



SPRING 2018

www.ali-occ.org

**CLASSES HELD AT
Oakland Community College
Orchard Ridge Campus**

27055 Orchard Lake Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
Room J-303



ADULT LEARNING INSTITUTE

Spring 2018

APRIL 10 – MAY 23

The Adult Learning Institute (ALI), at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College, was established in 1991 as a forum for retired and semi-retired people to share the joys of learning and friendship. Today, it consists of about 100 men and women ages 55 and older.

ALI is a volunteer, member-run organization responsible for its own financial, clerical and programming functions. ALI uses facilities generously donated by Oakland Community College at the Orchard Ridge Campus (the college provides no other operational support).

This booklet describes the spring 2018 lectures.

Schedule or program changes will be announced via email alerts, as needed.

For additional information, please go to www.ali-occ.org or contact info@ali-occ.org.

A fee of \$90 per member for the 2018 spring term covers weekly lectures, all held in Room J-303, scheduled on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10-11:30 a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m., plus a special event in the Smith Theatre, featuring Jack Lessenberry, on Thursday, May 3.

To register, send the enclosed form and your check before March 31, 2018, to:

**Sue Ethridge
28130 Westbrook Court
Farmington Hills, MI 48334**

The cafeteria and dining room on the third floor of Building J will be open Tuesdays and Wednesdays through April 18. Food service also will be available in the café on the lower level of Building J. Changes in food service will be announced. Facilities are available for those who wish to bring their own lunch.

This semester we are again partnering with the JCC's IRP. Members of each organization are entitled to attend, at no cost, all classes and lectures presented by ALI and IRP.

For information about IRP programs, visit www.jccdet.org/irp. IRP classes are held at the JCC, 6600 W. Maple Road in West Bloomfield, and at Congregation Beth Shalom, 14601 Lincoln in Oak Park.

Opening Day and Member Orientation

Tuesday, April 10 • 9:15-10 a.m.

Building J, Tirrell Hall, Room 303

All members are invited for a complimentary continental breakfast and an orientation. This will be an opportunity to ask questions, learn more about the spring program and welcome new members. A representative from the OCC Security Department will discuss parking and security issues on campus.

Tuesday, April 10 • 10 a.m.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FILM INDUSTRY

Eliot Wilhelm

The DIA's Film Curator will discuss movie making and the film industry.

Tuesday, April 10 • 1 p.m.

LIFE OF A MICHIGAN COPPER MINER

Larry Molloy

Copper was first mined in Michigan more than 6,000 years ago, but most mining occurred from the 1840s through 1967. Some continues to this day. What was life like for the miners who worked underground and the support workers above ground? What was community life like in mining towns where populations ranged from 100 to several thousand? Join OCC Professor Emeritus Larry Molloy to hear the fascinating story of copper mining in Michigan's Keweenaw County.

Wednesday, April 11 • 10 a.m.

DETROIT'S AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

Jamon Jordan

Jamon Jordan, president of the Detroit branch of the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History, calls Detroit's African-American history "a rich and powerful saga." In his presentation, he will discuss his decades-long research into this history, its sites and people, beginning with Paradise Valley and the Underground Railroad. He will focus on the resistance of the African-American community to the many facets of racism that tried to thwart it.

Wednesday, April 11 • 1 p.m.

THE SCIENCE AND ART OF SOAP BUBBLES

Ron Loyd

Bubble man Ron Loyd has been performing soap bubble programs for schools, libraries, science centers and other venues for more than 22 years. This program, which includes a demonstration, will explore the history, science and art of soap bubbles.

Tuesday, April 17 • 10 a.m.

JUSTICE FAILED

Berl Falbaum

Journalist Berl Falbaum will discuss his book which focuses on a Chicago man who served 26 years in prison for a murder he did not commit. Tragically, four lawyers knew from the outset that the man was innocent, but because of attorney-client confidentiality they remained silent.

Tuesday, April 17 • 1 p.m.

FROM MESMER TO BEAUMONT

Myron M. LaBan

Dr. Myron LaBan, founding director of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at William Beaumont Hospital, will discuss hypnotism from the times of the French Revolution to alternative medicine available at Beaumont today.

Wednesday, April 18 • 10 a.m.

EERO SAARINEN: THE ARCHITECT WHO SAW THE FUTURE

Robert L. Ziegelman

Robert L. Ziegelman, principal of the architectural firm Luckenback/Ziegelman, began his career with Eero Saarinen. He will present a documentary film about this great 20th century architect, a man who designed the GM Tech Center, the CBS Building in New York City and Dulles International Airport, among many others.

Wednesday, April 18 • 1 p.m.

UNDERSTANDING SENIOR MOMENTS

Lisa Ficker

Senior moments are universal – but not all are created equal. Join clinical psychologist Lisa Ficker, Ph.D., of Wayne State University’s Institute of Gerontology for a discussion about brain and memory health. Learn the different forms of memory: implicit, explicit, semantic, short-term and long-term; the role of emotions/sense in recall; and the process of storage and recall. Hear the latest information about the best forms of exercise and nutrition to enhance memory.

Tuesday, April 24 • 10 a.m.

1966: THE YEAR UFOS VISITED MICHIGAN

Carl Katafiasz

In the spring of 1966, southeastern and south central Michigan became the focus of national attention. Throngs of people, including many reporters, flocked to Washtenaw, Hillsdale, Monroe and Wayne counties, all hoping to witness the strange phenomena occurring in the evening skies. Carl Katafiasz will provide an account of these exciting days.

Tuesday, April 24 • 1 p.m.

THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (NAFTA): RENEGOTIATION OR EXIT?

Alan Deardorff

Alan Deardorff, professor of Economics and Public Policy at the University of Michigan, will discuss NAFTA, which has been in effect since 1994 and is now being renegotiated. (President Trump has even suggested that the United States may withdraw entirely from the agreement.) This talk will review the history and current status of NAFTA, including its negative and positive effects, and will consider its future.

Wednesday, April 25 • 10 a.m.

WHY ARE SO MANY OLDER DRIVERS KILLED IN TRAFFIC IN THE USA?

Leonard Evans

This is a non-depressing lecture by Dr. Leonard Evans, an expert in traffic safety. Dr. Evans, who holds a doctorate in Physics from Oxford University and has spoken on this topic throughout the world, will present an overview of how the challenges facing older drivers fits into the broader problems of traffic – with answers that are not only surprising but actually shocking.

Wednesday, April 25 • 1 p.m.

THE EDSSEL: WHY IT WAS NECESSARY AND WHY IT FAILED

David Tarrant

The Edsel was a revolutionary approach to solving an intractable business problem at Ford Motor Company. David Tarrant, who has worked in the automotive industry for most of his career, will trace the roots of this problem and consider alternative ways to address it. He also will discuss the value of evolutionary vs. revolutionary approaches to institutional problems and, finally, present a silver lining to the Edsel's dark cloud.

Tuesday, May 1 • 10 a.m.

THE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM AND THE INTELLIGENCE PROCESS: A TUTORIAL WITH CASE STUDIES

Irving Ginsberg

Using three intelligence case histories – success (Osama bin Laden), failure (Iraq) and enigma – this presentation will describe and define the Intelligence community. Dr. Ginsberg will discuss the meaning of classification terms, how information is classified and the technology and tools of the intelligence process. Dr. Ginsberg served as a consultant to the CIA, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Department of Justice, the Department of Energy and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency.

Tuesday, May 1 • 1 p.m.

UNDERSTANDING ISLAM

Saeed Khan

Professor Saeed Kahn will discuss the origins, texts and practices of the Muslim faith. The roots of Islam begin with Adam and include Job, Abraham, Isaac and Ishmael, Joseph, Aaron, Moses, Jesus and, finally, the last prophet, Mohammed. A professor in the Department of History and a Lecturer in the Department of Near East & Asian Studies at Wayne State University, Khan will provide a biographical sketch of Mohammed and explain how his skills and background were instrumental in spreading the faith.

Wednesday, May 2 • 10 a.m.

THE ELUSIVE POSTWAR BOOM: METRO DETROIT AUTO WORKERS, 1945-1960

Daniel Clark

The years immediately after WWII often are thought of as a boom time for autoworkers who enjoyed steady employment, rising wages and improved benefits as a result of lucrative UAW contracts. The truth is much more complicated. Because of chronic layoffs, autoworkers actually experienced 1945-1960 as a time of job instability and economic insecurity, and not as a golden age when they entered the middle class. Professor Daniel Clark teaches American History at Oakland University.

Wednesday, May 2 • 1 p.m.

OUR SPLENDIFEROUS SOLAR SYSTEM

Jesse Mason

Mountains that tower over Everest, volcanoes that spew ice into space, whole planets that spin sideways and backward! Majesties and mysteries abound when astronomer Jesse Mason returns to deliver a guided picture tour of our planetary neighborhood. Mason manages the physics lab at OCC and is founder of the Farmington Stargazers.

Thursday, May 3 • 1 p.m. in the Smith Theatre

THE 2018 ELECTIONS IN MICHIGAN AND BEYOND: HOW MUCH WILL TRUMP BE A FACTOR?

Jack Lessenberry

Michigan politicians are gearing up for elections guaranteed to bring a new slate of officials. Two-thirds of the State Senate is term-limited, and Sen. Debbie Stabenow is expected to face a stiff Republican challenge. Also, look for a key ballot proposal that could drastically change political district boundaries. Jack Lessenberry, Michigan Public Radio's political analyst, takes an informal look at what is likely to happen.

Tuesday, May 8 • 10 a.m.

CRANBROOK: ITS ARCHITECTS AND ARTISTS

Gregory Wittkopp

Founded in 1904, Cranbrook Educational Community is many things to many people: a world-renowned graduate art academy and a contemporary art museum, a prestigious college-preparatory school, a preeminent natural history and earth sciences museum, a historic home and garden, and much more. Join Gregory Wittkopp, founding director of the Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research, as he shares the stories of Cranbrook's architects and artists – Albert Kahn, Eero Saarinen, Todd Williams and Billie Tsien, Steven Holl, Rafael Monero and many more – along with the legacy of its founders, George and Ellen Booth.

Tuesday, May 8 • 1 p.m.

EXPLORING AYURVEDA: ANCIENT MEDICINE TO HEAL AND INSPIRE

Rachel Redmond

Ayurveda (pronounced eye-yur-vay-dah) is a system of medicine that originated more than 5,000 years ago in India. Rachel Redmond will explore basic concepts in Ayurveda (translated as “science of life or longevity”) and how it directly applies to you. An acupuncturist and Ayurvedic practitioner at the Center for Optimal Health in East Lansing, Rachel Redmond will lead guided breathing techniques effective at reducing stress and explain the powerful implications these can have on health and vitality.

Wednesday, May 9 • 10 a.m.

WE CAN STOP GUN VIOLENCE

Scott Nichols

Scott Nichols, co-chair of the Michigan Coalition To Prevent Gun Violence and a retired State Police Trooper, will discuss the Coalition's efforts to support gun safety legislation, educate the public about the effects of gun violence in the United States and clarify steps everyone can take to save lives.

This presentation includes disturbing videos.

Wednesday, May 9 • 1 p.m.

HEALTHCARE CHALLENGES IN REMOTE VILLAGES IN SOUTH AMERICA

Harris and Phoebe Mainster

Outside of the major capital cities, healthcare for indigenous populations of South America continues to need support from international organizations. As part of their commitment to serve in underdeveloped communities throughout the world, Drs. Phoebe and Harris Mainster have worked alongside international healthcare providers in the remote mountain villages of Cochabamba in Bolivia, and Latacunga in Ecuador. The Mainsters' presentation will bring to life the beauty and challenges of these two communities.

Tuesday, May 15 • 10 a.m.

FIRST IN FLIGHT: THE WRIGHT BROTHERS AND THE FIRST AIRPLANE

Joe Oldenburg

Orville and Wilbur Wright, two bicycle mechanics, built the first airplane in the back of their Dayton bicycle shop. The plane flew four times, all on December 17, 1903, and never again. What happened to the plane over the next 45 years is the most intriguing part of the story, which Joe Oldenburg, a presenter at Greenfield Village, will reveal in this discussion.

Tuesday, May 15 • 1 p.m.

EISENHOWER AS PRESIDENT: A STEADY HAND IN TROUBLED TIMES

Bruce Zellers

In the 1950s, the United States faced huge challenges and ever-present dangers; the consequences of social change and the Cold War could not be avoided. After the mercurial Harry Truman, Americans sought a steadier hand to guide the nation. Consciously taking on the label “moderate,” Eisenhower avoided the political extremes while moving forward on many key issues and avoiding wars abroad. It was, we now recognize, a virtuoso performance. Bruce Zellers teaches history at Oakland University.

Wednesday, May 16 • 10 a.m.

HOW I ACCIDENTALLY STARTED A MEDICAL DEVICE COMPANY: THE BTRACKS BALANCE PLATE

Daniel Goble

While teaching at San Diego State University, Dr. Daniel Goble and a partner “accidentally” developed a medical device for detecting concussions. First marketed to high schools as a low-cost concussion detector, BTrackS is now used to measure balance issues and for fall risk in 46 U.S. states and on four continents. Goble will discuss how BTracksS came to be and his hopes to create an at-home version. He also will talk about the BTrackS normative database which, with more than 17,000 participants, ages 5-100, is the largest in the world. A BTrackS device will be available for volunteers to try.

Wednesday, May 16 • 1 p.m.

IRVING BERLIN: DEAN OF AMERICAN SONGWRITERS

Stu Johnson

Irving Berlin was just 5 years old when he came to America in 1893. By the time he was in his teens, he was earning money by performing parodies of popular songs of the day. His ability to “write” lyrics soon made him fairly well known, quickly leading to jobs as a singing waiter and a song plugger, before he eventually became the creator of some of America’s greatest songs – and perhaps the best of them all. Stu Johnson, jazz aficionado, will guide us through music from Berlin’s long career.

Tuesday, May 22 • 10 a.m.

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY: WOMEN IN ART

Wendy Evans

In a richly illustrated presentation, WSU and Center for Creative Studies art historian Wendy Evans will explore how the male gaze has rendered the female and how 20th century women artists responded. Art from 30,000 years ago seems to show women barefoot, pregnant and in the cave. Over the succeeding centuries, men making art have tended to portray women as goddesses or evil temptresses. Be prepared for a humorous – but somewhat steamy! – session.

Tuesday, May 22 • 1 p.m.

LOUISA ADAMS, FIRST FOREIGN-BORN FIRST LADY

Joan McGlincy

First lady re-enactor Joan McGlincy returns to ALI as Louisa Adams who was born in London but, thanks to her American father, was an American citizen. After a troubled courtship, she married John Quincy Adams. She endured miscarriages, the loss of two children, and three difficult births, and her emotional and physical health were tenuous. From a sheltered, shy girl Adams evolved into a woman who, despite limitations because of her gender, became a force in the political arena and a positive addition to her husband's career.

Wednesday, May 23 • 10 a.m.

TRAIN STATIONS: LIGHTHOUSES ALONG THE RIVERS OF STEEL

Ronald Campbell and Jackie Hoist

Preservation architects Ron Campbell and Jackie Hoist look at one of America's most endearing buildings: the local train station. This presentation will be filled with interesting facts and stories, from high jinks to high stakes about what often became the landmark building in the community it served. Travel through time, from the earliest utilitarian depots of the 1850s to the grand terminals at the peak of passenger service.

Wednesday, May 23 • 1 p.m.

THE MYTH OF THE LOST CAUSE: THE FALSE REVISIONIST HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

Stephen Steinhardt

Stephen Steinhardt, a practicing attorney and former adjunct professor in history, will explain the false revisionist history of the Civil War, also known as the “Lost Cause,” which was put forth by Southerners in the decades following General Lee’s surrender. The myth attempted to justify virtually every aspect of the war, including secession, how the war was fought and whether the South ever had a chance to win. Many accepted this as the history of the conflict, and the position remains influential to this day.

Special Events

Michigan Opera Theatre Student/Senior Dress Rehearsal

“TOSCA” BY GIUSEPPE GIACOMO PUCCINI

Friday, April 7 at 11 a.m.

We must receive your order no later than May 25.

Tickets are \$25 per person.

Please make checks payable to Barry Litvin and mail to:

Barry Litvin

5540 Tequesta Drive

West Bloomfield, MI 48323

Reservations are subject to availability and pricing changes.

Curriculum Committee

Richard Knoll, Chair

Rita Faudman

Barry Litvin

Sybil Levenson

Patricia Loeffler

Mary Power

Dianne Silverstein

Edna Rubin

Les Schonberg

Lisa Willard

The Curriculum Committee is an essential part of ALI, and members are encouraged to take an active part in next term's curriculum by becoming part of this committee.

Guest Policy

A member may bring an unlimited number of guests per term.

Each guest may attend only one full day per term.

Smith Theatre presentations are open to the public.

Executive Committee

Elected Positions

President: Barry Litvin

Vice President: Jerry Gutman

Secretary: Mary Sugarmen

Treasurer: Maxine Sherman

Members-at-Large: Joann Coates, Carol Denton, Peggy Dufault,
Sharon Hunter, Carol Smith

Standing Committees and Appointed Chairpersons

Curriculum: Richard Knoll

Extra Curricular: Barry Litvin

Facilities: Dave Power-Les Schonberg

Finance: Maxine Sherman

Hospitality: Diane Silverstein

Long-Range Planning: Marion Muma

Membership: Steve Swarin

Publications: Marion Muma

Publicity/Website: Carol Penrose

Registration: Sue Ethridge

STANDING COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee selects the topics, speakers, and musicians for each term, including confirmations, thank you notes Donation checks are sent to the speakers designated charity.

Extracurricular Committee

The Extracurricular Committee arranges the Michigan Opera Theatre programs at special rates.

Facilities Committee

The Facilities Committee, in conjunction with the Media Department of OCC, organizes and operates the audio-visual equipment needed for each presentation. Committee members also take care of the lighting and chair arrangement.

Finance Committee

Chaired by the Treasurer

Maintains the books and reports regularly to the executive and board

Historian

The Historian keeps the scrapbook of the organization up-to-date.

Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee organizes the mentoring of new members. The committee schedules greeters for each session, plans and arranges for the opening and closing day events and serves as greeters at ALI programs and membership tags, take attendance count at each session, and distribute handouts to the membership.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee keeps membership records, prints rosters and name tags for each term, adds names to the prospective member list, and keeps the mailing list current.

Publications Committee

The Publications Committee receives material given to the curriculum chairperson about each speaker and other program information for the coming term. Committee members type and proofread all registration material ready for the printer.

The chairperson and volunteers collate and mail the material.

Publicity/Webmaster Committee

The Publicity/Webmaster Committee makes use of a variety of methods to create an information pathway that will notify our membership as well as the general public about the ALI program and activities. The committee creates, organizes, and updates information about ALI on our website.

Registration Committee

The Registration Committee processes registration materials. It also cross-references, corrects member contact information and adds new member information for the roster.

ALI EDITING TEAM

Sybil Levenson, Barbara Litvin, Barry Litvin, Dave Power, Mary Power



MEMBERSHIP

is the key to enhanced programming.

Sign up your friends, family and even strangers!

It will be fun and educational for all.

See you on April 10, 2018

at 9:15 a.m.

Complimentary continental breakfast will be served.