December 1, 2015

The annual Giving Tree in the US Main Lobby. (See more information below.)

NEWS FROM JORDAN ELLIOTT, HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday!

The coming weeks will be focused on preparing for final assessments (December 15-18, detailed...
Do make note that exams begin at 9:00 am Tuesday through Thursday, December 15-17 and at 10:00 am on Friday, December 18. Parents and students have two opportunities during final exams. First, parents can excuse students from the final exam that corresponds with their open block by calling or emailing Alison Nugent (503-768-3169; usattend@oes.edu). Second, students can leave campus during the break between exams with a signed permission form. Please discuss these opportunities to make the appropriate decision for your family.

The 2015 calendar year ends with our annual St. Nick’s Chapel. The event is Friday, December 18 at 1:30 pm in the OES Gym. All students are required to be there and parents are welcome. Please note that the final assessment on Friday, December 18 begins at 10:00 am.

Follow me on Twitter for updates of what’s going on in the Upper School and for trends in education: @OESheadUS.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1-18  Giving Tree, Main Lobby
December 2  Advent Lessons & Carols Service 6:30 pm, Chapel
            Afterglow & Holiday Art Sale, 7:30 pm, Great Hall
December 3-4  Holiday Art Sale, US Lobby (see below)
December 4  Yearbook  Senior "Mug Shots" due (see below)
December 11  NogFest, 3:00 pm, US Library
December 15  G Block Assessment, 9:00 am
            F Block Assessment, 1:00 pm
December 16  E Block Assessment, 9:00 am
            D Block Assessment, 1:00 pm
December 17  C Block Assessment, 9:00 am
            B Block Assessment, 1:00 pm
December 18  A Block Assessment, 10:00 am
            St. Nick’s Chapel, 1:30 pm, OES Gym
December 19  Dorms Close
December 19 - January 3  NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
January 8  9th Grade PAL, 8:00 am, Platt
January 11  10th Grade PAL, 8:00 am, DVR
            Financial Aid Information Night, 7:00 pm, MS Commons
January 12  Books & Breakfast, 8:00 am, Platt
January 13  US Winter Concert, 7:00 pm, Chapel
January 18  NO SCHOOL - MLK, Jr. Day

SCHOOL NOTES

(NEW) Book Fair Thanks!
Thank you to the entire OES Community for your part in making the 2015 OES Book Fair at Annie Bloom’s Books a success! With your
help, we raised $6,000 for the Friends of OES Libraries. Now here are the winners of the Book Fair raffle.

**Cap & Gown and Graduation Announcements**
On Monday, November 30, seniors received a form to order their cap and gown (size and color - black or white) and graduation announcements. Be sure to ask your student about the information that was handed out at their class meeting. **Order forms will be collected by our Jostens representative on Wednesday, December 9.** Questions? [Pat Freeman](mailto:patfreeman@oes.edu) or [Jean Verheggen](mailto:jeanverheggen@oes.edu).

**Honeywell Instant Alert**
As Winter fast approaches, it is important to be ready for what nature throws our way. OES contracts with an emergency announcement calling service that will notify families of school delays and closures and other emergencies. In order to receive these announcements, you must register with Honeywell Instant Alert. [Learn more](https://oes.edu/honeywell-student-instant-alert).

**John Holloran Athletic Event Galleries**
For more photos by John Holloran (Director of Studies/Upper School History Teacher), please visit his [SmugMug account](https://photos.smugmug.com). Often we feature his photos in the [VOICE](http://voice.oes.edu) and this is a great way for you to see them all!

**Attendance REMINDER**
Please remember to call or email in advance if your child is going to miss school or be late for any reason. Doing so will help us keep your child safe. Email [USattend](mailto:usattend@oes.edu) or call US Attendance Coordinator, Alison Nugent, at (503) 768-3169.

**OES Food & Allergy Policy**
In keeping with our Food and Allergy Policy, we have amended the title of our school program as “Allergy Aware.” While the title has changed, the practice of how we manage allergens in our dining halls and classrooms remains the same. Allergens will still be labeled in our dining halls, and special age-appropriate care and support will continue for all of our younger students. In collaboration with Bon Appetit, we will continue to ban nuts and nut products from all of our dining halls and classrooms.

I invite you to read through our policy: [OES Food and Allergy Policy](https://oes.edu/allergy-policy).

Please contact OES Nurse, Elaine Elliott, with any questions or concerns ([elliott@oes.edu](mailto:elliott@oes.edu)).

---

(NEW) **AARDVARK SCIENCE EXPO**
Parents, family, and friends of the OES community are invited to visit the OES Aardvark Science Expos where Middle & Upper School research projects/exhibits will be on display.

On **Thursday, February 25th**, from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, the exhibit hall in SPARC Gymnasium is open to the public. US student exhibitors will not be with their projects that day although the MS students will be interviewed at their exhibits from 8:30 - 11:30 AM. This is an excellent time for members of the entire OES community to spend time perusing the wide array of 250+ incredible projects and reading exhibit boards.
On Friday, February 26th, after judging, there will be an open house from 6:30 – 7:30 PM, followed by the awards ceremony from 7:30 – 8:30 PM. Buses will run between SPARC and the lower lot by the athletic fields from 6:20 – 9:00 pm. Parking at SPARC by permit only; if you would like a parking permit for SPARC, inquire at the Upper or Middle School office.

For a more comprehensive schedule click here: Complete schedule.

Would you like to help as a judge or volunteer? If you have a science degree, work experience, or extensive knowledge in any of the scientific disciplines and your children are not attending upper school yet, please consider volunteering as a science fair judge. If you cannot judge, please consider asking your friends or colleagues to volunteer for our event. Breakfast and lunch provided. Visit the Aardvark Science Expo page.

(NEW) BOOKS & BREAKFAST

CDL's next books and breakfast meeting will take place at 8:00 am on Tuesday, January 12 in the Platt Global classroom, when we'll be discussing Claudia Rankine's award winning lyric poem about race and what it means to be a citizen of the United States, Citizen.

(NEW) ADMISSIONS

2016-2017 Financial Aid Application Now Available

Families seeking financial aid for the 2016-2017 school year may begin the online Parent Financial Statement (PFS). The PFS is due on February 5. School and Student Services (SSS) is offering free webinars to guide parents through the financial aid process. Check out the offerings here. An OES FA Information Evening will be offered in the MS Commons on Monday, January 11, 7:00 - 8:00 pm. This event is most appropriate for families new to the FA process.

Admissions – Early Application Deadline

If you have a child ready to join the OES community in the 2016-17 school year - the application deadline is:

- Grades PK – 8: January 19
- Grades 9 - 12: January 28

We offer a reduced application fee of $50, if you apply online by December 14. You will use your parent portal password to log into the online application. View application forms on the admissions website.

Admissions – Information Evenings

If you know someone interested in exploring OES for their family, please invite them to attend one of our events before the application deadline.
Information Evening – January 6, 7:00 – 8:30pm; OES Campus

Financial Aid Information Evening – January 11, 7:00 - 8:00 pm; Middle School Commons

Prospective Parent Reception – January 13, 6:00 – 8:00 pm; Lucky Labrador Tap Room, N Portland

(NEW) MUSIC NOTES

The Upper School Concert Choir will be featured on Portland Symphonic Choir's "Wintersong" concert on Sunday, December 13th at 7:00 pm at Central Lutheran Church. We will have our own set on the concert and also will be part of singing the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah. It will be a wonderful concert with lots of beautiful holiday music, we hope to see you there!

(NEW) ADVENT SERVICE / AFTERGLOW / ART SALE

Everyone is invited to the annual OES Advent Service of Lessons and Carols in the chapel on Wednesday, December 2, 6:30 – 7:30pm. Enjoy beautiful music and readings presented by 3rd – 5th grade choirs, middle school choirs, US choir, and the 5th grade handbell choir directed by Rachel Phelps, Amy Rheingans and Adam Steele.

All are invited afterwards to Afterglow (a time for music, art and joy) at 7:30pm in the Great Hall to hear more music, purchase art made by students and faculty, and have some cookies.

For more information contact Nancy Teskey or Margaret Synan-Russell

The Annual Student/OES Employee Holiday Art Sale!

Dates of the Sale:

- **Wed. Dec. 2**
  at Afterglow (7:30 pm) in the Great Hall following the Advent Service
- **Thurs. Dec. 3**
  9:00 am - 3:30 pm in the Main Lobby
- **Friday Dec. 4**
  8:30 am - 3:30 pm in the Main Lobby

What will be sold?
Wonderful things for sale include beautiful fused glass pendants made by the Art Sale Committee, framed photographs by Audrey Metscher, photo cards by John Holloran, felted wool soaps and earrings by Kelly Cowing and her daughter, creative gold fish soaps by Tanja Horvat, scarves by Chloe Fox-Gitomer, jewelry by Andrea Rosselle, cards by Myra Clark, handmade hats by Quattro Musser, and hand-sewn keepsakes, handmade ornaments, cds, and much more! Other artists participating include Julia Witteman, Jen Bash, Charlie Adams, Bella Somoza, Skye Chen, Mia Friedman, Mark Fernandez, Robin Schaufller, Jennifer Dai, Katie Horton, Alison...
10% of profits will go towards a charity. A percentage of the proceeds this year will go to Project Lemonade, a wonderful organization to benefit foster youth.

(NEW) SCHOOL STORE

Holiday Shopping has begun at the OES school store. Click here to get started!

(NEW) JUNIOR PARENTS: GRAD PARTY

The Grad Party is a safe, fun way for the graduating Seniors to get a last few hours together before they go their separate ways. OES is unique in that the Junior parents “pay it forward” by hosting, so the Senior parents don’t have to worry about planning/hosting this event when so much else is going on for their families.

We have our Committees in place and are working on the planning. We need ALL Junior parents to step forward to help for this event on the night of graduation. We will soon announce the opening of Volunteer Spot sign up so that you can have first crack at your preferred time slot. All Volunteers will need to have a Background check—more information on how to accomplish that will be forthcoming.

If you have any questions or ideas, please contact the 2016 Grad Party Co-Chairs, Nora Semonsen or Belinda Calabia.

(NEW) WINTERIM 2016

On the last day before Thanksgiving break, all Upper School students heard about the local and domestic offerings for Winterim 2016. Students have until Wednesday, December 2nd, at 3:00 pm to submit their registration online. Links for the registration form, the financial aid application form, and full descriptions of all courses can be found on the Winterim webpage. Please note: In order for the student registration to be considered complete, parents must also submit their approval of their student's
course selections. Parents will receive an email when their child registers, and must complete the linked electronic approval form.

Students will learn which Winterim course they are in prior to winter break, and families will be notified of financial aid awards. If you have any questions, please contact Christina Meyerhoff.

**GIVING TREE**

**It's Giving Tree Time!**

Join us in this important and joyful OES tradition of service to our local community...

Students of the Service-Learning Action Committee, Community Board, Spirit Squad, and AASK Student Advisory Council coordinate the collection of new clothing and gifts for about 25 families from our AASK partner, Whitford Middle School. Counselors at Whitford carefully identify families that especially need support at this time of year. OES is honored to be part of a collaborative effort that relies on the participation of a number of businesses, churches, and service agencies.

**Upper School students and parents can pick up gift tags from the Giving Tree in the main lobby.** Gift items must be placed under the Giving Tree, NOT wrapped, and with gift tags securely attached, by Thursday, December 10.

Each Whitford family member will receive socks, a shirt or sweater, pants or jeans, and a gift item. Choose the items that you would most like to give!

**Questions?** Contact Myra Clark (503) 768-3193, Gisela Walitzki (503) 416-9394, or Robin Schauffler (503) 416-9308.

Volunteers are needed to help wrap gifts and supervise students wrapping gifts. If you are interested please sign up on VolunteerSpot: Giving Tree Gift Wrap. Questions about gift wrapping? Contact Gisela Walitzki.

**OES SERVICE LEARNING**

**CEREAL THURSDAYS!** This is a long-time Upper School tradition: helping to provide breakfast cereal for the kids at Community Transitional School for children experiencing homelessness.

Complete information about Service Learning in the Upper School is on the [US Service Learning website](#). Bookmark it and refer to it frequently!

What can parents do to help? Remind your child to stay alert and aware of what she or he needs to do, and support him or her in finding opportunities -- starting with the [SL Opportunities Page](#).
Questions? Contact Robin Schauffler, Service Learning Coordinator.

By grade level, students should focus on different tasks this fall:

**9th grade**: Work on the 20 exploratory OFF campus hours needed before January 2017, and look for ON campus opportunities. Any service-learning you have done over the summer—since finishing 8th grade—will count! Just fill out and turn in the Service-Learning Hours Reporting Form in Area 51.

**10th grade**: Must finish the 20 OFF campus hours by the end of this semester: January 29 (!!), Students will not be allowed to propose a Service-Learning Project until those hours are completed. The Winter Break can be a great time to get those last hours done. Lots of December opportunities will soon be posted on the Opportunities page of the SL website, and meanwhile you can check the website for year-round possibilities. Students are always welcome to drop by Area 51 to brainstorm ideas!

**11th grade**: Look for ON campus opportunities, and be thinking about what to do for Service Learning Projects; it is wise to complete at least one Project before June 2016 (and if the 20 OFF campus hours are not complete, see Robin NOW!)

**12th grade**: This is it. Do not put off your hours or your Projects. June 2016 is sooner than you think.

**ALL STUDENTS**: Get signatures and turn in all those forms for any work you've done that hasn't been reported yet. Need help with all this? SEE ROBIN.

**OES AUCTION**

**COMING ATTRACTIONS**

**SATURDAY MARCH 12**

**AARDY LIGHTS**

**2016 GOES TO HOLLYWOOD AUCTION**

The Thirtieth Annual Oregon Episcopal School Auction

Heading up the 30th Annual OES Auction this year are Auction Chair: Michelle Fitzhenry and Auction Co-Chair: Hilary O’Hollaren. The event theme this year is “Aardy Goes to Hollywood” so get ready to get your glamour on!

Ladies, let’s go to the Oscars! Join us for Oscar Night 2016 on the BIG screen. Wear your SWEATS – TIARAS provided. Catered dinner, beer, wine and signature cocktail. Photo opportunity and conversation with a real Oscar winner and his golden statuette. Ballot contest with prizes. The party starts with Red Carpet
Goldenguy - OSCAR PARTY          $150.00
DATE: Sunday, February 28, 2016
TIME: 4:00pm
LOCATION: The Pinkava Residence

There are a few spots available to purchase an additional ticket for a friend or new OES mom! Please register.

US YEARBOOK

There are several opportunities for seniors and their parents to contribute to the yearbook. Below is a description of these opportunities and their deadlines. We need to submit our pages to the publisher at certain intervals, so these deadlines are not flexible! Please let us know if you have any questions.

**US Yearbook Senior Deadlines:**

1. **MUG SHOTS:** December 4, 2015
2. **SENIOR PAGES:** January 14, 2016
3. **BABY PICTURES:** March 4, 2016
4. **PARENT ADS:** March 16, 2016

**MUG SHOTS:** Sometimes students submit a studio photo to be used in place of their school photo for the yearbook. This is not required. Sending a digital photo to me is the easiest way to submit an image, or we will scan the photo and return it to the student. **Deadline – December 4, 2015.**

**SENIOR PHOTO GUIDELINES**
Head and shoulders only
Print size – 3”X 3”
Quality - 300 DPI

For more info, contact Sue Jensen, US Arts Faculty & Advisor to Yearbook

COLLEGE COUNSELING

**(NEW) Junior College Panel for Parents**
Will be held on **Monday February 8, from 7:00-9:00 pmin** the Great Hall. The speakers will include Tom Marlitt, Director of West Coast Admission, Connecticut College; Jennifer Delahunty, Associate Dean of Admissions for the West Coast, Kenyon College; and Katherine Bloomfield parent of Tess ’15 and Elliot ’07 Oberholtzer.

**Topics:** College options and how students learn about colleges / How colleges make admissions decisions / The parent role in this process.

We hope you can join us as this is not an event that lends itself to handouts or PowerPoint slides. The college deans will talk with the juniors on Monday afternoon.

**SAT/ACT Tests**
Seniors, please note the following test dates and registration deadlines. Enter the school code when you register (380915) and if you are taking the ACT, it is important to include the optional writing test. There is a late registration deadline for each test date that requires an additional fee. See the testing websites for additional information.

**SAT/ACT Dates and (Registration Deadline):**

**SAT Testing**
- December 5 (11/5, late 11/23)
- January 23 (12/28, late 1/12)

**ACT testing**
- December 12 (11/6, late 11/20)
- February 6 (1/8, late 1/15)

**CLASS NOTES**

- **9th Grade PAL** – Next meeting is on January 8th, 8:00am, Drinkward Volunteer Room. Questions? Contact Rico McIver.
  - * February meeting will be combined with 10th grade.

- **10th Grade PAL** – Next meeting is on January 11th, 8:00am, Drinkward Volunteer Room. Questions? Contact Jana Reddoch.
  - * February meeting will be combined with 9th grade.

- **11th Grade PAL** – Next meeting: January 19th, 8:00am, Drinkward Volunteer Room. Questions? Contact Holly Hady.
  - Upcoming meetings: 2/22, 4/18, 5/16.

- **12th Grade PAL** – Next meeting: January 25th, 8:00am, Drinkward Volunteer Room. Questions? Contact Kay Pinkava.

- **PAL meeting Calendar (all grades)**

[LS WED. EXPRESS] [US VOICE]