

An Embarrassment of Riches

But Wait, There's More...



Editor Chris Guidette

In this edition of *OLLI Update* we're taking a look at how we've grown over the past decade and where we're headed. **Peter Bluhm**, our president, is amazed by the critical mass of "willing and knowledgeable" instructors in the Berkshires who come forward to teach stimulating and fun courses. Assistant Editor **Katherine Zdeb** writes in her piece on membership, "history-making enrollment continued and so did registration in our winter courses." We also continue to attract interesting and interested persons to take leadership positions in OLLI. In her article on the three newest members

(continued on page 3)

PHOTO BY SUSAN GELLER

Three Join OLLI Board

Members **Will Singleton**, **Sheldon Goldberg** and **Barbara Lane** have been elected to the OLLI Board of Directors. They will fill the unexpired terms of Lois Lenahan, Lucy Kennedy and Ann Morgan, each of whom resigned for personal reasons over the past year.

WILL SINGLETON, a professional educator, was born and bred in the Berkshires. He graduated from Pittsfield High School and attended Howard University in Washington, D.C., where he received his BA degree. After college, he remained in Washington to teach history at a junior high school while earning his MA degree from Georgetown University. Singleton received a Doctor of Education degree from New York University in 1991.

After moving to New York, Singleton held several positions as an administrator: Assistant Principal in Huntington, Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Addison and Superintendent in Roosevelt. He also was a consultant for the New York City school system.

Sports and fitness are a big part of Singleton's life. Through his demanding and varied education-based career, Singleton pursued his life-long interest in Asian martial arts. He earned a black belt designation in karate when he was 60. He is continuing with karate and tai chi. He played in a senior softball league when he lived in New York.

A few years after the love of his life, Deborah, died and after 9/11, Singleton retired. His father was 90 years old at the time and ailing, so Singleton moved back to Pittsfield to care for him. Singleton still lives in the house his family bought when he was in third grade.

After being back in the Berkshires for a while, Singleton saw many problems the black community faced. Upon learning there was no longer a chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) here, and after speaking with community leaders, he met with people from the regional and national NAACP offices and worked to reinvigorate the area chapter, which re-opened in 2013. He served as its first president—a post he held for 2 years.

Singleton is a member of the OLLI Social Sciences Curriculum Committee. He was a discussion leader for the OLLI University Day on Criminal Justice Reform.

Singleton said he is pleased to be on the OLLI board and hopes to bring more diversity to the organization.



(continued on page 3)

Calling all Writers, Editors, Photographers ...

Tap into your inner H.L. Mencken and join the *OLLI Update* staff. If you like writing, editing, photography or drawing, you'd certainly enjoy being part of *Update's* volunteer staff, where you could work with fellow OLLI members putting together our organization's thrice-yearly newsletter. You would become part of a fun, committed team and add to the richness of your OLLI experience. For more information, contact *OLLI Update* Editor Chris Guidette—clguidette@yahoo.com — or call him at (908) 307-1436. Mencken, in case you'd forgotten, was a famous, sharp witted and influential American journalist early in the 20th Century known as the 'Sage of Baltimore.'



H.L. Mencken

President's Report: We're Groooooowing

As I learn more about OLLI and its history, I continue to be amazed. It seems remarkable, almost impossible, that a single county can contain this many willing and knowledgeable instructors (especially given the zero pay), much less the more than 1,000 bright and eager (even if gray-ing) students. At the personal level, it is very gratifying to be associated with such a large group of active learners and especially with people, like OLLI board members, who are willing to devote so much time and energy to this organization.

OLLI is doing quite well. We had more than 1,000 members at last count, an increase over last year. Likewise, we had

305 students enrolled last term, a 19 percent increase over last year. We offered two University Days last year, which were well attended and well received. Extra thanks go to Kate Kidd and Ginny O'Leary for their leadership on these events. Currently seven Shared Interest Groups are meeting regularly, involving 114 members. Our Administrative Assistant, Norah Beauregard, has returned to work after delivering a baby boy, Hudson, her second child.

The OLLI Board of Directors is functioning well, and relations with BCC are excellent. We will soon have the first meeting between the new OLLI Investments Committee and the BCC Foundation financial advisor, who handles our endowment.

Our endowment grew during the past year, as was true in the market generally. The annual auction was a great success, but our annual appeal for contributions produced \$16 thousand, a bit below the \$18 thousand we had budgeted. Thanks to everyone who participated in the auction or contributed to the annual appeal.

This spring, we are again offering a full schedule of classes. The annual meeting in May will be followed by a timely talk by NBC News correspondent Katy Tur, author of the *New York Times* best-selling book *Unbelievable—My Front Row Seat to the Craziest Campaign in American History*.

We will be undertaking a survey of OLLI members to see how we can better serve you. Please participate. We want to know how we can better meet your needs.

 — Peter Bluhm

Spring Semester at a Glance

Have you registered for spring classes yet? Our spring semester begins April 12 and classes are filling up fast! Register online 24/7 at www.berkshireolli.org, mail in a registration form or give us a call at 413.236.2190. Here's the latest scoop on OLLI's spring classes.

AT CAPACITY/FULL

The Poetic Genius of W.B. Yeats
Fine Art Photography

LOTTERY CLASSES: DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS MARCH 30

Two Masters of the Brush: Winslow Homer & John Singer Sargent
Birding in the Berkshires
Introduction to Camera Photography

STILL ROOM IN THESE AT PRESS TIME

- ◆ **Tuesdays in Great Barrington: Four Renaissance Women: History & Scandal**
Sir Gawain & the Green Knight: Marvels, Magic & the Perils of Chivalry
Free Will and the Self
- ◆ **Wednesdays in Williamstown: Musings on Mortality**
Fantasticator: The Short Stories of Jorge Luis Borges
- ◆ **Wednesdays in Pittsfield: International Folkdancing**
- ◆ **Thursdays in Pittsfield: The Fight to Vote**
Reading the Quran
Shakespeare's Unruly Plays
Immigration: 1965 to the Present
- ◆ **Fridays in Lenox: Great Decisions**
Healthcare Today: Trends, Challenges & New Ideas

LOOKING FOR CLASSES THAT START LATER IN THE MONTH? TRY THESE:

- ◆ **Mondays in Pittsfield**
I'm Right, You're Wrong
beginning April 23
Mathematical Surprises
beginning April 23
Wagner, Mahler & Anti-Semitism
beginning April 30
- ◆ **Tuesdays in Great Barrington**
Today's Headlines
beginning April 24
What is Justice? The Oresteia of Aeschylus, beginning May 1
- ◆ **Fridays in Lenox**
Berkshire Performing Arts
Previews, beginning April 27

Can't decide or out of town for part of the semester? Try a **Flexpass**. OLLI's Flexpasses allow you to attend six (four in summer) class sessions of your choice within a semester, except for Lottery and Limited Registration courses, or any class that has reached full capacity. Flexpasses count the same as a class, and cost the same too. They are a great way to sample a variety of OLLI courses.

(Riches continued from page 1)

of the OLLI Board of Directors, Assistant Editor **Sandi Rubin** profiles an educator, a baker and a private investigator—accomplished professionals all—who’ve come forward to help run our organization. Our feature writer, **Joanna Fribush**, puts the spotlight on W.E.B. Du Bois once again, with an overview of recent OLLI-related learning activities about this remarkable individual who was born and bred in the Berkshires.

Our spring course catalog, as always, contains an embarrassment of riches. We list the courses elsewhere in *UPDATE*, but a few newcomers are worth noting in this space. The account of towering symphonic compositions and opera by Gustav Mahler and Richard Wagner take on a dark hue when viewed against these composers’ stated anti-Semitism. Instructor **Brain Hailes**, a musician himself, examines their legacy in four sessions. And OLLI member **Kit Dobbelle** examines the imperfections of American electoral democracy by looking at the history of “the fight to vote” and gerrymandering since the founding of our nation. Dobbelle served as Roslyn Carter’s White House chief of staff.

“But wait,” as they used to say in the Veg-O-Matic TV ads at 2 a.m., “there’s more.” If you’d like to learn about strong and exceedingly influential women who gave new meaning to the word ‘scandal’ back in the Renaissance, don’t miss **Anna Zaffanella’s** “Four Renaissance Women: History and Scandal.” Zaffanella, a linguistics professor, is currently visiting her home town of Mantua, Italy, researching this topic, which is as interesting as history gets.

Megan Whilden, OLLI’s executive director, reminds us about our Distinguished Speakers Series— “one of OLLI’s best kept secrets.” Many an afternoon of knowledge and insight awaits those interested in hearing talks on politics, the arts, science, literature and more by leading experts.

Many thanks to a number of readers who were kind enough to call and comment favorably about *OLLI Update’s* new look. Please continue to provide input—especially ideas for stories you’d like us to cover.

— **CG**

(Three join OLLI Board continued from page 1)

SHELDON GOLDBERG, a long-time telephone company executive, and his wife Barbara moved to Lenox full-time three years ago from Watchung, New Jersey where they had lived for 40 years. They had been second home owners in the Berkshires for more than 25 years. Originally from New York City, Goldberg attended New York University both as an undergraduate and at the Stern School where he earned his MBA degree. Goldberg retired from AT&T after 37 years working in the company’s departments of marketing, sales, human resources and operations management in both the U.S. and abroad. After retirement he became a private investigator specializing in white collar litigation.

An avid runner, Goldberg completed three New York City marathons. His hobbies include photography, golf, travel and reading. He volunteers as a photographer for Tanglewood and as the Vice-President/Treasurer for the Lenox Club. Barbara is also active in the community, currently serving as President of the Lenox Library Association.

The Goldberg’s have two daughters, one who lives with her husband and son in New York City and another who lives with her husband and two daughters in Aosta, Italy.

A member of OLLI for five years, Goldberg also serves on the organization’s Development Committee. He said his objectives include making new friends, staying physically active and doing all that he can to advance the OLLI mission.



PHOTOS BY SUSAN GELLER



BARBARA LANE is an educator, business woman and former bakery owner. She and her husband, Ed, also are former Berkshires week-enders who moved to Stockbridge full-time upon retiring. Lane was born in Brooklyn and raised on Long Island. Her husband’s career took them to California, Texas, Florida and finally to Park Slope, Brooklyn. While living in Park Slope, Lane started an artisanal bread bakery called “Uprising” together with her daughter and son-in-law. After selling the bakery, the Lanes moved to the Mid-Hudson River Valley where they remained until retiring.

Lane graduated from California State University with a B.A. in Business Administration and received a certificate from the New School for Social Research in New York in teaching English as a Second Language (ESL). While living in Los Angeles, she worked as the operations officer for a commercial real estate firm. She taught ESL for the Hospitality Committee of the United Nations Delegations, the International Center in New York and LaGuardia Community College. Lane also worked many years for various not-for-profit organizations – as an employee, volunteer and board member. Immediately before moving to the Berkshires, she was on the board of the Ulster County (New York state) chapter of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for children in foster care, and was board treasurer for The Queens Galley, an independent soup kitchen.

Her husband, Ed, became a financial advisor after retiring from a 30-year career as a consulting actuary. He continues this advisory practice and also teaches economics and finance as an adjunct professor at State University of New York (SUNY) in Albany, SUNY New Paltz and the College of St. Rose.

Lane said she sees the mountains as the bookends of her life. She spent her early childhood summers at her great grandparent’s bungalow in the Catskills and is thrilled to be spending her retirement years here in the Berkshires. Lane chairs OLLI’s Membership Committee.

— **Sandi Rubin**

OLLI Course Explored Life & Times of W.E.B. Du Bois

The life of Berkshires native son W.E.B. Du Bois was honored recently in a celebration of the 150th anniversary of his birth in Great Barrington. OLLI held a very well received class on Du Bois in concert with the celebration. The first class session was a public event at the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington on Jan. 19. It began with a one man play, *W.E.B. Du Bois: A Man for All Times*.



Du Bois with his son Burghardt and wife Nina Gomer

OLLI President Peter Bluhm reported on the production, which he said was “excellent.” The play, he said, “recounted Du Bois’s early life in Great Barrington, including his success in local schools, his higher education in Tennessee, Boston and Berlin, and his lifetime advocacy on behalf of African-Americans.”

“The story included stirring descriptions of the horrors of black life in the Jim Crow South and Du Bois’s hardships as the sole black student at Harvard University, as well as his personal tragedies, including the deaths of two children,” said Bluhm. The play also is an indictment of some Americans’ political views during the anti-Communist Congressional investigations of the early 1950s—sometimes called the “McCarthy era”—after U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy who led Senate probes that attacked the integrity of many persons and organizations he claimed were enemies of The United States.

“The play movingly illustrated DuBois’s sensitivity and the broad scope of his thought, showing throughout how a noble soul can transcend ugliness and violence in his culture,” said Bluhm. This play was followed by a panel discussion with

Professor Frances Jones-Sneed, State Senator Adam Hinds, D-Berkshire County, and Greylock Federal Credit Union CEO John Bissell.

The course continued with four classes at Bard College at Simon Rock and a final public event celebrating Du Bois’s 150th birthday at the Mahaiwe

Theater on Feb. 23.

Co-founders of the celebration, Gwendolyn Hampton-VanSant and Randy Weinstein planned the courses to include a wide range of Du Bois’s personal, political and philosophical life. On Jan. 26, Hampton-VanSant introduced MCLA President Frances Jones-Sneed, who gave a lecture on DuBois’s life. The Feb. 2 class titled “Whiteness and Intersectionality,” was presented by Dr. Francisca Oyogoa of Simon Rock’s faculty. Dr. Justin Jackson of Simon Rock lectured on Du Bois and the politics of remembering slavery, the Civil War and Reconstruction. The class on Feb. 16, taught by Professor Michael Saman, focused on Du Bois’s classic book *The Souls of Black Folk*.

Hampton-VanSant and Weinstein are community leaders whose efforts on behalf of diversity and African-American history are intended to continue well past this celebration. Hampton-VanSant founded Multicultural B.R.I.D.G.E, a group dedicated to promoting diversity in Berkshire County. Hampton-VanSant is raising funds to make Du Bois’s book, *The Souls of Black Folks* available to all local students. Weinstein founded the W.E.B. Du Bois Center in Great Barrington, which is dedicated to explaining African-American experiences and issues through programs, events and exhibitions. Collaborating with these community leaders was a worthwhile and meaningful OLLI experience.

— **Joanna Fribush**



Du Bois was one of the founders of the NAACP. Here is a the 20th Anniversary session on June 6, 1929 in Cleveland, Ohio.

OLLI's History-Making Enrollment Continues Despite 'Leaky Bucket'

Age becomes OLLI. A year shy of its quarter-century mark and a decade after affiliation with the Osher Foundation, more members enjoy more courses and activities than ever.

When the Berkshire Institute for Lifetime Learning transitioned to OLLI at BCC in 2007, the fall semester opened with 802 members. Ten years later, fall membership reached 1,074. Fall 2017 also boasted the largest class enrollment (424) in OLLI's history, a high-water mark of 39 percent of members taking OLLI classes.

Membership has held steady at above 1,000 thanks to more than 300 new or returning members each of the last three years. As with sports records, this number carries an asterisk—attrition. As new people fill the top of the membership bucket, others fall out holes in the bottom. Some move away or pass away; others, especially first-year members, drift away. In 2017, for example, 320 members joined and 284 dropped out. Anyone have a pot of glue?

Bob Desrosiers, OLLI board member and chair of the Information Systems Committee, tracks the ebb and flow of members with the precision borne of a career in aerospace engineering. Despite the challenge of the leaky bucket, Desrosiers sees undeniable pockets of growth, and with good reason.

"Over the 20 years of my membership, OLLI has steadily increased the quality and variety of its educational offerings and has provided great opportunities for socialization via special events, trips and Shared Interest Groups," he said.

Desrosiers points to the membership committee's hard work as making a difference, notably with seasonal Open Houses. These events alone accounted for 63 new recruits in the last two years. Hearing firsthand from teachers about their courses, and interacting with enthusiastic members or other potential members, makes for an easy sell.

Recruits hardly need convincing about OLLI's benefits. History-making enrollment continued in early 2018, with the greatest number of registrants ever (308) in winter courses, including fully subscribed ones on Ezra Pound, and on American Expats in Paris. Poetry or Paris, it's all about learning.

— Katherine Zdeb

OLLI at BCC Membership Totals since 1/1/2015



OLLI's Leadership Academy is Open for Applications

Volunteers are the lifeblood of OLLI at BCC. With more than two dozen active committees, we encourage all members to get involved and help make your OLLI experience the best it can be. For many members, becoming an active OLLI volunteer has been a gateway to new friendships, experiences and knowledge.

If you're interested in volunteering with OLLI, or already are and would like to take the next step, apply to attend our free Volunteer Leadership Academy, which we will hold over three successive Mondays on June 11, 18 and 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Lunch is included.



PHOTO BY SUSAN GELLER

Howard Shapiro, volunteer director of OLLI's Volunteer Leadership Academy, and Claudia Shuster, co-chair of OLLI's Mentoring committee and an alumna of the first OLLI Leadership Academy.

Learn about Berkshire OLLI's history over the past two dozen years, how courses are developed and chosen, best practices for meetings, our goals and how we fit in with the other 120 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes across the country.

OLLI Leadership Academy alumni serve on our board of directors, including our chair and vice chair. Academy graduates also head many of our committees, teach classes, develop special events and trips and do much more.

Space is limited, so please apply now. Applications are available on line at www.berkshireolli.org or request an application from the OLLI office by calling 413.236.2190.

— Megan Whilden

OLLI's 2018 Distinguished Speakers Series

Afternoons of Knowledge and Insight

OLLI's annual Distinguished Speakers Series (DSS) might be one of OLLI's best kept secrets. Now in its twelfth year, the series presents experts speaking on a variety of interesting topics from April through October. Carefully chosen by OLLI's Distinguished Speakers Series committee, each year DSS speakers presents insights into politics, the arts, sciences, literature and many other topics.

Co-chaired by OLLI members Hope Hagler and Lance Sterman, the committee invites interesting speakers from a broad range of fields. Hope is a retired lawyer whose late husband once served as co-chair of the committee. Lance is a retired physician who also serves as an OLLI mentor to a Berkshire Community College student, as well as being the organizer of the Absolute Sound shared interest group. They're wide ranging subjects provide OLLI members and the general public insights into topics they might not otherwise delve into.

OLLI's Distinguished Speakers Series is held on Saturdays at 3pm at the Berkshire Museum in downtown Pittsfield, except for July and August, when they are held on Wednesday afternoons (also at 3 p.m.). The 2018 series is almost finished, and ranges from prison art and

the neuroscience of music, to Russian culture and cuisine, the U.S. midterm elections and more.

Our first speaker of the year will be the nationally known prison art expert and collector Phyllis Kornfeld. She'll be speaking on **prison art** on Saturday, April 21. Next up will be Bard College at Simon's Rock professor Jennifer Browdy. Her subject will be "**Navigating Climate Change in Uncertain Times.**"

So, mark your calendars now for the following OLLI speakers:

- ◆ Professor Paul Lennard on **the neuroscience of music**, Sat., June 9.
- ◆ Professor Jeremy Yudkin on **Leonard Bernstein at 100**, Sat., June 30.
- ◆ Author Cornelia Gilder on **Edith Wharton's Lenox** on Wed., July 25.
- ◆ Williams College professor Darra Goldstein on **Russian culture and cuisine** on Wed., Aug. 15.

- ◆ Actress, writer and director Tina Packer, Wed, Aug., 29.



Leonard Bernstein, subject of Professor Jeremy Yudkin's talk on Sat., June 30

- ◆ WMCA Radio's CEO and President Alan Chartock, a political science professor emeritus, on the **mid-term elections**, Sat., Sept., 29.

These lectures are held at 3 p.m. at the Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield, except for Gilder's talk, which will take place at Kimball Farms in Lenox. Tickets for OLLI members are \$10, and for the general public, \$15, and may be purchased in advance or at the door. We welcome your suggestions for topics and speakers. Send your ideas and contacts to olli@berkshirecc.edu.

— Megan Whilden



Prison art example from the collection of Phyllis Kornfeld, who will be speaking Sat., April 21.



Professor Jennifer Browdy, who will be speaking Sat., May 5

OLLI Runs On Volunteers

A big thank you to the 100-plus OLLI members who give their time and talents to ensure OLLI members enjoy first-rate classes, exciting special events, fascinating catalogs and newsletters, and so much more. OLLI is a member-run organization offering you many opportunities to enrich your membership experience by volunteering to serve on one or more of our committees.

Howard Arkans
 Ev Bastow
 Peter Bluhm
 Robert Bogomolny
 Maxine Bookless
 Jock Brooks
 Joan Brotman
 Bernadette Brusco
 Margaret Cahill
 Claudia Cass
 Alice Caton
 Shelley Chanler
 Joss Chapman
 John Cornman
 Judy Cromwell
 Adele Cukor
 Lile Deinard

PHOTO BY SUSAN GELLER



OLLI Art Show & Silent Auction volunteers, from left to right: Sandi Rubin, Judy Cromwell, Ron Stewart, Ro Koelle, Peter Bluhm, Chelly Serman, Steve Tobin, Arline Shalan, and Tom Koelle.

Bob Desrosiers
 Bonnie Desrosiers
 John Dickson
 Nathan Doctrow
 Ann Dorfman
 Kathy Duquette-Penna
 Brenda Durrin
 Shirley Edgerton
 Richard Evans
 Bill Fields
 Andrew Fisher
 Karel Fisher
 Jacquie Fowler
 Lisa Frankel
 Joanna Fribush
 Ann Galt
 Magda Gabor-Hotchkiss
 John Galt
 Susan Geller
 Joe Gerard
 Sheldon Goldberg
 Lina Grogan
 Ray Grogan
 Chris Guidette
 Hope Hagler
 Linda Halpern
 Carol Hamblin
 Brian Harrison
 Joanne Hayes
 Barbara Hochberg
 Joyce Hovey
 Lynn Howard
 Bruce Jacobs

Gordon Josephson
 Judith Katz
 Lucy Kennedy
 Kate Kidd
 Ro Koelle
 Tom Koelle
 James Kraft
 Barbara Lane
 Jean Leif
 Lois Lenehan
 Lauren Losaw
 Barbara Mahony
 Amy Mann
 Jeffrey Mann
 Michael Margolis
 Richard Matturro
 Erin McNamara

Nancy McIntire
 Enid Michelman
 Gail Molari
 Ann Morgan
 Leon Nesis
 Ginny O'Leary
 Paula Patterson
 Louise Plager
 Margaret Poutasse
 Edith Pye
 Robert Rosen
 Alan Rubin
 Sandra Rubin
 Carol Sabot
 Linda Sambel
 Matthew Sanzone
 Diane Saunders

Alice Schiller
 Marney Schorr
 Anthony Segal
 Betsey Selkowitz
 Hal Shair
 Arline Shalan
 Liz Shalit
 Howard Shapiro
 Shirley Shapiro
 Holly Sharp
 Arthur Sherman
 Carl Shuster
 Claudia Shuster
 Carole Siegel
 Monica Sinclair
 Will Singleton
 Nan Sisselman

Lonnie Solomon
 Naomi Spatz
 Ken Stark
 Chelly Serman
 Lance Serman
 Larry Strauss
 Kirk Swiss
 Ellen Tabs
 Lenny Tabs
 Alexandra Tinari
 Steven Tobin
 Janis Toran
 Nancy Travis
 Nancy Vale
 Carolyn Vandervort
 Jennifer Wade
 Jean Walden
 Barbara Waldinger
 Stacy Wallach
 Nancy Walters
 Fran Weinberg
 Diane Weinstein
 Fran Wolk
 Bob Youdelman
 Karen Youdelman
 Kathy Zdeb
 Michael Zdeb

OLLI UPDATE

Editor, Christopher Guidette
Feature Writer, Joanna Fribush
Assistant Editors, Kathy Zdeb, Sandi Rubin, Linda Halpern
Photographer, Susan Geller
Designer, Jane McWhorter

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute At Berkshire Community College

President, Peter Bluhm
Vice President, Carl Shuster
Secretary, Sandi Rubin
Immediate Past President/Treasurer, Leonard Tabs
Dean of Community Engagement, Education & Workforce Development, Jill Sasso-Curtis
Executive Director, Megan Whilden
www.BerkshireOLLI.org 413.236.2190
 1350 West Street • Pittsfield, Mass.



AT BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
 1350 West Street
 Pittsfield, MA 01201
 413.236.2190

NONPROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PITTSFIELD, MA
 PERMIT NO. 50

NBC's Katy Tur to Speak at OLLI's Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture

Best-Selling Author Chronicled President Trump's Road to the White House

OLLI will host best-selling author and NBC correspondent Katy Tur as the 2018 Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture speaker. The event will be at 6 pm on May 25th at the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, immediately following OLLI's Annual Meeting. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Katy Tur is an anchor for MSNBC Live and has reported for the NBC news programs *Early Today*, *Today*, *NBC Nightly News*, and *Meet the Press*. As a TV journalist, Katy covered Donald Trump's Presidential campaign from the early days of the New Hampshire primary through election day in November, 2016. Several times during his campaign rallies, Trump singled out Tur in his criticism of the press. At an event in Florida, Tur was booed by Trump supporters and, according to other journalists, subjected to verbal harassment. Tur's experiences during the campaign are

memorably documented in her *New York Times* best seller, *Unbelievable, My Front-Row Seat to the Craziest Campaign in American History*.

The lecture series honors the late Mona Sherman, a former OLLI President who had a transformative effect on OLLI, beginning when it was still known as Berkshire Institute for Lifelong Learning (BILL). By presenting a nationally known speaker each year, the series honors her memory and her love of learning. Thanks to the generosity of the Sherman and Sharkey families, and numerous member donors, the lecture is free to the Berkshires community. Please consider reserving your lecture tickets in advance. The last two years, featuring authors Joe Klein and Cokie Roberts, were sold out.

— Peter Bluhm

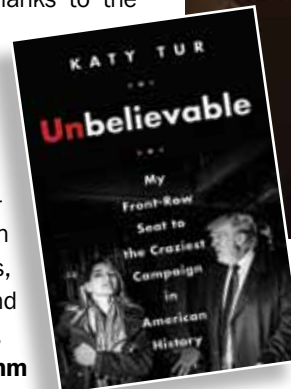


PHOTO BY ELANA SEIBERT