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OLLI E-News

The electronic newsletter for members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University



ISSUE Friday, September 21, DATE: 2007 [Click to read about this newsletter](#)

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ALERT	> GUEST EDITOR OF OLLI E-NEWS. John West is guest editor for this week and next week. Please email all articles and notices for the Sep 28 issue to him.
REMINDERS	> FALL FOR THE BOOK. Starts Sunday. More info . > Merle Secrest (952) – Monday, Sep 24, 4:00 at Tallwood. Members are welcome to attend even if they are not presently registered. > Rick Atkinson (954) – Bus will leave from Tallwood on Wednesday, Sep 26, at 4:15 for a 5:00 presentation at the Concert Hall. This is a change of time and venue from what was in the catalog. > FIRST VISION SERIES LECTURE. Mon, Sep 24, 8:00, Center for the Arts Concert Hall, followed by a reception; free. See schedule .
ARTICLES AND NOTICES	> A CALL FOR PLAYWRIGHTS! Here is your golden opportunity. <i>By Eileen and Charles Duggan</i> > A TEACHING SESSION. Mike and Julie McNamara teach poetry at the Mason LIFE program. <i>By Mike McNamara</i> > MEET PAUL HOWARD. Teacher,

	financial wizard, computer guru, and new member of the OLLI Board. <i>By Carolyn Sanders</i> > TOM SUZUKI: A RETROSPECTIVE. At the NOVA Alexandria Campus starting Sep 28. <i>By Eileen and Charles Duggan</i> > JUSTINIAN ART EXHIBIT. OLLI art instructor Leonard Justinian's paintings now in the Social Room Annex. <i>By Marvina Munch</i> > BRIDGE CLASS OPENINGS. Refresher class in Reston meets Mondays at 11:30.
DEPARTMENTS	> CENTER FOR THE ARTS. Arts and music events. <i>By Jan Bohall</i> > MASON HIGHLIGHTS. Other events at Mason. <i>By Barbara Kyriakakis</i> > COMING ATTRACTIONS. Upcoming non-class events.

A CALL FOR PLAYWRIGHTS!

Here is your golden opportunity



By Eileen and Charles Duggan, OLLI

members

HOW MANY OF US HAVE HARBORED a secret desire to write a play and to see it performed on stage? Some of us may have written plays in the past and are eager to try again. Others may have only thought about the possibility.

Now is your chance to put pen to paper and make it happen, thanks to our Theater of the First Amendment friends who are managing the



2008 Arts at Mason Festival.

In a previous *OLLI E-News* [article](#), we shared with you news about the Festival, a three-week performing arts event scheduled for June 2008. We explained that the Festival organizers wanted to involve OLLI in the event. One of the opportunities they have created especially for OLLI is a Generations Playwriting Project.

The purpose of the project is to promote an intergenerational sharing of views and perspectives. Its concept is to present six brief intergenerational plays written by talented amateur playwrights, young (under eighteen) and old (that's us, OLLI members). The participants are free to choose any subject they wish subject to the following rules:

- > Plays can be no more than ten minutes in length (ten double-spaced pages);
- > No more than four characters can appear in the play; and
- > Two of the characters must be of the opposite generation of the playwright; e.g., over fifty years of age or under eighteen years of age.

A total of six plays (three submitted by OLLI playwrights and three submitted by the younger writers) will be chosen by TFA's staff and will be presented at a formal play reading during the Festival. The deadline for submission is Dec 14, 2007. Kathie West and Eileen Duggan will serve as the OLLI contacts, and all scripts should be submitted to them. If you have any questions, please contact [Kathie](#) or [Eileen](#).

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A TEACHING SESSION

Light Verse at the George Mason LIFE Program



By [Mike McNamara](#), OLLI Member

IN RESPONSE TO A RECENT APPEAL by Dick Chobot in the OLLI E-News, I taught a class at George Mason's LIFE Program, which gives young adults with intellectual disabilities the chance to experience college life and studies tailored to their skills. I decided to offer up Light Verse, and it was a good experience.

After initial phone conversations, Julie and I visited Thompson Hall on September 10 and met with Dr. Heidi Graff, the program director and her staff. We then pitched the class to 10 students, ages 18 to early 20's. Most were eager to discuss the poems but several were initially reticent. We started with little verses like "Introduction: Madam, / I 'm Adam," then "Fleas: Adam/ Had em." We also discussed Bumper Stickers as a sort of Poetry. "Boy Friend Wanted: Training Provided," was a big hit...



We then rolled on to Burma-Shave signs. "Said Juliet to Romeo/ If you never shave/ Go homeo." This broke the place up, as one of their projects is to do some scenes from Shakespeare. Ogden Nash was represented, too. "Behold the duck./ It does not cluck./ A cluck it lacks./ It quacks./ It is especially fond/ Of a puddle or a pond. / When it dines or sups/ It bottoms ups."

We even looked at Charles Simic, the new U. S. Poet Laureate. What a surprise that so many students decoded his "Watermelons: Green Buddhas/ On the fruit stand./ We eat the smile/ And spit out the teeth."

OLLI members who could give a sixty-minute session in this worthwhile program should call Dr. Graff at 703 993-8036. (An account of a vacation with a lot of photos would be a natural.) Julie and I would welcome [any questions](#); and we left a 20-minute CD of the Program as well as several brochures with Dick Chobot.

RELATED LINK

> [Mason LIFE Website](#)

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MEET PAUL HOWARD...

...and take diving lessons



By Carolyn Sanders, OLLI E-News staff writer

No, PAUL ISN'T A NOTED SWIMMER, but, believe me, folks, he knows how to dive right in and get involved. He joined OLLI in the summer of 2006 and is already serving on our Board of Directors and is teaching in the field of Economics and Finance for the third time—course 203: Avoid Being Targeted for Identity Theft, specifically the sessions relating to “Home Computer Protection, Security and Updating.” As Webmaster for OLLI’s Investment Forum, <http://www.olligmu.org/~finforum/>, Paul posts information contributed by members as resources for the group.



Paul’s compelling interest is in computers, and he’s serving as president of one personal computer user group and treasurer of another. After a 31-year career with Verizon and various Ma Bell entities, and 24 years of living in Northern Virginia, this Oak Hill resident, a native of the great state of New York, is a welcome addition to the OLLI community. We thank his wife Linda for sharing him, his time, and his expertise with us.

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TOM SUZUKI: A RETROSPECTIVE

Tom’s work to be presented at NOVA Alexandria Campus

By Eileen and Charles Duggan, OLLI members

WE SADLY REPORTED LAST YEAR that OLLI member Tom Suzuki

passed away on September 3, 2006. Tom was soft-spoken, very private and probably not known by many OLLI members. However, those fortunate enough to have worked with him were very appreciative of the contributions that he made to OLLI. He served as the resident graphic artist on the Publications Committee and is the designer of the Friends of OLLI honor role poster that hangs in the Tallwood social room. His wife, Virginia, is still an OLLI member.

What most of us didn’t know about Tom was his successful and award winning career as an art director. He was particularly known for the revolutionary design concepts he introduced to the textbook production business in the 1960’s. In the 1970’s, he was the art director for Time/Life Books. For 25 summers, he was invited to teach design master classes at Stanford University.

A retrospective of his creative work will be on display at the Alexandria campus of Northern Virginia Community College from Friday, September 28, 2007 through Wednesday, October 24, 2007. The exhibit, titled “The Creative Spirit of Tom Suzuki,” will be shown in the Tyler Teaching Gallery, Room 207, in the Tyler Building. Virginia Suzuki is serving as Honorary Curator. Directions can be found at www.tomsuzuki.com.

All OLLI members are encouraged to attend the opening reception at 6:30 pm on Thursday, September 27, 2007. Regular gallery hours are from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm.

RELATED LINKS

- > [IN MEMORIAM: TOM SUZUKI](#) (OLLI E-News, Sep 15, 2006)
- > [HONOR ROLL POSTER](#) (OLLI E-News, May 12, 2006)

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JUSTINIAN ART EXHIBIT

Now showing in the Social Room Annex



By Marvinna Munch, *OLLI E-News* staff writer

IN THE PROFESSIONAL ART WORLD, an important measure of success is the number of honors and awards won in competitions and exhibitions. In the past few years, OLLI art instructor Leonard Justinian's paintings have been awarded four Best in Show prizes, two second-place awards and three other special honors.



His many exhibitions include one-person exhibits at the NBC-TV Art Gallery in Washington, D.C., and the Prince Royal Gallery in Alexandria. His work has also been juried into three-person exhibits at the Frazer Gallery in Georgetown and galleries in Kentlands, Maryland, and Front Royal, Virginia.

We are fortunate to have his paintings on display in the Social Room Annex during the fall session. For additional information, check his web site at www.wslp.org.

Photo of Leonard's painting by Gordon Canyock

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RESTON BRIDGE CLASS HAS OPENINGS

THE BRIDGE REFRESHER CLASS (904) is designed for those who have a basic knowledge of bridge and want to sharpen their playing skills. The class consists of a 30-minute lecture given by Ron Kral, a certified bridge instructor and tournament player. Then there is an hour of play with pointers from Ron.

If you wish to join the class, which meets in Reston at 11:30 on Mondays, just come to class and complete the Add Form at that time.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/SUGGESTIONS ABOUT OLLI?

HERE'S HOW to express your views--

> **Publicly** (if you would like your comments published in this newsletter): Email your "Letter to the Editor" or "Letter to Ms. Ollie Ettakit" to the [editor](#). Anonymous submissions are acceptable if you provide contact information so we can verify that you are an OLLI member. Whenever an official response is clearly appropriate, the editor will obtain and publish the OLLI response in the same issue so members will have more complete information and a balanced picture of the matter.

> **Privately--**

- > Contact any [Board member](#) or the [Executive Director](#);
- > Send an email to the entire Board (email the [editor](#) or the [office](#) to have your message forwarded to all members of the Board);
- > Submit a suggestion [online](#) or in the box in the Tallwood social room or on one of the "parking lots for ideas" in classrooms; or
- > Contact the office by [email](#) or phone (703-503-3384).

COMING EVENTS AT THE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

*Upcoming arts and music events at
Mason*



By Jan Bohall, *OLLI E-News* staff writer

For tickets, call 888-945-2468 (phone orders are handled by tickets.com) or visit the [Center for the Arts](#) Box Office, Tue–Sat, 10:00–6:00.

> Sun, Sep 23 – **Young Artiste Musicale**. 6:00, Concert Hall Lobby, Free.

> Sun, Sep 23 – **Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel** - America—Fascinatin' Rhythms. 7:00, Concert Hall, Admission: \$38, \$30, \$19. Known for his concerts with commentary, Siegel presents works of Gershwin, Bernstein and Copland. This is the first of his four concerts this season. Family Friendly: Children 12 and under, half price with an adult.

> Tue, Sep 25 – **GMU Wind Symphony Concert**. 8:00, Concert Hall, Admission: \$10 seniors & students, \$15 adults.

> Sat, Sep 29 – **Arts By George!** Barbara Cook, lyric soprano. 8:00, Concert Hall, Admission: \$60, \$52, \$30. Broadway legend Barbara Cook will perform show tunes, ballads and torch songs, proving why she is known as one of the foremost interpreters of Sondheim's works. This performance is part of a scholarship benefit for the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Mason. For details see page 15 of the Great Performances at Mason magazine Preview or kbeyer2@gmu.edu. Come early at 7:15 for a free artistic discussion in the Grand Tier Lobby.

MASON HIGHLIGHTS

Other events at Mason



By Barbara Kyriakakis, OLLI E-News assistant editor

> **Krasnow Seminar** - How do we know when we move? The role of vesibular signals in the posterior parietal cortex presented by Werner Graf, Dept. of Physiology and Biophysics, Howard University, Mon, Sep 24, 4:00 to 5:00, Room 229, Krasnow Institute.

> **Workshop in Philosophy, Politics & Economics** – Religion and Economics presented by Michael McBride, Asst. Dir. of Economics, UCLA Irvine, Thu, Sep 27, 1:00 to 2:30, Room 318, Enterprise Hall.

> **Book Sale** - The University Libraries will hold a book sale on Fri, Sep 28, from 9:00 to 3:00 in Dewberry Hall, Johnson Center. Proceeds will go to developing University Libraries' collections.

> **Provost's Forum** on the State of Mason Academics - Initial remarks will focus on academic administration, strategic directions, SACS accreditation, and global Initiatives. Questions and comments will be welcome. Light refreshments will be served. Wed, Oct 10, noon to 1:00, Johnson Center Cinema.

> **Day Trip to New York** - The Recreational Sports Office is sponsoring a day trip to New York City on Oct 20; cost \$35 with Mason ID. Registration and payment must be made by Oct 1 at the Rec Sports Office located in the Aquatic and Fitness Center (the facility is closed, but the Rec Sports Office is open and accessible). Call 703-993-3290 to check ticket availability, departure and return times, and other information.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Non-class events at OLLI for the next two weeks

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master calendar maintained by the office (see the [OLLI Staff Forecast of Non-Class Events](#) for more details and to view the actual OLLI online calendar used by the office). *Board, committee, resource-group and 'membership-type' meetings/events below are **highlighted in bold**. OLLI members are welcome at all Board, committee and resource-group meetings (except executive sessions).*

Friday Sep 21 9:30am Drama Club
 10am Classic Fiction Book Club - Reston Regional Library
 10am Recorder Group - TA-2
10:30am New Member Coffee - Annex
 1:30pm Homer Etc. Book Club - Annex
 Sunday Sep 23 4:45pm Fall for the Book Spec Event 951 - Bus Departs Tallwood Parking Lot for Harris Theatre
 Monday Sep 24 1pm Lake Anne Bridge Club - Lake Anne Church
 4pm Fall for the Book Spec Event 952 - TA-1
 Tuesday Sep 25 8:15am Reston Walking Group - Lake Anne Plaza
 7:15pm Fall for the Book Spec Event 953 - Bus Departs Tallwood Parking Lot for Dewberry Hall
 Wednesday Sep 26 1:30pm Bridge - TA-3
 2pm Spec Event 957 Plant-A-Holics - TA-1
 4:15pm Fall for the Book Spec Event 954 - Bus Departs Tallwood Parking Lot for CFA Concert Hall
 Friday Sep 28 9:30am Drama Club
 9:30am Photography Club - TA-1
 10am Recorder Group - TA-2
 11:15am Fall for the Book Spec Event 955 - Bus departs Tallwood for Johnson Center
 12pm Spec Event 958 Lets Do Lunch - Jaipur Royal Indian Cuisine-Fairfax
 1:30pm Homer Etc. Book Club - Annex
 Monday Oct 1 1pm Lake Anne Bridge Club - Lake Anne Church
 Tuesday Oct 2 8:15am Reston Walking Group - Lake Anne Plaza
 Wednesday Oct 3 1:30pm Bridge - TA-3
 2pm History Club - TA-1
2pm Special Events Committee Meeting - TA-2
 Friday Oct 5 9:15am Spec Event 959 Pope-Leighy House - Bus Departs Fair Oaks Mall
 9:30am Drama Club
 10am Recorder Group - TA-2

11:30am Fiction Writers - TA-1
 1:30pm Homer Etc. Book Club - Annex



John West
Guest Editor Sep 21 & 28



Rod Zumbro
Editor



Karen Hamilton
Deputy Editor

About OLLI E-News. OLLI E-News, OLLI's weekly newsletter, is emailed to OLLI members with email addresses on Fridays. When classes are in session, printed copies of this newsletter are distributed in classrooms, primarily for members without email. Comments, suggestions or complaints? Please contact the [OLLI E-News editor](#) or the Publications Committee chair, [Gordon Canyock](#).

Submissions. We encourage members to submit news items, articles and photos for this newsletter; deadline to the editor is 7:00 PM Wed (Mon for letters to the editor for which an OLLI response is appropriate) for that week's issue. Please limit articles to about 250 words. Submit material to editor Rod Zumbro (email rzumbro@gmu.edu, phone 703-569-2750); email strongly preferred.

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