

GRAY MATTERS

News of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Sonoma State University

20th
OSHER
LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE

2001 - 2021

SONOMA STATE
UNIVERSITY

WELCOME BACK OLLI MEMBERS!

As we celebrate fall at OLLI, we also celebrate our 20th year of providing lifelong learning to members of our senior community. I prefer to say “50 and better!” The common saying in my family is “aged like a fine red wine”. That’s okay with me to get better as I get older. We all might have a few creaks, sore joints, and forget where we put the keys, but I think that as we get older, we crave learning more, we want to learn new ways of doing things, and we want to try new activities, projects, or classes, things that maybe we would never have done 20 or 30 years ago. As a kid, did you ever think you would enjoy being a student as an adult? I don’t know about you, but I enjoy learning now more than ever, whether it is finding a book to take me away, or watch a documentary, or plan a trip somewhere new, but it is invigorating to learn. I might not want to take a test on what I have learned, but I am glad that all that gray matter still soaks up knowledge. That’s what OLLI is for — to help you soak up more knowledge — because learning never retires.

Enjoy the fall season with OLLI. I hope you will get outdoors and enjoy the beauty of the harvest season, as the days grow shorter and cooler. I look forward to seeing you in class.

Sincerely,



Leslie Brutocao, Director

INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT – CARLOS TORRES

Carlos Torres has just recently started teaching for OLLI after many years of teaching undergraduates. He currently serves in five different departments at SSU including Liberal Studies, Anthropology, Native American Studies and at Berkeley and SSU Extended Ed departments. Carlos' experience is vast, from working in the restaurant industry to real estate to academics. At fifteen years old he had the dream of becoming a professor and went back to college in his late thirties to make this dream a reality. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Colorado at Boulder.



Carlos worked for 30 plus years in the restaurant industry, serving more than fifty restaurants, a favorite being Gustaf Anders in Orange County. Another favorite is The Girl and the Fig in Sonoma. He brings a unique perspective, paralleling his work experience to academic experience. Gourmet Swedish food is one of his all-time favorites. Carlos commented that food relates so deeply to culture. He noted that he enjoys anything cooked in a wood burning oven with fresh herbs and oils. Carlos' favorite wine is a GSM, which is a blend of Grenache, Syrah and Mourvèdre. He even traveled to France to find one.

Carlos noted that OLLI students are getting a sneak peek to areas he wants to open up research in. If he has a current curiosity or enthusiasm towards a particular topic, OLLI classes are a great way to explore with current research. He enjoys that the OLLI audience is wise and invested. Carlos truly does have an Insiders perspective on the Food and Wine Industry, noting that food itself is the first and most important highway for cultural exchange in the world. He is in the process of writing a book called “Cultivating Human” that will teach the legacy of our communication.

Be sure to register for his upcoming class, “The Anthropology of Food and Wine” Monday’s Sept. 13–Oct. 18 from 3–5 p.m. on Zoom. You can also register late and OLLI will send you the recordings of classes you missed.

You can still register for fall Zoom classes. If you missed a class or two, we can send you the recordings to enjoy.

DON'T MISS OUT ON...

- Bruce Springsteen, Monday afternoons**
- The Anthropology of Food and Wine, Monday late afternoons**
- Exploring Opera: The Divos, Tuesday mornings**
- Our Changing Oceans, Tuesday afternoons**
- Monty Python, Wednesday mornings**
- Geology of National Parks, Wednesday late afternoons**
- The Promiscuous World of Jewish Music, Thursday mornings**

You can also register for the Friday three-week or single two-hour in-person classes held at the Wine Spectator Learning Center at SSU! Call 707-664-2691 to register.

Class Descriptions and Registration available at: <https://olli.sonoma.edu/register>

HAPPENINGS AT SSU!

Theatre Arts & Dance Fall 2021 Guest Speakers Series | September through November 2021

<https://theatreartsanddance.sonoma.edu/theatre-arts-dance-fall-21-guest-speakers-series>

SSU Center for Environmental Inquiry

<https://cei.sonoma.edu/calendar>

TAKE A LOOK AT FALL ONLINE EVENTS:

Rising Waters: Water Quality & Homelessness – Results and Implementation Workshop | **September 24**

Deep Dive: Drought is Here – Now What? | **September 28**

Deep Dive: What's Wrong with Fire Safe Plant Lists? | **October 6**

Natural History Hike at Fairfield Osborn Preserve | **October 16**

Latinx Heritage Month at SSU | September 15 – October 15

<http://diversity.sonoma.edu/celebrating-heritage-and-identity/2021-latinx-heritage-month-celebration>

A CONVERSATION WITH DOLORES HUERTA

Thursday, September 30 | 5–6 p.m. | Join the Zoom

<https://sonomastate.zoom.us/j/87573626341#success>

Celebrate Latinx Heritage month with Dolores Huerta, co-founder of the National Farmworkers Association, activist, and American labor leader, for a virtual Q&A on September 30 at 5 p.m. Dolores Huerta will speak about her experiences and legacy with engaging in campaigns and influencing legislation that supports equality and defending civil rights. If you have any questions for Dolores Huerta, please send them by September 29, at 5 p.m. using this google form.

Please email aspevent4@sonoma.edu (link sends e-mail) for more information or accommodations.



Running Fence at 45 Years | September 13 – October 10, 2021

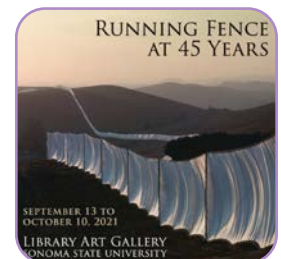
On view at the Library Art Gallery because the University Art Gallery is temporarily closed.

Jean and Charles Schulz Information Center hours:

Monday–Thursday, 7:30 a.m.–10 p.m.

Friday, 7:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

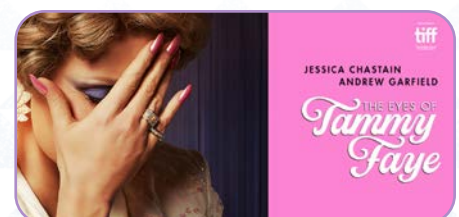


Parking permits are required 24/7 on campus and may be purchased in-person at one of the pay stations located in the parking lots or online in advance of your visit.

Face masks must be worn at all times while in the Library building.

Lifelong Friends of Film

For Cinema fans, attend the Friday, September 24, at 1 p.m. showing of “The Eyes of Tammy Faye”, at the Rialto Theatres, Sebastopol. Discussion to follow. <http://olli.sonoma.edu/olli-activities-and-events/olli-cinema-club>



COMING UP AT THE MUSEUM OF SONOMA COUNTY

Light, Clay, and Copper: Mid-Century Arts and Crafts in Sonoma County

Now on View at the Museum of Sonoma County at: <https://museumsc.org/exhibitions>

35: Thirty-Five Artists for Thirty-Five Years at Museum of Sonoma County through October 31. Check out current exhibitions at: <https://museumsc.org/exhibitions>

Second Saturdays at the Museum of Sonoma County: Drop-in Art Making Class 12–2 p.m. Each class is led by a local artist. For Information: <https://museumsc.org/exhibitions>

In Memory of Marta Hayden

(1975 – July 28, 2021)

THINKING OF MARTA

by Linda L. Reid



Marta Hayden was a remarkable person.

She will be very much missed. An important member of our OLLI Art Club, Marta was full of knowledge and always fun. We are sad about her sudden passing. Her youth was spent in Hawaii and high school included one year at sea, cruising around the world.

Marta handled the Facebook site for the Art Club, keeping members connected to art, especially during the pandemic. She had a talent for organizing people, always in a happy way. This is no doubt, as professionally, Marta was Chief Business Architect of Sonoma County Tourism Bureau and went on to, some say, “put Monterey on the map” by becoming President of the Monterey Convention and Visitors Bureau and Conference Center. Joining the MPI (Meeting Professionals International), Marta became the first female president, winning many awards.



(Marta is in the white gown – Art Club Field Trip to di Rosa Gallery in July)

Marta had a passion for traveling the world, going to fabulous restaurants, enjoying wines at renowned vineyards. She had many talents, but mostly we will miss her presence and great sense of humor. Rest in peace, friend. And while organizing heaven, enjoy a great glass of wine! We love you.

In Memory of Elaine “Lanie” Young

(May 15, 1923–July 10, 2021)

Lanie Young passed away peacefully at her home in Sebastopol, California. She was 98. Lanie was born in Pittsburgh, PA, the oldest of three girls, her father running a steel mill. She earned a teaching degree and came out West and joined the faculty at the newly established Redwood High School in Marin County where she taught English for 30 years.



Elaine received awards for her innovative and dedicated teaching. Her students enjoyed her passion, wit and straightforward style. She created a writing workshop for her students and their parents that garnered her a Buck Foundation Award.

She was a teacher and passionate about learning. She filled her life with painting, reading, music, card games, Giant’s baseball games, a cube of ice with her favorite Scotch and dinners around the table with those she loved and laughed with. Elaine leaves behind a large community of friends who will be forever grateful to have known her and shared a laugh with her. Lanie, we will miss you at OLLI.

NEWS AT SSU

August 25, 2021

Sonoma State awarded more than \$4 million to help low income, potential first-generation college students access higher education

Academic Talent Search graduates with SSU Academic Advisor Moises Gonzalez



Learn more about the award at: <http://news.sonoma.edu>

**SONOMA
STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**SCHOOL OF
EXTENDED
& INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION**

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute @ Sonoma State University | 1801 E. Cotati Avenue, Rohnert Park, CA 94928

Leslie Brutocao, Director: brutocal@sonoma.edu

OLLI general email: olli@sonoma.edu

Grace Burroughs, Program Coordinator:
burrougg@sonoma.edu or call 707-664-2691

Website: olli.sonoma.edu

Facebook: www.facebook.com/OLLlatSSU/