



Wednesday, November 27, 2002

OU celebrating a December to Remember

By **Jeff Samoray**, OU Web Writer

Students, faculty and staff have a chance to spin their way into the record books this holiday season during Oakland University's annual "December to Remember" week, which runs from Monday, Dec. 2, through Saturday, Dec. 7.

As part of the festivities, everyone on campus is invited to the **Recreation and Athletics Center** on Tuesday, Dec. 3, from noon to 1 p.m. to attempt to break the world record for dreidel spinning. A dreidel is a four-sided top with a pointed bottom traditionally used in children's games during Chanukah. The current record for simultaneous dreidel spinning, as established by **Guinness World Records**, is 358, said Sara Crampton, coordinator of student leadership development for the Center for Student Activities.

"Our office tried to find information on different holidays that we could incorporate into this year's 'December to Remember' week, and we learned about the dreidel tradition and decided to contact the Guinness people to learn about the record and what the requirements are to break it," Crampton said.

"We have to have individual people spin one dreidel each. And we learned that to meet the qualifications of a world record, we must have eight witnesses at the event, including two non-OU witnesses, a logbook for participants to sign, and we must provide a videotape and photo of the event. The biggest thing is that each of the dreidels has to spin simultaneously for at least 10 seconds."

Crampton said the CSA ordered 400 wooden dreidels, each of which is one inch tall, with different colored Hebrew letters on each side.

"We've been testing the dreidels over the last couple of days and spinning them for 10 seconds should not be a problem," Crampton said. "The question we're most frequently asked is, 'How difficult is it to spin a dreidel?' But it's not hard at all. In fact, directly before the event in the Rec Center we will teach people how to do it and allow people to try it out before we go for the record."

Those who wish to participate in the event can register at the **Center for Student Activities Service Window** or at the main desk in the Recreation and Athletics Center. However, it is not necessary to sign up in advance. Participants should arrive on the day of the event at 11:45 a.m. at the Recreation Center to sign-in and receive their dreidel.

For more information on the world record attempt, contact Sara Crampton at (248) 370-2024 or crampton@oakland.edu.

For more information on dreidels and their role in Chanukah, visit **Chanukah on the Web**.

DECEMBER TO REMEMBER SCHEDULE

Monday, Dec. 2 – Friday, Dec. 6

- **Children's Book Drive – Exhibit Lounge, Oakland Center:** OU students, faculty, and staff may donate books in the designated area of the Exhibit Lounge. Books will be given to Childcare Council, Lighthouse PATH, and the Women's Survival Center of Oakland County. Student organizations participating in the \$100 Book Drive competition should place the books in an untaped box with their organization name and turn them into the CSA Office, 49 Oakland Center, by Thursday, Dec. 5 at 5 p.m.
- **Angel Tree – Exhibit Lounge, Oakland Center:** Individuals interested in purchasing a gift for a participant of the Hispanic Outreach Program may pick up a tag from the Angel Tree in the Exhibit Lounge and return the wrapped gift and tag to the CSA Office, 49 Oakland Center, by Monday, Dec. 9, 2002 at 5 p.m. The Department of Linguistics and the Hispanic Outreach Program coordinate this event.

Monday, Dec. 2

Celebrate the Spirit of Christmas. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center: This event will feature Santa GRIZZ, candy canes, cookie decorating, a display about Christmas, ornament making for tree lighting, the “OU Spirit of the Holidays” Tree Lighting (at noon), and the announcement of the Student Organization Holiday Poster Contest Winner.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

- **Celebrate the Spirit of Hanukkah. Dreidel spinning world record attempt. Noon to 1 p.m. – Recreation Center:** Come help in the effort to break the world record for Most Dreidels Spinning Simultaneously. Dreidels and instructions will be provided.
- **Dreidel making. 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. – Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center:** Traditional Hanukkah (Kosher) foods, and a display about Chanukah will be offered.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

- **Celebrate the Spirit of Giving. Art, Book, and Gift Fair. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center:** The Oakland Center Administration and Reservations Office coordinate this event.
- **Winter Wonderland Luncheon Buffet. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. – Gold Rooms, Oakland Center:** This event is coordinated by Chartwells. Reservations can be made by calling Andrea Kope at (248) 370-2520. Cost is \$7.50 per person.

Thursday, Dec. 5

- **Celebrate the Spirit of Ramadan. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center:** This event features holiday card making for senior citizen residents of the Waltonwood and Danish Village Retirement Communities and a display about Ramadan.
- **Celebrate the Spirit of Ramadan. 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. – Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center:** Henna Art, Traditional Food, Learn Your Name in Arabic, Display about Ramadan, and Presentation of Holiday Cards to Retirement Communities (5 p.m.)

Friday, Dec. 6

- **Celebrate the Spirit of Kwanzaa. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center:** This event features a presentation about Kwanzaa, an Akanke performance, food, a display about Kwanzaa, and the announcement of the Student Organization Book Drive Winners (at noon).

Saturday, Dec. 7

- **Celebrate the Spirit of Children. Winter Wonderland. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. – Recreation and Athletics Center:** This is a free holiday fair for children of OU students, faculty, staff, and the local community. If you would like additional information or wish to volunteer, contact Sara Crampton at (248) 370-2024 or crampton@oakland.edu. This is also a “Spirituality in Service” program.

SUMMARY

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