

ODU Town-N-Gown

Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia 23529 757-683-5759



September 2024

International “Day of Peace” | Patriot Day / Day of Service & Remembrance | USAF Day



Town-N-Gown Leadership

President

Pamela McNaught

1st Vice President (Programs)

Rob Grandon

2nd Vice President, (Membership)

Randy Lougee

Corresponding Secretary

Mary Lou Speckheuer

Recording Secretary

Jo Hayden

Treasurer

Lawrence Owes

Directors-at-Large

Gloria Brown David Heath
Duane Lougee Jennifer Douglas Pegues
Evelyn Robinson Wilma Robinson
Martha Rollins Helmut Speckheuer
Brett Smiley Patricia Steele Cecelia Tucker

University Liaison

Karen Meier
Assoc. Vice President, Strategic Operations



Website: www.ODUTNG.com
Email: townngownodu@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events / Dates to Remember

- Thru Jan 5 *Message in a Bottle* exhibit @ the Barry
- Thru Jan 5 *Dollhouse: Reimagining Domestic Space* (pg 5)
- Sep 3 Town-N-Gown Board Meeting, 9:30am Webb Center
- Sep 11 Piano Festival, 7:30pm Chandler Recital Hall *FREE*
- Sep 14 RSVP Deadline for *TNG at the Air Show* (pg 8)
- Sep 18 Music Faculty Ensemble, 7:30pm Chandler Hall
- Sep 18 U.S. Air Force 77th Birthday
- Sep 20 *Early Voting Begins* for November Election (pg 6)
- Sep 21 International Day of Peace
- Sep 21 & 22 NAS Oceana Air Show (pg 8)
- Sep 27-May 10 *MAMA-Girl!* @ the Gordon (pg 4)
- Sep 29 ODU Symphony Orchestra, 3pm, University Theatre
[REGISTER](#)
- Oct 1 Town-N-Gown Board Meeting, 9:30am Webb Center

Around Campus

MD White Coat Ceremony is a Rite of Passage for New Students



Members of the MD Class of 2028 took their first steps as future physicians by participating in this year's White Coat Ceremony on August 16. As each student's name was called, department chairs helped them don their white coats for the first time on the stage at Harrison Opera House.

"Today's ceremony affirms the vision and the core values we hold dearly in medicine: professionalism, integrity, compassion, empathy and dedication," said Alfred Abuhamad, MD, executive vice president of Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at

ODU, dean of EVMS and the Mason C. Andrews Distinguished Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

More than 7,600 people applied to be in the MD Class of 2028, but only 151 were chosen. Among those students, half are from Virginia, including 30 from Hampton Roads. This was the first class to receive their white coats as part of Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences Eastern Virginia Medical School at Old Dominion University.

Credit: EVMS News

Full story [HERE](#)



ODU Renews Commitment to The National GEM Consortium

As ODU is among an elite group of schools having earned Research 1 Classification from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, it continues to expand opportunities for its top students. One such opportunity is ODU's membership in The National GEM Consortium (GEM) which aims to increase the participation of underrepresented student groups at the master's and doctoral levels in engineering and science. The consortium includes more than 120 of the top universities in the country and more than 75 employer members like NASA, IBM, Apple, SpaceX and Intel that seek to enhance their workforces with the best and the brightest.



The GEM Fellowship provides opportunities for graduate students to enter the engineering and science workforces in areas such as research and development, product development and other advanced technical and research careers within the private sector, as well as with federal national laboratories and agencies. Since its founding in 1976, more than 5,000 students had their graduate education funded through the program and are working as entrepreneurs, inventors, research scientists and business leaders throughout the country.

Credit: Joy Vann, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)

‘Monarchs Give Back’ Through Annual Community Food Drive

On August 30, ODU launch[ed] its university-wide “Monarchs Give Back” community food drive – an annual initiative that tackles food insecurity in Hampton Roads.

President Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D., and First Lady Marisela Hemphill, Ph.D., have challenged students, faculty and community volunteers to collect 40,000 non-perishable items, or equivalent monetary donations, by October 18. Donations will support children in Norfolk Public Schools, students who use the ODU Monarch Pantry, and the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore.

This year, donation collection sites have expanded to two locations – ODU main campus at the Monarchs Give Back Headquarters located in 1544 Webb Center and at the Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at ODU campus in Waitzer, Hofheimer, Andrews, Lewis, Lester, and Williams Halls.



Monetary donations are accepted [online](#). In addition to in-person donations, the Monarch Pantry also accepts donations through its [Amazon Wishlist](#). For questions on how to get involved or to host a donation event, please contact giveback@odu.edu. Visit the "Monarchs Give Back" [website](#) for campaign details and updates.

Credit: Kenya Godette, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)



ODU’s NSF Grant Marks Year One Milestone in Advancing Women in STEM

Last summer, ODU received a three-year, \$1 million grant from the National Science Foundation to increase the number of women, particularly women of color, in STEM disciplines at the University. The project, entitled Re-envisioning Inclusive and Sustainable Excellence (RISE): Advancing Women in STEM at Old Dominion University, explores barriers women faculty face in seeking tenure and promotion and has three goals: Increase the recruitment and hiring of women, particularly women of color, STEM faculty; Increase the tenure and promotion of women, particularly women of color, STEM faculty; and Improve departmental climate to enhance inclusivity.



Credit: Annette Finley-Croswhite, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)

Looking at Big Investments in AI? There Are Big Considerations



The costs for tech companies to bring in new artificial intelligence technology is in the billions, according to reporting by *The New York Times*. Helen Crompton, executive director of the Research Institute of Digital Innovation in Learning, said AI can be a useful tool for success. There is a rush to adopt this technology as it “promises transformative potential,” but there is still a need to carefully consider the best way to move forward to see the best return on investment.

AI can be useful in automating or enhancing certain processes, Crompton said. The technology could be used to automate or enhance data analysis. This benefit to the business could lead to better decision-making and ultimately lead to savings down the road. Additionally, studies have shown workers using the technology need to know how to use it effectively, and there needs to be training.

The companies seeing the greatest profits from jumping into AI are not necessarily the tech companies, but the AI strategists advising companies on how to use these technologies. Crompton notes an example of Accenture, a consulting firm, which earned \$3.6 billion from generative AI consulting alone.

Credit: Kelsey Kendall, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)



@ The Gordon

In September: MAMA-Girl!

The Baron and Ellin Gordon Art Galleries at Old Dominion University will present an art exhibition celebrating the life and work of Mary "MAMA-Girl!" Onley (1953 - 2018) in the fall of 2024. The exhibition will be free and open to the public.

Opening Reception: September 26, 6pm - 8pm

On View: September 27, 2024 - May 10, 2025

Share your Mama Girl remembrances and thoughts at <https://bit.ly/MamaGirl> and please

invite others to do so as well! If you prefer, you may mail your remembrances to:

Baron and Ellin Gordon Art Galleries, 4509 Monarch Way, Norfolk, VA 23508.



@ The Barry

BAM Unveils Full-Size Dollhouse

Just as the Bauhaus art movement married various artistic styles together under one roof, the Barry Art Museum’s latest exhibition, “Dollhaus: Reimagining the Domestic Space,” will showcase the diverse contributions of ODU’s Department of Art with a full-size dollhouse installation.

Sixteen artists created different rooms for the dollhouse - from bedrooms to formal dining rooms to nurseries - applying techniques in glass, textiles and painting. This collaborative artwork also responds to museum co-founder Carolyn Barry’s



- an exquisite recreation of the interior of their home featuring miniature versions of the Barry’s and their artworks - which will be featured alongside the new dollhouse in the exhibition.

The exhibition will be on view through January 5, 2025. In addition to the dollhouses, the exhibition will include several 19th-century artworks. One is a novelty porcelain doll created by French artist Jacob Petit (1796-1868) whose skirt opens to reveal a kitchen.

Credit: Jonah Grinkewitz, ODU News | Photo by Peter Eudenbach Full story [HERE](#)



For 100-year-old Artist, Creativity Took Flight at Old Dominion



Standing at a rare milestone, Norfolk artist Lorraine Fink looks back on a life of soaring creativity and unbridled imagination. Painting, sculpting, drawing, building, teaching – she’s done it all in her 100 years. Remarkably, she still does.

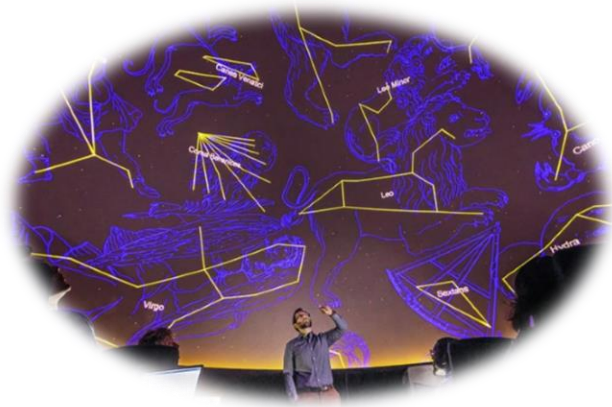
To honor her life and achievements, Old Dominion University will host an exhibition titled “Lorraine Fink: Won! Oh! Oh! Recent Works” [through] September 30 at the Barry Arts Building Rotunda. A public reception will take place 6pm September 12.

Fink taught art at ODU as well as at Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art, Chrysler Museum, and the Peninsula Fine Arts Center. She’s gratified that some of her printing and watercolor techniques have spread to generations that followed her.

Credit: Sam McDonald, ODU News Full story [HERE](#)

@ The Lê Planetarium

September 11, 18, & 25 | Public Shows | 7pm | \$4/ticket



September 3 | 7pm | FREE

Naro Minded: Ghost in the Shell 2: Innocence

Screening courtesy of **ODU Libraries**

More info [HERE](#)

September 6 | 6pm | \$4 per ticket

Bad Movie Night - *Monster on the Campus*

More info [HERE](#)

The Planetarium is located at 4501 Elkhorn Ave. Entrance is in the Chemistry Building lobby.

Parking is available in the 43rd & Elkhorn Garage at the corner of Elkhorn Ave. & West 43rd St.



Around Town

November General & Special Elections!

Important dates to remember for the November 5th elections:

September 20 - In-person early voting begins;

October 15 - deadline to register or update an existing registration;

October 25 - deadline to apply for a ballot to be mailed to you (request must be received by 5pm);

October 26 & November 2 - Saturday voting

Vote early, in-person, at the general registrar’s office in the city/county where you are registered, or on election day in your assigned precinct. Search for your local office information, including times and locations, on the Virginia Department of Elections’ website [HERE](#).

Interested in serving your community as an Officer of Election on election day? Applications still being accepted through mid-September in most locales. Training provided! Apply [HERE](#)

VIRGINIA POLL WORKERS WANTED

Apply today to work upcoming elections.

Poll workers, also known as Officers of Election, are an essential part of early voting and Election Day. Working at a polling location is a chance to give back to your community. Help keep elections safe, secure, and accessible to everyone. Apply to be a poll worker today.

VIRGINIA IS FOR VOTERS

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT of ELECTIONS

Apply today at Vote.Virginia.gov/pollworker



“Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn’t mean politics won’t take an interest in you.”
- Pericles, Greek Statesman



So much to do in Portsmouth!! See activities & events [HERE](#)



Old Beach Farmers Market in the heart of the ViBe Creative District, near the Virginia Beach Convention Center, has over 40 local, artisan vendors to temp your taste buds. There's something for everyone—vegan, vegetarian, carnivore, gluten free.



Saturdays May through October and every third Saturday November through April

Always 9am to noon

Maps & information [HERE](#)

Friday Night Dancing from Around the World



September 6, 2024 and every Friday at 7:30pm

@ the Fred Heutte Center | 7:30pm | \$5 donation

1000 Botetourt Gardens, Norfolk

Donation includes: Dance Lessons & request for any dance

Call/Text: Mike Levinsky at 757-714-7522

Email levinskymichael64@yahoo.com



Town-N-Gown Notes

Town-N-Gown at the Air Show!!

Blue Angels Return to NAS Oceana Air Show 2024

The legendary U.S. Navy Blue Angels will again anchor the NAS Oceana Air Show! Join fans on September 21st and 22nd for this spectacular show. Gates will open at 8am. The show begins at 10am and the famous Blue Angels perform at 3pm on both days.

Returning for a 2nd season will be ODU Alum and the Angels 1st female flight demonstration pilot LCDR Amanda Lee! Also performing will be the F-22 Raptor Demonstration Team, F/A-18F Rhino Demo Team, the Canadian Air Division CF-18 Demonstration Team, the Navy EOD Jump Team and much more! See the full line-up [HERE](#).



Admission to the Air Show is FREE with plenty of food & beverage vendors. Souvenirs and mementos also are available for sale throughout the two-day event.

Town-N-Gown members are invited again to join the Association of Naval Aviation (ANA) members in their Chalet -- with prime viewing right on the flight line! Admission to the Chalet, with food & beverages, will be available for a nominal admission fee.

RSVP required for admission to the ANA Chalet. For more information or to RSVP, contact Pamela McNaught at pamelamcnaught@aol.com by September 14th.



***** Thank you for your continuing support of Town-N-Gown and ODU! *****

It's Time to Renew!

Dues for 2024-2025 membership are due now!

TOWN-N-GOWN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership dues are \$25.00 (single or with spouse)

Type of Membership: (Check One) New Renewal (*All members must renew!*)

Name(s): _____

(List both names if a dual membership)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

(Cell) _____ (*Please indicate your contact preference!*)

Email: _____

(Email addresses are very important for sending updates and special messages - please update TNG when you change addresses! Town-N-Gown does **NOT** share your contact information with any organizations other than the ODU Events Office for their use in sending event notices and invitations.)

Make checks payable to **Town-N-Gown** and mail to:

Town-N-Gown, c/o Lawrence Owes, P.O. Box 51, Portsmouth, VA 23705

For questions, contact Randy Lougee at (757) 636-1993 | ret0047@gmail.com