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**For Immediate use**

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**UCLA Extension Joins Nationwide Initiative to  
Provide Learning Opportunities for Mature Adults**

UCLA Extension announces the launch of its new Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, featuring courses and events designed for adults 50 years and above.

UCLA Extension's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute is made possible by a grant from The Bernard Osher Foundation, a San Francisco-based organization that has funded a network of 61 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes across the country to provide learning opportunities for mature adults.

Currently, adults 50 years and above make up about 15 percent of UCLA Extension's student population. While many of them favor longtime Extension favorites such as Beyond the Headlines, a daytime lecture series on important world issues, or Sneak Preview, featuring contemporary films and interviews with filmmakers, others favor a wide variety of topics, including mathematics, health, and science.

"As the baby boomers age, more and more of them are coming to UCLA Extension to stay intellectually active and involved, and they have very diverse interests. Some of them want traditional personal enrichment, but others want to use their professional skills, perhaps in new ways," says Dr. Barry Bortnick, founding director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UCLA Extension. "We're putting together a program that appeals to a very vital population and creating a community of learners."

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute courses this quarter include Mind, Body, and Health, examining current research on the mind-body connection; Explorers of New Frontiers, featuring discoveries from today's most daring thinkers; and Getting the Shot You Wish You Had Taken: See Your World with a New Eye, a photography course using digital and traditional cameras. Other courses take members on journeys through world drama, mythic traditions, or Hapsburg Europe, or offer techniques for becoming a consultant or practicing meditation.

"We'll be expanding our offerings next fall, as we gain experience in what this population wants from continuing education," says Bortnick.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute begins April 2. Charter members pay a \$95 fee, which entitles them to two free Osher Lifelong Learning Institute courses, discounts on other specially selected courses, and special events and receptions.

For more information about becoming a charter member of the new UCLA Extension Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, visit [uclaextension.edu/osher](http://uclaextension.edu/osher) or call (310) 825-2301.

*Editors and Reporters: To learn more about this program and the population it serves, contact Julie Jaskol to visit an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute classroom, talk to students, and interview director Barry Bortnick.*