



REGISTER FOR CLASSES OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

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# COURSE Spotlight

## Creating a Local Mystery Series

Monday, January 25, at 4pm  
Instructor: Claremary Sweeney

What makes a book series interesting enough to make a reader become a fan? Is it endearing characters? Familiar settings? Thought-provoking themes? Well-planned plots? These are some of the questions Claremary Sweeney, author of The South County Mystery Series, will answer along with specifics about how she makes sure each installment of her own series won't be DOA.



Need to learn the basics of Webex? Join us for a Coffee Chat! We'll talk about muting and unmuting, turning video on and off and options for viewing presentations and lectures. We'll also talk about some basic etiquette of online learning and catch up with each other! Get your coffee and join us for some chatting and learning about Webex.

- Monday Jan 25, at 11:30am
- Thursday, Jan 28, at 10 am

Click below to join the meeting.

[https://rhody.webex.com/meet/olli\\_bleconteuri.edu](https://rhody.webex.com/meet/olli_bleconteuri.edu)

## NEW BROWN BAG POETRY GROUP!

It's a new (uncertain) year. Let's come together to record/rue/remember/rejoice our yesterdays and tomorrows with poetry. Join us on Zoom the last Tuesday of each month from 11:30-1:00 for a lunchtime informal reading and discussion of new original poems we write. Prompts (two each month) will come straight from the lines of a rich variety of well-known poets, both past and contemporary. Our inaugural meeting is planned for Tuesday, January 26, and the initial prompts to open up your creative veins are Pete Seeger, "Where have all the flowers gone?" and Emily Dickinson, "Tell all the truth, but tell it slant."

Subsequent monthly prompts will be chosen at the end of each zoom session and included in the OLLI newsletter to entice others to join in. Those planning to participate in a given month should email their poems (WordDoc or PDF) by 6:00pm the Sunday night before to Coordinator Judy Gamble (Jgamble139@gmail.com) who will send copies to all participants so everyone has a chance to read the poems before the meeting. Links to the zoom meeting will be sent out Tuesday morning.

NO PREVIOUS POETRY WRITING EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

This SIG is all about opening up new ways to communicate with the world. Join us on **Tuesday, January 26, from 11:30-1:00pm.**



# CONNECTIONS & Conversations

Join us for an open discussion with other OLLI members and friends with whom you have something in common. This is a wonderful time to stay connected, see OLLI friends you haven't seen in a while, share memories, interests, and thoughts on the changes through the years. There is no need to pre-register. Simply click on the link and join the meeting. Let's begin the New Year in the company of friends!

### Calling all URI Alum

Join us Friday, February 5, at 1pm  
Facilitated by Beth Leconte, OLLI Director and fellow Alums

Share your stories and reminisce about your time on the URI campus. Share your major and the journey you have been on since graduation. Have a few laughs and share funny, and memorable stories, and discuss the changes that have taken place since you were a URI student. Connect with friends and new URI Alums who are members of OLLI.



Click here to join the meeting: [https://rhody.webex.com/meet/olli\\_bleconteuri.edu](https://rhody.webex.com/meet/olli_bleconteuri.edu)

## MAKE A GIFT TO OLLI

To make a secure donation on-line, [CLICK HERE.](#)



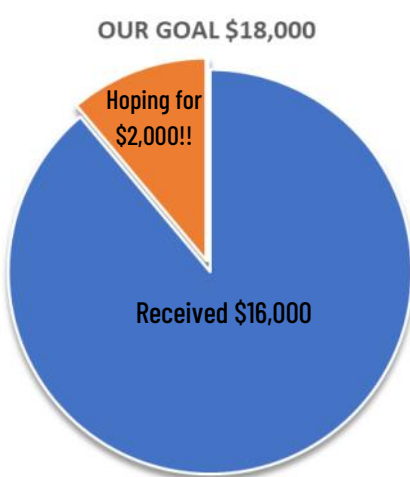
This year has been a challenge for all, but we are all working to keep our OLLI family connected through our online classes and special interest groups. We may not be in our classrooms, but we have been connecting through our virtual classrooms. Our OLLI member committees along with our OLLI

faculty remain committed to providing a full array of program offerings. We are forever grateful for their dedication.

Our hope is to keep everyone healthy and engaged in lifelong learning opportunities.

Please join your OLLI friends and consider making your gift today. Gifts of all amounts come together to support and enrich all of us in the OLLI Community.

You can make a secure donation online or mail a check made payable to URI Foundation. Mail to OLLI at URI, 210 Flagg Rd, Kingston, RI 02881



## AUTHOR'S CORNER

This week's OLLI Author is instructor and member, Kara Marziali.

If you'd like to share a book or project you've created, send the details to [OLLI@etal.uri.edu](mailto:OLLI@etal.uri.edu).



"I always have stories in my head, so I write a lot---creative writing, poetry, journaling and even once working as a columnist for a local paper. But this is my first published book. The idea for this story had been percolating for a while. Over the past two years, more emotions began to surface for me personally, and I realized how ill-equipped I used to be at processing my feelings. I reflected on my mom who lovingly and patiently helped me with my 'kaleidoscope of feelings.' Today, I pause and breathe and I wait for an inspired thought. When the book was accepted for publication, I realized how pertinent this message is for kids in our current environment, especially with the pandemic and political unrest we've all experienced. For anyone thinking of writing, my suggestion is 'go for it.' Writing is a gift you give to yourself and others. I feel incredibly blessed to have had this opportunity unfold for me, and I hope 'Kara Koala' can offer comfort to many youngsters."

You can find Kara's book on Amazon.



**OLLI Office Hours:**  
Mon –Thurs: 9am – 3pm  
Fridays: 9am-12noon  
Phone: 401-874-4197  
Email: [Olli@etal.uri.edu](mailto:Olli@etal.uri.edu)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT WEEK?

There's still time to register for these classes starting next week! Log on to your OLLI account: [uriolli.augusoft.net/](http://uriolli.augusoft.net/)

### Monday:

- 10am- Writing a Legacy Letter **FULL**
- 1pm- Italian I
- 4pm Creating a Local Mystery Series

### Tuesday:

- 9:30am Why Didn't the South Win the Civil War?

### Thursday:

- 1:00pm—The New 7 Wonders of the World- Machu Picchu, Chichén Itzá



### NEW OLLI Members

All members are welcome, no matter whether you joined the OLLI family years ago or only recently.

Join us on Thursday, January 28, at 11:30am for a Virtual

### MEMBER ORIENTATION

Become acquainted with other OLLI members and discover the value-added programs and activities of your membership. Share your interests and talents and together we will create new OLLI opportunities. OLLI is member centered and member led, making your involvement so important in meeting your lifelong learning aspirations. Click here when it's time to join the meeting:

[https://rhody.webex.com/meet/roberta\\_palmeruri.edu](https://rhody.webex.com/meet/roberta_palmeruri.edu)

## CONTEST

Find the **MYSTERY** somewhere on our website ([uri.edu/olli/](http://uri.edu/olli/))!

The first 6 members to email us and give us the title of the page it's on will receive a free pass to attend Monday's class, **CREATING A MYSTERY SERIES**, with local author [Claremary Sweeney](#). Don't wait.....the contest ends on Sunday night.



## teach for OLLI

We are now accepting course proposals for summer. You can fill out a course proposal by [clicking here](#). Visit our website for more information and if you have any questions, please give us a call at 874-4197. Please share this info with someone you think might want to teach for OLLI. Remember, you can teach virtually from anywhere!

## PHOTO FRIDAY GROUP



The next meeting will be February 5, from 10 to 11:30am and the theme is **DIAGONALS**.

If you would like to participate, [Click here](#) to add your photos to our group. The link to the zoom meeting is: <https://uri.edu.zoom.us/j/96686541298>

You can submit your photos (limit to 3 current photos please) anytime during the month. If you have any questions, please email [olli@etal.uri.edu](mailto:olli@etal.uri.edu) or call 874-4197.

Check out the video of the Photo Group theme of **HANDS**.



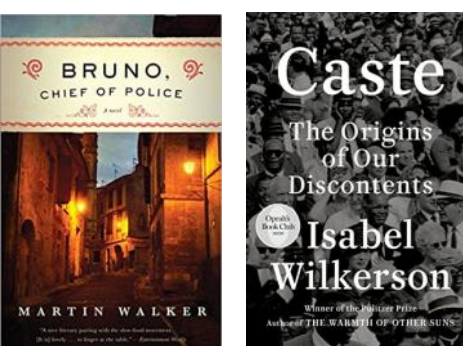
Photo by [RetroSupply](#) on [Unsplash](#)

The **Writing Group** meets on the first Friday, of each month at 1pm. Come share your writings, listen and learn from others, and most importantly have a good time.

Email Susan Berman ([susanb99@yahoo.com](mailto:susanb99@yahoo.com)) for more information. Join the meeting by [clicking here](#). The next meeting is **Friday, February 5, at 1pm**

## BOOK GROUP

February and March books have been selected! Join us via Webex



### Friday, February 19, at 1pm

Bruno, Chief of Police: A Novel of the French Countryside by Martin Walker

### Friday March 19, at 1pm

Caste, The Origins of our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson

Advance registration is **not** required.

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## 3RD ANNUAL SPEAK PEACE SYMPOSIUM

FEBRUARY 6TH, 2021 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### OUR ESTEEMED SPEAKERS



### PANELISTS

VIRGINIA ALBERT  
LONNIE BRAXTON II  
CURTIS HAYES JR.  
T. RAMSBY



CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS AND REGISTRATION

**STUTTERING AND AGING SURVEY** The University of South Florida Stuttering Research Lab is investigating experience with aging in people who stutter. We are seeking adults who stutter, age 50 years and older, to complete a 'Stuttering and Aging Survey.' Results will help us understand and improve health-related quality of life in aging adults who stutter. Eligible participants can access the survey at the link below:

[https://usf.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3WPkPJF4NlbzOwR](https://usf.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3WPkPJF4NlbzOwR)