



OSHER
LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE

OLLI

at Drake
UNIVERSITY

FALL 2025 CLASSES, EVENTS, AND SOCIALS

Lifelong Learning Never Ends.



Expand
your mind.

Expand
your community.

REGISTRATION OPENS 9 A.M. AUGUST 12

W drake.edu/olli

P 515-271-2120

E OLLI@drake.edu

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Learn something new.

Have fun doing it.



About OLLI at Drake

We are a volunteer-supported program of Drake University open to all persons who seek opportunities for lifelong learning. We offer an environment of sharing and fellowship that provides opportunities of intellectual, social and cultural stimulation and growth.



Welcome to Fall 2025 with OLLI at Drake University

As the golden leaves of fall begin to appear, we are thrilled to welcome you to another enriching semester of lifelong learning, connection, and community through OLLI at Drake. This fall, we continue to offer a wide range of in-person, hybrid, and Zoom courses to meet your learning needs and preferences. From history and science to literature, art, technology, wellness, and local adventures—there truly is something for everyone.

This year has been especially meaningful as we marked the 20th anniversary of our program—originally founded in 2004 as the RaySociety in honor of Governor Robert D. Ray and his wife, Billie Ray. Their vision of a vibrant, intellectually engaged community of learners continues to inspire everything we do. Thanks to the generous support of the Bernard Osher Foundation and the dedication of our members and volunteers, OLLI at Drake has flourished into a dynamic institute, offering robust educational programming to adults from all walks of life.

In recognition of the Rays' enduring legacy, OLLI at Drake has established the annual **Governor Robert D. and Billie Ray Lecture Series**. The inaugural lecture, free and open to the public, will take place on **September 26, 2025—Governor Ray's 97th birthday**. We are honored to welcome **Ambassador Kenneth Quinn**, President Emeritus of the World Food Prize Foundation, and a popular OLLI at Drake instructor, as our keynote speaker. Ambassador Quinn's distinguished career includes serving as US Ambassador to Cambodia during the Vietnam War, and we are delighted to have him share his insights and experiences with our community.



We are proud to be part of a national network of more than 120+ Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes and even prouder of the unique character and energy that our members bring to OLLI at Drake. Whether you are new to our community or a longtime participant, we hope you'll find this catalog full of opportunities to stretch your mind, explore new interests, and connect with others.

OLLI at Drake is powered by volunteers, and we are grateful for every instructor, host, council member, committee participant, and behind-the-scenes contributor. If you are curious about how you can get more involved, we invite you to connect with us. Your time, talents, and ideas help shape this community and sustain its vitality.

To those who teach: thank you. Your expertise and generosity make our programming possible. To those who learn: thank you for showing up with curiosity and passion. Together, we continue the legacy of lifelong learning that started with the Rays and has grown into something truly special.

Fall registration opens Tuesday, August 12 at 9 a.m. You can register online or by mail—whichever method works best for you.

We look forward to learning with you this fall!

Warm regards,

Tracy Beck
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Lisa Cooper
Program Coordinator
515-271-3452
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PRESENTING THE OLLI AT DRAKE SERIES

Classic films followed by a discussion led by an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Drake instructor.

MODERN TIMES

(1936)

Thursday, September 4
2 p.m.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

(1940)

Thursday, October 2
2 p.m.

GENEVIEVE

(1953)

Thursday, November 6
2 p.m.

THE APARTMENT

(1960)

Thursday, December 4
2 p.m.

How it Works

Non-credit educational opportunities are offered in the fall and spring semesters to our membership of lifelong learners. Instruction is provided by volunteers from Drake University faculty and the community at large. Events and socials are offered regularly to help connect and enrich our membership.

Membership

Annual OLLI at Drake membership extends from July 1 through June 30. A fall and spring catalog will be issued to all members.

- Annual membership \$75 per person
- New members joining in the spring semester are eligible for one free class.

Membership Benefits

- Connection to a community of enthusiastic learners in a vibrant university atmosphere
- Access to diverse courses from Drake faculty, community leaders, and experts
- Members-only lectures throughout the year, at no additional cost
- Borrowing privileges at Drake's Cowles Library
- Reserved seating at Drake's Bucksbaum lecture series
- Parking privileges for classes
- Invitations to Drake-sponsored lectures and activities
- Monthly e-newsletter

Mailing Address:
OLLI at Drake
2507 University Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50311

Office Location:
Alumni House
2700 University Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50311

Volunteer Opportunities

There are multiple opportunities to support OLLI at Drake by sharing your time and talents. Contact the office for details: OLLI@drake.edu or phone 515.271.2120. Training and orientation will be provided.

- **Programming Committee**
generating ideas for program content, providing feedback, and developing courses from concept to reality.
- **Events and Socials Committee**
generating ideas and conducting planning for social events, community tours, and other activities.
- **Membership and Marketing Committee**
providing insight and support for OLLI at Drake membership recruitment and retention strategies.
- **Volunteer Engagement Committee**
supports recruitment, engagement and retention of volunteers working with OLLI at Drake University.
- **OLLI at Drake Council**
general oversight for program creation, financial management, community outreach, membership recruitment and retention.
- **Instructor**
propose a course you would like to teach in an upcoming semester.
- **Host Team**
early class arrival, introducing instructors, greeting and checking in registrants.
- **Administrative Support Team**
supporting class venue set up, office task completion, etc.

Important Information

Values

- **Personal Growth:** We seek to enhance our lives by stimulating thought, providing new opportunities for creative thinking, expanding knowledge, and offering meaningful experiences. We encourage members to interact and enjoy themselves.
- **Knowledge/Learning:** We seek to enjoy the process of learning, the satisfaction of our curiosity, and the pursuit of truth.
- **Respectful:** We seek to create a welcoming environment where people feel safe to express their ideas and opinions.
- **Communication:** We seek to engage clearly, regularly, and directly with members, Drake partners, and other central Iowa communities

Member Communication

- OLLI at Drake uses email as its primary method of communication. If you do not have an email address, please request information to be mailed through USPS.
- OLLI at Drake members will receive an e-newsletter each month, highlighting upcoming OLLI at Drake and campus activities.

Scholarships

Thanks to the generous support of the Osher Foundation, OLLI members, and other donors, OLLI at Drake University offers scholarships to those in financial need. Their contributions make scholarships possible for older adults who would not be able to participate otherwise. Scholarship can be provided for an annual membership and/or up to three classes or events. Thank you!

To request a scholarship, please email olli@drake.edu. All scholarship requests will be confidential.

Name Tags

- All OLLI at Drake members will be issued a name tag.

Library Privileges

As a member of OLLI at Drake, you have borrowing privileges at Drake's Cowles Library. Library privileges must be renewed every year. Contact the library to get your library card: call (515) 271-2113. You will need to provide a current form of ID.

Parking Tags

- All OLLI at Drake members attending **in-person classes on the Drake campus** will be issued a parking tag.
- Parking tags issued during the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 semesters are valid until August 2026.
- Parking tags are to be used in designated OLLI parking locations only during OLLI classes.

Refund Policy

Refunds will be processed upon notification to the office at least **two weeks** prior to the commencement of a course or event. Please be advised that refunds will not be granted for partial participation in a class or activity.

Refunds will only be issued for individual class amounts **equal to, or exceeding, \$20**. Alternatively, if a refund is not preferred for a cancellation, the fee can be converted into a tax-deductible contribution.

Important Class Information

Class Registration

- Please register for classes online at <https://alumni.drake.edu/olli>
- In the event you are unable to register online, a registration form and a business reply envelope are enclosed.
- Classes are open to OLLI at Drake members only.
- Registration is processed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Each participant should register separately.

OLLI at Drake Hybrid classes

Most of our classes are listed as Hybrid. You can choose to participate in person, or via Zoom. **Please circle IP (in-person) or Z (Zoom) where indicated.** The in-person location for Hybrid classes will be the Harkin Institute building at Drake University.

OLLI at Drake In-Person classes

There are several classes listed as **In-Person**. They may be performances or field trips. We have some classes that the instructor has requested be delivered only in-person.

Class Locations

Hybrid classes are held at the Harkin Institute, 2800 University Avenue, Des Moines. Offsite class locations are listed with class information.

OLLI at Drake Zoom classes

Some classes are listed as “only Zoom”. We are fortunate to have instructors from all over the country and the virtual delivery works best for the instructor/s to present via Zoom. There are numerous benefits to participating in virtual classes, especially enabling class participation from anywhere in the country.

What you need for Zoom

- High-speed internet connection.
- A computer or iPad.
- A smart phone can be used to participate by video or use dial-in info for those without a computer or smart phone.

Class cancellations or changing delivery mode

In the rare case of a class cancellation or date change, OLLI at Drake staff will notify the class participants **via email**. Please check your emails regularly, particularly on the morning of a class.

An email announcement will be sent if weather conditions or other circumstances necessitate for a Hybrid class to be changed to Zoom only.

We are here to help

OLLI at Drake staff are happy to help all members achieve the most from their class experience. Please contact the staff with any questions!

Director: Tracy Beck

tracy.beck@drake.edu

Program Coordinator: Lisa Cooper

lisa.cooper@drake.edu

General inquiries

olli@drake.edu

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Maximizing your OLLI at Drake Experience – Open House

OLLI at Drake Leadership Team and Staff

Wednesday, August 27
2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID
Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom
Cost: FREE

What is OLLI? Find out how it works and how you can get involved. This single session for both new and returning members will look briefly at the history of OLLI at Drake University. We will look at OLLI at Drake's organizational structure, goals and programs. You will meet some of OLLI's leaders, learn how they got involved, and discover opportunities for you to engage.

Value Based Care: The Future of Aging Well

Dr. Megan Romine

Tuesday, September 2
10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID
Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom
Cost: \$15

As our population ages, healthcare must evolve to better serve what patients actually want: staying healthy, independent, and engaged. Value-based care aligns payment with these goals, enabling coordinated teams to focus on prevention and whole-person wellness. Discover how this patient-centered approach is transforming care for older adults through better communication, personalized strategies, and outcomes that matter most to seniors and their families.

Dr. Megan Romine DO, MHA, FACP is an internal medicine physician and healthcare executive based in Des Moines, Iowa. She is the Senior Medical Director for Oak Street Health in Iowa and Missouri, focusing on delivering transformational high quality care to adults on Medicare.

The Power of Storytelling in Grief and Healing

Kathy Koenig

Tuesdays, September 2, 16
Wednesday, September 24
11:30 a.m.– 1 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON
Location: Alumni House
Cost: \$45
Cap: 12
Participants can bring a brown bag lunch.

Grief takes many forms—loss of a loved one, illness, estrangement, life transitions, or significant life changes. This course offers a warm, supportive space to explore how storytelling can process loss, honor experiences, and bring comfort. You'll discover how writing fosters healing and connection through guided exercises and thoughtful prompts. Whether for personal reflection or sharing with others, this course encourages self-expression in a natural, restorative way—no writing experience is needed, just an open heart.

Kathy Koenig is a grief counselor, educator, and former family caregiver with experience in healthcare, retirement communities, and business organizations. Specializing in grief across life transitions—including illness, estrangement, and loss. Kathy provides compassionate support, helping individuals navigate change through education, counseling, and storytelling to foster healing.

Mexican Art, 1900–Today

Mia Laufer

Tuesdays, September 2, 9, 16
2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM
Cost: FREE (collaboration with DSM Art Center)??

This three-part online class provides a window to the cultural and political revolution that shaped Mexico's artistic identity from the early twentieth century through today. Highlighting some of the most important artistic voices and institutions in the country, including the Tres Grandes and the Taller de Gráfica Popular, this class will situate the photography of Manuel Álvarez Bravo within the context of the cosmopolitan world of Mexico City.

Mia Laufer former Curator at the Des Moines Art Center, and currently the Irene Leache Curator of European Art at the Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, Virginia. She holds a BA in art history from New York University and an MA and PhD in art history from Washington University in St. Louis. Her curatorial practice centers around collaboration and inclusion, working with co-curators, advisory committees, and community partners to ensure that museums reflect the audiences they serve.

Don't miss the opportunity for a docent tour of the Des Moines Art Center's featured fall exhibition Manuel Álvarez Bravo: Collaborations curated by Dr. Mia Laufer. Further details are later in this catalog. Register separately to participate in the tours.

Memorable Moments from the Golden Age of Radio

Carl Johnson

Wednesdays, September 3, 10, 17, 24

9:30–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$45

This course will examine several particularly memorable shows from the Golden Age of Radio (1937–1960). Each show will be placed in context, played in full, then discussed. The shows will include: “The War of the Worlds” from the Mercury Theater on the Air; “The Garden of Eden” from *The Chase and Sanborn Hour* with Edgar Bergen, Charlie McCarthy, Mae West, and Don Ameche; “Who’s on First” from the *Abbott and Costello Show*; and “Your Money or Your Life” from *The Jack Benny Show*. Other shows may be added, time permitting.

Carl Johnson is an aficionado of old-time radio shows and has presented on them for Area Education Agencies and The RaySociety (OLLI at Drake). Carl received his undergraduate degree in music education and his teaching credential from UCLA, then spent 19 years teaching high school instrumental music in California. He moved to Urbandale in 1992 and received his master’s degree in conducting from Drake University in 1994. He has taught classes in numerous adjunct and part-time capacities ever since. He was the music director/conductor of the Des Moines Community Orchestra, conducted annual musicals with the Urbandale Community Theatre, and is the assistant director of the Greater Des Moines Community Band.

Updates on Drake Basketball

Eric Henderson (Men’s Head Coach)

Allison Pohlman (Women’s Head Coach)

Dolph Pulliam

Wednesday, September 3

12–1:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$15

See special offer for discounted General Admission Season Tickets for OLLI members later in the catalog!

Hear from Coaches Allison Pohlman and Eric Henderson about the upcoming Drake Basketball seasons. Ask questions about the Bulldog teams, and learn how you can be a part of the excitement inside the Knapp Center. Special guest, Dolph Pulliam, will join via Zoom.

Eric Henderson, is originally from Coggon, Iowa and a graduate of Maquoketa Valley High School. Henderson spent the previous six seasons as the head coach of the South Dakota State Jackrabbits. He previously spent three years as an assistant at South Dakota State, rising to associate head coach for the 2018-19 campaign. Henderson guided the Jackrabbits to plenty of success and posted a 129-60 overall record and a 76-20 mark in the Summit League. They won two conference tournament titles en route to a pair of NCAA Tournament appearances. A 2000 graduate of Wayne State (Neb.), Henderson began his collegiate coaching career at his alma mater from 2001-03 as an assistant coach. After coaching girls’ basketball at Wayne Community School for two seasons, he moved on to Iowa State, where he was the graduate manager for the Cyclones’ men’s basketball team from 2006-08 and a learning specialist for the 2008-09 season. Eric and his wife, Alicia, are proud parents of four children, sons Kooper, Kort and Kyler, and daughter McKinley.

Allison Pohlman, a longtime associate head coach and one of the primary architects of the Drake women’s basketball program’s renaissance, was named the Suzie Glazer Burt Head Women’s Basketball Coach at Drake University on April 18, 2021 and is entering her fifth season leading the Bulldog women with a career record of 93-42. Along the way, the Bulldogs won the program’s 10th MVC Regular Season championship, and MVC Tournament championships in 2023 and 2024. The Wellsburg, Iowa native and her husband, Kirk, have triplet daughters, Quinn, Rubie and Sidney. Pohlman holds a bachelor’s of science in dietetics and a master’s degree in health education from UNI.

Dolph Pulliam, a native of Gary, Ind., was a key member of Drake’s 1968-69 team that reached the NCAA Final Four and defeated North Carolina in the third-place game. He was drafted by the NBA’s Boston Celtics and courted by the NFL’s Dallas Cowboys in 1969. Bypassing professional

sports, Pulliam remained in Des Moines and became active in the community while becoming the first African-American television broadcaster in Iowa. In 1989, he became director of athletic marketing at Drake before moving into a position as director of community outreach and development prior to retiring in 2014. s

Economic Roundtable

Tom Root

Wednesdays, September 3, October 15, November 19, December 10

2-3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$45

Ever since its earliest offering during the 2008 financial crisis, the Economic Roundtable has strived to better understand the tumultuous economic environment of the last 17 years. The Fall 2025 class continues its mission with a focus on considering the potential for a future recession, the current state of the labor market, and the impact of the Federal Reserve's efforts to stop inflation. Please join us in discussing what are often conflicting economic signals and political rhetoric in a quest to better understand the current economic environment.

Thomas Root holds four degrees including a PhD in economics from the University of Kansas. He has been teaching in the primary area of finance in the College of Business and Public Administration at Drake since 1999. In addition to being an active member of the academic community, he maintains a close connection to the private sector through both consulting and the delivery of certificate programs taught to area business leaders through Drake's Center for Professional Studies. Root also holds a visiting professorship at Makerere University Business School (MUBS) in Uganda.

Knitting and Crafts Social Group

Margie Davidson, Jan Hetzel,

Rita Kottmeyer

Thursday, September 4 (FIRST MEETING)**

12-1:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: FREE

Join our Knitting & Craft Group! Calling all lifelong learners and creative minds! Whether you're a seasoned crafter or just eager to try something new, our friendly group is the perfect place to unwind, share skills, and

spark inspiration. Bring your knitting, crochet, embroidery, or any craft you love—along with your curiosity and conversation! Come create, connect, and learn together.

Our first meeting will be a brown bag luncheon.

Subsequent meeting times will be determined by the group.

MOVIE EVENT – Varsity Cinema *Modern Times* (1936)

Carl Johnson hosts discussion after movie

Thursday, September 4

2-4:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Varsity Cinema

Cost: \$10

****Complimentary popcorn and pop provided by Oak Street Health****

(Optional Zoom presentation with Carl Johnson at 9:30-10:30 a.m., Thursday, September 4)

Charlie Chaplin's *Modern Times* is a timeless comedic masterpiece that blends slapstick humor with a sharp critique of industrialization and modern society. As the Little Tramp struggles to keep pace with assembly lines, factory whistles, and the rise of automation, Chaplin delivers one of his most iconic performances—full of heart, resilience, and hilarity.

Biking Fourmile Creek to Learn about Conservation Work in the Watershed

Lee Tesdell, Cassie Druhl

Friday, September 5

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: TBD

Cost: \$15

Cap: 20

Participants will be required to ride their own bikes.

Join Lee Tesdell and Cassie Druhl to revisit the Fourmile Creek, and bike from Mally's Park at Berwick to Copper Creek in Pleasant Hill. At several points along the way we will learn from experts about Fourmile Creek water quality and flooding, and conservation measures that have been taken to improve water quality and reduce flooding. The bike trail is an easy pedal and is approximately 7.1 miles (the portion of the trail that we will travel).

Lee Tesdell has been a teacher for 42 years. He has a PhD from Iowa State University. He is a retired professor who lives on his farm in the Fourmile Creek Watershed,

and is a commissioner on the Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Cassie Druhl graduated from Central College with a Communication Studies degree and received an Environmental Studies degree from Ashford University and has 14 years of experience in environmental education. She currently manages The Rain Campaign and assists with administrative duties for three Central Iowa Watershed Management Authorities.

From *Mean Streets* to (*The Wolf of*) *Wall Street*: The Sacred and Profane in Martin Scorsese's Films

Jody Swilky

**Fridays, September 5, 12, 19, 26
10 a.m.–12 p.m.**

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$45

Robert De Niro, Leonardo DiCaprio, Joe Pesci, Lorraine Bracco, Sharon Stone, and many other stars of cinema have been fortunate to work with Martin Scorsese, the 20th century oscar-winning director who more than any filmmaker of his generation has offered a continuous, passionate investigation of the tensions between the desire for power and the pursuit of the spiritual. How does each film explore the realms and consequences of pursuing corruption, seeking higher spirituality, and the tension between the two aspirations?

We will work with films that span Scorsese's career, including *Mean Streets*, *Silence*, *Goodfellas*, *The Wolf of Wall Street*, and *Killers of the Flower Moon*. We will discuss each film's pertinence to the historical context in which it was produced, and examine Scorsese's artistic development in narrative and form.

Questions and concerns will be addressed in lectures and discussions. Viewing the films prior to the classes is not required, but watching them will help you understand the larger context of the clips we analyze.

Jody Swilky has written and co-produced documentary film, taught courses at Drake University and other schools focusing on the historical functions of documentary, and lectured on the film genre at several universities in the US and Mexico. He wrote and co-produced the award-winning documentary *A Little Salsa on the Prairie: The Changing Character of Perry, Iowa*, which has had over 50 public screenings, been featured at film festivals, and shown on Iowa Public Television.

Professor Swilky has received grants from The National Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities Iowa, Iowa Arts Council, and the Bock Family Foundation.

Generations Over Lunch: A Preview of WesleyLife and Drake's Fall 'Lunch-and-Learn' Series

**Mallary Allen, Shannon Draayer
Friday, September 5**

12–1:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: WesleyLife Meals on Wheels

Cost: FREE

Cap: 40

Participants will meet at WesleyLife Meals on Wheels for a catered lunch followed by a preview of WesleyLife and Drake's Fall line-up of *Generations Over Lunch* events. Participants will hear about the topic-based lunches that are planned for the season, talk with Drake University students and instructors who have hosted in the past, and have a chance to register for the upcoming lunches that interest them. This lunch (and the series) is sponsored by Drake donors and free to participants.

Mallary Allen is the director of Community Engaged Learning at Drake University. She earned her PhD in sociology from Southern Illinois University in 2013 and taught at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. In 2020, Mallary returned to Iowa to be near family and began work in research and consulting. She provides strategic oversight of the Office of Community Engaged Learning and facilitates faculty development in community engaged learning.

Shannon Draayer is the executive director of Community Nutrition for WesleyLife. Shannon earned a bachelor's degree from Iowa State University in journalism and political science and a masters of communications leadership from Drake University. In 2024 Shannon was recognized as one of the Des Moines Business Record's 40 Under 40 Business Leaders.

Updates in Cancer Risks, Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment, with Discussions of Iowa Trends

Dr. Anna Shook

Dr. Richard Deming, Mary Van Heukelom

Dr. Michele West, Audrey Gronemeyer

Fridays, September 5, 12, 19

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$45

The first class will review current approaches to diagnosis and treatments, especially newer targeted and gene therapies. The second class will discuss risk factors and prevention, support services, and include cancer survivors who will share their experiences with Dr. Deming's Survivorship Clinic in Des Moines. The third class will review the cancer trends in Iowa, highlight the 2025 Cancer in Iowa Report from the Iowa Cancer Registry, and discuss state wide initiatives.

Dr. Anna Shook is a graduate of the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy. She completed postgraduate training in oncology and worked in various oncology settings for the past 7 years. She joined the faculty at Drake University College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences in 2022, where she teaches oncology to third-year pharmacy students.

Dr. Richard Deming received his BS degree at South Dakota State University in 1976 and his medical degree at Creighton University in 1980. He completed a residency in radiation oncology at UC, San Francisco. Prior to moving to Des Moines he worked at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland as a staff radiation oncologist. He started Above+Beyond Cancer in 2011 and has received many awards for his leadership in reducing the burdens of cancer.

Mary Van Heukelom co-creates and leads the Optimal Living for Cancer Survivor Programs. She trains, educates, and coaches cancer survivors to reduce the chance of relapse, and enhance recovery, through the implementation of holistic personal wellness and evidence-based programs.

Dr. Michele West is an epidemiologist at the Iowa Cancer Registry, with a focus on patient contact studies and studies involving medical record abstraction. She leads the Patterns of Care Study. Dr. West also coordinates special projects, which include the *Cancer in Iowa Report* and cancer cluster investigations.

Audrey Gronemeyer is a research specialist at the Iowa Cancer Registry. She assists the Registry with project management, publications, and other projects such as the Cancer in Iowa Spotlight Series. Additionally, she is the project coordinator for the *Cancer in Iowa: 99 Counties Project*.

Chair Yoga

Inés Rojas

Mondays, September 8, 15, 22, 29

9–10 a.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: FREE

Chair yoga is a gentle practice in which yoga poses are done with the help of a chair or seated. For standing poses, the chair helps with balance. Chair yoga is great for beginners and for people with physical disabilities or who have a hard time getting up and down from the floor. The practice increases flexibility, strength, and awareness. Additionally, we will be using breathing techniques and meditation to promote relaxation and mental clarity.

Inés Rojas is originally from Venezuela, and now lives in Ibiza, Spain. She has a 200-hour Yoga Instructor Certificate from Power Life Yoga (2024) in Des Moines and a 300-hour Yoga Teacher Training (2019) from SVYASA, India. She is a retired university professor for Universidad de los Andes. After retiring, she went to India where she got her 300-hour YTT certification. Upon returning to Venezuela, she created a yoga group of people in their 50–70s. She later traveled to Des Moines and taught at Drake University as a visiting professor for two years. After the contract ended, she stayed in Des Moines and worked on her 200-hour YTT at Power Life Yoga and as a bilingual family liaison at Des Moines Public Schools, and continues to teach English and Spanish classes online.

Centennial of Drake Stadium

Benedict Chatelain, Hope Bibens

Blake Boldon

Monday, September 8 (hybrid)

11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Friday, September 26 (in person)

12–1 p.m. This session is at Drake Stadium

Class delivery mode: HYBRID and IN PERSON

Cost: \$30

Drake Stadium celebrates its centennial this year, marking a century as the heart of Drake University's athletic and community life. Since opening its gates, this iconic venue has hosted 100 seasons of Bulldog football, served as a gathering place for campus and

community events, and earned international recognition as the home of the Drake Relays.

The first part of this course examines the rich history of Drake Stadium, exploring its origins, architectural significance, and evolution over the past century. Students will investigate the notable events, legendary athletes, coaches, and community figures who have shaped the stadium's legacy and contributed to Drake University's sporting heritage. Participants will explore how this remarkable venue has influenced Drake University while also leaving its mark on Iowa's sporting landscape and gaining recognition on the national and international stage.

In the second part of this course, participants will have the opportunity to tour Drake Stadium itself, exploring the behind-the-scenes spaces that have witnessed a century of athletic history. This session is a walking tour.

Benedict Chatelain serves as Processing & Reference Archivist at Drake University Archives and Special Collections, where he has worked since 2022. He holds a bachelor's degree in public history from Western Michigan University and a master's degree in library and information science from Louisiana State University..

Hope Bibens is the Director of University Archives & Special Collections providing leadership in all aspects of collecting, processing, and making accessible archival collections. Hope has an MA in American History and an MLS, both from Indiana University-Bloomington, and a BA in history from Monmouth College.

Blake Boldon was named the 12th Franklin P. Johnson Director of the Drake Relays in October, 2016. He also serves as a Senior Associate Athletic Director for External Operations at Drake University. Under his leadership the Drake Relays have become a cornerstone of the World Athletics Continental Tour in North America.

Simplifying Physics – The Principle of Least Action

Sam Wormley

Mondays, September 8, 15, 22, 29

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$45

The principle of least action states that physical systems evolve along paths that minimize (or extremize) the action, a quantity integrating energy over time, providing a unifying framework for classical, quantum, and relativistic physics. Specific topics to be covered: the principle of least action underpins classical, quantum, and relativistic physics. We demonstrate this principle in our everyday lives.

Sam Wormley has degrees in mathematics and electrical engineering and taught as an adjunct professor of astronomy at Marshalltown Community College for seventeen years. Wormley regularly teaches science and technology for OLLI at Drake and OLLI at Iowa State.

Campus Art Tour

Jeremy Sievers

Tuesday, September 9

10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: INPERSON

Cost: \$15

Cap: 40

Drake University boasts an eclectic art collection across nearly every building. The class will begin with a brief presentation on significant campus artworks, including a discussion of the Stuart Davis pieces in the Olmsted Center and the curation process for the newly renovated Johansen Student Center. Following the lecture, attendees will embark on a tour of the campus and the Johansen Student Center to view the artworks.

Jeremy Sievers is the Marketing Director at Drake University. Jeremy has dedicated 21 years to Drake University's communication and marketing office, in digital design, photo/video, creative direction, and branding. With a foundation in graphic design, he is also a lifelong painter and art enthusiast. While his primary focus on campus is shaping the Drake Brand, he also had the privilege of helping curate the art collection in the new Johansen building.

Tai Chi for Beginners

Daniel Alexander

Tuesdays (12-1 p.m.):

September 9, 16, 23, 30,

October 7, 14, 21, 28

November 4, 11, 18, 25, December 2, 9

Fridays (12-1 p.m.):

September 12, 19, 26

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

November 7, 14, 21, December 5

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$30

Cap: 20 people

***Materials needed for the class will be provided free of charge at the first class. This class meets twice per week.*

This course introduces the practice of Tai Chi with a gentle, non-taxing routine that includes elements of Qigong, Yang style Tai Chi, and movement training. While it is a beginner's course, people who have experience with Tai Chi are also welcome. The course is taught with the spirit that any movement is good movement. There are many claims about the positive benefits of Tai Chi, and it is our hope that with regular practice, you will notice a difference in overall flexibility, fitness, and ability to relax. If any parts of our routine are not comfortable, you do not need to do them. If you have any health concerns about taking the class, we recommend that you consult your physician.

Daniel Alexander is a retired Drake mathematics professor. He has practiced Tai Chi for about 20 years and has co-facilitated a local Tai Chi group since 2018.

Great Readings Discussion

Group

Bruce Martin

Tuesdays, September 9, 23, October 7, 21,

November 4, 18, December 2

6:30-8 p.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$30

Cap: 20

Bruce Martin will lead discussions of literary texts from various time periods and cultures. Authors to be read during the Fall 2025 semester will include Adam Phillips, Franz Kafka & Nathaniel Hawthorne. Readings will be sent individually to participants throughout the semester. Anyone having questions or concerns, or wanting additional information should contact Bruce Martin: brucekmartin85@gmail.com or 515-612-3508.

Bruce Martin is Professor Emeritus of English, and Ellis and Nelle Levitt Professor of English at Drake. He taught at Drake from 1967 to 2006, offering courses mostly in 19th and 20th century British literature and literary theory. In 1986-1987, he held a Fulbright lectureship at the National University of Singapore, where he later served as visiting Professor of English. Subsequently, he was awarded Fulbright lectureships to South Korea and Madagascar.

Presentation of 25th Annual All-State Barn Tour of Iowa

Ober Anderson

Wednesday, September 10

12-1:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$15

For over 300 years (1650-1950) the all-purpose barn was the central work place for farm families. These barns dot the landscape across America. Barns were the major building erected by the early settlers and continued to be constructed until shortly after World War II. After WWII, very few if any old style barns were constructed. It was the end of a 300-year era.

The historic Iowa barn is a rapidly diminishing resource. It is estimated that there were over 200,000 barns built in Iowa and that we have somewhere around 35,000 left. It is also estimated that Iowa is losing around 1,000 barns per year and that number is accelerating. Fortunately, for barn enthusiasts and historians, there are many farmers who are willing to occasionally ignore profitability in the interest of tradition and heritage and maintain their barns. The Iowa Barn Foundation is dedicated to making this possible through their grant programs, tours, and many available resources for barn restoration. It is important that Iowans save the historic barn because of the sense of place it provides all of us as the "Prairie Cathedral." Some say that next to the American Flag, barns are one of the most recognized symbols of our national history.

The 25th Annual Barn Tour of Iowa will occur on September 13 and 14. Details for locations to visit will be provided to class participants.

Ober Anderson is the secretary of The Iowa Barn Foundation and a member of the Ankeny Historical Society.

The World in Review

Ellen Pirro

**Wednesdays, September 10, October 8,
November 12, December 3
2–3:30 p.m.**

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$45

Join Ellen for a monthly update on the current happenings in international relations and European politics. This class examines the resurgence of a world organized in major poles – three at this time – who contend with each other for dominance. The unipolar world centered around the United States from 1989 (the end of the Cold War) to roughly 2008 is gone. The United States faces major challenges from Russia and China, each of whom has global ambitions. Their goals will be examined and we will look to the future in this fast-evolving situation.

Ellen Pirro is a political science professor at Iowa State University, specializing in international relations and European politics. She has also served as a faculty member at Drake University. She founded and directed the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics at ISU. She was named teacher of the year at ISU in 2012, and in 2014 she received the university's International Service Award. Ellen has coauthored a book *The European Union & the Member States* with retired Drake professor Eleanor Zeff.

Water Aerobics (7 sessions)

Darlene Strachan

**Thursdays, September 11, 18, 25
October 2, 9, 16, 23
9:30–10:30 a.m.**

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Bell Center Pool, Drake University

Cost: \$30

Class cap: 25

This 7-session class features stretching and dynamic exercises, music, games, dance, and volleyball. Bring a towel and your swimsuit. Exercise equipment such as water buoys and noodles are provided. You do not need to know how to swim to participate in this class. All fitness levels are welcome.

Darlene Strachan's love for water aerobics started years ago as a participant. She has taught water aerobics at Genesis Health Club and OLLI at Drake. Darlene's goal is for everyone to have fun while getting an energetic workout!

Where on Earth is the US

Ranking? Are We in the Top 10?

Doug Stowell

**Thursday, September 11
2–4 p.m.**

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$15

This class is offered in conjunction with Osher at William & Mary University.

How does the US compare in meeting the challenges that exist in 2025? We will examine some 24 topics including **GDP, wages, taxes, trade balance, tariffs, environment, energy, education, healthcare, climate change, immigration, safety, prosperity, happiness, "Best" nations** and others. We will use the "Top 10" format which provides a quick snapshot of the US rank relative to other nations. Our sources are international surveys by highly credible and impartial worldwide organizations. This is the 4th bi-annual edition for the program and includes three discussion breaks.

Doug Stowell is a consumer and political polling veteran in both US and EU Markets. His career includes Market Research Director for the Xerox Corp., US Clients Director for the UK firm NOP Ltd. in London, and Senior Polling Executive for Wirthlin Worldwide in Washington, DC. He launched Market Resource Associates in 2008 and conducts opinion polls on US and global issues today. He is a member of the Furman University OLLI in Greenville, South Carolina, and conducts ZOOM programs for more than 80 groups nationwide.

Iowa Architectural Foundation: Ecclesiastical Walking Tour

Tom Wollan

**Thursday, September 11
5–7:30 p.m.**

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Meeting Location: TBD

Cost: \$30

Cap: 30

Raindate will be September 18

Explore the early 20th Century ecclesiastical architecture of Des Moines – from Gothic Revival to Art Deco. This walking tour will focus on the Ingersoll/Grand corridor and include Plymouth Congregational, St. Augustine, Central Presbyterian, and the former First Church of Christian Scientist, among other significant architectural buildings in this neighborhood. Learn the history of why these churches are located in this western end of the city.

This tour is offered by the **Iowa Architectural Foundation**, a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring the appreciation of architecture and design through adult enrichment and youth education programs.

OLLI at Drake Book Club

Lori Blachford

Fridays, September 12, October 10,

November 14, December 12

12–1 p.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$45

Join us for the OLLI at Drake Book Club this fall as we read and reflect together on four books about relationships, from intimate and always messy tales of family and marriage, to the complex connections we navigate within our communities, and even with the books we love. Our authors – all award-winners – will give us plenty to talk about. Discussions will take place online each month.

September 12:	<i>This Is Where I Leave You</i> Jonathan Tropper
October 10:	<i>Until August</i> Gabriel Garcia Marquez
November 14:	<i>Our Missing Hearts</i> Celeste Ng
December 12:	<i>84 Charing Cross Road</i> Helene Hanff

Lori Blachford is the former Chair of Magazine Journalism at Drake University. Her most recent storytelling efforts support a variety of nonprofit organizations in Central Iowa. She describes herself as a voracious reader, an eager listener, and a tireless learner.

Celebrating a Culinary Treasure: The Story of Milton Creamery Cheeses

C.J. Beinert

Monday, September 15

11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$30

Participants will sample cheeses during the class presentation.

Milton Creamery, located in the small southeastern Iowa town of Milton, has gained national and international recognition for its exceptional, small-batch cheeses.

Collaborating closely with local Amish and Mennonite family farms, they produce a variety of celebrated cheeses—from their signature cheddar to quark and cheese curds.

Milton Creamery's products have been featured on menus as far away as New York City and highlighted in publications such as *Garden & Gun*, a magazine known for celebrating Southern culture and cuisine. These accolades reflect not only their commitment to quality but also their growing reputation well beyond Iowa. This session offers an inside look at the story behind Milton Creamery's success, its partnerships with local producers, and the craftsmanship behind its award-winning products.

Participants will enjoy a guided cheese tasting, led by **C.J. Beinert**, owner of The Cheese Shop and Cheese Bar, who is also a representative of Milton Creamery.

Experience Fall at The Brenton Arboretum on a Guided Hike

Melissa Burdick

Tuesday, September 16 or Thursday,

September 25

9–10:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Brenton Arboretum, 25141 260th Street, Dallas Center

Cost: FREE

Cap: 15 per session (*Choose one session*)

Join us for a captivating autumn adventure through the vibrant trails of The Brenton Arboretum! Lace up your hiking boots and enjoy a guided hike led by Executive Director Melissa Burdick. Discover the fascinating science behind the changing fall colors, uncover the rich history of the trees and the land, and immerse yourself in the natural beauty of the season. This is your chance to explore, learn, and connect with nature in one of Iowa's most beautiful settings.

Melissa Burdick has been the Executive Director at The Brenton Arboretum in Dallas Center, Iowa, for seven years. She was Director of Horticulture at Lauritzen Gardens in Omaha, Nebraska, for three years and as Curator of Herbaceous Collections at The Norfolk Botanical Garden in Virginia for eight years. Melissa has been a prolific garden communicator writing for State-by-State Gardening publications, writer and in-house horticulture expert for van Bourgondien Bulb Co., and as co-host of *Gardening Today* on Iowa's WHO Radio, AM 1040. She has a bachelor's degree in landscape design from Auburn University and a master's in public horticulture administration from the University of Delaware.

Paws & Pints Happy Hour: A Place for Dogs and Their Humans

Tuesday, September 16

4:30–6 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: 6218 Willowmere Dr., DSM

Cost: **** Participants purchase own food and drink**

Bring your pooches for a fun happy hour at Paws & Pints, and enjoy a social evening with fellow OLLI members and their four-legged friends. No pups, no problems. There will be plenty of pooches who would love your undivided attention.

Paws & Pints combines the culture and community of dog owners with their everyday needs. The facility is built around convenience while providing a fun atmosphere that you and your dog(s) will enjoy. We prioritize attention to detail in order to provide your dog(s) with a safe, clean, and accountable dog park environment.

Leadership and Resilience in a Time of Civic Unrest?

Diogenes Ayala

Wednesdays, September 17, 24

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$30

This course invites participants to examine the challenges and responsibilities of leadership in an era of increasing political polarization and domestic unrest. Through a nonpartisan lens, we will explore evolving national security concerns, the importance of civic trust, and the frameworks leaders can use to promote unity, resilience, and informed engagement within their communities. Participants will leave with practical strategies for navigating complex societal dynamics and fostering constructive dialogue during uncertain times.

Diogenes Ayala holds graduate degrees in criminal justice from Simpson College and a master's in security studies from the Naval Postgraduate School. A US Navy veteran, he has advanced counterterrorism training, delivering 47 counter-IED courses and training 662 responders, earning prestigious honors for his expertise in homeland security.

Mystery Fine Wine Tasting – FRANCE!

Leif Gustafson

Wednesday, September 17

6–7:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: The Cork 50131, Johnston

Cost: \$45

Cap: 32

In honor of the recent Paris adventure by some OLLI at Drake members, Leif Gustafson will curate this mystery wine tasting with a selection of wines from France. Attendees will have the opportunity to taste and discuss six different varieties of wine from various major wine growing regions of the world. Wine will be poured in black glasses to obscure the color and make guessing more difficult. The attendee who guesses the most varieties and regions correctly will receive a free bottle of wine. Each attendee will also receive a small meat and cheese plate.

Leif Gustafson is a recovering attorney who opened The Cork 50131 with his wife Tricia in 2022. Leif is a wine aficionado who enjoys introducing people to new wines, especially those with an interesting geographical/historical story.

WesleyLife LUNCH & LEARN What's New at Drake with President Martin

President Marty Martin

Thursday, September 18

11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: WesleyLife Meals on Wheels Campus,
3206 University Ave, Des Moines

Cost: \$30

Cap: 80

Presentation and luncheon

Join President Martin for an informative presentation and update on the state of Drake University. He will discuss the latest initiatives occurring at Drake. Participants will be invited to ask President Martin questions. This is an excellent opportunity for OLLI at Drake members to interact with President Martin in an informal setting.

President Marty Martin assumed leadership of Drake in July 2015, following a distinguished career as an Air Force officer, law professor, dean, and administrator at Texas Wesleyan and Gonzaga Universities. Raised in Hartford, Kentucky, President Martin received his

bachelor's degree and a JD from the University of Kentucky, making him a fourth-generation attorney in his family. He earned an LLM from Yale University School of Law. President Martin is married to Laura Martin, and they have two sons, Cade and Case. Cade graduated from Drake in 2019, and Case graduated from Drake in 2021.

Science in the News

Mike Meetz, Sam Wormley

Thursdays, September 18, 25

October 2, 9, 16, 2

1-2:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$45

This class is offered in conjunction with OLLI at ISU.

Mike Meetz and Sam Wormley team up to provide a lively discussion with OLLI members about this week's science in the news. Links to relevant science articles will be sent out a day or two prior to each class. A deep understanding in the sciences is not required to share and discuss each week's science topics.

Mike Meetz is retired from the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine after 35 years as a scientist. An amateur naturalist, he volunteers for the National Park Service, Iowa DNR, and Story County Conservation Board. Meetz and his wife have reconstructed a 38-acre prairie.

Sam Wormley has degrees in mathematics and electrical engineering and taught as an adjunct professor of astronomy at Marshalltown Community College for seventeen years. Wormley regularly teaches science and technology for OLLI at Drake and at Iowa State.

Prairie Ponderings

Patrice Petersen-Keys

Thursday, September 18

2-3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Jester Park Nature Center, Granger

Cost: FREE

Cap: 75

Tall grass prairie once covered 85% of Iowa's landscape. Most of this unique habitat has long since vanished; however, life on the prairie still lives today. During the program, we will stroll through the prairie to learn about the unique plants and animals that live there.

Patrice Petersen-Keys has worked for Polk County Conservation for the past 32 years and has been environmental education coordinator since 1998. Patrice

supervises the education staff and the Youth Corps program. She still loves speaking to the public about Iowa's diverse natural resources and encourages them to play outside.

Birdwatching in Central Iowa

Dennis Thompson

Mondays, September 22, 29, October 6

8-9:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Locations: TBD

Cost: \$30

Cap: 15 people

Join one of Iowa's foremost birders, Dennis Thompson, for a morning bird walk exploring central Iowa parks. We'll look for a wide variety of species in various habitats. Novices are very welcome. Bring binoculars and a small notebook to record your sightings. Participants will receive meeting directions via email prior to the class. Expect some uneven terrain and wear sturdy shoes.

Dennis Thompson has been active in Central Iowa birding circles for over 35 years. He has served as president of the Des Moines Audubon Society several times and has led monthly field trips for that organization for the past 25 years. Dennis has also been the compiler for the Des Moines Audubon Christmas Bird Count since the mid-80s. Dennis is retired from Wells Fargo.

Iowa State Fair Food Staples

Andrea Love

Tuesday, September 23

10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Iowa State Fairgrounds

Cost: \$30

Cap: 30

My first stop at the Iowa State Fair is a big glass of lemonade. Then I head to the center of the fairgrounds and get a fry bread taco. In this 90-minute class we will prepare lemonade using fresh squeezed lemon juice and simple syrup. While we sip our lemonade we will work on fry bread topped with ground beef, lettuce, cheese, and homemade salsa. I can't wait to show you how to make my version of the best lemonade and fry bread tacos to bring the fair home with you. Recipes will be supplied. All you need to bring is yourself.

Andrea Love has been cooking her entire life. It started with standing on a step stool helping her mom and grandma and developed into cooking family dinners in middle school and weekly dinner with friends in

undergrad and law school. In 2017, she decided to share her love of food with others and started Dinner Delights. Since starting Dinner Delights she has added to her services to encompass all things food. She offers weekly meal prep and grab 'n go at her storefront in Beavertdale, freezer meals, catering, dinner parties, and cooking classes. Her latest offering is The Next Course: Culinary Grief Therapy, a group class focusing on what to do and how to do it now that you are cooking for one. Andrea loves what she does and relishes making food with (and for) others.

Strengthening Our Community with AARP Iowa

Michael Wagler

Tuesday, September 23

2-3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$15

Did you know that each state has its own AARP office? With 329,000 members in Iowa and nearly 200 active volunteers, AARP Iowa is engaged directly in local, state, and federal issue advocacy; community outreach and educational programming; and fun activities that build social connections. This session will explore some of the exciting ways that AARP Iowa engages with your community through a wide variety of virtual and in-person events throughout the year.

Michael Wagler is the State Director of AARP Iowa. AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. In addition to his role at AARP, Wagler also helped lead the revitalization of the Varsity Cinema.

“Wall of Witnesses” Luncheon, Hotel Pattee, Perry

Bill Clarke

Thursday, September 25

10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: 1112 Willis Ave, Perry, IA 50220

Cost: \$30 (*includes lunch*)

Cap: 60

The “Wall of Witnesses” in Perry, Iowa, is a public art display honoring individuals with ties to the Perry community who have made a significant positive impact. Hometown Heritage, in collaboration with the Perry Historic Preservation Commission, organizes the Wall

of Witnesses, with nominations accepted from the community and unveiled annually in Soumas Court.

Bill Clarke from Hometown Heritage will discuss the significance of the individuals represented on the Wall of Witnesses, while OLLI members enjoy a delicious luncheon at the Cafe Pattee.

ANDERSON GALLERY EVENT: Unfurling Garden Exhibition

Lilah Anderson

Thursday, September 25

5-6:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Anderson Gallery, Drake University

Cost: \$15 (*incl. light refreshments reception*)

Cap: 35

Take a guided tour through the exhibition *Unfurling Garden*, a sculptural installation by artist and Drake alum Nikki Renee Anderson. Gallery Director Lilah Anderson will lead the tour and answer questions about the work. The evening will also include light refreshments and time to connect with other participants about art.

Lilah Anderson has served as the Anderson Gallery Director at Drake University since October 2021. In her role, she directs the Gallery, works with faculty, students and artists to curate exhibitions, and develops programming and outreach. She earned her MS in history of art, theory and display from the University of Edinburgh and her BA from Bard College with a double major in art history and biology.

“Governor Robert D. Ray Day” Ice Cream Social

Friday, September 26

2:30-4 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: The Ray Promenade, Drake University

Cost: FREE

Rain location will be inside Collier-Scripps Hall on the lower level.

Join The Robert D. and Billie Ray Center on The Ray Promenade outside of Collier-Scripps Hall as we celebrate Governor Robert D. Ray Day and his lasting legacy of civility, service, and leadership. Enjoy free ice cream and connect with students, faculty, and visitors during this annual campus tradition honoring the values Governor Ray championed throughout his life. All are welcome!

**GOVERNOR ROBERT D. RAY
AND BILLIE RAY LECTURE
SERIES *Inaugural Lecture:*
1979 – Governor Robert D.
Ray’s Global Moral Leadership
and the Most Significant
Year in Iowa’s Humanitarian
Heritage**

Ambassador Kenneth Quinn

Friday, September 26

4:30–6:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: FREE

Reception to follow.

Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, who between 1978 and 1982 served as a State Department Pearson Fellow on assignment to the staff of Iowa Governor Robert D. Ray will describe how, in what was arguably the single most globally impactful year in our state’s 180 year history, Governor Ray and Mrs. Billie Ray were at the forefront of Iowa’s leadership in: rescuing the “Boat People” refugees from Vietnam; eliciting global praise at the United Nations in Geneva for America’s humanitarian policies; welcoming Pope John Paul II to Living History Farms; building Iowa’s early agricultural connections to China; and inspiring the Iowa SHARES campaign that rushed lifesaving food, medicine, and Iowa medical volunteers to save Cambodian genocide victims.

Ambassador Quinn will demonstrate how Governor Robert D. Ray rightfully deserves a place in the Pantheon of Iowa’s Greatest Agricultural and Humanitarian Heroes, that includes Norman Borlaug, George Washington Carver, Herbert Hoover, Henry A. Wallace, and Jessie Field Shambaugh, the Mother of 4-H.

Ambassador Kenneth Quinn is a graduate of Loras College in Dubuque, holds a master’s degree in political science from Marquette University and a PhD in international relations from the University of Maryland. He was only the 23rd recipient of the Iowa Medal, the state’s highest citizen award. Other honors include: the State Department Award for Heroism; being the only civilian to ever earn the Army Air Medal for participating in helicopter combat operations; and acting as interpreter in Vietnamese for President Ford.

**Tallgrass Theatre Company
presents *Blithe Spirit***

Sunday, September 28

2 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Tallgrass Theatre, West Des Moines

Cost: \$35

Cap: 50 people

Join OLLI at Drake members for another thoroughly enjoyable Noël Coward play at Tallgrass Theatre.

“Fussy, cantankerous novelist Charles Condomine, has remarried but finds himself haunted (literally) by the ghost of his late first wife, Elvira. Clever, insistent and well aware of Charles’ shortcomings, Elvira is called up by a visiting “happy medium,” the eccentric and flighty Madame Arcati. Charles’ current wife, Ruth, remains convinced that it is all an elaborate hoax until...”

“Coffee Cats” Cat Cafe

Mary Jankowski

Monday, September 29

11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: 312 5th St., West DSM

Cost: ** *Participants purchase own food and coffee*

Cap: 20

Coffee Cats is an innovative and distinctive approach to a coffee shop. We highlight locally sourced coffee and food items along with a separate cat lounge area, housing adoptable cats from the Animal Rescue League of Iowa.

The Cafe is not typically open on a Monday, so OLLI members will have the opportunity to enjoy a beverage in the comfort of the cozy coffee shop or in the purr-fect surroundings of feline friends.

Exploring Ames
Iowa Lavender, LLC
Cornbred Barbecue
Story County Historical Museum
Tuesday, September 30
10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: TBA

Cost: \$60

Cap: 40

Join OLLI at Drake members as we explore some hidden gems in Ames and surrounding district. The schedule is as follows:

The morning will start at Iowa Lavender LLC. This relaxing and educational visit will take us to a lavender farm after the harvest, where we'll explore the field, learn about different types of lavender, and see freshly made lavender products. We'll take part in a hands-on Lavender 101 class led by farm owners Jessica and Jason Mortvedt, who will teach us what makes lavender unique, how to grow it successfully, and how to use it once it's harvested. The class is interactive and tailored to our group, and includes a chance to see, touch, and smell the different varieties grown on the farm. We'll also get to try their refreshing lavender lemonade, shop in their charming gift shop, and take photos in front of their lavender wall.

From there we will drive to Cornbred Barbecue for a delicious buffet lunch, followed by docent-led tours of the Story County Historical Museum. With the restaurant and museum bookending Main Street in Ames, there will be plenty of time for a visit to shops along the way.

The Power of We:
Big Brothers–Big Sisters
Tony Leo and guests
Wednesday, October 1
10-11:30 a.m.
Class delivery mode: HYBRID
Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom
Cost: \$15

Join Big Brothers–Big Sisters of Central Iowa (BBBSIA) for an engaging session led by Program Director Tony Leo. Learn about BBBSIA's mission, the variety of mentoring programs offered, and meaningful ways to get involved. You'll also hear firsthand from a Big and Little match as they share their personal experiences and the impact of mentorship in their lives.

Tony Leo has been with BBBSIA for 20 years and serves as the Director of Programs where he is responsible for developing the strategy, implementation, and evaluation for all programs that meet the needs of youth in our community. In his free time, Tony enjoys golfing, playing board games, doing puzzles, and spending time with family and friends. Tony has an MSW from the University of Iowa.

Bike Ride Celebrating the
Artistic Colors of Easter Lake

Missy Smith, Lewis Major

Wednesday, October 1

10–11:30 a.m. (Session 1)

2–3:30 p.m. (Session 2)

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Easter Lake

Cost: FREE

Cap: 15 per session. *Sign up for one session only.*

Participants will be required to ride their own bikes.

We will take a bike ride around Easter Lake on the Mark C. Ackelson Trail to learn about the park's public art pieces while enjoying the beautiful fall colors.. Each piece, the artist, medium, and concept will be discussed as a knowledgeable guide leads you through the beautiful sculpture trail.

Missy Smith is the Nature Center Coordinator and Public Art Chair for Polk County Conservation.

Lewis Major is a naturalist with Polk County Conservation. For over 20 years, he has been teaching conservation education and outdoor recreation to people of all ages. He is passionate about getting people outdoors and connecting them with their natural world.

MOVIE EVENT – Varsity Cinema
Foreign Correspondent (1940)

Carl Johnson hosts discussion after movie

Thursday, October 2

2–4:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Varsity Cinema

Cost: \$10

(Optional Zoom presentation with Carl Johnson at 9:30–10:30 a.m., Thursday, October 2)

Alfred Hitchcock's *Foreign Correspondent* is a gripping espionage thriller that blends political intrigue with pulse-pounding suspense. Set on the brink of World War II, the film follows an intrepid American journalist

as he uncovers a sinister conspiracy in Europe. With unforgettable set pieces—including a heart-stopping windmill chase and a breathtaking airplane sequence—this classic is Hitchcock at his most thrilling and prescient.

Carl Johnson see previous biographical information.

Drake Musical: Cabaret
with presentation by the Director
Thursday, October 2
6 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Coleman Studio Theatre

Cost: \$30 (incl. wine and cheese reception)

Cap: 50

Reception and presentation prior to performance.

Cabaret is set in 1929–1930 Berlin during the twilight of the Jazz Age as the Nazis rise to power and focuses on the nightlife at the seedy Kit Kat Klub, and revolves around American writer Clifford Bradshaw's relationship with English cabaret performer Sally Bowles. The original Broadway production opened on November 20, 1966, at the Broadhurst Theatre in New York City and became a box office hit that ran for 1,166 performances, winning eight Tony Awards.

The Montessori Method:
Who? What? Why?

Liz Brennan

Friday, October 3

10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$15

Dr. Maria Montessori was a groundbreaking feminist, doctor, and educator. Her methods and materials have shaped the lives of many and are still very relevant today as they are used in classrooms around the world. This talk will introduce you to Dr. Montessori, her educational materials, and her revolutionary methods.

Liz Brennan has taught at Montessori Children's House in West Des Moines for over 20 years. She is currently serving as a mentor to new teachers there. Liz has also been on several education boards: she served 12 years on the West Des Moines Public Schools' board of directors, and she is currently serving as the President on the Heartland AEA Board and as the immediate Past-President for the Iowa Association of School Boards. She has the following credentials: BA, St. Olaf College; elementary teaching certification University of Iowa;

International Diploma in early childhood pedagogy Montessori Centre International; and is a teacher and administrator at Montessori Children's House.

UFOs/UAPs: Are We Alone?

John Hickok

Fridays, October 3, 10, 17, 24

1–3 p.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$45

This class is offered in collaboration with Osher at William and Mary University

In July 1947, reports of an alien craft crashing near Roswell, NM were quickly covered up by the government. There continues to be great interest in the event and many other sightings since 1947.

This course kicks off with background about the universe for context of events of the last 77 years that shape the UFO/UAP story. We will view US Navy videos of first-hand encounters with UAPs and talk about investigative groups and whistle blowers who seek to unravel the mystery. And talk about new efforts by Congress, the Pentagon, NASA and academia to capture UAP data, as well as the possibility that the DoD is covering up an ultra-top secret program related to captured alien spacecraft and attempts to reverse engineer its technology. The course includes a comprehensive list of resources to continue to study.

John Hickok holds an MS in aero engineering and an MBA from Naval Postgraduate School, and a BS in engineering and nuclear physics from the US Naval Academy. He retired after a 48-year career in the Navy and Office of the Secretary of Defense. His service includes flight operations as an A-6 Intruder naval flight officer and British RAF Buccaneer weapon systems officer. His acquisition assignments included top-secret stealth programs and as the Navy's project manager for avionics systems.

Beginning Mah Jongg

Margie Davidson

Fridays, October 3, 10, 17, 24

1:30–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$45

Cap: 20

Want to challenge and exercise your brain by learning a new game? Mah Jongg is a fascinating rummy-like game played with tiles rather than cards. It is a game of skill, strategy and calculation and it involves a certain

degree of chance. The four-player table version should not be confused with the tile matching computer game version, which is a recent invention and completely different from the table game. This class will follow the rules of the National Mah Jongg League, using an annually updated card that outlines the standard hands. Learners will work with experienced players during each class session as they learn rules, strategies, and all the challenging aspects of this game.

Margie Davidson spent her career in a variety of challenging and interesting jobs. She retired from Drake University in spring 2012 after 23 years (Director of Advising and Director of the Office of Student Records.) Always a gamer, Margie included in her retirement plans learning to play Mah Jongg, which she began in a RaySociety class in 2012. Not to her surprise, she became enchanted with both playing and helping others learn the intricacies of the game. She has taught well over 200 people this fascinating game.

Homecoming Football Game

Saturday, October 4

10 a.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Drake Stadium

Cost: ***Tickets to be purchased at gate.*

See special offer for discounted General Admission Season Tickets for OLLI members later in the catalog!

Join us to cheer on the Drake Bulldogs (2023 and 2024 PFL champions) when they play Valparaiso in the Homecoming Football Game. Kickoff is 12 noon. Prior to the game OLLI members will meet with new head coach, Joe Woodley, for a preview of the game, and then will join the Drake Marching Band for a behind-the-scenes view of the rehearsal prior to the game.

Further details will be shared in the September OLLI newsletter.

An Introduction to Game Theory

Alexander Kleiner

Mondays, October 6, 13, 20, 27

10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$45

Game Theory is the logical analysis of situations of conflict and cooperation. As a formal subdivision of mathematics, game theory can be traced back to Von

Neumann and Morgenstern's classic 1940's monograph *Theory of Games and Economic Behavior*. This course will introduce some of the basic ideas. Examples will be taken from economics, politics, and nature. The course will introduce three broad categories: two-person zero-sum games, two-person non-zero-sum games and n-person games. Classic problems such as the prisoner's dilemma, chicken, duopoly and weighted voting games will be discussed. Students will learn some of the basic ideas of discrete game theory, its basic applications to a broad range of areas outside mathematics, and some of its history. There will be no specific mathematics background assumed for participants in the course, lectures will be directed towards those who have an interest in mathematics.

Alexander Kleiner has three degrees in mathematics and 46+ years teaching at the university level. He has a PhD in mathematics from Texas A&M and taught mathematics at Drake from 1969 to 2012. At Drake he developed a course in Game Theory and taught it multiple times.

POLITICS IN AMERICA

The Effects of the 'Great Divide'

Dennis Goldford,

Tom Henderson, Doug Gross

Mondays, October 6, 13

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$30

American voters have returned President Trump to the White House. He emphasizes that people have given him a mandate. His motto is "Promises Made. Promises Kept." He learned from his first term. Loyalty to the President is the foundation upon which his Administration is built. He is transforming the federal government. Project 2025, executive orders, DOGE, the expansion of Presidential power—all seeming to take place at a rapid pace—something none of us have experienced in our lifetime. How do we react to seemingly constant change?

Deportation, reducing the size of the federal government, the expanding role of the Chief Executive, tariffs, and the Middle East are issues on the minds of many. And we haven't considered the changing face of Iowa politics. Will the Hawkeye State remain in the 'red column'? Or is change in the wind? Join us as a retired professor and political pros reflect on how the re-election of President Trump has impacted all of us.

SESSION 1:

Dennis Goldford retired in 2024 from Drake after 39 years on the faculty, teaching in the areas of political theory, American politics, and constitutional law. He received a BA in political science and philosophy from the University of Michigan, an MLitt in philosophy from Oxford University, and an MA and PhD in political science from the University of Chicago. Professor Goldford has presented classes to the RaySociety and OLLI for years, and now continues his writing as a member of the Iowa Writers' Collaborative (dennisgoldford.substack.com) as well as his service as KCCI political analyst.

SESSION 2

Douglas E. Gross received his BA from Iowa Wesleyan College and his JD from Drake. He is a member of BrownWinick law firm. Doug has extensive campaign experience in Iowa, including involvement in numerous successful gubernatorial, congressional, and state legislative campaigns. Among other positions, he served as chief of staff to Governor Terry Branstad and administrative assistant to Governor Robert D. Ray.

Tom Henderson is a public administration and law graduate of Drake University. While at Drake he served as Student Body President. He practices law at Whitfield & Eddy Law Firm in Des Moines. He has specialized in civil trial practice, and has been peer selected to the American College of Trial Lawyers. He serves as the Grimes City Attorney. Through the Iowa State Bar Association, he served as President of the Young Lawyers Division, and is currently co-chair of the bar's political action committee, LawPAC. In the Democratic Party, he attended the 1996 and 2000 National Conventions as part of the Iowa Delegation, and served for 19 years as Polk County Democratic Chair.

A Lifetime on the Run**John Liepa****Tuesdays, October 7, 14, 21****10–11:30 a.m.**

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$45

A lifelong “gym rat,” a competitive high school and university athlete; and a serious and devoted runner and race director for over 55 years, your instructor will share with you stories of memorable places, people, and adventures he’s had in the US, Canada, Eurasia, and Europe. Imagine running with – slightly behind – a female Olympic Gold Medalist at Boston; or being chased by a momma bear at Leech Lake, Minnesota; or trying to “look ahead” while running through a nudist/naturist beach in Denmark; reconnecting with 2,000

years of history and relatives in Riga, Latvia; working out with his daughter, Hillary (an Indianola/Iowa State athlete and runner) at Lake Ahquabi State Park; and many, many more adventures. *Note: This is not a technical training nor a ‘numbers’ course, although some of that will be necessary and limited.*

John Liepa has been running/racing since 1956 when he ran in the Elementary School Shuttle Relay at the Drake Relays. He has run 18 marathons, over 200 road races, was Race Director of Ames’ Midnight Madness Road Races for 7 years, and hasn’t missed a day of running for the last 48+ years. He rarely misses the Drake Relays - Section T, Row 3, seats 4-6 on the Finish Line. He enjoys teaching baseball, Iowa, and US history classes for OLLI at Drake and Iowa State.

Four Important Events in 20th Century History**Paul Morris****Tuesdays, October 7, 14, 21, 28****2–3:30 p.m.**

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$45

The first topic will be the Treaty of Versailles of 1919 and its disastrous consequences. The second will be how close the British General Strike of 1926 came to a left-wing revolution. The third will analyze the military mistakes Hitler made between his appointment as Chancellor and the invasion of Poland in 1939; this will not be a narrative history of WW2. Finally, we will discuss the signing of the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, still the only law governing the use of outer space.

Paul Morris has degrees in economics and business, and an MA in history at the University of Iowa. He has served as the Chief Information Officer at Tufts, Emory and Drake Universities and has also taught numerous classes for OLLI, primarily about history.

Artificial Intelligence for Beginners: Unlocking the Power of ChatGPT And Other AI Tools

Bill Mogolov

Wednesdays, October 8, 15, 22

10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$45

Discover how Artificial Intelligence is transforming everyday life in ways you never imagined! This **beginner-friendly** course introduces AI tools like ChatGPT and other powerful apps, showing how they can assist with writing, research, organization, communication, creativity, and problem-solving. Through hands-on demonstrations, interactive exercises, and real-world examples, you'll gain practical experience using AI effectively, responsibly, and with confidence. No technical background is needed—just curiosity and a desire to explore the limitless possibilities of this exciting and rapidly evolving technology!

Bill Mogolov is passionate about AI and has participated in online training and extensive hands-on experience with ChatGPT, Gemini, Notebook LM, and Perplexity. A former entrepreneur and substitute teacher in the WDM Schools, he has also taught business courses at the women's prison at Mitchellville, Iowa. He has a strong foundation in Artificial Intelligence, gained through both formal learning and hands-on experience.

Walking Meditation

Kathy Bernreuter

Wednesdays, October 8, 15, 22

12–1:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Locations: TBD

Cost: \$30

Learn to put together two of our simplest activities – breathing and walking – in a meditative way that can improve your physical and mental well-being. Research shows that combining patterns of breath synchronized with your walking steps produces a relaxation response and improved mood better than either on their own. The technique is simple, natural and effective - you can practice it anywhere! Weather permitting, class will meet at three lovely, outdoor public green spaces in Des Moines. Wear comfortable walking shoes, dress appropriately for the weather and bring a water bottle.

Kathy Bernreuter is a certified Level 1 Kundalini Yoga instructor who also studied Breathwalk at KYL in Chicago. She enjoys teaching yoga and meditation in unconventional formats including outdoors walking, seated in chairs and through story time with kids. Currently, Kathy is Volunteer Coordinator for Dorothy's House and a docent at the Des Moines Art Center. She recently completed her certificate in Horticultural Therapy and is passionate about many forms of healing practices including gardening, horses, dancing and art.

WesleyLife LUNCH & LEARN: Outbreaks Quiz

Dr. Patricia Quinlisk

Thursday, October 9

11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: 3206 University Ave, DSM

Cost: \$30

Cap: 80

Presentation and luncheon

Following the popularity of last semester's class, *Outbreaks I Have Known and Loved*, Dr. Quinlisk is putting a new spin on the topic with a presentation and fun quiz during lunch. Join her for this informative, educational, entertaining, and interactive presentation while enjoying a healthy salad bar lunch at WesleyLife's Meals on Wheels ... and see if you can help solve the mystery of "what caused the outbreak"!

Dr. Patricia Quinlisk was the Medical Director and State Epidemiologist at the Iowa Department of Public Health for 24 years. She is now semi-retired; continuing to teach at various universities and working on projects such as how to change behaviors to prevent dementia. Her background includes being a hospital clinical microbiologist, being a Peace Corps Volunteer in Nepal, and training as a field epidemiologist in the CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service.

Trees for Fall Color

Melissa Burdick

Thursday, October 9

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Brenton Arboretum, 25141 260th Street, Dallas Center

Cost: FREE

Cap: 50

Join us for an inspiring lecture on Great Trees for Fall Color in the Midwest, where you'll discover the best tree species to bring vibrant reds, oranges, and golds to your autumn landscape. Whether you're planting in a

backyard, park, or larger property, this talk will highlight hardy, reliable trees that thrive in the region's climate while offering brilliant seasonal displays. In addition to showcasing standout native varieties and underused gems, we'll explore the environmental factors—like temperature, moisture, and sunlight—that influence the intensity and timing of fall color, giving you a deeper understanding of how to plan for spectacular seasonal beauty.

Melissa Burdick see previous biographical information.

LifeServe Blood Center: Giving the Gift of Life Through Blood Donation

LifeServe Staff Members

Friday, October 10

9:30–11 a.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: 5625 NW Johnston Dr, Johnston

Cost: \$15

Cap: 60

Join us for a behind-the-scenes visit to LifeServe Blood Center's Johnston facility. This event will include an overview of LifeServe's mission, a tour of the new building, and a chance to learn your blood type. For those interested, there will be an optional opportunity to donate blood following the event.

LifeServe Blood Center is a non-profit, community-based blood center that has served the needs of local hospitals and patients in our regions since 1947. As one of the 15 largest blood centers in the country, LifeServe provides blood products to 175 hospitals primarily in Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Illinois.

Get Your Drake Library Card and Tour the Library Archives

Monday, October 13

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Cowles Library, Drake University

Cost: FREE

This informative tour of the Cowles Library gives OLLI members an overview of the collections at the Library, and a behind-the-scenes tour of the Drake Archives.

Take advantage of this opportunity, as an OLLI at Drake member, to apply for (or renew) your free Drake Library Card. Staff will be able to process your card application while you are visiting the Library. Bring a photo ID – driver's license or passport.

Historic Farm to Table Dinner: Wallace Centers of Iowa

Thursday, October 16

6–8:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Wallace House, 765 16th Street, DSM

Cost: \$75 (*BYO alcohol*)

Cap: 44

Join the Wallace Centers of Iowa for a farm-to-table dining experience at the historic Wallace House. This three-course dinner will incorporate organically grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs harvested from the Wallace Farm near Orient, IA, and locally sourced ingredients from other Iowa farmers. The Wallace House is a restored 1882 Victorian home where "Uncle Henry" and Nancy Cantwell Wallace lived when they founded the *Wallaces' Farmer* farm journal and showcases the legacy of the Wallace family, including US Vice President Henry A. Wallace.

The Wallace Centers of Iowa is a nonprofit with the mission of preserving the Wallace family legacy of agricultural innovation and public service with programs that connect Iowa's food, land, and people.

Celebrating 100 Years of the Civic Music Association:

Yo-Yo Ma – Preview

Ashley Sidon

Friday, October 17

10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: FREE

CMA's 100th Season is one you'll never forget: Legendary cellist Yo-Yo Ma makes his Civic Music debut on November 1! Join Ashley Sidon as she discusses this special upcoming performance.

Yo-Yo Ma was born in 1955 to Chinese parents living in Paris. He began to study the cello with his father at age four, and three years later moved with his family to New York City, where he continued his cello studies at the Juilliard School before pursuing a liberal arts education at Harvard. He has received numerous awards, including the Avery Fisher Prize (1978), the National Medal of the Arts (2001), the Presidential Medal of Freedom (2010), Kennedy Center Honors (2011), the Polar Music Prize (2012), and the Birgit Nilsson Prize (2022).

Ashley Sidon is the Executive Director of the Civic Music Association, the Briggs Endowed Professor of Cello at Drake, and Executive Director of the Zenith Chamber Music Festival.

Faith and Politics in Contemporary America from a National Security Perspective

Diogenes Ayala

Wednesday, October 22

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$15

Faith and Politics in Contemporary America
The course examines the intersection of religious ideology and national identity, assessing potential security implications. This presentation explores how Christian nationalist movements influence political discourse, societal tensions, and extremism. It analyzes case studies, risk factors, and mitigation strategies, providing a balanced view of their impact on domestic security, civil liberties, and law enforcement efforts. Attendees will gain insights into policy responses and approaches to safeguarding democratic institutions.

Diogenes Ayala – see previous biographical information.

OLLI at Drake Trivia Evening

Margie Davidson and Jan Hetzel

Wednesday, October 22

5–7 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: The Cork, Johnston Town Center

Cost: ** *Participants purchase own food and drink*

Cap: 40

Test your knowledge about all things trivial and have a fun evening at The Cork in Johnston at the Johnston Town Center. Participants will work in teams for this fun event. Bring a friend.

Take a Dive into Des Moines' Neighborhood Bars:

Doug's Pub N Grub

Ducktail Lounge

Thursday, October 23

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: 7500 Douglas Ave., Urbandale

Wednesday, November 12

4:30–6 p.m. (HAPPY HOUR)

Location: 1809 86th St., Urbandale

Cost: ** *Participants purchase own food and drink*

Cap: 40

Neighborhood Bars are part of the fabric of every community. Whether it's a single establishment located on a small town Main Street, or a number of bars in different parts of a larger city, they are gathering places for local residents that provide vitality and energy to their community. Join us as we learn about their history, the customers they serve. Come on, 'dive in' and join fellow OLLI members on this two-session 'road trip' to bars in Urbandale!

Some may remember Victor's Sports Club back in the day, and it is now **Doug's Pub N Grub**. Many of you know **Ducktail Lounge** as a favorite hangout for Drake fans for sporting events. Both of these bars offer something fun and unique and we look forward to seeing you there.

Behind the Scenes of Team USA in Tokyo

Blake Boldon

Monday, October 27

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$15

Franklin P. Johnson Director of the Drake Relays, Blake Boldon, will again lead Team USA as Head Men's Manager at a major World Championship, this time in Tokyo, Japan. After joining Team USA in Budapest, Hungary and Riga, Latvia in 2023 and leading the Under 20 team in Lima, Peru, last year, Boldon shares insights from the world's best track and field team.

Blake Boldon was named the 12th Franklin P. Johnson Director of the Drake Relays in October, 2016. Entering his tenth year in this role, he also serves as a Senior Associate Athletic Director for External Operations at Drake University. Under his leadership the Drake Relays have become a cornerstone of the World Athletics

Continental Tour in North America while also forging community partnerships with organizations like Adaptive Sports Iowa, Special Olympics Iowa and others.

DRAWING IN THE DARK: A Salmagundi of Art and Design **Roy Behrens**

**Tuesdays, October 28, November 4, 11, 18
10–11:30 a.m.**

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$45

This class is offered in collaboration with Osher at William and Mary University.

A salmagundi is an assortment of this and that, a medley, or a potpourri. However mixed, this series of engaging talks have certain things in common: They all pertain to vision, inventiveness and the arts—to quick-witted ways of looking at life—whether by frolicsome uses of words (metaphors, wit and feigned mistakes), or by beguiling contrivances like metamorphosis, visual puns, and bewildering juxtapositions. Each session is a fast-paced, richly illustrated overview of surprising and often amusing effects, both historic and current, as presented by an artist, designer, writer and teacher.

Session 1: TEACHING DRAWING IN THE DARK

In response to the attack on Pearl Harbor, an art professor at Ohio State University began to explore the methods by which the American public could be taught to identify overhead enemy airplanes. He adapted this aircraft spotting technique for use in teaching art students to draw, and, going further, for increasing the throwing accuracy of football quarterbacks. These “drawing by seeing” training sessions were held in a pitch black drawing studio. His method was widely applauded. But did it really work? Where did he get the idea? And what does it tell us about vision and art?

Session 2: I NEVER METAMORPHOSIS I DIDN'T LIKE

Metamorphic visual forms are those that evolve sequentially from one stage to another. Among the best-known examples are the astonishing “shape-shifting” forms that take place in the development of a butterfly (for example), which progresses from a tiny egg to a caterpillar to a pupa, then finally emerges as a fully-developed adult (which may in turn produce new eggs). This talk explores visual examples throughout history—artistic, scientific, or comical—of the widest variety of metamorphic sequences. It also considers its relevance to the practice of animation, to chalk talk drawings, and so on.

Session 3: THE PURPOSEFUL USE OF CONFUSION

How does creativity work? Colin Turbayne said that it results from “sort-crossing,” from intended confusions of

two or more things. Others have made comparable claims, such as Arthur Koestler’s concept of “bisociation”; the logic of puns, jokes and other jeu de mots (in science as well as in humor); and the limitless uses of figurative speech (called “metaphorical thinking”) by Robert Frost, Marianne Moore, and countless other poets. As Aristotle recommends: “The greatest thing by far is to be a master of metaphor; it is the one thing that cannot be learned from others; and it is also a sign of genius, since a good metaphor implies an intuitive perception of the similarity in the dissimilar.”

Session 4: HOW I ONCE MADE A MAGAZINE

There is a poem by e.e.cummings called “No Thanks” that opens with the challenge: “Let’s start a magazine.” In 1985, partly with that poem in mind, the author did exactly that. He launched a self-published quarterly magazine called *BALLAST*, in which the title was an acronym for Books Art Language Logic Ambiguity Science and Teaching. Unable, as only one person, to consistently produce enough high quality content, the editor regarded it as a “periodical commonplace book.” Its contents were a selection of brief but poignant excerpts (legally permitted by fair use) from the very best writings of others, current or historic, with juxtaposed visual items as well. Subscriptions were free, but readers had to send in stamps to cover the cost of mailing. Praised by reviews in the *Whole Earth Catalog*, *Communication Arts*, and other sources, the magazine caught on, and continued for more than two decades.

Roy R. Behrens is an Iowa-based writer, graphic designer, and design historian who taught at various American art schools and universities for 45 years. His most recent book is *DREAMS OF FIELDS: Memory Traces of Iowa’s Past* (Ice Cube Books, August 2025). For more information see <<http://www.bobolinkbooks.com/BALLAST/>>

The Invincible Czars perform The Phantom of the Opera **The Invincible Czars**

Tuesday, October 28

6 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Fleur Cinema, 4545 Fleur Dr., DSM

Cost: \$25

Join OLLI at Drake members for an **exclusive** performance by the Invincible Czars from Austin, TX, as they perform an amazing array of instruments: piano, violin, electric guitar/ bass, organ, flute, drums and bass clarinet to accompany a screening of the original *Phantom of the Opera*. They create a live experience so immersive that it’s easy to forget the music is being played live at times! The iconic moment when Mary Philbin removed Lon Chaney’s mask in *The Phantom of the Opera* (1925) is one of cinema’s most enduring images. Now, the Invincible Czars will bring their signature blend of eclectic instrumentation, adventurous arrangements and sense of

emotional depth to this 100-year-old classic with their new, tastefully modern soundtrack, performing it live with the film in art house cinemas across the US and Canada in 2025.

The **Invincible Czars** have been making adventurous, fun music with a cinematic flare since 2003. They started out in the clubs of Austin, TX, but their eclectic instrumentation and broad scope quickly led them to crossovers into the fine arts realm nationwide. (Band member on violin and keyboard is Phil Davidson, son of OLLI members, Margie and Jay Davidson.)

The Erie Canal

Buck Beasom

**Wednesdays, October 29, November 5, 12, 19
9–11 a.m.**

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$45

This class is offered in collaboration with Osher at William and Mary University.

The lay of the land combined with the power of water and gravity carved a notch in the world, between the Atlantic coast of the American Continent and the greatest inland water complex on Earth. This notch was a pathway for trade and travel before Europeans arrived. It would become a gateway for the 19th Century version of a “superhighway.”

When the notion of connecting the Atlantic to the Great Lakes was first raised and, indeed, when the first surveys for a canal route were conducted, there was not a single professional civil engineer in the entire United States. Western NY State was considered “The Frontier” and Ohio was “The West.”

The Erie Canal follows the story of the canal from conception to completion. Like the canal itself, this story does not proceed in a straight line, did not happen all at once and did not end in anything like the manner its origins suggested. But much of what happened in the years after its completion in 1825, from Abolitionism to Women’s Suffrage to the 19th Century religious revival that took place in its wake traces directly back to the 4 MPH “Superhighway” the canal represented to the people of the time. And the America that emerged after it opened was defined by its impact.

Buck Beasom teaches for Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes across the country. He has a two-track career that includes four decades in data management and applications development while he also taught courses in business, accounting and economics. He spent five years teaching history at the middle and high school levels. He holds a BS in management science, with additional majors in history and economics and an MBA in accounting.

Iconic Fair Foods

State Fair Food Vendors

Wednesday, October 29

10 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Iowa State Fairgrounds

Cost: \$15

Cap: 100

Food is one the main attractions at the Iowa State Fair! With nearly 200 food stands, and over 50 delectable items available on a stick, food vendors spend months planning and coming up with ideas on the next new food item. Come learn what it takes to have a stand at the Fair. For some, this is a family business that has been handed down for generations. Learn what goes into your favorite iconic Fair food with vendors sharing their food stories.

Tours of Marshalltown Historic Homes and Gladbrook Matchstick Museum

Thursday, October 30

10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: TBD

Cost: \$45

Cap: 40 people

Join your fellow OLLI members for a memorable daytrip in central Iowa. The first stop will be at the Historical Society of Marshall County for tours of two iconic historical homes: the Glick-Sower House, which was built in 1859 for Dr. George Glick, and has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1993, and the Mowry-Irvine Mansion, also known as “A Marshalltown Treasure” built in the 1870s. From there it is a short distance to the Tremont on Main Grille for a delicious lunch.

After lunch, the group will travel to The Matchstick Marvels Museum in Gladbrook, Iowa, which features models created entirely of wooden matchsticks. The models are the work of Pat Acton, a resident of Gladbrook, and date back to 1977.

HEALTHY EATING SERIES: Coffee, Tea ... and Chocolate

Dr. Patricia Quinlisk, Lisa LaValle
Friday, October 31

9:30–11:30 a.m. BRUNCH & LEARN

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$30

Cap: 40

Chef Lisa LaValle and Dr. Patricia Quinlisk are back to talk about three of their favorite foods – coffee, tea and chocolate! Join us for a nutritious brunch to expand your morning beverage selections, and to learn how to make delicious, healthy, and easy morning foods.

Dr. Patricia Quinlisk was the medical director and state epidemiologist at the Iowa Department of Public Health for 24 years. She is now semi-retired; continuing to teach at various universities and working on projects such as how to change behaviors to prevent dementia. Her background includes being a hospital clinical microbiologist, being a Peace Corps Volunteer in Nepal, and training as a field epidemiologist in the CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service.

Lisa LaValle recently retired as the owner of Trellis at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, and for more than 30 years elevated fine dining experiences at her restaurants in Des Moines. Lisa's speciality is creating healthy, locally-sourced dishes and menus.

Do You See What I See?

Dr. Patricia Quinlisk

Friday, October 31

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute and Zoom

Cost: \$15

Do you wonder if we all see the same things? This talk will discuss vision, especially color vision, and demonstrate why and how we (and other animals) see what we do see. And then discuss the ways this knowledge helps humans learn new things about the universe.

Dr. Patricia Quinlisk – see previous biographical information.

CIVIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION Presents World-Renowned Cellist: YO-YO MA

Saturday, November 1

7:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: 221 Walnut St., DSM

Cost: \$50

Cap: 40

The Civic Music Association's 100th Season is one you'll never forget: Legendary cellist Yo-Yo Ma makes his Civic Music debut! This special performance from Yo-Yo Ma pairs repertoire from the center of his musical firmament with reflections on how it has shaped his thinking about art, human nature, and our search for meaning. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience this legend live and in person!

Happiness Is ...

Tom Westbrook

Mondays, November 3, 10, 17, 24

10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$45

People who are happy tend to be optimistic, grateful, and have a positive outlook on life. They are often more tolerant, less judgmental, more trusting of others, and even healthier than those who report low levels of happiness.

So where can I buy some happiness?

Tom Westbrook PhD served on the faculty and administration of Drake University. Tom started, directed, and taught in the undergraduate minor in Leadership Education & Development and taught graduate leadership classes. While at Simpson College, Tom served as Dean of Continuing Education, a program he initiated. Tom is a retired faculty member at Drake (30) years, and frequent presenter/facilitator at corporations.

UPDATED: Saving Your Brain: Dementia Prevention

Patricia Quinlisk

Mondays, November 3, 10, 17

12–1:30 .m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$45

Dr. Patricia Quinlisk is back to share new research and updated information to address how the risk of developing dementia can be reduced; in fact, it's estimated that about 40% of all cases of dementia/Alzheimer's Disease can be prevented. Over these three classes, you will learn the details about what YOU can do to lower your risk, even if you think you might be carrying the dementia gene! It's not easy to make lifestyle changes, but now is the time to start (and these changes will help you to be healthier overall – not only your brain will be healthier, so will your heart and lungs, and body!) Join us for a life changing class.

In-person participants are welcome to bring a brown-bag lunch to eat during the class.

Dr. Patricia Quinlisk – see previous biographical information.

Cribbage for Beginners

Mary Christopher

Mondays, November 3, 10, 17, 24

2–4 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$45

Cap: 15

Cribbage, said to have originated in England, is about 400 years old and is one of the most popular card games for 2 players (it can also be played by 3 or 4). In this class, students will learn six-card cribbage basics including playing, pegging, scoring, and some simple score-improving strategies. Standard 52-card decks will be provided as well as cribbage boards, although students are free to bring their own.

Mary Christopher's family has generations of cribbage players and it has become her favorite card game over the years. Mary is a history author with a background in business management and college-level teaching.

DR. NORMAN BORLAUG

From Cresco to Oslo:

The Man Who Saved More Lives Than Any Other Person Who Has Ever Lived

Ambassador Kenneth Quinn

Tuesday, November 4, 2–4 p.m.

Thursday, November 13, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode and locations:

(Session 1) HYBRID – Harkin Institute or Zoom

(Session 2) IN PERSON – World Food Prize Building

Cost: \$30

Session 1: Ambassador Kenneth M Quinn, President Emeritus of the World Food Prize Foundation will outline the extraordinary life and achievements of the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Father of the Green Revolution and founder of the World Food Prize, Dr. Norman Borlaug, including the decade during which he was privileged to work together with Dr. Borlaug and John Ruan Sr. in fulfilling their dream that the World Food Prize in Des Moines could come to be seen as the "Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture."

Session 2: A Tour of the Spectacular Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Hall of Laureates

Ambassador Quinn will lead a personal tour of the former Des Moines Public Library building for which he led the campaign to raise \$30 million and transform that century old Beaux-Arts edifice into the home of the World Food Prize with \$4 million in artworks telling the story of Dr. Borlaug's prodigious achievements and those of the World Food Prize Laureates, as well as Iowa's magnificent agricultural and humanitarian heritage and the 10,000 year-long history of human agriculture, which is the thread of civilization. Among the artworks of special interest are: a 20-foot-tall stained glass window that the Ambassador personally conceived of and which has a hidden message; a set of "crop sculptures" that frame the rotunda; four Belgian tapestries that trace Dr. Borlaug's life from Iowa to Mexico, to India and Africa; two mosaics of the first Laureate and first woman Laureate; and the Iowa Gallery that highlights the state's legacy of Citizen diplomacy. The building attained LEED Platinum status, the highest level of energy efficiency and resource conservation, considered almost impossible in a 19th century designed building on the National Register of Historic Buildings.

Ambassador Kenneth Quinn – see previous biographical information.

Docent Tours at DSM Art Center: *Mexican Art 1900–Today*

DSM Art Center docents

Wednesday, November 5

1–1:45 p.m. OR 2–2:45 p.m.

OR Friday, November 7

1–1:45 p.m. OR 2–2:45 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: DSM Art Center, 4700 Grand Ave., DSM

Cost: FREE

Cap: 10 per tour group

Participants will be assigned their tour time

Don't miss this opportunity for a docent tour of the Des Moines Art Center's featured fall exhibition *Manuel Álvarez Bravo: Collaborations* curated by Dr. Mia Laufer.

Manuel Álvarez Bravo: Collaborations is a survey of the photographer's long career viewed through the lens of the projects he created with others including: Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, Andre Breton, Luis Buñuel, Gabriel Figueroa, and Octavio Paz. This exhibition will provide the opportunity to see many of Bravo's iconic pictures in a new light and to highlight some of his lesser-known bodies of work.

Martin Bucksbaum Business Lecture Series: KAI RYSSDAL

Wednesday, November 5

7–8:30 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.)

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Knapp Center, 2525 Forest Ave., DSM

Cost: FREE

Cap: 300

Reserved seating for OLLI at Drake members

The 3rd Annual Martin Bucksbaum Business Lecture Series Speaker is Kai Ryssdal.

Kai Ryssdal is the host and senior editor of *Marketplace*, the most widely heard program on business and the economy — radio or television, commercial or public broadcasting — in the country. Kai speaks regularly with CEOs of Fortune 500 companies, startup entrepreneurs, small business owners and everyday participants in the American and global economies. He first came to *Marketplace* in 2001 as the host of *Marketplace Morning Report*, where he covered the economic aftermath of the September 11 attacks, the collapse of Enron, and the slow buildup to the housing crash, the financial crisis and the Great Recession. He co-hosted *Make Me Smart*, *Marketplace*'s podcast about the economy, technology, and culture, from 2017 to 2025. Kai received a 2012 Emmy for investigative journalism on a PBS *Frontline* documentary about money in politics called *Big Sky, Big Money*. He has appeared often on CNN, CNBC, and CBS news. His written work has been featured in *The*

New York Times and *The Atlantic*. Before his career in broadcasting, Kai served in the United States Navy and the Foreign Service. He's a graduate of Emory and Georgetown universities. Kai lives in Los Angeles with his wife and four children..

OLLI members may bring a guest to this special event. Please remember to register your guest to ensure they don't miss out on this exceptional experience.

The **Martin Bucksbaum Lectureship Series** is made possible by a gift from the late Melva and Martin Bucksbaum. The Martin Bucksbaum Lectureship Committee includes Dr. Kelly Bruhn (chair), Dr. Neil Hamilton, Mary Scanlon, Pam Bass-Booke, Janis Ruan, Marcia Wanamaker, Eleanor Zeff, Bob Riley, Julie Stewart, Liz Hatfield, Dr. Richard Deming, Dr. Cassity Gutierrez, and Eva Kellen.

WesleyLife LUNCH & LEARN: Designing Your Legacy: A Soulful Approach to Swedish Death Cleaning

Danyelle Crowell

Thursday, November 6

11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: 3206 University Ave, DSM

Cost: \$30

Cap: 80

Presentation and luncheon

What if decluttering wasn't just about stuff — but about love, clarity, and legacy? In this thoughtful session, Danyelle will introduce the Swedish practice of *döstädning* (or “death cleaning”) — a gentle, empowering approach to releasing what no longer serves us. Learn how to simplify your home, ease future burdens on loved ones, and create space for what really matters — all at your own pace, in your own way.

Danyelle Crowell, Life Architect and founder of Simplify & Organize, empowers individuals to design lives of clarity, balance, and fulfillment. Through a holistic, compassionate approach, she guides clients in aligning their environments, habits, and mindsets with their deepest values, supporting lasting change and intentional living. She describes herself as a minimalist, small business owner and is the author of *Happiness Through Simplicity: A 28-Day Path to Intentional Living*.

MOVIE EVENT – Varsity Cinema *Genevieve* (1953)

Carl Johnson hosts discussion after movie

Thursday, November 6

2–4:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Varsity Cinema

Cost: \$10

(Optional Zoom presentation with Carl Johnson at 9:30–10:30 a.m., Thursday, November 6)

Genevieve is a charming British comedy that takes audiences on a delightful journey through the English countryside during a vintage car rally gone hilariously awry. With sparkling wit, endearing performances, and a playful rivalry between two friends and their beloved old cars, this lighthearted gem captures the quirky spirit of post-war Britain. A warm, feel-good film that's perfect for all ages, *Genevieve* will have you grinning from start to finish.

Carl Johnson see previous biographical information.

Fighting Fake News

Jennifer Konfrst

Friday, November 7

10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$15

Over the past decade, it's become harder and harder to distinguish between what is real and what is manufactured. Nowhere has that been more clear than in the changing media landscape. We'll discuss the history and evolution of fake news, and how to be a discerning media consumer in an environment where fact and fiction often seem to overlap

Jennifer Glover Konfrst is an associate professor at Drake University, teaching public relations and political communication. Before her time at Drake, Jennifer worked in communications at Iowa PBS and in corporate and agency PR. She also serves as a state representative from Windsor Heights, Clive, and West Des Moines, and as the Iowa House Minority Leader.

IOWA PBS Presents

The American Revolution: Telling History Through Art

Iowa PBS – Panel Discussion

Monday, November 10

5–7 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: FREE

Reception to follow provided by Iowa PBS.

Before photographs and videography, paintings and other forms of art told the story of war and independence. Join us for a special documentary preview and conversation about *The American Revolution*, directed by Ken Burns, Sarah Botstein, and David Schmidt. The six-part series explores the people who lived through America's founding struggle, their experiences over eight difficult years of wartime, and how they created a new nation where the people themselves would hold the power.

We'll examine how the filmmakers relied on period art and visual interpretation to depict the people, conflicts, and contradictions of America's founding. The event will feature selected clips from the film, followed by a panel of historians and art experts discussing how visual storytelling shapes our understanding of the people and events that defined a nation. The evening will conclude with a reception and refreshments.

Presented by **Iowa PBS**, Iowa's statewide public broadcasting network. Iowa PBS provides quality, innovative media and services that educate, inform, enrich and inspire Iowans.

Corporate funding for THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION was provided by Bank of America. Major funding was provided by The Better Angels Society and its members Jeannie and Jonathan Lavine with the Crimson Lion Foundation; and the Blavatnik Family Foundation. Major funding was also provided by David M. Rubenstein; The Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern Family Foundation; Lilly Endowment Inc.; and the following Better Angels Society members: Eric and Wendy Schmidt; Stephen A. Schwarzman; and Kenneth C. Griffin with Griffin Catalyst. Additional support for THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION was provided by: The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations; The Pew Charitable Trusts; Gilbert S. Omenn and Martha A. Darling; Park Foundation; and the following Better Angels Society members: Gilchrist and Amy Berg; Perry and Donna Golkin; The Michelson Foundation; Jacqueline B. Mars; Kissick Family Foundation; Diane and Hal Brierley; John H. N. Fisher and Jennifer Caldwell; John and Catherine Debs; The Fullerton Family Charitable Fund; Philip I. Kent; Gail Elden; Deborah and Jon Dawson; David and Susan Kreisman; The McCloskey Family Charitable Trust; Becky and Jim Morgan; Carol and Ned Spieker; Mark A. Tracy; and Paul and Shelley Whyte. THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION was made possible, in part, with support from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Veterans' Day Celebration

Oak Street Health

Tuesday, November 11

10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Jordan Park, 4841 SE 14th St, DSM

Cost: FREE

Join us for a heartfelt Veterans' Day Celebration to honor and thank our brave veterans for their service and sacrifice. Enjoy a small ceremony along with light refreshments and music as we come together to pay tribute to our veterans and celebrate their enduring legacy at this gathering.

Medicaid Eligibility for Nursing Home and Other Long-Term Care

Scott Hartsook

Tuesdays, November 11, 18

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$30

This informative presentation will educate people about:

- Eligibility requirements for Medicaid for facility and in-home care.
- Asset and income protections for the Medicaid recipient's spouse.
- The available options for spending down assets to qualify for Medicaid.
- Protecting the home and other assets from Iowa's estate recovery law.
- Avoiding illegal asset transfers that would affect Medicaid eligibility.

From 1997 to 2018, **Scott Hartsook** was the Managing Attorney of the Legal Hotline for Older Iowans, a special project of Iowa Legal Aid that provides free legal advice to Iowans who are 60 or older. He now practices part-time to help people qualify for Medicaid for their long-term care expenses. Scott graduated from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1977 and is a frequent speaker about Medicaid.

Uncovering Des Moines' Hidden Histories

Breann Bye

Wednesdays, November 12, 19

12–1:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$30

Join Breann Bye for this informative series uncovering the lost history of Des Moines. It is anticipated this will be an ongoing series in future semesters, exploring more neighborhoods that are experiencing revitalization.

Session 1: Center Street

Once a thriving hub of Black culture, business, and entertainment, Des Moines' Center Street neighborhood was largely erased by mid-20th century urban renewal and the construction of I-235. This session explores Center Street's vibrant legacy—home to jazz clubs, Black-owned businesses, and a flourishing professional community—and how its removal reshaped the city's social and physical landscape.

Session 2: 6th Avenue Corridor

This session focuses on the evolution of the 6th Avenue Corridor, tracing the impacts of redlining, disinvestment, and the legacy of displacement from Center Street. Participants will learn about 6th Avenue's history as a commercial streetcar route and its current transformation through initiatives like the Center at Sixth, Townhall Food Hall, and the ION housing program—efforts aimed at restoring vibrancy while honoring the area's heritage.

Breann Bye is a Project Manager in the City of Des Moines' Office of Economic Development, where she supports small businesses and property owners. She previously led the 6th Avenue Corridor Main Street Program and holds dual master's degrees in planning and architecture from Iowa State. A certified revitalization and historic real estate professional, Breann lives with her family in a 1905 home on 6th Avenue and enjoys researching Des Moines history, gardening, and home rehab.

In-person participants are welcome to bring a brown-bag lunch to eat during the class.

Lessons from the Great Depression

Ed Linz

Thursdays, November 13, 20

2-3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$30

This class is offered in collaboration with Osher at William and Mary University.

Two sessions will cover events in the 1920's leading up to the start of The Great Depression, including ominous parallels between the 1920s and the 2020s. I will suggest that the Depression did not start with the infamous stock market crashes of late 1929, but that the seeds were sown following the end of WW I and subsequent events throughout the 1920s. We will discuss political and economic conditions during the 1930s and the early years of WW II with detailed examination of the lives of a diverse group of Americans who provided first-hand accounts of their lives during this tumultuous period of American life. There will be a discussion of lessons learned with questions and comments solicited.

Ed Linz, a 1965 graduate of the US Naval Academy, is the author of six books, including recent works on the Great Depression and the Vietnam War. He holds advanced degrees from Oxford University and George Mason University and lives in Maine and Virginia. He was the recipient of a heart transplant in 1994. He is a native of Northern Kentucky.

In Search of Democracies (from Weimar, Germany)

Samuel Koltinsky

Fridays, November 14, 21

8:30-10:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$30

Participants without access to Zoom can come to the Harkin Auditorium for the class.

Today, one may walk through historic Weimar, Germany, and meet people who have lived under several different political systems. In our two sessions we will take a look back (1900-1989) at the pre-Weimar Republic period, the Weimar Republic, the post-Weimar Republic period, post-World War II, and Reunification in 1989. Now 36 years later, after having said good-bye to a familiar and failed political system, what's Europe's Culture City of 1999 like today? We will hear from our featured speakers at the Haus of the Weimar Republic and the Buchenwald Memorial. "

Sam Koltinsky will Zoom from Germany for his presentation. He has a MA in education, with a minor in psychology from the University of Illinois, Chicago. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, he lived and worked in the "New States" of Germany to support the transitioning of the German Democratic Republic to its western counterpart of Social Democracy.

Immigration Policy Updates

Jody Mashek

Fridays, November 14, 21

2-3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$30

Legal experts and advocates from Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice will share important updates on recent changes to immigration laws and policies at the local, state, and federal levels.

Jody Mashek has been providing immigration legal services as a Department of Justice Accredited Representative for more than 15 years. She spent several years living and working in Managua, Nicaragua, and upon returning to her home state of Iowa, became involved in many social justice issues, particularly those pertaining to immigration in Des Moines and throughout the state. Jody holds a BA in International Relations and Spanish Language and Literature from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI.

Drake Jazz Ensemble Concert and Reception

Andrew Classen

Friday, November 14

6-8:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Turner Jazz Center

Cost: \$30 (incl. wine and cheese reception)

Limit: 60

Join OLLI members for a Drake Jazz Ensemble performance led by Andrew Classen at the Turner Jazz Center. There will be a wine and cheese reception prior to the performance.

Andrew Classen is Professor of Trumpet and Jazz Studies at Drake University. He is currently principal trumpet with Orchestra Iowa. He has played with numerous Broadway shows including: *Wicked*, *Spamalot*, *Book of Mormon*, *Hairspray*, *Annie*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Producers*, *Chicago* (solo trumpet), *The Full Monty*, *42nd Street*, and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Andrew Classen became the

inaugural holder of the Fred and Patty Turner Professorship in Jazz, thanks to a \$1 million gift from Drake alumnus Fred Turner. He is the leader of the Turner Center Jazz Orchestra. Their first album is *Class 'n Jazz: The Music of Andy Klassen*. He received a bachelor in music education degree from the University of Wisconsin Eau-Claire and a master of music degree in trumpet performance from the University of Tennessee.

The Birth of the Atomic Age: WW2 Los Alamos and its Impact on Nuclear Proliferation Today

Galina Vromen

Thursday, November 20

10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$15

This class is offered in collaboration with Osher at William and Mary University.

What was it like to live in WW2 Los Alamos NM where the world's first atomic bomb was built? What were the considerations that went into using the bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, exactly 80 years ago? Based on research for her historical novel, author Galina Vromen will bring alive that monumental period and discuss its impact on the state of nuclear proliferation today.

Galina Vromen spent over a decade as a journalist, mostly for Reuters, in Europe, Mexico, and Israel. After retiring, she focused on writing *Hill of Secrets*, a novel based in WW2 Los Alamos. Her interest in the dawn of the atomic age led her to explore issues of nuclear arms today. For more see www.galinavromen.com

Jazz Up Your Holidays

Abe Goldstien

Mondays, November 24, December 1, 15

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$45

Just in time for the holidays, Abe Goldstien will introduce you to jazz versions of your favorite Christmas and Chanukah songs plus some that will be totally new to you. Additional sessions will feature tunes for Mother's Day, Father's Day, July 4th and Halloween. Along the way, you'll learn about the musicians performing the tunes.

Abe Goldstien is an educator, promoter, reviewer, and radio personality. Abe is often referred to as Des Moines' leading jazz advocate. Born in Rochester, NY, Abe has been a vital

part of the jazz community in Des Moines since arriving at Drake in 1969. Since that time, he has owned a record store, promoted concerts, hosted radio shows, taught jazz history/appreciation courses, and written reviews. Having listened to and read about jazz since age eight, his knowledge and passion for jazz is contagious.

Retirement YOU: Retirement Planning in a Changing Economy

Joel T. Barjenbruch

Tuesday, November 25

12–1:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$15

As a preview to our full Spring course, Retirement YOU will explore key topics like market volatility, inflation, taxes, Social Security and IRAs and their potential effect on the health of your retirement plan. This course is perfect for those seeking clear, concise insights into our rapidly changing retirement landscape. The content is not biased toward any strategy, company or product, but rather focuses on the concepts needed to make informed decisions in this ever-changing environment.

Joel Barjenbruch CFP®, RICP®, CLU®, ChFC®, LACP is a comprehensive financial planner with over 18 years of experience. Joel specializes in educational curriculum for clients, community members and OLLI chapters around the Midwest. Joel owns and operates JS Financial, Inc. and lives in Lincoln, NE.

Puzzle Afternoon at OSH

Oak Street Health

Tuesday, November 25

2–4 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Jordan Park, 4841 SE 14th St, DSM

Cost: FREE

Please join us for an afternoon of brain-teasing fun with our collection of jigsaw puzzles. Whether you are a puzzle enthusiast or just looking for a relaxing, interactive activity, this event offers something for everyone. All puzzles will be provided along with light refreshments. Come sharpen your mind, enjoy friendly competition, and relax with your peers for this fun filled event!

Women Airforce Service Pilots: The Origin of Women Military Aviators

Lisa Taylor

Mondays, December 1, 8

10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: ZOOM

Cost: \$30

The first American woman earned her pilot's license in 1911 and 3000 women followed her footsteps hoping for the opportunity to fly professionally. Doors opened in 1942 as the US entered World War II. In Part I of this course, we will learn about integration into Army life, major accomplishments during the war and the myths that were dispelled. Part II will delve into securing veteran status and influencing the second generation of female pilots..

Lisa Taylor has served as Director of the National WASP WWII Museum for seven years. She a bachelor of science in marketing, and an MA in teaching. It has been her greatest achievement and pleasure to raise \$7 million to grow the Museum in facilities, exhibits, and programs.

Letting Go

Dennis Kelly

Tuesdays, December 2, 9, 16

10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute

Cost: \$45

Are you at a crossroads in your life? Do you feel that itch for change popping up? "Letting Go" is the perfect opportunity to learn how to make transformative changes in your life.

Is it time to shake things up? "Letting Go" taught by our own OLLI at Drake member Denny Kelly is a safe space to make some very transformative changes in your current life.

Dennis Kelly is the founder of *Yoga In The Park, Meditation Around Town* and *Experience Nature's Healing*.

UPDATE: Carbon Pipelines 101 And Growing Opposition From Unlikely Allies

Jessica Mazour

Tuesday, December 2

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$15

Jessica Mazour returns with an update for OLLI members about carbon pipelines in Iowa. Her presentation will be right before the 2026 legislative session. ... For three years, Iowans across all political divides have joined together to stop the controversial Summit and Wolf Carbon Pipelines. Promoted as climate solutions and ethanol-lifesavers by the Carbon Capture and Storage industry; farmers, environmentalists and local governments have teamed up to protect the land, communities and futures of those along the proposed routes.

Jessica Mazour, a lifelong Iowan, graduated from Iowa State University and has worked on agriculture and environment issues for over a decade at various Iowa non-profits. Jessica has spent the last three years organizing over 800 Iowa landowners, local governments and legislators to pass zoning ordinances, legal challenges and legislation.

Transgender in Iowa: Professional and Personal Perspectives

Dr. Joe Freund

Wednesday, December 3

10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$15

This single-session course offers an informative and respectful exploration of gender identity, with a focus on transgender experiences. Participants will gain insight into evolving terminology, inclusive language, and the lived experiences of transgender individuals in Iowa. The session will feature a family physician who has provided care to many transgender patients, along with guest speakers who will share their personal stories. The goal of this class is to foster greater understanding, dispel harmful myths and stereotypes, and promote empathy and inclusion. Participants are encouraged to bring questions they may not have had the opportunity to ask in other settings, creating a welcoming and open space for learning.

Joe Freund MD is a recently retired family physician who spent the last 15+ years of practice in providing LGBTQ+ care, with transgender healthcare being one of the most rewarding parts of practice. Special guest presenters will also share their personal experiences and answer questions.

MOVIE EVENT – Varsity Cinema ***The Apartment* (1960)**

Carl Johnson hosts discussion after movie
Thursday, December 4
2–4:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Varsity Cinema

Cost: \$10

(Optional Zoom presentation with Carl Johnson at 9:30–10:30 a.m., Thursday, December 4)

Billy Wilder's *The Apartment* is a pitch-perfect blend of romance, satire, and heartfelt drama that still resonates today. Jack Lemmon stars as an ambitious office worker who loans his apartment to company executives for their secret affairs—until he falls for the elevator operator, played with unforgettable charm by Shirley MacLaine. With its sharp script, nuanced performances, and emotional depth, *The Apartment* won five Academy Awards and remains one of Hollywood's most sophisticated and tender comedies.

Carl Johnson see previous biographical information.

Mini Memoirs: Telling Your Stories – Writing Your Life

Lori Blachford
Fridays, December 5, 12
10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$30

In this course, we will explore the mini memoir format as a way to capture favorite memories. Students will come away with a better understanding of the genre and a list of stories they want to tell. Each student will finish the course with at least one mini memoir (500 – 600 words) and the courage to do more on their own. We'll also consider the impact of audio and video as part of our storytelling toolbox, with suggestions for software and equipment that can help. Everyone has a story to tell; I can't wait to hear yours!

Lori Blachford – see previous biographical information..

The Jewish People of Iowa, Past and Present

Sandi Yoder

Friday, December 5

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Caspe Terrace, 33158 Ute Ave, Waukee

Cost: \$15

Cap: 75 people

Join the Iowa Jewish Historical Society and the Education Department of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines to learn what it means to be Jewish in Iowa. Area Jewish high school students who are part of the nationwide Student to Student program will share their personal narratives while discussing a range of topics, including:

- the Jewish life cycle
- Sabbath
- Jewish dietary practices
- Hebrew language
- Jewish holidays

Des Moines was one of three communities chosen to pilot the Student to Student program. Since then, the program has served thousands of students and adults across our nation.

The class also includes a tour of the museum, highlighting the history of the Jewish people in Iowa and artifacts related to the topics covered by the students.

Sandi Yoder is the Director of the Iowa Jewish Historical Society and has been with the Society since 2008. Sandi holds an MA in history and an MBA from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA, and a BA in history from Lenoir-Rhyne College in NC.

Functional Fitness for Life

CrossFit Valley Junction

Monday, December 8

1–2:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: 221 SW 63rd St., DSM

Cost: \$15

Cap: 25

Unleash your inner athlete and dive into the exhilarating world of functional fitness. Designed with OLLI members in mind, learn how improving everyday movements makes you stronger, more agile, and brimming with energy, making daily activities a breeze.

Occupational Therapy and Assistive Technology: Designed for Independence

Ashley Murray

Wednesday, December 10

10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: FREE

Drake University Occupational Therapy students are hosting an expo to display their custom assistive technology products created as part of a fall course in the OT program. Occupational therapy students partner with Mosaic of Central Iowa and Iowa State University to design and fabricate various items that will help individuals participate in valued occupations more independently. Students have learned a lot about the world of universal design and assistive technology as part of this fall course and have put their skills to use as they work with individuals to help meet their occupational needs. Students will have their devices on display and will answer questions about their design and related processes.

Ashley Murray, OTD, OTR/L is an Assistant Professor and the Academic Fieldwork Coordinator at Drake University's entry-level OTD program in Des Moines, IA. Dr. Murray has been an Occupational Therapist for over 15 years, and her clinical experience is in neurological (spinal cord injury, stroke, traumatic brain injury) and acute orthopedic rehabilitation. She has also served in administrative roles in rehabilitation, with a focus on documentation and reimbursement for therapy services, coordination of rehabilitation care, discharge planning, and collaboration with family members and caregivers. Since joining the Drake OTD program in July of 2022, Dr. Murray has enjoyed teaching students about universal design, the accessibility of places and spaces, and assistive technology. She works to bring real-life experiences to the classroom and connect the students to the community to enhance learning and help to develop future healthcare professionals.

B*I*N*G*O!

Jan Hetzel

Thursday, December 11

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Felix & Oscars, 4050 Merle Hay Rd, DSM

Cost: ** *Participants purchase own food and drink*

Join in the fun for the first ever OLLI Bingo. What you say? Bingo? Yep, this is correct! This event is going to be filled with all sorts of styles of BINGO without any stress!

Through Nature's Lens Book Discussion

Neil Hamilton

Thursday December 11

2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID

Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom

Cost: \$15

What if Nature could talk to us – would we like what it has to say? What if it is already speaking to us but we aren't listening? These are some of the questions Professor Neil Hamilton addresses in his forthcoming book *Through Nature's Lens*, the subject of our course. The book examines Iowa's nature history and how it shapes our lives. Important questions on the minds of all Iowans – water quality concerns, surprising cancer rates, increasing reliance on agriculture-chemicals, and the fraught topic of climate change are all addressed. The book is narrated by Nature sharing its perspectives on our actions, especially timely in this age of increased political extremism and federal actions harming nature. While these problems are addressed, the book is inspired by hope and finds it by looking at the role of nature-based education, increasing citizen activism, innovative local efforts to enhance nature, and the ever present role of land as the face of nature. Learn ideas on how citizens can become nature champions.

Neil Hamilton is the founding former Director of the Drake Agricultural Law Center and Professor Emeritus of Law. His areas of expertise are: Agricultural Law, Land Use, Legislation, Food and the Law, Environmental Regulation of Agriculture, and Wind Law. He has a JD – University of Iowa, *Order of the Coif*, and BS – Iowa State University (with honors and distinction).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Food Sorting at the Food Bank of Iowa

Friday, December 12

9–11:30 a.m. (1st Session)

OR

Friday, December 19

9–11:30 a.m. ((2nd Session))

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Food Bank of Iowa, 2220 E 17th St

Cost: FREE

Cap: 20 per session

Join OLLI at Drake members in volunteering at the Food Bank of Iowa. Sign up to volunteer for one session only. The task will be sorting food with consideration for freshness, safety, quality, and client preference into quantities appropriate for shipping. This activity could involve sorting produce, or other products, depending on the donations received for processing that day.

Understanding Smart TVs and Streaming Services

Oak Street Health
Friday, December 12
2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON
 Location: 215 Euclid Ave, Des Moines,
 Cost: FREE

Every day, more and more people are “cutting the cord” and canceling their cable subscriptions. Instead, they’re using free or low-cost streaming services like Youtube, Netflix, and Hulu to watch their favorite shows and movies online. This presentation will give an introduction to streaming: what it is, how to use it, and the variety of content available. You’ll also learn how to watch live TV without cable and how smart TVs and streaming devices can let you watch videos from the Internet on your television.

The 7 Keys for Navigating a Life-Changing Diagnosis

Kathy Koenig
Monday, December 15
10–11:30 a.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID
 Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom
 Cost: \$15

The seven keys were developed by Dr. Sammy Winemaker and Dr. Hsien Seow, palliative care specialists in Canada. They serve as a framework for action for every patient or family facing a life-changing diagnosis. The seven keys take participants from “In the Dark to In the Know.”

Attendees will feel: more prepared and hopeful; more empowered and activated; more confident; more “in the know.” This will lead them to have: more personalized care; more informed decision making, more choice and control, more proactive support and care. This in turn will then benefit the system by: less crisis-driven and unwanted care; fewer overwhelmed patients and families; and more fulfilled health care professionals.

Kathy Koenig – see previous biographical information.

Wreath Making Workshop

Oak Street Health
Thursday, December 18
2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON
 Location: Park Fair, 215 Euclid Ave, DSM
 Cost: FREE
 Cap: 50

Join us for a delightful Wreath Making Event, a hands-on event where creativity and festivity come together! Participants will craft their own unique wreaths, perfect for seasonal decor or year-round charm. We will provide an array of fresh or faux greenery, ribbons, ornaments, and other embellishments. This fun, relaxed event is ideal for beginners and pros alike to spark their creativity and take home a beautiful, handmade masterpiece!

Global Order in the Age of Trump

David Skidmore
Friday December 19
2–3:30 p.m.

Class delivery mode: HYBRID
 Location: Harkin Institute or Zoom
 Cost: \$15

The US-designed post-World War II global order rested upon four pillars: American hegemony, democracy promotion, economic globalization, and multilateral institutions. As compared with previous historical eras, this combination brought relative peace, prosperity, and freedom. The Trump Administration’s foreign policies are undermining each of these pillars of global order. What is the worldview motivating Trump’s approach to the world? What are the likely consequences of this radical shift in U.S. foreign policy?

David Skidmore is a professor in the Department of Political Science at Drake University. He received his PhD degree from Stanford University. He teaches courses on areas of international relations, international security, political economy, US foreign policy and US-China relations. Skidmore taught at the Johns Hopkins-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies in Nanjing, China, in 1996-97, and served as a Fulbright Scholar based at the University of Hong Kong in 2010-2011. His recent research has focused on China’s overseas development finance, including the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the Belt and Road Initiative.

**Tallgrass Theatre Company:
*The Velvet Lounge (the A Sisters)***

Sunday, December 21

2 p.m.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: Tallgrass Theatre, West Des Moines

Cost: \$35

Cap: 45

The popular singing group of friends returns to TTC! The A-Sisters join us for something a little different for the Holidays. This cabaret will be a bit of jazz, a dash of classics, a pinch of comedy and of course a few holiday classics.

Following the performance, OLLI at Drake members will be invited to do a behind-the-scenes tour of the theatre and meet performers.

OLLI Day of Celebration!!

Monday, December 22

TBD.

Class delivery mode: IN PERSON

Location: TBD

Cost: FREE

Join us as we wrap up the fall semester with joy, laughter, and a festive celebration of our amazing OLLI community! This special holiday gathering is our way of honoring YOU—our members, volunteers, and instructors—who make OLLI such a vibrant and welcoming place. Enjoy light refreshments, holiday cheer, and meaningful conversations as we reflect on the past year and look ahead to the next. Whether you're reconnecting with old friends or making new ones, this event is all about celebrating the spirit of lifelong learning and the friendships it inspires. All are welcome—come as you are and help us make the season bright!

SPECIAL OFFER

OLLI at Drake Members can now Purchase Discounted Athletics (General Admission) Season Tickets!

For the first time ever, OLLI at Drake members are now eligible for discounted general admission seating season tickets to Drake Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Football, and Volleyball games! The discount is 20%!!

Tickets Available through Drake Athletics
(phone 515-271-3647) or go to this website
<https://godrakebulldogs.eventbrite.net/promotions/OLLI> and
use the promo code OLLI

****Proof of current OLLI at Drake membership required at time of purchase.**

Don't miss this chance to support the Bulldogs while enjoying exclusive savings!

You can purchase season tickets for all of the above sports or select one sporting group. What a great way to cheer on the Drake Bulldogs with your fellow OLLI members.





2025-2026 MEMBERSHIP FORM

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Preferred Name _____

Birth Date (optional) _____

Street Address, City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Is your spouse an OLLI at Drake member? YES/NO

If YES, print name here _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS (Online payment preferred)

(We no longer take credit card payments through the mail for security reasons.)

ONLINE payments for membership can be made at: alumni.drake.edu/olli and click on the link for Memberships. **OR**

complete and return this form with a check payable to “**OLLI at Drake**”. Check # _____

<input type="checkbox"/>	MY MEMBERSHIP IS UP TO DATE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 year membership (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026).....	\$75/person
MEMBERSHIP payment total.....		\$ <input type="text"/>
CLASS REGISTRATION fees (from back of form).....		\$ <input type="text"/>
BALANCE DUE (membership + class fees)		\$ <input type="text"/>

For check payments please mail checks and completed form to:

OLLI at Drake
2507 University Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50311

CIRCLE **CLASS** and where applicable, CIRCLE **IP** (in person) or **Z** (Zoom) and Circle **\$** to SELECT
ADD payment due. **TRANSFER** total payment due to front of form.

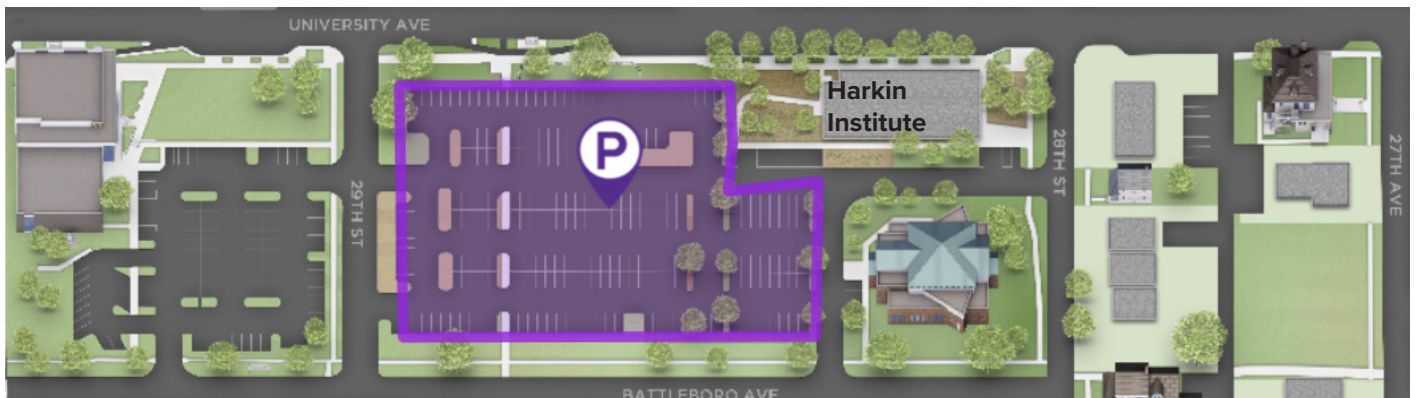
Maximizing Your OLLI Experience IP or Z	FREE	Trees for Fall Color	FREE
Value Based Care: Future of Aging Well IP or Z	\$15	LifeServe Blood Center.....	\$15
Storytelling in Grief and Healing	\$45	Get Your Drake Library Card	FREE
Mexican Art, 1900–Today	FREE	Historic Farm to Table Dinner: Wallace House.....	\$75
Golden Age of Radio IP or Z	\$45	CMA Preview: Yo-Yo Ma	FREE
Updates on Drake Basketball IP or Z	\$15	Faith & Politics in Contemporary America IP or Z	\$15
Economic Roundtable IP or Z	\$45	OLLI at Drake Trivia**	\$0
Knitting and Crafts Social Group	FREE	Neighborhood Dive Bars**	\$0
MOVIE EVENT: <i>Modern Times</i>	\$10	Behind the Scenes Team USA in Tokyo	\$15
Biking Fourmile Creek.....	\$15	Drawing in the Dark.....	\$45
Sacred and Profane of Martin Scorsese Films	\$45	The Invincible Czars <i>Phantom of the Opera</i>	\$25
Generations Over Lunch - WesleyLife/Drake	FREE	The Erie Canal.....	\$45
Updates in Cancer Risks, Diagnosis IP or Z	\$45	Iconic Fair Foods.....	\$15
Chair Yoga	FREE	Marshalltown and Gladbrook.....	\$45
Centennial of Drake Stadium IP or Z	\$30	Healthy Eating Series: Coffee, Tea, Chocolate.....	\$30
Simplifying Physics	\$45	Do You See What I See?.....	\$15
Campus Art Tour IP or Z	\$15	Civic Music Association presents Yo-Yo Ma	\$50
Tai Chi for Beginners.....	\$30	Happiness Is IP or Z	\$45
Great Readings Discussion Group	\$30	Saving Your Brain: Dementia Update IP or Z	\$45
25th Annual All-State Barn Tour of Iowa IP or Z	\$15	Cribbage for Beginners.....	\$45
World in Review IP or Z	\$45	Dr. Norman Borlaug IP or Z	\$30
Water Aerobics	\$30	Mexican Art Docent Tours.....	FREE
Where on Earth is the US Ranking?	\$15	Bucksbaum Business Lecture: Kai Ryssdal	FREE
Architectural Foundation Walking Tour.....	\$30	Lunch & Learn: Swedish Death Cleaning.....	\$30
OLLI at Drake Book Club.....	\$45	MOVIE EVENT: Genevieve.....	\$10
Milton Creamery Cheese Tasting Class.....	\$30	Fighting Fake News IP or Z	\$15
Brenton Arboretum Fall Guided Hike.....	FREE	Iowa PBS <i>The American Revolution</i> IP or Z	FREE
Paws and Pints Happy Hour**	\$0	Veterans' Day Celebration	FREE
Resilience in a Time of Civic Unrest? IP or Z	\$30	Medicaid Eligibility for Longterm Care IP or Z	\$30
Mystery Fine Wine Tasting – France.....	\$45	Uncovering Des Moines' Hidden Histories IP or Z	\$30
WesleyLife Lunch & Learn – President Marty Martin...	\$30	Lessons from the Great Depression.....	\$30
Science in the News	\$45	In Search of Democracies.....	\$30
Prairie Ponderings.....	FREE	Immigration Policy Updates IP or Z	\$30
Birdwatching in Iowa.....	\$30	Drake Jazz Ensemble Concert	\$30
Iowa State Fair Food Staples Cooking Class.....	\$30	The Birth of the Atomic Age	\$15
Strengthening Community with AARP Iowa IP or Z	\$15	Jazz Up Your Holidays.....	\$45
“Wall of Witnesses” Lunch & Learn, Perry	\$30	Retirement YOU.....	\$15
ANDERSON GALLERY: <i>Unfurling Garden</i>	\$15	Puzzle Afternoon at OSH.....	FREE
Governor Robert D. Ray Ice Cream Social.....	FREE	Women Aviators in the Military	\$30
Inaugural Annual Ray Lecture Series IP or Z	FREE	Letting Go	\$45
Tallgrass Theatre: <i>Blythe Spirit</i>	\$35	Update Carbon Pipelines 101 IP or Z	\$15
Coffee Cats Cafe**	\$0	Transgender in Iowa IP or Z	\$15
Exploring Ames.....	\$60	MOVIE EVENT: <i>The Apartment</i>	\$10
Big Brothers–Big Sisters IP or Z	\$15	Mini Memoirs IP or Z	\$30
Bike Ride at Easter Lake	FREE	The Jewish People of Iowa.....	\$15
MOVIE EVENT: <i>Foreign Correspondent</i>	\$10	Functional Fitness for Life	\$15
Drake Musical: <i>Cabaret</i>	\$30	Occupational Therapy Assistive Devices.....	FREE
The Montessori Method IP or Z	\$15	B*I*N*G*O**	\$0
UFOs/UAPs: Are We Alone?.....	\$45	<i>Through Nature's Lens</i> Book Discussion IP or Z	\$15
Beginning Mah Jongg	\$45	VOLUNTEERING: Food Bank of Iowa.....	FREE
Homecoming Football Game	\$0	Smart TVs and Streaming Services.....	FREE
An Introduction to Game Theory IP or Z	\$45	7 Keys for Navigating Diagnosis IP or Z	\$15
Politics in America IP or Z	\$30	Wreath Making Workshop.....	FREE
A Lifetime on the Run	\$45	Global Order in the Age of Trump IP or Z	\$15
Four Important Events of the 20th Century IP or Z	\$45	Tallgrass Theatre presents <i>The Velvet Lounge</i>	\$35
Artificial Intelligence for Beginners.....	\$45	OLLI Day of Celebration	FREE
Walking Meditation	\$30		
WesleyLife Lunch & Learn: Outbreaks Quiz.....	\$30		
		TOTAL PAYMENT DUE:	\$

Class Reminders

Use this reminder page to note the classes you have registered for.

Please make a note of any classes for which you are “**Waitlisted**”.

You will be notified if you are taken off the Waitlist.

[illegible]



Oak Street Health is a premier primary care provider dedicated to Medicare patients. We are committed to providing specialized, high quality healthcare that is designed to keep you healthy, not just treat you when you're sick.

OLLI at Drake and Oak Street Health Partnership

Oak Street Health is proud to sponsor scholarships for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Drake

University (OLLI at Drake), empowering older adults to engage in enriching educational opportunities. These scholarships reflect Oak Street Health's commitment to fostering vibrant, active communities by supporting lifelong learning and personal growth. With this partnership, Oak Street Health helps ensure that financial barriers do not prevent seniors from accessing intellectually stimulating courses and programs.

Join us!

Oak Street Health is excited to sponsor a variety of engaging classes and events at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. These sponsored classes provide older adults with opportunities to explore new interests and stay intellectually and socially active in their communities

To learn more about Oak Street Health or schedule an appointment please call:

Des Moines: Jordan Park, 4841 SE 14th St.: 515.302.6284

Des Moines: Park Fair, 215 Euclid Ave.: 515.443.8424

Cedar Rapids: 3419 16th Ave. SW, Suite 100: 319.777.0947

Davenport: 2217 Rockingham Rd.: 563.900.8466

Moline, IL: 1996 1st Street A: 309.623.6885

Oak Street Health – Sponsored Events

9.4.25: *free popcorn and soda* at the OLLI at Drake movie, *Modern Times* at Varsity

9.11.25: **Wellness Fair**

11.11.25: **Veterans' Day Celebration** at Oak Street Health (Jordan Park)

11.25.25: **Puzzle Day** at Oak Street Health (Jordan Park)

12.12.25: **Smart TV–Streaming class** at Oak Street Health (Park Fair)

12.18.25: **Wreath Making class** at Oak Street Health (Park Fair)



Contact us.

E: OLLI@drake.edu

P: 515.271.2120

W: drake.edu/olli

mailing address:

OLLI at Drake
2507 University Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50311

office location:

Alumni House
2700 University Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50311





CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF LIFELONG LEARNING!

2025-26 OLLI at Drake Council

Ronni Begleiter	Carl Johnson
David Boelman	Dennis Kelly
David Boyd	Gloria Morris
Dennis Davis	Gary Schroeder
Anita Garrison	Craig Shives
Kristin Glockoff	Peggy Urtz
Bob Haskins	Beth Willem
Bob Henderson	Jan Wise
Jan Hetzel	Sue Wright

Executive Committee

President – Bob Haskins
 Vice President – David Boyd
 Secretary – Sue Wright
 Treasurer – Jan Wise
 Programming Chair – Carl Johnson
 Events & Socials Co-Chairs – Jan Hetzel & Bob Henderson
 Marketing & Membership Chair – Peggy Urtz
 Nominating Chair – Dennis Davis
 Volunteer Engagement Chair – Sue Wright

Committee Chairs

Events & Socials – Jan Hetzel & Bob Henderson
 Marketing & Membership – Peggy Urtz
 Nominating – Dennis Davis
 Programming – Carl Johnson
 Volunteer Engagement – Sue Wright

Ex Officio

Billie Ray
 John Smith, Vice President for University Advancement

OLLI at Drake Staff

Tracy Beck – Director
 Lisa Cooper – Program Coordinator