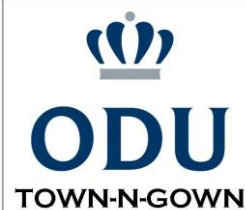
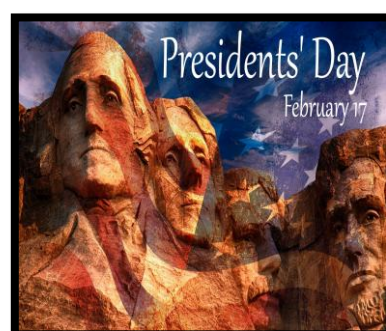


ODU Town-N-Gown

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



February 2025



Town-N-Gown Leadership

President

Pamela McNaught

1st Vice President (Programs)

Rob Grandon

2nd Vice President, (Membership)

Randy Lougee

Corresponding Secretary

Mary Lou Speckheuer

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Jo Hayden

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Lawrence Owes

Directors-at-Large

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

University Liaison

Cathy Lewis
Community Engagement



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

Upcoming Events / Dates to Remember

- Feb 4 Town-N-Gown Board Meeting, 9:30am Webb Center
- Feb 4 ODU Wind Ensemble, 7:30pm University Theatre
- Feb 8 Town-N-Gown @ "Play4Kay" Women's Basketball (pg 8)
- Feb 10 Doos Trio, 7:30pm Chandler Recital Hall (pg 5)
- Feb 11 Jazz Combo/Orchestra, 7:30pm Chandler Recital Hall (Free)
- Feb 12 Protsman Recital, 7:30pm Chandler Recital Hall (Free)
- Feb 17 *The Big Read* (pg 6)
- Feb 22 - Mar 2 Corduroy, Goode Theatre (pg 7)
- Feb 23 ODU Symphony Orchestra, 3pm, University Theatre (Free)
- Feb 28 Fast Forward Ensemble, 7:30pm, Chandler Recital Hall (Free)
- Mar 4 Town-N-Gown Board Meeting @ 9:30am, Webb Center

"Life isn't about finding yourself.

Life is about creating yourself." – George Bernard Shaw

Around Campus

Black History Month Events Highlight Connection, Community

ODU will celebrate Black History Month during the month of February with a series of meaningful events and engagement opportunities to learn, connect, and promote community well-being and Black history. The Office of Intercultural Relations (OIR), alongside more than 15 campus partners and student organizations, is hosting about 25 events throughout the month. These include cultural, artistic, educational, and wellness events open to the campus community.



The University's celebrations will start with the **BHM Kickoff** on Feb. 4 hosted by OIR and student organizations including the African Student Association, the Black Student Alliance, Brother2Brother, Caribso, Ebony Impact Gospel Choir, and the NAACP during activity hour from 12:30 to 1:30pm in South Mall at Webb Center.

Supported by the [National Endowment for the Arts Big Read initiative](#), the Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity is hosting an in-depth discussion of the intersection of racism and health. Dr. Gregory Hutchings, author of “Getting into Good Trouble at School,” will lead the community conversation “Post Traumatic Racism Disorder: Looking at the Health Crisis of Racism and How Belonging Can Bring About Health Equity” on February 6th at 6:30pm at Chartway Arena.

A full list of the events and further information is available on the [OIR website](#).

Credit: Kelsey Kendall, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)



Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Observance

Dr. Bernice A. King, attorney, author and CEO of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change (The King Center) delivered a keynote address at the 40th annual Old Dominion University Martin Luther King Jr. Observance held [January 29th] at Chartway Arena.



The program also included the presentation of ODU's Hugo Owens Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Award to Hampton Roads Community Foundation President and Chief Executive Officer Deborah DiCroce, Ph.D. The award recognizes outstanding individuals and organizations that have made considerable contributions to civil rights, politics, housing and social programs through leadership, dedication and persistence. Watch a video of the Observance [HERE](#).

Credit: Kenya Godette, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)



\$250k Donation Supports New Bioelectrics Research

A \$250,000 donation from the Pam and Rich Nuccitelli Foundation will help new hires and young scientists at the Frank Reidy Research Center for Bioelectrics at ODU establish their labs and research, contributing to the work that has come from the center since its founding in 2002. Andrei Pakhomov, director of the center, said the funding supports new research that leads to publication, external funding and awards that will serve as seed funding for select proposals.



Rich Nuccitelli said the Frank Reidy Center laid the foundation for the work he continues to do today. He is a former researcher with the center who now serves as the Director of Research at Pulse Biosciences, a biomedical company specializing in nanopulse technology.

The Frank Reidy Research Center conducts research with nanosecond electric pulses and plasma, which has interdisciplinary impacts in fields such as medicine, biology and engineering. It also serves as the lead organization for the International Bioelectrics Consortium, an association of 18 research institutions around the globe. Since its founding, researchers with the center have secured more than 50 patents and published more than 600 papers in peer-reviewed journals. Their work has made an impact in cancer treatment and cardiac ablation.

Credit: Kelsey Kendall, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)



New Data Science Institute Director Plans Interdisciplinary Collaborations

Khan Iftekharuddin, Ph.D., will serve as the inaugural director of ODU's Virginia Beach Data Science Institute. Opened in November 2023, the institute is a hub for research, collaboration and instruction, bringing together interdisciplinary teams to discover solutions to complex societal challenges the Hampton Roads community faces.



Dr. Iftekharuddin concurrently serves as the director of the ODU Vision Lab, which develops innovative algorithms and systems for human-machine interaction, biomedical imaging and environmental resilience using computer vision, signal processing and artificial intelligence.

Dr. Iftekharuddin is a professor and Batten Endowed Chair in machine learning in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Prior to his current roles, Dr. Iftekharuddin was the associate dean for research and graduate studies/innovation and interim dean of the Batten College of Engineering and Technology.

He has received many accolades throughout his career. In 2023, Dr. Iftekharuddin was recognized by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia's Outstanding Faculty award. He has made significant contributions to his field and is among the top 2% most-cited scientists in the world, according to recent Stanford University rankings.

Credit: Kelsey Kendall, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)

Dean of Ellmer School of Nursing Named

Rene Love, Ph.D., D.N.P., PMHNP-BC, FNAP, FAANP, FAAN, has been named dean of Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences Ellmer School of Nursing at ODU. Dr. Love will begin her new duties April 1, 2025.

“We are fortunate to attract Dr. Love following an extensive national search,” said Alfred Abuhamad, MD, executive vice president of Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at ODU and dean of Eastern Virginia Medical School at ODU. “Dr. Love brings a rich combination of knowledge, capabilities, and experience to this key leadership position. She is an innovative educator and a passionate scholar. She is also an experienced administrator and national leader within the nursing profession.”



Dr. Love joins ODU from the University of Florida where, since 2020, she has served as associate dean for Academic Affairs – Graduate Clinical Education and a clinical professor. Prior to her time at the University of Florida, Dr. Love was director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) program and a clinical professor at the University of Arizona, where she earned her Ph.D. in nursing. From 2014 to 2015, she was specialty director of the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program, D.N.P. integrative course coordinator (2013-2015), and an assistant professor at Vanderbilt School of Nursing (2010-2015)... [and] adjunct professor at Vanderbilt University from 1999-2010.

Credit: EVMS News

Full story [HERE](#)



ODU Launches Big Blue Records

Big Blue Records at Old Dominion University has launched through the F. Ludwig Diehn School of Music and will primarily feature music releases from faculty and students, offering recording services, mixing and mastering, music publishing and distribution and artist promotion.

Big Blue Studios, equipped with professional recording gear and instruments, a live room for full bands, and an isolation booth for vocals, serves as the label’s home studio in the Diehn Center for the Performing Arts.



With its launch, ODU is one of only a few schools in the state to have its own record label. [T]he goal of Big Blue Records is not only to release high-quality music by ODU-affiliated artists, but also to give students real-world experience and paid work opportunities.

Although the label’s publishing arm will focus on music releases by ODU faculty and students, anyone in the community can book a recording or rehearsal session at Big Blue Studios by visiting their [website](#). Revenue generated will be used to maintain the studio and purchase new equipment.

Credit: Jonah Grinkewitz, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)

Town-N-Gown Rita M. Costello Community Service Award

Each year, Town-N-Gown recognizes an individual from our larger community who exemplifies community service and demonstrated unusual concern for and commitment to serving others. To nominate a member of the community or request additional information, contact Pamela McNaught at pamelamcnaught@aol.com. The 2025 Recipient will be recognized at the Town-N-Gown Annual meeting (and our 60th Anniversary celebration!) on May 20, 2025.

◆ ◆

@ The Barry

Barry Art Museum Highlights Early Fashion Dolls in New Exhibition



The Barry Art Museum at Old Dominion University will highlight this history through a new exhibition, *Carved Couture: 18th-Century British Wooden Fashion Dolls*, runs through July 31.

Alongside two pieces from the museum's permanent collection, the exhibition includes dolls on loan from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

“Carved Couture” continues the Barry Art Museum’s series of historical doll exhibitions. Last year, *“Fashioning Innovation: Madame Alexander at 100,”* focused on the trailblazing dollmaker’s contributions to the American doll industry. This March, *“Out of the Box: A Barbie Doll Retrospective,”* will examine the people and processes behind the iconic doll’s creation and wardrobe.

NOTE: “*Carved Couture*” and “*Out of the Box*” are the final two exhibitions before the museum closes in July 2025 for its 18-month \$25 million expansion project.

Credit: Jonah Grinkewitz, ODU News

Full story [HERE](#)

[illegible]

Diehn Concert Series - Doos Trio

February 10, 2025 | 7:30pm | Chandler Recital Hall

Free Lecture: February 11 | 12:30pm | Chandler Hall

TICKETS

Three masters and old friends in a new collaboration; Kayhan Kalhor, Wu Man, and Sandeep Das are established soloists in their individual traditions. These artists will join forces to create a new trio that highlights the ancient traditions of Persia, China and India in a 21st century program.



◆ ◆

Town-N-Gownner Members: you are cordially invited to WIN's [Women's Initiative Network](#) Speaker Event on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 | 4 PM Presentation in Chartway Arena's Big Blue Room.

Presenting: *Harnessing Headwinds - Successfully Navigating Self-Doubt & Adversity* with

Col. Nicole Malachowski, USAF (Ret.),
moderated by Jennifer Boykin, WIN Executive Committee
Member, Former President, Newport News Shipbuilding, and
Executive Vice President, Huntington Ingalls Industries.



Col. Malachowski captures her audience with anecdotes not only from her time in the service as the Air Force's first woman Thunderbird pilot and executor of a \$119M annual flying hour program but also as an advisor to first ladies Michelle Obama and Jill Biden on topics related to service members, veterans, and military families. Most recently, since her retirement, she talks about her medical journey and gained energy from educating others about the growing Tick-Borne Illness epidemic in addition to mentoring those in recovery through the Air Force's Wounded Warriors program.

While there is a fee for the general public, there would be no charge for ODU affiliated guests to attend the lecture. To reserve your free ticket, simply select "ODU Affiliate" on the [RSVP link HERE](#).

For questions or special accommodations, please contact Kelsey Host Sarcone at 757-683-4395.

More details on the event [HERE](#)



@ The Gordon



Big Read: The Cost of Deep Roots

Discover the intersections of family history and health at “The Cost of Deep Roots: Family Tree Exhibit,” a thought-provoking Big Read event showcasing the artistic talents of high school students. In this unique exhibition, students explore their own family health histories through creative visual art, tracing generational patterns of health issues and reflecting on the impact of access to healthcare over time.

Date: February 17 - 21, 2025 | Baron & Ellin Gordon Art Galleries



MAMA-Girl! is an art exhibition honoring the life and work of Eastern Shore artist and pastor Mary Elizabeth "MAMA-Girl" Onley (1953 - 2018), free and open to the public. The exhibition will remain on view through May 10, 2025.

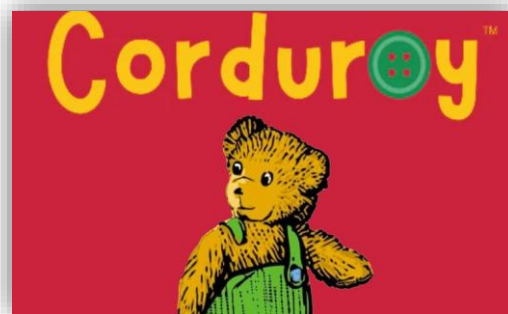
Explore a diverse collection of some 150 artworks and objects from MAMA-Girl's studio, generously shared with the public by more than a dozen lenders including the Barrier Islands Center and residents of the Eastern Shore, along with others across Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina.

Baron & Ellin Gordon Galleries | 4509 Monarch Way | Tuesday - Saturday, 11am - 4pm

@ The Goode

Corduroy

Oh no, Corduroy's button has gone missing, and he can't go home with kindhearted Lisa without it! Join the beloved teddy bear as he takes a rollicking ride up the escalator and begins a delightfully destructive romp through every section of the department store. Will he find his button at the top of a teetering store display? Will Lisa ever get to bring him home, or will the bumbling security guard catch him first? Where, oh where, is Corduroy's **BUTTON**?



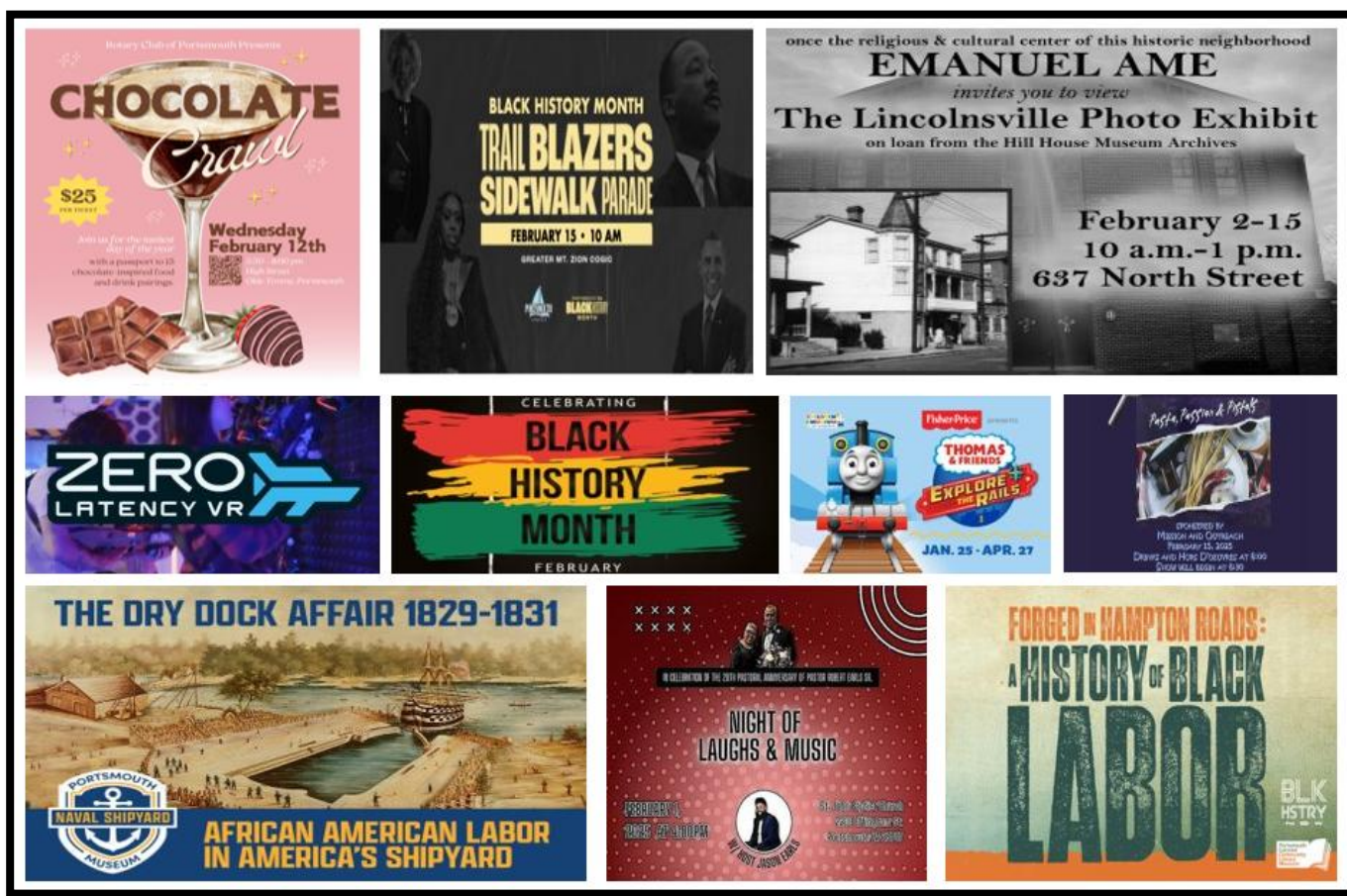
By Barry Kornhauser, based on the book by Don Freeman | Directed by Katherine Hammond

February 22, 23, March 1, 2 @ 2pm | February 22, 26, 27, 28, March 1 @ 7:30pm

Goode Theatre, 4601 Monarch Way

[TICKETS](#)

Around Town



Complete Portsmouth Events Calendar & info [HERE](#)

Town-N-Gown Notes



New Members!

Gene Payne Lynn Smith



We look forward to seeing you at Town-N-Gown's programs & events!!

Save the Date!!

This year, Town-N-Gown celebrates 60 years of dedication to developing a mutual understanding and appreciation between Old Dominion University and the civilian and military communities of Hampton Roads! Join us in observing this important milestone at the Town-N-Gown Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2025. Details to follow.



ODU Lady Monarchs

host

Toledo Rockets



Saturday, February 8th | 2pm | Chartway Arena

Play4Kay** / MAC & Cheese Smackdown

Town-N-Gown Members: ***Free*** | Non-Members/Guests: \$25⁺⁺



Seating is limited!! RSVP required by **February 4th** to Rob Grandon

rob.grandon@oakviewgroup.com or (757) 839-7257

VIP Parking: 2nd Level, 45th Street Garage

Check-in: Constant Center 45th Street VIP Entrance (starts @ 1:30pm)

⁺⁺ Become a Member! Attend for ***Free***



*****Play4Kay - United in the fight against ALL cancers affecting women***
