

My Gift from OLLI @ OSU

A portion of the funds we receive from donations to OLLI @ OSU are set aside for scholarships. Scholarships are given to those with financial need who apply through the office. We recently interviewed one of our scholarship recipients and this is what she had to share:

“Without a scholarship, I never would have been able to attend classes because I’m on disability. I always tried to find things that are of interest and there are so many things I can’t afford.” ***One day, a friend told her about OLLI classes and encouraged to apply for a scholarship.*** “I wanted to give something back to OLLI after receiving the scholarship. That’s important to me. I felt like my help and participation in classes was a worthwhile way to contribute to the program. Now I organize the nametags, sign people in at classes and give directions on the first day of class. I felt like this would free up the staff and give them the time they

needed to prepare the classroom. I enjoy what I do and I look forward to classes because I’ve gotten to know people and I’ve gotten involved. I also joined the Curriculum Committee because I had some ideas about classes which I thought would be interesting. The Site-Coordinator told me I had lots of good ideas and asked me to join the committee. I thought if I open my mouth, I should try to do something. I can call people and brainstorm with the best of them. I enjoy the process. I’m working on two class suggestions now. I like to listen to my fellow students when they share ideas for classes and then look for point people. Our committee has a good group of people and I wish more people would participate.”

We depend on our members to provide input for our program. When it became apparent OLLI needed to find a new, larger location for Thursday classes, Katherine provided us with the key.

“We have a lunch bunch at our church and I invited Barbara Swiggart (Tulsa Site-Coordinator) to speak about OLLI. Now we hold classes at that church on Thursdays and our congregation was very happy to have OLLI join us.”

Her plans for next semester?

“I will stay all day on Thursdays to help the site-coordinator out at classes. I enjoy helping and I’m so grateful for the opportunity.”



Katherine

I support OLLI @ OSU because...

Jim & Ann Enix ~ “We love the ability to learn new subjects and to meet new people and we all need to keep learning. We want to make sure OLLI continues to grow and thrive. We haven’t taken a course that we did not like and we love Mary Jane Ward and James Showalter’s courses.”

Beverly & Larry Perkins ~ “We enjoy seeing all of our friends and I think the courses give a lot of information in subjects that we’re interested in. We give because we feel strongly that we need to have this program for seniors and because it’s a worthwhile cause and it’s a good thing to do. I’ve enjoyed so many classes. We really enjoyed the music class with Pat Dorr and so many others. The **Great Decisions** and the **Presidents** classes are some of my favorites.”



Nan Scott ~ “OLLI presents a lot of information and new knowledge that I never had a chance to learn before. I’m a big fan of OSU and I love the OLLI program. It needs to continue to grow. I’ve been attending classes for several years and I loved the **Zoo University** class the first time I came and I love taking history courses with Dr. Musselman.”

Mary Frye ~ “I love learning new things and the socialization and contact with OLLI folks. I think it is a dynamite program! I believe it is the best thing that has hit the streets of Stillwater in two decades.”



Helen Jordan ~ “I enjoy the various classes and the variety. I think it is an important program and I support lifelong learning.”

Jan Chesler ~ “There are so many things to enjoy with OLLI. I like the fascinating topics and there is the social aspect as well. I like to be able to continue learning and it’s a plus that there’s no pressure of trying to make a grade. There are many great topics to choose from. It’s a great program and we have to give in order to expand the program and make it available to more people. I love so many of the classes. I love the literature and art and music and cinema classes especially. I can’t pick just one!”



Ed & Andrea Arquitt ~ “I’d say I really like the classes, but I like the people, too. I believe it is a worthwhile program to keep in the community. I learn so many different things. Different things challenge me in different ways.”

Margaret Scott ~ “I enjoy most of all the topics that are presented and I participate because it is educational and I enjoy talking with other people. It is a program that I would like to see continue and this is one way to support it. There have been so many great classes but I think Mary Jane Ward’s classes on **Oklahoma Indians** were the most enjoyable.”

Sylvia Nelson ~ “I enjoy learning and the people I meet. I enjoy the classes and have become good friends with my fellow students. I have always been a professional student. OLLI is an important program and it needs to continue. I want OSU to continue with the program because it provides a lot of important things for seniors and it helps keep us going.”

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“We’re an example to our children and grandchildren, and the example I intend to set is of a vibrant, inquisitive, lifelong learner. I want to surround myself with friends who feel the same way, and to celebrate the spirit of learning every day. We prove there is no age limit to intellectual curiosity, and the benefits of chasing after knowledge are immeasurable. When my grandchildren look for an example of how to age with grace, style and joy, my gift to OLLI will speak for itself.”

Mona Long
Founding Member

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Learning Never Retires campaign

Double Your Impact...

By giving now to the **Learning Never Retires** campaign, you have the opportunity to double your impact and support learning at OLLI @ OSU. Mona Long, a generous donor and faithful OLLI participant, has offered us matching funds up to \$50,000 to support lifelong learning at OSU. Your gift to the **Learning Never Retires** campaign will be matched dollar for dollar, and your impact on OLLI @ OSU will be significant. Partner with others who believe that education at any age is key to life satisfaction.

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