



## a. Bright idea

OLLI@SSU – Gray Matters

Summer 2020 #1 | Draft 1 | August 7, 2020

# GRAY MATTERS

News of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute | Sonoma State University

OSHER  
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## TURN OVER A NEW LEAF THIS FALL

When I think of the fall season, I think of the beauty that surrounds us in Sonoma County and beyond. We live in one of the most beautiful places on earth and can be thankful for all that our area offers in beauty, outdoor activities, local fresh produce through our farmer's markets, the smells of harvest during August and September, and the opportunity to enjoy our bounty year-round. Although we have been changed and challenged throughout these last few months with COVID-19, it has also taught us to appreciate what we have, to reach out to those around us that need our assistance, and to continue to work on ourselves – always a work in progress.

Our eyes have been opened as to how much we rely on and need human contact and interaction. Whether it is a family birthday, a barbeque with friends, live music in town, or a walk with friends, we are used to being with friends and family. People bring us joy, comfort, and inspiration to be the best we can be. I hope that as you approach the fall season, that you will find inspiration through keeping connected with the important people or pets in your lives. During these isolating times, it is our connections with those around us that can help us through.

I hope by providing you with inspiring and dynamic classes, you will continue to enjoy the benefits of lifelong learning, keep connected with your OLLI friends, and take away a little bit of inspiration by "turning a new leaf this fall." Be inspired to try that new class, learn a new language, listen to new music, reach out to a neighbor, or complete that project you have been wanting to finish. That new leaf is waiting for you!

Leslie Brutocao, Director

## WELCOME

Please welcome our new OLLI Assistant, Grace Burroughs. Grace graduated from Sonoma State University with a bachelor's in Human Development. She quickly came to love the community SSU has created and sustained. Grace worked for the School of Extended and International Education as a student assistant during her senior year and is now joining OLLI at SSU. She is passionate about serving students and is eager to assist with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at SSU.



## SUMMER CLASSES

Summer isn't over yet. Join us and get inspired over the next three weeks. Wednesday classes are from 10 – 11:30 a.m. Register at <http://olli.sonoma.edu/>. Registration closes at 5:00 p.m. on Monday before your class date.

**August 12** – *Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas*, with instructor Linda Reid

**August 19** – *Sonoma County's Hidden Landscape*, with instructor Margie Purser

**August 26** – *Stuart America*, with instructor Charlene O'Rourke

## FALL VIRTUAL COURSE PREVIEW - AUGUST 17

The OLLI Fall Course Preview is scheduled for Monday, August 17 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. This is a great opportunity to learn about all the exciting courses that will be offered this fall.

### Fall Dates

September 14 – October 23 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

**Mondays** – *50 Years of Country Rock, 1965-present: Creating a New American Musical Genre*, instructed by Pete Elman

**Tuesdays** – *Winding Paths through Inexpressible Darkness: Ancient Mystery Cults*, instructed by Douglas Kenning

**Wednesdays** – *Virtual Reality: Hype, Reality, and the Hyperreal*, instructed by John Sullins

**Thursdays** – *German Art of the 20th Century through World War II*, instructed by Maureen O'Brien De Geller

**Fridays (Sept 18, 25, Oct 2)** – *Groundbreaking Films of the 70s and 80s*, instructed by Cary Pepper

### OLLI Off-Season

**Fridays (Oct 16, 23, 30)** – *Fork in the Road: The Elections of 2020 Amidst the Great Unknowns*, instructed by David McCuan

**Fridays (Nov 6, 13, 20)** – *Current Economic Outlook*, instructed by Mike Arnold

## SAVE THE DATE!

**Friday, September 18, 2020 for the annual Stolman Lecture.**

Details coming soon on the OLLI website and in an upcoming newsletter.

## IN MEMORIAM

### Robert Santos

Robert Santos, known to friends as "Bob," a pediatric dentist who kept generations of patients and parts calm over four decades in the San Francisco Bay Area, passed away on June 20, from cancer. Born in 1934 and raised in Richmond, CA, Bob attended Stanford University and UCSF Dental School, married Mary Lou, and raised two children in the Bay Area. While in private practice, Dr. Santos was appointed to the Dental Board of Examiners by then-Governor Ronald Reagan. Bob was predeceased by his wife, Mary Lou, and later married Julia Teskey and moved to Sonoma County. Bob joined the OLLI program at SSU as a student in 2001, and later served on the Curriculum Committee and Advisory Board. He received the Ed Stolman Award in 2012 for his contributions to OLLI. Bob developed the OLLI program in Healdsburg and later worked with the AAUW lifelong learning program. Dr. Santos is survived by his loving wife, Julia, his children Lori Santos (Craig Schwed), Lisa Santos, and Paul Santos, and his grandchildren Melanie, Leslie and Allison Schwed. Bob was a lifelong fan of the SF Giants, enjoyed golf, entertaining friends, and loved food, wine, and travel.

Donations in his memory would be welcomed at the Redwood Empire Food Bank, or Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital Foundation. No formal services are planned at this time.



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