



JOIN OLLI FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

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PHOTOS PROVIDED BY OLLI

Are you or know of someone age 50 or older? Do you know OLLI?

With lifelong learning core to its mission, OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) at the University of Cincinnati (UC) provides opportunities for lifetime learning and social interaction to the mature residents of Greater Cincinnati. OLLI at UC, part of a network of more than 100 OLLI programs at universities throughout the United States, provides personal enrichment to almost 2,000 lifelong learners participating in courses offered throughout the year.

“OLLI is intellectually satisfying” Cate O’Hara, Program Director for Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, tells AboutGreaterCincinnati.com, “and it’s a lot of fun!”

For almost 25 years, OLLI has offered Greater Cincinnati residents 50 and older enriching educational and social experiences to rediscover and promote the joy of learning. It does not matter if you’ve attended college in the past or not, retired or have a flexible schedule, attend just one class or are among the many OLLI learners who return quarter after quarter - year after year, OLLI is open to all who meet the age requirement and have an interest in learning.

“I honestly never considered going to college ... but I found OLLI to be very welcoming. It’s a way to con-



Doug Iden (standing), a retired financial advisor, teaching a popular OLLI series of classes on Broadway musicals.

(Photo | OLLI)

tinue your education.” Rosemary Deitzer, who realized her potential for learning and teaching at OLLI, shares in a video about OLLI’s impact on her. “If you have a degree or you don’t have a degree, nobody really cares. They just care that you came and that you are enjoying yourself.”

While completing OLLI studies is non-academic credit - does not earn one a degree or certification, it does earn the lifelong learner personal enrichment. Through learning and social interaction, OLLI, a vibrant learning community, is nourishing intellect, expanding knowledge, exploring

new ideas, sharing interests and experiences, and cultivating relationships.

“I do believe that OLLI is about learning” Sam Hollingsworth, who has been teaching art history at OLLI since 2007, shares in an OLLI video about his personal experience. “But, I think that the most important connection is the relationships that you have with the people that you are in class with.”

OLLI runs on volunteer power. Everyone who teaches – professors, other educators, moderators including medical doctors, professionals from

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nearly every field, and passionate hobbyists, are volunteers who lead the courses and share their expertise. With more than 400 courses offered each school year, there are hundreds of courses offered quarterly during Fall, Winter, and Spring from which to choose.

The OLLI learning community, which ranges in age from 50 to over 90, participate in a smorgasbord of one-and-a-half-hour demonstrations to eight-week seminars held on weekdays during the day in relaxed and informal settings. Courses covered range from traditional college subjects as philosophy, creative writing, science, literature, and history to personal interests including financial and retirement planning, healthcare, health and wellness, and genealogy as well as a sundry of topics: current events, wine appreciation, opera, arts, computer skills and technology, politics, photography, tai chi, and gardening.

“In any one year, almost 2,000 people signup for our classes.” shares O’Hara. “Our very first session (in Spring 1990) had 130 people and our most recent session this Fall (in 2014) had 1,100 people.”

Courses, offered at ADA accessible locations along with free parking, are primarily conducted at the main OLLI locations: University of Cincinnati (Uptown Campus, Clifton), Adath Israel (Amberley Village), Sycamore Senior Center (Blue Ash), Llanfair Retirement Community (College Hill), and



Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum offers programs for OLLI members year round, including a course on Landscaping with Bulbs offered last fall.

(Photo | OLLI)

Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum (Northside).

Whether an OLLI participant enrolls in one class or twenty, lifelong learners can take as many courses as they would like during a quarter for a total fee of \$85! Most OLLI members take three or more courses a quarter. If interested in a full year of courses i.e. attend classes Fall, Winter, and Spring, the cost is \$209 and includes a Summer lecture series. If a participant wants to attend OLLI but can’t afford it, financial aid is available.

To make OLLI even more enticing, there are NO tests ... NO grades! If you miss a class, you miss out on the

learning opportunity and social interaction. While some courses augment your experience with suggested additional course material or activity, well that’s optional participation too. If you decide not to participate, you miss out on enhancing your OLLI experience.

Ready to enroll in what has been called a life changing experience?

For more information, request a course catalog, or enroll in classes, visit www.uc.edu/ce/olli or call (513) 556-9186.

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