

## **Meet OLLI's Newest Member, Darlene DeMarie**

Darlene DeMarie recently retired from being a professor of educational psychology and the Fulbright faculty advisor at USF.

Her research investigated cognitive development and revealed the importance of play and music instruction for young children's cognitive development.



She was a co-creator of two child development centers. One was established while she was a professor in the psychology department at Muskingum College in Ohio, and the other occurred while she was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Limpopo-Turfloop in South Africa. She was awarded another Fulbright Scholar award that took her to Budapest to continue her work in educational psychology in 2019. Most recently, she taught doctoral students and was the faculty advisor for Fulbright applicants at USF.

Darlene began her life in Brooklyn, then moved to Fair Lawn, New Jersey, at age six where she later completed high school. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology at Marietta College in Ohio and obtained her certification in elementary education. Afterward, in addition to teaching young children (first and second grade and first to third and seventh to eighth grade children with learning disabilities), she maintained her 28-acre farm.

She first moved to Florida to earn master's and doctoral degrees in developmental psychology. She then moved back to Ohio to become an associate professor at Muskingum College (now University), while also working on her 100-acre farm. Darlene then returned to Florida to join the faculty at USF.

Darlene enjoys watching sports and has season tickets to USF women's and men's basketball and football, Rays baseball, and gymnastics at UF. She also loves taking OLLI classes, having more time since she retired. This semester, you can find her in Decluttering at 55 plus, Creative Aging in Museums, Inside Look: Squid, Ybor Walking Tour, and The Beat Goes On: 1950s Birth of Rock-n-Roll.

--Shirley Herring