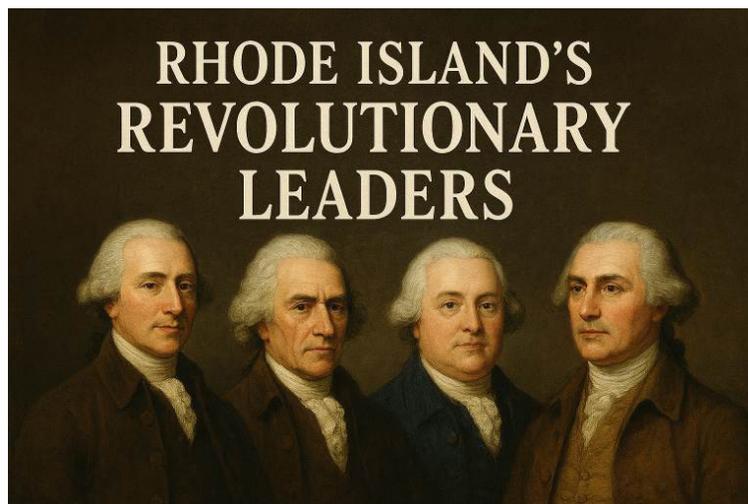
Walking Rhode Island

40 Hikes for Nature and History Lovers with Pictures, GPS Coordinates, and Trail Maps
 JOHN KOSTRZEWA

geological features he has found. A special focus of the presentation will be a description of the North-South Trail and places to hike. Along the way, he’ll explain what makes Rhode Island’s trails unique and outline some of the challenges that Rhode Islanders face with regard to maintaining the state’s public places.

Suggested Reading: A link to the reading will be provided to those who register.

John Kostrzewa worked for 45 years in the newspaper industry, including the last 29 at The Providence Journal as a business reporter, columnist, business editor, and assistant managing editor. He retired from the Journal in 2017 and spent the next three years as an adjunct professor at Bryant University, where he taught a writing workshop course to first-year students. In 2020, he began writing freelance stories for the Journal about business and economics during the pandemic. In January, he launched “Walking Rhode Island,” a weekly column online and in the Sunday newspaper, about hiking in the state. A College of the Holy Cross graduate, Kostrzewa also worked at the Worcester Post, Lawrence Eagle-Tribune, and Akron (Ohio) Beacon Journal.



Meet the Players, Rhode Island's Revolutionary Leaders

1 Session with Jean Gagnier
 Mon, Apr 6
 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

We’ll look at a rogue’s gallery of Rhode Island’s Revolutionary leaders, from politicians to privateers. We’ll meet Nathanael Greene, George Washington’s second in command, Stanton Hazard, a Royal Navy veteran and privateer, and many others whose names you may have heard but never met. Join us to explore the background and characters of RI’s Revolutionary age.

Jean Leo Gagnier, a URI graduate with a degree in history, is a former two-time Westerly Town Council member, Westerly Planning Board member and one of the founding members of Bricks and Murals. He has taught several OLLI classes.



World War II in the Pacific: An 80-Year Retrospective

3 Sessions with Stanley Carpenter

Mon, Jun 6, 13, 20

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$40.00

“Tora, Tora, Tora!” signified Japan’s assessment of its attack on Pearl Harbor (“tora” being Japanese code indicating that complete surprise had been attained). What led up to this infamous attack heard around the world, and how was the U.S. ultimately able to change defeat into victory? This in-depth exploration of World War II in the Pacific Theater focuses on the period 1941 to 1945. The course is divided into four topics: Pearl Harbor and the Coming of War; Miracle at Midway (Turning the Tide); Palm Trees, Mud and Bugs (World War II in the South and Southwest Pacific); and On to Japan (the Central Pacific).

Suggested Reading:

Daniel Marston, ed.: *The Pacific War Companion: From Pearl Harbor to Hiroshima* (New York: Osprey, 2005); Williamson Murray and Allan R. Millet: *A War to be Won: Fighting the Second World War* (The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2000);

Jon Parshall and Anthony Tully: *Shattered Sword: The Untold Story of the Battle of Midway* (Potomac Books, 2005); D.V. Smith, ed.: *One Hundred Years of U.S. Navy Airpower* (U.S. Naval Institute Press, 2011)

Ronald H. Spector: *Eagle against the Sun: The American War with Japan* (Vintage Books, 1985);

James L. Stokesbury: *A Short History of World War II* (Harper Collins, 1980); Dan Van der Vat: *The Pacific Campaign World War II: The U.S. Japanese Naval War, 1941-1945* (Simon and Schuster, 1991);

Gerhard L. Weinberg: *A World at Arms: A Global History of World War II* (Cambridge University Press, 1994)

Stanley D.M. Carpenter, emeritus professor of strategy at the U.S. Naval War College holds degrees from Florida State University (Ph.D.); the University of St. Andrews, Scotland (M.Litt.); and the University of North Carolina (A.B. with honors). He retired from the U.S. Navy in 2009 with the rank of captain having served several commanding and senior staff officer tours. He researches and publishes extensively on the British Civil Wars, the War of American Independence, American and British military and naval history, military leadership, and the two 20th-century world wars. He is also the author of several action-adventure historical novels set in the two world wars. He lectures extensively at public libraries and historical associations in the U.S. and U.K.

Overcoming Adversity with Resilience,

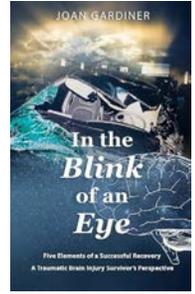
A Brain Injury Survivor’s Story

1 Session with Joan Gardiner

Mon, May 11

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00



Joan Gardiner is a survivor of a traumatic brain injury that occurred when she was injured in a car accident in October 2001. She will talk about her recovery and the five factors she believes were the main reason it was successful. Joan has also written a book which details those factors and will talk about the process of writing the book and getting it published.

Joan Gardiner has a B.A. in economics from Colorado State and a master’s in finance from Bryant University. She gives an annual talk about TBI awareness at Monsignor Clarke School and has talked at three other schools in the past. She was on the board of the Brain Injury Association of RI from 2005 to 2013. Joan lives in South Kingstown, RI with her husband of 32 years, Tom. They have three children.

Island Countries of the Caribbean

3 Sessions with Jim Buxton

Mon, Apr 13, 20, 27

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Max: 30 Fee: \$40.00

We will focus on the island countries of the Caribbean Sea with a deeper look at Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. We will explore each of these three countries’ relationship with the U.S., ranging from Communist-run areas, to tourist meccas, to sources of refugees. We’ll end with a debate on the pluses and minuses of Cuba’s government.

Jim Buxton taught global studies and international relations at South Kingstown HS for 32 years. During that stretch, he earned numerous teaching awards, including the RI HS Social Studies teacher of the Year in 1997, and the RI HS Girls Soccer Coach of the Year in 1988. In 1997-98, he taught in England under the Fulbright Teacher Exchange program. His Model UN program lasted 19 years and, at its height, included 380 students from 25 schools. After HS teaching, he taught International politics courses in the URI Political Science Department. From 2009 until 2016, he also taught in the Salve Regina Education Department, and supervised HS social studies student teachers. He has taught OLLI courses for a decade.



Cancer Essentials: Understanding and Navigating the Cancer Journey

2 Sessions with Ron Peck

Mon, Apr 13, 20

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$35.00

This two-part series offers a comprehensive exploration of cancer for non-medical audiences. In session 1, Understanding Cancer, Dr. Ron Peck, M.D., will explain the biology of cancer, common cancer types, risk factors, screening approaches, and what goes into a new cancer diagnosis. Session 2, Navigating Cancer Care, will provide practical guidance for patients and caregivers, including how to evaluate treatment options, understand clinical trials, communicate with doctors to best advocate for themselves, and how best to support loved ones who were just given a new cancer diagnosis or are living with cancer.

Suggested Reading:

Siddhartha Mukherjee, *Emperor of All Maladies*

Suggested Websites:

[American Cancer Society](#)

[National Cancer Center Network Patient Resources](#)

[Cancer Care](#)

[National Cancer Institute](#)

Ron Peck, M.D. is a medical oncologist with 30 years of expertise in cancer care and drug development. Dr. Peck earned his M.D. at Thomas Jefferson University and completed his internal medicine and oncology/hematology training at Georgetown University. Thereafter, Dr. Peck served on the medical faculty at University of Virginia Cancer Center before embarking on a career as a clinical researcher and expert in oncology drug development in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology arena. He currently consults with biotechnology companies that are developing new cancer medicines and is an adjunct faculty member at Yale University School of Medicine. Throughout his career, he has received great satisfaction in applying his knowledge towards helping friends and family navigate cancer.

Journey Through the Camino de Santiago: History, Regions, and Practical Tips from a Seasoned Pilgrim

3 Sessions with Karen Carothers

Mon, Apr 13, 20, 27

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Max: 30 Fee: \$40.00

The original pilgrimage, which traverses northern Spain from France to Santiago, began in the 9th century, and now hosts nearly 500,000 pilgrims each year. Whether you walk all or part of the Camino for physical, spiritual, or religious reasons, this journey offers transformational and affordable opportunities for nearly all ages. We'll learn about the historical origins of the Camino, its myths and legends, and why it continues to grow each year. We'll get familiar with the diverse regions, languages, and cuisine pilgrims experience on the 35-day journey. Karen and her husband, Rich, have walked the Camino every year, except 2020, since 2014. Karen is excited to share her wealth of firsthand knowledge, experiences, and practical suggestions to help you prepare for your own journey.



The instructor suggests viewing the movie, *The Way* with Martin Sheen before the first class.

Karen Carothers is a retired speech language pathologist, childbirth educator, and doula from Oklahoma City. She and her husband, Rich, moved to RI in 2016. Inspired by the movie *The Way*, they walked their first Camino Francés in 2014. They agreed that, while "the way" was really challenging, they loved the beauty of Spain, the connection with pilgrims from all over the world, and the overall experience of walking daily. They have returned every year since, except 2020.



MONDAY

Portraits in Charcoal and Conte Crayon

4 Sessions with Tom Martino

Mon, Apr 27, May 4, 11, 18

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Max: 20 Fee: \$45.00

In this course you will learn methods that will enable you to sketch a portrait with a satisfying likeness very rapidly. Using sticks of charcoal and conte



crayons, Tom Martino, your instructor will demonstrate the ease and use of these materials in developing a likeness. In addition, Tom will demonstrate how

portability of these materials allows one to sketch any subject. This course is suitable for all skill levels in drawing.

Supplies needed and assignment for first class session:

Supplies and Assignment for first class:

Obtain the following materials:

- (1) vine charcoal, soft and medium
- (2) a drawing pad, 11x14, at least 70 lb weight. Toned paper—gray or tan if you can find it.
- (3) a small set of Conte crayons with the colors black, white, sanguine, and bistre
- (4) a kneaded eraser (a soft, pliable eraser usually gray in color...

Tom Martino is a locally known plein-air painter of oils and watercolor. He has been painting for 44 years and is a member of the South County Art Association, located in Kingston where he maintains a studio. Besides OLLI, he also teaches various painting courses for SCAA and privately.

Register Online

URI.EDU/OLLI

Online registration begins Tue, March 17, at 7:00 AM.
The office will open at 9:00 AM for in-person and phone registration.

In This Moment: Mindfulness Meditation

6 Sessions with Michele Lataille

Mon, May 4, 11, 18, (skip 25), Jun 1, 8, 15

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Max: 20 Fee: \$55.00

Mindfulness meditation is the practice of bringing nonjudgmental attention to whatever occurs in the present moment, and practicing with a group in a supportive environment is an ideal way to develop this habit. As we learn to be alertly and calmly present with our meditation, a deeper intimacy with ourselves and with the world will arise. Meditation can be invaluable for coping with self-doubt, chronic pain, insomnia, negotiating difficult relationships, and many other benefits. You will learn the technique of mindfulness meditation, as well as gain an understanding of its underlying philosophies and potential benefits. There will be opportunities to share, ask questions, and discuss our experiences.



Michele Lataille is a long-time yoga practitioner and meditator, and a graduate of the Mindfulness Meditation Teacher Certification course led by Jack Kornfield and Tara Brach, two highly respected teachers of mindfulness meditation. A graduate of the University of Rhode Island and the University of Maine School of Law, Michele practiced as a civil trial attorney for nineteen years, and taught English for another sixteen years.



Join OLLI at Old Mountain Lanes in Wakefield on Wednesdays, at 12:30PM.
\$3 per game/\$1.00 shoe rental
Facilitator: Peter Stetson



Blood Diamonds: The Search for an Ethical Alternative

4 Sessions with Matthew Runci

Tue, Apr 7, 14, 21, 28

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Max: 35 Fee: \$45.00

Thanks to publicity campaigns, we celebrate diamonds as a “girl’s best friend” and to think of diamonds as enduring forever. But the reality behind diamonds has been more controversial and costly than the glamour of movie stars and the successful efforts diamond marketers’ suggest. This class will explore the crisis that developed in the 1990s in West Africa that threatened to destroy the positive image of diamonds that so many people had worked so hard to establish and protect, as well as the international efforts of industry, governments, and civil society to end the crisis. There’s a lot to learn about diamonds, from what a natural diamond is to what approaches exist to provide conflict-free alternatives.

Suggested Reading/Viewing:

Books: Adam Hochschild, *King Leopold’s Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror and Heroism in Colonial Africa* (Houghton Mifflin, 1999); Ian Smillie, *Blood on the Stone: Greed, Corruption and War in the Global Diamond Trade* (Anthem Press, 2010); Ian Smillie, *Conflict Diamonds* (Polity Press, 2014)

Films: *Lord of War* (2005); *Blood Diamond* (2006)

Matthew Runci holds a B.A. in history from Boston College and a Ph.D. in foreign affairs from the University of Virginia. His professional experience includes teaching international politics, foreign policy, and international organization, plus more than 30 years in senior management of national trade associations in the jewelry industry. As CEO of Jewelers of America and executive director of the World Diamond Council, he was actively involved in multi stakeholder initiatives to halt the trade in conflict diamonds. After the launch of the Kimberley Process and passage of the Clean Diamond Act by the U.S.

Congress, he was instrumental in establishing the Responsible Jewellery Council in London, where he served as founding board chair for 8 years until his retirement.

Barns and Animal Pounds of Rhode Island: A Vanishing Landscape

1 Session with Anne Holst

Tue, Apr 7

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

The barn is the most important building on any farm. This class will cover the past and present of barns in Rhode Island, explaining differences between English barns and adaptations colonists made in developing the New England barn style. It will include examples of some highly ornamented animal housing used on gentlemen’s country estates. In addition, participants will learn about animal “pounds,” which were town-owned structures maintained by “keepers,” much like today’s cat and dog pounds.



Anne Holst is a native Rhode Islander, steeped in history as a descendent of Roger Williams and other illustrious figures. A graduate of URI, she was the first female game warden in RI (now called Environmental Police). (Her mother was the first female fire chief in the world.) In 2000, her family home became the Clouds Hill Victorian House Museum, of which she is board president and curator. She has written numerous booklets about lesser-known facets of R.I.’s history and landscape. She also writes for the website smallstatebighistory.com and does lectures and presentations on R.I. history and Victorian aspects of daily life, especially for assisted living residences and senior groups.

Where’s Your Class?

Check the TV monitor located
in the OLLI lobby

Let's Juggle - for Beginners and Beyond

6 Sessions with Harry Fish

Tue, Apr 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Max: 16 Fee: \$55.00

After mastering the 3-ball cascade you'll have options. Learn to pass with your classmates, pick up additional 3-ball patterns, or try juggling 4 and 5 balls. Throughout the class the instructor will share videos of jugglers from around the world; seeing what's possible feeds your imagination. Yes, it will take practice which entails putting on some music and throwing balls up in the air.

Harry Fish taught himself to juggle 5 balls from a book when he was 30 years old, and now, over 45 years later, he is still learning and perfecting his craft. Throughout his diverse career, Harry has worked as an electrician, bus station clerk, substitute teacher, artist-in-the-school, and behavioral specialist, focusing on children and adolescents. Juggling became a valuable tool in his work with troubled students, providing them with a boost of confidence and joy. Today, Harry shares this same sense of accomplishment and happiness with seniors, helping them discover the benefits of juggling for both mind and body wellness.

Historic Plagues and Epidemics

5 Sessions with Gale Eaton

Tue, Apr 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$50.00

Epidemics have rocked civilizations more than once. The plague (*Yersinia pestis*) alone has been credited with ending classical antiquity in the 530s, forcing major changes in medieval society in the 1340s, and

challenging disease detectives in the 1890s. Humans have blamed these illnesses on angry gods, miasmas, or germs; we've fought them with leeches, quarantines, and vaccines. We will look at how a few epidemics have changed history, and how historic shifts in our understanding have changed our response to epidemics.



Gale Eaton is the author of *A Story of Civilization in 50 Disasters* and co-author of *A Story of Medicine in 50 Discoveries*. She was director of URI's Graduate School of Library and Information Studies. Since her 2012 retirement, she has been writing, editing, teaching for OLLI, and making repeated efforts to organize her home office.



Of Earth and Sky: An Introduction to Astronomy

4 Sessions with Francine Jackson

Tue, Apr 7, 14, 21, 28

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$45.00

The sky, and our astronomical neighbors, present a natural resource that unfortunately is becoming harder to enjoy, due to increases in light pollution, but can still play a part in a person's life. Join us as we introduce the history of astronomy, the planets, other celestial bodies, and the importance of the sky in time telling, plus Rhode Island's major contribution in this aspect of astronomy.

Francine Jackson has been in both formal and informal astronomy education for decades, including the planetarium field. She has been associated with Brown University's Ladd Observatory for over 50 years. She is also involved in the Town of Lincoln's conservation commission and historical society. Asteroid "francinejackson" was recently named in her honor.

The FBI's War on Terror: Prevention or Provocation?

4 Sessions with Bob Persons

Tue, Apr 21, 28, May 5, 12

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$45.00

For decades the FBI has made fighting terrorism its top priority. But at what cost? Has it trampled basic constitutional rights? Has it unjustly besieged the Islamic community? Has its use of unchecked investigative techniques incited plots that might not have otherwise materialized? We will analyze high-profile events and critically review America's approach to its "War on Terror." Please bring an open and curious mind.



Bob Persons recently retired from a 35-year investment career in Boston. He received a B.A. from Bucknell University and an M.B.A. from Northwestern University. He has spoken at countless investment conferences worldwide and for 12 years was a guest lecturer at the MIT Sloan School of Management. His passion for legal justice has fueled his interest and his belief in Daniel Green's innocence. Based on nearly 30 years of research, he has, together with his brother, conducted dozens of interviews with eyewitnesses, Green's lawyers, James Jordan's friends, and Michael Jordan's sister. He and his brother have become close friends with Daniel Green and his family.

Stephen Hopkins, Signer of the U.S. Declaration of Independence

1 Session with Mark Burnham

Tue, May 5

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00



Come learn about the complicated life of one of RI's Founding Fathers, Stephen Hopkins, and how this self-taught person helped shape political and economic life in the U.S. colonies. We'll look at some events in Rhode Island leading up to the signing of the *Declaration of Independence* in 1776 and shortly thereafter, all through his eyes and experiences.

Mark Burnham is a graduate of Suffolk University Law School and spent 33 years as a RI trial attorney. He has been involved in guiding tours at the Stephen Hopkins House in Providence, RI. (Hopkins was a former governor who signed the Declaration of Independence on behalf of RI.) He has also led the Center for Reconciliation's walking tour of College Hill describing the 300-year involvement of RI in the international slave trade. He is currently a tour guide and trustee at Smith's Castle in Wickford, RI where he helped to develop their "Lost Voices" tour which focuses on the stories of the enslaved men and women who lived, worked, and died there during the colonial period. He has also lectured there on topics such as the practice of law in colonial Rhode Island. His current pastimes include learning more about Rhode Island colonial history and our country's legal history, and learning how to teach watercolor painting to younger children.

**Writing, Illustrating, and Self-Publishing
A Children's Picture Book**

1 Session with Rick Billings

Tue, May 5

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Max: 15 Fee: \$15.00

Many people have an idea, a manuscript, or illustrations for a children's picture book but don't know where to go from there. Join author/illustrator Rick Billings as he discusses the details of how to get your own creative ideas into print. There will be many examples of Rick's work as well as that of other authors. You can also bring examples of your own projects to discuss if class time allows!

Rick Billings is a writer, illustrator, aspiring musician, and proponent of general creativity. He has published several of his short stories and poems as well as three children's picture books and a book of firefighting-related cartoons. Rick studied art at Rhode Island College and illustration at RISD and MassArt. He has been an artist since he could hold his first crayon. Rick is originally from Pawtucket and currently lives in Barrington with his wife Kathy and Nala the Wonder Dog.

Introduction to Drone Photography

1 Session with Peter Vogt
 Tue, May 12
 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
 Max: 30 Fee: \$15.00

Discover how drones can elevate your video and photography skills in this introductory course. Learn essential techniques for effective planning, safe flying, and capturing stunning visuals. We'll also explore the software tools for flight planning, editing, and processing your aerial footage and images to achieve professional-quality results.

Peter Vogt is a seasoned FAA-licensed drone pilot with over 6 years of experience flying drones. He has combined his life-long passion for photography with his expertise in drone operations to capture stunning aerial imagery. With a B.S. in Web Development and eCommerce from Johnson & Wales University, Peter's strong technical background enhances his understanding of the subject.



The Constitution as Applied: Further Exploration

6 Sessions with Geoffrey Schoos
 Tue, May 12, 19, 26, Jun 2, 9, 16
 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$55.00

Neither a civics class nor a law school seminar, this series of sessions examines discreet ways the Constitution, as applied, impacts all our lives. From voting rights to money in politics; from the shadow docket of the Supreme Court to an examination of the issues before the Court in the 2025-2026 term; to a general examination of how the Court works (especially the doctrine of *stare decisis* or judicial precedent), we will consider how decisions directly or indirectly impact each of us.

Suggested reading: Readings will be announced before each session. These readings are general in nature and are intended to provide a framework

for each week's class. In addition, Power Points are prepared and provided to the student prior to each week's class.

Assignment for first class: Please access the National Archives – America's Founding Documents, The Constitution. On the top left of the Homepage there are links to the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. Feel free to browse additional links on both sides of the Homepage if you have time.

Geoffrey A. Schoos, Esq. (ret) is a former high school classroom government, history, law, and economics teacher; an attorney for three decades with a focus on serving low-income individuals and families in a variety of civil legal issues; founder of a non-profit legal services organization; board chair of three nonprofit organizations and member of several more; consultant to nonprofits on a variety of legal issues; and an author of an article published in C.U.N.Y. Law Review and of a book focusing on legal services to the poor.

Let Writing Lead to Wellbeing

6 Sessions with Hannah Little
 Tue, May 12, 19, 26, Jun 2, 9, 16
 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
 Max: 15 Fee: \$55.00



Author Anthony Doerr said, "We don't write what we know exactly, but rather we write to know." In this course, you will explore topics of mindfulness, wellbeing, and personal growth, using writing as your tool of discovery and expression. You will read poetry and stories, write, and share about the topic of the week, reflecting on your own practices of gratitude, self-compassion, and more in the process. You will grow as a person and as a writer, as you learn about writing devices such as metaphors, refrains, and forms of poetry. This course is for new and experienced writers alike—no prior writing experience required.

Hannah Little is a Vermont-raised poet, workshop facilitator, and mindfulness practitioner. She moved to Rhode Island after earning her BFA in creative writing from Roger Williams University. She leads writing workshops on topics of mindfulness and wellbeing across Rhode Island and Connecticut, in schools, libraries, senior living communities, and community centers. Her first collection of poetry, *The Garden I Make* came out in early 2025. This is her first course for OLLI at URI.

Save Rhode Island's Forests

1 Session with Nathan Cornell

Tue, May 19

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

Join Nathan Cornell, president of the Rhode Island Old Growth Tree Society, to learn about the state's forests and biodiversity, including the ecological characteristics of old growth forests and how these ecosystems are threatened.

Nathan Cornell is president of the Rhode Island Old Growth Tree Society. He learned to identify old growth forests from arborist and old growth forest expert Matthew Largess, who studied under Dr. Bruce Kershner. Since 2020, Nathan has been a leading voice calling for protection of Rhode Island's remaining old growth forests and rare ecosystems. After realizing no other state environmental group was trying to protect forests and biodiversity on public land, Nathan co-founded the Old Growth Tree Society, which aims to pass legislation to preserve Rhode Island's natural landscape, with ecologist Rick Enser. In addition to his forest advocacy work, Nathan served a term on the Warwick School Committee as the youngest person elected to a public office in Warwick's history.

Free Money! Fundamentals of Grant Writing

1 Session with Paula Grey

Tue, May 26

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Max: 25 Fee: \$15.00

Maintaining sufficient operational funding is a challenge for most nonprofit organizations. Recent federal funding cuts have exacerbated that challenge, and individual donations are not usually sufficient to cover costs. Corporate and foundation grants provide an important alternative source of funding. We'll discuss how to find grants, how to evaluate your organization's fit with grant requirements, the grant application process, and what to do after your successful application has been funded.

Paula Grey has 7 years of successful grant writing experience. Her career has also included work as a technical writer, technical editor, and proposal manager for multi-year statewide system implementation projects. She has a B.A. in English and an M.B.A., both from the University of Rhode Island, and is the author of *A History of Travel in 50 Vehicles*, part of the *History in 50* series by Tilbury House Publishers. In her free time, she enjoys writing short fiction and personal essays.

Colonial Kings Towne, Rhode Island

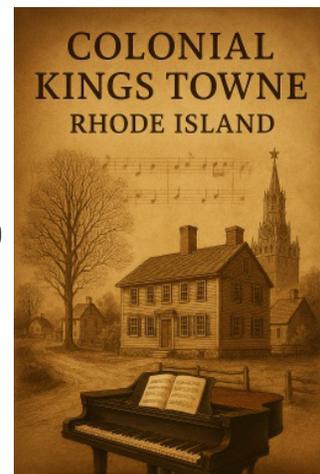
2 Sessions with George Loxton

Tue, Thu, Jun 2, 4

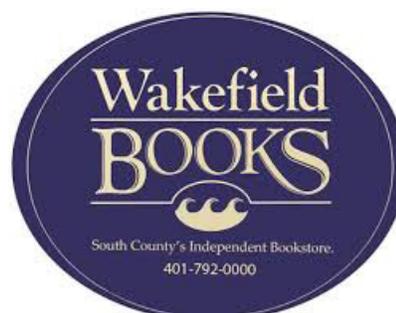
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$35.00

Kings Towne, RI (comprising North and South Kingstown, Exeter, and Narragansett prior to 1723) has a unique and fascinating history, complicated by damaged and missing town records following a 1870 fire in North Kingstown. The course will explore this early period through the lens of its surviving (and reconstructed) records, examining how the history of the region affected government practices and record-keeping from colonial times, and how the damaged records were reconstructed for a recent 9-volume publication. Designed for general public interest, this class might also interest local historians and genealogists.



George Loxton received a B.S. in Accounting and B.A. in History from URI in 1982, followed by a J.D. from Duke Law School in 1985. George spent a career as a corporate attorney in Wisconsin, regularly returning to RI for visits. An independent history project at URI led to the publication of a history of the village of Davisville, RI, after which he researched the colonial records of Kings Towne hoping to make the damaged and shuffled records more accessible, now culminating in a 9-volume (as of 2025, with 3 more volumes planned) set of books providing biographical sketches of every person mentioned in the Kings Towne records prior to 1723, reconstructing damaged town records, and exploring the settling of the 4 towns through each deed.



Thank you to our friends at Wakefield Books who offer at 20% discount on any purchase related to OLLI classes or special interest groups.

**Praised but Controversial:
John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men***

5 Sessions with Vincent Burks
Wed, Apr 8, 15, 22, 29*, May 6
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Max: 30 Fee: \$50.00



Are you willing to travel with George and Lennie on their hopeful, heart-felt, and innocently tragic journey? *Of Mice and Men* is only 107 pages long but deftly covers sensitive topics that will stir something inside of you. We'll explore the themes of racism, sexism, people with disabilities, male friendships/relationships, loneliness, and the fragility of dreams. Together, let's respectfully talk about themes which resonate today despite being set during the Great Depression.

***Note:** In the fourth class we'll be watching the movie and the class will be two hours, ending at 11:30 AM.

Required Reading: John Steinbeck: *Of Mice and Men* (Penguin Books, 1993)

Assignment for the first class: Please read the book before the first class.

Vince Burks worked for Amica Insurance for more than 37 years holding various positions including Director of Training and Communications Director. Vince holds a B.A. in communications with a minor in business administration from Lynchburg University. He is a member of the National Speakers Association and an active participant in The Moth Storytelling events, which you may be familiar with if you're a fan of NPR.

Kinetic Knowledge: Let's Capture and Appreciate the Extraordinary Power of Dance

2 Sessions with Cynthia Nazzaro
Wed, Apr 8, 15
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Max: 25 Fee: \$35.00

In this two-session course we will look at dance from multiple perspectives to try and capture its powerful expressive force. By using a framework for viewing from LMA (Laban Movement Analysis) and learning the contexts and background of the dances we watch, an entry point for discovery will open to more fully enjoy the experience. Plentiful examples of filmed dance performances will be shared that demonstrate core elements. Diving into the joyful pleasure of a wide range of dance genres and practice, we will be entertained, challenged, awed, and amused, as we learn about the multi-layered nonverbal experience that is dance.

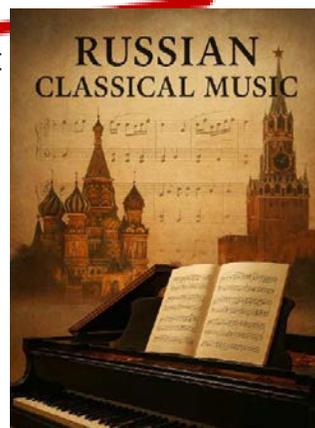
Dr. Cynthia Nazzaro is Professor Emeritus from Springfield College where she established the dance major program and taught for over two decades. She holds an EdD in dance from Temple University, an MA in dance from The Ohio State University and is a trained (200 hour) Spanda Yoga teacher. Nazzaro established and taught a 6-week summer study abroad program designed for American college dance students in Perugia, Italy. She currently resides in Westerly and is enjoying the many opportunities to swing dance and practice yoga.

Russian Classical Music: 1850-1950

4 Sessions with Lloyd Kaplan and Tom Shaker
Wed, Apr 8, 15, 22, 29
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Max: 45 Fee: \$45.00



Classical music in Russia was very slow to emerge, but when it arrived, it packed a musical wallop, producing some of the greatest composers of the 19th and 20th centuries. A few of the composers to be featured are Mussorgsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, and Khachaturian. Musical works will be presented via videos and CDs. A fascinating history and extraordinary music await your appreciative ears.



Are you receiving our weekly emails? Keep up-to-date on new classes, special offerings and weekly happenings!

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Lloyd Kaplan earned an M.A.T. at Brown University and established the jazz studies program at CCRI where he is professor emeritus. Lloyd has authored various books about music and music history including *Who's Who in Rhode Island Jazz: c 1925-1988*. As a professional musician he led the Rhode Island-based swing band *The Aristocats* for decades. As a jazz educator he was inducted into the Rhode Island Music Hall of Fame (2018). He was inducted into the URI OLLI Hall of Fame in 2023 and continues to teach many courses in music history.

Tom Shaker has spent over 30 years as a college professor, teaching courses in video and film production, media, music history, news writing and reporting, sports announcing, and public speaking. He is the co-author of *A Treasury of Rhode Island Jazz & Swing Musicians* (2016) and, with Lloyd Kaplan, *In Harmony: Early Vocal Groups: Remembered & Celebrated* (2020). Tom also co-produced the award-winning documentary film *Do It Man: The Story of the Celebrity Club* (2018). He is a contributor to RhodyRadio, producing podcasts covering jazz, vocal groups, and Rhode Island diner history. For the past 18 years Tom has been the host of "The Soul Serenade," a classic soul and funk show on NPR affiliate station WICN in Worcester, MA.

Cinema Classics: The Best of Foreign Films, Part 2

8 Sessions with Paul Stein

Wed, Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$65.00

In part 2 of *The Best of Foreign Films*, we have eight more extraordinary films: Akira Kurosawa's *Yojimbo*, Yasujiro Ozu's classic *Tokyo Story*, Guillermo del Toro's *Pan's Labyrinth*, Alain Resnais' landmark film *Hiroshima Mon Amour*, Andrei Tarkovsky's *Mirror*, Ingmar Bergman's masterpiece *Persona*, Tom Tykwer's *Run, Lola, Run*, and Kenji Mizoguchi Sansho's *The Bailiff*. All films will be shown in their original language with English subtitles. Reviews of the films and the director's biographies will be made available the week before each showing. They are offered to those who want a deeper understanding of the director and the film before seeing it.

Paul Stein studied film production at the NYU Graduate School of Film. For OLLI at URI, he has taught several film courses, including *Film Appreciation: The Art of Watching Films*; *Film Noir*; *The French New Wave*; *New German Cinema*; and the films of Jean Renoir, Alfred Hitchcock, Akira Kurosawa, Federico Fellini, and Ingmar Bergman, and more.

The Great Gatsby: A Revisitation

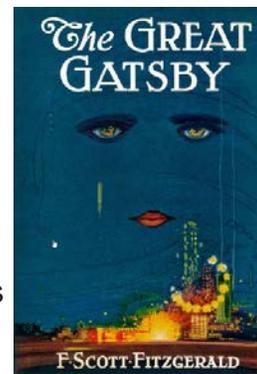
3 Sessions with Ann Ferrante

Wed, Apr 8, 15, 22

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Max: 20 Fee: \$40.00

From the time *The Great Gatsby* was published in 1925, it has drawn the attention of many. It has been regularly taught in high schools and colleges, and movies have been made of it that have drawn large audiences. Many have accepted its major themes as relevant and true. Yet today in our rapidly changing society where traditional values are upset or redefined, we look at the dramatic action of *Gatsby* with different eyes. We will discuss the novel in three parts, exchanging perspectives that may help us see both our past and present with more clarity as we experience this literary masterpiece.

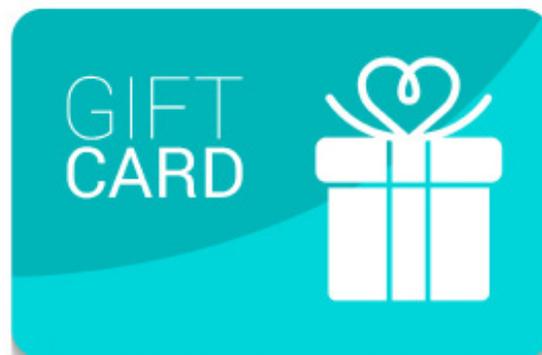


Required Reading: F. Scott Fitzgerald: *The Great Gatsby* (Reader's Library Classics, 2021)

Assignment for the first class: Please read chapters one through three in *The Great Gatsby* (pages 1 through 49 in the Reader's Library Classics edition). In your journal, please take notes on what stands out for you and write your observations.

Ann Ferrante received her Ph.D. in English in 1985 at URI. She is a retired distinguished lecturer and faculty emerita of RISD where she taught for 30 years. Her specialty is 19th- and early 20th-century American literature.

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An OLLI Gift Certificate, of course! You can purchase eGift Cards year-round, and they are available at any value. [Purchase online](#) or call the OLLI office at 401-874-4197.

Ida Lewis: The Legendary Lady Lightkeeper of Lime Rock

1 Session with Brian Wallin
Wed, Apr 29
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

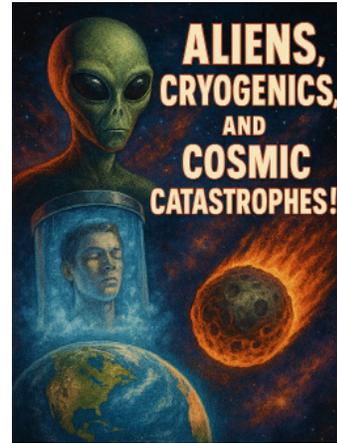
Ida Lewis was 11 years old when her father was appointed keeper of Newport’s Lime Rock Lighthouse in 1853. Four years later, he suffered a debilitating stroke, and his teenaged daughter began assisting her mother in tending the light. As a young woman, she gained worldwide fame in the late 19th and early 20th centuries for saving the lives of numerous individuals from the turbulent waters surrounding the light. Ida devoted nearly six decades of her life to her work. She was appointed keeper in 1879 at the annual salary of \$750, making her the highest paid lightkeeper in the U.S. She died in 1911, leaving behind a lasting legacy. This lecture traces her life and the times that shaped her career.

Suggested reading: Edward Rowe Snow: *The Lighthouses of New England* (Commonwealth Editions), 2004.

Brian L. Wallin is a graduate of Stonehill College and earned his master’s degree from American International College. He is a former radio-television reporter-anchor and a retired hospital administrator (vice president, Kent Hospital). A member of the U.S. Naval Institute, he is also a docent at the Naval War College Museum and a narrator for the RI Fast Ferry lighthouse cruises. He is a recognized author and historian and a frequent lecturer throughout the state. He is co-author of *World War II Rhode Island* (History Press, 2017).

Aliens, Cryogenics, and Cosmic Catastrophes! 1

Session with David Aguilar
Wed, May 6
10:00 AM-11:30 AM
Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00



Buckle up and check your spacesuit for leaks as we plunge into the captivating world of extraterrestrial aliens, the chilling allure of cryogenics without the freezer burn, the rise of robotics and androids, and catastrophic threats of cosmic collisions. Are we truly prepared for first contact with aliens? Can cryogenic preservation unlock the secrets of eternal life or space travel? Are androids close to challenging our very humanity, and how close are we to facing a cosmic disaster from outer space? Join us on this thrilling expedition where science fiction collides with the reality of here and now.

David A. Aguilar is an internationally recognized naturalist/astronomer, author, onscreen science contributor and space artist with the unique ability to open minds to the vast frontiers of space and their potential effects on our own world. He is the former director of science information at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA) in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and past director of marketing communications for Ball Aerospace in Boulder, Colorado. David has written and illustrated 12 award-winning children’s books for National Geographic, was a member of the NASA Pluto Encounter Mission, has consulted and appeared in the History Channel’s Universe series and has been honored with his own asteroid for achievements in furthering science education.



IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Did you know your membership must be in effect throughout the length of your class? If you’re not sure when your renewal date is, feel free to call the office at 401-874-4197.

URI.EDU/OLLI

The Prospects for Extraterrestrial Life in Our Solar System and Galaxy

1 Session with Frank Puglia

Wed, May 6

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

Join the instructor, a NASA Solar System Ambassador who has worked on numerous space exploration programs for NASA, to review the prospects for life and the possible origins of life in our solar system and our galaxy.

During the development of nuclear energy, the U.S. government put the smartest people in the world in a small place in the desert. Let's just say their lunchtime discussions weren't about the weather. At one such lunch, Enrico Fermi, Edward Teller, Emil Konopinski, and Herbert York were discussing the prospects for extraterrestrial life. They kept concluding that we probably weren't alone. Dr. Fermi countered this with the famous phrase "But, where is everybody?" Later, Dr. Frank Drake proposed a solution to this problem in the Drake Equation. The Drake Equation reviews all the unlikely things that must happen for life to arise and compares it against the number of opportunities. We will also focus on our own solar system. Could Venus and Mars or other planets ever have supported life?

Frank Puglia holds both a B.S. and M.S. in chemical engineering from URI. He has been in the battery industry for almost 30 years of particular note, as the lead designer for all of the batteries for all of NASA's Mars Rovers. He recently returned to URI as an adjunct professor and to complete his PhD. He is a regular presenter at Frosty Drew Observatory covering many NASA missions and technology topics.

Gentle Beacons and Their Keepers: A Look at Lighthouse History

1 Session with Brian Wallin

Wed, May 13

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

For three centuries, North American coasts have been guarded by light stations maintained by generations of brave men and women. They often faced treacherous weather, isolation, and, for many years, poor pay and less than dependable technology. Through it all, they kept the lights shining. This richly



illustrated program traces the history of lighthouses from the Pharos of Alexandria (c.300 BC) to modern times. The presentation includes numerous rare images and features lighthouses and lightships that guarded the waters of Rhode Island. Come learn about the evolution of navigational aids, stories of the light keepers, and their contributions and legacies over the centuries.

Brian L. Wallin is a graduate of Stonehill College and earned his master's degree from American International College. He is a former radio-television reporter-anchor and a retired hospital administrator (vice president, Kent Hospital). A member of the U.S. Naval Institute, he is also a docent at the Naval War College Museum and a narrator for the RI Fast Ferry lighthouse cruises. He is a recognized author and historian and a frequent lecturer throughout the state. He is co-author of *World War II Rhode Island* (History Press, 2017).

The Migration Photographers: From Ellis Island to ICE

3 Sessions with Jan Armor

Wed, May 13, 20, 27

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Max: 45 Fee: \$40.00

We will explore how gifted photographers have documented migrations, from hopeful arrivals at Ellis Island to today's surveillance and deportation of immigrants by ICE. Through historical images up to contemporary photojournalism, we'll examine how these committed men and women have shared their migration stories and along the way shaped the story of human movement, belonging, and exclusion. We'll study photographers from Alfred Stieglitz and Dorthea Lange to Sebastião Salgado, Matt Black, and Stephanie Keith. We'll also look at the ethical and artistic challenges of photographing people in crisis.

Jan Armor has been a photographer all his life and a teacher for the past 25 years. He takes his teaching seriously and wants to help you make stronger photographs. An award-winning educator and fine art photographer with 40 years of experience in both digital and traditional media, he has received grants and awards for environmental photography and has taught at the Newport Art Museum, the Bristol Art Museum, Wickford Art Association, South County Art Association, and others. Jan was recently inducted into the OLLI Hall of Fame, teaching over 30 classes since OLLI's inception in 2009. For more information about Jan and his work [visit his website.](#)

The Cultural Diversity of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

1 Session with Lars Erickson and Karen Turman
 Wed, May 13
 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

We'll explore the cultural diversity within the Côte d'Ivoire with Lars Erickson and Karen Turman who participated in a Fulbright-Hays grant earned by the American Association of Teachers of French in 2025. We'll begin with an overview of the geography and history of the country, which includes over 60



different ethnic groups, then move on to its cultural diversity. We'll learn about some Ivorian culinary traditions, then focus on dance, especially the Bolo dance of the area around San Pedro and the Zaouli dance. Lars and Karen will discuss a recent Zougloou song and then transition into developments within the Côte d'Ivoire today.

Dr. Lars Erikson is Professor of French and Chair of the Language Department at the University of Rhode Island. He is the co-author of *La Santé globale*, published by Georgetown UP in 2025. His publications include articles on the development of language proficiency and intercultural competence during study abroad.

Karen Turman is a preceptor in French in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at Harvard University. Her most recent publication includes an article on her curriculum development research in the francophone Pacific. Her research also includes topics on community engagement scholarship, ecocriticism, sustainability and indigeneity, fashion studies, dandyism, 19th-century French literature, and popular culture studies.



Fall course proposals due May 5.
[Click here to submit your proposal.](#)



Women of the Revolution

3 Session with Marilyn Harris
 Wed, May 27, Jun 3, 10
 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM
 Max: 30 Fee: \$40.00

Although you will almost never see them in paintings of the Revolution, women played an important part in the Revolutionary era, both before and during the actual warfare. As women of the press, the Daughters of Liberty, spies, combatants, officers' wives (including Martha Washington and Catherine Greene), and camp followers, they made their contributions to the fight for independence.

Suggested Reading: Carol Berkin: *Revolutionary Mothers: Women in the Struggle for America's Independence* (Vintage Publishers, 2006). Copies available in R.I. Library system.

Since 2010 **Marilyn Harris** has taught more than 40 classes and lectures at OLLI on diverse topics, ranging from ancient history to the Titanic to travel lectures. As a confirmed history buff, she is particularly interested in Rhode Island colonial and Revolutionary Era history and is a veteran docent and researcher at Smith's Castle in Wickford/North Kingstown.

Empowered Living: Planning Ahead with Dignity

2 Sessions with Lisa Wasson
 Wed, Jun 3, 10
 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
 Max: 30 Fee: \$35.00

End-of-life decisions can be difficult and confusing, whether we are making them for ourselves or loved ones. We will learn the foundations of palliative care and hospice care, key differences between the two, what the consumer experience looks like, when to seek services, and practical resources for when the time is right, with an emphasis on dignity, choice, and empowerment. By the end, you will be equipped with knowledge and resources to approach serious illness or end-of-life care with clarity and assurance.

Lisa Wasson, RN, CHPN is a Community Nurse Educator. She draws on her experience as a Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse, along with three specialized dementia care certifications, to develop impactful educational presentations for interested adults of all stages of life. With over 25 years in healthcare, Lisa's career began in occupational therapy, followed by roles in infectious disease acute care nursing, and ultimately, hospice and palliative care. Her diverse clinical background and commitment to improving the experience of end-of-life for older adults, shows in her passionate delivery and connection with her audience.

EXPLORE Watercolor

Explore Watercolor I (Beginner)

5 Sessions with Pamela Powers
 Thu, Apr 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 Max: 20 Fee: \$50.00

Learn many fundamentals of creating imagery using watercolor. Designed for beginners, this course offers demonstrations and hands-on exercises to introduce a wide range of practical and playful watercolor painting techniques. Working in a watercolor journal, you'll document your experiments and build a personal reference for creating more finished artwork. Key steps include observing your subject, composing light and shadow, sketching in pencil, mixing colors from primary hues, applying washes, and practicing essential brush techniques. We'll also explore inventive tools and mixed-media approaches. Learn simple, adaptable strategies that can be applied to painting objects, figures, still-lives or landscapes.



Supply lists for both classes
[available online.](#)



Explore Watercolor II (Advanced)

5 Sessions with Pamela Powers
 Thu, May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 Max: 20 Fee: \$50.00

Delve further into watercolor practice through focused exploration, advanced technique development, and experimentation. This class is designed for students with prior watercolor experience. It moves beyond foundational skills to deepen technical control and broaden creative approaches. We'll investigate nuanced observation, light and shadow structures, dynamic composition, expanded color mixing, controlled and atmospheric washes, and advanced brush work in order to strengthen your personal artistic direction.

Note: This class is designed for students with prior watercolor experience.

Pike Powers takes a multipronged approach to her creative career. She has exhibited her award-winning artwork in painting, glass, and mixed-material sculpture internationally. She was a foundation professor at Parsons School of Design, art director of Pilchuck Glass School in Seattle, and past executive director of Boca Grande Art Alliance, FL. Powers received her B.F.A. from Rhode Island School of Design and M.F.A. from Yale University. At home in her native Rhode Island, she freelances in design, consulting, and teaching.

Let's Skate!

7 Sessions with Dorothy Cunningham
 Thu, Apr 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21
 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM
 Max: 25 Fee: \$60.00
 Location: Bradford Boss Arena

Refresh your ice skating skills or get started in a sport that is challenging, social, and a lot of fun. Starting with the basics, each skater will be given personal attention by our coach according to the step-by-step learning programs of the United States Figure Skating Association and the Ice Sports Industry. Participants may continue skating after class until 10:20 AM.



Note: Additional fees apply. See Special Notice below and listed on your class confirmation.

Additional Fees:

-  Admission to the Boss Arena: \$35 for 6-week skate card.
-  Skate rental:\$30 for 6 weeks.

What to wear: ski jacket and pants, gloves, mittens, winter hat or helmet.

Dorothy M. Cunningham holds a B.A. in English from URI and has taught in public and private schools for over 40 years. The Iditarod has been a favorite topic among her students and their parents throughout this time. Her presentations at URI, George Mason, and the Westerly College Club have brought enthusiastic reviews and interest. She attended the Iditarod in person for its 50th anniversary. Dorothy has also coached figure skating and hockey skills classes for four decades. Her Franklin Blades Skating School has produced skaters for professional ice shows, various learn-to-skate programs, and coaches who work with all levels from beginners to Olympic skaters. Dorothy teaches private lessons for skating skills in figure and hockey skating at various arenas in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Painting Set Free: The Work and World of J.M.W. Turner

1 Session with Maria Mack D'Amario
 Thu, Apr 9
 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

J. M. W. Turner's luminous, shimmering paintings shocked the Victorians and paved the way for 20th century art. Considered Britain's greatest landscape and seascape painter, Joseph Mallord William Turner's virtuosic use of light and color continues to influence painters around the world today. Turner's lifetime spanned the steam age, the Napoleonic wars, expansion of an empire, political reforms, and technological advances that transformed society. Join us as we explore how Turner engaged with the events that he witnessed and, in the process, created pictures that still inspire us today.



Maria D'Amario is an art historian specializing in European decorative arts and the American Gilded Age. A graduate of Denison University, Maria holds a postgraduate diploma in the history of art from the University of Oxford. She also holds an M.A. in the Venetian Renaissance from the University of Warwick in Coventry, U.K. Maria has worked with the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Royal Collection Trust in London. For many years she served as trustee of the U.K. Friends of the National Museum of Women in the Arts (Washington, D.C.) and currently works for The Preservation Society of Newport County.

James Baldwin & Toni Morrison: Banned at West Point

5 Sessions with James Tackach
 Thu, Apr 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7
 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
 Max: 30 Fee: \$50.00

The current United States secretary of defense has announced that certain book titles judged to be critical of our nation will be banned from courses and libraries at West Point and other U.S. military academies. The U.S. Naval Academy, for example, recently removed 381 books from its library. The works of two noteworthy American writers, James Baldwin and Toni Morrison, have been banned. This course will examine two of the banned books by these noteworthy African American authors: Baldwin's 1962

narrative, *The Fire Next Time*, and Morrison's 1987 novel set during the time of slavery, *Beloved*.

Required Texts: James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time* (1962); Toni Morrison, *Beloved* (1987)

Assignment for first class session: Read the first half of James Baldwin's *The Fire Next Time*.

James Tackach, professor emeritus of English at Roger Williams University, holds the M.A. and Ph.D. in English from URI. At RWU he taught mainly American literature and sometimes offered a course on Holocaust literature under the Global Literature course title.

Understanding Climate Change

6 Sessions with Lynn-Ann Delima
Thu, Apr 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Max: 45 Fee: \$55.00

Welcome to global climate change, an area of science that can be fraught with misinformation. This course will help you better understand the science behind global warming and climate change while eliminating any confusion. We will look at evidence that supports anthropogenic (human-caused) claims, review material from icons in this field, analyze the media's views, and review current pitfalls and progress that we are making. We'll end by considering ways in which we can mitigate our impacts while adapting to these changes.



Lynn-Ann DeLima holds a B.S. in education and an M.S. in environmental studies. She has taught every age group at home in the U.S. and overseas. Her teaching career began as a Peace Corps volunteer teaching English to Spanish speakers in the Dominican Republic. From there her passion as a naturalist has had her teaching environmental sciences for the past 20 years of her career. She cannot imagine a time when she retires completely from the classroom, as a teacher or a student. As such, she has recently completed several certificates from HarvardX, the University's online courses offered to the public. Additionally, she works with the Audubon Society as an osprey nest monitor, volunteers as a SkyWarn Storm Spotter, and reconnects with nature surfing Rhode Island's breaks whenever possible.

Your Soil and Amendments to Improve It

1 Session with Roger Jadosz
Thu, Apr 16
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Max: 20 Fee: \$15.00

For all gardeners! Know your soil and how to improve it for more productive vegetable gardens, beautiful flowers and greener lawns. This one session class covers: what soil is, soil composition, soil structure vs. texture, ideal pH range, and soil amendments. Free soil test available (pH and texture).

Roger Jadosz is a Retired RN from URI, URI alumni, and has been a Master Gardener, and soil tester at URI for 14 years.



The Six Wives of Henry VIII

4 Sessions with Lyn Primavera
Thu, May 7, 14, 21, 28
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Max: 25 Fee: \$45.00

The combination of sex, politics, and religion has been scandalous and powerful from time immemorial. This class will discuss the influence of these topics in relation to the six wives of King Henry VIII. One of the most powerful, intelligent, egotistical leaders of all time, Henry was a man of lusty appetites. He often allowed his lust to rule and sway him, which caused battles royale in his royal court and Europe. This class will cover each of Henry's six wives, and her political influence on him and England.

Lyn Primavera holds a B.A. in English/education and an M.A. in education from URI. For over 20 years, she taught AP British literature to high school seniors, and ESL and composition to college freshmen and adults. Prior to teaching, she worked in the private sector in human resources and training development.

Time Travel, Quantum Mechanics and the Future of Artificial Intelligence

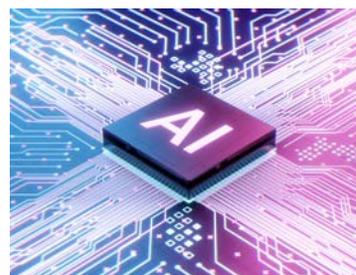
1 Session with David Aguilar

Thu, May 14

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

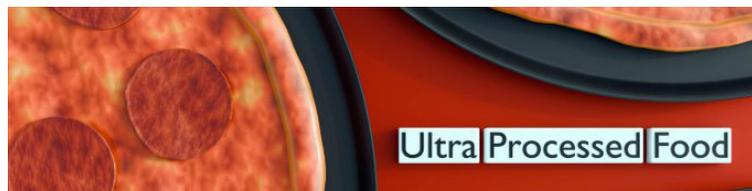
In this exciting and humorous second segment, we dive into the fascinating possibilities of time travel



with some very surprising answers. Then we will tackle the dilemma of quantum mechanics by asking the mind-stretching question: Why is it we can be two places at once? And, what does the future of artificial intelligence hold for personal relationships? More to the point: What wedding gift do you buy for someone marrying their AI girlfriend?

personal relationships? More to the point: What wedding gift do you buy for someone marrying their AI girlfriend?

David A. Aguilar is an internationally recognized naturalist/astronomer, author, onscreen science contributor and space artist with the unique ability to open minds to the vast frontiers of space and their potential effects on our own world. He is the former director of science information at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA) in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and past director of marketing communications for Ball Aerospace in Boulder, Colorado. David has written and illustrated 12 award-winning children's books for National Geographic, was a member of the NASA Pluto Encounter Mission, has consulted and appeared in the History Channel's Universe series and has been honored with his own asteroid for achievements in furthering science education.



Understanding Ultraprocessed Foods and Cardiometabolic Risk

1 Session with Maya Vadiveloo

Thu, May 14

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 30 Fee: \$15.00

This course will share key points from the 2025 American Heart Association Advisory on the associations between ultraprocessed foods and cardiometabolic health – including how to integrate concerns

around ultraprocessed food consumption with existing dietary pattern guidance from the American Heart Association.

Maya Vadiveloo, Ph.D., RD is an Associate Professor in the Department of Nutrition at the University of Rhode Island. She is a registered dietitian and nutritional epidemiologist whose research focuses on using behavioral theory to favorably influence food choices, dietary quality, weight control, and eventually cardiovascular health. She is interested in using population-level data to develop strategies that make it easier for consumers to choose healthy foods that are tasty and filling with the ultimate goal of helping individuals and populations develop lifelong dietary patterns that they enjoy and that promote healthy body weights. Maya's research in the Big Data and Eating Decisions Lab employs a variety of research methods, including epidemiological analyses, laboratory and online studies, and qualitative methods.



Economic Geology in Rhode Island

1 Session with Ernest Zielinski

Thu, May 21

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

Rhode Island may be only 48 miles by 37 miles in size, but believe it or not, it has had a rich history in mining various minerals and rocks such as copper, coal, iron, granite, and many others. This talk will explore the scope, history, and impact of these industries from the earliest times with Indigenous peoples through the 21st century.

Ernest Zielinski holds a B.A. in biology from URI and an M.S. in business from Troy State University, with an emphasis on hazardous materials handling and hazardous waste disposal. He has worked in aerospace, manufacturing, and environmental industries in various managerial positions and has taught various training classes in industry and the military. Currently VP of the RI Mineral Hunters Club, he has given talks at CCRI, Bryant University, URI Master Gardeners (East Farm), Mineral Club. His subjects have included toxic minerals, the Narragansett Basin, RI coal mining, and rare fossil sites (Lagerstatte).

The Watershed Model and Brookie the Brook Trout

1 Session with Gianna Lourenco

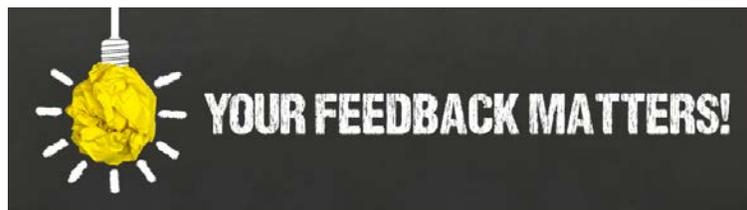
Thu, May 21

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Max: 30 Fee: \$15.00

Using scale models, we will discuss the characteristics of the Woonasquatucket River Watershed, the effects of historical and modern-day pollution, and how the watershed and the brook trout that live there have adapted. The watershed model showcases how rainfall helps to shape the land and affects the types of living things found in a region. We'll learn about how energy and fuels are derived from natural resources and how their uses affect the environment and our local community. Brook trout are important to the Woonasquatucket River. During the spring, adult brook trout swim upriver to lay their eggs. We'll learn about the behavior and the anatomy of this fish with the help of Brookie, a large brook trout model.

Gianna Lourenco is the Education Director at the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (WRWC), which sparks economic development through their work restoring the Woonasquatucket River and communities around it, and by enhancing, extending and bringing people to the Woonasquatucket River Greenway. Gianna began her journey with the organization as a TerraCorps member and has since grown into a leadership role, overseeing environmental education programs that engage learners of all ages. She has worked with students from kindergarten through grade 12 and beyond, fostering curiosity and stewardship through hands-on, place-based learning experiences that connect young people to their local watershed and environment.



A few days after your class ends, you will receive an email feedback survey. We encourage you to take a few minutes and share your thoughts with us. You can also email or call us any time to share your opinions – good or bad! There are also paper copies of the survey located in the classrooms for your convenience. We need to hear from you so we can continue to offer high-quality programs.



Facilitated by Brenda Bibb & Marian Goldsmith

Max for each walk: 15

Looking for a light, low-key outing to start your day? Join the Rhody Ramblers for a friendly morning wander. We'll take a relaxed 30-minute stroll along accessible paths, enjoy the fresh air together, and then wrap up with coffee or a snack at a nearby spot. It's a simple, social way to get moving and connect with fellow OLLI members.

TRUSTOM WILDLIFE REFUGE

Thursday, April 16, 10:30AM-11:30AM

Meet and park at the Trustom Wildlife Refuge, 1400 Matunuck Schoolhouse Road, South Kingstown. We will walk the bluestone path around the open field and stop at the Farm Pond. Trustom Pond is part of the Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge system and contains the only salt pond in the state without significant residential development. We will stop afterwards at Java Madness at Marina Park exit off Rte. 1 in South Kingstown for coffee and snacks.

QUEEN'S RIVER PRESERVE

Thursday May 21, 10:30AM-11:30AM

Meet and park at Queen's River Preserve, School Lands Wood Road, Exeter. This is a Nature Conservancy property that burned in 2023. Last May, hikers saw lady slippers as well as other signs of recovery from the fire. Afterwards we will stop for coffee at Sophie's Brewhouse on South County Trail.

If weather or trail conditions are likely to interfere with the safety of the walk, it will be canceled by email to participants before 8:30 AM the day of the walk. If you are unable to attend a scheduled walk, please cancel in advance so someone on a waiting list may attend.

All Qigong classes are held at
[The Studio at Mariner Square, Narragansett.](#)

Qigong with Nancy Mayne

Qigong for Vitality

9 Sessions with Nancy Mayne
Fri, Apr 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Jun 5
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Max: 18 Fee: \$70.00

Qigong is a branch of traditional Chinese medicine which combines gentle movements, coordinated breath, and focused intention to cultivate vital energy, "Qi." This practice is often called the grandmother of Tai Chi; both are based on the repetition of simple, accessible movement patterns intended to maintain health and prevent injury. During these six sessions, we will explore forms that enhance balance and coordination, improve flexibility, and reduce stress. You'll be introduced to the Qigong elements of Ji Ben Gong, Six Qi Cultivation, and Five Element Play, among others. Be prepared to get up and move!

Qigong Deepening Practice

9 Sessions with Nancy Mayne
Fri, Apr 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Jun 5
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM
Max: 18 Fee: \$70.00

This series builds upon the foundational Qigong forms explored in the winter session, offering returning participants an opportunity to deepen their connection to breath, movement, and intention. We'll revisit and refine Six Qi Cultivation and Five Element Play, while introducing the classical Baduan Jin (Eight Brocades), a time-honored sequence known for enhancing circulation, supporting organ health, and cultivating inner calm. Each class will blend gentle movement, breathwork, and mindful awareness to support balance, flexibility, and stress reduction.

Qigong - Tian Gan

9 Sessions with Nancy Mayne
Fri, Apr 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Jun 5
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Max: 18 Fee: \$70.00

Explore the Tian Gan (Heavenly Stem) Qigong system, a traditional practice designed to open the spine, strengthen the tendons and harmonize the body's internal pathways. Over 9 weeks, participants will learn gentle, spiraling movements that support flexibility, balance and energetic flow. This series is open to students who have completed the foundation-level Qigong class.

All participants are required to fill out an Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability Form.

After graduate school **Nancy Mayne** taught English in France until hearing the call to join recovery efforts following the tsunami of 2004. While volunteering in India and Thailand, she discovered ancient healing arts and stayed in Southeast Asia to study yoga, meditation, Ayurveda, Thai massage, QiQong and herbalism. Once back in the United States, she obtained yoga and QiQong instructor credentials and began leading movement classes and educational workshops. She loves sharing mindfulness and embodiment practices, finding them beneficial to her well-being, and looks forward to sharing them with the OLLI community.



GREAT DECISIONS

1918 • FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION 2025 EDITION

The Great Decisions Foreign Policy Association group at OLLI is an OLLI Extra that meets monthly 8 times a year and is FREE to all members who register. Members MUST register for each class session.

Facilitators: Jim Findley & Emilia Gonzalez-Torpey
Fee: Free for members but registration is required
Limit: 45

Books can also be purchased on the FPA.org website for \$35.00.

U.S. China Relations

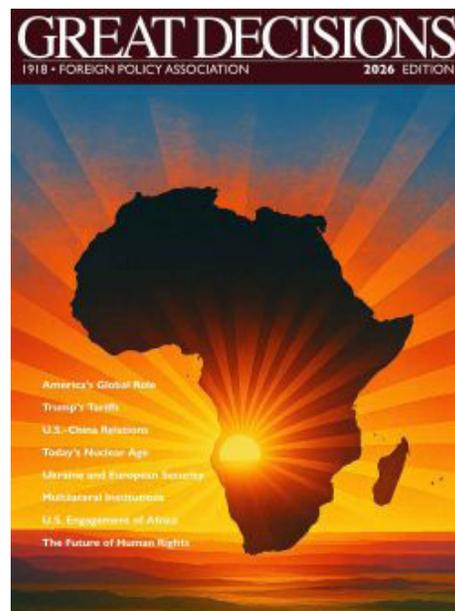
Thu, Apr 16, 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM or
Fri, Apr 17, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Relations with China remain tense, with tariffs, military modernization, and pressure on Taiwan. Does Trump have a coherent China policy, and will his tariffs on Rare Earth minerals be effective? What are America's strategic options?

Today's Nuclear Age

Thu, May 21, 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM or
Fri, Mar 22, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

U.S. alliance skepticism may drive countries like Japan and South Korea to reconsider nuclear options. What are the implications of the Trump administration's rethinking of the U.S. alliance system for regional and global security? Will this new uncertainty alter the way allies and rivals in various regions make decisions about security and nuclear weapons?



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The History and Evolution of Evidence-Based Medicine

1 Session with John McLane
 Fri, Apr 10
 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

The term “evidence-based medicine” was first introduced in 1990, but originated in 1747 when James Lind conducted one of the earliest controlled clinical trials (scurvy). Since then, the application of controlled and epidemiology studies has evolved significantly, shaping modern approaches to understanding disease causation and therapeutic effectiveness. Formal hierarchies of evidence are used today to provide recommendations; however, in some instances, evidence-based processes have been compromised by bias, including selective use or interpretation. This course explores the origins and development of evidence-based medicine (EBM) from early scientific inquiry to modern clinical practice and current changes in recommendations.

John (Jack) McClane Ph.D. is an experienced clinical scientist, leading teams working on at least 4 drugs that gained FDA approvals. He has had numerous interactions with the FDA with his executive responsibilities in large international pharmaceutical and biotech companies. He has taught physicians in clinical programs about the medications they use in practice, or in trials, how to discuss medication management with patients, and how to report side effects. He attained both his M.S. and Ph.D. at URI.

The Legends of Country/Western Music- PART 1

6 Sessions with Brett Morse
 Fri, Apr 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15
 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$55.00



Welcome to the Legends of Country/Western Music - Part 1 of 3. In this first part we will have the opportunity to learn about the artists' lives, their impact on Country/Western music, and listen to the music that made them famous. Following is the list of artists we will cover. Week 1 - Merle Haggard, Week 2 - Loretta Lynn, Week 3 - Willie Nelson, Week 4 - Dolly Parton, Week 5 - Kris Kristofferson, and Week 6 - Jimmie Rodgers. Come, venture into the wonderful world of Country/Western music.

Brett Morse worked in the pharmaceutical industry for over 40 years. He is a graduate of Bryant University and served in the Navy during the Vietnam era. His love of music began at an early age when he was introduced to many celebrities in the music industry through his father's work with RCA and Columbia Records.

Meditation: An Old Practice for Renewed Wellness

6 Sessions with Linda Morse
 Fri, Apr 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15
 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
 Max: 30 Fee: \$55.00

Have you wondered what “meditation” is all about and if it is right for you? People of all cultures have meditated for thousands of years. Come to this very relaxed program and learn about the health and wellness benefits that can be gained from this age-old practice. This program is appropriate for established practitioners, or those new to meditating. You will have the opportunity to learn several different ways to meditate, look at ways of integrating mindfulness into daily life, and leave feeling relaxed and renewed. Please wear comfortable clothing.



Linda M. Morse, a URI grad, has been a yoga and meditation practitioner most of her life, teaching for twenty-five years. Certified professionally through the Kripalu Center in MA, she owned and operated the Yoga Center in Melbourne, FL. With her relaxed and humorous approach, she hopes to inspire students in body, mind, and spirit. For OLLI at URI, Linda has taught Intro to Yoga, Chair Yoga, Breath Techniques, Taking the Inward Journey, Meditation, the Chakra Energy System, and a number of science fiction film programs.

Submit Your Ideas for Classes

We'd love to hear from you! Are you looking for a course on a particular topic? Do you know someone who would make a great OLLI instructor? Do you have an idea for a course but aren't quite certain? We're happy to answer your questions and talk you through your ideas. Email olli@uri.edu or call 401-874-4197.



The UFO Chronicles: Personal Stories Involving UFOs

1 Session with David Aguilar

Fri, Apr 17

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 30 Fee: \$15.00

Navy pilots have seen them. Airline pilots have seen them. President Jimmy Carter and astronaut Gordon Cooper have seen them. If you have had a personal encounter or know someone close to you who has, you are invited to share your stories, thoughts, and insights into this remarkable phenomenon. Whether your experience involves a brief sighting of mysterious lights or something much more profound, we want to hear from you. This will be a unique opportunity to connect with others who have had similar experiences and create a supportive space for sharing these extraordinary events in life. And for those who have not had an encounter but are curious, you are encouraged to join us and contemplate these fascinating stories as we celebrate the enlightening experiences of extraordinary people!

David A. Aguilar is an internationally recognized naturalist/astronomer, author, onscreen science contributor and space artist with the unique ability to open minds to the vast frontiers of space and their potential effects on our own world. He is the former director of science information at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA) in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and past director of marketing communications for Ball Aerospace in Boulder, Colorado. David has written and illustrated 12 award-winning children's books for National Geographic, was a member of the NASA Pluto Encounter Mission, has consulted and appeared in the History Channel's Universe series and has been honored with his own asteroid for achievements in furthering science education.

Fabulous Fibonacci

1 Session with Carol Gibbons

Fri, Apr 24

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 30 Fee: \$15.00

What do rabbits, pinecones, and galaxies have in common? They are all linked to a sequence of numbers named for a 12th-century mathematician, Leonardo of Pisa, called Fibonacci. We will see where the sequence came from and how it relates to an unusual number of natural phenomena.

Carol Gibbons is emerita professor of mathematical sciences at Salve Regina University, where she taught a variety of courses over 35 years, including calculus, linear algebra, and statistics. Her research interests are difference equations, geometric Islamic tiling patterns, and concepts of infinity.

Favorite Children's Chapter Books: Then and Now

1 Session with Barbara Wells

Fri, Apr 24

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 15 Fee: \$15.00

Join in the discussion as we talk about the current favorite chapter books for children in grades 2 through 5. Learn why they enjoy reading these books and talking about them with friends. We will do a "show and tell" with our favorite chapter books from childhood and share why the memories of reading them are near and dear to us.



Assignment for first class: Please bring your favorite chapter book and/or a memory of reading your favorite chapter book from childhood.

Barbara Wells, an avid reader, is a children's librarian and department head at the Greenville Public Library in Greenville, Rhode Island. She has also worked at the Providence Public Library and the East Smithfield Public Library.



The Role of Food in the Rising Rates of Diabetes and Metabolic Disease

1 Session with Ruben Morawicki
 Fri, May 22
 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
 Max: 30 Fee: \$15.00

For 70 years, we've followed a low-fat diet to prevent cardiovascular disease (CVD), yet CVD remains the leading cause of death. Cutting fat led to an increase in carbohydrate consumption, potentially fueling a new epidemic: metabolic disease, type II diabetes, and insulin resistance. Growing evidence links these metabolic issues to cardiovascular events. Notably, 90% of the U.S. population is metabolically unhealthy, often unknowingly. This presentation will provide an overview of how various food components influence metabolism, which can lead to obesity and chronic diseases, including CDV, and how we can manage or even reverse years of metabolic damage through proper nutrient choices.

Rubén Morawicki is a Professor in the College of Food Innovation & Technology at Johnson and Wales University (JWU) and serves as the director of the Ecolab Center for Culinary Science. Before joining JWU, he was an Associate Professor at the University of Arkansas and a Research Scientist at Tyson Foods. He holds a Ph.D. in Food Science from Penn State University, a master's in Industrial Engineering from SUNY Buffalo, and a B.S. in Chemical Engineering. Dr. Morawicki has published dozens of peer-reviewed articles, a book, and numerous chapters on food processing, sustainability, and food safety. His most recent scientific interest is the role of food processing and diet in chronic disease.

One Hit Wonders of the Music World

4 Sessions with Brett Morse
 Fri, May 22, 29, Jun 5, 12
 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
 Max: 30 Fee: \$45.00

Welcome to the amazing world of one hit wonders in music, which have produced some of our greatest songs. A one hit wonder is a musical artist or group that is successful with a hit song, but without comparable subsequent hits. This applies to any artist or group that cracks the Top 40 of the *Billboard Hot 100*, and never makes it back to that position. Time is another factor, where a hit song or artist is forgotten. Come and explore the world of one hit wonders from the years of 1950s to the 1990s.

Brett Morse worked in the pharmaceutical industry for over 40 years. He is a graduate of Bryant University and served in the Navy during the Vietnam era. His love of music began at an early age when he was introduced to many celebrities in the music industry through his father's work with RCA and Columbia Records.

Take a Breath

4 Sessions with Linda Morse
 Fri, May 22, 29, Jun 5, 12
 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
 Max: 25 Fee: \$45.00

At one time or another, we may have found ourselves dealing with anxiety, fears, panic attacks, sadness, stress, sleep issues, or physical pain. We may have tried a variety of paths to alleviate the condition, but when all else failsBREATHE! The breath is the guide in the journey to balance. This four-week program will have presentation material on the respiratory and circulatory system, teach several breath techniques, and show the value of breath awareness. Besides being calming, the breath can also be energizing – giving you the ability to focus and concentrate on a sport, performance or activity.

Linda M. Morse, a URI grad, has been a yoga and meditation practitioner most of her life, teaching for twenty-five years. Certified professionally through the Kripalu Center in MA, she owned and operated the Yoga Center in Melbourne, FL. With her relaxed and humorous approach, she hopes to inspire students in body, mind, and spirit. For OLLI at URI, Linda has taught Intro to Yoga, Chair Yoga, Breath Techniques, Taking the Inward Journey, Meditation, the Chakra Energy System, and a number of science fiction film programs.

Secret Gardens & Storied Homes

Escape for a day to scenic Litchfield Hills, CT! Explore three historic gardens filled with vibrant blooms, and tour two house

museums with expert guides sharing stories of colonial and early 20th-century life.



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Wednesday, April 8, 11:30AM-1:00PM

Friday, May 8, 10:00AM-11:30AM

Thursday, June 4, 11:00AM-12:30PM

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Lunch & Learn

Integrating Social Security into Your Retirement Planning

1 Session with Joanne Daly

Thu, Apr 30

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$0.00

Social Security is an important source of income for many retired Americans. Understanding how Social Security works and what it provides can help you determine whether you're on track for the retirement you envision. We will explore:

We will explore:

- the basics of Social Security.
- factors to consider in deciding when to begin receiving benefits.
- non-retirement benefits of Social Security.
- how to get started on planning for retirement with Social Security in mind.

Joanne M. Daly, CDFP® has more than 25 years of combined wealth planning and prior CPA experience. She is a senior vice president and financial advisor with the Ayers Daly Group at Morgan Stanley and a certified divorce financial analyst. In addition, Joanne is a former CPA tax manager for Ernst and Young and earned an M.S. in Taxation from Bryant University. Joanne enjoys educating others through financial presentations and is a frequent guest speaker to civic organizations and companies, including CVS, Bryant University, South County Health, the URI Foundation, and the GFWC Women's Club of South County, to name a few.

OLLI WEEKLY NEWS



Keep up-to-date on new classes, special offerings, and weekly happenings. OLLI weekly emails are sent on Monday mornings. If you are not receiving them, please call 401-874-4197 or email olli@uri.edu.

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zoom with OLLI

If you need assistance joining a Zoom meeting, please call the office well in advance of your class. We are happy to help with any Zoom-related matters. Call 401-874-4197 to set up an appointment. Links to join Zoom classes are sent in a reminder email two days before the class starts. For your convenience, a link is also sent 30 minutes prior to the beginning of each class session.

Shorts Stories from England II

6 Sessions with Robert Weibezahl
Wed, Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Max: 30 Fee: \$55.00

Revered as novelists, great English writers often have given less attention to the short story than their counterparts in America, Ireland, or Russia. As we move “across the pond” in our ongoing exploration of the art of the story, we will delve into *The Oxford Book of English Short Stories* and discuss some of the finest examples of essential and lesser-known England-grown storytellers of the last 150 years: Dickens, Kipling, Hardy, Woolf, Waugh, Huxley, and many more. Participants read the stories in advance, then we discuss them within the context of their time, investigating both their “Englishness” and their universal themes. There is no prerequisite.

Required Text: *The Oxford Book of English Short Stories*, edited by A.S. Byatt 978-0199561605

Robert Weibezahl is a writer, editor, critic, and publishing industry veteran who has worked with Nobel laureates, Pulitzer Prize winners, and countless bestselling authors. A columnist for BookPage for two decades, he is also a published novelist and award-winning, internationally produced playwright. He teaches at OLLI programs across the country.

Voting: Why is it so Difficult?

5 Sessions with Stephen Berardo
Thu, Apr 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Max: 30 Fee: \$50.00

The preamble of our Constitution begins with “We the People.” But how does our government know what “We the People” want? Voting is the cornerstone of all democracies but administering a fair and open election has always been complicated and expensive. Throughout our history, access to voting has been restricted or denied to many groups. Both domestic and international organizations have documented numerous flaws in our current electoral system. We will look at the history of voting in the U.S., the flaws in our Constitu-



tion, and the many challenges voters are facing today, as well as how other countries handle voting.

Suggested Reading: Alexander Keyssar: *The Right to Vote – The Contested History of Democracy in the United States*, Rev. Ed. (Basic Books, 2009)

Assignment for the first class: Be sure you have a general familiarity with the U.S. Constitution.

Modern Irish Authors: A Remarkable Abundance

4 Sessions with Stephen Berardo
Thu, May 28, Jun 4, 11, 18
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Max: 30 Fee: \$45.00

Ireland has been known for its great writers, from Jonathan Swift to W.B. Yeats, James Joyce, Samuel Becket, Seamus Heaney, J.M. Synge, and George Bernard Shaw, among many others. Four have won the Nobel Prize for Literature, and six have won the Booker Prize. Today that tradition is carried on by a growing list of excellent modern Irish writers.

We will read and discuss one book each by four of these: Niall Williams, Paul Lynch, Claire Keegan, and Caoilinn Hughes. We’ll also examine the social, political, and economic environment that shaped their writing. Hopefully encountering these authors will provide a useful introduction to Irish literature today and spark your interest in exploring more Irish writers and their books.

Suggested Reading: Niall Williams: *Time of the Child* (Bloomsbury Publishing, 2024); Caoilinn Hughes: *The Alternatives* (Riverhead Books, 2024); Paul Lynch: *Prophet Song* (Grove Press, 2024); Claire Keegan, *Small Things Like These* (Grove Press, 2021)

Stephen Berardo has a master’s degree in public administration and is a student of history and political systems. He was a planning consultant and has been an adjunct and full-time college faculty member teaching courses in business administration and aviation. He has worked for many years with local, state, and federal government agencies on a variety of development and public outreach issues.



MODERN Irish AUTHORS

Osher Online™

SPRING 2026

Osher Online is an online partnership in collaboration with the National Resource Center (NRC) at Northwestern University School of Professional Studies. Osher Online was created to expand member access, institute collaboration and sharing of resources, and ensure the legacy of all 125 Osher Institutes.

These classes are 90 minutes long and delivered by the Osher NRC, and its staff will provide moderators and technical assistance.

They are meant to complement our program and give you access to instructors from other locations in our country.

- Osher Online classes are six-weeks long and cost \$55 each.
- Osher Online is available to OLLI members only.
- Space is limited to 13.
- Osher Online classes are not recorded.

We hope you enjoy the opportunity to learn from premiere instructors along with OLLI members from across the nation!

A History of Street Art

6 Sessions with Heather Shirley
Wed, Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

Art in the streets (including graffiti, murals, stickers, and paste-ups) gives voice to marginalized communities, shapes urban environments, and challenges institutional norms.

This course explores graffiti and street art in the U.S. and around the world, examining their histories, motivations, and social impact. Participants will consider the rise of global mural movements, efforts to preserve and present street art, and its evolving role in activism, community identity, and social change.



Heather Shirley, PhD, is a Professor of Art History at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota. Her research explores race and identity, migration and diasporas, and the role of monuments, memorials, and street

Osher Online Member Orientation Tuesday, March 24, 2:00PM

Once registered for an Osher Online course, you will receive an email from Osher inviting you to attend the Member Orientation. Please make an effort to attend the session as details on logging in to your Osher account will be provided. If you are not able to attend the session, a recording will be available.

All questions regarding Osher Online classes should be directed to Osher Online, 312-503-5555 or email osheronline@northwestern.edu.

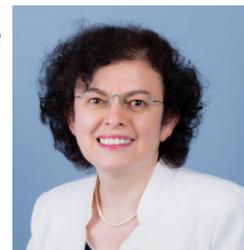
art in shaping public space. As part of the Urban Art Mapping team, she co-created the George Floyd and Anti-Racist Street Art Database. Her work examines how street art documents collective experience and functions as activism, healing, and critical engagement.

Siberia: Russia's Frozen Wasteland or Economic Heartland?

6 Sessions with Asya Pereltsvaig
Wed, Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

Siberia covers three quarters of Russia's territory but is home to only a quarter of its population. Yet its role in shaping Russia as a vast and wealthy empire is profound. In this course, we will explore Siberia's economic significance, indigenous cultures, and history as a penal colony, along with its importance for climate change, environmental issues, and Russian-Chinese relations. We will also consider Siberia's role in both the rise and possible fragmentation of Russia.

Asya Pereltsvaig received a degree in English and History from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a PhD in Linguistics from McGill University. She taught at Yale and Stanford and has been teaching in lifelong education programs since 2010. Her expertise is in language and history, and the relationship between them. Her most recent book, *Languages of the World: An Introduction*, 4th edition (2023) was published by Cambridge University Press. Asya is a popular instructor for several OLLI programs around the country and was the faculty host for the OLLI trip to the Baltic countries and St. Petersburg in July 2017.



JFK's Quest for Peace: Lessons for Turbulent Times

6 Sessions with Charles Blum
Thu, Apr 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

Throughout his 1000-day presidency, John Kennedy pursued peace through a broad spectrum of initiatives. He saw a connection between learning and leadership and sought to use military deterrence, diplomacy, and soft power in novel ways. In this course, we will explore how his character and life experiences were the origins of those efforts. We will evaluate his powers of persuasion by listening to key speeches, and we will assess his successes and failures and their relevance to today's world.



Charles Blum served as a US diplomat and trade policy official for 17 years before launching a consulting firm that operated in Washington DC and Central Europe. He has developed more than four dozen courses focusing on global politics, war and peace, and international cooperation. He earned degrees in history from Eastern University and in international relations from the University of Pennsylvania.

AI for Regular People

6 Sessions with Hod Lipson and Melba Kurman
Thu, Apr 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

Back by popular demand, this updated course offers a clear, engaging introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how it's rapidly transforming our world.



From self-driving cars to chatbots and precision medicine, we will explore how AI works, where it's headed, and what it means for society. No tech experience needed—just curiosity! With fresh examples and timely updates, participants will gain a solid understanding of the opportunities and challenges AI presents today.

This course is co-taught by **Hod Lipson**, PhD, Professor of Engineering and Data Science at Columbia University, and author and technology analyst Melba Kurman. Dr. Lipson directs Columbia's Creative Machines Lab, where his team builds artificially intelligent robots that can design, create, and express emotion. One of the world's most-cited academic roboticists, his work has been featured in The New York Times, NPR, TED, and Quanta.



Melba Kurman has held roles at Microsoft, Cornell University, and several tech startups. She writes about emerging technologies and their societal impact. Together, they coauthored *Driverless* and *Fabricated: The Promise and Peril of 3D Printing* and are frequent speakers on AI and innovation. They divide their time between New York City and the Berkshires.



Violinists: Performers and Composers

6 Sessions with Ilana Zaks
Mon, Apr 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

Why do so many great violinists also become composers? This course will explore the fascinating legacy of violinist-composers, including Baroque virtuosos like Heinrich Biber, Romantic legends like Niccolò Paganini, and 20th century innovators like George Enescu and Grazyna Bacewicz. Through listening and discussing, we will examine how these artists wrote music tailored to their instruments and themselves. Taught by a professional violinist, this course offers a behind-the-strings look at how performance and composition intertwine.



Ilana Zaks, professional violinist, educator, and multidisciplinary artist, is First Violin with the Seattle Symphony and Seattle Opera. A graduate of the New England Conservatory and Yale School of Music, she studied under renowned violinists Donald Weilerstein and Ani Kavafian and spent nearly a decade working with Itzhak Perlman through the Perlman Music Program. Recently appointed to the Boston University Tanglewood Institute faculty, Zaks is passionate about connecting audiences to music through storytelling, performance, and dialogue



Place, Memory, and Environmental Psychology

6 Sessions with Fernanda Blanco Vidal

Tue, Apr 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

How much of who we are is shaped by the places we live and experience? This course invites reflection on the psychological and emotional relationships



between people and their environments. Drawing on psychology, geography, architecture, and design, we will explore environmental psychology and how physical environments shape behavior, cognition, identity, and memory. Using place-based methods,

we will discuss concepts such as place attachment, identity, and cognitive maps. We will reflect on memory, home, trauma, displacement, and nature’s role in well-being.

Fernanda Blanco Vidal is a PhD Candidate in Environmental Psychology at the Graduate Center, CUNY.

She holds degrees in Psychology and Sociology from the Federal University of Bahia, where she published *Nostalgia, but not Sadness – Psychology, Memory and Forced Displacement*. Her dissertation explores how people’s sense of place shifted during the COVID-19 pandemic. With over a decade of higher education experience in Brazil and the US, she develops place-based methodologies linking psychology, memory, and displacement.



From Leo XIII to Leo XIV: History of the 20th and 21st Century Popes

6 Sessions with Olivia Espin

Tue, Apr 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

The death of Pope Francis and the election of the first US born Pope have been in the news repeatedly in the last year, capturing the imagination of many people, including non-Catholics. Who are these men? What are their life stories? How were they similar to and different from



each other? In this course, we will discuss the lives and dominant perspectives of the last ten Popes, exploring their most significant positions and their influence on world affairs.

Olivia Espín, PhD is Professor Emerita of Women’s Studies at San Diego State University and the California School of Professional Psychology. She completed her postdoctoral work at Harvard and is a pioneer in feminist therapy with women from diverse cultural backgrounds. Her recent books include *Women, Sainthood, and Power: A Feminist Psychology of Cultural Constructions* and *My Native Land is Memory: Stories of a Cuban Childhood* (2021 San Diego Book Award). She received APA’s Outstanding Lifetime Contributions to Psychology Award.



A Beautiful Brain

6 Sessions with Scott Fulton

Thu, Apr 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

Most conversations about aging focus on lifespan, but brainspan (how long our mind stays sharp) matters more. In this course, we will explore how the brain ages and what science reveals about protecting memory, balance, and clarity. Topics include normal changes versus early dementia, neuroplasticity, nutrition, sleep, stress, social ties, and purpose. Each session blends accessible science with self-tests and take-home practices. We will also build a personalized Cognitive Health Scorecard to track habits and strengthen resilience.



Scott Fulton is recognized internationally as a “Redeﬁner” in the positive aging space. Accustomed to big systems engineering challenges, Fulton focuses his research on improving adult aging outcomes. He teaches Lifestyle Medicine and Aging, is an American College of Lifestyle Medicine member, sits on the prestigious True Health Initiative Council, and is past president of the National Aging in Place Council. His critically acclaimed book, *WHEALTHSPAN, More Years, More Moments, More Money*, hit #1 on Amazon, and he is known for creating the MEDAC

system for optimal aging. Fulton is a multiple Ironman triathlete and lives in a demonstration home he recently designed and built for the future of optimal aging across a lifespan.

Music: Controversies and Curiosities

6 Sessions with Emmanuel Abramovitz

Wed, Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

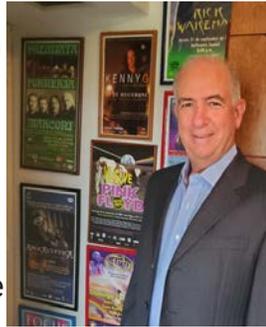
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

Music has long provoked debate, from Beethoven and Stravinsky's bold innovations to Broadway works like *Annie Get Your Gun*



and *South Pacific*, now revisited through modern concerns about race, consent, and gender. Is political correctness enriching art or erasing cultural heritage? We will also examine plagiarism and borrowing in pop and film music, with cases involving the Beatles, Pink Floyd, and Peter Dinklage. This course blends audiovisuals, anecdotes, and humor to explore music's most controversial moments.

Emanuel Abramovits, MBA, is a mechanical engineer and has also been a concert promoter for over two decades. He is directly involved in events by international artists like Itzhak Perlman, Gustavo Dudamel, Sarah Brightman, Roger Hodgson, ASIA, Journey, Kenny G., and many more. Abramovits has designed and staged many original orchestral events, including an Event of the Year winner and several world premieres. He served as the cultural director at Union Israelita De Caracas from 2008 to 2019, releasing books and organizing film cycles, concerts, and art exhibits. He consistently teaches online and in-person across the US.



Frank Lloyd Wright and Modern Architecture

6 Sessions with Jennifer Gray

Tue, Apr 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

Frank Lloyd Wright designed nearly 1,000 buildings and helped define modern architecture. This course explores highlights of his practice, from Prairie houses to Fallingwater and the Guggenheim Muse-



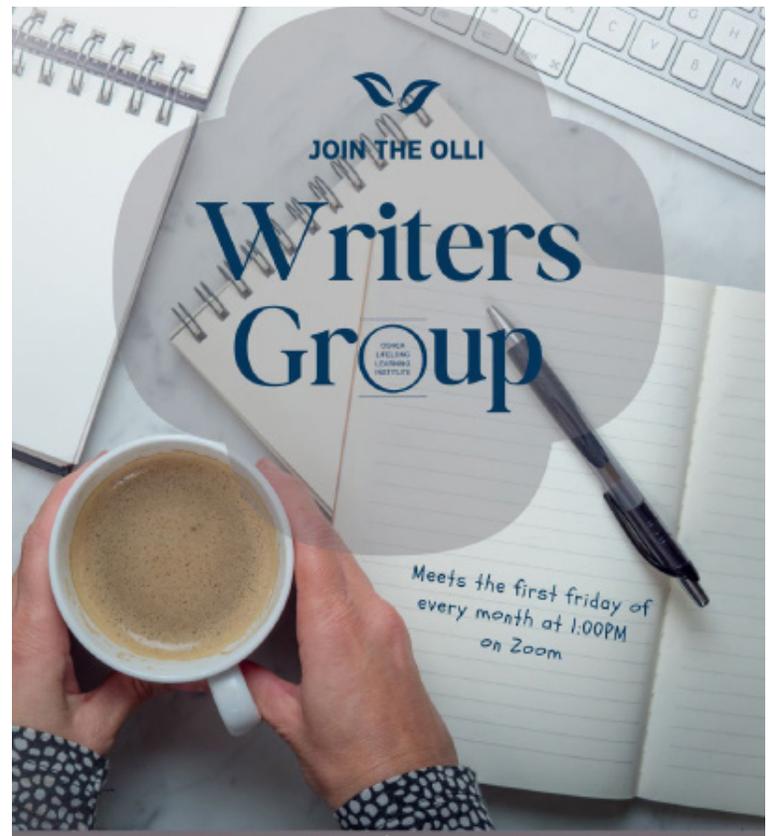
um, alongside lesser-known projects like affordable housing and city planning. We'll examine how Wright's work reflected cultural shifts in technology, science, and politics, offering a deeper understanding of his lasting influence on architecture and modern design.

Jennifer Gray, PhD is vice president of the Taliesin Institute at the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. Her



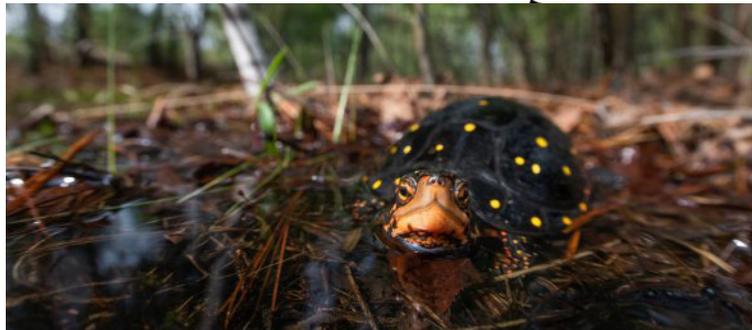
research explores how modern architects used design to advance social change at the turn of the 20th century. She has curated major exhibitions, including Frank Lloyd Wright at 150 at MoMA and The Imperial Hotel at 100, which toured Japan. Gray has taught at Columbia, Cornell, and MoMA, and formerly served as Curator of Drawings and

Archives at Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library.



Facilitators: Susan Berman & Gale Eaton

LEARN HERE EXPLORE THERE



“Wicked Big Puddles:” A Naturalist Explores Vernal Pools

2 Sessions with Bruce Fellman

- 1 Mon, Apr 6 (Classroom)
- 2 Mon, Apr 13 (TBD)

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Max: 20 Fee: \$35.00

Vernal pools are temporary wetlands found throughout our forests and fields that fill with water from rain and snowmelt in the fall and winter and host a riot of ingenious amphibian and invertebrate life in the spring before turning back to dusty depressions in the summer. For naturalists, vernal pools are magical places filled with fascinating creatures—places that have captivated Bruce for more than half a century and inspired many of his articles. Through images and stories, we’ll meet the cast of characters that use these part-time ponds for mating sites and nurseries and discover the strategies they’ve evolved to navigate the challenges posed by an impermanent aquatic environment.

The first class will be in the classroom. The second session will be an approximately one-half-mile hike through the local woods to visit a vernal pool and sample its biodiversity. We’ll be walking on a fairly wide and relatively flat trail that is not wheelchair accessible. Please wear waterproof shoes or boots as it is muddy along the vernal edges. Meeting location will be announced at first class session.

Suggested Reading: PDFs of articles will be sent to participants prior to the class.

Bruce Fellman is an environmental photojournalist, naturalist, and science teacher (primarily middle school). He began his career nearly 50 years ago in newspapers like the Narragansett Times, The Providence Journal, and the Boston Globe and served as a science and feature writer and editor at numerous periodicals, such as Smithsonian, National Wildlife, and the Yale Alumni Magazine, where he has worked since 1992. He is perhaps best known locally for the numerous outdoor programs he leads for a variety of conservation organizations, as well as for “A Naturalist’s Journal,” a weekly column in Rhode Island and Connecticut newspapers that debuted in 1978 and combines observations of the natural world, documentary photography, and an endless curiosity into a blend of science and the human spirit.

How Food Banks Work: A Look Inside Hunger Relief in Rhode Island

2 Sessions with Melissa Cherney

- 1 Tue, Apr 7
(Classroom 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)
- 2 Wed, Apr 8
(at Food Bank 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM)

Max: 20 Fee: \$35.00

In this two-part class, you will go behind the scenes of hunger relief in Rhode Island with the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. In the first class you will learn how food banks operate as central hubs, acquiring, storing, and distributing millions of pounds of food each year to pantries and meal programs statewide. Explore the state of food insecurity in the Ocean State, the challenges neighbors face, and how community partnerships and advocacy help ensure everyone has



access to nutritious food. The following day we will meet at the RI Community Food Bank's headquarters and warehouse location, at 200 Niantic Ave, Providence, RI to get a closer look at food banking and contextualize the course.

*Please note the dates and times of the class and tour differ. While there is no required reading or assignments ahead of the course, students are encouraged to explore the Rhode Island Community Food Bank's website in advance.

While there is no required reading or assignments ahead of the course, students are encouraged to explore the Rhode Island Community Food Bank's website in advance.

Parking: There is a parking lot at Food Bank with plenty of spaces.

Accessibility: The Entire tour will be on the ground floor.

Melissa Cherney is the Chief Executive Officer of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank and Chair of Feeding America's Policy Engagement and Advocacy Committee. With nearly two decades of experience in hunger relief, she previously served as CEO of the Great Plains Food Bank in North Dakota, where she led statewide efforts to expand food access and influence anti-hunger policy. A former Fargo City Commissioner, Cherney brings deep expertise in local government, nonprofit leadership, and legislative advocacy to her work addressing food insecurity and strengthening communities.



Tree and Shrub Identification: Around Campus 7 Sessions with Ames Kaiser

- 1 Tue, Apr 21 (30 min in classroom)
- 2 Tue, Apr 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, Jun 2
(Location: On camps, TBD)

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Max: 20 Fee: \$60.00

Beginning with an in-class introduction to basic characteristics of trees and shrubs, tools and processes, participants will then head outside to learn in an outdoor setting how to identify local trees and shrubs, those commonly found in Rhode Island nature and landscapes. For the following 6 classes, the instructor will meet the group in front of the URI library,

leading the group on walks around the URI Quadrangle, then out across Flagg Road to the edge of the woods. Participants need to be able to walk about a half-mile, some of it on uneven ground. When done with the course, participants will be able to confidently identify 40-50 local trees and shrubs.

Suggested reading: Trees and Shrubs of Northeast and North Central US and Southeast and South Central Canada (Peterson Field Guide®), George A. Petrides (Author/Illustrator), Roger Tory Peterson (Illustrator).

Please note: We will be standing/walking about a mile during each 90-minute session.
Recommended: Good walking shoes, pocket knife, small hand lens or magnifying glass, reading glasses.

Ames Kaiser is a seasoned arborist with decades of hands-on experience in tree care, forest management, and ecological stewardship. A graduate of the University of New Hampshire, Class of '99, he holds a B.S. in Forest Management and began sharing his expertise early in his career by teaching the university's Tree Identification course in 1995 and 1996. His professional path spans diverse landscapes and regional practices, including work with Island Timber in Tisbury, MA; Eastern Sierra Tree in Mammoth Lakes, CA; Kaiser Tree Preservation Co. in North Kingstown, RI; and SavATree in Exeter, RI.

Please note: We will be standing/walking about a half-mile during each 90-minute session.

Recommended: Good walking shoes, pocket knife, small hand lens or magnifying glass, reading glasses.

WAITING LIST

ALWAYS ADD YOUR NAME TO THE WAIT LIST.

If you get closed out of a class, you should always add your name to the Wait List. There are always cancellations before a class and if an opening becomes available, we will call you and register you over the phone. In some cases, if this is a large Wait List, we will try to schedule a second session. Wait List members get first priority to register for the new session.



Geocaching: Finding Hidden Treasures

3 Sessions with Colin Parkhurst

- 1 Mon, Apr 27 (Classroom)
- 2 Mon, May 4, 11 (Location TBA)

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Max: 15 Fee: \$40.00

Geocaching is a recreational activity that takes players on a GPS-based “treasure hunt” to find hidden “caches” in locations all over the world. There are plenty right in your neighborhood. Join us as we spend the first lesson going over the basics through interactive classroom exercises, then apply this knowledge in the following weeks as we explore the wooded trails and charming sidewalks in the local area. We will look at our surroundings with a different set of eyes as we learn tips and tricks to become skilled geocachers.

Note: Sessions 2 and 3 involve walks off-site in the URI/Kingston area of approximately 1.5 miles. Outdoor sessions are weather dependent and require appropriate footwear, equipment, and clothing. Details about meeting times and locations for the outdoor walks will be given at the first class.

Historic Cemeteries: Preservation in Practice

3 Sessions with Colin Parkhurst

- 1 Mon, Apr 27 (Classroom)
- 2 Mon, May 4, 11 (Location TBA)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Max: 25 Fee: \$40.00
Location: TBD

This is a hands-on course where students learn to care for our historic cemeteries. The first week introduces the basics of gravestone cleaning, minor repairs, and grounds upkeep. In the following sessions, we’ll work together on a local cemetery, putting these skills into practice and documenting the progress we make over the two weeks.



You’ll learn to approach these sites with care and attention and gain practical experience while helping preserve their history.

Colin Parkhurst is a quality engineer with a degree in mechanical engineering. He is also a former commissioner with the Warwick and Cranston cemetery commissions, and has been involved with the restoration of historical cemeteries since 2013. He currently volunteers with the Pawtuxet Valley Cemetery Group, who helps care for many of the 200+ cemeteries in Coventry and West Warwick. He has also been geocaching in his free time since 2011, finding more than 2600 hides and placing over 100 of his own.



We are so happy to see so many members stopping by the lobby to socialize before classes start. We continue to accept donations of ground coffee, coffee pods and cash. Thank you for your support!

The Perry Grist Mill: History in Action

2 Sessions with Julia Landstreet and Kevin McCloskey

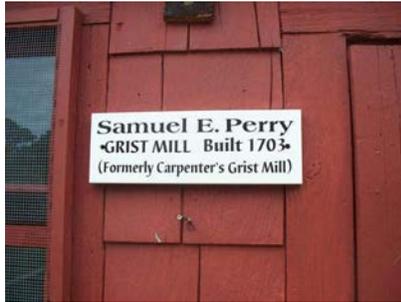
- 1 Mon, May 11 (Classroom)
- 2 Mon, May 18 (Perry Grist Mill)

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Max: 15 Fee: \$35.00

Location: South Kingstown

The Samuel E. Perry Grist Mill is a rare survivor from among the thousands of grist mills that once dotted the New England landscape. It is the oldest continually operating grist mill in Rhode Island and it may be the last in the state to operate using waterpower. Learn how the grist mill has served as a focal point in South County agrarian culture for over 300 years, bringing countless families together in the spirit of community. You'll also learn the story of the white cap flint corn and how it connected generations and cultures to the land.



Location: The first session of this class will be held at OLLI; the second will be a tour of the Perry Grist Mill, at 364 Moonstone Beach Road, South Kingstown, RI.

For additional information on Perry Grist Mill, please visit the [South Kingstown Land Trust](#) website.

Julia Fry Landstreet currently serves as the first executive director for the South Kingstown Land Trust. She served as executive director for the Nashville Civic Design Center, a nonprofit think tank promoting high-quality design and planning in the city's built and natural environments. She has also worked as a community organizer, elected official, naturalist, educator, and curator.

Kevin McCloskey has been in and around South Kingstown since his family started coming to Roy Carpenter's Beach in 1959. He retired from a career with the U.S. Postal Service and nurtured his passion for history through countless hours with numerous organizations—South County History Center, Hale House, Gilbert Stuart Birthplace & Museum to name a few. In his capacity as both Land Trust board member and volunteer McCloskey has overseen the renovation and operation of the mill and all its facets for over ten years.

"CLOUDS HILL" House and Farm – Portal to the Past

2 Sessions with Anne Holst

- 1 Mon, Jun 8 (Classroom)
- 2 Mon, Jun 15 (Clouds Hill Museum)

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Max: 20 Fee: \$35.00

Location: East Greenwich

Clouds Hill is an 1872 Gothic Victorian summer home in the Cowesett section of Warwick, RI. Built as a wedding present for Elizabeth Ives Slater by her father, William Smith Slater, it has passed through 4 generations of women owners. The presentation takes you through the house, explaining all of the workings - which were considered highly advanced for the period. Furnishings, interior decoration, family possessions, and the services - gas lighting, convection heating, burglar alarms and annunciator system - are explained in detail and shown in pictures. The adjoining family farm is also explained.

The museum is located at 4157 Post Road, in East Greenwich, RI. The museum is handicap accessible and ample parking is available.

Anne Holst is a native Rhode Islander, steeped in history as a descendent of Roger Williams and other illustrious figures. A graduate of URI, she was the first female game warden in RI (now called Environmental Police). (Her mother was the first female fire chief in the world.) In 2000, her family home became the Clouds Hill Victorian House Museum, of which she is board president and curator. She has written numerous booklets about less-known facets of R.I.'s history and landscape. She also writes for the website [smallstatebighistory.com](#) and does lectures and presentations on R.I. history and Victorian aspects of daily life, especially for assisted living residences and senior groups.



A few days after your class ends you will receive an email feedback survey. We encourage you to take a few minutes and share your thoughts with us. You can also email or call us any time to share your opinions – good or bad! There are also paper copies of the survey located in the classrooms for your convenience. We need to hear from you so we can continue to offer high-quality programs.

TOURS & TRIPS

Members must provide their own transportation to each tour.

A Walk in a Cemetery Conjures Stories from Saylesville

1 Session with Allison Horrocks and Mark Mello
Tue, Apr 21
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Max: 20 Fee: \$15.00
Location: Central Falls

In 1934, Rhode Islanders were at war—with each other. On top of the pressures and pains of the Great Depression, the 1934 General Textile Strike had further increased tensions in the state. During an especially violent confrontation, the strikers lost four of their own; two of those fatalities occurred during the Saylesville Massacre.

This tour, off-site at the Moshassuck Cemetery in the Blackstone Valley area of Rhode Island, will consider the lasting legacy of the strike as well as this moment of crisis.



Note: Participants will walk in Moshassuck Cemetery. Meet at the gate and start the tour under the shelter of one of the large trees near the entrance. There will be multiple rangers present to guide people to safe and courteous parking in the cemetery.

Please wear comfortable shoes and clothing, expect the usual natural elements (weather, bugs, uneven terrain), and note there are no facilities at the site.

Allison Horrocks is a park ranger at Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park. Allison earned her Ph.D. at the University of Connecticut in 2016 and has worked as a historian at a number of historic sites in New England. She has worked as a podcast

co-host and is the co-author of *Dolls of Our Lives: Why We Can't Quit American Girl*. Allison lives in Lincoln, RI.

Mark Mello is a park ranger at Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park. He has worked as a historian at a number of historic sites in New England.

Saunderstown Weaving School Tour

1 Session with Norma Smayda
Wed, Apr 22
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Max:12 Fee: \$15.00
Location: Saunderstown

In 1974 Norma Smayda established and continues to run the Saunderstown Weaving School, which houses about 45 floor looms of all kinds. Some are historic; two were built by Weaver Rose in the late 1890s, and others have been built by other notable weavers. The most modern is a computer-assisted loom. There will be weaving projects on looms, and finished pieces will be displayed.



A description of the entire process from designing a project through the many steps of warping a loom, weaving, and finishing will be covered. Elizabeth Hill, weaving assistant, will help with the guided tour.

Note: Participants must be able to walk among the floor looms and up one flight of stairs. Instructor recommends car-pooling. With careful parking there is enough room for 10 - 12 cars. There is also room for a few cars to the right of the shed.

Norma Smayda has a BS in Biochemistry from Bucknell University and an MFA from UMass Dartmouth. She owns and has taught at the Saunderstown Weaving School year-round for 50 years. A Common Thread was the fifth exhibit that the SWS weavers have had at Hera Gallery in Wakefield, celebrating their 50th anniversary. In addition, Norma had a solo exhibit and a two person show at Hera.

Note: All participants on tours or in classes that meet in a location other than OLLI (210 Flagg Rd.) are required to provide their own transportation to the location and will be required to fill out an Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability Form.

Carolina Hatchery Tour and Learn to Fish

1 Session with Kimberly Sullivan

Thu, Apr 23

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Max: 20 Fee: \$20.00

Location: Lafayette Trout Hatchery, North Kingstown, RI. To be held rain or shine



Rhode Island DEM's Division of Fish and Wildlife periodically stocks trout species into designated lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams across the state. Since 1928, Rhode Island has

acquired and managed several hatcheries specifically designed to raise trout for the benefit of anglers. This is an opportunity to learn about the different trout species raised and stocked in Rhode Island, their life history, how this industry has changed over the past 150 years, and how it contributes not only to angler enjoyment but also to freshwater habitat conservation.

Rhode Island's Migratory Fish

1 Session with Kimberly Sullivan

Thu, Apr 30

10:00 AM - 11:30 PM

Max: 20 Fee: \$15.00

Location: Gilbert Stuart Museum, Saunderstown, RI. To be held rain or shine.

Alewife and blueback herring, known in Rhode Island as "buckeyes," are the state's native river herring. These small, silvery herrings are anadromous, spending most of their lives in the ocean but migrating each spring into freshwater to spawn. Once abundant, river herring populations have suffered steep declines due to overfishing, predation, pollution, and the loss and fragmentation of habitat. Rhode Island continues to restore habitat by dam removals and fish passage improvements. We will be meeting at the Gilbert Stuart Museum in North Kingstown, the site of one of the first Alaskan steep pass fishways in Rhode Island, where herring have been monitored for more than 40 years. During our visit, you'll learn about the fishway, the life history of river herring, and their vital role in the ecosystem. You may even witness adult herring making their way upstream to their spawning grounds. We'll also explore the different types of fishways that have been constructed across the state to support these remarkable migrations.

Walking Through Time: 5000-Year History of the URI Campus

1 Session with Cathy DeCesare,

Rod Mather and Kris Bovy

Fri, May 1

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 25 Fee: \$15.00

Location: Meet at the front of the URI Welcome Center

The story of the land on which the university sits is long and complicated. However, this history is invisible to most members of the campus community. Ancestors of the Narragansett, the only federally recognized tribe in this area, lived and worked here for millennia. Archaeological work performed prior to the construction of the Ryan Center in the 1990s revealed a late 18th-century plantation and burial ground associated with the Niles family. More recently, an interdisciplinary and collaborative URI faculty initiative is working to broaden the insights into the history and archaeology of the URI Campus. Join us on a walking tour of URI campus to learn about the history of this land and university.



Note: Please wear comfortable shoes as the entire tour is on foot.

Cathy DeCesare, assistant professor in the Department of History, received her graduate degrees from Providence College and Fordham University. She began teaching at the University of Rhode Island in 2008 and previously worked as an academic advisor and coordinator at the URI Providence Feinstein Campus. Prior to her employment at the university, she was an archivist at Brown University and the Rhode Island Supreme Court Judicial Records Center. Her teaching and research interests intersect, and include Rhode Island history, legal, colonial, and applied history. She enjoys collaborating with students and colleagues on creative research projects that showcase and raise awareness about the relevance of history. She serves as co-director of the Applied History Lab.

Rod Mather is a professor of history and Director of Archaeology and Anthropology master's program.

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TOURS & TRIPS

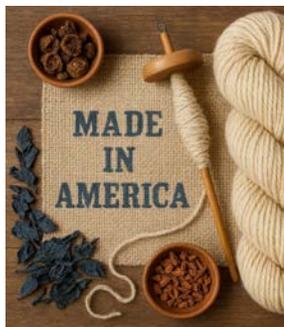
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Kris Bovy is a professor of anthropology and currently chair of the Sociology & Anthropology Department at URI. She has conducted archaeological analysis and fieldwork in a wide variety of settings throughout North America. Bovy teaches introductory and advanced undergraduate courses in archaeology and anthropology and works closely with faculty and students in the interdisciplinary underwater archaeology minor and history master's program. Bovy's research expertise is in Pacific Northwest Coast archaeology and the analysis of bird bones, with the goal of understanding past human and animal interactions in coastal settings. She has recently become interested in learning about, and raising awareness of, the long history of the URI campus.

Homespun as Resistance

1 Session with Linda Welters, Susan Jerome, and Rebecca Kelly
Sat, May 2
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Max: 26 Fee: \$15.00
Location: Quinn Hall, Room 314
Parking available at Welcome Center

To celebrate America's 250th anniversary, this class looks at the homespun movement prior to, during, and after the Revolutionary War. Before the war, colonists revered British style and imported most of their fabrics from Great Britain. But when the mother country increased taxation without representation, New Englanders protested by staging spinning parties. When fighting began, imports stopped altogether, and colonists were left to spin, weave, knit, finish, and dye their own home-made textiles. Homespun continued into the new Republic. This course traces the timeline of homespun's use, explains the steps in making homespun, and shows homespun artifacts from URI's Historic Collection.



Linda Welters is professor emerita of Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design at URI.

Susan Jerome is collections manager of the Historic Textile and Costume Collection at URI.

Rebecca Kelly is a part-time instructor at URI as well as director and curator of the South County Museum in Narragansett.

Forest Bathing Walk

1 Session with Mary Jane Sorrentino
Choose from 2 dates:
1 Tue, May 5 (rain date May 19)
2 Thu, May 7 (rain date May 21)

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Max: 15 Fee: \$15.00
Location: TBA

The term forest bathing comes from the Japanese Shinrin-yoku, "bathing or taking in the forest atmosphere." Now considered an important health and wellness practice in many countries, in Japan it is part of the national health program. Doctors write prescriptions for it, and scientists study its benefits. Our gentle walk will be slow, and silent except for the times we will gather to share. Forest bathing gives us a chance to quiet our minds while using our senses, helping us renew our relationship with nature.

Location for the walk, meeting place, and directions will be emailed to participants. We will walk in inclement weather but not in storms. While the trail will most likely be flat, there may be some areas where roots and rocks make it uneven. Please dress for the weather including hat/sturdy shoes and bring what you usually carry on a walk such as water/walking stick.

Mary Jane Sorrentino is a guide trained and certified by the Association of Nature & Forest Therapy Guides & Programs. Mostly retired from over 15 years of climate policy and advocacy, she enjoys guiding nature and forest therapy walks at a variety of beautiful locations. She earned an undergraduate degree from Fordham University and graduate degrees from George Washington University and Antioch University New England. She is a co-founder of the Rhode Island chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby and serves as a board member of the Merlyn Climate Grants and The Greene School, an environmental public charter high school. She serves as an advisor to the Climate Future Film Festival. You may contact Mary Jane at: forestbathingri@gmail.com.



Slater Mill Tour

1 Session with Allison Horrocks

Tue, May 5

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 50 Fee: \$15.00

Location: Slater Mill, Pawtucket, RI

Slater Mill is called the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution. During this tour, we'll discuss what happened within the four walls of this historic structure and the broader significance of the mill. How did children work machines to turn cotton into thread? What makes this place a special landmark in United States history?

Note: Free parking is available at 67 Roosevelt Ave., Pawtucket, RI. Participants will meet the ranger in front of the Slater Mill (a yellow wooden building). This building is next to the parking lot. The mill is fully accessible to individuals who experience mobility difficulty. However, the structure is an old textile mill. The floors are uneven in many places. Some may experience challenges navigating the mill in a wheelchair or while using a mobility device.

Allison Horrocks is a park ranger at Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park. Allison earned her Ph.D. at the University of Connecticut in 2016 and has worked as a historian at a number of historic sites in New England. She has worked as a podcast co-host and is the co-author of *Dolls of Our Lives: Why We Can't Quit American Girl*. Allison lives in Lincoln, RI.

Road to Independence: Revolutionary Newport

1 Session with Robert Muller

Tue, May 19

11:00 AM - 12:20 PM

Max: 18 \$30.00

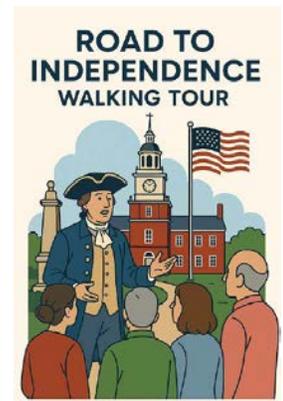
Location: Museum of Newport History at Brick Market.

Discover Newport's pivotal role in the American Revolution on a guided walking tour through the city's Historic Hill. Learn how local merchants, loyalists, and patriots shaped the path toward independence as we explore key sites tied to the war and its legacy.

Note: This is an 80-minute walking tour on sidewalks and streets in historic Newport, which can be uneven and may include cobblestones. Wear comfortable, sturdy footwear to navigate these areas safely.

Parking: Metered street parking is available around Washington Square and throughout downtown Newport. The Mary Street Parking Lot, which is a self-pay lot, is a short walk to the tour departure point. There is also a paid parking lot adjacent to the Museum of Newport History on Thames Street. Staff at the museum can validate parking in this lot for one hour. For details about other Newport parking lots, please check the website.

Robert Muller worked almost fifty years in the Public Finance business, most of which was spent at JP Morgan where he was head of municipal bond research for many years and served as the public finance sector strategist. He was a highly ranked investment research analyst and considered an expert in state and local government, health care, and infrastructure finance. He spoke regularly to both investors and debt issuing clients of the firm about how the Federal budget affected various sectors of the U.S. economy and the implication of deficits and debt. He holds a B.A. in history from Trinity College (CT) and an M.P.A. from New York University in public policy and urban economics.



TOURS & TRIPS

Peace Dale Museum and Village Tour

1 Session with Julie Wardwell and Mary Brown

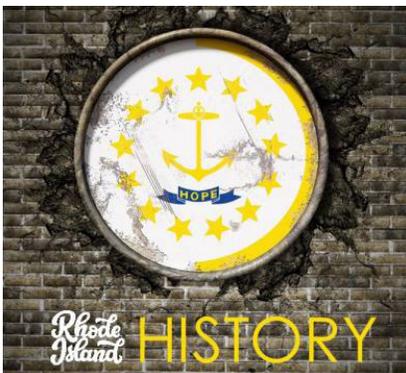
Wed, May 20

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Max: 15 Fee: \$15.00

Location: Wakefield, RI

Begin at the birthplace of the U.S. Industrial Recreation Movement (1856), now the Peace Dale Museum, in the mill village founded by Rowland Hazard I in the early 19th century. After a tour of the museum gallery featuring artifacts from all over the world, cross the road to the Peace Dale



Library to hear about the large bronze relief, "The Weaver," by Daniel Chester French (known for his seated "Abraham Lincoln" in the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC). The tour continues through the village of

Peace Dale where you will learn about its history and the many buildings and mills that were built by the Hazard family.

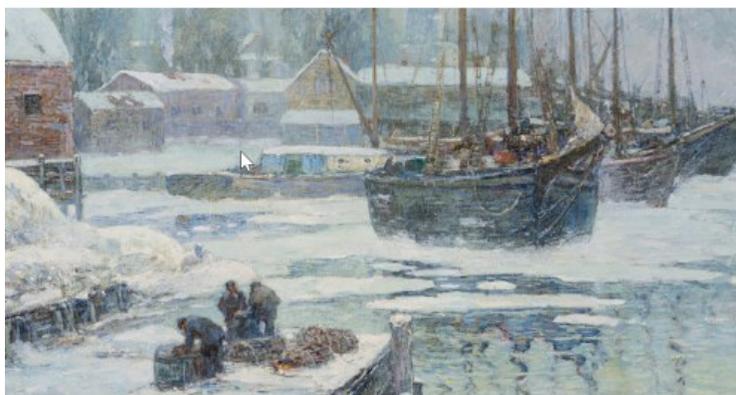
Note: The museum is located on the second floor of an old granite building. You must be able to climb 2 flights of steep stairs to view the collection and walk up to a mile on the outdoor tour.

Parking: There is a parking lot behind the building off Columbia Street. Also, limited spaces on the street. We encourage you to make a donation to the museum. Donations are sincerely and greatly appreciated, as they contribute to the continued success and impact of the Peace Dale Museum.

Julie Wardwell is a South Kingstown resident who is retired and currently the office administrator at the Peace Dale Museum of Art and Culture. She enjoys learning about the local history and giving the outdoor walking tours of the Peace Dale Village to people of all ages.

Mary Cocroft Brown is the children's educator and a board member of the Peace Dale Museum of Art and Culture. She enjoys sharing her knowledge of the museum's collection. She has an art background and appreciates the museum's diversity of artifacts.

Westerly
Museum of
American
Impressionism



Westerly Museum of American Impressionism

1 Session with Catherine Shotick

Thu, May 21

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

Max: 10 Fee: \$15.00

Location: Westerly, RI

Established by philanthropists and art collectors Cynthia and Thomas Sculco, the Westerly Museum of American Impressionism is dedicated to collecting, preserving, interpreting, and exhibiting works of American Impressionism from the 1880s–1920s. The museum's collection includes masterpieces by celebrated artists such as Childe Hassam, Jane Peterson, Lilla Cabot Perry, and John Singer Sargent, alongside paintings by lesser-known talents who merit greater recognition. We will take a docent-guided tour throughout the museum's galleries to learn about the museum, art collection, and the American Impressionism movement.

Catherine Shotick is the inaugural Director of the Westerly Museum of American Impressionism. Working alongside the museum's founders, Cynthia and Thomas Sculco, she has helped guide the museum from its early planning stages to its highly anticipated opening. Prior to this role, Catherine worked as a museum curator in Chicago and Oklahoma City. Passionate about connecting audiences with art, she is committed to fostering meaningful engagement with the museum's collection through dynamic exhibitions and community collaborations

The Charlestown Land Trust: Preserving and Protecting What You Love

1 Session with Kent Kreutler

Fri, May 22 (Rain date 5/29)

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 20 Fee: \$15.00

Location: Mill Pond Preserve, Charlestown

This course will be held on-site at Mill Pond Preserve, a Charlestown Land Trust (CLT)–protected property with public access and hiking trails. It will provide an introduction to the work of land trusts in general, and to the mission and activities of CLT. The Land Trust protects nearly 700 acres of ecological, historical, and scenic land of significance, increases protected acreage through acquisition projects, and stewards

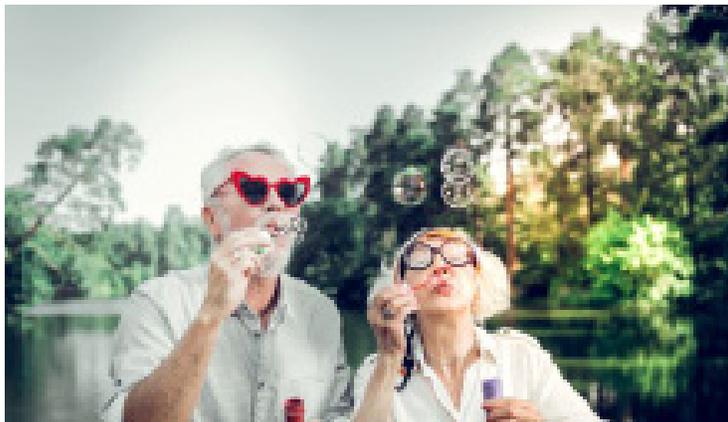
the properties it cares for through regular monitoring and habitat restoration. The course will conclude with a guided hike through Mill Pond Preserve.

Kent Kreutler has served on the Charlestown Land Trust's Board of Directors

since 2021 and is currently the Board Secretary and a member of the Stewardship Committee. A Charlestown resident since 2019, Kent's professional background includes work as a public school Science and Math teacher, project manager for energy efficiency programs with public utilities, and web developer and production manager at Brown University and Fidelity Investments.



HAVE SOME FUN... JOIN CREATIVITY AND PLAY



Meets the second Thursday of each month at 10:00 AM. Details of events and locations emailed to those who register. Register online: URI.EDU/OLLI or call 401.874.4197 Facilitator: Sandra Enos



Tour of URI's Medicinal Garden

1 Session with Elizabeth Leibovitz

Mon, Jun 1

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 20 Fee: \$15.00

Location: Heber W. Youngken, Jr. Medicinal Garden, URI Campus. Instructor will meet members in the OLLI lobby and walk to the garden together.

The Heber W. Youngken, Jr. Medicinal Garden connects the science of natural products to the art of healing. As a living classroom and research site, it bridges education, conservation, and community—celebrating the enduring relationship between nature and human health. The Garden serves as a vital resource for the College of Pharmacy, the University of Rhode Island, and the broader community. Join Elizabeth Leibovitz, the garden coordinator and The Friends of the Garden (FOG), our passionate garden volunteers, to learn about plants in the collection and opportunities to give back through volunteering with “The FOG.”

Elizabeth Leibovitz is the Medicinal Garden Coordinator at the Heber W. Youngken Jr. Medicinal Garden and Adjunct Instructor at the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy where she tends 300 different species of medicinal plants and shares her passion for the plant world by engaging students and visitors in the sensory experience of being in the garden and becoming acquainted with the sources of medicines and herbal remedies. She has a bachelor's degree in Sustainability and Environmental Studies with a minor in Spanish from Berea College.



Age-friendly
University
Global Network

THE AGE-FRIENDLY VISION FOR URI

The University of Rhode Island became a member of the Age-Friendly Global Network in 2018. The AFU effort has depended greatly on the contributions of many OLLI members, including those who serve on our work group, attend intergenerational classes, and participate in special projects and pro-grams. OLLI is a critically important part of what the AFU vision and mission represent at URI, and we look forward to continuing to work with OLLI members as we move forward to make URI more age-friendly!

Background

Every day in the US until the year 2028, 10,000 people will turn 65. By 2024, 20% of the US population will be 65+; and by 2034, older adults will outnumber children for the first time in US history. How should higher educational institutions respond to this demographic change and the challenges it creates? The Age Friendly University (AFU) movement was initiated in 2012 at Dublin City University in Ireland, inspired by a vision of how to make universities more globally responsive to the needs and interests of older adults. At present, over 45 universities in the US are members, and the mission is supported by the Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education. URI became an AFU in 2018, in the belief that higher educational institutions must be transformed in ways that recognize the unprecedented impacts of aging on all aspects of society.

AFUs are not just age-friendly, but they are aging-friendly. They embrace the educational needs of adults as they age through the life course, changing jobs and preparing for new careers and occupations. However, education is more than just getting the knowledge and skills necessary for the workplace. It also includes how one spends one's time and energy on other important life pursuits, such as family, health, leisure, civic engagement, and spirituality.

Current Projects and Activities

The AFU workgroup at URI is presently focusing on the following initiatives: (1) creating Intergenerational programs, such as Cyberseniors, and classes with both URI students and older adults, (2) increasing access by older adults to regular URI courses, (3) developing a retirement community on or near the URI campus that could also serve as the home for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), (4) creating a retired faculty and staff association, and (5) expanding research involving older adults, particularly with regard to health and wellbeing.

OLLI and the AFU Vision and Mission

The AFU effort has depended greatly on the contributions of many OLLI members, including those who serve on our work group, attend intergenerational classes, and participate in special projects and programs. OLLI is a critically important part of what the AFU vision and mission represent at URI, and we look forward to continuing to work with OLLI members as we move forward to make URI more age-friendly!

10 AFU PRINCIPLES

AFU institutions endorse ten principles that provide an ongoing evaluation of efforts to make the University an open and welcoming community for adults of all ages. The principles are not a set of absolute criteria that must be met; rather, they are a set of standards to identify gaps and opportunities for growth.

The ten principles are:

- (1) encourage participation of older adults in all core activities of the university,
- (2) promote personal and career development,
- (3) recognize the range of their educational needs,
- (4) promote intergenerational learning for reciprocal sharing of expertise,
- (5) widen access to online educational opportunities,
- (6) ensure the research agenda is informed by the needs of an aging society,
- (7) increase student understanding of the complexity and richness that aging brings to society,
- (8) enhance access to a range of health and wellness programs and arts and cultural activities,
- (9) engage actively with the university's own retired community, and
- (10) ensure dialogue with organizations representing interests of aging population.

OLLI *Special Interest Groups*

All Special Interest Groups are FREE with Your OLLI membership.
Registration is required. URI.EDU/OLLI

BIKING GROUP

PAUSED UNTIL SPRING 2026

Meets each week on Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00AM at OLLI. Meets in the back of the OLLI lot.

BOOK GROUP

Meets the third Friday of each month at 1:00PM at OLLI. Book selections are available on our website: URI.EDU/OLLI

Facilitator: Deb Kopech
debkopech@gmail.com

BOWLING GROUP

Interested in bowling? This group meets on Wednesdays at 12:30PM at Old Mountain Lanes in Wakefield.

Facilitator: Peter Stetson
petestetson8@gmail.com

COSMIC QUESTIONS

PAUSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Join us as we dive into the question, "Are we god's laboratory? Is life on Earth the only life in the universe?" Please note: This group will discuss only scientific facts—not religion or politics. Meets monthly on the third Thursday from 1:00PM-2:30PM

Facilitator: Krystyna Kasman
krystyna_kasman@cox.net

CREATIVITY AND PLAY

Meets the second Thursday of the month at 10:00AM to pursue fun, play and creativity. Details of events and locations emailed to those who register.

Facilitator: Sandra Enos
sandra.l.enos@gmail.com

CRIBBAGE GROUP

Meets on Wednesdays, at 2:00PM in the OLLI lobby. If you have a Cribbage board, please bring it with you.

Facilitator: Armand Monaco
amonaco@msn.com

CURRENT EVENTS DISCUSSION

This drop-in discussion group meets bi-weekly on Thursdays from 11:00AM-12:30PM in the first floor conference room.

Facilitator: Bob Bianchini
riok@cox.net

GAME ON

Love games? So do we! Whether you're a seasoned strategist or just curious about learning new card and board games, come join the fun on Tuesdays at 1:00PM

Facilitator: Sheryl Girard
sgirard614@gmail.com

HIKING GROUP

PAUSED UNTIL SPRING 2026

Hiking Group meets weekly on Wednesdays at 1PM. Improve your health; make new friends while exploring our South County area. Walks generally last 90 minutes. Register online and each week you will receive an email for the location.

Facilitators: Cindy Opaluch
cindyopaluch@gmail.com
Sara Nelson
saramay51@hotmail.com

MAH JONGG

Do you like to play Mah Jongg? Join this group on Thursdays at 1:00PM in the OLLI lobby.

Facilitator: Cobi Bush
bcobi@verizon.net

MOVIE GROUP

Join us on the second Thursday of the month at 3:00PM at OLLI to discuss the latest movies which are available in theaters or streaming. On occasion, we may view a film on site.

Facilitator: Marylen McKenna,
marylen7586@gmail.com

PHOTO FRIDAY

Join our Photo Friday Group! Each month you will be given a different prompt to photograph and submit. Photos will be shared and discussed during a monthly Zoom meeting. Meets the first Friday of each month at 10AM. Themes available on our website.

WRITERS GROUP

Meets the first Friday of each Month at 1PM via Zoom. Join us online and share your writings, listen and learn from others, and most importantly have a good time.

Facilitators: Susan Berman
susanb99@yahoo.com
Gale Eaton
egeaton@gmail.com



Join us as we travel the world! We are excited to be offering our members the opportunity to travel together. We are working with Collette Tours to provide travel opportunities for our members.

Our trips are built on the conversations started in courses, lectures and special interest groups, giving members the chance to bring their classroom experiences to life in places around the world.

Plan ahead and follow your dreams!



There's still time to register for these 2026 trips

- Discover America's Cowboy Country (Sep 8-15)
- Discover Croatia and Adriatic Coast (Oct 10-21)
- Nashville & the Smoky Mountains (Nov 28-Dec 5)

2027 Trips to look forward to:

- February - Hawaii
- April - Portugal
- June - Scotland
- August - Norway
- September - Colorado Rockies
- October - Northern Italy

thank you Volunteers!

OLLI continues to be a strong organization due in part to members serving on various committees providing leadership in partnership with the staff. Looking ahead to this academic year it is time to recruit new members to serve. If you are interested in serving on one of our committees, join us for one of our informational meetings. Contact Beth Leconte, Executive Director at 401-874-2405, bleconte@uri.edu.

Volunteer Informational Meetings

Join us at OLLI on
Thursday, April 2, at 10:00AM or Friday, April 3, 1:00PM

OLLI ADVISORY COUNCIL

Joe Gallichio, CHAIR
Phil Clark
Joan DeFinis
Sandra Enos
Beth Flanagan
Joanne Gemma
Debbe Hayes
CJ Menard
Louise Paquin

OLLI CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Bill Cole
Mary Cole
Ron Curtin
Robin Devin
Kathleen Gallichio
Linda Gatewood
Paula Grey
Karen Montgomery
Louise Pelletier

OLLI FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jayne Ogren, CHAIR
Mark Brady
Ann Dantzig
David Favre
Steve Perry
John Schibler

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Carole Duffy CHAIR
Dyann Boudreau
Sherry Curran
Joan Nippo
Patricia Rye
Mary Sylvia
Linda Trimble
Andrea Wilson
Judi Zarella

OLLI PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Gale Eaton, CHAIR
Brenda Bibb
Emilia Gonzales-Torpey
Marie Lupino
Bob Muller
Mary Ellen O'Keefe
Lori Pivarnik
Jessica Wilson

CATALOG EDITORS

Paula Grey
Pat LaRose
Louise Pelletier
Marie Schwartz

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Jean Anderson
Joan Austin
Cobi Bush
Deb Cole
Marion Frieberg
Harriet Johnson
Sally Levesque
Marie Lupino
Susan McMullen
Debbie Murphy
Marge Nozzi
Cindy Pacheco
Lorraine Rappoport
Nicole Spaulding
Eileen Stratton
Jane Trehay
Andrea Wilson

SIGS FACILITATORS

Susan Berman, Writers Group
Bob Bianchini, Current Events
Brenda Bibb, Rhody Ramblers
Cobi Bush, Mah Jongg
Gale Eaton, Writers Group
Sandra Enos, Creativity and Play
Jim Findley, Great Decisions
Sheryl Girard, Game On!
Marion Goldsmith, Rhody Ramblers
Emilia Gonzalez Torpey, Great Decisions
Krystyna Kasman, Cosmic Questions
Deb Kopech, Book Group
Marylen McKenna, Movie Group
Armand Monaco, Cribbage
Sara Nelson, Hiking Group
Liz O'Brien, Biking Group
Cindy Opaluch, Hiking Group
Peter Stetson, Bowling Group

“
As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands – one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.”

– Audrey Hepburn

LET'S PLAY MAH JONGG

MEETS THURSDAYS AT 1:00PM IN THE LOBBY

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE



Facilitator: Cobi Bush

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE



PET DRIVE

For the month of April OLLI will celebrate National Pet Day by collecting donations for Animal Rescue, RI

- PURINA ONE PET FOOD
- CANNED OR DRY DOG OR CAT FOOD
- CAT OR DOG TREATS
- PEANUT BUTTER
- CAT LITTER (NO CLUMPING)
- MARROW BONES
- CAT OR DOG TOYS
- CANNED PUMPKIN
- BLEACH



Drop off donations in the OLLI Lobby.

BOOK CLUB

Meets the third Friday of each month at 1:00PM in the downstairs conference room.

[Register online](#) or call 401-874-4197.

Facilitator: Deb Kopech

March 20

Careless People by Sarah Wynn-Williams

April 17

The Lioness of Boston by Emily Franklin

May 15

The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid by Bill Bryson

June 12

The Emperor of Gladness by Ocean Vuong

TRIVIA NIGHT

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Join your OLLI friends, form the best team, and conquer all categories in Trivia Contest! Food and Beverage available for purchase.

Tuesday, April 22, 2026

7:00PM ARRIVE BY 6:30pm

EVIE'S
224 Post Road, Westerly

Register online: www.uri.edu/olli

OLLI MAIL-IN REGISTRATION - SPRING 2026

Monday

- Beginning Italian and Conversation: La Bella Lingua & Dolce Vita \$65
- Cancer Essentials: Understanding and Navigating the Cancer Journey \$35
- In This Moment: Mindfulness Meditation \$55
- Island Countries of the Caribbean \$40
- Journey Through the Camino de Santiago: History, Regions, and Practical Tips from a Seasoned Pilgrim \$40
- Meet the Players, Rhode Island's Revolutionary Leaders \$15
- Overcoming Adversity with Resilience, A Brain Injury Survivor's Story \$15
- Portraits in Charcoal and Conte Crayon \$45
- Square Foot Gardening: Taking It to the Next Level \$55
- Walking Rhode Island: Spring Hikes \$15
- World War II in the Pacific: An 80-Year Retrospective \$40

Tuesday

- Barns and Animal Pounds of R.I. - A Vanishing Landscape \$15
- Blood Diamonds: The Search for an Ethical Alternative \$45
- Colonial Kings Towne, Rhode Island \$35
- Free Money! Fundamentals of Grant Writing \$15
- Historic Plagues and Epidemics \$50
- Introduction to Drone Photography \$15
- Let Writing Lead to Wellbeing \$55
- Let's Juggle - for Beginners and Beyond \$55
- Of Earth and Sky: An Introduction to Astronomy \$45
- Save Rhode Island's Forests \$15
- Stephen Hopkins, Signer of the U.S. Declaration of Independence \$15
- The Constitution as Applied: Further Exploration \$55
- The FBI's War on Terror: Prevention or Provocation? \$45
- Writing, Illustrating and Self-Publishing A Children's Picture Book \$15

Wednesday

- Aliens, Cryogenics and Cosmic Catastrophes! \$15
- Cinema Classics: The Best of Foreign Films: Part 2 \$65
- Empowered Living: Planning Ahead with Dignity \$35
- Gentle Beacons and Their Keepers: A Look at Light house History \$15
- Ida Lewis: The Legendary Lady Lightkeeper of Lime Rock \$15
- Kinetic Knowledge: Let's Capture and Appreciate the Extraordinary Power of Dance \$15

- Praised but Controversial: John Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men \$50
- Russian Classical Music: 1850-1950 \$45
- The Cultural Diversity of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire \$15
- The Great Gatsby: A Revisitation \$40
- The Migration Photographers: From Ellis Island to ICE \$40
- The Prospects for Extraterrestrial Life in Our Solar System and Galaxy \$15
- Women of the Revolution \$40

Thursday

- Economic Geology in Rhode Island \$15
- Explore Watercolor I (Beginner) \$50
- Explore Watercolor II (Advanced) \$50
- James Baldwin & Toni Morrison: Banned at West Point \$50
- Let's Skate! \$60
- Painting Set Free: The Work and World of J.M.W. Turner \$15
- The Six Wives of Henry VIII \$45
- The Watershed Model and Brookie the Brook Trout \$15
- Time Travel, Quantum Mechanics and the Future of Artificial Intelligence \$15
- Understanding Climate Change \$55
- Understanding Ultraprocessed Foods and Cardiometabolic Risk \$15
- Your Soil and Amendments to Improve It \$15

Friday

- Fabulous Fibonacci \$15
- Favorite Children's Chapter Books: Then and Now \$15
- Meditation: An Old Practice for Renewed Wellness \$55
- One Hit Wonders of the Music World \$45
- Qi Gong \$70
- Qi Gong - Deeping Practice \$70
- Qi Gong - Tian Gan \$70
- Take a Breath \$45
- The History and Evolution of Evidence-Based Medicine \$15
- The Legends of Country/Western Music- PART 1 of 3 \$55
- The Role of Food in the Rising Rates of Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases \$15
- The UFO Chronicles: Personal Stories Involving UFO's \$15

OLLI MAIL-IN REGISTRATION - SPRING 2026

Osher Online (All classes 6 weeks and \$55)

- A Beautiful Brain
- A History of Street Art
- AI for Regular People
- Frank Lloyd Wright and Modern Architecture
- From Leo XIII to Leo XIV: History of the 20th and 21st Century Popes
- JFK's Quest for Peace: Lessons for Turbulent Times
- Music: Controversies and Curiosities
- Place, Memory, and Environmental Psychology
- Siberia: Russia's Frozen Wasteland or Economic Heartland?
- Violinists: Performers and Composers

Zoom

- Modern Irish Authors: A Remarkable Abundance \$45
- Shorts Stories from England II \$55
- Voting: Why is it so Difficult? \$50

Tours & Trips

- A Walk in a Cemetery Conjures Stories from Saylesville \$40
- Walking Through Time: 5000-Year History of the URI Campus \$15
- Carolina Hatchery Tour and Learn to Fish \$20
- Forest Bathing Walk 5/5 \$15
- Forest Bathing Walk 5/7 \$15
- Homespun as Resistance \$15
- Peace Dale Museum and Village Tour \$15
- Road to Independence: Revolutionary Newport \$30
- Saunderstown Weaving School Tour \$15
- Slater Mill Tour \$15
- The Charlestown Land Trust: Preserving and Protecting What You Love \$15
- Tour of URI's Medicinal Garden \$15
- Westerly Museum of American Impressionism \$15

Learn Here/Explore There

- Forest and Shrub Identification: Around Campus \$60
- Geocaching: Finding Hidden Treasures \$40
- "Clouds Hill" House and Far - Portal to the Past \$35
- Historic Cemeteries: Preservation in Practice \$40
- How Food Banks Work: A Look Inside Hunger Relief in Rhode Island \$35
- The Perry Grist Mill: History in Action \$35
- "Wicked Big Puddles": A Naturalist Explores Vernal Pools \$35

Secret Gardens & Storied Homes - Litchfield CT

- Full Day Trip \$200

Lunch and Learn

- Integrating Social Security into Your Retirement Planning ~ Free

Great Decisions (Free - Registration Required)

U.S. China Relations

- Thu, Apr 16, 3:00 PM
- Fri, Apr 17, 10:00 AM

Today's Nuclear Age

- Thu, May 21, 3:00 PM
- Thu, May 22, 10:00 AM

Rhody Ramblers (Free - Registration Required)

- Trustom Pond, Thur Apr 16
- Queen's River Preserve, Thu, May 21

Special Interest Groups

- Biking
- Book
- Bowling
- Cribbage
- Creativity and Play
- Cosmic Questions
- Current Events
- Game On!
- Hiking
- Photo Friday
- Mah Jong
- Movie
- Writers

SPRING 2026 REGISTRATION

For mail-in registrations we only accept payments by check.

Name: _____

Total # Classes _____

Class Total \$_____

Renewal Fee (if due) \$_____

Credits to Apply \$_____

Total Due \$_____

If you think you may have credits to apply, please call the office to confirm before writing your check.

Payment Method:

Check (Payable to URI) # _____

If you are paying by credit card, please call the office at 401-874-4197 or register online URIOLLI.AUGU-SOFT.NET

OFFICE USE:

Date Rcv: _____

Date Processed: _____

Initials: _____

MEMBERSHIP:

CURRENT NEW RENEWAL

RENEWAL DATE : _____





OLLI AT URI MEMBERSHIP FORM

210 FLAGG ROAD, ROOM 212, KINGSTON, RI 02881

401-874-4197 OLLI@URI.EDU

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION (Please use one form per person)

NEW MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE: _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Seasonal Address _____ Begin Date _____ End Date _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Secondary Phone _____

Year of Birth _____ Email _____

Emergency Contact _____ Relation: _____ Phone _____

MEMBER PROFILE

The following information is used to help us better understand our OLLI Membership as a community and to better serve you. This information is optional and confidential.

URI Alumni : No Yes Year _____ Gender : Male Female

Highest Level of Education: High School Some College Associates Degree /Certification

Bachelor's Degree Master's Degree Doctorate

Employment Status: Retired Work Full-Time Work Part-Time Not Currently Employed

Current/Former Occupation: _____

Referral: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

Annual Membership Fee: \$65
(non-refundable)

Payment Method:
For Mail-in Registrations, we only accept checks

Check (Payable to URI)

If you are paying by credit card, please
call the office at 401-874-4197 or reg-
ister online:

PLEASE CHECK THAT YOU AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING POLICIES:

Refund Policy (see below)

Photos taken during OLLI events or programs can be used in promotion material for OLLI at URI.

OLLI and URI will not be held liable for members or guests for any damage or personal injury.

REFUND POLICY

Memberships are non-refundable.

To withdraw from a class and receive a full refund or credit, you must notify the OLLI office at least two weeks before the start of the class. Call the office at 401-874-4197 or email olli@uri.edu.

No- shows forfeit their course fees

Day trips and special tours are prepaid so there are **no refunds** for cancellation or withdrawal.

Classes that do not meet minimum student registration numbers are subject to cancellation

NEED TECH HELP?

Connecting Generations

Cyber-Seniors



Have a quick tech question?

You can register for a tech drop-in Zoom session with Cyber Seniors.* The session is online on Thursdays at 2:00PM. Bring your questions and their volunteers will do their best to answer them. If they think it requires more time they will help you book a one-on-one call. NOTE: one registration for all sessions. Once registered, you can join each Thursday using the same Zoom invitation email. Scan the QR Code to register.

*This is through the CyberSeniors.org not OLLI.

☎ [1-844-217-3057](tel:1-844-217-3057)



Scan QR Code to Register

TAKE A HIKE DAY



Facilitators: Cindy Opaluch & Sara Nelson

MEETS WEEKLY ON WEDNESDAYS @ 1:00PM THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

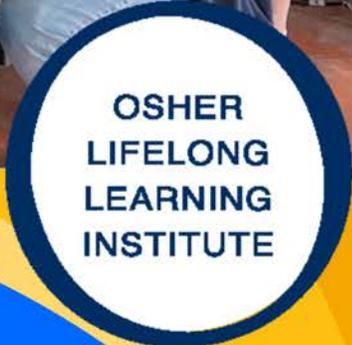
CURRENT EVENTS



The current events group meets every other Thursday at 11:00AM in the downstairs conference room.

Facilitator: Bob Bianchini

[Register online](#) or call 401-874-4197.



MAKE A GIFT TO OLLI

At OLLI, we believe learning isn't a phase it's a way of life. Your donation helps us keep the joy of learning alive and well, not just for today's members but for tomorrow's curious minds too! Every gift - big or small - makes a big impact. And, it's tax-deductible.



 401-874-4197

 OLLI@URI.EDU

 URI.EDU/OLLI



MEET OUR INTERNS

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND



Emily Santulli

My name is Emily Santulli, I am from Cranford, NJ and a senior here at URI. I am majoring in Human Development and Family Science with a minor in Gerontology. This May I will be graduating and afterwards hope to pursue a Masters in Social Work back home. In the future, I aspire to be a healthcare social worker in either hospice care or assisted living. I am very excited to spend the spring semester at OLLI!

Chelsea Tay

My name is Chelsea Tay and I am from Providence, RI. I am currently a senior double majoring in Biological Sciences and HDF with a concentration in Health and Aging on a pre-med track. My goal after graduation is to join the Air Force and apply to medical school to become an orthopedic surgeon.

I am very excited for this semester and to get to know everyone!



Adrian Ransom

My name is Adrian Ransom. I am a senior at URI double majoring in Psychology and Human Development and Family Science. I am planning to attend graduate school in Fall 2026 for Social Work or Clinical Mental Health Counseling, with my goal being becoming a therapist for individuals navigating mental health challenges.





OLLI MEMBER BENEFIT

URI Campus Recreation offers OLLI members a special discount to access the Mackal Field House facilities!

A special day pass rate of \$5 (regularly \$10) is available to OLLI members. This access includes use of the track, cardio room, weight room, and even the basketball courts. It's a great place to stay active or go for a walk on cold winter days.

To utilize this benefit and receive the discount, OLLI Members must request an OLLI membership card from the OLLI office. The card must be presented each time you visit the Mackal Field House. Limited parking with your OLLI parking pass is available near the field house.

Stay warm & stay fit by taking advantage of this OLLI benefit!

**STOP IN THE OFFICE
TO GET YOUR CARD TODAY!**





HANDICAPPED PARKING IS AVAILABLE OFF



WEST ALUMNI AVENUE

Drive past the Ryan Center (on your right) and turn left right before Brookside dorm.

PARKING INFORMATION: Parking is FREE for OLLI Members, but registration is required.

You only need to register your vehicle once during the academic year (August-July).

Parking permits are virtual and no stickers are provided.

If you do not register your vehicle, you risk a \$50 ticket. Only one vehicle per member may be registered. If you bring a different vehicle to campus or your license plate number changes, you will need to log into your parking account and update the vehicle information prior to parking your car. Call the office for assistance at 401-874-4197.