



# NOVEMBER 2023

## Meet Michelle Butler

For the past ten years, Michelle has been investigating full-time volunteerism with a range of organizations from the Philly Zoo and Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge to PAWS for People Pet Therapy, Delaware Hospice and Meals on Wheels.



Jenna Cole and the OLLI team on a part-time basis with whatever needs to be done – training, tech support, project coordination and making popcorn, of course! She loves the atmosphere at the OLLI campus – students and staff have contagious excitement about being part of such a vibrant program!

During this time, she also got a Master of Fine Arts as a means of exploring the right side of her brain, following 20 years of left-brained work as a biochemist in the pharmaceutical industry at companies in Colorado, New York, and Pennsylvania.

Wildlife conservation and environmental projects are dear to her heart and she loves traveling with her husband to all the U.S. National Parks, as well as to far-flung countries where the only words they know how to say are “hello,” “please” and “thank you.”

Michelle lives in Middletown, DE, along with her husband and furry kids (one border collie and two cats.)

As a program support assistant, she aids



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# Options for Year-End Giving to OLLI-W

Office of Development & Alumni Relations

As we approach the end of the calendar year, we encourage you to consider what charitable giving options are best for your personal financial situation.

For members over the age of 73 who must take a required minimum distribution (RMD), you have the opportunity to donate pre-tax income to OLLI, thereby reducing your 2023 taxable income.

To transfer appreciated stock or make a gift from your IRA to benefit OLLI-W, please consult your financial advisor and call the University of Delaware Development Office at 1-866-535-4504.

To make a gift or pledge payment to OLLI-W, you can:

Give online at [www.udel.edu/olliw](http://www.udel.edu/olliw)

Send a check to 83 E. Main Street, 3rd Floor, Newark, DE 19716

Or call 302-831-2104 / 1-866-535-4504

Checks and envelopes must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2023, to process in calendar year 2023.

If you have any questions, please call 1-866-535-4504 or contact [annualgiving@udel.edu](mailto:annualgiving@udel.edu).

## Look What's in the Lobby

The works of talented artisans continue to be on display for sale in the lobby at Arsht Hall. Stop by and look over their products and pick up a one-of-a-kind item for yourself or for a gift.



Quilted work by Kathy Smith.

### Pop Up Artisan Shops

Open November 14 & 15, 10 to 1

#### Doortje Shover-Jewelry



#### Les Breedlove--Birdhouses



#### Bill Cushing—Turned Wood



Open November 15 only

#### Maryellen Winkler-Gunn—Mystery Novels

Come prepared with cash or checks

## Volunteer Spotlight

Jean Youkers

### Judy Winters

You will often find Judy Winters or members of her class, The ECO Team, at their display area in the Arsht Hall lobby. They're there to provide information on how to support home and community through green behavior.



Judy has taken and taught classes at OLLI-W for more than a decade. She taught a class called Reluctant Traveler for her first two years of teaching before channeling her passion for ecology into the ECO Team course that she currently teaches with co-instructor Mike Rominger.

A Philadelphia native, Judy earned her B.S. at West Chester University and M. Ed at University of Delaware. She retired after 25 years of teaching in New Castle County schools, and three years in New Mexico. She has two children and four grandchildren.

Judy's interests include watercolor painting and gardening. She practices green behavior by decreasing lawn area and growing more native pollinating plants. Participation in the Earth Quaker Action Team for 10 years led to her protesting against companies that are not responsible in preserving resources—for example, companies that support mountaintop coal removal. She includes these issues in class discussions along with climate change and recycling.

Teaching at OLLI-W is rewarding for Judy because of the high interest among class members and their willingness to act. The Team conducted a well-planned Earth Day celebration last year and is already planning for Earth Day 2024.

Judy appreciates our OLLI-W staff, who go far beyond what's asked of them to make the Team's projects successful.

Judy brightens Arsht Hall with exhibits, good ideas and enthusiasm. Her leadership and perseverance make her an exceptional volunteer.

### Mary Shenvi

"I'm passionate about the adventure of lifelong learning," says Mary Shenvi, who teaches three classes this fall — German Seminar, French through Song, and Advanced Spanish Conversation.

Mary's learning adventure began in childhood. She loved going to school, learning new things.

This passion followed her all the way to the University of Delaware, where she majored in French, and on to a 30-year teaching career. At OLLI, her enthusiasm continues as she develops exciting courses and serves on the Curriculum Committee.

Mary joined OLLI-W before she retired, in 2016. She managed to squeeze one class into her full-time teaching schedule at St. Elizabeth High School. Within weeks, Mary was assisting in that class and inspired to teach upon retirement.

Mary arrived in Delaware 42 years ago when her husband, a chemist, took a position here. Having grown up in the atmosphere of vastness in California, she was immediately charmed by the welcoming culture of small Delaware. Mary enjoys traveling to visit her two children and eight grandchildren, as well as to foreign countries. Other interests include taking law and history classes at OLLI-W, cooking, and solving word puzzles in foreign languages.

No English is spoken in Mary's classes. Her conversational approach makes learning languages challenging but fun, while actively practicing grammatical structures to ensure accuracy in communication. Reading foreign newspapers helps Mary stay current on new vocabulary, from technical terms to slang. Since class discussions are based on authentic readings, participants have the opportunity to learn about other cultures and practice the most up-to-date trends in the languages they are studying. "It's all about immersion," she explains.

Mary's time, talent and creativity can best be described as outstanding — in any language!



## Don't Overlook This OLLI Asset — The University Library

Excerpted and updated by Robert Ehrlich from a February 2022 article by Rebecca Worley

One of the benefits of OLLI membership is access to the vast resources of the UD library system. To visit Morris Library, you will need a UD One Card.

You can also access many resources from the comfort of your home with a UD username and passcode. If you need a username and password, contact Brian Medina via email at [bmedina@udel.edu](mailto:bmedina@udel.edu).

During the pandemic when physical access was restricted, Online Learning Librarian Maria Barefoot gave a presentation on "Accessing UD Library Resources" as part of the 2022 January Explorations program. She prepared a Library Research Guide specifically for OLLI members, available at <https://guides.lib.udel.edu/olli/home>. This guide is still available.

Knowing that members often look to the library for the latest issues of newspapers and magazines, Maria created a second page called "Popular Resources" with just that information. This page is a "treasure trove" with links to popular newspapers like *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*, and to magazines such as *The Economist* and *The Atlantic*. But it also includes links to Delaware newspapers and to resources for ancestry and genealogy research. But that's not all; on this same page you'll find links to financial information and to streaming video resources.

For members interested in conducting some research, this page includes, in the left column, links to three of the most useful and comprehensive databases: Academic OneFile is the premier source for articles from academic journals in the physical and social sciences, technology, medicine, engineering, the arts, literature, and many other subjects.



Maria Barefoot

A second option is Jstor, a digital library of books and journals in the humanities and social sciences, including the arts, history, and the humanities, as well as business and economics. Additionally, it includes thousands of podcasts and transcripts from NPR and CNN and videos from BBC Worldwide Learning. And finally, this column includes a link to the Web of Science, a premier database for topics in that discipline.

Because so many of us have recently become digital readers, Maria also showed us how to find e-books in the UD library collections and how to access OverDrive, the popular online library for "borrowing" recent best sellers and popular novels.

A brief reminder, however. All this information is available only to members of the University of Delaware community. As a member of OLLI, you are part of that community and can therefore access library resources. But you do need to use your UD email address as identification, and the two-factor authentication system (2FA) to take advantage of these resources. If you don't have a university email address, or are unsure how to use it, Brian Medina can help you with that; his email is [bmedina@udel.edu](mailto:bmedina@udel.edu).

The University of Delaware library provides us with a vast collection of both academic and popular resources for those who want to improve their education, explore their personal interests in a specific subject, or just find a good book or magazine to read.

And remember, if you have a question or need some help, just click on the icon to "Ask the Library" and one of their many dedicated and knowledgeable librarians will reply.

## Noontime Melodies Filling Our Halls — and Hearts

Mary Pat Elmlinger

OLLI participants, TAKE NOTE!

Arsht Hall is filled with music this time of year from the many classes that focus on a rich range of harmonies offered by our incredible community.

Here's a glance at the noon performances tuning up for the end of this semester.

♪ **NOV. 8 – UKULELE GROUP.** The 14 members of this group invite the audience to sing along as they strum and pluck through a list of songs ranging from nostalgic to Hollywood to Beatles.

♪ **NOV. 15 – ORCHESTRA.** This varied concert of classical and pop music will feature a flute soloist and works by Haydn, Mendelssohn and Bizet, as well as Billy Joel.

♪ **NOV. 16 – BRASS QUINTET.** Two trumpets, one trombone, one tuba and one French horn will blend to present an all-classical program from medieval madrigals through 20<sup>th</sup>-century compositions.

♪ **NOV. 27 – ROCK BAND.** Our rockers will cover numbers from such great groups as Creedence Clearwater Revival, Fleetwood Mac, The Buckingham, Jimmy Buffett and Elton John.

♪ **NOV. 28 – STRING ENSEMBLE.** Music from Bach, Tchaikovsky, Delibes and Prokofiev, a Latin American tango, and two Broadway classics will stir the strings of your hearts.

♪ **NOV. 29 – MADRIGAL SINGERS.** The singers will harmonize in 3 to 5 parts with only their voices to carry this fascinating and intricate song form forward from the Renaissance into today's world.

♪ **NOV. 30 – FLUTE CHOIR.** This group plans an eclectic mix of pieces drawing from classical, folk and holiday traditions. Four members comprising the "Just Flutin' Quartet" will also pipe up a treat for your ears.

♪ **DEC. 1 – CLARINET ENSEMBLE.** Through the magic of these musicians, 14 clarinets bring "76 Trombones" to life, as well as a fascinating mix of seasonal, dance, patriotic and novelty songs.



♪ **DEC. 4 – CHAMBER CHOIR.** "Songs of Winter" will draw from rollicking pop tunes, contemplative tone poems, movie hits, Hannukah revels, spirituals, sentimental love songs and a composition by a local composer.

♪ **DEC. 5 – INTERMEDIATE BAND.** The band is going all the way with the holiday theme, featuring 12 songs of Christmas and a Hannukah melody.

♪ **DEC. 6 – CHORUS.** "Solstice Splendor" is a mix of traditional carols, a hymn of thanksgiving, haunting contemplations on autumn and winter nights, a brave Hannukah tune and rounded out with a "Winter Medley."

♪ **DEC. 7 – RECORDER ENSEMBLE.** These 30 players will make you forget those squeaks you produced on plastic instruments in grade school with an astonishing range of holiday-themed music from the Renaissance to Baroque to Modern.

♪ **DEC. 8 – CONCERT BAND.** We'll all be "with the band" as the 60+ instrumentalists fill the hall with a mix of meditative and inspirational pieces, stirring fanfares and anthems, and bright Broadway and popular tunes, highlighted by a flute solo.



# January Explorations 2024



Do you miss OLLI during the winter break? Attend the January Explorations series of one- and two-session presentations from January 16 to January 26. These are free. Register once and attend as many presentations as you want.

There will be one morning and one afternoon presentation on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and a morning session on Fridays.

Thinking of teaching? There will be a two-session class with advice on preparing to teach at OLLI.

**OLLI Monthly News in Wilmington**  
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**Next submittal deadline:** Monday, January 22  
**Issue date:** February 5

Submit articles to [rehrlich@udel.edu](mailto:rehrlich@udel.edu).

### 2023-24 Schedule

**December 8** ..... 13-week session ends  
 (OLLI Wilmington – in person at Arsht Hall)

**Spring Schedule**  
**UD OLLI Online** – Zoom only

**February 5-April 26** ..... 11-week session  
**February 5-March 8** ..... 1st 5-week session  
**April 1-May 3** ..... 2nd 5-week session

**OLLI Wilmington** – Arsht Hall and partner locations

**February 5-May 10** ..... 13-week session  
**February 5-March 8** ..... 1st 5-week session  
**April 1-May 3** ..... 2nd 5-week session