



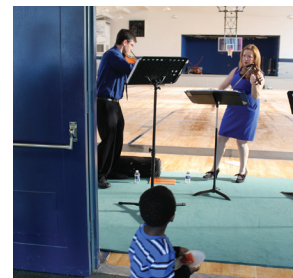
# *Office of Public School Academies*

ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012



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*Our mission is to support quality charter schools through leadership in educational initiatives at the national, state and local levels and to ensure accountability through effective performance evaluation.*

## About us

Authorizing excellent schools is the focus of the Oakland University Office of Public School Academies, (PSA). Our strategic priority is to ensure that each academy provides a quality education to its students, utilizes sound governing policies, and fulfills its fiscal and legal responsibilities.

As an authorizer, Oakland University issues contracts that establish public school academies as public schools and enables them to receive state funding. Per-pupil state aid funds follow a child to a public school academy, which operates within the confines of traditional school governance. The contract establishes the framework within which the school operates and provides public support for a specified period. Each academy maintains autonomy over its operations. In exchange for flexibility afforded by the contract, the schools are held accountable for achieving specific goals, including improving student performance and compliance with federal and state laws.

In the performance of its oversight function, the PSA office serves both internal and external clients. Internally, the staff is a part of the School of Education and Human Services (SEHS) and is directly accountable to the dean's office. The director has a seat on the executive committee of SEHS and works cooperatively with the SEHS department chairs and faculty. The executive leadership of the university provides direction and guidance as well for the PSA office. Externally, the PSA office's oversight consists of serving the interests of more than 6,000 students/families and approximately 500 academy staff and board members. Fulfilling oversight requirements entails frequent site visits, communication, review of records and training obligations.

*An authorizer does not operate a school, but ensures that the school is being operated well by the school's board of directors through its oversight activities.*

# *Outreach initiatives*

## **PSA (Push for Student Achievement) Day**

With assistance from Admissions, nearly 100 11th and 12th graders from the OU academies toured the campus, received admission and general college information, and dined at Vandenberg Hall.



## **Middle school students on campus**

- Detroit Edison Public School Academy's eighth grade students visited OU as part of their college day activities and received information from the Department of Pre-College Programs.
- The fifth Annual Pre-College Summer Camp, "Building Bridges for the Future," was offered to sixth through eighth grade OU/PSA and other urban partner students. This 3-night/4-day residential summer camp was offered in partnership with the Oakland University Pre-College department. Sixty-eight students participated in assorted recreational activities, field trips, academic and enrichment classes taught by OU faculty and graduate staff. Faculty and staff participating in the camp were from departments in mechanical engineering, chemistry, teacher development, counseling, writing/rhetoric, nursing, dance, photography and business/entrepreneurship.

## **Campus partnership**

In partnership with the OU Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development, the PSA office hosted seven Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associates, who served for eight weeks as tutors during the summer programs at Star International Academy, Dove Academy, Universal Academy and Weston Preparatory Academy. The Summer Associates also volunteered during the PSA summer camp.

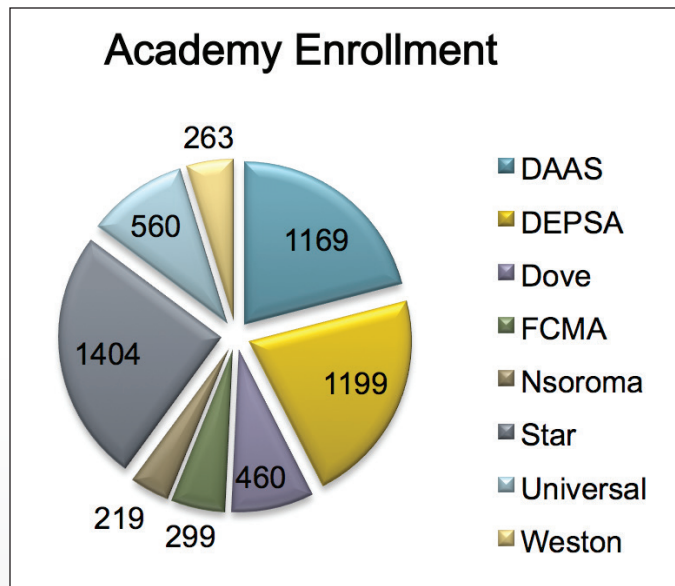


## **Graduates at OU**

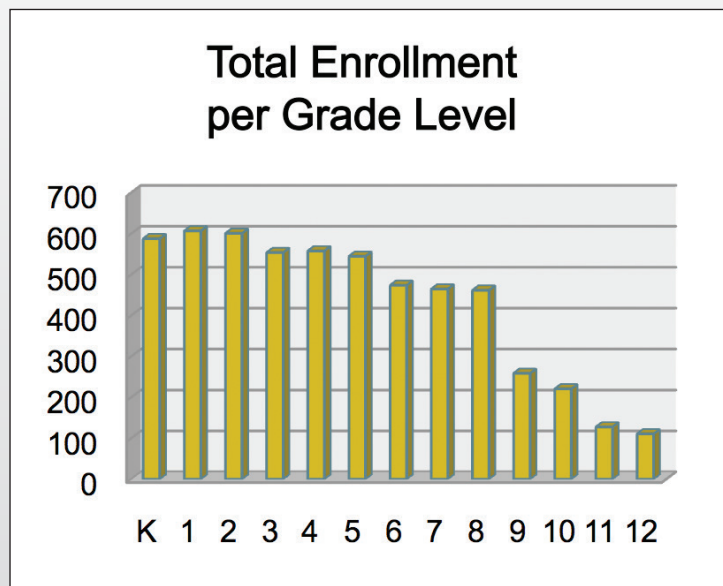
Two 2012 high school graduates from Star International Academy, who were recipients of a \$3,000 renewable PSA scholarship to OU, have enrolled at Oakland University. Three other graduates from OU-authorized schools are current recipients of the PSA Scholarship. In February 2013, interviews were conducted and two PSA scholarships were offered to June 2013 graduates of Star International Academy and Universal Academy.



## Academy numbers



Special Education Percentages	
DAAS	10.1
DEPSA	3.7
Dove	11.4
FCMA	11.8
Nsoroma	10.9
Star	3.2
Universal	2.5
Weston	7.5
OU Average %	7.6
State of Michigan %	13.3



Free and Reduced Lunch Percentages	
DAAS	74
DEPSA	60
Dove	92
FCMA	40
Nsoroma	90
Star	80
Universal	100
Weston	91
OU Average %	76
State of Michigan %	49

Statistics based on Fall 2011 student count and 2011-12 data obtained from the Michigan Department of Education.

# Achievement data

**Fall 2011 Grades 3-8 MEAP Results** – Math and reading percent proficiency scores for each grade level are displayed in the table below. Performance is shown for Oakland University authorized schools with comparison results also shown for the State of Michigan and select districts in which a significant number of students reside. (OU Academies in bold)

Reading	Grade Level					
	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>DAAS</b>	32	31	42	23	19	26
<b>DEPSA</b>	57	68	73	71	60	73
<b>Dove</b>	30	60	49	50	57	62
<b>FCMA</b>	66	83	88	67	68	62
<b>Nsoroma</b>	43	42	30	38	32	36
<b>Star</b>	45	51	56	57	56	59
<b>Universal</b>	16	41	57	31	42	32
<b>Weston</b>	30	41	24	30	26	52
State of Michigan	62	68	69	67	60	61
Detroit Public Schools	33	38	41	38	30	35
Dearborn Schools	48	62	60	57	53	58
Royal Oak Schools	78	83	82	79	75	73

Math	Grade Level					
	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>DAAS</b>	11	3	9	1	2	0
<b>DEPSA</b>	35	44	40	38	26	28
<b>Dove</b>	6	19	11	17	20	15
<b>FCMA</b>	22	39	24	7	23	0
<b>Nsoroma</b>	6	0	14	8	0	0
<b>Star</b>	33	37	42	46	39	28
<b>Universal</b>	10	15	43	29	33	21
<b>Weston</b>	27	17	3	13	14	11
State of Michigan	36	40	40	37	37	29
Detroit Public Schools	10	11	11	13	10	7
Dearborn	36	47	45	43	43	28
Royal Oak	49	54	53	45	60	37

**Spring 2012 Michigan Merit Exam (MME)** results represent the percentage of high school students deemed proficient. The ACT College Readiness table shows the percentage that met or exceeded the College Readiness Benchmark. Performance is shown for Oakland University authorized schools with comparison results also shown for the State of Michigan and select districts in which a significant number of students reside. (OU Academies in bold)

MME	Subject				
	Math	Reading	Science	Writing	Social Studies
<b>Star</b>	29	58	18	75	35
<b>Universal</b>	6	22	4	16	14
State of Michigan	29	56	26	49	41
Detroit Public Schools	5	23	3	21	1
Dearborn	22	48	17	44	31

ACT	College Readiness – All Subjects
<b>Star</b>	13
<b>Universal</b>	4
State of Michigan	18
Detroit Public Schools	2
Dearborn	12

Academy	Met AYP	EdYes! Report Card Grade
<b>DAAS</b>	Elem – No Middle – Yes	Elem – D Middle – C
<b>DEPSA</b>	Yes	C
<b>Dove</b>	Yes	C
<b>FCMA</b>	Yes	B
<b>Nsoroma</b>	Yes	C
<b>Star</b>	Yes	C
<b>Universal</b>	Yes	C
<b>Weston</b>	Yes	C

EdYes! Report Card Grade and AYP status shown in the table to the left.

# *A new high school, a promising start*

Detroit Edison Public School Academy (DEPSA) opened its new state-of-the-art high school facility in fall 2012. The high school, named the Early College of Excellence (ECE), is located on the same campus as the PreK-8 program.

DEPSA was the recipient of an \$850,000 grant from Michigan Future Schools to launch its high school in 2010. Michigan Future Schools is a program of Michigan Future, Inc., a non-partisan think tank based in Ann Arbor whose mission is to create new, small high schools in Detroit and to prepare Detroit students to enroll and succeed in college. Michigan Future Schools is funded by the Skillman Foundation, the Kellogg Foundation, the Kresge Foundation and the McGregor Fund. The group hopes to raise funds to assist in opening 35 schools within eight years, and currently has been successful in opening six high schools.



DEPSA has been authorized by Oakland University since 1998 and the ECE provides elementary students with the opportunity to continue their education in an environment noted for its challenging and high expectations. The ECE offers a rigorous college-prep program and strives to prepare its students to be global citizens and lifelong learners.

The ECE opened in fall 2010 with its first class of ninth graders housed in the existing K-8 building, and added 10th grade in 2011. The new building will allow the school to grow to its full 9-12 grade capacity. The school celebrated with a grand opening ceremony in November 2012. From its College Advance Center, which serves as a resource for students and their families as they prepare for college, to its cafeteria modeled after those found on college campuses, the Early College of Excellence is dedicated to preparing its students for success in college and beyond.

Mildred Taylor, OU's director of the Office of Public Schools, stated, "The ECE is a long-awaited dream that was achieved through patience and planning. DEPSA is a close-knit school and many of its students have been with the school since kindergarten. They seem to be thrilled that they can remain there to continue their education. Oakland University congratulates the DEPSA Board of Directors and school leadership on this momentous achievement and looks forward to ECE's success."





## *Meet the academies*





## Caniff Liberty Academy

2650 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212  
(313) 872-2000  
[www.canifflibertyacademy.com](http://www.canifflibertyacademy.com)

**Grades:** K-8

**Year chartered:** 2012

**Enrollment:** 278

**School leader:** Rebecca Snoblin

**Current contract:** 2012–17

**ESP:** Education Management and Networks, Ahmed Saber — CEO

**Host district:** Hamtramck Public Schools

### Mission statement

*The mission of Caniff Liberty Academy is to enlist all community stakeholders to provide for the multicultural needs of the students through innovative experiences in a fully inclusive, safe and nurturing environment, thus preparing the students to be productive, contributing members of their diverse community and the world.*

- Opened: Fall 2012
- Substantial new immigrant population
- Curriculum focus on English as a second language instruction

## Meshing cultures for a diverse education

Caniff Liberty Academy opened its doors to 80 students in fall 2012; by the school year's end in June 2013, 291 students called Caniff home.

Principal Rebecca Snoblin says the school is one where children are educated through a collaborative effort among parents, faculty, staff, students and the community.

Per the school's mission statement, "Our school environment will encourage children to take risks and become creative producers without fear of failure," she says.

Caniff boasts a multiethnic community working together to create an academic, physical, emotional, social and safe environment where everyone can learn and respect one another. "We have nine different cultures within our walls, including young people from Yemen and Bengali. Many students were just rejoining their families after gaining U.S. citizenship.

"We have a strong Middle Eastern base. About 96 percent of our students were English language learners at the beginning of the year, and it was wonderful to see how much they grew through the year," she explains.

Snoblin credits the strong, cohesive staff with the successful growth and development of the school this year. "We — teachers, staff and students — are like family." But she also says a strict discipline policy is crucial to the growth of the children as well. "They know what is expected of them and honor these expectations."

Throughout the year, the school succeeded in fulfilling its mission to "create, support and maintain powerful, engaged learning that will provide an education that addresses students' unique learning styles, cultivates independent thought and promotes the building of character, enabling them to contribute to their communities in meaningful and positive ways."



## Michigan School for the Arts

825 Golf Drive, Pontiac, MI 48341  
(248) 338-2787  
www.michiganschoolarts.org

**Grades:** K-8  
**Year opened:** 2012  
**Enrollment:** 328  
**School leader:** Bob Lozelle  
**Current contract:** 2012–17  
**ESP:** Creative Schools Services — Carl Bylery  
**Host district:** Pontiac School District

### Mission statement

*Michigan School for the Arts uses the arts to energize learning through creative opportunities to achieve personal and academic success. MSA's students will be prepared to succeed in higher education and contribute actively in the community.*

- Opened in fall 2012
- Program integrates the arts into the curriculum



## Integrating the arts with academics

The Michigan School for the Arts is a charter school that opened in fall 2012. The school is focused on providing a college preparatory curriculum with an intense concentration on the visual, performing and media arts. All of the arts are integrated into the core academic studies.

“We integrate the arts into the curriculum to intensify and stimulate each child to produce greater outcomes both in the classroom and in the community,” explains principal Robert Lozelle. “For example, sixth graders may have trouble with fractions. We bring in the music department and tie in musical notes. There’s a marriage between the areas of thought.”

The school currently enrolls 328 students, with a goal of 400.

Lozelle says the first year of operation was not without challenges. “We hit the ground running and had to make sure we walked the walk and talked the talk. Many parents were skeptical, and we lost a few families because of the transient

nature of things. But we are starting the next year with 92 percent of our students returning.” He adds that they also will open a high school this coming year, and will grow the school as this year’s current ninth graders move up.

Lozelle credits the success of the school to following Common Core Standards, which provide clear and consistent expectations for learning in each grade level through progression of knowledge and skills to reach college and career readiness. They also have a strict no-tolerance policy regarding misbehavior.

“The elementary years are critical times of development for students and families alike, and our middle school students must remain vigilant and determined in their studies while promoting positive behavior,” he says.

Looking forward to the coming years, Lozelle says they expect to continue on a strong path and remain involved with families and within the community.





## Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences

2985 E. Jefferson Ave, Detroit, MI 48207  
(313) 259-1744  
www.daask12.com

**Grades:** K-8

**Year chartered:** 2003 (with OU)

**Enrollment:** 1,041

**School leader:** Maurice Morton, CEO; Turquoise Neal, principal.

**Current contract:** 2012-15

**ESP:** Self-managed

**Host district:** Detroit Public Schools

### Mission statement

*The mission of the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences is to provide a high quality education in the arts and sciences that prepares our students to compete in a global society.*

- Show choir has earned rave reviews and media attention for its performances for the mayor of Detroit at a Detroit Lions game and its YouTube video, "Detroit State of Mind"
- School-wide Apple iPad Integration Initiative launched to enhance instruction
- Received a Green School Initiative Award from the state of Michigan

## Detroit Edison Public School Academy

1903 Wilkins, Detroit, MI 48207  
(313) 833-1100  
www.detroitedisonpsa.org

**Grades:** PreK-11

**Year chartered:** 1998

**Enrollment:** 1,330

**School leader:** Ralph Bland

**Current contract:** 2012-18

**ESP:** New Paradigm for Education

**Host district:** Detroit Public Schools

### Mission statement

*Detroit Edison Public School Academy exists to prepare students entrusted to our care for a future as global citizens and successful lifelong learners that are caring and compassionate. Academic development is achieved in a dignified and supported environment by utilizing a proven research-based curriculum that incorporates diversity, family, staff and community partnerships, in pursuit of educational excellence.*

- High school facility opened in fall 2012; first graduating class will be in 2014
- Recipient of a National Green Ribbon School Award — one of only two schools in the state
- In-house health center provides care to students and families





## *Dove Academy of Detroit*

8210 Rolyat, Detroit, MI 48234  
(313) 366-9110  
www.doveacademy.net

**Grades:** K-8  
**Year opened:** 1997  
**Enrollment:** 443  
**School leader:** Brandon Slone  
**Current contract:** 2012–17  
**ESP:** Schoolhouse Services — Tyla Wells, CEO  
**Host district:** Detroit Public Schools

### **Mission statement**

*The mission of Dove Academy is to educate all students so they can effectively, efficiently and successfully communicate (read, write and speak) and solve complex mathematical challenges. The school's curriculum places a strong emphasis on math and communication skills. All other subjects such as science, social studies, art, music and physical education are supported by a solid foundation of literacy and mathematics..*

- Utilizes the nationally recognized character education program, "Character Counts"
- Member of the "No Excuses University" — currently the only school in Michigan
- Recognized as a top-performing school twice by the Skillman Foundation

## *Four Corners Montessori Academy*

1075 E. Gardenia, Madison Heights, MI 48071  
(248) 542-7001  
www.fourcornersmontessori.com

**Grades:** PreK-8  
**Year opened:** 2009  
**Enrollment:** 328  
**School leader:** Chris Schoenberr Miller  
**Current contract:** 2008–14  
**ESP:** Choice Schools Associates  
**Host district:** Madison District Public Schools

### **Mission statement**

*The mission of Four Corners Montessori Academy is to allow each child to discover his/her learning potential, inborn talents and love of learning by providing him/her with a limitless educational environment.*

- Implements instruction based on the Montessori philosophy
- Uses multiage classrooms that allow for a more natural progression of learning
- Received Emerald level Green School recognition from the state of Michigan







## Nsoroma Institute

20045 Joann Street, Detroit, MI 48205

(313) 521-0400

nsoromainstitute.org

**Grades:** K-8

**Year chartered:** 1997

**Enrollment:** 177

**School leader:** Elizabeth Whittaker

**Current contract:** 2010–13

**ESP:** Black Star Educational Mgmt — Malik Yakini, CEO

**Host district:** Detroit Public Schools

### Mission statement

*Nsoroma Institute is an African-centered institution. We are guided by a philosophy which seeks to develop within our children insight into their individual gifts, talents and mission; connect our children with the rich and diverse historical and cultural legacies of African peoples; and seek to restore a worldview which reflects understanding of the interdependence of humans, plants, animals, the air, water, soil and natural elements which create the delicate balance that sustains life on our planet.*

- Featured in a local magazine for its environmental activities including a student gardening program and an aquaponics project
- Site of Children's Defense Fund Freedom School — Summer 2011
- Designated a "Priority" school by the Michigan Department of Education

## Star International Academy

24425 Hass, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127

(313) 724-8990

www.starpsa.org

**Grades:** PreK-12

**Year opened:** 1998

**Enrollment:** 1,405

**School leader:** Nawal Hamadeh, supt/CEO; Layla Boussi, principal

**Current contract:** 2012–18

**ESP:** Hamadeh Educational Services, Inc.

**Host district:** Crestwood School District



### Mission statement

*To provide a well-rounded education based on the Michigan Core Curriculum and the study of international cultures, with a special focus on the Arabic language. To inspire and educate students and instill them with the values of equity, respect, and understanding. To celebrate diversity, welcoming students from all backgrounds and cultures and encouraging cross-cultural learning. To employ professional, certified staff who are experienced, qualified, and committed to their students. To operate state-of-the-art learning facilities that foster a safe, innovative, world-class educational experience.*

- Consistently ranked as one of the nation's best high schools by *U.S. News and World Report*
- Currently authorized to offer the IB Middle Years Program in grades 6-10
- Designated a "Reward" school by the Michigan Department of Education





## Universal Academy

4612 Lonyo, Detroit, MI 48210  
(313) 581-5006  
www.universalpsa.org

**Grades:** K-12  
**Year opened:** 2005 (with OU)  
**Enrollment:** 606  
**School leader:** Nawal Hamadeh, supt/CEO; Anita Hassan, principal  
**Current contract:** 2010–15  
**ESP:** Hamadeh Educational Services, Inc.  
**Host district:** Detroit Public Schools

### Mission statement

*The mission of Universal Academy is to promote academic excellence and prepare students to be lifelong learners and the leaders of tomorrow.*

- Currently authorized to offer the IB Middle Years Program in grades 6-10
- Recently purchased new school site to accommodate growth in student population
- 100 percent of graduates are accepted into college

## Weston Preparatory Academy

22930 Chippewa, Detroit, MI 48219  
(313) 387-6038  
www.westonacademy.com

**Grades:** K-8  
**Year opened:** 1998  
**Enrollment:** 302  
**School leader:** Philip Yaccick  
**Current contract:** 2011–14  
**ESP:** Schoolhouse Services — Tyla Wells, CEO  
**Host district:** Detroit Public Schools

### Mission Statement

*Weston Preparatory Academy will facilitate and encourage educators, family, community, and business partners to contribute to the education of our students utilizing academic skills, creativity and technology through well-defined academic goals and behavior expectations which will lead to lifelong learning and continuing education in order to become productive members of a peaceful global society.*

- Successful recipient of a \$1.8 million School Improvement Grant used to introduce a new math series and purchase and train staff on new technology including Smartboards, e-readers, handheld response devices, and the Skyward Parent Access system
- Launched “Parent Academy” during Family Fun Nights that consistently draws over 300 participants
- Implemented an urban garden on school grounds



# About OU



Oakland University is a nationally recognized university offering students a personal, high-quality education through flexible class schedules, new facilities, student services, classroom technologies, labs, internships, co-ops, research opportunities with corporate partners, and degree and certificate programs.

OU students work side by side with faculty mentors and research investigators on projects funded by prestigious organizations such as the National Institutes of Health and U.S. Department of Education as well as numerous partners in business and industry. Under the tutelage of faculty and community mentors, students gain valuable knowledge and experience in teaching, nursing, solving business problems, performing on stage and so much more.

With nearly 20,000 students and a low student-to-faculty ratio, Oakland offers diverse academic programs, including 139 baccalaureate programs and 127 graduate and certificate programs through its five professional schools — the Schools of Business Administration, Education and Human Services, Engineering and Computer Science, Health Sciences, and Nursing — and the College of Arts and Sciences. Oakland University also offers a challenging and enriching Honors College.

Thanks to the reputation it is gaining within the region and beyond, Oakland University has been recognized by several national organizations.

## **Carnegie Foundation**

The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education categorizes Oakland University as a “Doctoral/Research University.” Produced by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, the classification reflects OU’s strong commitment to graduate education through its doctoral programs as well as its extensive undergraduate programs. Oakland University offers students opportunities to work directly on research projects with expert faculty who bring current knowledge right to the classroom.

## **America’s Best Colleges**

*U.S. News and World Report* consistently recognizes Oakland in its annual report about “America’s Best Colleges.” Oakland has been listed among national-doctoral universities since the 2002-03 edition. Prior to appearing on the national list, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked Oakland among the top universities in the Midwest.

## **Best Graduate Schools**

Oakland University’s Beaumont Graduate Program of Nurse Anesthesia was recognized as 11th in the United States in the 2007 edition of *U.S. News and World Report’s* America’s Best Graduate Schools. The program, which provides an exceptional educational environment for training certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), started in 1991 as a collaborative initiative to address the nurse anesthesia shortage. Currently, there are 108 graduate programs of nurse anesthesia in the United States with five in Michigan.





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**Office of Public School Academies  
School of Education and Human Services**

420J Pawley Hall | 2200 North Squirrel Road | Rochester, MI 48309-4401  
oakland.edu/psa | (248) 370-4596