



Lifelong Learning & Community Engagement

UNT Retiree Association

An Update from the UNT Retiree Association

Spring 2022 Program

Given the continuing influence of COVID restrictions and changes, the UNTRA Board is planning a limited number of in-person meetings this Spring. Here's our Spring 2022 calendar of events:

<p>Saturday, February 5 UNT Men's Basketball Game Rudy's Bar-B-Q for lunch</p> 	<p>We have traditionally met for a meal and a UNT basketball game. This year, we've chosen Rudy's Bar-B-Q for lunch (3:00 PM), followed by the UNT vs. UT-San Antonio basketball game (5:00 PM). Recall that retirees can receive two (2) tickets to each home athletic event (if seating is available). Just ask for them at the gate.</p>
<p>Thursday, February 17 6:00 PM-7:30 PM in the UNTRA/OLLI Office. 1716 Scripture Street</p> 	<p>The Persevere Until Success Happens (PUSH) program at UNT supports foster care alumni at the university, enabling them to arrive and thrive on campus. Bring a homemade dish and get to know some of these remarkable students at this informal dinner.</p>
<p>Tuesday, March 8 Meet at the UNTRA/OLLI Office at 8:30am to carpool. Lunch in the area following the Gallery tour.</p> 	<p>Come and join us in historic St. Jo on March 8, 2022 at 10 AM. We will be at the beautiful Davis & Blevins Gallery, 108 S. Main St. St. Jo, TX. Noted artist, Donna Howell Sickles will speak about her work and give us a tour of her studio. In addition, we can spend time browsing in the two beautifully renovated buildings that house an amazing collection of artistic works. Donna is an honoree in the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame and was named by the South West Art Magazine as one of the 40 most prominent people in the Western art world. Her paintings can be found in numerous museums including the Tucson Museum of Fine Art and the National Museum of Wildlife Art.</p>
<p>Wednesday, April 27 Brahms Requiem, UNT Symphony and Grand Chorus Dinner at Houlihan's – 5:00 PM Pre-Concert Lecture – at Houlihan's following dinner Concert – 7:30 PM in Murchison Performing Arts Center</p> 	<p><i>Ein deutsches Requiem, nach Worten der heiligen Schrif (A German Requiem, to Words of the Holy Scriptures)</i>, Op. 45 by Johannes Brahms, is a large-scale work for chorus, orchestra, a soprano and a baritone soloist. Brahms assembled the libretto himself from the German Luther Bible. <i>A German Requiem</i> is sacred but non-liturgical, and unlike the long tradition of Latin Requiems, which begins with prayers for the dead, Brahms' Requiem focuses on the living. It begins with the text "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." This theme, transition from anxiety to comfort, suffering and mourning, recurs in many of the movements. The last word of the work is the same as the first: "<i>Selig</i>" (blessed).</p> <p>UNT's performance includes the University Symphony Orchestra and the combined choirs to create the Grand Chorus.</p>
<p>Friday, May 6 End of the semester Potluck 1716 Scripture Street</p> 	<p>Our end of the semester potlucks (both December and May) have been cancelled for several times now. Hopefully, we can get back on track for May 2022 with a potluck in the OLLI meeting location. Watch for details as we move into Spring.</p>

Watch for a UNTRA membership survey this Spring

The UNTRA Board realizes that Covid has markedly influenced the decisions all of us make daily. Everything from vaccinations, to mask wearing, to travel, to local outings that we think about doing brings our thoughts back to the pandemic and what we might want to do. With that as a background, UNTRA will request your input on additional outings, your willingness to participate, what keeps you from participating, etc. through a survey this Spring. We will send out a brief (very brief!) survey later this Spring asking you to respond to a few questions and seeking your advice and wisdom. Please let us know your thought when you receive the survey.

UNTRA Serves UNT

Did you realize that UNTRA provides a number of services to UNT students? Among these services are:

Participation in the UNT Food Pantry. The UNT Food Pantry, initiated in 2015, provides healthy, nutritious food and personal items to North Texas students experiencing food insecurity. UNTRA organizes one donation drive each semester in support of the pantry. UNTRA members can also drop off donations at the pantry year-round. Find more information at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/food-pantry>.

Participation in the UNT PUSH Program. The PUSH program at UNT provides a structured, campus-wide network of support to assist foster care alumni in achieving educational success by focusing on the academic, financial, career and social well-being of each student, enabling them to arrive and thrive on campus. UNTRA partners with OLLI at UNT to offer regular potluck dinners for PUSH students, with the goal of developing mentorships with these young people who may not have supportive older adults in their lives.

Participation in UNT Development/Scholarship Programs. Joining many other retired and active faculty and staff members, as well as UNT Alums and local businesses, many UNTRA members have established scholarships through the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, or contribute regularly to established scholarships. These scholarships provide important financial support to undergraduate and graduate students across the campus.

UNTRA Membership

UNTRA membership is FREE to all retirees during their first year of membership. If you join for the first time in December, your FREE annual membership continues until August a year-and-a-half later (20 months). Annual dues are then \$20 per year (\$30 per couple). Register online at untra.unt.edu/join or contact untra@unt.edu for membership details. UNTRA offers a wide variety of social, academic, and update programs each semester. There are opportunities regardless of your interest. Should you have suggestions for additional programs, please let us know at untra@unt.edu.

Discounted OLLI Membership

UNTRA and OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) at UNT collaborate on a number of activities. Many OLLI activities are once again meeting face-to-face. OLLI presents a wide variety of interesting lectures throughout the year, most of which feature UNT faculty. UNTRA members can join OLLI for just \$85 per year, with no additional course fees. The Spring 2022 OLLI catalog is now available at <https://olli.unt.edu/catalog>.

Go Mean Green!