

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

*Annual Report*

2021-2022

## MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**T**HIS PAST YEAR WAS ONE OF TRANSITION FOR OLLI AT DU – as we took baby steps to emerge from the social isolation caused by the pandemic, we also bid farewell to two of our incredible staff. In September, Barbe Ratcliffe, our Executive Director, retired to Arizona and Faye Hastings, Barbe’s assistant, retired to Texas. Their loss was felt by all! We then had one Executive Director come onboard only having to leave shortly for health reasons. Dara Hughes (formerly OLLI West Manager) stepped in as Interim Executive Director until a search could be conducted in early April of 2022 for a permanent replacement. I am grateful to be chosen from among a strong group of candidates to lead this wonderful lifelong learning organization. I have been an OLLI member for ten years, a Site Manager of the OLLI-on-Campus program for four years, and I served on the OLLI Vision 2025 Committee. I look forward to working with each of our “soon to be seven” campuses as we are planning the opening of OLLI DU at Regis in September. OLLI at DU continues to thrive because of its volunteers and the members’ thirst for lifelong learning. We are planning a robust program of both in-person and online courses and webinars for next year and look forward to another dynamic and successful OLLI at DU year.

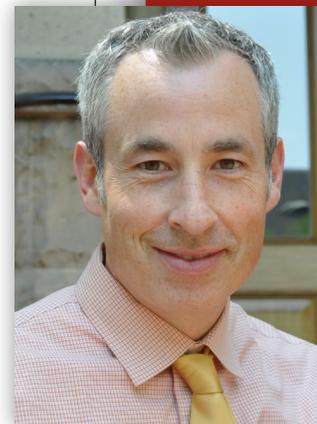
JACQUELINE WYANT  
OLLI AT DU

*“I recently had the opportunity and privilege to attend the first in a series of planning retreats designed to address the immediate and longer-term strategic needs of OLLI at DU. Led by our new executive director, Jacqueline Wyant, the OLLI at DU site teams and other staff began the planning process by engaging in a series of open and honest discussions about where OLLI at DU was prior to the onset of the COVID pandemic, the journey we all took during the depths of the pandemic, where we are now, and where we want to be in the next several years.*

*Indeed, this is a critical time for all OLLIs within the national network, and OLLI at DU is no exception. The decisions that we make now will help set the course for OLLI at DU in order to sustain and amplify the impact we can have on our communities. Fortunately, we continue to be an incredibly healthy organization and the core of our strength springs from the resilience of our members and the dedication of the leadership team.*

*As we progressed through the conversations during the planning session, I was incredibly impressed and heartened that the group was asking all of the right questions and placing the needs of the current and future OLLI at DU members at the center of our conversations. I have the utmost confidence that this leadership group will help our community to build on our historic strengths, incorporate learnings from the pandemic, and assess changing membership needs to craft the next version of OLLI at DU that will take us into an even more prosperous future. I have no doubt that OLLI at DU will continue to be one of the premier OLLIs and serve as a model for others across the country.*”

MICHAEL MCGUIRE, DEAN  
University College at the University of Denver





at the University of Denver

## THE BERNARD OSHER FOUNDATION

THE BERNARD OSHER FOUNDATION, HEADQUARTERED IN SAN FRANCISCO, was started in 1977 by Bernard Osher, a respected businessman and community leader. The Foundation seeks to improve quality of life through support for higher education. OLLI at DU is one of The Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes found on the campuses of 125 colleges and universities from Maine to Hawaii and Alaska. Each provides a distinctive array of non-credit courses and activities specifically developed for seasoned adults aged 50 or older who are interested in learning for the joy of learning. The Foundation also provides support to the National Resource Center for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes at Northwestern University.



*Bernard & Barbro Osher*

In the fall of 2000, the Foundation began to consider programs targeted toward more mature students not necessarily well served by standard continuing education curricula. Courses often attract students of all ages eager to accumulate units to complete degrees or to acquire specific job skills. By contrast, the interest of many older adults, especially those who have retired, is in learning for the joy of learning--without examinations or grades--and keeping in touch with a larger world.

Beginning in the fall of 2002, the Foundation issued Requests for Proposals to campuses in the California State University and University of California systems. Grants of \$100,000 were made on the understanding that once a lifelong learning institute was launched, the Foundation would consider renewal of the grant for two or more years with a view to providing an endowment gift of no less than \$1 million if the institute was able to demonstrate potential for success and sustainability.

The University of Denver applied and was awarded three grants each of \$100,000 beginning in January 2007 - and OLLI at DU became a reality. With the first grant, OLLI West opened in September, 2007 with 97 members. The second grant was awarded in 2008 and was dedicated to opening OLLI South. As the program achieved early success in the first two years, Osher proceeded to grant OLLI at DU the first \$1 million endowment one year ahead of schedule.

The Foundation has not been highly prescriptive in the type of lifelong learning program it has chosen to support. While one finds considerable variation

among the Osher Institutes, funded programs share a common set of standards to encourage excellence and promote long-term sustainability and success:

- A diverse repertoire of intellectually stimulating, non-credit courses and educational activities, specifically designed for people who are 50 years of age or older;
- Participants are offered membership and significant opportunities for volunteer engagement and leadership;
- Strong support from the host institution (including a commitment to provide space or cause space to be provided for program operations); and
- A sound and stable organizational structure.

Currently, there are 125 Osher Institutes in 340 cities and towns with 113,299 OLI members.

The Foundation has a nine-member Board of Directors, chaired by the Honorable Barbro Osher, Honorary Consul General of Sweden in California.



## BUILDING ON A LEGACY OF OLLI LIFELONG LEARNING...

“

*OLLI became my post-retirement lifeline! All it took was joining a committee & I was golden!*

”

SUE BRAMLEY

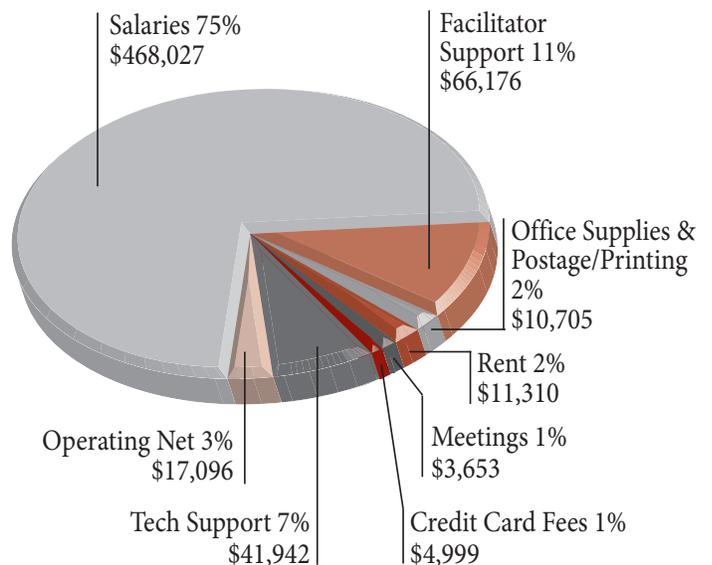
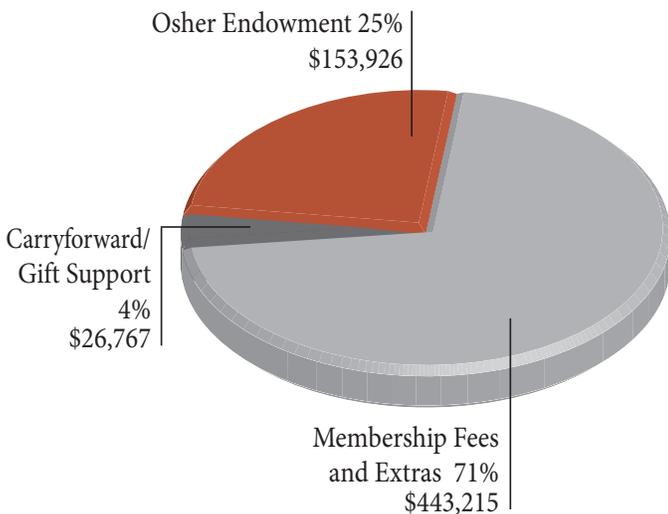
THE OLLI AT DU CONTINUES TO THRIVE through the generosity of The Bernard Osher Foundation, the University of Denver, and most importantly, our generous OLLI members. OLLI at DU has faced increased facility costs with the return to in-person classes along with generally higher operating costs. These factors, coupled with a significant reduction in paid memberships since the pandemic began, have presented the program with budgetary challenges.

To assist with funding for OLLI at DU, the University of Denver offers a planned giving program with options such as gifts of stock, bonds, mutual funds, life insurance, bequests, and retirement plan assets. For more information, please contact the Office of University Advancement at the University of Denver at 303-871-2739. Donors may also send checks directly to the OLLI office at 2211 South Josephine Street, Denver 80208. If desired, donations may be designated to go to a specific OLLI site (Boulder, Central, East, On-Campus, South, West) or the general OLLI fund.

## OUR FINANCIAL 2021-2022 REPORT

OLLI TOTAL REVENUE FY 2022

OLLI TOTAL EXPENSES FY 2022



## HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR YEAR

### A Year of Significant Staffing Changes for OLLI at DU

Barbara Ratcliffe, who had maintained the position of Executive Director for over five years and who had admirably led the program through the pandemic, resigned for family reasons in September, 2021. Deborah Brackney came onboard as the new OLLI at DU Executive Director in August, 2021. Unfortunately, because of health reasons, Deborah resigned and Dara Hughes (OLLI West Manager) was made Interim Director in November, 2021. In the short 6+ months Dara was Interim Executive Director, she accomplished several important tasks including simplifying and changing the registration process to a single step process (significantly reducing the number of calls and emails asking about the registration process); and finalizing plans for the new OLLI Regis site which will open in fall 2022. After a successful search for a permanent director, Jacqueline Wyant (formerly OLLI-on-Campus Manager) was selected as the new OLLI at DU Executive Director in May, 2022.

As DU Dean Michael McGuire stated, *“These are indeed dynamic times for all of us, and finding the next OLLI at DU Executive Director is critically important to keeping OLLI at DU a thriving and accessible Community as well as a national model for impactful lifelong learning.”*

In addition, this year one Site Manager and six new program assistants were hired.

### Our DU OLLI Sites Enjoyed a Successful 2021-2022 Year - Despite the Pandemic!

OLLI at DU is proud to report that, even with the challenges of offering lifelong learning opportunities during the pandemic, we continued to meet the needs of our many members, both near and far! This year, although we offered most of our courses online, we opened our doors at four of our locations for in-person courses. We want to thank the incredible staff members and volunteers who made this happen- our facilitators, class assistants, curriculum committee members, and event planners. As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, we are looking forward to offering a robust program of both in-person and online courses, webinars, social events, and group meetings.

Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, **OLLI at DU Boulder** shifted its focus from in-person courses to meeting members’ needs through a robust offering



## HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR YEAR *(continued)*

of Zoom courses. This upcoming fall term of 2022 will launch our return to our church home for in-person classes at Mountain View United Methodist Church in south Boulder. We have been working with the church leadership this year to begin courses again and have a wonderful new setup that we know members will enjoy. We will also continue to offer a strong series of Zoom courses, as these



remain quite popular since their inception. We have had transitions with our staff as well as our volunteer curriculum committee, so this year has been one of change and adjustments that have been met with resilience and a positive attitude. We remain extremely proud of all those who work so hard to keep OLLI at DU Boulder a thriving part of the OLLI organization.

Wow - what a great year **OLLI Central** has had despite all the pandemic, personnel and venue changes. The virus continued to play havoc on decision making. Online? In Person? Combination? How many of each and who can facilitate in one, or the other, or both? What happens if during in person we need to go back to online? The common good news thread throughout were our outstanding curriculum committee members, our OLLI-wide staff including our interim executive leadership and all the volunteers who made it all happen with great success. We have not witnessed so many balls in the air with many moving

parts. But we came out on the other end with a great sense of satisfaction from all, including from our loyal members who withstood the storm with a smile. But no doubt we could not have been close to success if it were not for the forty some Central facilitators who remained flexible with all the need for new learning and unexpected changes they had to endure. And with all this it is a great compliment to those brave facilitators as demonstrated by some examples of the many acknowledgements given to them from our members. Success takes a village to accomplish the tasks at hand. OLLI

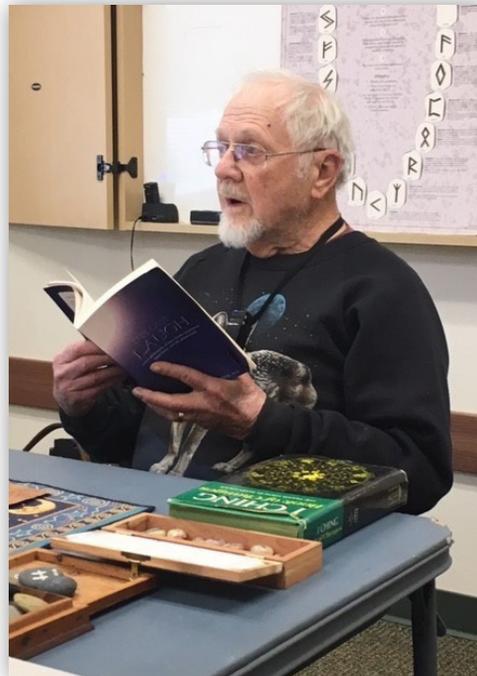




Central is proud of being part of the OLLI team whose unselfish contributions made it all happen. We are looking forward to next year. We are ready for it.

Our **OLLI East** members had such a great experience during this year's online fall and winter terms engaging in our site's course offerings. Our courses were engaging, thought-provoking, and just FUN. In Winter Term 2022, we launched the Leading-Edge Medicine Lecture Series. All speakers were current or former faculty members at the University of Colorado School of Medicine Anschutz Medical Center in Aurora. The lectures addressed topics related to pandemics and COVID-19 as well as health issues common among older adults. We hosted an in person open house in March, prior to spring term. This was the first time we had gathered together in person in two years. It was well-attended with the keynote speaker U.S. Representative Jason Crow (D-6th Congressional). As a member of the Armed Services Committee and House Intelligence Committee he addressed developments in Ukraine. Chris Evan-Klock, an OLLI facilitator who retired from a 25-year career with the UN in 2019, addressed the United Nation's current and potential role in Ukraine in terms of conflict-resolution, security, and humanitarian crisis response. Spring term reflected lower enrollment with in-person classes than in the past as members gradually emerged from their pandemic cocoons. We heard many comments from our members that online Zoom courses continue to offer a lifeline to stay engaged and connected. We also observed many happy smiles when we were finally able to gather in-person and see friends again!

The **OLLI-on-Campus** program has grown exponentially since our inception five years ago and we have seen the most growth since the pandemic and the emergence of online course delivery. The instructors of the OLLI-on-Campus program come from multiple universities in Metro Denver and South Dakota, California, and Florida. We even have an instructor who gets up very early in Australia who teaches some of our music appreciation courses. During the 2021-2022 academic year, the program offered 54 courses and 22 webinars led by 46 instructors and speakers. We had 2084 registrations for these offerings. In November, because of our increasing size,



## HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR YEAR *(continued)*



we were able to hire a Site Program Assistant, Mitra Verma. OLLI members enrolling in our OLLI-on-Campus courses had such a great experience during this year's programming engaging in courses such as the History of Photography, Travel (Route 66, New Zealand, Greece, Hidden Colorado), Genealogy, Art & Music Appreciation, Writing, Meditation, Mindfulness and Hands-on Art courses. With the advent of the new academic year, OLLI-on-Campus welcomes a new Site Manager, Maria Elena Garcia. Maria Elena will continue to focus on providing courses for our members that stimulate all parts of the mind and body which are taught by professors, authors, and experts in their fields.

It has been a busy, exciting and active year for **OLLI South** as the program moved out of their home location of 10 plus years in May 2020. Everything was moved into storage, as they looked for a new location and got through the pandemic. In the fall of 2021, a new location was found, and contracts signed. An open house took place in February 2022 and was a huge success with approximately 100 people attending. Everyone loved checking out the new location but especially seeing old friends again in-person, not just on a screen. OLLI South offered 6 in-person classes in the spring and they were a huge success, this is addition to the wonderful online courses they continued to offer. As we moved from the pandemic it was important to start rebuilding the OLLI South community. A new Community Building Committee was formed and has been charged with creating a quarterly newsletter updating everyone on OLLI South activities; planning different activities for our members; and marketing our site. At the end of the academic year South hosted a facilitator celebration brunch – a time to celebrate and thank all our dedicated facilitators. Since we haven't been able to come together for a few years, anyone who facilitated for OLLI South over the last three years was invited. It was a great success and everyone enjoyed being together.



**OLLI West** had much to celebrate this past academic year despite the many challenges put in front of the staff, committee members, and facilitators. The year started off with a new Site Manager, Dara Hughes, and new Program Assistant,

Michele Eckert. In November, Dara was asked and accepted the Interim OLLI Executive Director role. Michele graciously accepted to take on the Interim West Site Manager role even though she had only been with OLLI less than four months.

After an eleventh-hour cancellation of in-person classes for the winter term in 2021, OLLI West successfully launched back to in-person classes for the spring 2022 term. For the first time in two years, our members were able to return to a modest but inspired selection of eight in-person classes at a tour host facility, the Jefferson Unitarian Church (JUC) in Golden. It was so great to see many familiar faces once again as well as many new ones. The curriculum committee members and facilitators also came up with safer ways to hold in-person classes offering many outdoor classes with great success. A total of four Geology Underfoot classes exploring Rocky Mountain National Park and three Golden Area walks gave our member a chance to reconnect with nature. OLLI West facilitator, Larry Tannenbaum, worked with staff to initiate, plan, and market an OLLI at DU sponsored trip to Memphis for this fall. This trip ushered back the OLLI at DU Worldview program that had been suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Although the pandemic restricted the in-person experience and the attendant social benefits of getting together for continuous learning and other OLLI events, it also opened the door to remote learning on Zoom and the complete OLLI catalog to members all over that metro area and even some in other states who might not otherwise travel to distant OLLI at DU sites. OLLI On-line will certainly have a permanent place in OLLI's future. West ended the year on a high note with spring enrollment numbers higher than last year's and almost back to pre-pandemic numbers!

### **OLLI at DU WorldView Program**

The OLLI at DU WorldView travel program continues to expand the horizons of the OLLI at DU travelers. Because of the pandemic the program has been on hiatus for some time. However, this year plans have been put in motion and the program is now active again with an OLLI sponsored rip to Memphis scheduled for November, 2022.



*“ I belong to OLLI to be in community with people I love and respect; to teach others and to learn from them; and to be in an environment in which my age is not looked on as a disability. ”*

GARY WYNGARDEN

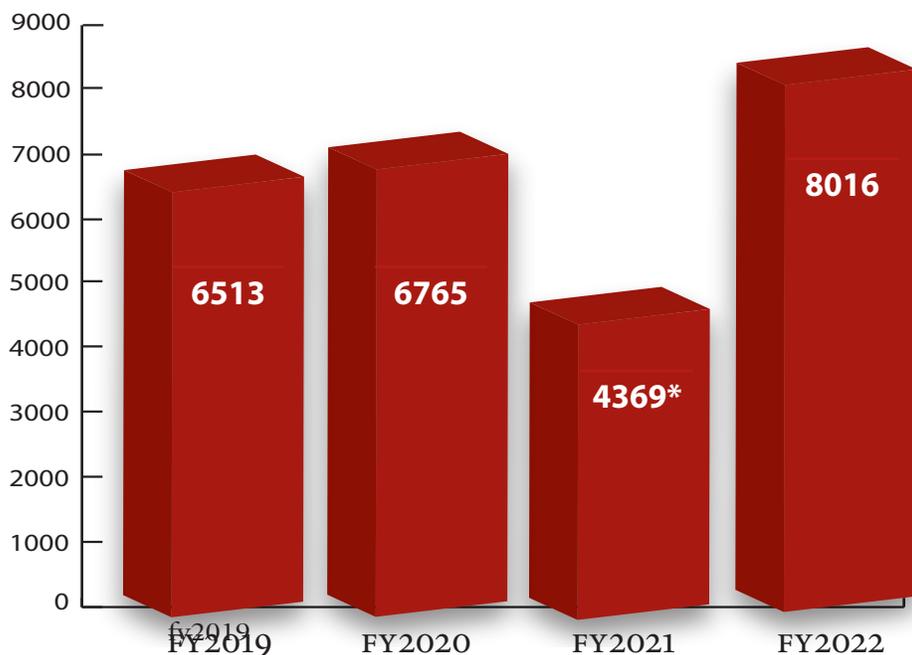


## OLLI AT DU BY THE NUMBERS...2021-2022

<b>370</b>	Courses offered
<b>1760</b>	Unduplicated members
<b>417</b>	Brand new members
<b>8016</b>	Total members enrolled (members taking one or more classes)
<b>368</b>	Facilitators

*Note: Since opening on-line classes, two interesting and important data emerged relating to current trending regarding OLLI at DU registration numbers: 1) the average number of courses a member takes has doubled from 2 classes to 4 classes per term; 2) the number of members taking courses at multiple OLLI sites has increased six-fold from 12% to 74%.*

### OLLI TOTAL MEMBERS REGISTERED



*\*Significant decrease in membership reflects the impact of Covid 19 and the abrupt shift to online (Zoom) classes.*

## OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM

### JACKIE WYANT, OLLI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jacqueline (Jackie) comes to OLLI after a 40+ year career in teaching literacy to middle and high school students, serving as a school principal, and as a program developer and senior project manager. She has designed comprehensive state-wide professional development programs and facilitated workshops for groups ranging from 12 to over 1200 participants. Areas of expertise include leadership development, mentoring, and systems improvement. Her experience as teacher and school principal led her to design teacher and principal mentoring programs at the local, state and national levels (e.g., National Association of Elementary School Principals – NAESP PALS Program; Pennsylvania Inspired Leadership Initiative; New Jersey Leaders to Leaders Program; and Edison Learning’s Principal Mentoring Program). Jackie holds a B.A. and a M.Ed. from Purdue University, a C.A.S. in Administration, Planning, and Social Policy from Harvard University, and advanced doctoral study in Organizational Leadership from Lehigh University.

### NATHAN BALA, OLLI BOULDER PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Nathan will be assisting Barbara Darling with the Boulder administration and is already a tremendous help. Nathan has lived in Colorado for most of his life. He received a B.A. in Dance from the University of Colorado Boulder. He has a deep passion for learning and curiosity for new discoveries. He is trained as a dancer, mechanic, tuba player, electrician, wilderness facilities technician, EMT, and lifeguard. Nathan believes that there’s always more to discover and to grow. He lives in Boulder, where he’ll frequently perform “pop-up” dance performances around the Boulder area.

### JOHN BAUMGARTNER, OLLI CENTRAL MANAGER

John is proud to be a part of one of the top OLLI organizations in the country, contributing to the fabulous legacy built by so many administrators and volunteers before him who established such a great place for adults to meet and learn. Baumgartner has facilitated a handful of classes for OLLI Central, a background which has helped him transition to his Manager role. His final career move before “retiring” from his business positions was acting Director of the Denver Division for a professional service placement company, a division of a publicly held international organization. With his CPA credentials he first was employed with Touche Ross (now Deloitte), a large public accounting firm. He subsequently became Partner in Charge of the Denver Consulting Division of Touche Ross. Baumgartner later became a senior executive for two large NY Stock Exchange financial services companies. John also worked as an independent consultant for two law firms and a medical practice. He holds a B.A. from DePauw University and an M.A. from the University of Michigan.

“

*OLLI has provided me with a never-ending source of friendships, activities and knowledge since I retired. I have gotten great satisfaction from researching and preparing courses to facilitate, as well as taking numerous classes on a wide variety of topics that have been both educational and stimulating. Thank You, OLLI!!!*

”

NATALIE CONKLIN



### BARBARA DARLING, OLLI BOULDER MANAGER

Barbara came to Boulder as a college student, fell in love with the city and its vibrant residents, and has found her niche at OLLI Boulder. She appreciates the energy that thrives in both Boulder County and the OLLI community, epitomized by people's thirst for ongoing learning and active lifestyles. Barbara's career has spanned private industry, nonprofits and academia. She now enjoys working with the 50 "and better" age range of the members of OLLI Boulder.

### MICHELE ECKERT, INTERIM OLLI WEST MANAGER

Michele Eckert was Assistant Site Manager at OLLI West before moving into the role of Interim OLLI West Manager in December, 2021. She accepted that position when Dara Hughes moved into the role of Interim OLLI Executive Director. Michele is a hospitality professional who spent 25 years traveling and managing upscale resorts and hotels throughout the U.S. She has 7 years academic experience, serving as adjunct professor in Scottsdale, Arizona, as well as on-site program coordinator for a women's leadership program for refugees in Phoenix. Michele enjoys bridging the private sector and academic sectors through assisting older adults develop technical skills, continue learning, and exercising their brain power! *"I first heard about OLLI at a Meet Up and became intrigued by the concept. As I learned more about the quality, skills, and background of the facilitators – as well as the diversity of the courses and members, I wanted to become a part of this! What a great opportunity to meet new people and learn from peers as well. I look forward to helping every member – new ones and experienced attendees – expand their knowledge, have a little fun, and get the most out of the program!"* Michele received her M.A. in Leadership at Grand Canyon University and has served as a public speaker in education, hospitality, and advocating for refugee women in leadership. Michele resigned her interim position in May, 2022.

### SHERRY FEINBAUM, INTERIM OLLI WEST MANAGER

Sherry joined OLLI as a member in 2019 and then as the assistant to Barbara Darling in Boulder after a long career in sales selling in both business to business and directly to non-profits - most recently selling data management and fundraising software to non-profits. In addition to work life, she spent many years as a volunteer for multiple non-profits in the Boulder area and now serves on the board of Congregation HarHaShem in Boulder. She is a lifelong learner and always curious so being involved in the OLLI program is especially rewarding. Sherry accepted the OLLI West position after Michele Eckert resigned that position.





### **MARIA ELENA GARCIA, OLLI ON CAMPUS MANAGER & OLLI EAST MANAGER**

Prior to joining OLLI DU in 2021 as a site manager, Maria Elena had a long career in educational systems improvement. Then she discovered the enchantment that OLLI brings. As a site manager, she now knows she saved the “best” for last. Maria Elena has over 30 years’ educational leadership experience in enhancing organizational systems within public, private, and nonprofit organizations at the local, state, national and international levels. She has worked as a leadership consultant for an educational research and development corporation and led teams of consultants on multi-year, million-dollar international district and school improvement initiatives from concept through project design, implementation, and sustainability planning. She supported a two-year implementation of a randomized controlled trial in 26 Minnesota and Missouri schools to study the effectiveness of a comprehensive approach to continuous improvement for U.S. Department Education. She has conducted more than 250 consultative and training sessions for teachers and principals to drive continuous improvement in schools in such areas as leadership, data use, research-based instruction, culturally relevant practices, equity and inclusion and family and community engagement. Recently, she founded a nonprofit to provide more access and opportunities to K-12 students in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) education. She holds an M.A. in Educational Administration and a B.A. in K-12 Education.

### **FAYE HASTINGS, EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Faye is a Denver native who has been involved with OLLI for over 13 years. Prior to OLLI, she worked as General Manager for several local restaurants and as an Office Administrator/HR and IT support for relocation and property management companies in the Denver area. She served two years on the Lakewood Senior Advisory Commission reporting to the City Council, tasked with understanding the needs of the senior population in Lakewood. She started her OLLI career as a volunteer at the South site serving as the History Co-chair on the Curriculum Committee. She became the South Site Assistant Manager for two years and then transitioned to the Executive Administrative Assistant role ensuring cohesiveness among the sites. Faye resigned her OLLI position to move out of state.

### **DARA HUGHES, OLLI WEST MANAGER & OLLI INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dara joined OLLI in February 2016. Prior to that, she enjoyed a few different careers including international marketing, expatriate administration, software development and business analysis. Dara received her B.A. in International Business from the University of Colorado, computer programming graduate certificates from the University of Denver’s Women in Computer Sciences program and has completed



over 80 hours of course work toward her M.A. in Information Technology at the University of Denver. After 5 years as OLLI West Assistant Manager, Dara moved into the Manager position in May 2021. Six months later, Dean McGuire asked her to step in as OLLI Interim Executive Director upon the resignation of Deborah Brackney. Upon successfully completing the six-month interim position, Dara resigned to share her expertise with another non-profit organization.

### **DAVE JOHNSON, OLLI EAST PROGRAM ASSISTANT & OLLI AT DU GENERAL ASSISTANT**

Dave is a native Coloradoan. He received a B.A. in Music Education from Metropolitan State University of Denver. Since 1993 he has been a performer, writer, trainer and office manager with the World Humor Organization Inc., also known as “Chicken Lips” which provides creative training and entertainment to business, government, and educational organizations across the country. Dave hosted a weekly radio show on 630 KHOW, owned a stage theater in downtown Denver, and worked patron ticketing services at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, the Avenue Theater and Town Hall Arts Center. He is semi-retired.

### **JOHN LUNGERHAUSEN, OLLI AT DU OPERATIONAL ASSISTANT**

John has over 35 years’ experience as a software engineer and software development manager. In his IT career, he has worked on development projects at several Denver firms including, Public Service Company (now called XCEL Energy), Lockheed-Martin, and CenturyLink. After retiring from CenturyLink, he joined OLLI as a member in 2017 and has subsequently facilitated OLLI classes with his partner, Dixie Vice. In 2019, John joined the OLLI staff as the audio/visual technician at OLLI West and in the spring of 2020, he was part of the team which established the OLLI On-line platform to provide remote learning through Zoom to the OLLI community. John has a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Michigan. John really enjoys helping OLLI members and facilitators through the technical challenges of the on-line Zoom program.

### **KIM PENOYER, OLLI WEST PROGRAM ASSISTANT**

Kim recently retired from the University of Colorado. *“I am excited about this opportunity with OLLI. I see OLLI as a wonderful way to ease into retirement over the next 10 or more years.”* All of her experience at CU will be helpful in her new position at OLLI. Most recently Kim was Manager of Online Program Development for CU Online/Office of Digital Education with the University of Colorado Denver and the CU System. A part of this job required insuring faculty had available and participated in, training for online course design and delivery. She also provided programs and faculty grants to develop courses for online delivery. Prior to working for CU Online,



she was Director of CU at Interlocken where she coordinated with area businesses and CU programs to bring courses to Interlocken. Her career at CU began in the College of Engineering as the Executive Director of the Continuing Engineering Education Program. Here she managed a self-funded program for the College of Engineering, providing professional development opportunities for professional engineers and computer science/IT professionals. Kim earned her M.A. from the University of Colorado Denver and her B.S. in Education from Michigan State University

#### **CAROL LYNN TIEGS, OLLI CENTRAL PROGRAM ASSISTANT**

Currently a docent with Historic Denver, Carol Lynn is a life-long history buff. She holds a M.A. in Journalism with a minor in Environmental Design and a M.A. in German Studies with minor in Political Science, both from University of Colorado. Carol Lynn has a background in journalism and corporate communication, education and nonprofit management. She has taught at University of Colorado and Metropolitan State University Denver.

#### **DARCEY VANWAGNER, OLLI SOUTH MANAGER**

Darcey started with OLLI at DU September 2015. Prior to OLLI she worked in the financial industry for 18 years. While there she managed various operations and customer services departments. She has also been involved in public education and on the board of the local school and is an active volunteer with Rocky Mountain MCC Sale where she serves as president. Darcey is a Denver native and graduate of Colorado State University. She is glad to be part of OLLI and has enjoyed meeting a diverse group of people all eager to continue to learn and give of their time.

#### **MITRA VERMA, OLLI-ON-CAMPUS PROGRAM ASSISTANT**

Mitra joined OLLI in December 2021 and has more than 20 years of expertise in the fields of art, design, and education. She holds a master's degree in handicraft designing and was assigned empanelment as a Handicraft Designer by Development Commissioner Handicraft (DCHC) India. Prior coming to OLLI, Mitra worked with many NGOs and the Government sector in India towards reviving, restoring, and marketing handicrafts by engaging with local craft communities, creating new designs using the age-old knowledge, and making them commercially viable. She worked as a design faculty teaching art, design fundamentals, and handicraft-related research and documentation. She has learned about India's rich cultural heritage, diversity, history and religion through art and crafts. She loves to talk about centuries of evolutionary tradition of a variety of handicrafts made all over India and how Indian art is deeply rooted in traditions, gods, deities and epic themes. Besides assisting OLLI On-Campus she teaches art to OLLI members, and her diverse cultural and professional background reflects in her work.

“  
*My wish was for a class filled with intelligent, interested, and involved students, and with OLLI my wish has been answered—*  
*every time.*”

DAVID LIPPMAN

## 2021-2022 CURRICULUM COMMITTEE LEADERS

THESE ARE ARE OUR VOLUNTEER LEADERS who have steered our OLLI sites through this past year – we pay tribute and thank them for their commitment...

**OLLI BOULDER** Penny Friedberg, *Curriculum Committee Chair*

**OLLI CENTRAL** Tom Bieging, *Curriculum Committee Chair*

**OLLI EAST** John Rough, *Curriculum Committee Chair*

**OLLI SOUTH** Peggy Winn, *Curriculum Committee Co-Chair*  
Becky Stout, *Curriculum Committee, Co-Chair*

**OLLI WEST** Jim Keller, *Curriculum Committee Co-Chair*  
Bob Magnani, *Curriculum Committee Co-Chair*

“

*I have been leading classes and taking them since 2005. OLLI has been a wonderful part of my ‘active retirement.’*”

HILARY CARLSON

## OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

WE COLLABORATE WITH MANY LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS to enhance our programming for our members. These organizations offer space, tours, lectures and classes and include:

- Cherokee Ranch and Castle Foundation
- Colorado Heritage Center
- Colorado Jazz Group
- Colorado Shakespeare Festival
- Denver Public Library
- Douglas County Library
- Opera Colorado
- The Colorado Symphony
- The Denver Art Museum
- The Museum of Nature and Science
- The Newman Center



UNIVERSITY *of*  
**DENVER**

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

---

**OLLI AT DU OFFICE**

2211 South Josephine Street  
Denver, CO

---

**OLLI CENTRAL**

FIRST UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH

4101 East Hampden Avenue  
Denver, CO

PARK HILL UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

5209 Montview Boulevard  
Denver, CO

---

**OLLI SOUTH**

COLUMBINE UNITED CHURCH  
6375 South Platte Canyon Road  
Littleton, CO

---

**OLLI WEST**

JEFFERSON UNITARIAN  
CHURCH  
14350 West 32nd Avenue  
Golden, CO

---

**OLLI BOULDER**

MOUNTAIN VIEW UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
355 Ponca Place  
Boulder, CO

---

**OLLI EAST**

MISSISSIPPI AVENUE BAPTIST  
CHURCH  
13231 East Mississippi Avenue  
Aurora, CO

---

**OLLI-ON-CAMPUS**

RUFFATTO & STURM HALLS  
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER  
2080 South High Street  
Denver, CO

---

**OLLI ONLINE**

2211 South Josephine Street  
Denver, CO