

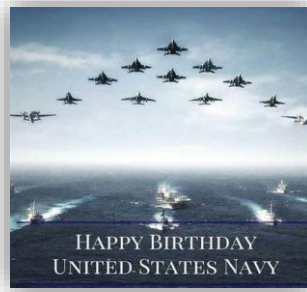
ODU Town-N-Gown

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



October 2024

World Food Day (10/16) | U.S. Navy Birthday (10/13) | 1st Responders Day (10/28)



Town-N-Gown Leadership

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Karen Meier, AVP
 Community Engagement



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

Upcoming Events / Dates to Remember

- Oct 1 Town-N-Gown Board Meeting, 9:30am Webb Center
- Oct 5 Norfolk Street Choir Concert (pg 8)
- Oct 5, 6 “Warbirds Over the Beach” (pg 9)
- Oct 6 - 11 47th Annual ODU Literary Festival (pg 5)
- Oct 8, 11 25th State of the Region Report (pg 3)
- Oct 11 - 12 4th Annual Public Arts Festival (pg 7)
- Oct 13 *Happy Birthday U.S. Navy*
- Oct 12 - 13 Fall Holiday / No Classes
- Oct 14 Indigenous Peoples Day (State Holiday)
- Oct 25 *Ghost Walk Olde Towne Portsmouth* (pg 9)
- Nov 5 *ELECTION DAY - VOTE!!*
- Nov 12 Town-N-Gown Board Meeting, 9:30am Webb Center

Around Campus

ODU Ranked as a Top Institution by U.S. News & World Report



For the seventh consecutive year, ODU is recognized in the 2025 U.S. News & World Report rankings as a top institution among 1,500 national colleges and universities, and a top ten university in Virginia.

The University saw gains in two key programs: Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs and Bachelor of Science in Computer Science programs.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs are a key component of Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at ODU, recently established following the

integration of Eastern Virginia Medical School [and] provide hands-on learning in clinical settings for students, expand health research opportunities and create a talent pipeline for the Hampton Roads healthcare workforce and beyond.

The University's status as the region's only Carnegie R1 institution, recognized for its high level of research activity, is further enhanced by its undergraduate computer science programs. Facilitating research projects with faculty in leading industry areas like artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and machine learning, these programs position students and faculty to be at the forefront of innovation and big data.

Credit: Kenya Godette, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)



ODU Launches Office for Undergraduate Research to Support Experiential Learning

ODU's Division of Research and Economic Development, in collaboration with Academic Affairs, has launched a new initiative to support the University's mission to provide an experiential learning environment for undergraduate students. The new Office for Undergraduate Research will serve as a hub for developing a strong undergraduate research system, working with faculty, staff and students already involved in this kind of work.

Orlando Ayala, a professor in the Department of Engineering Technology, and Anne Perrotti, an associate professor in the Department of Human Movement Studies and Special Education, form an interdisciplinary leadership team that will bolster and facilitate ODU's undergraduate research culture. The two will serve as the inaugural director and associate director of undergraduate research, respectively.



Credit: Kelsey Kendall, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)

Open Forums Planned to Help Shape Future of General Education at ODU

ODU will host a series of open forums this fall as part of its General Education Reform Initiative: Reimagining the Future of General Education Together. This is a chance for students, faculty and staff to contribute to the conversation around improving the University's general education requirements.



The first two forums - one in-person and one virtual - will provide opportunities for the ODU community to reflect on the University's mission and goals, share input and join in the discussion. The final forum will be a

panel discussion and Q&A with members of the six groups who were tasked with researching components of general education. The General Education Reform Initiative is a multiyear, campus-wide undertaking involving students, faculty and staff. Feedback will be gathered and considered through surveys, department and program meetings, focus groups and forums like these.

The last general education reform at ODU took place in 2010.

Credit: Jonah Grinkewitz, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)



Dragas Center to Release Its 25th State of the Region Report

ODU's 25th annual State of the Region Report ... will note that while Hampton Roads is experiencing steady economic progress, there is plenty of room for job growth in the private sector.

“For the first time in almost two decades, the regional economy grew in four consecutive years. A record number of individuals were in the civilian labor force and employed, and employers reported a record number of jobs. Job growth, however, lagged our peers,” said Robert McNab, chair of the Department of Economics and director of the Dragas Center for Economic Analysis & Policy in the Strome College of Business.



The annual report is intended as a service to decision makers and thought leaders in Hampton Roads, inserting data into discussions that affect our daily lives. In addition to McNab, Vinod Agarwal, professor of economics and deputy director of the Dragas Center, will speak.

The events, which require preregistration, are scheduled for [noon Oct. 8 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott](#) and [8 a.m. Oct. 11 at the Newport News-Hampton Holiday Inn](#).

Since 2000, the Dragas Center's State of the Region Report has been an October fixture. After the October 8 event in Norfolk, this year's State of the Region Report will be available [ONLINE](#), along with every other report produced by the Dragas Center.

Credit: Joy Van, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)

2024 Life in Hampton Roads Survey: Politics and Political Opinions



A survey of Hampton Roads residents shows some evidence that President Joe Biden’s decision to drop out of the 2024 presidential race may not have been a boon for Democrats’ chances of victory in this November’s election. Identification with major political parties has also dipped since 2020 and winning over independent voters could prove crucial for Virginia’s election outcomes.

Those are among the findings in the 2024 Life in Hampton Roads Survey regarding politics and political opinions. This is one of the chapters in the 15th annual

edition of the survey conducted by ODU's [Social Science Research Center](#).

A total of 640 telephone surveys were completed between June 4 and August 16. The political section of the survey focused on four topics: baseline party identification and ideology; the Senate race; the presidential election; and election security. In the final section of the survey, more than 80% of respondents indicated they were very or somewhat satisfied with election security at their polling place and less than 5% of respondents reported being intimidated by someone at their polling place in the past 10 years.

You can read the full politics and political opinions chapter on the [SSRC website](#).

Credit: Jonah Grinkewitz, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)



November 5, 2024 Presidential & Special Elections

Dates To Remember	First day of in-person early voting at your local registrar's office : Friday, September 20, 2024.
	Deadline to register to vote, or update an existing registration : October 15, 2024 (<i>Voters may register after this date, through Election Day, and vote using a provisional ballot.</i>)
	Deadline to apply for a ballot to be mailed to you: October 25, 2024. Your request must be received by your local voter registration office by 5:00 p.m.
	Voter registration offices and Satellite Sites open for early voting: Saturday, October 26, 2024.
	The last day of in-person early voting at your local voter registration office : Saturday, November 2, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

47th Annual ODU Literary Festival

Ancient Futures: The 47th Annual ODU Literary Festival | October 6-11, 2024

In a year marked by significant transitions—elections, conflicts abroad, environmental challenges, and more—how can we find our footing? Some authors turn to the past for guidance. They ponder questions, like: What defines us? What events shaped our journey? Where did it all begin? And what possibilities lie ahead? Come join us at the 47th Annual ODU Literary Festival as we honor writers who explore literature's power to anchor us, offering insights into our pasts to inspire visions of our futures.

For more information, contact the ODU English Department at (757) 683-3991 or mfagpdassistant@odu.edu.



All events are free and open to the community!

Festival [SCHEDULE](#)

Parking available in Constant Center/45th Street Garage for events in University Theatre.



From Tragedy to Triumph: Norfolk Couple Establishes \$2 Million Endowment for the Faschini Wallach Center for Restorative Therapies



It was December 2019 and Andy Wallach was in a Florida hospital after suffering traumatic injuries during an accident in an All-Terrain Vehicle. Doctors told his wife, Cynthia Faschini, that he would never walk again and that he had no better than a 50 percent chance of living a year.

Almost five years later, Andy is still very much alive and kicking, as was clearly apparent ... when ODU dedicated a portion of the Ellmer College of Health Sciences building as the Faschini Wallach Center for Restorative Therapies. Andy walked - with the aid of a walker - with Faschini by his side as they

stepped to the podium to dedicate the multispecialty rehabilitation center formerly known as ODU Monarch Physical Therapy.

The center was named for the Norfolk couple after they established a \$2 million endowment for the Faschini Wallach Center for Restorative Therapies. Funds from the endowment will be used to supplement the services that patients now receive.

Credit: Harry Minium

Read the amazing Full Story [HERE](#)



@ The Gordon

Galleries Curator Brings Breadth of Folklore Expertise to Old Dominion



The new curator and director of the Baron and Ellin Gordon Art Galleries, Jasper Waugh-Quasebarth, brings to Old Dominion University a stockpile of knowledge that’s easy to admire and hard to categorize.

As a folklorist and anthropologist, Waugh-Quasebarth has conducted research with global reach, studying musical instrument makers of Appalachia, placemaking in post-coal economies, and crafts and the creative economy in Central Asia. He worked two years as program manager for the Asian Cultural History Program of the Smithsonian Institution.

He’s won a list of teaching awards and given lectures at Cambridge University in England and Meiji University in Japan. However, he’s no stranger to Virginia. Waugh-Quasebarth studied anthropology and history at the University of Virginia, then headed to the University of Kentucky, where he earned both a master’s and a doctorate in anthropology. He worked as a postdoctoral scholar and public folklorist at The Ohio State University before being hired as director of the university’s Center for Folklore Studies.

Credit: Sam McDonald, ODU News

Full story & interview [HERE](#)



On Exhibit @ The Gordon

Eastern Shore artist and pastor Mary Elizabeth “MAMA-Girl” Onley attracted an enthusiastic flock of fans and followers. Many found inspiration in her colorful newspaper sculptures and paintings, and in her uplifting personality.

Six years after Onley’s death, ODU presents an exhibition celebrating her joyful artistic vision. “MAMA-Girl!” will be on display at the Baron and Ellin Gordon Art Galleries ... through May 10, 2025.



More than a dozen lenders from Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina contributed some 150 objects that represent her life and work. MAMA-Girl depicted a vivid, whimsical world of plants and animals, scenes from the Bible and rural life on the Eastern Shore. The work radiates imagination and optimism. One of the region’s most beloved folk artists, MAMA-Girl inspires a deep sense of connection among art lovers. In the spring, the Gordon Galleries will release a catalogue documenting the exhibition, featuring object photography by Mark Atkinson.

Baron & Elin Gordon Galleries | 4509 Monarch Way | (757) 683-6271 | Tue - Sat 11am - 4pm | FREE

@ The Barry

Pneuhaus: The Fourth Annual Public Arts Festival @ ODU

October 11 - 12, 2024 | 6 pm - 10 pm | FREE

Over two consecutive nights, the campus will be transformed as visitors encounter immersive artworks, hands-on activities, food trucks, and more. For this year’s festival, the Barry Art Museum is partnering with Pneuhaus, an art design studio based in Rhode Island. Specializing in the reimagining of public space through interactive environments, Pneuhaus creates immersive, inflatable sculptures inspired by physics, biology, and craft. Each work represents a distinct biosphere, with each piece engaging the natural world through their form and function.



This year’s festival will feature three distinct biomes from Pneuhaus. Inside the museum, visitors can encounter Cloud Lights. Suspended from the museum balcony, these abstract forms channel the forms of moving clouds while their constantly changing lights turn the museum foyer into a rainbow of light. Outside the museum, visitors can interact with two different biomes.

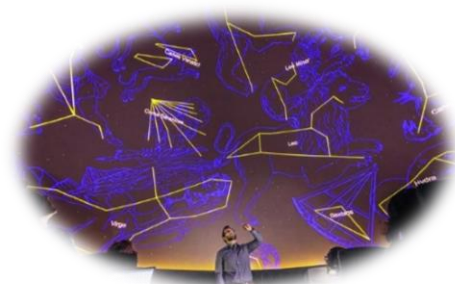
Fabric Prism takes inspiration from caves and invites visitors to immerse themselves in a light-filled shelter. The second outdoor work, Canopy, represents a grove of tree-like sculptures. By riding bicycle-powered generators, visitors can transform the grove opening and closing its branches and changing its lighting. Through this engagement, visitors can not only take part in Canopy’s kinetic qualities but can also experience first-hand the power of green electricity production.

The Environmental Corridor transforms the streets around our Museum into an outdoor sanctuary; visitors can engage with [Back Bay Amateur Astronomers](#), the [Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience](#), [Norfolk Botanical Garden](#), [ODU Libraries](#), [ODU’s Society of Physics Students](#), the [Ocean and Earth Sciences Graduate Student Organization](#), the [Old Dominion University Center for Coastal Physical Oceanography](#), Hands-On Beekeepers, and more! Find it on West 43rd Street between Hampton Boulevard and Monarch Way.

Town-N-Gown is proud to be among the sponsors of this year’s Public Arts Festival @ ODU.



@ The Lê Planetarium



October 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 | Public Shows | 7pm | \$4/ticket

October 4 | Bad Movie Night | 6:30pm | \$4/ticket

Check the [CALENDAR](#) for show information.

The Planetarium is located at 4501 Elkhorn Ave. Entrance is in the Chemistry Building lobby. Parking is available in the W. 43rd & Elkhorn Ave. Garage.

October is “Tackling Hunger” Month

#FeedODU

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

MONARCH PANTRY

Open
Tuesdays
10am - 3pm

Located on the 1st Floor
in Webb Center
Near Starbucks

All items in the Pantry are donated and available free of charge for current ODU students. Please note, students must be enrolled in classes for the current semester in order to shop - just show your ODU Student ID at the door and bring your own reusable bag!

WAYS TO SUPPORT:

- Order items from our **Amazon Wishlist** - these ship directly to the Pantry & are on our shelves, available to students that same week!
- Make a monetary donation to the Monarch Pantry!
- Sponsor a shelf (2 week minimum sponsorship of the shelf of your choice), or organize a donation drive! Contact us via email for assistance with either option.

ITEMS AVAILABLE:

Please remember that all items in the Pantry are donated - selection can vary based on donation

- Fresh vegetables & fruit
- Fresh bread
- Canned goods like beans, canned meats, soup, and vegetables
- Frozen chicken & fish
- Pasta
- Cereal
- Toiletries

Email us: pantry@odu.edu

Follow us on Instagram: [@feed_odu](https://www.instagram.com/feed_odu)

...And October 16th is “World Food Day.” Please consider a donation to the Monarch Pantry and “tackle hunger” close to home!

ODU’s [Monarch Pantry](#) is a free, on-campus food pantry for ODU students. All items in the Pantry are made available due to generous donors. For those interested in donating, the Pantry has multiple options available:

- Donations of nonperishable food items or toiletries are accepted, which can be dropped off in-person, on campus. For a physical donation drop-off, our team can assist with unloading and transport, Monday – Friday from 8:30am – 4:30pm. Please email pantry@odu.edu to set up an in-person donation drop-off.
- The Pantry also accepts electronic monetary donations through the Pantry’s online donation portal: [Electronic Monetary Donations - Monarch Pantry](#)
- Donors can also make purchases through the Pantry’s Amazon Wishlist – these purchases ship directly to the Monarch Pantry: [Monarch Pantry Amazon Wishlist](#)

Around Town

The Norfolk Street Choir Project Concert

The Street Choir survived the hardships of the Pandemic and is once again expanding its programs. For the first several years, the choir met once a week at Freemason Street Baptist Church. There, they practiced their music, were provided with breakfast or lunch, some services, and given a one-day bus pass to facilitate their participation. The Street Choir has expanded into a twice-a-week program. First Lutheran Church has opened its doors to the group for choir practice; other services are still in operation at Freemason Street Baptist Church. The upcoming concert will allow our community to hear this incredible group.

Attucks Theatre | October 5th, 4pm - 6pm | FREE and open to the public

Robert Shoup, the founder of the Street Choir Project, received the Town-N-Gown Rita Costello Community Service Award in 2020.

Credit: Randy Lougee, Town-N-Gown

Olde Towne Portsmouth Ghost Walk
Friday, October 25, 2024

Limited tickets will be sold at the door. For guaranteed entry, please pre-purchase tickets online. Tickets are valid only for the tour time purchased. Tickets are non-refundable. **Get tickets while they last! Sold out every year!**



Come early or stay late! Ghost Walk Marketplace will be open from 5 - 9:30 PM. This spooktacular marketplace features curated vendors and entertainment especially for Ghost Walk. The marketplace is free and open to the public. Stay a spell and visit all the haunted happenings. Your tour will begin and end at the Ghost Walk Marketplace.

Ghost Walk [TICKETS](#)

Visit Portsmouth Calendar [HERE](#) for more fun Fall events!



Contact d'Art for full schedule of FREE activities Now and through the holidays!

Questions? Call 757-625-4211 or email connect@d-artcenter.org



Military Aviation Museum | 1341 Princess Anne Road, Virginia Beach | (757) 721-7767

More information & Tickets [HERE](#)



Town-N-Gown Notes

Town-N-Gown at the Air Show!!

Blue Angels Return to NAS Oceana Air Show 2024

Once again, the U.S. Navy Blue Angels gave a spectacular performance at the NAS Oceana Air Show. Town-N-Gowners joined thousands of other fans to take in the amazing feats of air power on Saturday and Sunday, September 21st and 22nd.

Returning for a 2nd season was ODU Alum and the Angels 1st female flight demonstration pilot LCDR Amanda Lee! The weather for the Saturday performances was perfect; however, Sunday saw a low ceiling which delayed the start of the show and cancelled the Navy's EOD Jump Team. Fans still had plenty to see and do and the amenities afforded the Town-N-Gown attendees at the ANA Chalet were superb!

A few (amateur) photos of this amazing event are included for your enjoyment!



SAVE the DATE!! Mark your calendars for the 2025 NAS Oceana Air Show! The Blue Angels will return for performances on September 20th & 21st!



***** Thank you for your continuing support of Town-N-Gown & Old Dominion University! *****

GO MONARCHS!!