



Volunteer with OLLI

Active volunteers are the creative lifeblood of OLLI at UNL. They are involved in nearly every aspect of OLLI courses, events, travel and programs. OLLI would not exist without this dedicated group. More than 100 volunteers work with OLLI at UNL staff to bring interesting, engaging and important programs to you and the nearly 1,500 other OLLI members.

We are always looking for fresh ideas, talents and skills. We rely on our volunteers to help us enrich and enhance the lives of those we serve.

Check out the **OLLI Volunteer Opportunities** listed below. We are always recruiting volunteers and will train members for the role(s) in which they serve. We invite OLLI members to explore and investigate these opportunities; simply contacting us for more information is *not* a commitment to move ahead, but is simply a way for you to gather more information so you can decide the next steps that are right for you.

And, while we hope most of our volunteers will remain involved for a good amount of time, we understand that circumstances change. Volunteering now does not necessarily imply a long-term commitment.

Mentor New OLLI Members as an **OLLI Ambassador**

- Meet new people and share your knowledge of OLLI at UNL to bring new members into the fold. Answer questions and help with anything from understanding our course structure and using Zoom to getting more involved with OLLI.

Plan Courses with a **Curriculum Subcommittee** (Arts, Contemporary Issues, Diversity, Health and Wellness, History, Language and Literature, Lifestyles, Religion, Science and Math)

- Join one or more of the subject area subcommittees to brainstorm course ideas, find instructors and schedule courses. OLLI at UNL course offerings are varied and interesting due to the creativity and commitment of member volunteers. Apply your passion for a topic or connect with experts you know to help schedule and develop courses. Meet with the subcommittee an average of once per month to get to know members with common interests, discuss ideas and build ways to bring a course to life.

Facilitate an OLLI Course

- See your course through to “delivery” by taking the course you planned while working on a subcommittee and serving as the **OLLI Facilitator** during the course. Handle the roster, make a few announcements and connect with fellow OLLI members with whom you share passions and interests. There are also opportunities to facilitate courses already arranged.

Serve as **Zoom Host** for an OLLI Course

- Do you enjoy working with Zoom and technology? Do you have a knack for how it all works? Are you committed to being the eyes, ears and voice of Zoom attendees and want to ensure they receive a great experience? Serve as a Zoom host for a multi-format course on a topic you're interested in, and get that course for free.

Plan Events with the **Events Committee**

- Are day trips to interesting locations your vibe? Do you enjoy coming up with places to go and planning what fellow members will do when they arrive? How about building activities that create social connection and new friends? Attend a meeting once per month to report your progress, and work with this team who plans everything from attending plays and concerts to "Game Night" to full-day trips to see places or attend events focused on history, science, contemporary issues and diversity.

Recommend Travel with the **Travel Committee**

- Bring the lessons you've learned from your travels as well as your ideas about other places you'd like to visit and help determine destinations (local, regional, national and international) along with what to see along the way, partnering with OLLI staff and OLLI's travel vendor, Star Destinations. Contribute to the high-level experience of travel with OLLI friends.

Join or Start an **Interest Group**

- Interest Groups are included in your OLLI membership and are a great way to connect with existing and new friends with common interests. Click [here](#) to see the current list of interest groups. Have a passion for a topic for which there is no interest group? Start a new one.

Leadership Opportunities

- Would you like lead meetings and work even more closely with OLLI staff? OLLI volunteers also lead curriculum subcommittees and other committees mentioned above. First, get involved in that team and after you understand what they do and how, raise your hand and offer to lead that group. If you are detail-oriented and love taking notes, offer to do so for the team you're part of. Other volunteers as well as staff will partner with you as needed so you don't have to jump into the deep end of the pool.

Promote OLLI with the **Marketing Committee**

- Love coming up with ways to get the word out and promote the benefits of OLLI membership? Then join the Marketing Committee, which is responsible for OLLI's marketing plan, promotional materials and techniques, and communication with both members and non-members. Help OLLI maintain excellent communication with *all* OLLI audiences.

Recruit Members with the **Membership Committee**

- Meet with this group on a regular basis to discuss methods and processes for attracting and retaining OLLI members by assessing interests and recommending activities that encourage participation in all that OLLI offers. Get involved in Interest Groups, which are a primary area developed by this committee.

Raise Funds for OLLI at UNL with the **Resource Development Committee**

- Work with this group to help generate sufficient supplemental funding and support to assure the long-term growth and sustainability of OLLI at UNL.

Serve on the **Advisory Council**

- Chairs of the committees listed above serve on the OLLI Advisory Council. Other members are elected to serve two-year terms.

Help with **Large Events**

- Each year, OLLI at UNL hosts open houses, showcases and appreciation events for both current and new members, which literally hundreds of people attend. We're always looking for folks interested in staffing informational tables (regarding OLLI Ambassadors, Courses, Events, Interest Groups and Travel) and check-in tables, being greeters at entrances, even driving golf carts from the parking lot. If committee membership isn't a fit for you, but driving a golf cart is, let us know.

Want to learn more? Start by completing a Volunteer Interest Form. Find the form on the OLLI website at: <https://olli.unl.edu/volunteer-olli>

We'll contact you, discuss opportunities and determine where you'd like to begin. Or, if it works better for you, send an email to Jeanette Wellsandt, jwellsandt2atunl.edu, and she will either get back to you or notify the appropriate person to do so. Then, let the fun begin.