

inside OAKLAND

A newsletter for Oakland University colleagues

November 2000

Deck the Hall

Behind the scenes at the MBH Holiday Walk

A holiday tradition can be as simple as exchanging greeting cards or as complicated as mounting the annual Meadow Brook Hall Holiday Walk. Imagine decorating 20 indoor Christmas trees – each 8-15 feet tall – and putting up enough outdoor decorations to fill 1,000 square feet of storage space. Staff and volunteers at the hall have been doing just that.

Each year, the walk draws about 10,000 visitors to Oakland for a tour through the mansion. They come to learn about the lives and art collections of OU founders Matilda Dodge Wilson and Alfred Wilson when they lived in the 110-room home and to see the hall all decked out for the holidays. The first step of the walk, however, begins months before their arrival.

The walk requires months of teamwork by the hall's full- and part-time staff members, 150 volunteers and contractual decorators. First, the executive director and curator think of a theme that focuses on the social history of the early 20th century, Dodge-Wilson family history or the history of the mansion's art and architecture. This year, MBH Executive Director Lisa Ashby chose *A Charmed Life: Celebrations in the Grand Manor*. The exhibit allows visitors to see how the Dodge-Wilson family marked special occasions and holidays such

as Christmas and New Year's Eve.

Since May, Curator of Collections Maura Overland has been researching objects and settings to recreate scenes from holiday and family celebrations. She has thoroughly perused the hall's archives for news clippings, family photos, home movies, invitations and other family correspondence, and keepsakes. Others spoke to family members about how they spent the holidays. Barbara Wilson Eccles, Alfred and Matilda's daughter, and Judy Lavendar, Matilda's granddaughter, shared their remembrances.

The next step in preparing for the walk is to make a list of objects for exhibit. Overland writes label text to accompany the objects, then oversees the label printing and mounting. Items are cleaned and prepared for exhibit. Then she and Kim Zelinski, MBH facility operations manager, supervise staff as they move the objects into place.

"Many of the objects on the walks are not regularly on exhibit because they're too fragile for long-term exhibition," Overland says.

One of those items is the satin wedding gown of Frances Dodge, the daughter of Matilda and her first husband, John Dodge. Overland sent the gown to a textile conservator for cleaning and repairs. Putting the gown on exhibit will take Overland and the conservator a few days. They must be careful not to

A Charmed Life: Celebrations in the Grand Manor

Meadow Brook Hall Holiday Walk

December 1-10, 2000
All days, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
(last admittance at 4:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, December 6,
10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
(last admittance at 8:30 p.m.)

stress or damage the fabric when they put it on the dress form. It also takes time to design the exhibition so that visitors can see the objects well but cannot touch them. Mishaps before and during the event have been minimal over the walk's 29 years.

The Holiday Walk is the hall's second-largest event, next to the annual classic auto show, the Concours d'Elegance. These events are designed to entertain, educate and inspire visitors and to provide the means to support the hall, an architectural treasure built between 1926 and 1929.

Admission to the walk, which now includes Knole Cottage, is \$6 for Oakland University students, faculty, staff and alumni with ID. On Wednesday, December 6, OU affiliates may bring family members at the OU price.

For additional information about Holiday Walk 2000, to make reservations or to be included on an invitation list, call extension 3140 or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org.



Maura Overland, MBH curator of collections, prepares games that the Dodge-Wilson family played during holidays, including this 1949 edition of "Clue," for the Holiday Walk.

Get to Know Maura Overland

OU position: Curator of Collections, Meadow Brook Hall. Started in May 2000.

Job responsibilities: Research the hall's art collections and develop interpretive programs

Previous position: Director of Collections and Exhibits, Ella Sharp Museum, Jackson, Michigan

Degree: MA in History Museum Studies, State University of New York, Cooperstown

Hometown: Manchester, Connecticut

Family: Husband, Christian Overland, director, Greenfield Village; son, Will, 16 months

Hobby: Antique collecting

MBHEI partners with St. John Health System, Providence



OU President Gary D. Russi (left) and Anthony Tersigni, senior vice president, Great Lakes Division, Ascension Health, St. John Health System, celebrate the partnership.

Oakland University's Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute (MBHEI) has established an innovative partnership with St. John Health System and its affiliate, Providence Hospital and Medical Centers, that will promote good health in southeastern Michigan and provide for greater preventive medicine research.

"The partnership between St. John Health System and the Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute brings together two organizations

that share the same vision," said Anthony Tersigni, senior vice president, Great Lakes Division, Ascension Health, St. John Health System, at a press conference on October 11. "We know that together we can make greater strides in promoting good health and preventing disease through education, treatment and research."

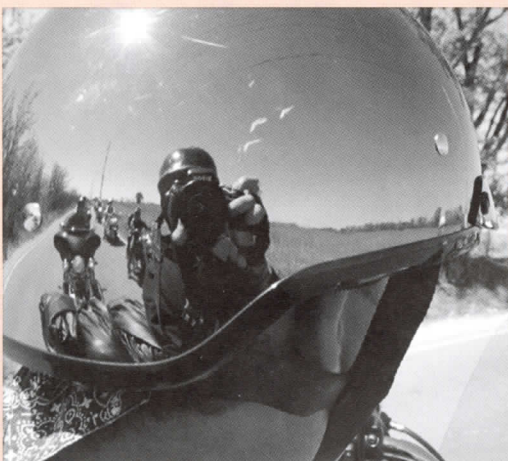
"Already, St. John has been outstanding to work with," says MBHEI Director Fred W. Stransky, PhD. "They've been so supportive and so motivated as our partner in helping the state of Michigan become healthier."

Through the agreement, Providence and St. John will

provide a medical director for the institute, support its media efforts, including Stransky's weekly radio program on 760 WJR-AM on Sunday nights, and help develop and distribute a national newsletter.

"We are pleased that this partnership will strengthen our clinical resources and expand our research efforts," says OU President Gary D. Russi. "Our health sciences students, for example, will have opportunities to gain invaluable experience alongside professionals from some of the most respected health care organizations in southeastern Michigan."

after HOURS



The Trail of Tears

Ever wonder what OU faculty and staff do after hours? As a way of getting to know our colleagues a little better, *Inside Oakland* offers you a glimpse at them in other venues, engaged in other activities, programs, avocations and callings.

Dennis Collins, campus photographer, spent some time last September retracing the steps of American Indians

on The Trail of Tears.

In September 1830, Congress passed the Indian Removal Act, which called for the removal of all Indian peoples to the West of the Mississippi River. Men, women and children were taken from their land and forced to march 1,000 miles to Oklahoma. Thousands died along the way. The route they traveled became known as The Trail of Tears.

Collins participated in the Alabama-Tennessee Trail of Tears Commemorative Ride, driving his motorcycle down the route with other bikers from across the country. He documented his trip with the tool of his trade.

OU in Lansing

Government Relations efforts focus legislators on OU gold

Whether housed in Wilson Hall or in our state's capitol, Oakland University's Office for Government Relations is focusing legislators on OU gold – programs, buildings, partnerships and initiatives that benefit Michigan and Michiganders. Last August, several chiefs of staff for key Michigan legislators came to Oakland University for a day. They witnessed a Hummer and Mobile robot demonstration in the School of Engineering and Computer Science; learned about the Honors



OU President Gary D. Russi confers with Rep. Deborah Cherry (center) and OU Government Relations Director Rochelle Black.

College; and toured the Eye Research Institute, Recreation and Athletics Center, and the R. Hugh and Nancy Elliott Hall of Business and Information Technology. Their visit was just one example of the kinds of initiatives the Office for Government Relations, and its director, Rochelle Black, develop each year to ensure that Oakland University gets the attention it deserves in Lansing, and the funding it requires.

In September, the legislature approved a bill signed by Gov. John Engler which provides a 9.2 percent increase in state appropriations for Oakland. The increased funding provides additional grants and financial aid assistance. Another 3 percent increase was approved for infrastructure, technology, equipment

and maintenance costs. The appropriation per student is \$4,712.

In October, a Legislative Appreciation Dinner was held to thank the 18-member Oakland County legislative delegation for what they do for OU and their service to our community. The dinner also honored legislative alumna Deborah Cherry (D, Burton).

Following the November 7 election, the office began to concentrate its efforts on educating newly elected legislators about all that Oakland University has to offer.

Black is the first and only government relations director at Oakland University. Before she arrived at OU five years ago, efforts to achieve good government relations were conducted by the Office of the General Counsel. Five years later, Black says she thinks "the university is being treated more equitably than ever before. I applaud the government and legislators for approving the initiatives that make OU unique and for helping the university keep tuition rates at their lowest level in years."



The first donation? Leeann Kessler and her dog, Gilda, represented Paws with a Cause at the kick-off.

Caring through Sharing

Russi to match gifts to All-University Fund Drive

For every dollar you donate to Oakland University during this year's All-University Fund Drive (AUF), OU President Gary D. Russi will contribute another 50 cents.

The AUF, known as Caring through Sharing, supports Oakland University, the United Way and the Black United Fund (BUF). This annual campaign generates needed funds for the well-known organizations and for OU programs not supported by the general fund. Faculty and staff can earmark donations for the programs or departments of their choice.

Caring through Sharing runs from October 26 to December 8. Donors should return pledge forms in the envelope provided directly to Annual Giving, JDH. You can make out a check for the entire gift, or make a pledge and contribute in installments via check or payroll deduction.

The 2000 AUF committee includes Margo King, assistant vice president, University Relations; Charlene Waldorf, clerk, University Relations; Joyce McGathy, administra-

tive secretary, Biological Sciences; and Co-chairs, Kevin Murphy, professor, Economics, School of Business Administration, and Maura Selahowski, assistant director, Marketing and Business, Campus Recreation.

In addition, a new position on the committee has been created to help lead the effort. Trustee Ann Nicholson has agreed to be the first Honorary Chair of the drive.

"When we support the United Way and the Black United Fund," says Nicholson, "we are acknowledging that the university is not an island, separate from the community, but that we play a vital part in the well-being of the community. And when we give to our own Oakland University, we are making a personal commitment to keeping the university strong and showing that we recognize its importance."

King says the university hopes "to raise as much or more money this year in total as we did last year (\$165,000), but we consider 100 percent participation to be the more important goal. No donation is too small and a gift to any of the three organizations constitutes participation."

oakland WAY OF LIFE

A new explanation for symptoms of stress

In our society, managing stress has become a major problem. Nervousness, irritability, fatigue, increased sweating, palpitations, weight changes, tremors, diarrhea, constipation and depression are all symptoms that can be daily complaints. But for 13 million Americans, these symptoms can be related to a thyroid disorder.

Unfortunately, eight million Americans are unaware of their thyroid problem. Blood screening studies for

thyroid function are frequently missing from many physical examinations.

At the Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute, part of the screening process includes an inexpensive blood study called "ultra sensitive TSH (thyroid-stimulating hormone). Part of this comprehensive evaluation includes a physical examination of the thyroid gland to determine whether the thyroid is overactive or underactive. It also serves as a screening procedure for thyroid nodules and thyroid cancer. Screening for

thyroid disorders becomes more important as people get older. Women and those with a family history of the disorder are more at risk.

Because symptoms that are related to stress can mimic those associated with a thyroid disorder, we encourage you to discuss with your primary care physician this important element of a comprehensive physical examination. For further information regarding thyroid function, please feel free to call the MBHEI at (248) 370-3198.

— Fred W. Stransky, PhD, director

Afterglow

OU coach O'Shea savors player's Olympic victory

Nick O'Shea, Oakland University's head coach for women's soccer, is no stranger to grooming champions. In 1999, his team was the first Oakland team to win a Division I league championship. He is ranked sixth among the winningest active Division I coaches who have been in the division less than five years. In Michigan's Olympic Development Program, he coached Kate Sobrero, a player on the women's U.S. national team that won the World Cup.

But perhaps one of his finest moments was when he learned that his key player, senior midfielder Anita Rapp, would be coming back to campus with an Olympic gold medal. Rapp, of Lillehammer, Norway, played for the Norwegian national women's soccer team in the 2000 Sydney Summer Olympics. Her team edged the U.S. team 3-2 in overtime to win the gold medal.

"With Anita being on my university team with day-in and day-out contact for four years now, her gold medal means a lot more," says O'Shea. In contrast, he coached Sobrero just 10 times a year.

O'Shea works with Anita two hours a day, six days a week from August to November and from January to April. For the Olympics, O'Shea devoted extra time to helping her to choose

curriculums and workouts.

"We tried to provide the environment for her to accomplish her goal," he says. "But without her drive, her competitiveness – it wasn't going to happen. Winning the gold medal is her accomplishment," O'Shea says.

O'Shea has enjoyed watching Rapp develop as a player since he went to Norway and recruited her for Oakland's team in May 1997.

"The first time I saw her, she had never been associated with the Norwegian national team," he says. He met Rapp at a game where a scout for

the Norwegian national team was recruiting. By that August, he learned she had been selected for the Norwegian under-21 national team. O'Shea worked with Rapp as she progressed to become a player on Norway's regular national team.

O'Shea's praise extends beyond the soccer field.

"Anita is an exceptional person," he says. He goes on to explain that what he likes best about his job is getting to know great human beings such as Rapp, who, in addition to her sports accomplishments, holds a 3.9 GPA as a double major in political science and German.

Rapp and O'Shea decided she would not play this season for the Golden Grizzlies. Because of the Olympics, she missed three weeks of school and much of the team's season. Rapp will play her final season with the team next year.

For more details on Nick O'Shea and Anita Rapp, visit the OU Athletics Web site, www.ougrizzlies.com.



Anita Rapp

bits and PIECES

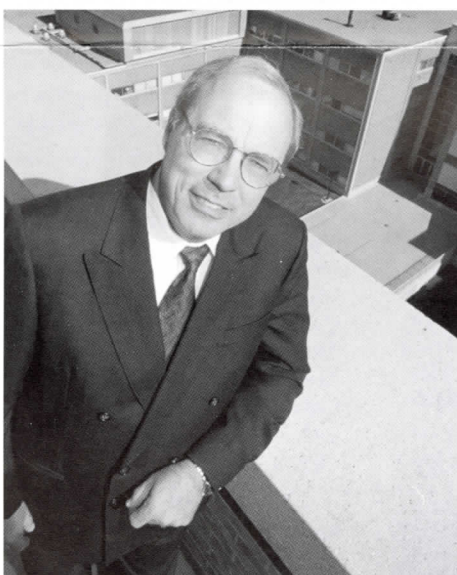
Oh you Grizzlies!

The Golden Grizzlies men's basketball team will enjoy home court advantage when it takes on the University of Michigan Wolverines on Friday, November 17. Game time is 7 p.m. in what has come to be called the 'O'rena – Oakland's Athletics Center arena. Fans without tickets can still catch the game on Channel 38 WADL-TV Detroit. It also will be broadcast on the Internet – like all OU men's basketball games – at www.ougrizzlies.com. Go Grizzlies!

Mind over immunity?

Denis Callewaert, professor, Chemistry, and director, Center for Biomedical Research, will deliver the fall 2000 President's Colloquium November 28. Callewaert will discuss his research on psychoneuroimmunology – how the brain and emotions can alter the human immune system's ability to fight viruses and cancerous tumors.

Callewaert and a team of researchers are investigating how the hormone cortisol can prevent one type of white blood cells, called natural killer cells, from killing tumor cells, and the nature of the "molecular switch" that regulates natural killer cell activity. Understanding this molecular switch would prove invaluable for understanding how the brain regulates immunity, and may lead to the discovery of new treatments for cancer and viral diseases.



Denis Callewaert

Fall enrollment tops 15,000

Fall 2000 enrollment at OU exceeded 15,000 students for the first time in the university's 43-year history.

"This is a milestone moment in our history," says OU President Gary D. Russi. "Our rise to 15,000 students has been a key component of our strategic plan of managed growth and I'm pleased to say that our projection of 15,000 students by the year 2000 has become a reality."

Total fall enrollment of 15,235 represents a 3.5 percent increase over the total for fall 1999 and marks the sixth consecutive year of enrollment growth.

The Next Generation

The Product Development and Manufacturing (PDM) Center unveiled the first demonstration of its Next Generation Electrical Architecture (NGEA) project at Convergence 2000, the International Congress on Transportation Electronics, at Cobo Hall in October.



ABC Television crew sets up cameras in Meadow Brook Hall.

Live, from Meadow Brook Hall

ABC Television broadcast live from Meadow Brook Hall in October following its coverage of the second debate between Vice President Al Gore and George W. Bush, governor of Texas – candidates for president of the United States. An invited audience of undecided voters was polled on the candidates' performance, the issues addressed and whether or not the debate helped them make a final selection before the November 7 election.



Norman Tepley

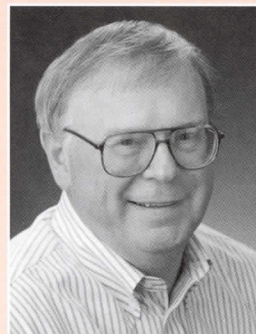
Epilepsy foundation honors physics professor

The Department of Physics reports that Norman Tepley, professor and director of the OU – HFH Neuromagnetism Laboratory at Henry Ford Hospital, has received an award from the Michigan Epilepsy Foundation "for bringing help and hope to people with epilepsy."

Tepley and his collaborators have led the way in Michigan in the use of state-of-the-art, whole-head magnetoencephalography. His lab is one of only a handful in North America to be equipped with a whole-head neuromagnetometer. Tepley uses the device to identify and evaluate sites in a patient's brain where surgery might be performed to alleviate epilepsy. It pinpoints areas of electromagnetic disturbance in the brain. In contrast to all previous reliable diagnostic procedures, Tepley's is completely non-invasive.

Tepley received his undergraduate and graduate education at MIT and came to Oakland in 1969. He served as physics department chair from 1983-1996 and was instrumental in the development of the doctoral program in Medical Physics. He has more than 80 publications (more than 30 with OU student co-authors) and regularly presents his work at international conferences. Tepley has received National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding for his lab at Henry Ford Hospital, has been an NIH Study Section Member since 1993, and is a member of the editorial board of the journal, *Brain Topography*.

employee of the MONTH



October 2000

EMPLOYEE: Raymond Mora

TITLE: Associate Director of Plant Engineering and Construction Management

DEPARTMENT: Campus Facilities & Operations

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 8-1/2 years

COMMENTS:

"Ray not only is a registered engineer, but a true professional who is deeply committed to value engineering, and standards of the highest order. A superb team player, who delegates well, and manages his time wisely. He regularly demonstrates excellent technical knowledge with mechanical engineering applications and superior knowledge in all areas of construction management. Highly disciplined and organized, his commitments and/or target dates rarely slip. This fine individual is most trustworthy, and can be counted on to deliver under the most difficult circumstances."

campus
REGISTRY
of distinction

Peter J. Bertocci, professor, Sociology and Anthropology, CAS, organized the session titled, *Ritual and Representation in Bangladesh Culture* at the 29th Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and delivered a paper on "Saint Veneration in Modern Bangladesh."

Nicole Buffard-O'Shea, associate professor, Modern Languages and Literatures, made the following scholarly presentations: "Malika Mokeddem: problématiques politiques de la métaphores dans La Nuit de la lézarde," Twentieth International Colloquium in 20th Century French Studies, University of Pennsylvania; "La politique du mot dans Nouvelles d'Algérie de Maïssa Bey," Conference on Writing Women, Université Cadi Ayyad, Marrakech, Morocco; "Ecrivaines de l'immigration, écrivaines algériennes: écritures politiques," Conférence Internationale, "Littératures algériennes contemporaines," Victoria University, Toronto.

James Dow, professor, Sociology and Anthropology, has been named a member of the nominating committee of the Central States Anthropological Society. He is a recent past-president of the society. His most recent publication is *Otomian and Purpéchan Cultures of Central Mexico*, a supplement to the *Handbook of Middle American Indians*, published by the University of Texas Press (2000).

Robert Justin Goldstein, professor, Political Science, has authored a new book, *Flag Burning and Free Speech: The Case of Texas v. Johnson*, published by the University Press of Kansas. The book discusses the

controversy resulting from a 1989 Supreme Court case declaring flag desecration a form of free expression protected under the First Amendment. The book is Goldstein's fourth about the controversy. He has testified on the issue before the United States Judiciary Committee, has been interviewed about his research on the National Public Radio show, *All Things Considered*, and has been quoted extensively on the subject.

Stacey Hahn, associate professor, Modern Languages and Literatures, presented "Generation Gaps and Continuity in Medieval French Romance" at the Medieval-Renaissance Conference XII at the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

David Jaymes, professor, Modern Languages and Literatures, CAS, prepared *Campus Stories*, a language and culture manual for the first two films of the University of Orleans intermediate-advanced French program in collaboration with D. Brunot, J. Cranmer, M.T. Farming and B. Roussel.

Frank Lepkowski, interim associate dean, University Library, presented his paper, "Politics as Unusual: Academic Library Web Site Development in Its Institutional Context," at the Integrated Online Library Systems Conference in May 2000.

Frances Meuser, associate professor, Modern Languages and Literatures, presented a paper, "Memory and Melancholia in Lucia Guerra's Muñeca Brava" for a session called *Memory and Melancholia in the Works of 20th Century Female Writers* for NEMLA, in Buffalo, New York. Meuser also chaired the session, *Dreams and Dream Sequences in the Works of 20th Century Female Writers*.

Virinder K. Moudgil, chair and professor, Biological Sciences, recently published a paper titled, "Agonist and Antagonist-induced Qualitative and Quantitative Alterations of Progesterone Receptor from Breast Cancer Cells" in *Molecular and Cellular*

Biochemistry, Vol., 199, pages 49-56, 1999 (a collaborative effort with postdoctoral research associate **Cliff Hurd**; PhD graduate students **Sumi Dinda**, **Nidhi Khattree** and **Paul Alban**, and undergraduate student **Koushik Nag**.)

Austin Murphy, professor, Accounting and Finance, SBA, had his book *The Triumph of Evil: The Reality of the USA's Cold War Victory* published by European Press, Academic Publishing (Florence, Italy, www.e-p-a-p.com), in September 2000.

Seigo Nakao, associate professor, Modern Languages and Literatures, had an article, "Kenji Nakagami: Snakelust," published in *World Literature Today*; and contributed "Mishima," "Yukio," "Kabuki," and "Samurai" to *Gay Histories and Cultures*, published by Garland Publishing, Inc., New York (2000).

Terri Orbuch, associate professor, Sociology, recipient of the Oakland University 1999 New Investigator Research Excellence Award, recently co-authored "The Impact of Marital Quality, Divorce, and Remarriage on the Relationships between Parents and Their Children," in *Marriage and Family Review*, Vol. 29, No. 4 (2000). It was co-published simultaneously in *Fatherhood: Research, Interventions and Policies*, an edited collection put out by the Haworth Press.

Kathleen Pfeiffer, assistant professor, English, wrote the introduction to the re-issue of Carl Van Vechten's 1926 novel, *Nigger Heaven*, a project which she proposed and edited. Pfeiffer also presented a paper titled "How to Think About a Controversial Book: Working with Carl Van Vechten's *Nigger Heaven*" at the annual Michigan Academy Meeting last March at Saginaw Valley State University.

Ronald F. Rapin, associate professor, Spanish, presented "Parallelism in the New York Poetry of Federico Garcia Lorca" at the University of Cincinnati Nineteenth Annual Conference of

Foreign Languages, "Hispanic Music and the Poetry of Federico Garcia Lorca" at L'Anse Creuse High School, "Cambodia: A Resurrection" for the OU Honors College, and a Hispanic music and poetry performance at Oakland's International Night.

Rebecca Roberts, special lecturer, Rhetoric, Communication and Journalism, has an essay, "Standup Comedy and the Perogative of Art" in the Summer 2000 issue of *The Massachusetts Review*. Another of her essays, "Waiting for Thoreau," appears in the anthology, *Peninsula: Essays and Memoirs from Michigan*, published by Michigan State University Press.

Brad Roth, associate professor, Physics, presented an invited talk about his research in computational cardiac electrophysiology at Cardiotim 2000, 12th International Congress, in Nice, France, last June.

Karen Sheridan, associate professor, Theatre, is hailed as one of the most successful women in the field of physical theatre and mime, in Annette Lust's 1999 book titled, *Twentieth Century Mime*.

John Paul White, associate professor, Music Theatre and Dance, was invited to sing the lead bass role of Sarasto in Mozart's *The Magic Flute* in August. Five performances in German were presented at the Renaissance Vineyards Festival in the California wine country.

Jackie Wiggins, associate professor, Music, Theatre and Dance, was invited to facilitate in the Northwestern University Music Education Leadership Seminar (NUMELS) in Chicago.

Yang Xia, associate professor, Physics, served on two study sections at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in June and July: *Shared Instrumentation*, and *Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)*. Xia also published an article in the *Journal of Magnetic Resonance Imaging* in June titled, "Heterogeneity of Cartilage Laminae in MR Imaging."



calendar of
EVENTS



November

- Through Nov. 26 *Resonance: Photographs and Installations.* Exhibition of photographs and photographic installations by Andrea Eis. MBAG.
- 17 Men's basketball vs. Michigan. 7 p.m.
Oakland Chorale and University Chorus.
Varner Recital Hall. 8 p.m.
- 18 Jazz Band. Varner Recital Hall. 8 p.m. Free.
- 19 *Resonance: Ancient Myths, Contemporary Art.* Lecture by Andrea Eis. MBAG. 2 p.m.
- 21 Men's basketball vs. Ferris State. 7 p.m.
- 22 Women's basketball vs. UM-Dearborn.
- 23 Holiday closure: Thanksgiving Day.
- 24 Holiday closure: Day after Thanksgiving.
- 25 Men's basketball vs. Akron.
- 25 *A Christmas Carol*, by Charles Dickens; adaptation and original staging by Charles Nolte. MBT. Through December 24.
- 30 Men's basketball vs. Youngstown State. 7 p.m.

December

- 4 Women's basketball vs. Youngstown State.
- 5 Art, Book, Craft Fair. OC. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 7 Women's basketball vs. Detroit.
- 9 Men's basketball vs. Cleveland State. 7 p.m.



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