





OLLI @ WVU Because Curiosity Never Retires!

Winter 2019 Charleston Course Catalog www.olliatwvu.org

About OLLI at WVU

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at West Virginia University, known as OLLI at WVU, provides programs and educational opportunities designed for adults 50 and over.

OLLI at WVU, a membership organization affiliated with the School of Public Health, recognizes the unique experiences, capabilities, and wisdom of mature members of the community. OLLI at WVU emphasizes the sharing of ideas through peer learning, member participation, and collaborative leadership.

During four terms each year, OLLI at WVU offers courses, lectures, seminars, and field trips in such areas as music, literature, art, science, politics, nature, history, health, medicine, and economics. Live drama, movies, and interest groups add to the choices.

Courses are developed and taught by volunteers from the community who are passionate about their topics, avocations, and interests and who love to share their ideas.

Free from the pressures of tests and grades, OLLI members are learning simply for the joy of it.

Supporters

OLLI at WVU continues to grow as an organization with the unwavering commitment and generosity of our patrons and supporters. We acknowledge and thank the following:

- The Bernard Osher Foundation
- West Virginia University, President's Office
- WVU Foundation
- ♦ WVU School of Public Health (SPH)
- Hansford Center
- South Charleston Library
- Kanawha County WVU Extention
- OLLI Board Members, Committee Members, and Volunteers
- OLLI \$100K Club
- Our Distinguished Instructors
- OLLI Members

The Bernard Osher Foundation

The Bernard Osher Foundation seeks to improve quality of life through the support of lifelong learning institutes such as OLLI at WVU. The Foundation was founded in 1977 by Bernard Osher, a respected businessman and community leader. The Foundation has now funded 120 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes on campuses of colleges and universities from Maine to Hawaii. Funding for OLLI is contingent upon membership growth goals, so **membership matters**. To learn more about The Bernard Osher Foundation, please visit their website at <u>www.osherfoundation.org</u>.

OLLI Board of Directors (2018-19)

Linda Jacknowitz, President Ed Johnson, Vice President Earl Melby, Secretary George Trapp, Treasurer Sarah Woodrum, SPH Rep. **Carolyn Atkinson** Stan Cohen Gwen Gill Kay Goodwin Kathy Hanko **Beverly Kerr** Karen Long **Judy Morris** Sumitra Reddy Tom Rogers Gwen Rosenbluth

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From Our Board President



We were in rural Baker NV, just outside Great Basin National Park, when we heard the news—another mass shooting. This time a gunman shouted anti-Semitic words as he murdered and maimed worshippers attending Shabbat morning services at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood. I was shocked.

I knew that in recent years the Southern Poverty Leadership

Conference and other credible organizations reported increases in hate crimes, including anti-Semitic incidents. But while those statistics worried me, they remained abstract numbers until the morning of October 27th. All of a sudden, the numbers became very personal. Immediately I emailed my friend, a Pittsburgh Tree of Life regular, to check on her well-being. She responded quickly; she was fine, but shaken up. She explained that while a previous commitment kept her from Tree of Life that morning she was there the prior evening for services. She knew several of the wounded and dead.

Thankfully, only a few times in my life have I personally been the target of anti-Semitism, but the shadow of the Holocaust hovers over my life. I first learned about the Holocaust as a six year old; I overheard my Great Uncle, Leibel, describe to my parents how his first family, a young wife and two infant daughters were murdered in a concentration camp. Several of my junior high school friends' parents were Holocaust survivors. Susan's mother was a victim of Dr. Mengele's infamous experiments; she lost the ability to speak normally and had recurring bouts of deep depression. Miriam's mother, also a concentration camp survivor, saw her sister hanged before her eyes. As a result, she followed Miriam everywhere. When Miriam came to my house to work on a school project, her mother sat on the porch, in all kinds of weather standing guard, refusing to come inside, until Miriam was ready to leave. I learned not to stare at the numbers tattooed on the arms of my parent's friends. I grew up proud of my religious heritage, but also knew I was lucky. If my grandparents had not had the courage to leave Europe before Hitler came to power my fate would likely have been very different, all because I was born Jewish.

So why am I sharing this with you? Because I believe OLLI's mission to lifelong learning is about more than taking classes to stimulate our intellects; it is also about creating a welcoming community. To quote Steve Thaxton, Executive Director of the National Resource Center for OLLI,

Strong communities often transform the lives of members. They encourage. They support. They unite. They bring purpose. They improve places and people's lives... celebrate the communities you form through your Osher Institutes. Be thankful for one another and the opportunities you share with one another.

Hate is toxic. Its only antidotes are tolerance and love. Understanding and respect create the environment to allow tolerance and love to grow. Yes, I was terribly sickened by the poisonous events of that Shabbat morning in Pittsburgh, but I am healing because of the outpouring of support and comfort from the many, a number of who are OLLI friends, who reached out to me and Art and to the American Jewish community at large to support and comfort us: the Pittsburgh Muslim community that raised over \$200,000 for the grieving families; local citizens of different faiths who came to Morgantown's own Tree of Life Congregation to worship with us; those who sent cards and emails expressing their grief and love; people who took the time to give me a special hug; and friends who bought us "Pittsburgh Strong" tee shirts. Their caring actions are a healing balm. But I am no Pollyanna. These continue to be very dark times. However when despair overtakes me I will remember the light cast by good people and find hope anew.

Linda Jacknowitz

From Our Director

In late October, I had the pleasure of travelling to Scottsdale, AZ, to attend the national Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Conference. Hosted by the Bernard Osher Foundation and the OLLI National Resource Center, the conference is held every 18 months and is a wonderful opportunity for staff and volunteers from the 122 institutes nationwide to come together for two days of discussion, sharing, learning, and networking.

In addition to hearing engaging keynote and plenary speakers, conference participants also chose three out of 14 breakout sessions to attend, covering a range of topics of interest to lifelong learners and managers of such programs. Over meals and breaks, we greeted old friends, met new friends, shared what we had learned in sessions, and brainstormed new ideas. I met with staff from OLLIs in Pennsylvania to discuss possible future collaborations.

The OLLI National Conference is time well-spent. I always come back inspired and refreshed, excited about what we're doing and what we can do. I also have a renewed appreciation for our program and the support that we receive from our members, the community, and WVU. I look forward to seeing you in class this winter!

Jascenna Haislet

OLLI Membership

Membership is open to curious adults interested in programming designed specifically for those 50 and over who want to engage socially and intellectually.

The Benefits of OLLI Membership

- The opportunity to learn and to meet new friends.
- Quarterly OLLI Connections newsletter and weekly email bulletin.
- A voice in OLLI governance and invitation to the OLLI Annual Meeting.
- The right to run for the OLLI Board or serve on a committee.
- The right to be added to a course wait list.
- Financial assistance for registration fees.

Fall membership is just \$25 for unlimited classes during the term.

How to Register

Individuals may purchase or renew a membership and register for classes in any of the following ways:

- Online at <u>www.olliatwvu.org</u> using Augùsoft Lumens. See page 10 for detailed instructions to registering online.
- In person at the OLLI office at the Mountaineer Mall in Morgantown
- By mail, using the enclosed membership/registration form.

Mail the form to: OLLI at WVU PO Box 9123 Morgantown, WV 26506-9123

Please make checks payable to the WVU Foundation.

If you pay with a credit or debit card, the charge will show as: Nesius West Virginia Treasury Basics.

Winter Registration begins January 18, 2018

Financial Assistance Available

OLLI at WVU tries to keep fees to a minimum while providing the highest quality experiences to our members. However, we recognize that membership and registration fees may be out of the reach of some individuals. Therefore, scholarships are available. To apply, ask for a confidential application at the OLLI office or fill out the form on our website at <u>www.</u> <u>olliatwvu.org</u>.

Contact Us

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at West Virginia University PO Box 9123 Morgantown, WV 26506-9123

(304) 293-1793 www.olliatwvu.org Email: olli@hsc.wvu.edu

OLLI Office Hours

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday Closed Saturdays, Sundays, and University holidays

Registration & Attendance Matter

We understand that plans change, especially when you're asked to commit to something several weeks in advance. However, it is important to register for the classes that you wish to attend. Enrollment records help us demonstrate our members' active participation in the program when seeking funding from grant-makers and policy-makers. Also, we occasionally have classes which fill quickly so one that you wish to attend may already have a wait list.

If you are unable to attend a class for which you are registered, please notify the OLLI office. Another person may be anxiously awaiting your cancellation so that he or she may participate in the class.

Please be respectful of the time and efforts of our volunteer instructors and your fellow OLLI members.

Giving to Your OLLI

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at WVU is dedicated to providing the highest quality educational, recreational, and social opportunities possible to our members. For many years, we have been able to offer 200 or more classes, workshops, lectures, discussions, and field trips annually.

In order to sustain and grow the program, your financial support is needed. Although OLLI receives support from WVU and earnings from the Osher Endowment, this funding covers only about 50% of our expenses. Membership and registration fees cover another 25%. Therefore, the remaining 25% must be raised through donations, gifts, sponsorships, and grants.

Your donation to OLLI can help keep the lights on in the classrooms, support community outreach, provide hand-outs in a class, buy coffee for our member lounge, pay the printing and postage for course catalogs, and more.

Thank You to Our Donors

As OLLI at WVU strives to achieve financial sustainabilty, we would like to say Thank You to all who have given so generously this year. The following reflects donations processed between July 1 and November 15, 2018. per the WVU Foundation. If your name is not listed and you believe it should be, please call the OLLI office at 304-293-1793.

Robert & Aurie Acciavatti Donna M. Allen John & Joyce Allen Rudolph & Helen Almasy Rochelle Althouse Gerri B. Angoli Nicholas & Barbara Apostolou Nancy L. Atwell Betty M. Bailey Maurice & Lynn Baker Diana R. Beam Diana Scott Beattie Lee Anne Beaumont Carole B. Boyd Mary Ellen Brady Marsha Brand James Brannon Nyles Charon & Anne Selinger Denise S. Gwinn Stan & Judy Cohen Kenton & Madeline Colvin JoAnne Cook Sylvia Cooper Bob & Margaret Craig Roger & Charlotte Dalton Richard & Nancy Daugherty Ann Davidson & Lloyd Davis Patrick & Allison Deem

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OLLI members and friends may give during the Annual Giving Campaign, when you renew a membership or enroll for classes, or any time during the year. You may choose to set up a monthly recurring gift.

You can choose to designate your gift to OLLI's area of greatest need, the \$100K Club, the scholarship fund, or the OLLI endowment. You may choose to leave a Legacy Gift, make a Tribute Gift, or give through an IRA Charitable Rollover.

With a variety of giving options, you can choose the gift that works best for you.

For more information, call the OLLI office at 304-293-1793 or Karen Galentine (kegalentine@hsc.wvu.edu) at 304-293-1828.

To give today, visit https://give.wvu.edu/public-health-olli or add your tax-deductible donation to the enclosed class registration form.

Thank you for your continued support of lifelong learning and OLLI at WVU.

OLLI Winter Classes

Text Encounters: Torah & Beyond

Rabbi Joe Blair Wednesdays, January 30 - February 20 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Temple Israel

Take a slightly deeper dive into Jewish texts. Each week of this course will focus on a general topic, bringing forward texts from the Tanakh (Bible), Talmud, Commentators, and Midrash. The general topics we will explore are Creation, Blessings, Prayer, and Gratitude. No prerequisites or prior knowledge needed. Questions welcome!

Materials Needed: A copy of a Bible that includes the Hebrew Scriptures.

About the Instructor: Rabbi Joe Blair is spiritual leader of Temple Israel in Charleston. He has instructed at Duke University, Mary Baldwin, & Bridgewater Colleges, and lectured at UVa, JMU, EMU, PVCC, BRCC, and Bridgewater College. He serves as Dean of Administration of the Gamliel Institute. He has frequently taught adult education courses on a variety of topics, including through the OLLI program.

Common Threads: Rituals and Traditions

Ms. Carolyn Atkinson Sunday, February 3, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. B'nai Jacob Synagogue

The fabric of religion is woven with the golden thread of beautiful traditions. Join our Common Threads panel of representatives of the Hindu, Muslim, Jewish, Catholic, and Mormon faiths as we explore rituals at various life stages in discovering similarities and appreciating differences.

About the Instructor: Carolyn Atkinson has a BA in psychology from West Virginia University and is a retired litigation paralegal.

Civil War: Atlanta Campaign

Mr. Andrew Gallagher Mondays, February 4, 11, & 25, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Kanawha Valley Room Schoenbaum Center

In May 1864, the Union Army, led by Maj. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman, invaded Georgia. A series of battles, known as the Atlanta Campaign, followed throughout the northwest part of the state. This class will explore Sherman's campaign from Dalton to Jonesboro that led to the occupation of Atlanta.

About the Instructor: Andrew Gallagher has a Master's degree in Humanities from Marshall University and a BS in Journalism from WVU. He was a longtime adjunct teacher of history at West Virginia State College, teaching courses on the Civil War and a longtime reporter for The Associated Press, UPI, and *The Charleston Gazette*.

Constitutional Law

Judge Joseph Goodwin Monday, February 4, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Robert C. Byrd Federal Courthouse 6th Floor Courtroom

Join us for another informative class surrounding an area of the law that will encourage discussion by participants while including information sharing from a legal standpoint on the subject of Constitutional Law.

About the Instructor: Judge Goodwin has been a Federal District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia for over 25 years. He has been pleased to teach for OLLI in the areas of criminal, property, and tort law in the past.

The Science and Art of the Opera, *Dr. Atomic*

Dr. Bob Harrison, Dr. Jim Olson Thursdays, February 7 - 21, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Kanawha Valley Room Schoenbaum Center

The first atom bomb was exploded in the United States on July 16th, 1945. The scientific community and all citizens in the U.S. either directly or indirectly played a part in the explosion. The explosion forever changed life as we knew it on the planet Earth. The opera, *Dr. Atomic,* composed by John Adams with the libretto by Peter Sellars, debuted in San Francisco on October 1st, 2005. This three-part course is designed to engage learners in some of the scientific, philosophical and artistic thought that went into the composition of *Dr. Atomic*.

About the Instructors: Dr. Jim Olson and Bob Harrison are both opera consumers who share a healthy respect for John Adams and Peter Sellers' *Dr. Atomic*. Dr. Olson shares his respect for *Dr. Atomic* from his work as a

OLLI Winter Classes

physical chemist at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Dr. Harrison shares his respect for *Dr. Atomic* as a fan of John Adams as a contemporary opera composer.

Corvid Intelligence

Mr. Casey Rucker Friday, February 8, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Kanawha Valley Room Schoenbaum Center

Jays, crows, magpies, and ravens are among the most intelligent bird species and have a long history of interactions with humans. Often misunderstood, corvids are a fascinating family of birds occurring all over the world. This course will offer a brief description of the role corvids have played in human history, an introduction to the corvid species in our continent and state, and tales of some of the most interesting recent research into the social structure and intelligence of these remarkable birds. Students are encouraged to describe their own interactions with corvids in what promises to be a lively end-of-class discussion.

About the Instructor: Casey Rucker studied Ancient Greek and Latin (A.B.Yale, M.A. Stanford), followed by many years practicing law (J.D. University of Michigan) leavened by long stretches of exploring the outdoors pursuing rock climbing, mountaineering, and birdwatching. He currently works for the Wildlife Resources Section of the WVDNR, and is editor of the Brooks Bird Club's journal, *The Redstart*.

World War II in the Pacific

Mr. Andrew Gallagher Tuesdays, February 5 & 12, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Kanawha Valley Room Schoenbaum Center

The class will learn about the battles of the Pacific War, sometimes known as the Asia-Pacific War, pitting Allied forces against Japan, Thailand and Axis allies Germany and Italy between 1942 and 1945.

About the Instructor: See previous page.

Medication Safety & Poison Prevention

Mrs. Carissa McBurney Wednesday, February 20, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Hansford Center, St. Albans

The West Virginia Poison Center will teach tips on medication safety and ways to stay safe from poisons. They will also share what to do if a poisoning happens.

About the Instructor: Carissa McBurney is the Community Outreach Coordinator for the West Virginia Poison Center where she educates the West Virginia public on poison prevention and the West Virginia Poison Center. She works throughout all 55 counties. She has BS in Public Relations and MPA in Healthcare Administration from WVU. She previously worked in long-term care.

The Impact of Two Tuscan Geniuses

Dr. Dan Foster Monday, February 25, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Kanawha Valley Room Schoenbaum Center

In the mid to late 15th century, in the Italian region of Tuscany, were born two of the most influential people of this or any time, who undoubtedly helped define Western culture - Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo. The concept of the Renaissance Man can arguably be attributed to these two men. This class will examine the contributions of these two true geniuses as well as the rivalry that grew out of their individual successes.

About the Instructor: Dan Foster is a retired surgeon who practiced for many years in Charleston. He has many interests outside medicine, as well as a deep Italian heritage.

> OLLI membership has opened a whole new world for me and has given me a challenging and very rewarding activity for my retirement years.

> > - OLLI member

OLLI Winter Classes

A Play About Apartheid: "Master Harold" . . .and the boys

Dr. Arnold Hartstein Tuesday, February 26, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Kanawha Valley Room Schoenbaum Center

Set in 1950 South Africa, "*Master Harold*"... and the boys explores institutionalized racism and its power to corrode and deform human relationships. The play, which ran for nearly a year on Broadway in the early 1980s, teaches us lessons that are still very relevant today. We will watch the play (90 minutes) and leave time for some discussion.

About the Instructor: Dr. Arnold Hartstein recently retired from West Virginia State University, where he taught English for 41 years.

Made and/or Grown in WV

Mr. Ed Johnson Thursday, February 28, 10:00 - 11:50 a.m. WVU Extension Thursday, February 28, 3:00 - 4:50 p.m. Edgewood Summit Friday, March 1, 10:00 - 11:50 a.m. Hansford Center, St. Albans

Most people are surprised at the wide range of products made and/or grown in this state. We will start with food products, then move into pottery and glass, and possibly some miscellaneous products as well. Short videos for all will be included.

About the Instructor: Ed Johnson is increasingly obsessed with all things West Virginia and enjoys sharing his discoveries with his fellow OLLI members.

Mark Your Calendars!

Other Important Dates

December 22 - January 1

OLLI Closed for Holidays
Winter Registration begins
Spring Course Proposals Due
Winter Classes Begin
Spring Registration Begins
Spring Classes Begin

Art and Religion: The Basilica of San Clemente al Laterano

Ms. Melora Cann Tuesday, March 5, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Kanawha Valley Room Schoenbaum Center

We will explore the hidden depths of the Basilica's history from the Roman Republic, to the age of the emperors of the pagan Roman Empire, through the establishment of Early Christianity, and the blossoming of the Christian faith in Italy through today. Archeologists in conjunction with the Irish Benedictine group that have been the caretakers of the Basilica for over 400 years, have revealed through a series of excavations, these layers of history including architecture, artifacts and artwork that celebrate the changing history of faith and of Rome. Today the Basilica is considered one of the treasures of historic Rome and a recommended stop for the tourist who wishes to see beyond the major attractions.

About the Instructor: Melora Cann is a former art educator who lived in Italy for 24 years.

Share your Passion: Teach for OLLI

OLLI at WVU draws volunteers from all walks of life to teach a wide variety of courses for adults 50 and older. Many OLLI instructors are current and retired teachers, university professors and administrators, business and civic leaders, and other professionals from the community who wish to share their knowledge and passion.

Experience the joy of teaching free of tests and grades. OLLI classes are offered simply for the joy of learning. Members are enthusiastic, engaged, and eager to learn.

Interested in teaching for OLLI? Visit our website at <u>www.olliatwvu.org</u> or call the OLLI office at 304-293-1793 for more information.

Location Key

- WVU Extension Room 1017, City Center East, 4700 MacCorkle Avenue, SE, Charleston
- Schoenbaum Center 1701 5th Ave, Charleston
- Edgewood Summit 300 Baker Lane, Charleston
- Temple Israel 2312 Kanawha Blvd E, Charleston
- Robert C. Byrd Courthouse 300 Virginia St., Charleston
- Hansford Center 500 Washington Street, St. Albans

Travel Opportunities

Landmark Tours *Nova Scotia and the Maritimes* September 9 - 16, 2019

Highlights:

Halifax City Tour, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton Island, the Cabot Trail, Peggy's Cove & Lunenburg, Fort Anne Historic Site, Anne of Green Gables Home, Alexander G. Bell Museum, Bay of Fundy National Park

Reservation & Deposit Due: February 9, 2019 Double occupancy from \$3,395 pp

Collette Travel *Treasures of Northern California* September 8 - 16, 2019

Highlights:

San Francisco, Choice of San Francisco Bay Cruise or City Tour of San Francisco, Yosemite National Park, Sacramento, Lake Tahoe, Sonoma Wine Country, Winery Tours, Napa Valley Vinevard Experience

Reservation & Deposit Due: March 4, 2019 Double occupancy from \$3,629 pp

For more information, visit olliatwvu.org or request a brochure from the OLLI office.

Weather and Holiday Policy

OLLI members are personally responsible for their own safety and must exercise good judgment when making travel choices in inclement weather. When Kanawha County Schools are closed for inclement weather, OLLI activities are cancelled. School delays do not affect OLLI activities. The decision to cancel activities is at the discretion of the Director when a county calls for early dismissal due to the weather. The decision to cancel weekend activities due to weather is at the discretion of the instructor. Registered participants will be notified. The OLLI office observes WVU holidays.

Liability Disclaimer

Individuals acknowledge and assume any and all risk associated with participation in OLLI at WVU activities. OLLI at WVU makes no representation regarding the appropriateness of any activity for an individual. OLLI at WVU disclaims any and all liability for each individual's participation in any activities. If a course involves physical activity, participants are responsible for wearing the proper attire and using the proper equipment (if applicable). It is highly recommended that participants consult their physician before participating in physical activity.

Class Disclaimer

OLLI at WVU presents programs of interest for general guidance only. It does not engage in rendering legal, medical, financial or other professional advice and services. Information presented in an OLLI program should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a professional legal, medical, financial or other competent adviser. Before making any decision or taking any action, program participants should consult a professional legal, medical, financial or other competent adviser.

All information is provided "as is," with no guarantee of completeness, accuracy, timelines or of the results obtained from the use of the information, and without warranty of any kind, express or implied, including, but not limited to warranties of performance, merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. Neither OLLI at WVU nor its information providers will be responsible to any program participant or anyone else for any decision made or action taken in reliance on the information presented by OLLI at WVU, or for any consequential, special or similar damages, even if advised of the possibility of such damages.

Refunds

Membership is non-refundable. Refunds for registration and other fees are considered on a per-case basis.

Non-Discrimination Statement

WVU is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer. Underrepresented class members are encouraged to apply. This includes minorities, females, individuals with disabilities and veterans.

Register for OLLI Online

Browse the OLLI catalog, purchase or renew a membership, and register for classes and events online.

1. Go to olliatwvu.org

2. Click on Register Here on the left side of the screen.

3. You will be redirected to https://wvusph-olli.augusoft. net. Click on **LOGIN/CREATE ACCOUNT.**

4. If you have been an OLLI member in the last two years, you already have an account. Contact the OLLI office if you need your username and password. *Please do not create a new account.*

5. You will see **Welcome**, Your Name in the gold bar above **BROWSE** on the right side of the screen if your login was successful.

6. Click **BROWSE** to purchase or renew a membership or browse OLLI classes and events.

7. If you are purchasing or renewing a membership, click on **JOIN OLLI**, select the appropriate membership and click **Submit**.

8. To register for classes and events, click on **BROWSE**, then **ALL CLASSES**.

9. Browse by day or topic.

10. To select a class or event, click on the **Add to Cart** button on the right side below the class information.

11. When finished making your selections, click on **CHECKOUT** next to the VIEW CART on the right in the gold bar.

12. Review your selections and click on the blue **CHECKOUT** button at the bottom of your order. If there is a balance due, you will be taken to a screen to enter your credit card information. If there is no balance due, you will be taken to the Order Complete screen.

Volunteer for OLLI

As a non-profit membership organization, OLLI depends on the generous support of our volunteers. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our program, helping to ensure that OLLI is able to provide the highest quality courses, lectures, workshops, trips, and more for our members.

Your volunteer experience can be molded to fit your interests, talents, and schedule. All members have something to offer and are encouraged to share their time and expertise with their peers.

Ambassadors

OLLI Ambassadors help spread the word about our program by sharing their experiences and inviting friends, family, and others to join them for a class.

Board Members

The Board of Directors is the governing body of OLLI at WVU, providing leadership to committees and staff. With input from the committees, the Board establishes organizational priorities and financial and program policies. Board members are elected by the membership to serve a two-year term and may be re-elected for a second term.

Class Hosts

Class hosts greet members and ask them to sign in as they arrive for a class, remind members to turn off their cell phones, introduce the instructor, assist with class needs, and distribute course feedback forms.

Instructors

Our program depends on the generosity of our volunteer instructors to teach the quality courses and learning experiences offered throughout the year. OLLI instructors, drawn from all walks of life, share their knowledge and expertise of their chosen careers, fields of study, or hobbies about which they are passionate. Free from tests or grades, instructors experience the joy of teaching students who are enthusiastic, engaged and eager to learn.

Charleston Curriculum Committe

Committee members recruit members and volunteer instructors for our program. They meet quarterly to review course proposals and plan future programming, and represent OLLI at community functions, such as health fairs and social group meetings.

How to Become a Volunteer

To become an OLLI volunteer, contact the OLLI office at 304-293-1793 or submit the Volunteer Information Form online at http://www.olliatwvu.org.