



# The OLLI UPdate

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY



MARCH 12, 2021

Hi, Friends!

How are you doing? What are you reading? Watching? Thinking? Have you received your vaccine? Are you starting to venture out? Still staying within the suggested safety guidelines?

Thank you for your thoughts and comments about the questions I sent out last week. Your replies are very important to me and are taken into consideration as we make decisions about the OLLI program.

New classes started this week and new single classes will take place over the next few weeks during the second half of the spring session. *Make sure you check out those offerings in the pages below.* I am particularly excited about the upcoming SPAM Museum tour on Monday, March 29. You all know I love museums, especially the unique ones. I am a proud visitor of the Vacuum Cleaner Museum, which is sadly no more. There is a limited number for the tour so sign up early.

Don't hesitate to let us know what we can do to make your classes more enjoyable.

Kindly,

*Robbin*

Your OLLI Director

**PS - make sure and send in your questions for Ask the Vet!**



Are you following OLLI on [Facebook](#)?

OLLI OFFICE \* 405.744.5868 \* OLLI@OKSTATE.EDU



## Guest Speakers

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THESE COURSES HAVE A DIFFERENT GUEST SPEAKER EACH WEEK.  
HERE'S WHAT'S UP NEXT

### Major Artists of Gilcrease Museum

**3/16 Dick Clark** was born and raised in Tulsa. A graduate of the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond, he is a U.S. Army veteran and has retired from Tulsa Vo-Tech (now the Tulsa Technology Center). Dick has been a Gilcrease docent since 2007. His topic will be *Frederick Remington*.

### Voices from the University: OSU's Cutting Edge

**3/16 Pamela Fry, President, OSU-Tulsa.** Dr. Fry brings 30 years of higher education leadership experience to OSU. A professor of curriculum studies, her research focus is on analyzing teaching, learning and curriculum at the pre-kindergarten-12 and collegiate levels. Her presentation will be *Education 2020-2050*

### The Best & Brightest: Oklahoma Authors

**3/19 Najah-Amatullah Hylton** is a lifelong writer and performer. She teaches secondary English language arts in Oklahoma City and is pursuing a Master's in literature from the University of Central Oklahoma. She's working on social media- and poetry-enhanced secondary curriculum and a video podcast about teaching. Najah will discuss her book, co-written with Quraysh Ali Lansana, *Opal's Greenwood Oasis*. In both words and illustrations, this carefully researched and historically accurate book allows children to experience the joys and success of Greenwood, one of the most prosperous Black communities of the early 20th century, lost in the Tulsa Race Massacre, the worst act of racial violence in American history.

[\*\*Enroll Here\*\*](#)



## If You Love It, Share It

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If you think OLLI's only focus is academics, think again. Over 15+ years we've enjoyed photographic collections, cast iron cookery, wine, chocolate, coffee and beer tastings, sushi academy, road trips, letter-writing, flintknapping and dozens of other topics--even Neolithic hunting tools. One OLLI member enjoyed a certain amount of notoriety and awed respect after hurling an 8' spear onto the roof of the city library (oopsie!) as a participant in a demonstration of Neolithic hunting tools. The point is, there are oodles of areas beyond traditional academics that are right for OLLI courses. If you have a passion for and a darn good background knowledge of a certain topic, there are folks who want to meet you and learn about it. Hobbyists, we're looking at *you!* Makers, now is your chance! Citizen scientists, arise!

Propose a course for summer 2021 by filling out the form you'll find [here](#) by **Monday, March 15**. You don't need to submit the entire curriculum but only a brief description of the topic and a few lines about yourself. Don't worry about getting the description or the biography perfect. Our OLLI editor will touch it up to make it consistent with the format of our course catalog. Summer courses will be offered Monday through Friday from May 17 to June 18, 2021. Design your course to be once a week for 2 to 5 weeks or give a one-time lecture. Each class lecture period is 1.5 hours, and we'll help you find a schedule that fits your needs. If you wish to share the course with one co-instructor, invite a friend with compatible skills for the most successful classroom experience. To show our appreciation, all our instructors enjoy a membership fee waiver or a free course on the house.

All courses will be held virtually on Zoom this summer, and our tech-savvy staff will help you as needed. We love our instructors, and the OLLI staff aim to make your teaching experience as easy and rewarding as possible. Whether that means guiding you through a smooth Zoom experience, distributing copies of handouts and anything else, we've got you covered.

Inspire someone! Be an OLLI instructor.



## Éire go Brách

Ireland is a land of poets and legends, of dreamers and rebels. All of these have music woven through and around them. Tunes for dancing or for weeping, for battle or for love.  
— Nora Roberts

### **The Land of a Thousand Welcomes**

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, let's take a virtual trip to Ireland. Browse the [Irish Times](#) to get a feel for current events, and have a look at [web cams](#) for various locations in Ireland. Get your ear tuned to the Irish language [here](#).

A great place to start learning about Ireland can be found at FutureLearn.com, which has among its offerings a series of free short courses on Irish language, culture and history. Starting with Irish 101 and running through Irish 108 and beyond, these 4-week self-paced studies are offered by Dublin City University. Find information and a trailer [here](#). FutureLearn also has a course from the University of Dublin on the [Book of Kells](#).

### **A Kind Word Never Broke Anyone's Mouth** *(An Irish proverb)*

Ireland is renowned for its poets. Read about [Seamus Heaney](#), enjoy some of his poetry, and then listen to him read [Postscript](#). His quiet, almost whispered, reading will make you homesick for Ireland, even if you've never been there.

In a country torn for generations by religious conflict, Pádraig Ó Tuama brings healing. Pádraig is a poet, theologian and peace negotiator. His words are timely for us, here and now, in this TED Talk, [Imaging Peace](#); his insight is heartening in this On Being podcast, [Belonging Creates and Undoes Us](#); and his perception into human nature is displayed when he reads and riffs on poetry in the podcast [Poetry Unbound](#). On top of it all, he's a great storyteller. You'll love him!

### **No Irish Need Apply**

Irish immigrants to the US fought [stereotypes](#) and strong [anti-Irish sentiment](#). This [article](#) from the History Channel explains. To understand the forces behind the mass immigration of the mid-1800s, watch the [documentary](#), *Ireland's Great Hunger and the Irish Diaspora*. In 1983, songwriter Peter Jones released a ballad he wrote based on letters written by an Irish ancestor. The song describes the toll immigration took on families. Listen to [Kilkelly, Ireland](#), and read the [letters](#) from which Jones drew his inspiration.



## Events Calendar

These lectures are free for OLLI members and \$10 each for non-members.

[Register here](#)

- 3/15 9 am Aging in Place: There's No Place Like Home** with Brooke Kimmel. Aging well and comfortably at home doesn't happen without planning. Home health, home care and other community resources abound, and you can learn to advocate for yourself or a loved one so that you benefit from the many support options available. Empower yourself to choose the best care to fit your needs and to maintain home independence for as long as possible.
- 3/19 9 am Ask the Vet.** **Submit your questions for Dr. Mike Lorenz to [olli@okstate.edu](mailto:olli@okstate.edu)**
- 3/26 9 am COVID-19 Q&A.** **Submit your questions for Dr. Tyrrell Conway to [olli@okstate.edu](mailto:olli@okstate.edu)**
- 3/29 11 am Antiquing: The Seven Basic "How To's"** with Manning & Karen Rogers
- 3/29 3 pm Special Guided Tour: The Spam Museum,** find info in next week's newsletter!
- 4/1 9 am Top 10s of 2021** with Doug Stowell
- 4/8 9 am Learning a New Language** with Roha Kaira
- 4/9 1 pm Leonardo's Knots** with Caroline Cocciardi