

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AQUINAS COLLEGE

COURSE CATALOG  
**FALL 2024**  
SEPTEMBER 9 — DECEMBER 6

REGISTRATION OPENS **AUGUST 28, 2024**



AQUINAS  
COLLEGE

Cover Art:  
OLLI Member **Rodney Martin**  
*Morning on Hall Lake, 2020*  
Digital Photograph

# 5 EASY STEPS TO OLLI COURSE PARTICIPATION

## STEP 1: Join OLLI.

**Membership is required to participate in OLLI courses.** New for 2024-2025, OLLI membership is now universal, featuring one pricing plan for all members. Unless otherwise specified, the fee to register for each session is **\$10.00**. Annual memberships may be purchased for \$90.00 by visiting [aquinas.edu/olli-membership](https://aquinas.edu/olli-membership).

## STEP 2: Review the Course Catalog.

Courses are now offered in a series of three terms, each featuring its own course catalog.

**Fall:** September – December

**Winter:** January – March

**Spring:** April – June

Please read descriptions, note dates, times, and locations, and consult your personal calendar before enrolling. OLLI courses are offered with various numbers of sessions. Individual sessions may be selected from courses that are four or more sessions in length. Sessions from courses with three or fewer sessions are packaged together.

## STEP 3: Register online.

Fall 2024 Course Registration opens  
**WEDNESDAY, August 28, 2024, at 9:00am**

ALL course registrations are completed online via this link: [aquinas.edu/olli-courses](https://aquinas.edu/olli-courses).

You may also scan the QR code to the right to register on a mobile device. ►

The registration page will remain open throughout the term so you can register for additional open courses at any time.

When on the online registration page, read the instructions, follow the prompts, and make your selections. Capacity limits will be listed alongside each course, so if you cannot select a particular option, the capacity limit has likely been reached. To be added to the waitlist for a specific course, please email [olli@aquinas.edu](mailto:olli@aquinas.edu).



Register carefully as there are **NO MONETARY REFUNDS** for courses you later cannot attend. If you need to cancel, notify the OLLI office **48 hours** prior to the scheduled session time to receive a coupon code redeemable for any future session in the 2024-2025 year. Courses canceled or rescheduled by OLLI are also eligible for course credit via coupon codes. Existing coupon codes from previously canceled or rescheduled classes may be entered at the bottom of the registration page. When done, select “SAVE REGISTRANT” to register another person or to continue to the “Billing” section.

### Having trouble accessing the online registration page? Are you and computers a bad mix?

Contact the OLLI Office at **616.632.2430** or visit us in person to register. Do not email registrations.

## STEP 4: Submit payment.

Complete the requested billing information and select “SUBMIT”. Registration is not complete until you pay and receive a printed or emailed confirmation.

## STEP 5: Attend class.

Keep a list of your registered courses, and join us in-person, virtually, or at an offsite location. If you have any questions, or need to cancel a registration, please contact OLLI at **616.632.2430** or at [olli@aquinas.edu](mailto:olli@aquinas.edu).

# EXPLORING THE NEW COURSE CATALOG

The **Fall 2024** Course Catalog is completely redesigned based on OLLI member feedback. Offerings include standard, 90-minute courses as well as OLLI Experiences that take learning beyond the classroom (see **Pages 6 and 7**). Also new this term is the introduction of the Pantlind Series, a signature seminar series that features seven different presenters speaking on a shared topic (see **Pages 4 and 5**). Presenter biographies are compiled at the end, and a full term calendar is prominently featured in the fold of the catalog. **An example of the new course listing format is explained below.** ▼

## 1 HISTORY & POLITICS

### 2 90 Years of Aquinas Athletics

3 Presented by: Ryan Wendt

4 Originally designed “to foster a spirit of union, sportsmanship, and loyalty, and contribute to bodily health,” the first intercollegiate sport at Aquinas College, then known as Catholic Junior College, was men’s basketball — and it remained the college’s only sport until men’s baseball was added in 1941. Now, Aquinas proudly boasts more than thirty men’s, women’s, and co-ed teams with a rich history of thousands of athletes, coaches, directors, and staff. Relive the glory of this 90-year program with stories of mascots, school colors, Madison Square Garden, Mackinac Island, Major League Baseball players, and much more.

5 NOTE: This course is free and hosted as a part of the Aquinas College Homecoming festivities. Non-OLLI members of all ages are welcome.

6 Date: **FRI, Sep 20, 2024**

7 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**

8 Location: **Donnelly Center**

9 Event Fee: **\$0.00**

1 **Course Category.** OLLI courses are divided into three categories based on content.

**ARTS & CULTURE** — Art, Film, Humanities, Languages, Literature, Music, Religion, Sports, Travel

**HISTORY & POLITICS** — Business, Current Events, Economics, Education, History, Political Science

**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY** — Biology, Botany, Environmental Science, Health, Medicine, Technology, Zoology

2 **Course Title.** Abridged “short titles” are featured on the online registration page and Fall 2024 calendar for simplicity.

3 **Presenter.** Presenters are identified alongside their respective courses, but full presenter biographies are featured alphabetically by last name beginning on **Page 25. Fall 2024 features 30 first-time OLLI presenters!**

4 **Course Description.** Courses are described in detail. Courses with multiple sessions may feature individual session details and dates. Individual sessions may be selected from courses that are four or more sessions in length.

5 **Course Notes.** Some courses may include notes featuring special instructions or additional commentary.

6 **Course Date.** Dates of all sessions are listed. Following the Pantlind Series and OLLI Experiences, courses are listed in the catalog in chronological order based on their first session date. Explore the full term calendar on **Pages 14 and 15.**

7 **Course Time.** Courses are 90 minutes in duration, and offered at 9:30am or 1:30pm, unless otherwise specified.

8 **Course Location.** Courses are primarily offered on the campus of Aquinas College, unless otherwise specified. See the OLLI map featuring the **Browne Center** and the **Donnelly Center** (and their specific addresses) on **Page 15.** Some courses are offered virtually via Zoom. Virtual courses are designated by this icon. ► 

9 **Fees / Limits.** Course fees are **\$10.00 per session**, unless otherwise specified. Some may feature enrollment capacity limits set by the presenter or location.

# THE PANTLIND SERIES: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Named for former OLLI director Sheila Pantlind, the **Pantlind Series** features seven different presenters speaking on a shared topic. It reflects the original programming structure of the Emeritus College, the predecessor to OLLI at Aquinas, founded in 1975. Courses are listed chronologically.

Artificial intelligence is everywhere. AI has and will continue to transform politics, storytelling, safety, art, healthcare, music, and education for generations, and by embracing what was once considered science fiction, senior populations have the opportunity to be among those most-benefited by these emerging technologies.

## **Pixels and Politics: Legislation for Transparent Political Advertising**

Presented by: State Rep. Penelope Tsernoglou

Deepfakes are convincing, AI-generated images, videos, or audio clips that misrepresent someone as doing or saying something they didn't. They can be created in seconds with very little money, very little effort, and very little skill. Especially damaging in a deeply partisan electorate, deepfakes threaten to make it impossible for voters to distinguish authentic media from AI-generated misinformation. In an effort to curb this growing threat, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed into law a bipartisan bill that requires a disclaimer be issued with any political advertisement that uses this technology. Explore this new legislation with the state representative who introduced it as well as additional bills that would ban the dissemination of non-consensual, explicit deepfake images in Michigan.

Date: **MON, Sep 16, 2024**  
Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
Location: **Donnelly Center**



▲ How will artificial intelligence impact the political environment in Michigan and across the country?

## **AI in Film Animation**

Presented by: Julie Goldstein, PhD

Whether you're a film enthusiast, an aspiring animator, or simply curious about AI, this course will offer a comprehensive introduction to the future of storytelling through technology. Explore the transformative impact of generative AI on animation and filmmaking via cutting-edge toolsets and techniques driving innovation in the industry. Gain insights into how AI is revolutionizing content creation, from automating animation processes to enhancing visual effects. The broader social implications will also be discussed, including changes in communication, ethical considerations, and the evolving landscape of related industries.

Date: **MON, Sep 30, 2024**  
Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
Location: **Donnelly Center**

## **Preventing the Next Mass Shooting with AI Firearm Detection**

Presented by: Timothy Sulzer

What if there was a proactive solution to detect guns before a mass shooting? Now there is. Driven to mitigate gun violence following the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in 2018, ZeroEyes software uses artificial intelligence to analyze over three billion images each day from security camera video feeds and alerts authorities within seconds if a firearm is detected. This course begins with an overview of artificial intelligence and the specific technologies behind ZeroEyes. Discover how founders and programmers built and revised their initial models, the realistic limitations of this technology, and the current operations that now serve the Michigan Capitol as well as several Michigan universities and school districts.

Date: **THU, Oct 3, 2024**  
Time: **1:30am - 3:00pm**  
Location: **Donnelly Center**

# THE PANTLIND SERIES: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

## Artists and ARTificial Intelligence

Presented by: JoLee Kirkikis Casares

Art and technology have always been inherently linked, yet as AI technologies advance, artists are increasingly incorporating these tools into their creative processes. From creating original pieces to interpreting artistic styles, AI algorithms are revolutionizing the artistic landscape. “New media” is now used to describe a vast array of contemporary artworks that engage with emerging technologies. However, this engagement poses profound questions about intellectual property, copyright ownership, and ethical considerations surrounding AI-generated art.

Date: **TUE, Oct 29, 2024**  
Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
Location: **Donnelly Center**

## The Value of AI in Healthcare

Presented by: Alexis Kurek, PhD

The emergence of artificial intelligence in healthcare has been groundbreaking, with future applications poised to transform medicine worldwide. With AI’s ability to rapidly analyze vast amounts of clinical data and electronic health records, medical professionals can easily identify disease markers and trends that may otherwise be overlooked, reshaping the way patients are diagnosed, treated, and monitored — especially in the areas of cardiology, radiology, oncology, orthopedics, and population health. Additional benefits can extend to administrative applications, cost reduction, and mitigation of physician burnout. This course will explore these benefits, and existing barriers, through examples of AI algorithms currently implemented in local healthcare systems.

Date: **MON, Nov 4, 2024**  
Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
Location: **Donnelly Center**

## A Duet of Music and Artificial Intelligence

Presented by: Matt DeJongh, PhD

In a piano concerto, the piano is the star. The orchestra follows, taking its cues from the pianist. However, if you’re an amateur pianist, a full orchestra is hard to come by. That is, unless you can teach a computer to play the accompaniment instead. It’s called music informatics, and it’s like karaoke in reverse — the computer listens to the pianist and matches the recording of the orchestra to the live tempo. This course will describe the technologies that make this possible, and culminate with a performance of Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 12 in A major, accompanied by a fully digital orchestra.

Date: **THU, Nov 14, 2024**  
Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
Location: **Kretschmer Recital Hall, Aquinas College**



▲ Professor Matt DeJongh accompanied by an AI orchestra.

## Generative AI in the Classroom

Presented by: Kecia Waddell, PhD

Since the introduction of generative artificial intelligence programs, some educators believe there is an all-out assault on the classroom, expressing fears over cheating, plagiarism, and a lack of reliable assessment tools. However, educators can and should embrace these technologies to help students use them responsibly, spark innovation, and meet evolving standards. This course will demonstrate how generative AI tools work, discuss their benefits and risks, and analyze their impact in and out of the learning environment.

Date: **FRI, Dec 6, 2024**  
Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
Location: **ZOOM**

# OLLI EXPERIENCES

**OLLI Experiences** are special, limited-enrollment opportunities that take learning beyond the classroom. These interactive events often meet off campus, feature non-standard pricing, and may take place outside standard course times.

## Migratory Fall Birds in West Michigan

Presented by: Spencer High

Fall bird migration is in full swing, and many species of birds pass through West Michigan en route to their wintering grounds. This outdoor, interactive course will first discuss why these birds are here, their changing color and appearance, their behavior, and their important ecological roles within our natural environments. Get familiar with some of the 250 species found in Kent County in the fall before heading out to spot those passing through.

NOTE: Participants should expect walking on uneven terrain. Please wear weather-appropriate clothing and footwear. If possible, please bring your own binoculars as only limited quantities are available.

Date: **THU, Sep 12, 2024**  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Remington Park  
 2310 Reeds Lake Boulevard SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506**  
 Event Fee: **\$15.00**  
 Limit: **20**



## A Walk in the Woods

Presented by: Holly Hagen

Experience the restorative Japanese practice of *Shinrin-yoku*, otherwise known as “forest therapy” or “forest bathing” on the beautiful grounds of Aquinas College. Discover the benefits of this nature-based mindfulness practice and enjoy a cup of tea at the conclusion of a collective walkabout in the more-than-human world.

NOTE: Participants should expect walking on uneven terrain. Please wear weather-appropriate footwear and clothing. Free parking is available at the Fulton Lot, 1700 Fulton Street E, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Parking permits will be provided by OLLI.

Date: **FRI, Sep 13, 2024**  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Holmdene Gardens, Aquinas College**  
 Event Fee: **\$15.00**  
 Limit: **12**

## Tour of the Kent County Recycling & Education Center

Presented by: Micah Herrboldt

Take a guided tour through Kent County's sorting facility designed to accept residential recyclable materials from all over West Michigan. Recyclables are sorted according to material type, then prepared for shipping to the next processor by pressing the recyclables into bales. Additional topics of discussion include the history of trash, managing waste, and closing the recycling loop.

NOTE: This tour is offered twice on the same date. *Please register for only one time.* Closed-toe shoes are required to tour the facility. Safety glasses and hearing protection are provided.

Dates: **THU, Sep 26, 2024**  
 Time: **(A) 9:30am - 11:00am OR (B) 1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Kent County Recycling & Education Center  
 977 Wealthy Street SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504**  
 Event Fee: **\$10.00**  
 Limit: **25**

# OLLI EXPERIENCES

## This Is Where I Stand Discussion Group

Facilitated by: Dave Kampfschulte, MEd

Join OLLI's longstanding, facilitated discussion group where participants engage in thoughtful dialogue on current issues, ethical dilemmas, and the meanings of significant words and phrases. This forum encourages you to explore or reinforce your own belief system while gaining a deeper understanding of differing perspectives. Where do you stand?

Dates: **WED, Oct 2, 9, 16, Nov 6, 13, and 20, 2024** (6 sessions)  
 Time: **11:30am - 1:00pm**  
 Location: **Browne Center**  
 Event Fee: **\$50.00**  
 Limit: **16**

## Moving Beyond Polarization: A Civil Discourse Workshop

Facilitated by: Lisa Perhamus, PhD

As heated rhetoric continues to divide us, how do we talk to each other? More importantly, how do we listen to each other? This 3-hour, interactive workshop will provide an overview of fundamental civil discourse principles as well as introduce strategies for navigating challenging conversations. Discover how to create the conditions for constructive conversation, appreciate the value of viewpoint diversity in public settings and everyday living, and ultimately, employ effective discourse tools to reach a deeper mutual understanding with strangers and loved ones to help lower our collective temperature.

NOTE: Lunch is included.

Date: **WED, Oct 30, 2024**  
 Time: **10:30am - 2:30pm**  
 Location: **Donnelly Center**  
 Event Fee: **\$65.00**  
 Limit: **30**

# FREE COURSE

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### 90 Years of Aquinas Athletics

Presented by: Ryan Wendt

Originally designed "to foster a spirit of union, sportsmanship, and loyalty, and contribute to bodily health," the first intercollegiate sport at Aquinas College, then known as Catholic Junior College, was men's basketball — and it remained the college's only sport until men's baseball was added in 1941. Now, Aquinas proudly boasts more than thirty men's, women's, and co-ed teams with a rich history of thousands of athletes, coaches, directors, and staff. Relive the glory of this 90-year program with stories of mascots, school colors, Madison Square Garden, Mackinac Island, Major League Baseball players, and much more.

NOTE: This course is FREE and hosted as a part of the Aquinas College Homecoming festivities. Non-OLLI members of all ages are welcome.

Date: **FRI, Sep 20, 2024**  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Donnelly Center**  
 Event Fee: **\$0.00**



▲ The 1972-1973 Aquinas College Men's Baseball team.

# OLLI COURSES

**OLLI Courses** are 90 minutes in duration and begin at either 9:30am or 1:30pm. Standard course fees apply. Individual sessions may be selected from courses that are four or more sessions in length.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### Introduction to Media Ecology

Presented by: Corey Anton, PhD

Communication technologies have altered countless patterns of human affairs for centuries. We have witnessed cell phones change the nature of social interaction, video technologies alter notions of privacy, and robotic automation change the nature and meaning of employment. This lively and interactive course explores the nature of media ecology — the study of environments as media and media as environments.

**Sep 9, 2024** — Examine early forms of writing, the nature of print literacy, and the role of calendars and clocks as the roots of media ecology.

**Sep 16, 2024** — Address the proliferation of modern electric technologies such as television, internet, and social media, as well as their impact on contemporary society.

Dates: **MON, Sep 9 and 16, 2024** (2 sessions)  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Donnelly Center**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### Early Modern Midwives

Presented by: Karin Maag, PhD

Midwifery was a subject of popular and scientific interest, and regular scrutiny, through the early modern period. Consulted on the most intimate aspects of life, midwives of the 16th and 17th centuries were essential to the challenges of childbirth, serving as both physical and spiritual healers. This course will explore their training and preparation, relationships to mother and infant, and their vulnerability to accusations of witchcraft.

Date: **MON, Sep 9, 2024**  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### Authoritarianism in Modern Politics

Presented by: Roger Durham, PhD

In *Strongmen: Mussolini to the Present*, author Ruth Ben-Ghait writes, "Ours is the age of authoritarian rulers: self-proclaimed saviors of the nation who evade accountability while robbing their people of truth, treasure, and the protections of democracy." This course will discuss the rise of current authoritarian and neo-nationalist movements around the world by defining crucial terms and concepts as well as profiling specific case studies such as Putin in Russia, Erdoğan in Turkey, Orbán in Hungary, and Modi in India. How long can democracy endure when confronted by these "saviors?"

Dates: **TUE, Sep 10, 17, and 24, 2024** (3 sessions)  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Donnelly Center**



▲ Russian President Vladimir Putin.



# OLLI COURSES

## ARTS & CULTURE

### From Armory to Abstraction: American Art's Evolution (1913-1945)

Presented by: Henry Luttikhuizen, PhD

In 1913, the *International Exhibition of Modern Art* — which became known as the Armory Show — marked the dawn of Modernism in America. Experimental and “avant-garde” works from Van Gogh, Gauguin, Picasso, Matisse, and Duchamp shocked the country, changed perceptions of beauty, inspired American artists and collectors, and ultimately saw New York City replace Paris as the center of the art world. Throughout this course, explore the paintings, photographs, and sculptures that followed the Armory show and collectively deconstructed and inspired American culture through World War II and beyond.

**Sep 10, 2024: The Stieglitz Circle and Precisionism** — Alfred Stieglitz was an early promoter and practitioner of photography as fine art. His affiliates — including his wife, Georgia O’Keefe — developed the earliest, truly American art form following the Armory Show.

**Sep 17, 2024: Social Realism and Regionalism** — With the onset of the Great Depression, paintings like Grant Woods’ *American Gothic* and photographs like Dorothea Lange’s *Migrant Mother*, emphasized the rural and working class lives of everyday Americans.

**Sep 24, 2024: The Harlem Renaissance and Urban America** — As New York City’s Harlem neighborhood became the cultural mecca of Black culture in the 1920s, photographer James Van Der Zee, painter Aaron Douglas, and sculptor Augusta Savage documented it all.

**Oct 1, 2024: Surrealism and the Rise of Abstract Expressionism** — Inspired by the unconscious mind, novelty and strangeness gave way to revolution and nonconformity with artists like Mark Rothko and Jackson Pollock.

Dates: **TUE, Sep 10, 17, 24, and Oct 1, 2024** (4 sessions)  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

▼ Grant Woods’ *American Gothic* and the photography of James Van Der Zee represent American art’s evolution from 1913 to 1945.



## HISTORY & POLITICS

### Absolute Immunity: Analyzing the Supreme Court's Decision in *Trump v. United States*

Presented by: David Ryden, PhD

In a landmark decision, the Supreme Court held that a former president enjoys “absolute immunity for actions within his conclusive and preclusive constitutional authority. And he is entitled to at least presumptive immunity from prosecution for all his official acts.” But what is an “official act?” Are there exceptions to this new precedent? This decision is sure to have far-reaching consequences, not only for the gaggle of cases pending against the former president, but also for future presidents who seem likely to be targets of the increasing turn to politics by lawfare. This course will examine the historical and constitutional basis for presidential immunity as outlined in *Trump v. United States*, what the Court’s pronouncement means for the future of executive power, and address if, as Justice Sonia Sotomayor noted in her dissent, “The relationship between the President and the people he serves has shifted irrevocably.”

Date: **THU, Sep 12, 2024**  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Donnelly Center**

# OLLI COURSES

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### Cartoons and Geometry in Virtual Reality

Presented by: Michael McDaniel, PhD

Contrary to the notion that virtual reality (VR) goggles are just expensive toys for gaming and enthusiasts, this course will demonstrate how these tools bring an extra dimension to traditional 2D representations, transforming our understanding of complex shapes and structures. Use adjustable VR goggles to explore viral structures (icosahedral viral capsid) and curved surfaces in spherical geometry. Additionally, geek out and create animated cartoons using 3D design models to turn abstract concepts into vivid, interactive experiences.

Dates: **WED, Sep 18 and 25, 2024** (2 sessions)  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### OLLI Readers Series

Presented by: Jennifer Dawson, PhD, Susan Newhof, and Jackie Watson, MD

In this series, OLLI members and guests select their favorite books and lead lively, monthly discussions. Sessions may be selected individually, but participants are expected to read the respective book before the discussion. Most selections are available at local libraries or through online booksellers, though some may be available for purchase or borrowing through OLLI.

**Sep 19, 2024: *Station Eleven* (2014) by Emily St. John Mandel** — Twenty years after a flu pandemic causes the collapse of civilization, an itinerant group of Shakespearean actors and musicians traveling the shores of Lakes Huron and Michigan encounter a violent cult led by a man mysteriously linked to the protagonist. Blending elements of mystery, speculative, and post-apocalyptic fiction, St. John Mandel is less concerned with the logistics of survival than with exploring the troupe's motto — "survival is insufficient" — and the ways in which art generates hope and meaning. *Discussion Leader: Jennifer Dawson, PhD*

**Oct 17, 2024: *Spirits & Wine* (2011) by Susan Newhof** — It's a mystery and a ghost story, all wrapped up in one. A newly married couple buys an old house in a small town and finds it haunted by the dramatic secrets of its past inhabitants. As they settle in, disturbing events prompt them to investigate who those residents were, what happened to them, and why one spirit remains active — even if it jeopardizes their own safety. *Discussion Leader: Author Susan Newhof*

**Nov 21, 2024: *The First Ladies* (2024) by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray** — A novel about the extraordinary partnership between Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune — two different, yet equally formidable, passionate, and committed women — and the way in which their singular friendship helped form the foundation for the modern civil rights movement. *Discussion Leader: Jackie Watson, MD*

Dates: **THU, Sep 19, Oct 17, and Nov 21**  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Browne Center**  
 Limit: **20**



▲ Selections for the inaugural OLLI Readers Series.

# OLLI COURSES

**HISTORY & POLITICS**

**The New Deal’s Works Progress Administration**

Presented by: Jim Craft, MA

Among the many federal agencies and programs of the New Deal, the most ambitious was the Works Progress Administration (WPA), an employment relief agency which put millions to work rebuilding and expanding the nation’s infrastructure and culture during the Great Depression.

**Sep 23, 2024 AM: The WPA in Michigan** — In 1933, nearly a quarter of the American workforce was unemployed, and Michigan was one of the states hardest hit by the country’s economic woes. While the WPA’s origins, programs, and controversies are national in scope, Michigan benefited significantly from its resulting public works projects.

**Sep 23, 2024 PM: The American Guide Series: The WPA’s Travel Books of the 1930s** — The WPA’s subset of federal writers and artists began a project assembling a series of guidebooks — a bold literary experiment to produce a comprehensive snapshot of American life in the 1930s. The history of the Federal Writers’ Project, however, is about much more than the photographs, drawings, maps, and detailed descriptions compiled for each of the then forty-eight states. The difficulty in determining objectives, assembling and maintaining a functioning team in the political environment of the time, and simply converting the massive amount of data into useful and entertaining books is a story in itself.

Date: **MON, Sep 23, 2024**  
 Times: **9:30am - 11:00am AND 1:30pm - 3:00pm** (2 sessions)  
 Location: **Browne Center**

**HISTORY & POLITICS**

**The Road to Pennsylvania Avenue**

Presented by: Donald Zinman, PhD

When Mexico elected Claudia Sheinbaum its first female president in June 2024, the campaign lasted a legally-confined three months, and when then-UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak dissolved Parliament, there were only twenty-five working days before the general election. In the United States, however, presidential campaigns are long, costly, and unpredictable events. In the context of the 2024 election, this course will examine the key stages of the contest from official announcement to inauguration. Explore the hiring of campaign staff, fundraising, messaging and advertising, debating, picking a running mate, and ultimately, winning, as well as how candidates navigate and respond to unexpected challenges and events (i.e. October surprises) on their way to the White House.

Dates: **WED, Sep 25 and Oct 2, 2024** (2 sessions)  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

**Watch Your Waste**

Presented by: Micah Herrboldt, MS

Much of what is thrown in the trash is not necessarily trash — it can be reused, recycled, or composted. Not only can we easily reduce the amount that does go in the trash, we can reduce our amount of waste overall. This interactive course will address the benefits of healthy waste management on natural resources and include a sorting simulation to make household recycling choices even easier.

Date: **TUE, Oct 1, 2024**  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Browne Center**



▲ The Kent County Recycling and Education Center.

# OLLI COURSES

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### Movement for the Aging Body

Presented by: Amanda Fisher

Physical activity is important for older people because it can lower the risk of many diseases and cognitive conditions, improve mental health, and ensure independence and quality of life. But exercise need not be exertive or dangerous. This course will outline a variety of manageable movements to support an aging body.

**Oct 3, 2024: Trends in Movement** — How do you feel? Do you currently incorporate movement into your daily life? How often? How can you be more confident in adding movement to your day? This open dialogue session will discuss common misconceptions of aging and current trends in movement.

**Oct 10, 2024: The Power of Balance** — Explore the physical and mental impacts of aging on the body as well as the benefits of a variety of activities (resistance training, balance and flexibility exercises, etc.) that help the body age with grace and maintain functionality overtime.

**Oct 17, 2024: Putting It All Into Practice** — This interactive session will demonstrate effective exercises to promote strength, balance, and flexibility. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing suitable for movement.

Dates: **THU, Oct 3, 10, and 17, 2024** (3 sessions)  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Donnelly Center**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### An Archaeological Study of 19th-Century Zulu Kingdoms

Presented by: Elizabeth Arnold, PhD

The Zulu Kingdom is the best-known historical state in southern Africa, and the Zulu people remain the region's largest ethnic group. More than five decades of intense scholarship has explored a vast collection of written records and oral history; however, the records were drafted solely by colonial powers, and complementary archaeological research has been minimal. This course will re-examine the early research alongside data collected from recent fieldwork (2022-2024), and give new insights into the Zulu ways of life.

Date: **FRI, Oct 4, 2024**  
 Time: **9:30 - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

▼ Zulu warriors in ceremonial battle dress.



# OLLI COURSES

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### The Politics of Fear: Red Scares in US History

Presented by: Fred Johnson III, PhD

Since Russia's 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, Americans have viewed communism (and its proponents and allies) with suspicion and hostility. The dismal record of totalitarian rule, economic dysfunction, and human suffering in communist nations proved that Americans' antagonism toward that ideology was justified and urgently necessary for national defense. Communism's many threats often provided domestic politicians with lucrative opportunities to incite fear and chaos, imperiling the democracy they allegedly sought to defend. This course examines the history of Red Scares in the United States, the reasons they've proven so persistently useful in domestic politics, the creative tactics everyday citizens have employed to defuse them, and their legacy into the 21st century.

**Oct 7, 2024: WWI and Origins of a Problem** — An Industrial Revolution's legacy energized by a world war's savagery produced totalitarian tyranny in Russia while causing alarm in the West.

**Oct 14, 2024: Being Scared of the Other Proved Useful** — As the dust settled and smoke cleared from WWI, a byproduct of its legacy became a useful tool for generating suspicion and imposing oppression at home.

**Oct 21, 2024: The Ground Was Fertile for Revolution** — Global economic cataclysm caused many to look east where the solution they sought tainted them with questions regarding their loyalty.

**Oct 28, 2024: A Clear and Present Danger... Mostly** — In the aftermath of the 20th century's second global nightmare, large and small tyrants crushed freedom abroad which helped to ignite flames of crisis at home.

**Nov 4, 2024: A Plague from the Cheeseheads** — Relentless ambition rampaged through America's democratic republic until a small, but powerful voice reminded people of their courage and their Constitution.

**Nov 11, 2024: Liberty for All Was the Problem** — Domestic tyrants shrewdly borrowed from their counterparts overseas to ensure that the more things changed, the more they stayed the same.

Dates: **MON, Oct 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov 4, and 11, 2024** (6 sessions)  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### Entertainment in the Not-So-Silent Era

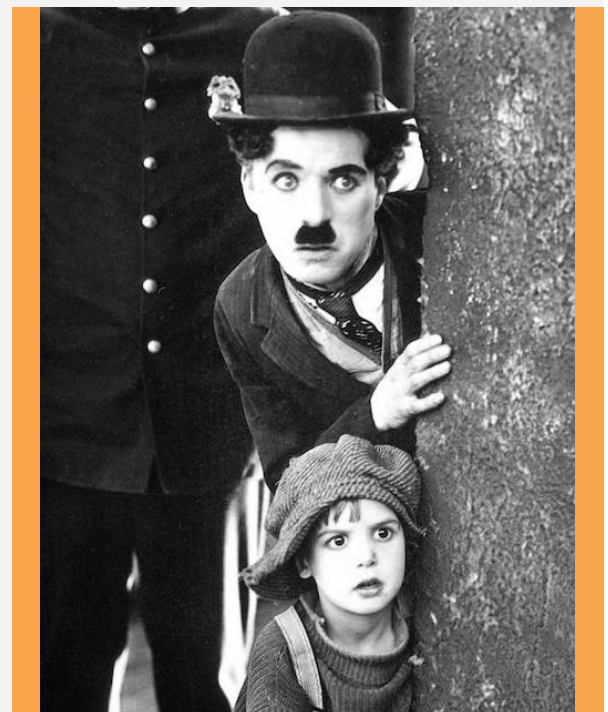
Presented by: Robert Edwards, MM

The "silent era" describes the dawn of commercially viable and universally recognized entertainment styles, specifically the maturity of motion pictures void of synchronized sound, between 1894 and 1929. However, the moniker misrepresents the myriad of new music and technology that shaped the popular culture of a new century.

**Oct 7, 2024: American Popular Music at the Dawn of the 20th Century** — American popular music in the early 1900s was marked by the emergence of several uniquely American styles, including waltzes, marches, novelty pieces, ragtime, and early jazz. This musical survey will include a live lecture-recital that will detail and demonstrate the incredibly colorful and fascinating music of the era.

**Oct 14, 2024: Silent Films of the Jazz Age** — Silent movies were never really silent. Explore how live musicians, cinema managers, theater owners, and studio execs provided music to add color and dash to their movies. Watch a series of hilarious, century-old silent comedy films featuring Charlie Chaplin, Laurel and Hardy, and Harold Lloyd as they were originally screened — on a big screen and accompanied by a live pianist.

Dates: **MON, Oct 7, 2024** AND **MON, Oct 14, 2024**  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm** **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Kretschmer Recital Hall, Aquinas College** **Donnelly Center**



▲ Charlie Chaplin and Jackie Coogan in 1921's *The Kid*.

# FALL 2024 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>26 - AUG</b>  <b>OLLI CLOSED</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  <b>FALL 2024 REGISTRATION OPENS 9:00AM</b> aquinas.edu/olli-courses	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  <b>OLLI CLOSED</b>
<b>2 - SEP</b>  <b>OLLI CLOSED</b> LABOR DAY	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>OLLI CLOSED</b>
<b>9</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Intro to Media Ecology (p. 8) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> Early Modern Midwives (p.8)	<b>10</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Authoritarianism (p. 8) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> American Art's Evolution (p. 9)	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>9:30AM - Remington Park</b> Migratory Fall Birds (p. 6) <b>1:30PM - Donnelly</b> <i>Trump v. United States</i> (p. 9)	<b>13</b> <b>9:30AM - Holmdene</b> A Walk in the Woods (p. 6)
<b>16</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Intro to Media Ecology (p. 8) <b>1:30PM - Donnelly</b> Pixels and Politics (p. 4)	<b>17</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Authoritarianism (p. 8) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> American Art's Evolution (p. 9)	<b>18</b> <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> Cartoons & Geometry in VR (p. 10)	<b>19</b> <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> OLLI Readers Series (p. 10) <i>Station Eleven</i>	<b>20</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> 90 Years of AQ Athletics (p. 7)
<b>23</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> The New Deal's WPA (p. 11) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> The New Deal's WPA (p. 11)	<b>24</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Authoritarianism (p. 8) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> American Art's Evolution (p. 9)	<b>25</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Road to Pennsylvania Ave (p. 11) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> Cartoons & Geometry in VR (p. 10)	<b>26</b> <b>9:30AM - Kent Recycling</b> Recycling Center Tour A (p. 6) <b>1:30PM - Kent Recycling</b> Recycling Center Tour B (p. 6)	<b>27</b>  <b>OLLI CLOSED</b>
<b>30</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> AI in Film Animation (p. 4)	<b>1 - OCT</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Watch Your Waste (p. 11) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> American Art's Evolution (p. 9)	<b>2</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Road to Pennsylvania Ave (p. 11) <b>11:30AM - Browne</b> This Is Where I Stand (p. 7)	<b>3</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Movement for the Aging Body (p. 12) <b>1:30PM - Donnelly</b> AI Firearm Detection (p. 4)	<b>4</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Zulu Kingdoms (p. 12)
<b>7</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Red Scares in US History (p. 13) <b>1:30PM - Kretschmer</b> Silent Era Entertainment (p. 13)	<b>8</b> <b>9:30AM - ZOOM</b> Aging Well with Nutrition (p. 16) <b>1:30PM - ZOOM</b> Voter Apathy (p. 16)	<b>9</b> <b>11:30AM - Browne</b> This Is Where I Stand (p. 7)	<b>10</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Movement for the Aging Body (p. 12) <b>1:30PM - ZOOM</b> Economics of Immigration (p. 16)	<b>11</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Magic of Sailboat Racing (p.17)
<b>14</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Red Scares in US History (p. 13) <b>1:30PM - Donnelly</b> Silent Era Entertainment (p. 13)	<b>15</b> <b>9:30AM - ZOOM</b> Aging Well with Nutrition (p. 16) <b>1:30PM - Donnelly</b> Rosie the Riveter (p. 17)	<b>16</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Electoral College Explained (p. 17) <b>11:30AM - Browne</b> This Is Where I Stand (p. 7) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> Comedies of McDonagh (p. 18)	<b>17</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Movement for the Aging Body (p. 12) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> OLLI Readers Series (p. 10) <i>Spirits &amp; Wine</i>	<b>18</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Magic of Sailboat Racing (p.17)
<b>21</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Red Scares in US History (p. 13) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> McQueen & Ray (p. 18)	<b>22</b> <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> Pseudoscience on the Rise (p. 18)	<b>23</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Electoral College Explained (p. 17)	<b>24</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Diversity Under the Dome (p. 19) <b>1:30PM - Mayflower</b> Percussion and Pipe Organ (p. 19)	<b>25</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Magic of Sailboat Racing (p.17)

# FALL 2024 CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>28 - OCT</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Red Scares in US History (p. 13) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> McQueen & Ray (p. 18)	<b>29</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> A Brief History of OLLI (p. 19) <b>1:30PM - Donnelly</b> ARTificial Intelligence (p. 5)	<b>30</b> <b>10:30AM - Donnelly</b> Beyond Polarization (p. 7)	<b>31</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Grand Haven Bank Robbery (p. 20) <b>1:30PM - Mayflower</b> Percussion and Pipe Organ (p. 19)	<b>1 - NOV</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Hollywood Musicals (p. 20)
<b>4</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Red Scares in US History (p. 13) <b>1:30PM - Donnelly</b> Value of AI in Healthcare (p. 5)	<b>5</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Returning the Rapids (p. 21) <b>1:30PM - ZOOM</b> Genealogy (p. 21)	<b>6</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> History of Fashion (p. 21) <b>11:30AM - Browne</b> This Is Where I Stand (p. 7) <b>1:30PM - Donnelly</b> Richard Nixon (p. 21)	<b>7</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Grand Haven Bank Robbery (p. 20)	<b>8</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Hollywood Musicals (p. 20)
<b>11</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Red Scares in US History (p. 13) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> Answering Lincoln's Call (p. 22)	<b>12</b> <b>9:30AM - ZOOM</b> Fabrice Hadjadj (p. 22)	<b>13</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> History of Fashion (p. 21) <b>11:30AM - Browne</b> This Is Where I Stand (p. 7) <b>1:30PM - Donnelly</b> Richard Nixon (p. 21)	<b>14</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Star of Bethlehem (p. 22) <b>1:30PM - Kretschmer</b> A Duet of Music and AI (p. 5)	<b>15</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Hollywood Musicals (p. 20)
<b>18</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Manipulated Photography (p. 23) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> Answering Lincoln's Call (p. 22)	<b>19</b> <b>9:30AM - ZOOM</b> Fabrice Hadjadj (p. 22) <b>1:30PM - ZOOM</b> Musical Journey to Brazil (p. 23)	<b>20</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> History of Fashion (p. 21) <b>11:30AM - Browne</b> This Is Where I Stand (p. 7)	<b>21</b> <b>9:30AM - Public Museum</b> Star of Bethlehem (p. 22) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> OLLI Readers Series (p. 10) <i>The First Ladies</i>	<b>22</b> <b>9:30AM - Donnelly</b> Hollywood Musicals (p. 20)
<b>25</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Manipulated Photography (p. 23) <b>1:30PM - ZOOM</b> Epidemic of Loneliness (p. 23)	<b>26</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Power of Veiled Women (p. 24) <b>1:30PM - ZOOM</b> Musical Journey to Brazil (p. 23)	<b>27</b> <b>OLLI CLOSED</b>	<b>28</b> <b>OLLI CLOSED</b> THANKSGIVING	<b>29</b> <b>OLLI CLOSED</b>
<b>2 - DEC</b> <b>9:30AM - ZOOM</b> Keep Calm and Carry On (p. 24)	<b>3</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Power of Veiled Women (p. 24) <b>1:30PM - ZOOM</b> Musical Journey to Brazil (p. 23)	<b>4</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> History of Fashion (p. 21) <b>1:30PM - Browne</b> Rainforest Rescue (p. 24)	<b>5</b> <b>9:30AM - Browne</b> Multigenerational Workforce (p. 24)	<b>6</b> <b>9:30AM - ZOOM</b> AI in the Classroom (p. 5)



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1700 Fulton Street E  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49506

**CURIOUS PEOPLE WANTED.**

# OLLI COURSES

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### Aging Well with Healthy Nutrition **ZOOM**

Presented by: Emily Welles, RD

An apple a day may keep the doctor away, but can a daily glass of wine really support cognitive function as we age? Unlock the secrets to a healthier, longer, and independent life with the power of good nutrition.

**Oct 8, 2024: Brain Health** — Explore how to prevent neurodegenerative diseases, improve memory, and enhance cognitive function by incorporating brain-boosting foods into your daily meals.

**Oct 15, 2024: Chronic Disease Prevention** — Review essential strategies for managing and reducing the risk of pre-diabetes, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol.

Dates: **TUE, Oct 8 and 15, 2024** (2 sessions)  
Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
Location: **ZOOM**



▲ A long life begins with a nutritious breakfast.

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### A Political Scientist's Perspective on Voter Apathy **ZOOM**

Presented by: Kenneth Warren, PhD

Why are millions of Americans choosing not to vote, and what does this mean for the future of American democracy? One contributing factor of low voter turnout is an increase in voter apathy. This course examines the various causes of voter apathy, including a rising distrust in government, the salience of issues, and overall citizen dissatisfaction, as highlighted by recent polls. Explore how voluntary voting in the US leads to differing results when compared to compulsory voting systems, and analyze voter turnout across demographics, with a focus on generational differences and the contrasting participation in spectator versus battleground states. Additionally, discuss the impact of hyper-partisanship, the evolution of political news reporting since the 1980s, and the formation of divisive political cults, which challenge our leaders' ability to unite the nation.

Date: **TUE, Oct 8, 2024**  
Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
Location: **ZOOM**



## HISTORY & POLITICS

### The Economics of Immigration **ZOOM**

Presented by: Jon Haveman, PhD

Immigration is a policy issue with both social and economic implications — and economics has something to say about both. This course will shed light on several aspects of immigration that tend to overwhelm the narrative: crime, government support programs, and jobs. It will also raise other issues that ought to be contemplated when developing appropriate immigration policy.

Date: **THU, Oct 10, 2024**  
Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
Location: **ZOOM**





# OLLI COURSES

## ARTS & CULTURE

### The Gadgets, Gauntlets, and Magic of Sailboat Racing

Presented by: Doug MacNEIL, PhD

All aboard for this comprehensive look at the global and centuries-old sport of sailboat racing.

**Oct 11, 2024: The Evolution of Sailboats** — Dive into the fascinating history of sailboats, exploring their transformation from ancient maritime vessels to the sleek, competitive racers of today. This session will introduce essential terminology and identify key innovations in design and technology.

**Oct 18, 2024: The Art and Science of Sailboat Racing** — Discover the thrilling world of sailboat racing, where strategy, skill, and precision come together. Examine the rules of racing, essential tactics for success, and the various types of races, from local regattas to international competitions.

**Oct 25, 2024: Traversing Lake Michigan** — This session will provide an in-depth look at the iconic Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac (also known as “The Mac”), the longest annual freshwater distance race in the world. Gain insights into the preparation, navigation, and camaraderie that makes this race a beloved tradition in the sailing community.

Dates: **FRI, Oct 11, 18, and 25, 2024** (3 sessions)

Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**

Location: **Browne Center**

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### We Can Do It!: The Legacy of Rosie the Riveter and the Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant

Presented by: Claire Dahl, MA

Spurred on by Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “Arsenal of Democracy” broadcast, American automakers refocused their productions toward military armaments during World War II. Explore the incredible history of Ypsilanti’s Willow Run, and its pioneering workforce, where the Ford Motor Company manufactured one B-24 bomber airplane every 63 minutes. Celebrate the boldness, determination, creativity, and bravery of American women as they prepared for, and valiantly fought, WWII on the home front.



Date: **TUE, Oct 15, 2024**

Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**

Location: **Donnelly Center**

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### The Electoral College Explained

Presented by: Keith St. Clair, MA

The Electoral College is a process, not a place. The Framers established it in the Constitution, in part, as a compromise between the election of the President by a vote in Congress and election of the President by a popular vote of qualified citizens. It is a unique feature of the US electoral system. As the 2024 election approaches, understanding this process is crucial for comprehending how presidential candidates strategize their campaigns and ultimately secure victory.

**Oct 16, 2024** — You may cast a ballot for a presidential candidate, but you are really voting for a pledged slate of electors. Explore how these electors are chosen, how they are distributed, and how the electoral process has evolved over time.

**Oct 23, 2024** — Examine historical and recent Electoral College controversies, defenses of the system, and the potential for reform.

Dates: **WED, Oct 16 and 23, 2024** (2 sessions)

Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**

Location: **Donnelly Center**

# OLLI COURSES

## ARTS & CULTURE

### The Dark Comedies of Martin McDonagh

Presented by: Reagan Chesnut, MPhil

"It was all going fine until he chopped off all his fingers," shouts Colin Farrell's Padraic in the 2022 film *The Banshees of Inisherin*. After first developing his unique brand of absurdist black humor on stage with a series of plays, Oscar-winning screenwriter and director Martin McDonagh, honed his style with his short film *Six Shooter* (2004), and feature films *In Bruges* (2008), *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri* (2017), and the aforementioned *Banshees*. This course will explore these films through a comedic lens functioning amongst themes of violence, isolation, and abjection.

Date: **WED, Oct 16, 2024**  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Browne Center**



▲ Frances McDormand as Mildred Hayes in Martin McDonagh's *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*.

## ARTS & CULTURE

### Lee Alexander McQueen & Ann Ray: Rendez-Vous

Presented by: Suzanne Eberle, PhD and Darlene Kaczmarczyk, MA

Unpack the new Grand Rapids Art Museum exhibit, *Rendez-Vous*, which explores the 13-year friendship and intimate creative collaboration between the late British fashion designer Lee Alexander McQueen and French photographer Ann Ray, who McQueen personally selected to document his design process and the behind-the-scenes experience of his runway shows. Participants are encouraged to explore the *Rendez-Vous* exhibit at the Grand Rapids Art Museum which is running from October 5, 2024, to January 11, 2025.

**Oct 21, 2024: Design** — Celebrate the iconic style of Lee Alexander McQueen, the former chief designer of Givenchy. From the revival of low-cut jeans to armadillo shoes, McQueen's work both borrowed from history and reflected contemporary fine art theories and practices.

**Oct 28, 2024: Image** — Disentangle the person from the persona through the photographic lens of Ann Ray. Her collection of photographs documented a personal friendship, a genius of creative talent, and the misunderstood man behind the myth.

Dates: **MON, Oct 21 and 28, 2024** (2 sessions)  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### Pseudoscience on the Rise: How Did We Get Here?

Presented by: Greg Forbes, PhD

The acceptance of pseudoscience, or unscientifically validated beliefs (e.g., Ivermectin for COVID, microchips in vaccines, a flat Earth, Bigfoot), is on the rise even though there is no scientific support of such claims and actual scientific knowledge is more accessible than ever. This course will address the pervasiveness of pseudoscience by first discussing the origins of belief. Are there societal factors that brought us here? What does the future hold?

Date: **TUE, Oct 22, 2024**  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Browne Center**



▲ A frame from the famed 1967 Patterson-Gimlin film allegedly showing Bigfoot in Northern California.

# OLLI COURSES

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### Diversity Under the Dome: The Very Different People Brought Together by Our Capitol

Presented by: Valerie Marvin, MS

Capitol buildings are, by their very nature, places where people of diverse backgrounds come together. They come to work as governors, legislators, administrators, clerks, librarians, and pages. They are children, adults, veterans, advocates, and people of various races and ethnicities. And despite their differences, they all believe that they have important contributions to offer our state. Meet the famous, infamous, and not-so-famous people that have been brought together under the dome in Michigan's capitol building.

Date: **THU, Oct 24, 2024**  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### Thunder & Wind: Music for Percussion and Pipe Organ

Presented by: Rhonda Sider Edgington, MM and Carolyn Koebel

The pipe organ is a powerful musical instrument that produces sound by driving pressurized air (called "wind") through organ pipes selected from a keyboard. But what happens when it is combined with the thunder of a collection of drums and cymbals?

**Oct 24, 2024: Thunder and Wind** — Experience the evocative and unusual soundscapes of local musical duo, Thunder & Wind, as they combine the sonorities of percussion instruments and the pipe organ to perform music — including original commissioned compositions — from Japan, Nigeria, the Navajo Nation, and the United States.

**Oct 31, 2024: The Power of Wind** — Through solo performance and a personal music journey, take a deeper dive into the sounds, designs, and complexities of the pipe organ.

Dates: **THU, Oct 24 and 31, 2024** (2 sessions)  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Mayflower Congregational Church  
 2345 Robinson Road SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506**

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### A Brief History of OLLI at Aquinas College

Presented by: Gary Eberle, MA

Today, about 450 lifelong learning programs exist in the United States, but the Emeritus College at Aquinas, as it was then known, was one of the first in the country to serve the educational needs of people 50 and over. Piloted in 1974, the Emeritus College got fully underway in 1975, and in the fifty years since, thousands of curious people have enriched their lives with college-level courses taken for the pure joy of learning. In 2008, endowed with money from the Bernard Osher Foundation, our venerable program was renamed the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Aquinas College, and joined a robust network of 124 OLLI's at institutions across the country. This course will explore how the Emeritus College and OLLI have pioneered an expansive and affirming approach to life's "third age."

Date: **TUE, Oct 29, 2024**  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Browne Center**



▲ The Emeritus College relocated to the Browne Center in 1988.

# OLLI COURSES

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### Hollanders and Hooligans: The 1933 Grand Haven Bank Robbery

Presented by: Judge David Buter

On August 18, 1933, Grand Haven had an infamous brush with one of Chicago's most dangerous gangsters. Lester Gillis, also known as "Baby Face Nelson," a future criminal partner of John Dillinger, led an armed robbery of the Peoples Savings Bank that resulted in a shootout and five wounded before most of the crew escaped across state lines with the loot.

**Oct 31, 2024: Historical Context and Events of the Robbery** — Review primary news sources to outline the economic conditions of the Depression era, the state of crime and law enforcement at the time, the robbery itself, and the specifics of Grand Haven as a target for a criminal enterprise.

**Nov 7, 2024: Legal Aftermath and Impact** — What happened to the crew? Who was the "innocent man?" How did this crime inspire federal legislation?

Dates: **THU, Oct 31 and Nov 7, 2024** (2 sessions)

Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**

Location: **Browne Center**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### Hollywood Musicals: A Century of Song on Screen

Presented by: Ian MacNeil

With the birth of the "talkie," the movie musical became a national phenomenon, entering a golden age that lasted through the 1960s. This course will analyze nearly a century of films through theoretical, cultural, and historical frameworks, and provide a tour of Hollywood through the lens of song and dance.

**Nov 1, 2024: You Ain't Heard Nothin' Yet** — Film scholar Rick Altman wrote, "From the minute the movie could talk, it sang instead." Explore the original stars, studios, and songs that introduced the musical genre to cinema: *The Jazz Singer* (1927), Busby Berkeley, and Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers.

**Nov 8, 2024: Somewhere Over the Rainbow** — Post-war triumph led to an evolution of Hollywood's leading man, Broadway solidified itself as a major source of inspiration for the industry, and the movie musical soon became targeted at broader demographics. This commercial boom was led by the Freed Unit at MGM, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Gene Kelly, and *West Side Story*.

**Nov 15, 2024: You're Gonna Need a Bigger Boat** — Between 1970 and 2000, the sexual revolution exploded onto the screen, imitation evolved into an eccentric nostalgia, and the Disney Renaissance revolutionized the genre. This era featured Bob Fosse, Barbra Streisand, *The Lion King*, and the composer/lyricist duo Alan Menken and Howard Ashman.

**Nov 22, 2024: All That Jazz** — The 21st century has reshaped the movie musical with high-priced spectacles (*Moulin Rouge!* and *La La Land*), jukebox biopics (*Bohemian Rhapsody* and *Rocketman*), and franchised, *Billboard* chart-topping animation (*Frozen* and *Encanto*) aimed at all ages. Have new generational voices emerged?

Dates: **FRI, Nov 1, 8, 15, and 22, 2024** (4 sessions)

Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**

Location: **Donnelly Center**

▼ Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling in the Oscar-winning musical *La La Land*.



# OLLI COURSES

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### Returning the Rapids to Grand Rapids

Presented by: Matt Chapman

Since 2009, Grand Rapids Whitewater (GRWW) has led the charge to recreate the city's namesake rapids, which have been long absent from the downtown stretch of the Grand River. Despite their efforts catalyzing significant riverfront development, GRWW's signature mission remains incomplete. However, after a series of setbacks, a new approach has revived the plan. Explore the history of the River City from its banks with an inside look at the original restoration plan, the new vision, and GRWW's persistent, fifteen-year transformation effort.

Date: **TUE, Nov 5, 2024**  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### Genealogy: It's Not Greek to Me



Presented by: Rozlyn Kelly, JD

Online tools and television programs like PBS's *Finding Your Roots* have renewed interest in genealogical research. This course details how to trace your own lineage from chronicling oral history to locating supporting documentation. It includes a compelling case study an interracial couple: a Canadian-born, free black man who served in the US Civil War and his German immigrant wife. Through their pioneering travels throughout rural America in the late 1800s, uncover a rich narrative that bridges continents and cultures.

Date: **TUE, Nov 5, 2024**  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **ZOOM**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### The History of Fashion: The 17th and 18th Centuries

Presented by: Suzanne Eberle, PhD

In this continuing series on the fascinating history of fashion, the focus is the 17th and 18th centuries, a time of sartorial splendor and symbolism. Expansive trade, religious and political differences, and new technologies all informed fashion during this period. Topics of discussion will include garment design, ideal body silhouettes, fabrics, ornaments, and accessories of both male and female dress.

Dates: **WED, Nov 6, 13, 20, and Dec 4, 2024** (4 sessions)  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### The Triumphs and Tragedies of Richard Nixon

Presented by: Jason Duncan, PhD

Fifty years after President Richard Nixon's historic resignation, this course offers a nuanced exploration of one of the most enigmatic figures in American history. Dive into Nixon's remarkable successes and profound failures through a comprehensive examination of his complex political life.

**Nov 6, 2024: The Rise of Nixon** — Richard Nixon was a man of the system. Explore how his personality and political strategies shaped his early career, failed presidential campaign, and ultimate ascension to the White House.

**Nov 13, 2024: A President's Legacy** — Navigate the turbulent years of the Watergate scandal, examining its profound impact on executive power and the enduring debate over Nixon's legacy.

Dates: **WED, Nov 6 and 13, 2024** (2 sessions)  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Donnelly Center**

# OLLI COURSES

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### Answering Lincoln's Call: The 3rd Michigan Infantry in the Civil War

Presented by: Steve Soper

On June 10, 1861, volunteer soldiers from several West Michigan counties boarded trains in Grand Rapids and headed east to the war in Virginia. The 3rd Michigan Infantry's first action came less than three weeks later at Blackburn's Ford, a prelude to the first battle of Bull Run. The "Glorious Old Third" served valiantly in the Army of the Potomac until it was mustered out of federal service in 1864. But who were these men responding to Lincoln's call? What happened to them during the war, and what became of the survivors?

**Nov 11, 2024** — Explore the regiment, its postwar association, and the immigrants who served alongside West Michigan's Union soldiers.

**Nov 18, 2024** — Profile the men who proved to be heroes (or villains) and the families who served together in the regiment.

Dates: **MON, Nov 11 and 18, 2024** (2 sessions)  
 Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**  
 Location: **Browne Center**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### Fabrice Hadjadj on Faith and Ecology

Presented by: Joshua Kraut, PhD

Unless you're plugged into the French intellectual and philosophical scene, you've almost certainly never heard of Fabrice Hadjadj. This course aims to change that. From culturally Jewish origins, to atheism and anarchism, Hadjadj (pronounced ah-JAHJ), a contemporary French philosopher, is now considered "a rising star in the French Catholic intellectual firmament."

**Nov 12, 2024** — Get to know Fabrice Hadjadj through the lens of an ongoing translation project of his early writings and theological reflections on ecology. Explore the detailed process of translation and discover why Hadjadj's thoughts are compared to those of agrarian poet Wendall Berry.

**Nov 19, 2024** — The second session will focus on Hadjadj's more recent work, including on the meaning and end of "nature" and what Hadjadj calls "Tragic Ecology."

Dates: **TUE, Nov 12 and 19, 2024** (2 sessions)  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **ZOOM**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### The Star of Bethlehem: A New Look at an Old Mystery

Presented by: Rev. Maurice Fetty and Dave DeBruyn

The story of a bright, shimmering star in the sky at the time of Jesus' birth is a cherished part of Christmas tradition. But was it a natural phenomenon, or a divine symbol?

**Nov 14, 2024: A Biblical Perspective** — Consider the star through the historical origins of the Magi and prophecies often associated with the birth of Christ. Ambiguous language found in the Gospel of Matthew, which only refers to "His star" appearing in the eastern sky, will serve as a foundation for exploration.

**Nov 21, 2024: An Astronomical Perspective** — With the use of simulation technology, consider the date of the birth, a number of celestial or planetary phenomena, and attitudes toward natural events prevalent at the time to explain the star event.

NOTE: The second session will be hosted at the Roger B. Chaffee Planetarium at the Grand Rapids Public Museum. Free parking is available at 56 Front Avenue NW.

Dates: **THU, Nov 14, 2024** AND **THU, Nov 21, 2024**  
 Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**  
 Location: **Browne Center** AND **Grand Rapids Public Museum  
 272 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504**

# OLLI COURSES

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### Editing Reality: The History of Manipulated Photography

Presented by: Rodney Martin, JD

Mia Fineman, curator of photography at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, describes photography as a "medium of fabricated truth and artful lies." At its inception in 1839, photography was viewed as a way to mechanically capture more precise and detailed images of the world than could possibly be done by the hand of an artist with a pencil or paint brush. Yet, almost from the moment of its creation, photographers began manipulating their work — and reality — for various purposes. Consider the 1994 *TIME* magazine cover featuring O.J. Simpson, or the 2024 Kensington Palace photo of Catherine, Princess of Wales.

**Nov 18, 2024: Before the Digital Age** — Early photographers may have “doctored” their photographs simply to address the limitations of fledgling photographic technology. Adjusting lighting, scope, focus, and exposure all helped improve clarity, but at what point did correction give way to propaganda, entertainment, and commercialism?

**Nov 25, 2024: In the Digital Age and Beyond** — As photography moved out of the darkroom and into the computer, the process was democratized, and the ability to “doctor” an image, or create one using artificial intelligence, became a process of clicks. Merriam-Webster even added the verb “photoshop” to its dictionary in 2008. With the proliferation of these tools, is photography dead?

Dates: **MON, Nov 18 and 25, 2024** (2 sessions)

Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**

Location: **Browne Center**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### Love and Samba: A Musical Journey to Brazil

Presented by: Barry Kitch, MS

Music is one of the most instantly recognizable elements of Brazilian culture. An amalgamation of indigenous South American traditions, the African diaspora, and Portuguese colonization, Brazil is the cradle of samba, bossa nova, and choro music. Explore the regions, rhythms, and religions of Brazil through a virtual tour of song and dance featuring performances by many of Brazil's leading artists, including guitarist João Gilberto, poet Vinicius de Moraes, composer Caetano Veloso, singer Clara Nunes, performer Marisa Monte, and songwriter Paulinho da Viola. View the Carnival celebrations of Bahia and Rio de Janeiro through the celebrated, yet controversial, award-winning film *Black Orpheus* which introduced bossa nova to the world in 1959.



▲ The Master of Bossa Nova, guitarist João Gilberto.

Dates: **TUE, Nov 19, 26, and Dec 3, 2024** (3 sessions)

Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**

Location: **ZOOM**

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### The Epidemic of Loneliness and Social Isolation in Older Adults

Presented by: Rebecca Boxer, MD

In a 2023 report, US Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy identified loneliness and isolation as “profound threats to our health and well-being.” This course will discuss the factors that contribute to loneliness and social isolation in older adults, how these threats impact overall mental and physical health, and strategies to prevent and decrease these feelings as we age.

Date: **MON, Nov 25, 2024**

Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**

Location: **ZOOM**

# OLLI COURSES

## ARTS & CULTURE

### The Power of Veiled Women: What I Learned from the Bedouin

Presented by: Deb Wickersing, PhD

Take an enlightening journey to the Sinai Peninsula, and uncover the hidden resilience and wisdom behind the veils of desert-dwelling Tarabiin Bedouin women in Egypt. Through personal stories and reflections gleaned from two years living amongst them, gain a deeper understanding of their roles, influence, and the power they wield within their communities. How do Bedouin women see themselves? Challenge misconceptions of their marginalized lives of isolation with narratives of reciprocity and the sophistication of their oral culture.

Dates: **TUE, Nov 26 and Dec 3, 2024** (2 sessions)

Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**

Location: **Browne Center**

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### Keep Calm and Carry On: The People's War, Then and Now

Presented by: Julie Taddeo, PhD

British government propaganda dubbed World War II the “people’s war.” In this war, there would be no sharp distinction between soldier and civilian as air raids targeted those once considered “off limits”: women, children, and the elderly. This course will look at the many ways in which civilians participated and sacrificed in the war effort. But did all people experience the war in the same way? Age, gender, class, and race all factored into one’s wartime experience. Analyze how Winston Churchill’s radio speeches and wartime films like the Best Picture-winning *Mrs. Miniver* (1942) encouraged the “keep calm and carry on” spirit. Lastly, see how memories of the “people’s war” live on in British TV shows and films in the 21st century.

Date: **MON, Dec 2, 2024**

Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**

Location: **ZOOM**

## ARTS & CULTURE

### Rainforest Rescue: Reforestation of a Desert Community

Presented by: Fred Stella

India is the world’s most populous nation, and its biodiversity is dwindling as its population grows. In addition to endangered animal life, a number of vulnerable plant and tree species found exclusively in India’s rainforests are under threat. To address these concerns, a team of conservationists developed a bold plan to “build” a rainforest in the last place thought possible: the desert. To accomplish this task, they combined modern science with ancient wisdom and soon established an “intentional community” outside Hyderabad, India. Get a glimpse of this unique project and examine the value of these intentional communities.

Date: **WED, Dec 4, 2024**

Time: **1:30pm - 3:00pm**

Location: **Browne Center**

## HISTORY & POLITICS

### The Multigenerational Workforce

Presented by: Katy Fink

The modern workforce currently comprises five distinct generations: traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Generation X, Millennials, and Generation Z. Each group has a different perspective on what “work” means, shaped by their upbringing and societal influences. With Millennials now the largest segment of the US workforce, this course will identify the unique attributes of each generation and detail how employers are leveraging these differences to cultivate inclusive work environments, enhance workplace dynamics, and achieve success.

Date: **THU, Dec 5, 2024**

Time: **9:30am - 11:00am**

Location: **Browne Center**



# OLLI PRESENTERS

**Corey Anton** is an award-winning author and professor of communication studies at Grand Valley State University. He earned a BA from the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, an MS from Illinois State University, and a PhD from Purdue University. Professor Anton is a fellow of the International Communicology Institute, vice president of the Institute of General Semantics, and has served on the editorial boards of numerous publications.

**Elizabeth Arnold** is an associate professor of anthropology at Grand Valley State University. She received a BA and MA in anthropology from the University of Manitoba (Canada) and a PhD in archeology from the University of Calgary before completing post-doctoral research at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Professor Arnold is a global environmental archaeologist specializing in zooarchaeology and stable isotope analyses of domestic animals remains.

**Rebecca Boxer** is a geriatrician and the division chief of Geriatrics, Hospice and Palliative Care Medicine at UC Davis Health. She received a BA from Barnard College and an MD from the University of Pennsylvania before subsequently completing an internal medicine residency at the University of California, San Francisco. After time in private practice, Dr. Boxer completed a geriatric medicine fellowship at the University of Connecticut and a heart failure fellowship at Case Western Reserve University.

**David Buter** is a retired chief judge of the 61st District Court of Michigan, serving from 1995 to 2022. He received a bachelor's degree from Calvin University and a JD from Cooley Law School. Judge Buter also practiced in the Kent County Prosecutor's Office and with the law firm of Bosch Killman VanderWal.

**Matt Chapman** is the executive director of Grand Rapids Whitewater, originally joining the organization in 2015. He earned a bachelor's degree in advertising and public relations as well as a graduate certificate in nonprofit administration from Grand Valley State University. Experienced in grant writing, organizational management, and donor development, Chapman has spent over twenty years in the nonprofit sector.

**Reagan Chesnut** is the assistant director of service and process at Hope College, where she also serves as a lecturer of theatre and supervisor of the stage management program. Chesnut earned a BA in theatre from Hope College and an MPhil in theatre and performance from the University of Dublin's Trinity College, where she studied playwriting and the work of Martin McDonagh.

**Jim Craft** is an independent historian with diverse experience as a teacher, author, researcher, lecturer, curriculum designer, curator, and historical commissioner. He has a BA in history from Oakland University and an MA in history from Wayne State University.

**Claire Dahl** is a retired teacher from Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor, where she taught advanced placement US history. Dahl holds a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in women's history. Dressed in the iconic blue overalls and red bandana, she is now a touring presenter and volunteer with the Michigan Flight Museum.

**Jennifer Dawson** is a professor emerita of English at Aquinas College. She earned a BA in English from the University of Michigan, and an MA and PhD in English from Michigan State University. While her main area of scholarly interest is American literature and culture before 1900, Professor Dawson's academic passions include studying women writers, periodical literature, captivity narratives, letter writing, science fiction, and comics.

OLLI member **Dave DeBruyn** is curator emeritus of the Roger B. Chaffee Planetarium at the Grand Rapids Public Museum. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan. DeBruyn co-founded the Great Lakes Planetarium Association and has served as president of the Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association.

**Matt DeJongh** is a professor of computer science at Hope College. He received a BS, MS, and PhD in computer science from The Ohio State University. Prior to academia, Professor DeJongh worked in the bioinformatics industry and has since conducted research in computer applications in molecular biology and biochemistry funded by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy.

**Jason Duncan** is a professor of history at Aquinas College. He earned a BA in government from St. Lawrence University, an MA in Russian area studies from Georgetown University, and a PhD in American history from the University of Iowa. Professor Duncan is an experienced presenter and author.

**Roger Durham** is the Palmatier Endowed Professor and chair of political science and international studies at Aquinas College. He earned a BS in political science and history from Southern Oregon State College and an MA and PhD from the University of Oregon. Professor Durham recently received a summer research grant to study "Neo-Nationalism, Religion, and Authoritarianism: The Case of Putin's Russia," alongside student Graham Staib.

OLLI member **Gary Eberle** is a professor emeritus and former chair of English at Aquinas College. He has a BA and MA in English from the University of Detroit Mercy. Professor Eberle has presented at OLLI and its preceding Emeritus College for over four decades, and he currently serves as chair of the OLLI Advisory Board. He is the author of *Aquinas College: The First 125 Years*, and several other books.

OLLI member **Suzanne Eberle** is a professor emerita of art history at Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University, where she taught for over four decades before retiring in 2020. She earned a BA and PhD in art history from the University of Detroit Mercy. Professor Eberle also serves on the Art Advisory Committee and Education Committee at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park and on the Arts Advisory Council of the Raclin Murphy Museum of Art at the University of Notre Dame.

**Rhonda Sider Edgington** is the organist and director of music at Hope Church in Holland, Michigan. She is also a multi-instrument recitalist and organ instructor at Calvin University. Edgington's wide repertoire was cultivated as a Fulbright scholar in Germany alongside a Bachelor of Music from Wheaton College, a Master of Music from Indiana University, and a post-graduate diploma from the University of the Arts Bremen (Germany). Edgington and Carolyn Koebel have performed together as Thunder & Wind since 2019, at universities, conferences, and festivals across the country.

**Robert Edwards** is an accomplished pianist, teacher, accompanist, and composer. He earned a BM and an MM in classical piano performance from the University of North Texas. An avid performer, Edwards helped form the Singapore Slingers, an 18-piece traditional jazz orchestra, which specializes in performing pre-swing and Tin Pan Alley American dance music from the early 20th century.

The Reverend **Maurice Fetty** is an author, instructor, and retired minister, having served congregations in Michigan, Minnesota, and New York. Rev. Fetty holds an MA from Butler University, MDiv from the Christian Theological Seminary (Indiana), and a Master of Sacred Theology from Union Theological Seminary (New York).

# OLLI PRESENTERS

**Katy Fink** is the vice president and chief human resources officer at Stryker Corporation. She has a BS in psychology from Kenyon College (Ohio) and an executive master's in human resource management (HRM) from Rutgers University-New Brunswick. Prior to joining Stryker in 2013, Fink held multiple leadership roles in companies ranging from financial services to healthcare.

**Amanda Fisher** is a licensed massage therapist, certified personal trainer, somatic practitioner, holistic coach, and the owner of Honor Wellness. Her goal is to help people understand and break down both physical and mental barriers preventing them from living an active lifestyle.

**Greg Forbes** is an evolutionary biologist and award-winning professor of biology at Grand Rapids Community College. He received a BS in natural resources management and an MS in biological sciences from California Polytechnic State University before earning a PhD in zoology from James Cook University (Australia). Professor Forbes specializes in promoting science literacy in the K-12 classroom.

**Julie Goldstein** is an associate professor of film and video production at Grand Valley State University where she teaches courses in animation and new media. She has a BS in philosophy and art from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an MFA in film from the Art Institute of Chicago. She also serves as the creative director of Project Grand Path, a student-driven innovation space at GVSU. Professor Goldstein's current research focuses on generative AI and experimentation with XR (extended reality).

**Holly Hagen** is a certified forest therapy guide and founder of Into the Woods Forest Therapy Walks, LLC. She received a BA in communication arts from Aquinas College.

**Jon Haveman** is the executive director of the National Economic Education Delegation (NEED). He holds a BS in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and an MS and PhD in economics from the University of Michigan. Haveman has served on the President's Council of Economic Advisors, the Federal Trade Commission, and as an associate professor at Purdue University.

**Micah Herrboldt** is a waste reduction educator with the Kent County Department of Public Works. He has a bachelor's in elementary and special education and a master's in natural science from the University of Wyoming. Prior to this position, Herrboldt was a teacher in the public school system.

**Spencer High** is an avid birder and the president of the Grand Rapids Audubon Club. He is an environmental educator and regularly leads birding and ecology field trips throughout West Michigan. High is also a community science advocate and works as an illustrator, graphic designer, and non-profit consultant.

**Fred Johnson III** is the Guy Vander Jagt '53 Professor of History at Hope College. He earned a BS from Bowie State University and an MA and PhD from Kent State University. Prior to his career in higher education, Professor Johnson served in the United States Marine Corps. His primary field of study is 19th-century US History, specifically the Civil War.

OLLI member **Darlene Kaczmarczyk** is a professor emerita of photography at Kendall College of Art of Design of Ferris State University, where she was the architect of the photography BFA program before retiring in 2017. Professor Kaczmarczyk received an MA in photography from Columbia College Chicago.

OLLI member **Dave Kampfschulte** is an author, keynote speaker, and founder of Amazing Circles Workshops. He received a BA from Michigan State University and an MEd from Grand Valley State University. Kampfschulte is a retired, award-winning educator.

**Rozlyn Kelly** is an attorney with over twenty years of genealogical research experience focused on African American ancestry in the Midwest and Canada. She has a BA in communication and an MA in urban counseling from Michigan State University and a JD from the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University. Kelly is the president of the Farmington Genealogical Society and serves on the executive board of the Michigan Genealogical Council.

**JoLee Kirkikis Casares** is a photographic artist and director of exhibitions at ArtPrize. She earned a BS in art history from Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University. Her work is largely focused on helping living artists from around the world bring their creative visions to life.

**Barry Kitch** is a teacher, tutor, and musician. He holds a BS in physics from Alma College and an MS in physics from Michigan State University. Kitch has been studying Brazilian music and culture for several years, amassing a large digital collection of videos, recordings, and photos.

**Carolyn Koebel** is a Kalamazoo-based world percussionist, music therapist, and educator, teaching at Kalamazoo College, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College (Indiana), and Western Michigan University. She holds degrees of distinction in music therapy and percussion studies from Western Michigan University and Michigan State University. Koebel and Rhonda Edgington have performed together as Thunder & Wind since 2019, at universities, conferences, and festivals across the country.

**Joshua Kraut** is an associate professor of French at Hope College. He received a BA in French and an MA in teaching English as a second language from The Pennsylvania State University, a Master of Modern Letters from Aix-Marseille Université (France), and a PhD in sociolinguistics from Georgetown University. Professor Kraut teaches courses in French language, literature, and civilization.

**Alexis Kurek** is a product manager for population health at Corewell Health West Michigan. She has a BS in speech pathology from Eastern Michigan University, an MS in speech pathology from Wayne State University, and a PhD in interdisciplinary health sciences from Western Michigan University. With twelve years of clinical experience, Kurek assists in the implementation of programs to improve value in healthcare, including those involving AI.

**Henry Luttkhuizen** is the scholar-in-residence at Grand Valley State University and professor emeritus of art history at Calvin University, his alma mater. He received an MPhil from the Institute for Christian Studies (Toronto), and an MA and PhD from the University of Virginia. Professor Luttkhuizen is the author of numerous books and scholarly articles, and he has curated many exhibitions in West Michigan.

**Karin Maag** is the director of the H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies at Calvin University. She earned a BA from Concordia University (Montreal) and an MPhil and PhD in Reformation history from the University of St Andrews (Scotland). Maag is an author, and she currently serves as adjunct faculty at the Calvin Theological Seminary.

OLLI member **Doug MacNEIL** is a retired assistant professor of computer and information science from Grand Rapids Community College. He received a BS from Western Michigan University, an MS from Central Michigan University, and a PhD from Capella University. Professor MacNeil grew up working at his father's marina in Bay City, Michigan, and has spent the last thirty-five years as a competitive sailor.

# OLLI PRESENTERS

**Ian MacNeil** is the director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Aquinas College. He earned a BS in mathematics and political science from Aquinas College, where he developed a passion for movies.

OLLI member **Rodney Martin** is a retired attorney. He has a BA in political science and economics from Kalamazoo College and a JD from the University of Michigan Law School. Martin is an amateur photographer whose published and publicly exhibited work principally concentrates on landscape and nature photography.

**Valerie Marvin** is the historian and curator of the Michigan State Capitol. She has a BA from the University of Michigan and an MS in historic preservation from Eastern Michigan University. Marvin oversees the Capitol's historical collections, researches Capitol and legislative history, and shares her findings through publications, lectures, and social media.

**Michael McDaniel** is a professor of mathematics at Aquinas College. A former resident of the Browne Center from 1976-1978, he later earned a BA from St. John Fisher College and an MS and PhD from George Washington University. Professor McDaniel is able to converse with humans, but prefers talking with his ferret, Cocoa Bananas.

**Susan Newhof** is a communication consultant and writer. She has a BA in English from Michigan State University. Living in a big, old house in Montague, Michigan, Newhof was inspired to write her novel *Spirits & Wine*.

**Lisa Perhamus** is the director of the Padnos/Sarosik Center for Civil Discourse at Grand Valley State University, where she also serves as a professor. She received a BA in English from William Smith College, a Master in Sociology from The New School for Social Research, and a PhD in education from the University of Rochester.

**David Ryden** is a professor of political science at Hope College. He earned a BA from Concordia College, a law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School, and a PhD from The Catholic University of America. Professor Ryden is the author of numerous books and articles on the Supreme Court, political parties, and constitutionalism, including *The U.S. Supreme Court and the Electoral Process*.

OLLI member **Steve Soper** is a retired archivist and photographer. He has spent more than thirty years researching the history of the 3rd Michigan Infantry Regiment and its 1,411 members who served during the American Civil War. Soper is a published author and blogger.

**Keith St. Clair** is a professor of political science at Grand Rapids Community College. He has a BA in sociology and an MA in political science and government from Illinois State University. Professor St. Clair has previously served as president of the Michigan Political Science Association.

**Fred Stella** is the pracharak (outreach minister) for the West Michigan Hindu Temple. He holds a BA in communication from the University of Detroit Mercy. Stella sits on the National Leadership Council of the Hindu American Foundation. He is also the president of the Interfaith Dialogue Association and hosts its weekly radio program, *Common Threads*.

**Timothy Sulzer** is the chief technology officer and co-founder of ZeroEyes, an AI gun detection solution to prevent gun violence. He received a BS in environmental science from Delaware Valley University. Prior to ZeroEyes, Sulzer founded one of the first indoor vertical farms in the US and designed, built, and optimized an automated, commercial-scale growing system. He also developed an AI-driven mobile app for hunting enthusiasts and wildlife research.

**Julie Taddeo** is a research professor of history at the University of Maryland, College Park. She holds a BA and PhD in history from the University of Rochester as well as a graduate certificate in women's studies from the University of Rochester's Susan B. Anthony Center. Professor Taddeo is the author and editor of multiple books and articles on modern British history.

**Penelope Tsernoglou** is serving her first term as representative of Michigan's 75th House District, which sits at the intersection of Clinton, Ingham, and Shiawassee Counties. She received a BA in psychology and sociology from the University of Michigan and a JD from the Michigan State University College of Law. Rep. Tsernoglou serves as chair of the Michigan House Elections Committee, and her legislative priorities include expanding fair access to the ballot.

**Kecia Waddell** is an educational technology consultant and instructional design specialist with over 20 years of teaching experience. She holds a BS from Wayne State University, an MA in special education from the University of Detroit Mercy, and a PhD in instructional technology from Wayne State University. An early adopter of transformative digital learning tools and the founder of her own educational consulting business, Dr. Waddell helps educators and institutions leverage technology to enhance learning outcomes and meet evolving educational standards.

**Kenneth Warren** is a professor emeritus of political science at Saint Louis University. He received a BA and MA in political science from Colorado State University and a PhD in political science from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Professor Warren is an internationally-recognized author, analyst, and pollster, serving as president of The Warren Poll and associate director of the SLU/YouGov Poll.

OLLI member **Jackie Watson** is a retired radiation oncologist. She received her MD from the Wayne State University School of Medicine. Dr. Watson is an avid reader.

**Emily Welles** is a registered dietitian (RD) and visiting professor of clinical dietetics at Grand Valley State University. She has a BS in dietetics from Michigan State University and an MS in clinical dietetics from Grand Valley State University. Professor Welles owns Emily Welles Nutrition LLC, a private practice focusing on disordered eating and diabetes.

**Ryan Wendt** is chair of the Aquinas College Historical Commission and works for the Aquinas Campus Safety department. While earning a BA in education from Aquinas College, he was a member of the varsity men's baseball team, setting multiple school records which still stand today.

OLLI member **Deb Wicking** is a professor emerita of anthropology at Aquinas College. She earned a BA from Grand Valley State University, an MA in anthropology from The American University in Cairo (Egypt), and a PhD from The University of Manchester (England). From 1991 to 1993, Professor Wicking lived with a community of recently-settled Tarabiin Bedouins on the Gulf of Aqaba.

**Donald Zinman** is an author and professor of political science at Grand Valley State University. He has a BA in politics and American studies from Brandeis University and both an MA and PhD in government from the University of Texas at Austin. Professor Zinman's research uses an American political development approach to study political parties, the presidency, and elections.



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**Ian MacNeil**, Director

**Susan Kohloff**, Program Administrator

**Corey Boehm**, Program Administrator



**FALL 2024**  
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REGISTRATION OPENS **AUGUST 28, 2024**

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