



THE PIONEER CLUB STAY INVOLVED.

CONNECT WITH FORMER COLLEAGUES.

November 2014

Wishing you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving! We are grateful for your support of and contributions to the Oakland University community. Here is the latest [campus news](#) and OU's [calendar of events](#)!

About the Pioneer Club

The purpose of the Oakland University Pioneer Club is to provide social, educational and volunteer service opportunities to OU retirees and their spouses. It is our hope that this group will serve as a way for you to reconnect with former colleagues, and maintain a relationship with OU. As a retiree, you remain a valued member of the University community.

Group Lunches

The group meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 1:00 p.m. at Nick's Country Oven in Rochester (Adams and Silverbell). These lunches are very casual, so please stop by when your schedule permits.

Newsworthy

Many of you may remember Dr. V. Everett Kinsey, the first director of the Eye Research Institute (ERI), who passed away in 1978. He and his wife, Irene Kinsey Stare, were passionate about the important ocular research conducted at the ERI and furthering the organization that gained national recognition under Dr. Kinsey's leadership. In 2004, Mrs. Kinsey Stare established the V. Everett Kinsey Endowed Professorship with a planned gift of \$525,000 to help fund vital research projects by ERI professors. Mrs. Kinsey Stare added the University as a beneficiary to her will in January of 2013, stipulating that OU would receive another \$500,000 upon her death. Just months after her 100th birthday on March 13, 2013, Mrs. Kinsey Stare passed away, and Oakland learned that the ERI would also receive the residue of her estate. Mrs. Kinsey Stare's gift totaled \$3.7 million. To read the story of this couple's remarkable legacy that recently appeared in *Crain's Detroit Business*, [click here](#).

Campus Update

President George W. Hynd delivered his first "President's Report to Campus" earlier this month. The goal of these reports, which will be held every other month during the academic year, is to promote transparency, foster productive dialogue and nurture a collective commitment to advance the University in the best interests of OU students and the communities it serves. [Click here](#) for a link to watch video coverage of President Hynd's Report to Campus.

Hats Off to OU

Graduation caps, actually! New findings from OU's Office of Institutional Research and Assessment indicate graduation rates have more than doubled over the last 20 years and student retention rates increased dramatically as well. [Click here](#) to learn how targeted academic advising initiatives have resulted in this tremendous progress.

Pioneer Profile

In lieu of our traditional written retiree profile, this month we are pleased to present a heartwarming [video interview](#) of Dr. Adeline Hirschfeld-Medalia, creator of OU's theatre program. Dr. Hirschfeld-Medalia was appointed OU's first female department chair and served the University from 1966-1986.

Upcoming Events

Musical Theatre Workshop Double Bill
Monday, December 1st, 7:00-10:00 p.m.
Varner Studio Theatre
All Seats \$8
[Click here for more info!](#)

Art, Book & Gift Fair
Wednesday, December 3rd, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Oakland Center
Free Admission
[Click here for more info!](#)

Oakland Dance Theatre & OU Repertory Dance Company
Saturday, December 6th, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Varner Recital Hall
Tickets \$14
[Click here for more info!](#)

OU Jazz at Cliff Bell's Jazz Club
Sunday, December 14th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Cliff Bell's Jazz Club in Detroit
Free Admission
[Click here for more info!](#)

Arts at OU - Holiday Walk at Meadow Brook Hall
Monday, December 15th, 5:00-9:00 p.m.
Meadow Brook Hall
Tickets \$12
[Click here for more info!](#)

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Personal Tech Products Designed Specifically for Seniors

Can you recommend any tablets, smartphones or computers that are specifically designed for seniors? I would like to buy a device for my grandmother so she can keep up with her grandkids better, but the device needs to be simple to use. [Read More](#)