

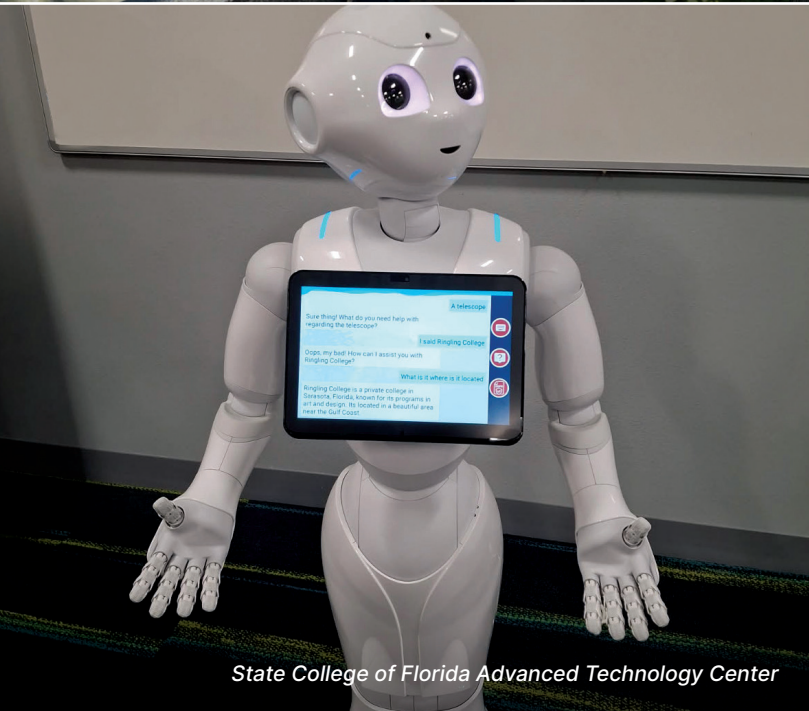
Stay Curious. Stay Connected.



Save Our Seabirds



Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe



State College of Florida Advanced Technology Center



The Bishop Museum of Science and Nature

Summer: May 19-July 11, 2025
Ringling College Continuing Studies



OLLI at Ringling College is the Place to Be If

- You like meeting people.
- You are age “50 and better.”
- You enjoy intellectual discussions and the lively exchange of ideas.
- You realize that an important part of aging well is staying active mentally and physically.
- Your daily routine is flexible, giving you the freedom to choose your schedule.



If you identify with at least two of the above statements, you're a perfect candidate for lifelong learning.

There are no tests or grades—ever.

We invite you to come and experience learning for the pure joy of learning!

[Become a Member Today!](#)

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The Bishop Museum of Science and Nature

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Advisory Committee

Jeff Ryder
 Chair, Advisory Committee

Patricia "Tobie" van der Vorm
 Chair, Instructor
 Recruitment Committee

Bev Harms
 (Emeritus)

Mark Moulin
 Chair, Strategic
 Planning Committee

Tom Miller

Sam Samelson
 (Emeritus)

Marilyn Pinsky
 Chair, Membership Committee

Marion Richter

Jack Sukin

Colleen Lundwall
 Chair, Curriculum Committee

2025-2026 Academic Term Calendar

Term Dates

Fall Term 2025:
 Monday, Sept. 29-Friday, Nov. 21
 No classes: Oct. 2; Nov. 27, and Nov. 28

Spring Term 2026:
 Monday, March 16-Friday, May 8
 No classes: May 25

Winter Term 2026:
 Monday, Jan. 12-Friday, March 6
 No classes: Jan. 19

Summer Term 2026:
 Monday, May 18-Thursday, July 2
 No classes: June 19

About OLLI at Ringling College

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Ringling College is a program of Ringling College of Art and Design. OLLI at Ringling College operates year-round and is supported through memberships, student registrations, and private contributions. OLLI courses are non-credit and primarily based on a liberal arts curriculum. Tuition varies depending on course length. There are no grades and no tests. Courses are offered purely for the joy of learning.

Mission

The mission of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Ringling College is to enrich the lives of mature adults in Sarasota and Manatee counties. We provide affordable and outstanding educational programs and social interaction that covers a broad spectrum of topics that are rich in intellectual stimulation, interactive in scope, and worthy of academic consideration.

Learning Environment

Above all else, our ultimate goal is to provide a stimulating and thoughtful learning experience.

We are committed to creating an intellectually nurturing environment that encourages a collegial exchange of ideas and concepts and enables us to broaden our perspectives and hone our opinions. Sometimes we agree with others' viewpoints; sometimes we question them and feel the need to present an alternative view. This honest give and take of scholastic discourse, tempered with mutual respect and an open mind, makes for a rare and memorable learning experience.

Student Code of Conduct

We all play a role in maintaining this balance of civility and academic freedom. Here's how you can do your part.

- **Allow** others to have their say.
- **Respect** the rights of others to express their views.
- **Listen** quietly while the instructor or other students are speaking.
- **Refrain** from quarrelsome interruptions to an instructor's presentation.
- **Ensure** cell phones are switched off or muted during the class.
- **Comply** with OLLI staff and instructor requests.

Instructor Responsibility

If a student disrupts a class, the instructor has a responsibility to ask the student to refrain from class disruptions. If the disruptive behavior persists, the instructor has a responsibility to ask the student to leave class.

The definition of disruptive behavior includes not complying with the Student Code of Conduct. It may also include any behaviors or actions considered threatening, abusive, or inconsiderate of other students.

A student may return to class only if they refrain from disruptive behavior. If the student refuses to comply, security will be called and the student will be escorted from the classroom.

The director and the assistant director of OLLI at Ringling College must be notified if an incident occurs where a student is asked to leave the classroom.

Membership

A Gold (\$85) or Silver (\$25) Membership is required to register for a multi-session course. You do not need a membership to register for lectures, workshops, programs, or presentations. Membership in OLLI is not transferable. Spouses or partners must have their own individual memberships. Gold and Silver memberships are non-refundable.

OLLI accepts **credit cards** and or **checks** for all program registrations. We do not accept cash for any program transactions.

Registration Options

Online: Visit www.rcad.augusoft.net and browse courses. If you have more than one address, remember to use the address that is associated with the credit card you are using.

Mail or in Person: Fill out the mail-in form. Enclose it with your check or credit card information. You can also register in person by coming to the OLLI office in Room 105 (Mann Reception Area) on the Ringling College Museum Campus.

Phone: 941-309-5111

Cancellations

If a class is canceled due to under-enrollment, students will receive a full refund.

Students will also receive a full refund if an instructor cancels a class prior to the first scheduled session.

Once a class has started, and the instructor cancels a class for medical or personal reasons, students will receive a prorated refund based on the number of classes held prior to cancellation. Students are expected to pay for course sessions they attend.

Course Refunds

If a student drops a course **before the first scheduled session**, the student will receive a full refund.

If a student drops a course **after the first scheduled session**, the student will receive a refund minus a 25 percent administrative fee.

If a student drops a course **after the second scheduled session**, the student forfeits their entire tuition.

There are no refunds for lectures, workshops, or special programs.

Guest Policy

Guests are welcome to visit two classes per semester on a space available basis. They must register prior to attending each class by calling the office 941-309-5111. When classes are closed (all seats filled), guests cannot be accommodated. A guest cannot “bump” a registered student from any class.

Building Evacuation Procedures

Upon receipt of an evacuation order, all employees and students shall exit via the nearest unaffected exit. They shall proceed quickly and quietly to the designated evacuation relocation point for the area they were in at the time of the evacuation order. If class is in session, it is the responsibility of the instructor to direct their students from their classroom to the appropriate egress route and relocation point.



Sarasota Art Museum of Ringling College of Art and Design
Photo: Ryan Gamma

Contact/Mail Information

OLLI at Ringling College
1001 S. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34236-9117

Office hours: 8 am to 4 pm • Monday-Friday

Phone: 941-309-5111

Email: OLLI@ringling.edu

Website: www.OLLlatRinglingCollege.org

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Volunteer

Volunteers are essential to the success of OLLI. We need volunteers to make the OLLI experience the best it can be. Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, make friends, and stay active. As an OLLI volunteer, you can spread the message about lifelong learning, its importance, and what it means to you. When you contribute your time and talent to OLLI, the rewards are mutually beneficial.



How You Can Make A Difference:

- **Committee Assignments:** Serve on a committee such as curriculum, membership retention, or membership recruitment.
- **Community Outreach:** Talk to members and prospective members at monthly events at Sarasota Art Museum including, Free Admission Sunday or Jazz Thursday, or during our outreaches at the Sarasota Farmers Market.
- **Greeter:** Welcome and direct new and returning students to their classrooms.
- **Office Assistants:** Answer questions from members and guests in person or by phone and assist the staff with projects.
- **Special Events:** Contribute to the success of our special events by sharing information, helping people find their way, and answering questions.

Volunteering Myths

I don't want to volunteer every day or every week. I'm retired.

Fact: You can decide how often you want to volunteer. Volunteering at OLLI is definitely not like work!

I don't have a lot of time to commit to volunteering.

Fact: You can give back to OLLI in as little as 30 minutes on a day and time of your choosing.

I might get an assignment that I don't like.

Fact: You get to choose your assignment from our project lists. We welcome new ideas, and you can suggest a volunteer project that suits your skills and interests.

I like the idea of volunteering, but what if I'm not good at it?

Fact: We want volunteers who like helping others and who want to support OLLI and its mission.

Volunteer Voices

I want to contribute to the community. I consider that as a duty, in retirement to pay back and enrich my life.

~ Jose Garnham

When I volunteer, I look forward to meeting my co-volunteers who are there for the same reason; and enjoying our time together often making a new friend.

~ Ann Pitcock

I meet members who become friends!

~ Jack Sukin

I get the opportunity to "spread the word" about an integral and rewarding organization right here in our Sarasota community.

~ Angela Carruba



**For more information
about OLLI
and volunteering visit:**

[www.olliringlingcollege.org/
volunteer](http://www.olliringlingcollege.org/volunteer)

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Membership



An OLLI membership makes it possible for a community of intellectually curious individuals to come together and share ideas and experiences in a welcoming environment. Your membership and tuition also support our goals, initiatives, and mission to provide quality lifelong learning to adults aged 50 and older in Sarasota and Manatee counties. Members can take classes from 15 different topic areas, all for the joy of learning.

Become a Member:

Membership Levels

- **Gold:** \$85* annual per person
 - **Silver:** \$25 annual per person
- * \$37.50 is tax-deductible*

Member Benefits for Both Levels

- Free parking
- 10% discount at Bistro
- Volunteer opportunities
- Monthly e-newsletter
- Participation in a Shared Interest Group (SIG)

Exclusive Gold Member Benefits

- Early class registration
- 10% discount on classes and workshops
- Three free lectures a year (a \$45 value)

Three Ways to Become A Member or to Renew

- **By phone:** 941-309-5111
- **In-person:** Stop by Room 105 (Mann Reception Area) on the Ringling College Museum Campus at Sarasota Art Museum
- **Online:** www.rcad.augusoft.net

Membership FAQ's

How long is a membership?

Memberships are good for 365 days from the date of purchase.

Can I purchase a family or couple membership? OLLI only offers individual memberships.

Do I need a membership to register for a class? Yes. A membership at the Gold or Silver level is required to register for any multi-session classes (e.g. classes that meet 2 or more sessions)

Can I upgrade or downgrade my membership? You can upgrade from Silver, by purchasing a Gold membership for the full fee. You cannot downgrade your membership.

If I change my mind, can I get a refund on my membership? Once you use your OLLI membership to register for any fee-based program, you cannot receive a refund.

Can I purchase a membership as a gift? Yes. An OLLI membership is always a smart gift idea.

Course Topic Areas

- Art Appreciation
- Arts and Entertainment
- Culture and Travel
- Current Events and Global Affairs
- Economics and Finance
- Health and Lifestyles
- History
- Languages
- Literature
- Music Appreciation
- Philosophy and Religion
- Psychology
- Science
- Technology
- Writing



For more information about OLLI and membership visit:

www.olliringlingcollege.org/member-options-and-benefit/

1. Student Information *(Please Print Clearly)*

Name (as it appears on credit card) _____

I am a new student

Billing Address _____ City/State/ZIP _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

2. Student Information *(Please Print Clearly)*

Name (as it appears on credit card) _____

I am a new student

Billing Address _____ City/State/ZIP _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

3. Student Information *(Please Print Clearly)*

Name (as it appears on credit card) _____

I am a new student

Billing Address _____ City/State/ZIP _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Return Completed Forms To

OLLI at Ringling College
1001 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236

Photo Policy

By registering for courses, I acknowledge that my photo may be taken while at the OLLI at Ringling College and utilized for purposes of promoting the OLLI. If I do not want my photo utilized, I will step aside when photos are being taken.

Registration Grid

My Registraton Grid (Page 9 and 10) are completed and included

Subtotal (from page 11 and 12) = \$ _____

Gold Member Benefits

- Early Registration
- 10% Tuition Discount
- Free Lectures
- 10% Discount at the Bistro

Gold Membership Annual Fee: \$85 = \$ _____

Silver Membership Annual Fee: \$25 = \$ _____

Tax-Deductible Donation = \$ _____

Final Total = \$ _____

Method Of Payment

Check (enclosed)

Credit Card (Full credit card number required. Registration system does not retain card number.)

Visa/MC/Discover/AMEX # _____ CVV Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Registration opens 8 am on Tuesday, May 6 for Gold and Silver Members and the General Public.

- Please indicate the quantity of members or guests.
- All single-session classes are \$15 per person.
- All films are \$12 per film and per person.

Monday

10-11:20 am

- _____ Power of the Labyrinth to Find Peace (May 19)
- _____ The French Connection: The Last Time I Saw Paris (July 7)

10:30-11:30 am

- _____ Mayhem in Manatee (June 9)

11 am-12 pm

- _____ Medicare Choices (June 23)

1-2 pm

- _____ The Turpentine Industry in Sarasota County (May 19)
- _____ Create Your Beautiful and Weather-Resilient Florida Landscape (June 23)

1-2:30 pm

- _____ Introduction to Crossword Puzzles (June 9)
- _____ The Benefits of Bioactive Natural Products from Mesophotic and Deep-sea Micro-organisms (July 7)

Tuesday

10-11:20 am

- _____ Pioneering Women: The Bluestocking (May 20)
- _____ How Lame Are Lame Ducks? (June 17)

11 am-12 pm

- _____ How Florida Got Its Shape (June 3)

11 am-12:20 pm

- _____ Crimson: A Color, a Bug, a Monopoly (May 27)

11 am-12:30 pm

- _____ Medical Cannabis: History, Treatment Options, and How Florida's Medical Marijuana System Works (July 1)

1-2:20 pm

- _____ Pursuit of Happiness: Insights From the Sages to Support Us As We Age (May 20)
- _____ Classical Education and the Western Canon (June 10)
- _____ How to Start a Daily Meditation Practice (July 8)

Tuesday (cont.)

1-2:30 pm

- _____ Why James Longstreet Matters: A Paragon of Unity (June 24)
- _____ Understanding Wall Street and What It Does That Impact All of Us (July 1)
- _____ What is AI and What Will it Do to Humans (July 8)

1-4 pm

- _____ *12 Angry Men* (May 27)

2-3:30 pm

- _____ The Artist Colony and History of Sarasota (June 3)

Wednesday

10-11 am

- _____ Elderly Fraud and Vulnerable Adults (June 18)

10-11:20 am

- _____ How Memory Works (May 21)
- _____ Women Who Helped Shaped Sarasota (June 25)
- _____ Digital Bookworm: Mastering Reading Apps and Book Clubs (July 9)

10:30 am-12:30 pm

- _____ Lessons Learned from Children: *Mad Hot Ballroom* (June 4)

11 am-12 pm

- _____ Medicare Health Insurance and Turning 65 (May 28)

11 am-12:20 pm

- _____ Myles Horton's Enduring Legacy: Educator and Activist (June 11)

12-1:20 pm

- _____ Book Discussion: Relocate Adjust Repeat: An International Life (June 25)

1-2:20 pm

- _____ Procrastination to Progress: Take Action on Your Goals (May 28)
- _____ Don't Be a Victim: How to Avoid Internet Scams (June 18)
- _____ Executive Orders and Presidential Power (July 9)

Wednesday (cont.)

1-3 pm

_____ Memorable Opening Movie Scenes (May 21)

1-4 pm

_____ *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (July 2)

2-3:30 pm

_____ Improv Games 1 (June 4)

_____ Improv Scene 1 (June 11)

_____ Turn Complaints into Requests and Get Your Needs Met (June 25)

Thursday

10-11:20 am

_____ The Benefits of Feng Shui For Your Landscaping (May 22)

10:30 am-12:30 pm

_____ Lessons Learned from Children: *Paper Clips* (June 5)

11 am-12:20 pm

_____ Stay Home, Stay Independent (June 12)

12:30-1:50 pm

_____ Can You Read Your Dog's Mind? (May 29)

1-2 pm

_____ Fire Up Your Metabolism (July 10)

1-2:30 pm

_____ What Makes a Good Cell Break Bad: The Biology of Cancer (June 26)

2-3:30 pm

_____ Improv Games 2 (June 5)

_____ Improv Scene 2 (June 12)

2:30-3:30 pm

_____ Six Degrees of John Ringling (May 29)

Friday

10-11:20 am

_____ The Role of Sarasota County Emergency Management (May 23)

10:30 am-12:30 pm

_____ Lessons Learned from Children: *Babies* (June 6)

11 am-12:30 pm

_____ The King and Queen of Jazz: Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong (June 13)

12:30-1:50 pm

_____ Healthy Aging: What Lifestyle Changes Can Do For You (May 23)

1-2:20 pm

_____ Searching Dr. Google: Getting Information You Can Trust (May 30)

_____ Battle of Saratoga — 1777 (June 6)

_____ Battle of Vicksburg — 1863 (June 20)

_____ Battle of Midway — 1942 (July 11)

2-3:30 pm

_____ Claude Monet's Obsession with Nymphéas (Water Lillies) (May 23)

_____ Designing a Positive Future: Video Salon (May 30)

Registration opens 8 am on Tuesday, May 6 for Gold and Silver Members and the General Public.

- Please indicate the quantity of members or guests.
- Events, programs, and tours with an asterisk* are open to Gold and Silver Members only.
- There are no refunds or exchanges on any fee-based event, program or tour.
- If OLLI cancels any an event, program, or tour, you will receive a full refund.

May

10 am-12 pm

_____ ***Newtown Alive (May 27)**
 \$30 per person. Limited seating. Pre-registration is required. No on-site registration accepted.

10-11:30 am

_____ ***Sarasota City Sightseeing (May 29)**
 \$30 per person. Limited seating. Pre-registration is required. No on-site registrations accepted.

_____ ***Minorities in Shark Science (MISS) Experience (May 30)** \$30 per person. Limited seating. Pre-registration is required. No on-site registrations accepted.

June

10 am-12 pm

_____ **Save Our Seabirds: Guided Tour (June 2)**
 Free to OLLI members and the General Public. Must pre-register. Suggested donation \$5 paid on-site.

10-11:30 am

_____ **CreArte Latino (June 10)**
 \$10 per person. Open to Gold or Silver Members and the General Public. Must pre-register. No on-site registrations accepted.

6-7:30 pm

_____ ***Cheese 101 Class-Artisan Cheese Company (June 13)** \$37.50 per person. Limited seating. Pre-registration is required. No on-site registrations accepted.

1-2:30 pm

_____ **The Roots of African-American Music (June 13)**
 \$15 per person

10 am-12 pm

_____ ***Everyday AI: From Brainstorming to Smarter Living (June 16)** \$15 per person. Limited seating. Pre-registration is required. No on-site registrations accepted.

June (cont.)

11 am-12 pm

_____ ***Sarasota Art Museum Guided Tour (June 17)**
 Free. Open to OLLI Gold and Silver members only. Pre-registration required.

10 am-12 pm

_____ ***Clear for Takeoff: Drone Discovery and the Future of Flight (June 20)** \$15 per person. Limited seating. Pre-registration is required. No on-site registrations accepted.

10-11:30 am

_____ ***Westcoast Black Theater Troupe Tour (June 24)**
 \$20 per person. Limited seating. Pre-registration is required. No on-site registrations accepted.

9-11 am

_____ **On the Frontline Against Hunger: All Faiths Food Bank Tour (June 26)**
 Free. Participants must pre-register.

1-3 pm

_____ ***The Bishop Museum of Science and Nature Tour (June 27)** \$10 per person. Limited availability. Pre-registration is required. No on-site registrations accepted.

2-3:30 pm

_____ **From Memoir to Documentary: The Journey of Telling the Family Secret of Being the Daughter of Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong and Lucille "Sweets Preston" (June 27)** \$15 per person.

9:30 am-4 pm

_____ **OLLI Summer Games: A Play Date for Adults (June 30)** Priced per person per game:

- Checkers: 9:30-11 pm (\$3)
- Chess: 9:30-11 pm (\$3)
- Scrabble: 12:30-1:30 pm (\$3)
- Bingo: 1-2:15 pm (\$5)
- Musical Trivia: 2:30-4 pm (\$5)



*What Makes
OLLI
Special?*

Our Members

Our Instructors

Our Volunteers

Together we are a vibrant community where learning never retires.
Find your special place at OLLI!

Become a Member Today!

Art Appreciation

Claude Monet's Obsession with Nymphéas (Water Lilies)

Course #AP185

Marie-Agnès Sourieau

Ringling College Museum Campus

Friday: 2-3:20 pm

1 Session: May 23

Fee: \$15

Why did Monet paint water lilies obsessively, that is, 400 times during the last 30 years of his life? And why water lilies? Why did he not paint any other motifs during that period? We will explore various avenues that may reveal the mystery of Monet's compulsive representation of these "mysterious" aquatic flowers.



Crimson: A Color, a Bug, a Monopoly

Course #AP171

Nancy Cusack

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 11 am-12:20 pm

1 Session: May 27

Fee: \$15

How could a Mexican bug change the economy of Spain? Crimson was prized for its rarity across European and Asian aristocracies and religions. The Conquistadors' discovery and monopoly of a new dye source within the indigenous world they encountered brought unexpected economic windfall to Spain and the larger world. Join us for a fascinating story and a visual feast with images, objects, and color demonstration of cochineal insect dye.

The Artist Colony and History of Sarasota

Course #AP186

Andrew Ford

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 2-3:30 pm

1 Session: June 3

Fee: \$15

Explore the rich legacy of the Sarasota School of Art, a collective of visionary artists who have shaped Florida's cultural landscape from the 1930s to today. This class delves into their academic roots, innovative techniques, and contributions to modern art, highlighting how their work has influenced local and global artistic movements. From the early pioneers to contemporary figures, discover how these artists continue to define Sarasota's unique creative identity. Artists include: Shirley Clement, William Hartman, Helen Sawyer, Syd Solomon, and Ben Stahl. Join us for the discoveries and conversations.

All sessions fees are for Gold and Silver Members and the General Public.

Arts and Entertainment

Memorable Opening Movie Scenes

Course #AE195

Jeff Ryder

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 1-3 pm

1 Session: May 21

Fee: \$12

The first scene of a film often establishes the mood and provides a hint of what the film is about. This can be conveyed through the action, setting, lighting, music, cinematography, or other memorable elements. While not every opening scene comes from a great film, they can be fun to watch. Let's take a moment to explore film history and enjoy some classic opening scenes. The instructor will introduce each scene, followed by a brief class discussion.

12 Angry Men

Course #AE196

Jeff Ryder

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 1-4 pm

1 Session: May 27

Fee: \$12

12 Angry Men is widely regarded as one of the best films of the 1950s. Adapted from a live TV presentation, it was co-produced by and stars Henry Fonda, alongside an outstanding cast that includes Jack Warden, Lee J. Cobb, and E.G. Marshall. This was also the first film directed by Sidney Lumet. The courtroom drama remains as relevant today as it was at its release in 1957. We will view the film in the Alumni Auditorium beginning with a brief introduction before the screening, followed by additional background, and a group discussion led by the instructor.



Six Degrees of John Ringling: A Look at the Impact of the Circus Magnate on the Development of Sarasota's Vibrant Arts Scene

Course #AE197

Jay Handelman

Ringling College Museum Campus

Thursday: 2:30-3:30 pm

1 Session: May 29

Fee: \$15

This talk will provide an overview of how dozens of arts organizations in the Sarasota area, from The Ringling Museum and Asolo Rep to Sarasota Opera and Sarasota Ballet, have direct (or slightly indirect) links to the decision by the Ringling Brothers to move the winter quarters for its circus operations to Sarasota.

Designing a Positive Future: Video Salon

Course #AE198

David Lionel

Ringling College Museum Campus

Friday: 2-3:30 pm

1 Session: May 30

Fee: \$15

Barbara Marx Hubbard was a world-renowned futurist and evolutionary educator. She authored six acclaimed books, including *The Hunger of Eve: One Woman's Odyssey Toward the Future* (1976) and *Conscious Evolution: Awakening the Power of Our Social Potential* (1998). At the 1984 Democratic Convention, her name was placed in nomination for the Vice-Presidency of the United States. Hubbard proposed establishing a Peace Room in the White House to map and promote positive options. In this interactive screening, she hosts the half-hour video *Design for a Positive Future*. It will play in two parts. In between, participants break into small groups to share their responses. Barbara's vision offers a heartening framework within which to understand the troubling events of our time.

Lessons Learned From Children: Documentary Film Series

Course #AE199

Lynda Rizzio

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 10:30 am-12:30 pm

1 Session: June 4

Thursday: 10:30 am-12:30 pm

1 Session: June 5

Friday: 1 Session: 10:30 am-12:30 pm

1 Session: June 6

Fee: \$12 per film and per person.

Each film is a single session.

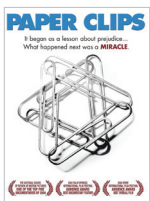
With 25 years of experience as an elementary school teacher, Lynda Rizzio taught many lessons. But, it was the children who taught her lessons in kindness, gratitude, and humility. We will view each award-winning documentary in class. After the viewing, we will discuss themes and share insights from the film. These movies will inspire laughter, tears, and deep reflection.



June 4: *Mad Hot Ballroom* (2005)

1 hour 46 minutes

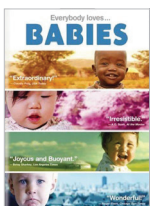
About an inner-city dance competition, watching fifth graders learn to tango, foxtrot, swing, rumba, and merengue.



June 5: *Paper Clips* (2004)

1 hour 22 minutes

Understanding the impact of the Holocaust, a middle school class collected 6 million paper clips representing the number of Jews lost in the Holocaust.



June 6: *Babies* (2010)

1 hour 19 minutes

Follow four newborns through their first year of life. The babies are from Namibia, Mongolia, Tokyo, and San Francisco.

Improv: Games

Course #AE200

Jeffrey Sherman and Colleen Sherman

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday, 2-3:30 pm

1 Session: June 4

Thursday, 2-3:30 pm

1 Session: June 5

Fee: \$12 each session

The world of improv is filled with fun, challenges, and discovery. One part of improv is games. This class will immerse you in improv games, teaching you how to play them, and how they can be useful in everyday life as well. We'll explore a variety of games including Zip-Zap-Zop, Left-Hand Larry, Continuous Story, Monologue Hotspot, and others. Here's a chance to give yourself (and your brain) a fun workout. This 90-minute workshop is designed to be participatory (but you can watch and learn) and may require limited physical activity (standing, holding up an arm).

Note: Each class is a standalone session. You can enjoy one or both sessions. Different games will be played on each day.

Introduction to Crossword Puzzles

Course #AE201

Barbara Feldman

Ringling College Museum Campus

Monday: 1-2:30 pm

1 Session: June 9

Fee: \$15

Ever found yourself saying, "I'm just not good at crossword puzzles?" If so, this course is your game-changer. Enroll now and bid farewell to that phrase. This course will unlock the world of crossword puzzles, bringing you the joy of learning new skills. You will learn how to approach a puzzle, tips, tricks for working through it, and strategies for completing it. Embark on a journey of fun and discovery with crossword puzzles. The process of solving them is not just a task, but an enjoyable experience in itself. All level of puzzlers are welcome.

Arts and Entertainment

Improv: Scenes**Course #AE202****Jeffrey Sherman and Colleen Sherman****Ringling College Museum Campus**

Wednesday: 2-3:30 pm

1 Session: June 11

Thursday: 2-3:30 pm

1 Session: June 12

Fee: \$12 each session

Improvisation is based on creativity, collaboration, and spontaneity. In this class, we will learn how to create worlds, scenarios, and circumstances that can lead to fun scenes played out by the participants. Scene work in improv differs from improv games as there are fewer structures, and more opportunities for play. Ever wanted to be a coal miner on Mars? A schoolmarm in the Old West with a class filled with trained seals? Who knows what worlds we can create. This 90-minute workshop is designed to be participatory (but you can watch and learn as well), and may require limited physical activity (standing, walking around, and pretending to hold things).

Note: Each class is a standalone session. The Improv: Games workshop is not a prerequisite for Improv: Scenes. You can enjoy one or both sessions.

Breakfast at Tiffany's**Course #AE204****Jeff Ryder****Ringling College Museum Campus**

Wednesday: 1-4 pm

1 Session: July 2

Fee: \$12

In her most iconic role as the free-spirited Holly Golightly, Audrey Hepburn shines in the classic 1961 romantic comedy. The film introduced audiences to one of the most beautiful and memorable songs ever, *Moon River*. We will view the film in the Alumni Auditorium beginning with a brief introduction before the screening, followed by additional background, and a group discussion led by the instructor.

The French Connection: The Last Time I Saw Paris**Course #AE203****Sandra Moulin****Ringling College Museum Campus**

Monday: 10-11:20 am

1 Session: July 7

Fee: \$15

Sandra Moulin, Francophile and entertainer, will take you to Paris of the past and the present as she offers a survey of American celebrities who were influenced and inspired by the City of Light. Listen and sing along to the tunes of George Gershwin and Cole Porter, and enjoy stories of the artist Mary Cassatt, and the expat literati (Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald) who frequented the café Les Deux Magots. You will even get a taste of culinary art by Julia Child. This lecture is sure to intrigue and resonate. C'est magnifique!



Current Events and Global Issues

The Role of Sarasota County Emergency Management

Course #CV162

Sandra Tapfumaneyi

Ringling College Museum Campus

Friday: 10-11:20 am

1 Session: May 23

Fee: \$15

Sarasota County Emergency Management works to protect communities by coordinating activities critical to building, sustaining, and improving a community's ability to reduce, prepare for, and recover from natural disasters and other emergencies. The role of emergency management involves a combination of planning, leadership, resource allocation, and public communication to effectively manage the risks and impacts of emergencies within our community. This session will provide an overview of the department's role in managing the countywide disaster program, highlight key points from the 2024 hurricane season, and outline steps to take to be prepared for future disasters.

Classical Education and the Western Canon

Course #HS218

Mike Weddle

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 1-2:20 pm

1 Session: June 10

Fee: \$15

The classical education movement is one of the fastest growing educational systems in the U.S., with a growth rate of 5% each year. American classical education is a combination of pedagogy dating from the Medieval period and a reading list of European "Great Books." The history of classical education includes creating a Eurocentric identity in times of conflict, like its use in Mussolini's Italy leading up to the invasion of Ethiopia. We will look at this history, in Europe and the United States, where classicists themselves have called for the elimination of the term "classical" given its association with American racism.

How Lame Are Lame Ducks?

Course #CV159

John Scibak

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 10-11:20 am

1 Session: June 17

Fee: \$15

Lame ducks are elected officials who continue in their position after another person was elected to replace them. Some become lame ducks because they chose not to run for office again, while others ran but failed to win re-election. A third group become lame ducks because term limits prohibit them from running again (e.g., Ron DeSantis and Donald Trump). This lecture will examine the history and productivity of lame ducks in both the legislative and executive branches of our government. Are lame ducks less inclined to follow the wishes of their party or their constituents? Are there differences between regular and lame-duck legislative sessions? What specific powers or limitations do lame-duck politicians have, and how effective are they? Join us for the discussion.

Elderly and Vulnerable Adult Fraud

Course #CV160

Investigator Deana McNeal and Detective Jim Curulla

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 10-11 am

1 Session: June 18

Fee: \$15

Every day, thousands of people fall victim to fraud and scams. In some cases, victims have lost thousands of dollars, while others have lost their entire life savings. It's likely that you know someone who has been affected by fraud, or perhaps you have been a victim yourself. There is no reason to feel ashamed. It is important to educate yourself about this issue. In this session, members of the Manatee Elderly and Vulnerable Adult Fraud Unit will discuss statistics, current fraud trends, and what to do if you are a victim of fraud.

Current Events and Global Issues

Executive Orders and Presidential Power**Course #CV161****John Scibak****Ringling College Museum Campus**

Wednesday: 1-2:20 pm

1 Session: July 9

Fee: \$15

Executive orders are one of the most common ways a president can unilaterally implement policies. Only one president failed to sign any, and each president since 1880 signed over 100 of them. However, only three of the last 15 presidents signed an executive order on their first day in office, including President Trump, who did so at the start of both administrations. We will review the history of executive orders, how they work, how they can be challenged, and how they differ from other executive actions, including presidential memoranda and proclamations. Some notable executive orders occurred during times of war. We will examine how the courts deferred to the president in some situations and sought to restrain him in others.

Economics and Finance

Understanding Wall Street and What It Does That Impacts All of Us**Course #EC127****Thomas P. Vartanian****Ringling College Museum Campus**

Tuesday: 1-2:30 pm

1 Session: July 1

Fee: \$15

Hear from a lawyer who worked on Wall Street for 50 years representing investment banks, hedge funds, mutual funds, and private equity funds in a variety of transactions. He will describe what each of the various players on Wall Street do, how they do it, and how what they do impacts your everyday lives for the better or worse.

Health and Lifestyles

Power of the Labyrinth to Find Peace**Course #HL164****Gail Condrick****Ringling College Museum Campus**

Monday: 10-11:20 am

1 Session: May 19

Fee: \$15

The labyrinth is a walking meditative tool in use since 2000 BCE to center the mind and calm the spirit. As you enter into a labyrinth, you release your fears and blocks, find clarity when you reach your center, and receive new ideas and insights. These same meditative benefits can be applied to focus your mind — whether you need to be more creative, centered, or relaxed. In this session, you will learn the power of the labyrinth to support any decision and the benefits of combining mindfulness with your life and creative process. A paper labyrinth is provided for class exercises and to take home.

Pursuit of Happiness: Insights From the Sages to Support Us As We Age**Course #HL165****Roxanne Baker****Ringling College Museum Campus**

Tuesday: 1-2:20 pm

1 Session: May 20

Fee: \$15

Our Declaration of Independence grants us life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. How many of us truly prioritize the pursuit of happiness and actively pursue it? Is your happiness gauge running on low? As we transition out of productive careers, the void can feel overwhelming. What can you do about it? It may be illuminating to hear the perspectives and insights from esteemed writers on how to cultivate a positive outlook on life as we age. Roxanne will present a collection of these insights in this talk.

The Benefits of Feng Shui for Your Landscaping

Course #HL166

Steve Kodad

Ringling College Museum Campus

Thursday: 10-11:20 am

1 Session: May 22

Fee: \$15

The attraction of “chi” (positive energy and opportunity) is important for enhancing our environments and our lives. In Feng Shui, the front yard plays a significant role in drawing positive energy and opportunities in our homes. In this lecture, Steve will demonstrate how to choose color schemes, design garden beds, and effectively “frame the front door” to attract chi.

Healthy Aging: What Lifestyle Changes Can Do For You

Course #HL167

Cheryl Brandi

Ringling College Museum Campus

Friday: 12:30-1:50 pm

1 Session: May 23

Fee: \$15

Research indicates that specific lifestyle changes can be as effective as medication or surgery in preventing and even reversing chronic disease conditions such as obesity, heart disease, and diabetes. By implementing sustainable lifestyle changes, we can assist medical professionals in improving our health and quality of life. This presentation will outline The American College of Lifestyle Medicine's recommendations for health, which includes the following: nutrition, physical activity, quality sleep, stress management, positive social connections, and the avoidance of risky substances. Cheryl will offer practical suggestions for changes you can implement in your daily lives.

Medicare Health Insurance and Turning 65

Course #HL168

Janet Lambert

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 11 am -12 pm

1 Session: May 28

Free and open to the public. Pre-registration required.

Navigating Medicare can be a complex process, especially as you approach eligibility at age 65. Understanding when and how to apply, as well as the different coverage options, is essential for making informed healthcare decisions. us for an informative discussion. Join us for an informative discussion, where your questions are welcome.

- When should I apply for Medicare health insurance?
- What should I do if I am still working and have group coverage?
- Do I have to apply for Part D Prescription drugs?
- How can I determine which plan is best for me?
- What happens if I don't apply for Medicare when I turn 65?

Procrastination to Progress: Take Action on Your Goals

Course #HL169

Gail Sussman-Miller

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 1-2:20 pm

1 Session: May 28

Fee: \$15

Tired of procrastinating? Do you avoid important projects, difficult conversations or self-care? Some procrastination is normal. For some issues, it can have a significant impact. In this session, we will explore the causes of procrastination, including discomfort, fear, perfectionism, and feeling overwhelmed. Through various exercises you will learn and practice tools to facilitate meaningful change. We will discuss how to clarify your desires, shift your inner dialog, and manage your fears to achieve more of what you want in life. Start steps to a real-life project before and during class. Move from stuck to started!

Health and Lifestyles (cont.)

Searching “Dr. Google”: Getting Information You Can Trust

Course #HL170

Cheryl Brandi

Ringling College Museum Campus

Friday: 1-2:20 pm

1 Session: May 30

Fee: \$15

Many of us rely on the internet and social media for answers to many of our health questions. How can we know which sources provide health information that is credible and safe? This presentation will provide guidelines for finding reliable internet sources of health information and for evaluating other types of information such as health news reports. It will help attendees expand their library of suitable resources for future use.

Stay Home, Stay Independent

Course #HL171

Elena Vizvary

Ringling College Museum Campus

Thursday: 11 am-12:20 pm

1 Session: June 12

Fee: \$15

Are you one of the 75% of seniors who want to stay in your home for as long as possible? Would you like to remain as independent as you are now? Do you know how to make that happen? Every day we get a little older and change but that doesn't mean we should give up living where we want. There are smart ways to make a home comfortable and safe. This session will show you simple cost-effective modifications that will make it easier to continue living where you are and keep the quality of life you want.



Medicare Choices

Course #HL172

Janet Lambert

Ringling College Museum Campus

Monday: 11 am-12 pm

1 Session: June 23

Free and open to the public. Pre-registration required.

Understanding healthcare options, especially as we age, can be daunting. The landscape of Medicare, Medicaid, and supplemental plans presents various choices that can significantly impact our health and financial well-being. Bring your questions and get answers to these important topics.

- What does the IRA (inflation reduction act) mean?
- How to choose a Medicare supplement plan.
- What is the explanation of benefits that I receive monthly in the mail?
- What is the difference between Medicare and Medicaid?
- What is the difference between a Medicare supplement and a Medicare Advantage Plan?

Create Your Beautiful and Weather-Resilient Florida Landscape

Course #HL173

Tenille Dixon-Pawlus

Ringling College Museum Campus

Monday: 1-2 pm

1 Session: June 23

Fee: \$15

Transform your Florida yard into a beautiful, resilient oasis by learning how to choose and design landscapes (with an emphasis on weathering extreme conditions such as hurricanes, torrential rains, and intense heat) that thrive in the state's unique climate. You'll discover the best plant for creating low-maintenance gardens that not only beautify your outdoor space but also contribute to environmental sustainability.

Turn Complaints Into Requests: Get Your Needs Meet

Course #HL178

Gail Sussman-Miller

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday 2-3:20 pm

1 Session: June 25

Fee: \$15

How can you get your needs met? Many find it challenging to ask for what they want. This interactive session is designed to empower you to express your needs in a way that increases your chances of receiving what you desire. Many of us are people-pleasers, leading to feeling resentful and resorting to hinting and nagging. In this session, we will discuss how to identify assumptions and limiting beliefs. You will practice effective strategies for asking for what you want and transforming complaints into constructive requests with family, friends, and service providers.

What Makes A Good Cell Break Bad: The Biology of Cancer

Course #HL177

Thomas Weisman, M.D.

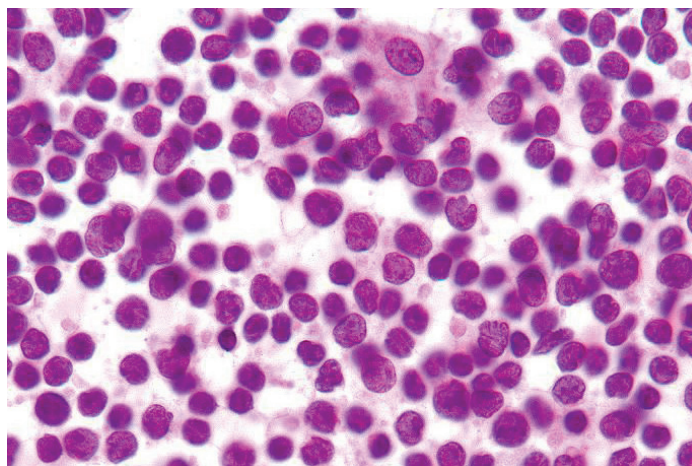
Ringling College Museum Campus

Thursday: 1-2:30 pm

1 Session: June 26

Fee: \$15

All cancers develop from a single normal cell that somehow becomes cancerous. In this 90-minute session, we will describe the biological basis for this transformation in a clear and understandable manner. We will also briefly discuss how the causes, that lead to the development of cancer, also form the basis for cancer treatments.



Medical Cannabis: History, Treatment Options, and How Florida's Medical Marijuana System Works

Course #HL174

Jeff Mara, M.D.

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 11 am-12:30 pm

1 Session: July 1

Fee: \$15

This session will include a discussion on the history of marijuana as medicine, its current uses, and the conditions it can help treat. In addition, you will get an overview of how the medical marijuana system is structured in Florida. Join us for this informative discussion. There will also be time for questions and answers.

How to Start a Daily Meditation Practice

Course #HL175

Gary Halperin

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 1-2:20 pm

1 Session: July 8

Fee: \$15

This session is designed for anyone starting or deepening a daily meditation practice, especially those who have struggled to maintain consistency with other meditation styles. You will learn a 15-minute daily meditation practice and techniques to overcome common meditation obstacles. With consistent practice, you will learn the benefits that have made meditation a cornerstone habit for countless individuals. Additionally, you will gain practical tools to navigate life's challenges with greater ease and presence.

Health and Lifestyles (cont.)

Fire Up Your Metabolism

Course #HL176

Adrienne Seitz

Ringling College Museum Campus

Thursday: 1-2 pm

1 Session: July 10

Fee: \$15

Join Adrienne Seitz, clinical dietitian, as she breaks down the science behind how our bodies use calories and the role metabolism plays in our energy levels. Learn practical tips to optimize your metabolism and make the most of the calories you consume. Whether you're looking to boost energy or improve overall health, this session will provide valuable insight for your journey.

History

The Turpentine Industry in Sarasota County

Course #HS224

Josh Goodman

Ringling College Museum Campus

Monday: 1-2 pm

1 Session: May 19

Fee: \$15

Long before Sarasota County became a hot spot for tourism and winter residency, thousands of acres of local pine trees were tapped for producing turpentine and rosin, natural compounds used in soap, paint, varnish, caulk, cleaning solutions, and even medicine. Entire communities emerged to house the workers who painstakingly extracted these forest products from the trees, and faint remnants of them can still be seen today. Join the staff of the Sarasota County History Center as we explore the history of this unique industry in our area.

Pioneering Women: The Bluestockings

Course #HS225

Bonnie Garvey Spadafora

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 10-11:20 am

1 Session: May 20

Fee: \$15

In the past, because they were destined to be wives and mothers, education for most girls usually ended at the 8th grade. During the 18th century, a group known as the Bluestockings emerged. These were intelligent (and often wealthy) English women who held gatherings to socialize, debate ideas, and discuss political reform. One member wrote a trailblazing text that focused on the limitations of being a married woman and the need for women's access to a university education. Although several books and studies have been published about the Bluestockings, their contributions and significance remain largely unknown. Learn about these women and their role in paving the way for women's equality and higher education, marking the initial steps of the modern women's movement.

How Florida Got Its Shape

Course #HS226

Josh Goodman

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 11 am-12 pm

1 Session: June 3

Fee: \$15

Of the 50 states, Florida has one of the most distinctive and widely recognized shapes. But how did that familiar shape come to exist? Obviously, the state's 1,350-mile coastline defines the majority of it, but what about its borders to the north and west? It might surprise you to learn that "Florida" has, at various times, stretched as far north as present-day Virginia and as far west as the Mississippi River. Florida's current shape was settled during a fascinating era before the region was a U.S. state. In those days, Florida was an international borderland. Join us for a brief journey into that era — illustrated with maps and records explaining exactly how and why Florida acquired its well-known shape.

The Battle of Saratoga — 1777

Course #HS227

Michael Gibson

Ringling College Museum Campus

Friday: 1-2:20 pm

1 Session: June 6

Fee: \$15

Usually counted as one of the three most important battles in U.S. history, the actions at Saratoga changed the course of the American Revolutionary War and had a dramatic impact on U.S. and European politics. It is not an exaggeration to say that Saratoga led directly to the eventual victory of the colonies in their struggle with England.

Mayhem in Manatee

Course #HS228

Krystin Miner

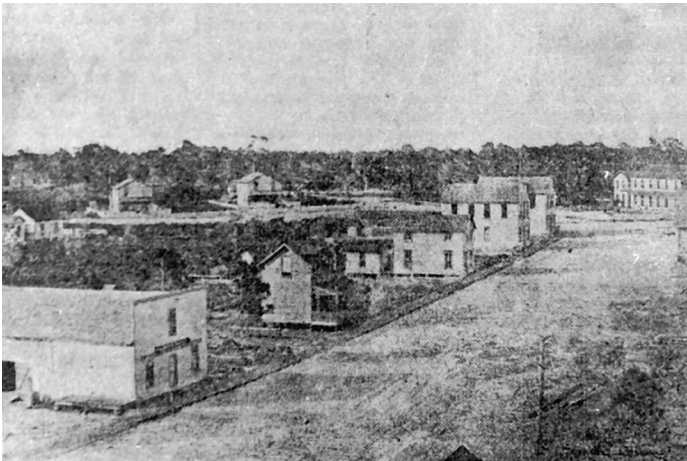
Ringling College Museum Campus

Monday: 10:30-11:30 am

1 Session: June 9

Fee: \$15

In April 1884, a group of 20 men gathered in Sarasota (then part of Manatee County). Discontent with the newcomers in the area, they hatched a plan to alleviate their plight. Over the next eight months, the Sara Sota Vigilance Committee would terrorize the small community of Sarasota and, over the next several years, garner national attention when two men were shot dead in broad daylight. Join us for an hour long talk on how the group started, who their victims were, and how the (then relatively unknown) town of Sarasota became infamous.



Myles Horton's Enduring Legacy: Educator and Activist

Course #HS230

Mary Ziegler

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 11 am-12:20 pm

1 Session: June 11

Fee: \$15

How can ordinary people achieve extraordinary things? Myles Horton, educator and activist, grappled with this question by founding Highlander Folk School in 1932, a unique learning center where adults could come together to solve problems and create meaningful change in their communities. In this session, we will explore Horton's remarkable life, his pivotal influence on the Civil Rights movement, and the enduring power of his educational vision to inspire and empower people today.

The Battle of Vicksburg — 1863

Course #HS231

Michael Gibson

Ringling College Museum Campus

Friday: 1-2:20 pm

1 Session: June 20

Fee: \$15

Gettysburg is often ranked as one of the three most important battles in American history; however, this perspective obscures the fact that the victory at Vicksburg was celebrated on the same day and was arguably more important militarily than what was happening in Pennsylvania. General Ulysses S. Grant was tasked with dividing the Confederacy in two, and his victory at Vicksburg accomplished that task on July 4, 1863.

History (cont.)

Why James Longstreet Matters: A Paragon of Unity

Course #HS233

William Simpson

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 1-2:30 pm

1 Session: June 24

Fee: \$15

Considered by many to be “Confederate Number 3” behind Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee, General James Longstreet was the first major victim of the “Lost Cause” interpretation of the Civil War and Reconstruction that dominated Southern historiography from the 1860s to the 1960s. Unfairly blamed for Lee’s defeat at Gettysburg in 1863 (not by Lee) and other Southern battlefield failures, Longstreet was reviled for decades by “Lee-cult” romantics for his acceptance of the Union victory over the Confederacy and his cooperation with the reunification measures and goals of Reconstruction. Like Ulysses S. Grant, Longstreet towers today as a figure of both historical significance and contemporary meaning. In 90 minutes, this class will provide context for understanding this amazing American life.

Women Who Helped Shape Sarasota

Course #HS195

Bonnie Garvey Spadafora

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 10-11:20 am

1 Session: June 25

Fee: \$15

You may know the names of Bertha Palmer and Mable Ringling, but how about Mary Jelks and Margaret O’Malley? In this presentation, we will discuss their accomplishments as well as many other women who have contributed to Sarasota’s development and history. Let’s get to know these fascinating women and their stories. Note: This class is being repeated from last summer.

The Battle of Midway — 1942

Course #HS232

Michael Gibson

Ringling College Museum Campus

Friday: 1-2:20 pm

1 Session: July 11

Fee: \$15

The third of what some historians call the three most important battles in U.S. history, Midway marked the first naval defeat suffered by the Japanese in 350 years. It checked their advance into the Pacific Ocean during World War II and allowed the U.S. time to mount the counteroffensive that would eventually win the war. It is an extraordinary adventure story of both military bravery and leadership cunning.



Literature

Book Discussion: Relocate, Adjust Repeat: An International Life

Course #LI166

Mahesh Patel, Debbie Mackler, and Tom Miller

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 12-1:20 pm

1 Session: June 25

Fee: \$15

Mahesh S. Patel is a unique individual. He has lived in 11 countries and visited 90 while working for UNICEF. His father was the chief economist for the modern state of India. Mahesh has written his memoir, *Relocate Adjust Repeat: An International Life* about his adventures all over the world. We will be reading excerpts, telling stories, and answering your questions. Please join us for a fascinating discussion with Mahesh, a longtime OLLI student and instructor. The book is available on Amazon-Kindle; however, it is not a requirement to attend the lecture.

Digital Bookworm: Mastering Reading Apps and Clubs

Course #LI167

Barb Bullock

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 10-11:20 am

1 Session: July 9

Fee: \$15

Discover how digital tools are transforming reading and book clubs. Learn to use popular apps to organize your reading list, get personalized recommendations, join vibrant book communities, and engage in live author chats. Through hands-on exercises, explore apps that connect readers, making it easier to share your passion for books. Whether you're a devoted reader or rekindling your love for literature, you'll gain practical skills to enhance your reading experience. Join a global movement celebrating storytelling and connect with others who share your enthusiasm. This course will provide you with the tools to navigate the evolving world of digital reading and book discussions effortlessly.

Note: A smartphone is required for this course. You should have a basic understanding of how to use apps, including downloading, navigating, and using features within the app. If you are comfortable with using mobile applications, you'll be able to enjoy and navigate this course with ease.

Music Appreciation

The King and Queen of Jazz: Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald

Course #MA197

Marilyn Carminio

Ringling College Museum Campus

Friday: 11 am -12:30 pm

1 Session: June 13

Fee: \$15

Two of the greatest musicians in the history of the 20th century come together in this dual biography of Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald. Each performing over 300 concerts a year, they shared in common dazzling artistry, an optimism for life, and a desire to make people happy through their music. Despite their impoverished origins and the oppression of the Jim Crow south, they grew to become cultural icons who continue to hold a special place in the hearts of music lovers everywhere. Jazz is a uniquely American art form "born" in New Orleans. Its originators were primarily African Americans giving it an important place in our cultural history. This lively presentation will showcase the lives and music of Louis and Ella, both individually and together.



Psychology

Can You Read Your Dog's Mind?

Course #PY162

Wendy Lyons Sunshine

Ringling College Museum Campus

Thursday: 12:30-1:50 pm

1 Session: May 29

Fee: \$15

Wouldn't it be wonderful to truly recognize how your dog is feeling — not just when it is happy, but also when it is scared or frustrated? This session introduces the basics of dog body language and explains how we can miss their messages, even when we assume we understand them. We'll explore the subtle signals our canine companions send, and as well as the behaviors that are often misunderstood.



Science

How Memory Works

Course #SI137

Alan Grindal

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 10-11:20 am

1 Session: May 21

Fee: \$15

Without memory, we would all be forced to live only in the present. Learning could not occur. Memory depends on the process of Long-Term Potentiation (LTP). This lecture will explore the biological basis of LTP and will examine the types, phases, and modifications of memory.

The Benefits of Bioactive Natural Products from Mesophotic and Deep-sea Micro-organisms

Course #SI138

Kirstie Tandberg Francis

Ringling College Museum Campus

Monday: 1-2:30 pm

1 Session: July 7

Fee: \$15

Our oceans are home to some of the most productive and biologically diverse ecosystems in the world. This biodiversity leads to incredible chemical diversity, and the intense competition for resources observed in marine ecosystems promotes the evolution of secondary metabolites, or "marine natural products." The objective of the Francis lab is to discover bioactive natural products from marine micro-organisms that have potential therapeutic or commercial applications. To achieve this, we sample unique marine environments. This allows us to generate a library of microbial extracts that are screened for various bioactivities, including antibacterial and antifungal activity, cancer cell cytotoxicity, and harmful algal bloom algicide activity. Join us to learn more about this exciting research.

Technology

Don't Be a Victim: How to Avoid Internet Scams

Course #TC140

Colleen Sherman

Ringling College Museum Campus

Wednesday: 1-2:20 pm

1 Session: June 18

Fee: \$15

In this online world, internet scams are everywhere. We all know someone who has fallen victim to these invasive, dangerous scams. This presentation will help you sniff out, identify, and avoid these dangerous threats to you, the safety of your information, and your privacy.

What is AI and What Will it Do to Humans?

Course #TC141

Thomas P. Vartanian

Ringling College Museum Campus

Tuesday: 1-2:30 pm

1 Session: July 8

Fee: \$15

This class will focus on the benefits of AI and how it will change our lives forever. Everything from traffic control to healthcare services can improve and be cheaper. But the class will also probe the threats that unregulated AI can pose and how those threats can be avoided or controlled as biological and non-biological intelligence merge.

Pre-registration required.

Cheese 101 Class: Artisan Cheese Company

Event #EV104

Meeting location: Artisan Cheese Company
550 N. Central Ave., Sarasota 34236

Friday: 6-7:30 pm
June 13

Fee: \$37.50 per person.
OLLI Gold or Silver membership required.
Limited availability. No on-site registration.

Cheese 101 promises to be a delightful and informative experience for all cheese lovers. Join us at the Artisan Cheese Company where you will sample eight different cheeses, ranging from fresh to blue cheeses, accompanied by two (3 oz.) wine pairings that complement the flavors of the cheese. In addition to tasting, you'll learn about the science of milk and enjoy entertaining stories from cheesemakers. Get ready, get set...say, cheese!

Note: Guests are responsible for other wine and/or beverages not included in the course fee.

Everyday AI: From Brainstorming to Smarter Living

Event #EV103

Hosts: Desh Bagley and Elizabeth Groulx
Meeting location: SCF Advanced Technology Center/
IT/ Coding Academy
5840 26th St. W., Bradenton 34207

Monday: 10 am-12 pm
June 16

Fee: \$15 per person.
OLLI Gold or Silver membership required.
Limited availability. No on-site registration.

Think AI is just for techies? Think again! In this hands-on workshop, you'll explore how artificial intelligence can simplify your everyday life — from planning the perfect vacation to whipping up a gourmet meal with what's in your fridge and even organizing your daily to-do list. We'll show you how to create a friendly AI sidekick to carry with you on your mobile device. No prior experience needed — just curiosity and a sense of humor. Come ready to play, plan, and be amazed at how easy it is to put AI to work for you.

Clear for Takeoff: Drone Discovery and the Future of Flight

Event #EV106

Hosts: Desh Bagley and Elizabeth Groulx
Meeting location: SCF Advanced Technology Center/
IT/ Coding Academy
5840 26th St. W., Bradenton 34207

Friday: 10 am-12 pm
June 20

Fee: \$15 per person.
OLLI Gold or Silver membership required.
Limited availability. No on-site registration.

Ever dreamed of piloting your own aircraft? This is your chance to take to the skies — well, almost. In this lively, hands-on session, you'll get an up-close look at drone technology and how it's transforming everything from disaster response to agriculture and filmmaking. Learn the basics of drone flight, explore emerging career pathways, and then head outside to fly one yourself. We'll cover FAA safety tips, real-world use cases, and let you experience the thrill of flight with our training drones. Come ready to learn, launch, and look at the world from a whole new angle.



Desh Bagley is the Executive Director of the Advanced Technology Center at State College of Florida (SCF). She holds a master's degree in Information Technology Management from Western Governors University and is known for her entrepreneurial

spirit. Desh joined SCF in 2021 to launch the Coding Academy and has continued to expand innovative programming in emerging technologies, workforce education, and industry certifications.



Elizabeth Groulx is the K-12 STEM and Technology Lab Coordinator at State College of Florida. She oversees youth STEM programs and manages hands-on technology experiences in the Emerging Technology Lab. Passionate about STEM engagement for the young and young

at heart, Elizabeth works to inspire curiosity, creativity, and confidence in learners of all ages through innovative tools and activities.

On the Frontline Against Hunger: All Faiths Food Bank

Event #EV105

Meeting location: All Faiths Food Bank
8171 Blaikie Ct., Sarasota, 34240

Thursday: 9-11 am
June 26

Free to Gold and Silver Members and the General Public.

Food insecurity is a major issue affecting our neighbors in Sarasota and all over the country. All Faiths Food Bank is on the front lines of the fight against hunger in our community. What does it take to fill our neighbors' empty stomachs? Find out when you visit the All Faiths Food Bank headquarters and get hands-on experience providing for our neighbors. You will tour the 33,000-square-foot warehouse, meet the people who work there, and see this complex distribution system. Then you'll have a chance to assemble the snack packages that go into the backpacks of hungry children in Sarasota and DeSoto counties. This is an opportunity to learn about a pressing problem and take part in the solution.

Note: Guests must wear close-toed shoes, comfortable clothing, and be able to walk and stand for approximately two hours.

OLLI Summer Games: A Play Date for Adults

Event #EV107

Ringling College Museum Campus

Monday: 9:30 am-4 pm
June 30

Checkers: 9:30-11 am

Chess: 9:30-11 am

Scrabble: 12:30-1:30 pm

Bingo: 1-2:15 pm

Musical Trivia: 2:30-4 pm with
special guest host Valerie di Lorenzo

\$3 per person/each game: Checker, Chess, and Scrabble.

\$5 per person/each game: Bingo and Trivia

Limited seating. Light refreshments provided.

Are you tired of the same old summer routine? Looking for a cool way to spend a hot summer day? The OLLI Summer Games is your ticket to a day of fun, laughter, and friendly competition. Games include classics like chess, checkers, Scrabble, Bingo, and trivia. Whether you're a checkers champ, a trivia titan, a word wizard, or just want to flex your mental muscles, we invite you to come out, play, and connect with others. All skill levels welcome. Bring a friend or roll in solo – everyone's invited. Ready. Set. Game on!

Note: All game boards and game material provided. Chess and checker players may bring their own sets.

*Minorities in Shark Sciences (MISS) Experience

SE107

**Meeting location: 1012 Centennial Park Boat Ramp
1059 N. Tamiami Trail, 34236**

Friday: 10-11:30 am
(Please arrive by 9:30 am for a 10 am departure)

May 30

Fee: \$30 per person.

OLLI Gold or Silver Members only.

All trips are weather-permitting.

Join members of the MISS (Minorities in Shark Sciences) team for a day of shark research. Guests will have an opportunity to participate in various field-based skills such as identifying sharks, measuring their size, taking a muscle biopsy, observing a long-line deployment, and inserting an identification tag for future research. In addition, you will learn about MISS research and witness firsthand how these scientists are changing the face of shark science. Don't miss this extraordinary adventure!

Notes: Bring water, sunscreen, hat, and motion sickness medication, if needed. The boat does not have a restroom. Participants must sign a waiver. To review the waiver before registering, go to www.OLLlatRinglingCollege.org Under Program click Tours.



CreArte Latino: The Place for Cultural Exchange

SE106

Host: Carolina Franco

Meeting Location: 1913 Northgate Blvd., 34234

Tuesday: 10-11:30 am
June 10

Fee: \$10 per person.

OLLI Gold and Silver Members and the General Public.

Pre-registration required. No on-site registration.

Join us on a tour of CreArte Latino Cultural Center's new space. Find out how the project started, the programs offered at the center, the importance of their mission, and future plans. Plus, you learn how a show is developed from start to finish. The tour will conclude with a fun, dynamic, and bilingual activity that represents the importance of cultural exchange in our region.

Carolina Franco was born in Bogotá, Colombia where she attended an acting program at Teatro Barajas. At age 17, she moved to the United States. She is a performing artist, theatre teacher, and director who believes in the importance of utilizing the arts as a connecting tool. In 2018, Carolina became the President and Artistic Director of CreArte Latino Cultural Center. Her love of cultural exchange is present in this organization to cultivate communication and understanding.



The Roots of Black Music in America featuring Karlus Trapp

SE108

Ringling College Museum Campus
1001 S. Tamiami Trail, 34236

Friday: 1-2:30 pm
June 13

Fee: \$15 per person.

OLLI Gold and Silver Members and the General Public.

Producer, songwriter, teacher, and troubadour Karlus Trapp presents his educational and entertaining presentation, "The Roots of Black Music in America." It is a 100-year journey back through time and offers a fresh perspective through song, story, and history to learn about the music of America's black musical giants. Join us on this enlightening journey.

Karlus Trapp is a songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, educator, and creator of the presentation, "The Roots of Black Music." The former bass player with the New Modern English has been spreading joy through his music with his solo and band performances in and around and beyond the northeast for years as well as teaching guitar, ukulele, bass, and piano and is now doing the same in Sarasota.

From Memoir to Documentary The Journey of Telling the Family Secret of Being the Daughter of Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong and Lucille "Sweets" Preston

SE109

Sharon Preston-Folta

Ringling College Museum Campus

Friday: 2-3:30 pm

1 Session: June 27

Fee: \$15

Join us for a screening of the Emmy award-winning documentary *Little Satchmo* and hear from the author and executive producer, Sharon Preston-Folta about the personal journey that led her to tell her story to the world. *Little Satchmo* explores the life of the daughter of an American icon, Louis Armstrong, and their secret family life. It's an extraordinary tale of identity, loss, and a daughter's ultimate search for truth and her father's love. There will be a question and answer session after the screening.



Sharon Preston-Folta retired from a 30-plus year career in advertising sales and marketing, predominantly as an account executive in radio. In 2012, Sharon became a published author with her memoir *Living in the Shadow of my Father, Louis Daniel Armstrong*,

which made public the private family life of Louis Armstrong, Lucille "Sweets" Preston, his mistress for 21 years, and their child, Sharon. In 2020, she narrated and became the executive producer of the documentary *Little Satchmo*, based on her memoir.

In addition to her bachelor's degree from Iona University, she earned two professional degrees in the culinary arts: Culinary chef and Culinary Management. Sharon is a volunteer programmer on the Sarasota community radio station, WSLR 96.5LP FM. She serves on the boards of Truly Valued, a youth mentoring organization, and Suncoast Black Arts Collaborative.



Newtown Alive Tour

Tour #TR101

**Departure Site: Ringling College Museum Campus
1001 S. Tamiami Trail, 34236**

Tuesday: 10 am-12 pm
May 27 (Please arrive by 9:45 am for a 10 am departure.)
Fee: \$30 per person.
OLLI Gold or Silver membership required.
Limited seating. Pre-registration required.
No on-site registration.

Join us for a guided, interactive tour showcasing the history of Sarasota's earliest African-American pioneers and one of its oldest neighborhoods. Travel the same route they took to integrate the world's most beautiful beaches. Meet local trailblazers and enjoy music and songs. An uplifting journey awaits you!

Note: This tour takes place on an air-conditioned bus.

Sarasota City Sightseeing

Tour #TR118

**Departure Site: Discover Sarasota Tours
1826 4th St., 34236**

Thursday: 10-11:30 am
May 29 (Please arrive by 9:45 am for a 10 am departure.)
Fee: \$30 per person.
OLLI Gold or Silver membership required.
Limited seating. Pre-registration required.
No on-site registration.

On this air-conditioned 90-minute trolley tour, meander through Sarasota's historic downtown neighborhoods of Gillespie Park, Burns Court, Indian Beach, and the Rosemary Design District while visiting historic spots and hearing stories about the Ringling family, Bertha Palmer, John Hamilton Gillespie, and many more founders and influencers. You will learn about the many attractions and things to do as well as restaurants and shopping. See our world-class artistic and cultural organizations: The Ringling Museum, Ringling College of Art and Design, Asolo Theater, Van Wezel Performing Arts Center, Selby Gardens, Sarasota Opera House, Art Center Sarasota, and Sarasota Symphony Orchestra.



Save Our Seabirds

Tour #TR119

**Guided tour with Amber Paffenroth
Meeting location: Save Our Seabirds
1708 Ken Thompson Parkway, 34236**

Monday: 10 am-12 pm
June 2

Free to OLLI Gold and Silver members and the General Public. Suggested donation \$5 paid on-site.

Learn about native Florida birds at Save Our Seabirds. This guided tour takes you through the Wild Bird Learning Center, a living museum where rescued birds become ambassadors for avian conservation. As a Gold-Certified Ethical Ecotourism site, Save our Seabirds is committed to sustainability and education. Join tour guide Amber Paffenroth, for an unforgettable journey into the lives of Florida's wild birds and discover the importance of protecting these remarkable creatures.

Sarasota Art Museum Tour

Tour #TR121

**Judy Levine
Ringling College Museum Campus**

Tuesday: 11 am-12 pm
June 17

Free: OLLI Gold and Silver Members only.
Pre-registration required.

There's a lot to see at the Sarasota Art Museum, and during this guided tour you will have an opportunity to explore new exhibitions from Jillian Mayer: *Slumpies; Personal to Political: Celebrating the African American Artists of Paulson Fontaine Press*; and Chris Friday: *Where We Never Grow Old*. We invite you to enjoy the art of learning.



Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe

Tour #TR120
Host: Nate Jacobs, Founder and Artistic Director WBTT
Meeting location: Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe
1012 N. Orange Ave., Sarasota. 34236

Tuesday: 10-11:30 am
June 24
Fee: \$20 per person.
OLLI Gold or Silver membership required.
Pre-registration required. No on-site registration.

Join us for a tour and discussion at the Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe (WBTT), the only Black theatre on Florida's west coast. WBTT is proud to celebrate its 25th year of providing exciting year-round entertainment on its performing arts campus.

This campus tour will take place during WBTT's "Stage of Discovery" summer theatre intensive program for youth ages 11 to 18. You will have the opportunity to catch a glimpse of students as they rehearse. Additionally, you'll hear from Nate Jacobs, the founder of WBTT, who will share the theatre's history and provide insights into its upcoming shows and programs.

Nate Jacobs is the founder and artistic director of Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe. A graduate of Florida A&M University, Nate has written, composed, directed, and performed in many shows as an actor, singer, dancer, and comedian. He trains and mentors youth in the performing arts through programs such as Stage of Discovery, WBTT's summer musical theatre intensive program. Nate has received many awards locally and nationally for his work in the theatre.



The Bishop Museum of Science and Nature

Tour #TR122
Meeting location: 201 10th St. W., Bradenton, 34205

Friday: 1-3 pm
June 27
Fee: \$10 per person.
OLLI Gold or Silver membership required.
Pre-registration required. No on-site registration.

Here's an opportunity to indulge your love of science and nature. Our summer adventure leads us to Bradenton for a guided tour of The Bishop Museum of Science and Nature. Explore fascinating exhibits featuring unique specimens, historic artifacts, and lifelike dioramas of native wildlife and early peoples. From ancient fossils to modern science, this Museum offers a captivating journey through time. Save the date, and join us for the joy of learning!

Making a Gift

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Ringling College enriches the lives of adults in Sarasota and Manatee counties by providing affordable and outstanding educational programs and social interactions that cover a broad spectrum of topics rich in intellectual stimulation, often interactive in scope, and worthy of academic consideration.

A gift to OLLI will expand meaningful and inspiring classes, timely topics, speaker series, travel courses, and lectures that broaden diverse offerings and inspire dialogue among our learning community.



Thank You to Our Donors

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Ringling College is grateful to have generous, consistent donors. It is their extra financial support that allows us to offer an affordable and outstanding program. Donations are always appreciated. The following honor roll of donors represents gifts given between June 1, 2023-May 31, 2024.

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A special thank you to our Gold Members for their generous support through their membership this year. If we inadvertently overlooked your name, please accept our apologies and contact us to make the correction.

OLLI instructors possess a wide range of backgrounds, interests, and experiences. These biographies are small snapshots showcasing the lives and careers of these valued team members.

Roxanne Baker has a master's degree in counseling from SUNY Brockport (NY) with years of therapeutic experience with both adults and teens. Since retiring to Sarasota, she has studied life fulfillment and longevity literature. **(p. 20)**

Cheryl Brandi is a Whole Health Educator™ (WHE) and adult nurse practitioner (NP) with years of experience in managing chronic diseases and providing health education. She holds a doctorate in nursing science (University of San Diego), a post-master certificate as a nurse practitioner (University of South Florida) a diploma (WHE) from the National Institute of Whole Health, and certification as a Holistic Stress Management Instructor. **(p. 21)**

Barb Bullock has been a passionate arts leader and expert with over 30 years of marketing, communications, fundraising, and special event management experience in both the nonprofit and private sectors. Barb relocated to Sarasota nine years ago to live in an arts-centric community. She is an avid reader and member of several book clubs and seeks out author talks. **(p. 27)**

Marilyn Carminio has been lecturing since 2013 on subjects ranging from history, cultural history, biography, and the arts. She began her career as a New York City teacher and went on to work in women's magazines, being privileged to work with Helen Gurley Brown, the noted editor of *Cosmopolitan*. Marilyn has spoken in university continuing education programs, libraries, historical societies, and residential communities. Her goal is to create high quality presentations through research, use of technology, and an engaging presentation style. **(p. 27)**

Gail Condrick is an author, teacher, and certified Caroline Myss archetypal consultant. She frequently speaks on topics of creativity, spirituality, and empowerment. For 25 years, Gail led an award-winning staff creating TV programming in Fairfax, VA. She is a University of South Florida graduate and the author of *Walking the Grove* and online classes "Your Destiny is in Your Closet," "Art of Observation," and "Release Your Inner Archetype" series. **(p. 20)**

Jim Curulla, Detective Grade 1, has been with the Bradenton Police Department since 2001. Detective Curulla has been a detective for over 22 years and has investigated all types of crimes, including 11 years as the department's homicide detective. He is currently assigned to the Elder Fraud Unit, where he is responsible for investigating financial crimes involving elderly victims. **(p. 19)**

Nancy Cusack is a visual artist formally trained in psychology and studio art. Nancy is Professor Emerita at Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt) in Boston. She has a passion for the arts and cultures of Latin America and has established studio art programs in Oaxaca and Puebla Mexico. She continues engaging in distinctive programs, throughout Mexico, Costa Rica, and Cuba and maintains a professional practice in drawing and printmaking at her downtown Sarasota studio. **(p. 15)**

Barbara Feldman is a professor of sociology at New College of Florida. She has been doing the *New York Times* crossword puzzle everyday for 40 years. She got her love of puzzles from her father. Barbara enjoys sharing her love of puzzling with others and has seen students fall in love with this lifelong hobby. **(p. 17)**

Andrew Ford, a seasoned antique and fine art acquisitions expert, owns and operates Sarasota Estate Auction and Sarasota Trading Company with his wife, Lathrop Ford, in the Burns Court historic district. **(p. 15)**

Kirstie Tandberg Francis completed her doctorate in Integrative Biology at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute (FL) where her research focused on identifying marine natural products which reduced the levels of a protein target in cancer cells. In her current position as postdoctoral research fellow at Mote Marine Laboratory, she is working to develop a research program in natural product drug discovery from marine micro-organisms. **(p. 28)**

Michael Gibson worked as a China analyst for the U.S. government (CIA and Department of Defense) for over 30 years. He was an adjunct professor of Chinese history at American and George Washington Universities (D.C.) Michael has a doctorate in Modern East Asian history and has lived and served in multiple East Asian locales. He is the principal author of "China: U.S. Policy Since 1945" (Congressional Quarterly, 1980), as well as numerous other articles. **(pp. 25,26)**

Josh Goodman is manager of the Sarasota County History Center, which holds an extensive collection of historical artifacts, archival records, and other resources documenting the history and culture of the county. Dr. Goodman is a sixth-generation Floridian, educated at Florida State University in Tallahassee and Tulane University in New Orleans. Before taking the helm at the History Center, Josh spent six years as the Archives Historian at the State Archives of Florida, and he has also worked for the National World War II Museum in New Orleans. He has authored two books and a variety of articles on Florida history topics. **(p. 24)**

Alan Grindal is a neurologist, a consultant at the Memory Disorder Clinic at Sarasota Memorial Hospital, and is on the clinical faculty of Florida State University Medical School. He has taught numerous courses at OLLI at Ringling College on brain science and history. **(p. 28)**

Jay Handelman is the arts editor and theater critic of the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*, where he has been covering news and the arts scene since 1984. **(p. 16)**

Gary Halperin is a Professional-level Certified Yoga and Meditation Teacher who has been teaching for over 30 years. Through his books and workshops, he has taught thousands of people his Relaxation Meditation technique. He is the author of *Feel Better Now: Meditation for Stress Reduction and Relaxation and Meditate, Relax, Repeat: Start a Daily Meditation Practice*. You can connect with Gary at his website www.MeditateRelaxRepeat.com **(p. 23)**

Steve Kodad is a Feng Shui professional practitioner who has achieved the highest designation with the International Feng Shui Guild, Red Ribbon. He is the owner of the Intrinsic School of Feng Shui and has trained many students worldwide in Feng Shui principles. He used Feng Shui as a Realtor and has written three books on this topic. Steve was featured on PBS and lives in Bradenton. **(p. 21)**

Janet Lambert is an Independent Licensed Insurance Agent and owner of Janet Lambert's Insurance, LLC. She is a Florida native, born in Tampa. She understands the importance of health insurance and has a passion to educate individuals about Medicare and Medicaid. Janet is a registered dental hygienist, and holds an associate in science degree for dental hygiene. She enjoys arts and crafts, Bible studies, gardening, and the beach. **(p. 21)**

Judith Levine has photographed the art of Tibet, West Africa, Egypt, and Indonesia. She creates limited-edition jewelry and owns Phoenix Art Workshops. Judith has a bachelor's degree in art and art education and a master's degree in visual arts from Montclair State University (NJ), where she was on the art education faculty. **(p. 34)**

David Lionel has a Bachelor of Arts from Columbia University (NY) and a Master of Arts from the University of California, Berkeley in English. David was a doctoral candidate in Television at the University of Texas Austin and Holistic Health Education at the University for Humanistic Studies (CA). During his long career covering social movements as an advocacy video producer and editor, he has created 40 programs. David has four videos: "Heroes for Our Time," "Sustainable Community," "Global Democracy," and "Holistic Self-Care." **(p. 16)**

Debbie Mackler is a registered nurse/case manager. Her love of literature, especially short stories, offered a distraction from the career stresses of health care. She has facilitated many book clubs and led multiple reading programs in North Carolina. She is grateful for her twin, Donna, who, as a library supervisor, influenced and encouraged her to love books. Debbie is passionate about continuing that legacy with and for other enthusiasts. **(p. 27)**

Jeff Mara graduated from the Indiana University Medical School in 1993. He completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at the University of Illinois Peoria in 1996. Dr. Mara practiced in the Emergency Department of an urban hospital in Indianapolis for almost 20 years before moving to Sarasota in 2015. He became inspired to learn more about marijuana after his wife, who is a nurse, became a medical marijuana patient in 2017, and he saw first-hand how effective it was. In 2018, he and his wife founded MaraCare Solutions, a small practice devoted to educating patients on how to use medical marijuana in the most effective way possible. **(p. 23)**

Deana McNeal is an investigator with the Bradenton Police Department. She has a total of nine years of experience as a law enforcement officer, including four years with the Bradenton Police Department and five years with the Brevard County Sheriff's Office. Since 2017, McNeal has been conducting fraud investigations, and she is currently part of the Elder Fraud Unit. **(p. 19)**

Gail Sussman-Miller, women's personal leadership coach, empowers women to discover and leverage hidden strengths, confidently express their true desires and live an authentic life of freedom. Known for her rare intuitive insights and candid, loving guidance, Gail helps people master mindset shifts leading to a life filled with joy and purpose. Her practical wisdom makes thriving and fulfilling your soul's desires truly possible. www.inspiredchoice.com (p. 21)

Thomas Miller is a retired business owner, educator, and consultant. He worked in the menswear industry for more than 40 years in New York state. Since becoming part of OLLI, Tom has rediscovered his love of literature and particularly the short-story form. Tom and his wife are year-round residents of Sarasota. (p. 27)

Krystin Miner holds a bachelor's degree in history and a master's in liberal arts with a history focus from the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg. She has been with the Historical Resource Department for over 10 years and enjoys the unique stories that different facets of Manatee County's history can tell. She can trace her Florida roots back before 1820 and views historical and genealogical research as one big puzzle. (p. 25)

Sandra Moulin, a Michigan native, earned her bachelor's degree in French and her master of arts in Humanities. She has performed her unique one-woman show locally for over 10 years. Since retiring from a 35-year teaching career in 2005, she has continued to teach another 10 years for Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Ringling College and Temple Beth Israel Education Center. Sandra is married and has 10 grandchildren. (p. 18)

Amber Paffenroth has an associate of science degree in zoo animal technology from Santa Fe College and has 10 years of experience working with animals, including at ZooTampa at Lowry Park. Passionate about wildlife and education, she is committed to growing our Wild Bird Learning Center into a top-tier facility for educating the public about conservation. Her expertise helps connect people with the world of wild birds, fostering a deeper understanding of the importance of protecting them. (p. 34)

Mahesh Patel is a photographer, world traveler, consultant, and author. His publications range from using camels to carry vaccines across the desert in North Africa to analyzing child poverty in Asia to relieving pain with acupuncture. He is retired in Sarasota with his wife, a beautiful professional opera singer, and his puppy who is a well-known expert on napping and licking. (p. 27)

Tenille Dixon-Pawlus is a plant collector, butterfly chaser, lover of flora and fauna, and has a passion for helping others create their own green oasis. She's also a garden consultant, a certified landscape designer from Emory University (GA), a container gardener, teacher, and plant seller in Sarasota with a registered Florida nursery license, Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program Certified Professional, GI-BMP Certified, and FNGLA Certified Horticulture Professional. (p. 27)

Lynda Rizzio is a retired educator, with a passion for film, especially the "Golden Age" of Hollywood. She worked at the American Film Institute (AFI) in the early '80s, and it was there that she realized the importance of film restoration, especially as it pertained to documenting history. As a teacher, she has led film study groups, and has used film as an important visual tool and as a springboard for discussion. (p. 17)

Jeffrey Ryder is a two-time Emmy Award-winning writer for his work on "Guiding Light." Jeffrey was also vice president of daytime programming, director of mini-series, and director of casting at NBC. He recently retired after 20 years as a professor and associate dean at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia (PA). (pp. 16, 18)

John Scibak has a doctorate in experimental psychology and has held academic positions at Indiana University, University of Massachusetts, and Westfield State University (MA). Despite having never taken a political science course, John ran mid-career for elective office and served 16 years in the Massachusetts legislature prior to retiring in Sarasota. (pp. 19, 20)

Adrienne Seitz is a registered dietitian at Sarasota Memorial Hospital. Adrienne received her master of science degree and completed her dietetic internship at Florida State University, equipping her with a strong clinical foundation in medical nutrition therapy. Adrienne's areas of expertise include nutritional assessment, individualized care plans, and managing complex dietary needs. Adrienne is committed to helping individuals achieve their health goals through meaningful dietary changes that can reduce the risk of chronic disease. (p. 24)

Colleen Sherman is a certified information systems security professional (CISSP), having served in the United States Marine Corps and in the private sector, working extensively in cybersecurity and related fields. (pp. 17, 18, 29)

Jeff Sherman is a graduate of the improv training program at Florida Studio Theater in Sarasota. He and his wife, Colleen, have performed at numerous improv and comedy festivals around Florida, and regularly host and perform at The Commodore comedy club in Ybor City. (pp. 17, 18)

William "Bill" Simpson is a lifelong student of American history and politics. Bill has worked in national security, family services, poverty and mass incarceration, and nonprofit management. For the past two decades, he has led two Maryland nonprofits in executive capacities. Bill is a featured guest speaker and panelist on inner-city issues, welfare reform, prisoner re-entry, and workforce development. He has taught at OLLI on the life and times of Ulysses S. Grant. (p. 26)

Marie-Agnès Sourieau is professor emerita at Fairfield University (CT). She is a specialist in 19th and 20th century French and Francophone literature and culture. She has published extensively and is presently an assistant editor of *The French Review*. (p. 15)

Bonnie Garvey Spadafora graduated from St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing, Pittsburgh, PA and earned a bachelor's degree in nursing and a master's in public health from the University of South Florida. She spent 15 years at Sarasota Memorial Hospital as a charge nurse in neuroscience and rehabilitation and as a clinical instructor. Before retirement, she was on the nursing faculty at Manatee Community College (now State College of Florida). (pp. 24, 26)

Wendy Lyons Sunshine is author of *Tender Paws: Seeing Our Dogs Through a Parenting Lens*, winner of the Dog Writers Association of America's Maxwell Medallion. Wendy writes about the human-dog connection for *The Wall Street Journal* and *PsychologyToday.com*, and she has co-authored two parenting books, including bestseller *The Connected Child: Bring Hope and Healing to Your Adoptive Family*. Reach her online at wendylsunshine.com. (p. 28)

Sandra Tapfumaneyi has served as the Chief of Emergency Management for Sarasota County since January 2024. She led the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) through three historic hurricanes in 2024, including Hurricane Milton which made landfall in Sarasota County. Sandra previously served as Chief of Lee County Emergency Management and was recognized as the Chad Reed Emergency Management Professional of the Year by the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association in 2023. (p. 19)

Thomas P. Vartanian is a financial services expert, futurist, and technology leader who currently is the Executive Director of the Financial Technology & Cybersecurity Center. Vartanian served in the Reagan Administration as General Counsel of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and the FSLIC where he authorized more than 1,400 receiverships, conservatorships, and mergers of failed or failing institutions in the S&L crisis. He has represented parties in 30 of the country's largest financial institutions' collapses, and advised on many new technological advances in the banking and securities fields. (pp. 20, 29)

Mike Weddle has a medical degree from the University of Miami and a doctorate in engineering from the University of Michigan. He completed his medical residency at the George Washington and Georgetown University Hospitals in Washington, D.C. Mike is a board member of the Manatee ASALH (Association for the Study of African American Life and History). He is a previous NAACP Branch Education Chair (Maryland) and has taught many adult education college-level courses. (p. 19)

Thomas "Tom" Weisman practiced primary care internal medicine for 22 years in Cleveland and led two large group practices as well as a Physician-Hospital Organization. He then worked 10 years with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield where his roles included Medical Director for Anthem in Ohio and Chief Medical Officer for American Imaging Management. Tom joined Genentech where he provided clinical and scientific support for all Genentech products to National Health Insurers and Pharmacy Benefit Managers. Tom has a bachelor's degree from Yale University; a master of science in Health Science Education, a master of science in Systems and Control Engineering, and a medical degree all from Case Western Reserve University (OH), and an MBA from the University of Massachusetts. (p. 23)

Elena Vizvary, master of science, is a licensed occupational therapist with over 50 years of experience. She chairs the Universal Design Coalition and is an event coordinator for the AARP Car-Fit program. Elena is a past-president of the Florida Occupational Therapy Association. (p. 22)

Mary Ziegler has a passion for adult learning and change across the lifespan. She is a retired professor from the University of Tennessee. Her doctorate from Columbia University is in adult and continuing education and her master's degree from the University of South Florida is in counseling. She is a certified instructor for Guided Autobiography from the Birren Center for Autobiographical Studies at the University of Southern California. (p. 25)



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