

# ODU Town-N-Gown

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



March 2026



*From the  
Officers and Directors  
of  
Town-N-Gown*

## **Town-N-Gown Leadership**

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Veleka Gatling, PhD.  
AVO, Community Engagement

Website: [www.ODUTNG.com](http://www.ODUTNG.com)  
Email: [townngownodu@yahoo.com](mailto:townngownodu@yahoo.com)

## **Upcoming Events / Dates to Remember**

**Mar 3** Board meeting at Webb Center- We Need You!  
See website [odutng.com](http://odutng.com) for more information.

Mar 5,6,7 Charlotte's Webb – Goode Theatre  
7:30pm Thurs/Fri 2pm Sat

Mar 8 ODU Symphony Orchestra: American  
Perspectives 3pm University Theatre (\$17)

Mar 11 Norfolk's Diehn of Music: Celebrating F.Ludwig  
Diehn 7:30pm Chandler Recital Hall **page 4**

Mar 12 In Good Company: An Evening of Song & Story  
7pm Chandler Recital Hall

Mar 25 Nashville songwriters Night: Kevin MaC & Keith  
Stegall 7:30pm Chandler Recital Hall

**Mar 29** "Re-train the Brain" bridge learning @ The Perry  
Library sponsored by **Town-N-Gown**

Mar 31 Collegium Musicum Madrigals Concert  
7:30pm Chandler Recital Hall

Apr 16 International Tattoo @ Scope 7pm **page 9**

**May 19** Annual board meeting with LTC Shah  
(Alumnus now PMS at ODU's Army ROTC)

## AROUND CAMPUS

For 50 years, the Patricia W. and J. Douglas Perry Library has served as a central hub for learning and research at Old Dominion University.



Initially opened in 1976 as The New Library Building, the first expansion of the building was completed in 1999, featuring a 76,000-square-foot addition that included the building's iconic tower. The then-newly renovated library was dedicated in honor of Patricia Perry '89 and her husband Douglas Perry, generous benefactors of the University. A second expansion in 2011 created the Perry Library Learning Commons to offer students a collaborative workspace and enhanced technological resources.

Today, Perry Library holds a vast collection of print, media and electronic materials supporting research, including a Special Collections and University Archives department with essential resources on University, state and regional history.

For students, Perry Library is where they enjoy study spaces, computer labs and more.

Perry Library is also a valuable resource for the Hampton Roads community. In 2024, it welcomed Naro Video @ ODU Libraries, restoring access to over 43,000 videos from the cherished Norfolk video store. Linda McGreevy, a retired Old Dominion University art history professor, ran the video store from 1996 to 2019 with her husband Tim Cooper.



University Libraries, of which Perry Library is a part, has launched a campaign to celebrate this golden anniversary and raise awareness of the myriad ways the Libraries inspire and empower the University community to learn, grow and create.

The yearlong celebration, **50 & Forward**, will commemorate this historic milestone while also looking ahead to the next 50 years and beyond.

Since many of the films and series included in the collection are not available through streaming, it also features a section called “Unstreamable,” that is hundreds of titles deep. Some titles, like the Kevin Smith religious spoof “Dogma,” are wrapped in legal entanglements, while others, such as the anime classic “Vampire Hunter D,” have lapsed distribution rights.



To that end, ODU faculty, staff and students can check out materials from the Naro collection with their University ID card. Community members can join **Friends of the ODU Libraries** for \$50 (individual) or \$100 (family) a year to check out up to three movies per week. The library also rents out DVD players.



Beyond the academic benefits, preserving the experience of renting videos for the Hampton Roads community was of paramount importance to McGreevy and Cooper.

“We could have sent the collection to NYU,” said McGreevy. “There was some interest there, and I said, ‘No, that’s too far away.’ It’s nice to be at NYU, but that doesn’t help anybody around here.”

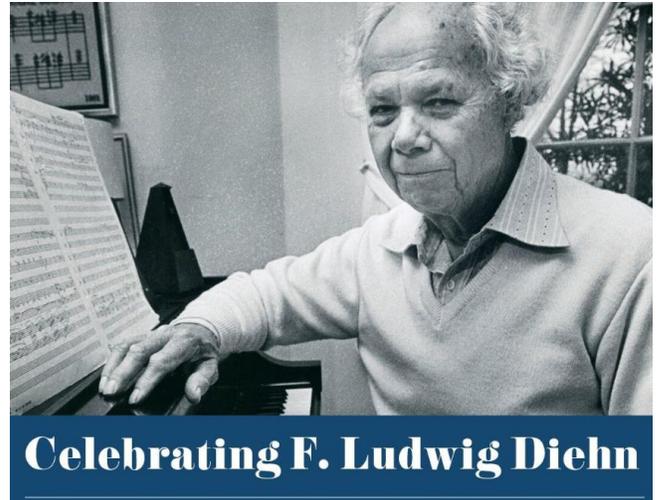
With the collection now available to the public for the first time in years, all involved hope the interest and the access leads to future fundraising opportunities, more film festivals and more contributions from the greater film community. In addition, the “Naro Minded” public screening series, established in 2022, will continue. There’s also the chance that, like vinyl records, physical media will see a similar resurgence. In that regard, Naro Video @ ODU Libraries is more than just a window to the past, but a bridge to the present and future. When there are more than 42,000 items in a collection, choosing a favorite seems impossible. A few of the new video collection housed in the Perry Library as Naro Video @ ODU Libraries include:

- “The Conversation” (ultimate 1970s paranoia thriller);
- “Road House” (a Great Bad Movie);
- “Unforgiven” (with the line “Deserve’s got nothing to do with it.”);
- “Magnolia” (in which Tom Cruise chews the scenery like it’s a bag of beef jerky).

Credits: Jeff Cunningham, University Libraries videos

**Chandler Recital Hall, ODU  
March 11, 2026**

One man’s lifelong love of music fueled a composing career and endowed programs that would nurture artists for generations to come. F. Ludwig Diehn, a successful businessman with degrees in law and chemistry, fulfilled his musical dreams by composing works for orchestra and chamber ensembles that have been performed around the world. He chose Norfolk as his home, and left a legacy to the community whose impact is vast, touching the lives of aspiring artists, students, and audiences alike. Virginia Arts Festival joins Hampton Roads Community Foundation to celebrate Diehn’s life and music in this memorable performance of his works featuring some of the region’s finest musicians.



at the **Lê Planetarium**

**Seeing! A Photon's Journey**

**SEEING!**  
A PHOTON'S JOURNEY INTO THE UNKNOWNS

**MAR 4** 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. [Add to calendar](#) [Share](#) [f](#) [t](#)

**Date:** March 4, 2026  
**Location:** Lê Planetarium  
**Open To:** General Public  
Campus Community  
Students  
Faculty and Staff  
Alumni  
**Fee:** 5

**- BLACK HOLES -**  
Journey into the Unknown

**MAR 11** 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. [Add to calendar](#) [Share](#) [f](#) [t](#)

**Date:** March 11, 2026  
**Location:** Lê Planetarium  
**Open To:** General Public  
Campus Community  
Students  
Faculty and Staff  
Alumni  
**Fee:** 5

**TOUR OF THE  
SPRING SKY**

**MAR 18** 7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. [Add to calendar](#) [Share](#) [f](#) [t](#)

**Date:** March 18, 2026  
**Location:** Lê Planetarium  
**Open To:** General Public  
Campus Community  
Students  
Faculty and Staff  
Alumni  
**Fee:** 5

**Naro Minded: The Ballad of Little Jo**

**MAR 26** 6:15 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. [Add to calendar](#) [Share](#) [f](#) [t](#)

**Date:** March 26, 2026  
**Location:** Lê Planetarium  
**Open To:** General Public  
Campus Community  
Students  
Faculty and Staff  
Alumni

Join Naro Video @ ODU Libraries for a free film screening projected onto the starry skies of ODU's Lê Planetarium!  
About the Film: After being thrown out of her home, a young woman decides to disguise herself as a man to survive the ruthless Wild West. (IMDb)

Credit: ODU Events Center, Justin Mason (ODU professor & Town-N-Gown board member)

**NORFOLK, Va. – Baseball returns to Old Dominion’s** campus for the first time in 21 months on Friday when the Monarchs host Quinnipiac at 2 p.m. But if you’re an ODU fan, and you plan to attend, you’re going to need a primer on where to park, purchase your tickets and find a seat. Things have changed a bit since May 12, 2024, the last time the Monarchs played at home when they defeated App State, 11-10.



Because of unavoidable construction delays, the \$24 million makeover of the Ellmer Family Baseball Complex at TowneBank Field that began in late 2024 will not be finished in time for this baseball season.

However, the Monarchs will play at home this season, with fans being accommodated in temporary stands behind the left field fence. InProduction, a temporary seating company operating out of Richmond, installed seating for nearly 1,000 fans in recent weeks. The seating is aluminum and affords fans a view of ODU baseball they’ve never seen – from the outfield.

Here’s what you should do when you arrive on campus. Turn down 43<sup>rd</sup> Street off Hampton Boulevard and you will be directed to park in the Elcorn Garage, at the corner of 43<sup>rd</sup> Street and Elcorn. As you exit the garage, take a short walk toward your right and the outfield area behind the Chemistry Building. You’ll see a temporary ticket gate in front of you. Lot 43, adjacent to the L.R. Hill Sports Center, is the place where fans usually park, and it will be open, but Anthony Redifer Jr., ODU’s facilities events coordinator, recommends the Elcorn Garage. “It is much closer to the entrance to the stadium,” he said.

General admission tickets are \$10 apiece, with faculty and military tickets priced at \$8 and \$5 for children under 12.

Voucher books, priced at \$100 for 25 tickets, are available at the ODU ticket office.

There is seating for about 150 fans of opposing teams in right center field.

Home fans will have much better accommodations. And although the seating is temporary, it looks kind of cool, with the traditional OD baseball logos everywhere. Best of all, ODU has replicated a version of Rally Alley, the area around the first base line where fans usually converge to eat and drink, in the outfield area.

This area will be called the Power Alley Patio presented by IBEW (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers). There will be a food truck and a beer garden. There are two rows of standing drink rails at the back of the seating that will provide room for 100 or so fans to eat and drink while standing and watching the game. High top tables will be positioned just outside the tent for people who prefer to eat and drink there.

Portable toilets will be provided but fans can also use the rest rooms inside the Jim Jarrett Administration Building that are usually used for volleyball games. There is, of course, a handicap ramp and handicap seating. “We hope the fans will be happy with what we’ve got planned. We’ve done everything we can to make this as comfortable for them as possible,” Redifer said.

The Monarchs played all of their games away from campus last season, including home games at Norfolk’s Harbor Park and Hampton’s War Memorial Stadium. When they learned the stadium renovation would not be

complete on time, ODU officials, including President Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D, decided that the it was unfair for the team to have to play on the road again.

The university spent more than \$250,000 to set up the temporary seating and amenities for fans.

ODU Head Coach Chris Finwood sat in the bleachers a few days ago and said the view is unique.

“It’s a great view,” he said. “You don’t often have a view from the outfield at a mid-major stadium.

“I think a really cool thing about this season is that our regular fans, the people who come and watch us often, will get the chance to enjoy watching the stadium get built week by week. We’ll go on a road trip and come back a week or two later and they’ll see more progress. “It’s going to be a little different visually, but we’re finally going to be playing at home and, you know, that’s a great thing.”

Credit: Harry Minium ODU sports.

## ODU Baseball Home Schedule

at Norfolk, Va. *Ellmer Family Baseball Complex*

Mar 1(Sun) vs. Charlotte 1:00 PM

Mar 6(Fri) vs. Connecticut 2:00 PM

Mar 7(Sat) vs. Connecticut 2:00 PM

**Military Appreciation / First Responders / Service Members**

Mar 8(Sun) vs. Connecticut 1:00 PM

Mar 18(Wed) vs. Norfolk State 6:00 PM

**Our Region Our Reign**

Mar 20(Fri) vs. App State 6:00 PM

**Conference Opener / First Day of Spring**

Mar 21(Sat) vs. App State 3:00 PM

**Conference Opener / Block Party - Pregame Tailgate**

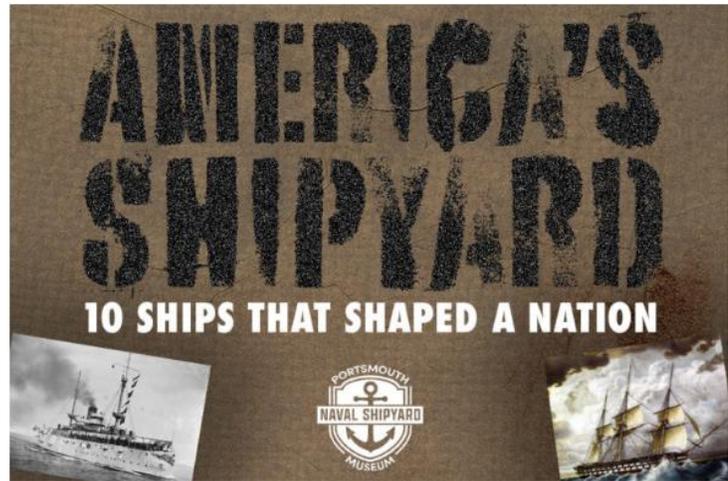
Mar 22(Sun) vs. App State 1:00 PM

Mar 24(Tue) vs. William & Mary 6:00 PM



## AROUND TOWN

America's Shipyard:  
10 Ships That Shaped a Nation Exhibit  
When: March 1 and 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am  
Where: Portsmouth Welcome Center



**Birding** is one of the fastest-growing hobbies nationwide, and it's no wonder. It gets you [outdoors](#), it encourages travel and it's effortless. While Chesapeake, Virginia has always been a birder's paradise with hundreds of species calling Chesapeake home, the spring is an extra special time to see a variety of rare birds. Thousands of birds will migrate through Chesapeake on their way further north while others will simply be returning to Chesapeake. If you decide that you love birding check out [Northwest River Park](#), [Chesapeake City Park](#), and [Great Bridge Lock Park](#)



where you can see the ground nesting oven bird, red-eyed vireo, and nesting birds such as bluebirds, robins, great crested flycatchers, and peewees.

Virginia Beach Convention Center

website: [SkillUSA.org](http://SkillUSA.org)



### State Leadership Conference

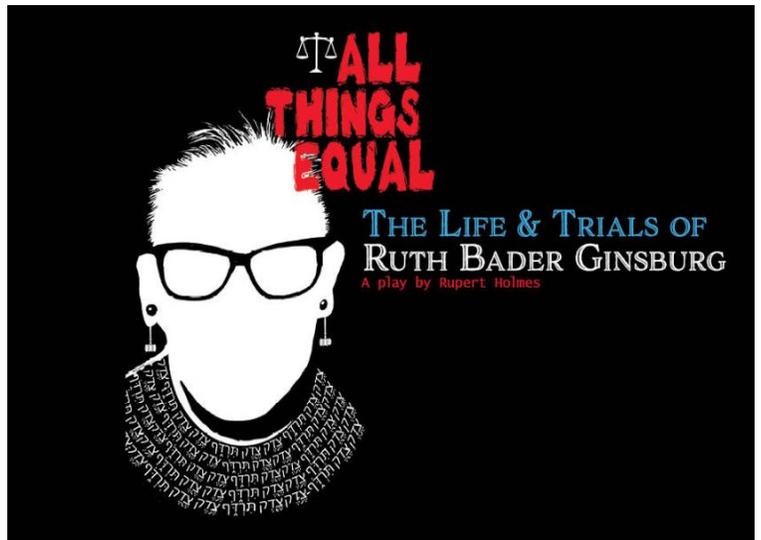
📅 March 09, 2026 - March 11, 2026

📍 Virginia Beach Convention Center, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Join us for the 2026 State Leadership Conference featuring leadership development, skills competitions, and networking opportunities....

Norfolk  
Attucks Theatre  
March 29, 2026

In this moving, inspiring play, Supreme Court Justice “RBG” welcomes a friend of the family to her cozy chambers to convey fascinating and often funny moments of her life and its many trials: losing her mother the day before she graduated as valedictorian of her Brooklyn high school ... being one of only nine young women studying law at Harvard while also raising a daughter and helping her husband battle cancer ... fighting for women’s rights in the 1970s... and taking courageous stands for human rights as a voice of reason amid a splintering and increasingly politicized Supreme Court. An evening with a great and compassionate icon of American justice—an RBG who is not only “notorious” but victorious as she takes a stand for ordinary people facing the many challenges of a changing world.



**Don't forget to get your discounted tickets for Tattoo on Opening Day - April 16th!**

*Be sure to submit name(s) and send in money (\$63.75 each) for your ticket(s) before Mar 18<sup>th</sup>*

*Use email: [townngownodu@yahoo.com](mailto:townngownodu@yahoo.com) for all related correspondence*

Although the ceremonial bands and military demonstrations begin at 7pm, there will be NATO speakers and VIP introductions starting at 4pm. There are plenty of vendors for food and NATO related gifts.

NATO's headquarters has been in Norfolk, Virginia, since 1952, when Allied Command Atlantic was established. The current command, Allied Command Transformation, was formed in 2003, and Joint Force Command Norfolk was established in 2018.

Norfolk will be host to the 32 member states including the latest –  
Finland in April 2023, and  
Sweden in March 2024.

A special *thank you* goes to Elizabeth(Bet) Cake - President of Town-N-Gown 2011-2013 and 2015-2017





## TOWN-N-GOWN NOTES

Town-N-Gown members are always welcome at the board meetings as well as attending any associated scheduled tours. The next board meeting will be held Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at Webb Center. For more information go our website [odutng.com](http://odutng.com)

***Wanted: Newsletter Editor. Town-N-Gown is looking for a detail-oriented ODU Monarch fan who enjoys sharing all the latest news from campus and the larger community.***

Town-N-Gown website is live! If you have not yet seen our website, take a minute to visit! The site has all the essential information about Town-N-Gown as well as history, photos of past events, upcoming events, and the previous issues of the TNG newsletter. Have a look at [www.ODUTNG.com](http://www.ODUTNG.com).

***Go Monarchs!!***



Our sincerest thanks ***to Colley Avenue Copies & Graphics*** for their ongoing support of Town-N-Gown. As a gift to our organization, Colley Avenue Copies & Graphics has generously printed and processed our flyers, programs, posters, banners, stationery, and business cards for many, many years. We are most grateful for the generous donation of their time, talent, and treasure!

For those of you who know others that would like to join us!

*It's Time to Renew!*

Dues for 2025-2026 membership are due now!

**TOWN-N-GOWN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**Membership dues are \$25.00 and include a spouse/partner (single address).**

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 to use for invitations.)

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

Lawrence Owes

P.O. Box 51

Portsmouth, VA 23705

For questions, contact Mary Lou Speckheuer at (757) 285-2722 | [marylou110@cox.net](mailto:marylou110@cox.net)

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