



OLLI Connections

Vol. 2 Issue 2
February 2018

OLLI News!

OLLI is pleased to announce that, for the second year in a row, we have been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the George D. Hott Memorial Foundation and a \$5,000 grant from the John Mathew Gay Brown Family Foundation this year.

Last year's funds were used to purchase new computer equipment and an hearing assist system, as well as provided scholarships for OLLI members.

This year's funds will be used to cover programming expenses, such as photocopies of class materials, licensing fees for supplemental materials, as well as general operating support to help keep the membership dues and fees low.

These funds will be used to purchase and install a new digital projector for use with the wide screen in classroom B and allow OLLI to upgrade the audio systems in both classrooms at the Mountaineer Mall.

In August of 2016, OLLI received a \$25,000 grant from the Osher Foundation to enhance marketing and fundraising efforts through December 2017. These funds were used to produce OLLI's promotional video, which can be seen online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZR93K--73lk>, several marketing and fundraising brochures, underwriting on West Virginia Public Television, and the \$100K Club recognition plaque hanging in the member lounge, among other things. We have applied for a renewal of the Osher Capacity Building grant and will keep you updated.

Director's Letter

Our curriculum committee, instructors, board members, and other volunteers work hard to bring OLLI members the highest quality classes possible. OLLI classes are interesting, inspiring, thought-provoking, and fun. As in any meaningful educational experience, they can also challenge us to think outside of our comfort zone sometimes. Although OLLI's mission encourages civil and respectful exchange, it is important to respect the instructors' and fellow members' beliefs, expertise, time, and generosity of sharing.

One of the things I love the most about being a part of OLLI is the sense of community that I see flourishing through the sharing of knowledge, opinions, and interests in the classroom. It's a community that I am proud to be a part of.

Jascenna

Mark Your Calendars!

- March 19 Spring registration begins
- March 21 Spring Open House in Morgantown

Watch for more information about a Spring Open House in Charleston!

- April 9 Spring Term Begins
- April 16 Summer Course Proposals Due

www.olliatwvu.org

OLLI Connections is published quarterly and distributed via email to our current members. It is also posted on our website. If you are unable to read the newsletter online, you may request a printed copy by calling the OLLI office at 304-293-1793.



Thank You!

As OLLI at WVU strives to achieve financial sustainability we would like to say **Thank You** to everyone who has generously contributed to one of our donation funds. Below are members and friends who have given since the winter term course catalog was published.

Joyce B. Allen
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Arnold
Diana Scott Beattie
Dr. & Mrs. Saul R. Berg
Mary Biggs
Carole Boyd
Mary Ellen Brady
JoAnne Cook
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Covey
Roger and Charlotte Dalton
Patrick and Allison Deem
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Evancheck
Alice Frost
Dr. and Mrs. Pablo Gonzalez
Barbara Gutman
Denise Gwinn
Jascenna Haislet
Paul and Kathy Hanko
Jack Held
Jim Held and Bonnie Brown
Edwin Johnson
Yvonne Khourie
Dr. George W. Lilley and Dr. Mavis E. Grant Lilley
Drs. Roger A. and Nancy Lohmann
Karen S. Long
Stephen and Connie McCluskey
Andrew and Judy Morris
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Morrison
Byron and Carolyn Nelson
Cindy O'Brien
Werner S. Pluhar and Elissa Hoffman
Alan and Gwen Rosenbluth
F. Scott and Carol Rotruck
Nancy C. Ruhe
Steven Runfola
Bill Weiss
H. Arthur Weldon
Judy Werner and
members of the fall Lap Dulcimer class
David Yelton and Lillian Waugh
Linda Yoder
Carolyn Zinn

OLLI Across the Country

Did you know that OLLI at WVU is one of 120 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes in the U.S.? Nationwide, over 160,000 older adults take part in OLLI classes, discussion groups, social events, and other activities offered by their local organization.

As membership organizations, OLLIs are encouraged to govern and program their institute in ways that work best serve their community. The National Resource Center (NRC) for OLLIs, located at Northwestern University in Chicago, serves as a conduit for sharing best practices and statistical data and facilitates communication and collaboration amongst the individual organizations.

The NRC also hosts a website (<http://nrc.northwestern.edu/>) of valuable information for OLLI members. You can read the monthly newsletter, find an OLLI author, or submit information about a book that you've published. You find also an OLLI near your summer or winter travels (<http://nrc.northwestern.edu/find-an-olli-near-you/>).

Annually, NRC compiles a look at where we are, comparing membership size, use of technology, number of volunteers, fee structures, and more. With an average membership of over 600, OLLI at WVU is on the smaller side but not that different from others.

Are you interested in learning more about other OLLIs? Visit the NRC website or call your OLLI office at 304-293-1793. We're happy to help!

Gwen Gill Joins OLLI Board

OLLI welcomed Gwen Gill to the Board of Directors in December. Gwen will complete the term of the seat left vacant with the resignation of Judy Kelley Minor in September.

A graduate of WVU School of Pharmacy, Gwen retired from WVU Medicine in 2013 after almost 30 years. She joined OLLI the same year. "I enjoy the OLLI for the amazing variety of classes and the opportunity to make new friends," she said. She wanted to join the board as a way to give back to the community. Although "you won't find me in class on warm, dry days – I will be on the golf course!" she added.

Gwen will co-chair OLLI's Membership and Publicity Committee, focusing on retention.

She and husband, Doug Gill, have been married for 34 years. They have one daughter and two granddaughters in Louisville, KY.

The Osher Institute Network 2015-2016 Annual Survey Data



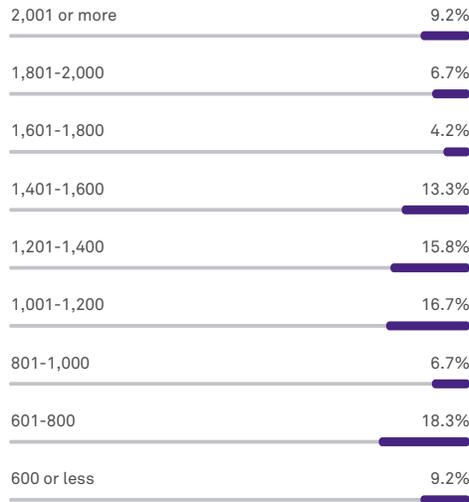
Osher NRC
National Resource Center
for Osher Institutes

120 OLLIs

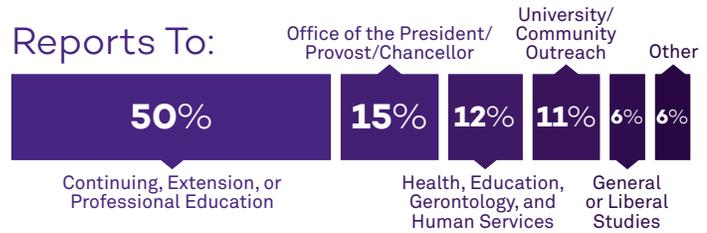
160,201 Members

377 Cities & Towns

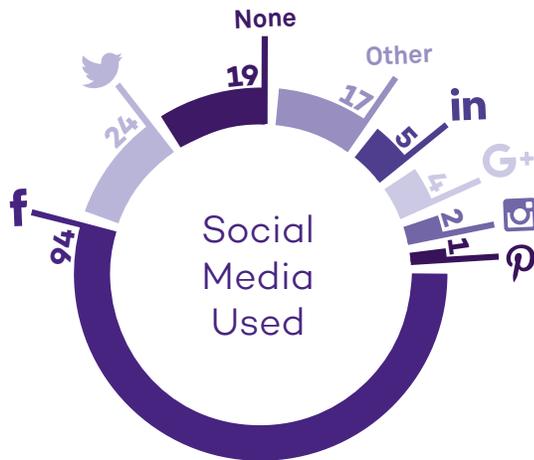
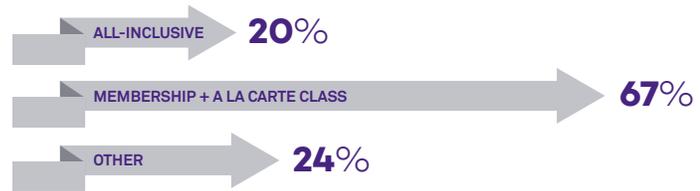
Size of Membership



Reports To:



Fee Structures



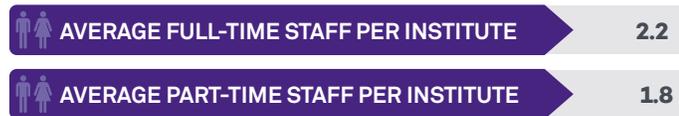
Travel Programs



Online Registration



Staffing



Volunteers



Travel with OLLI

Collette Vacations

Exploring Greece and Its Islands

featuring Classical Greece, Mykonos & Santorini
October 04 — October 18, 2018
15 Days • 22 Meals

Relax and Discover Unsurpassed Beauty

Discover the magnificent ruins of ancient Greece in their tranquil Mediterranean settings. This comprehensive journey explores Greece's most important ancient monuments, like the famed Temple of Zeus, archeological site of Olympia and ancient artifacts of Delphi. Explore Athens your way – choose a tour of the incredible Acropolis, or embark on a walking tour of some of the city's hidden gems. Visit a local farm in the countryside to see how olive oil and wine are produced. Learn how to cook traditional Mediterranean cuisine during a cooking demonstration. Wander the winding streets, vineyards, marketplaces and beaches of Mykonos and Santorini. Explore the excavations of the ancient city at Akrotiri, the most important prehistoric settlement found anywhere in the Eastern Mediterranean. In Athens, enjoy traditional cuisine, wine and entertainment at a family-owned taverna in the lively Plaka district. Learn the history of this fascinating country from local experts on guided tours of Athens, Meteora, Delphi, Olympia and Corinth.

Reservation and Deposit Due Date:

March 29, 2018



Iceland's Magical Northern Lights

January 26 - February 01, 2019
7 Days • 10 Meals



Nature's Wonderland

The "land of fire and ice" is a place of many wonders, including the rare opportunity to see the spectacular aurora borealis – or northern lights. Travel in Iceland will bring you on a search for that once-in-a-lifetime moment. Take an exhilarating evening northern lights cruise. Travel to the "Golden Circle," home to many of Iceland's most renowned natural wonders. Spend time at Thingvellir National Park, the nation's most historic area. Gaze at the spectacular Gullfoss waterfall – one of the world's most incredible cascades. Explore Skogar Folk Museum and see traditional turf-built homes. Walk on a black volcanic sand beach. See Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon filled with floating icebergs. Relax in the warm, mineral-rich water of the natural geothermal pool the Blue Lagoon. Spend your evenings gazing at the night sky in search of the elusive and dazzling northern lights.

Reservation and Deposit Due Date:

July 20, 2018

For more information about these Collette Vacations and other travel opportunities with OLLI, visit <http://www.olliatwvu.org/for-members/travel-with-olli/> or call the OLLI office at 304-293-1793.

Thank You to our Winter Term Sponsors!

Heritage Travels and Coal Country Tours (www.myheritageadventures.com)

Right at Home (rightathome.net)

The Bean Counter (gfbrown2@frontier.com)