



THE UNIVERSITY *of*  
**OLIVET**

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

UO Alumni Newsletter

October 2023



### **HOMECOMING IS HERE!**

Happening this month, **October 20-22!** For a detailed description of all activities, visit [www.uolivet.edu/alumni/homecoming](http://www.uolivet.edu/alumni/homecoming) and watch for the Homecoming brochure in your mailbox!

Ticketed events require registration in advance. Ticketed events include the Distinguished Alumni & Athletic Hall of Fame dinner (Battle Creek Country Club), the Alumni Breakfast (Burrage Library), the After Party at Schuler's in Marshall for the 60s/70s/80s, and the After Party at the Cutler Center Lawrence Room for 90s/2000s.

Free events include:

**Greek Open Houses on Saturday, October 21, starting at noon** - this is an opportunity for Greek alumni to visit with their actives to hear updates and learn about what's happening at the University.

**Diverse Block Party in the Square after the game on Saturday, October 21.** Connect with friends, the community, and, more broadly, Black Culture at the university. Alpha Phi Kappa, Eta Psi Kappa, Alpha Xi Omega, Nu Gamma Xi, and Mu Omega Pi will perform a yard show, stroll-off, have music, and present an award for the best-dressed minority Greek society. The event will allow different generations of Comets to forge relationships and build deeper connections to the campus in a fun, interactive atmosphere.

**Alumni Gospel Choir** - unfortunately, this event scheduled for Friday, October 20, has been **CANCELED**. Please check the website for future music program events!



### **Alumni Family Event at Potter Park Zoo!**

Please join us for our next alumni gathering at Potter Park Zoo in Lansing, MI, for their Wonderland of Lights. Stop by the Savannah Room for a hot cocoa and coffee bar, a smore's bar, and assorted treats! Then, walk through the zoo, where thousands of lights create an extraordinary holiday display and holiday music plays. Registration is \$5/person (kids 2 and under are free). You must pre-register to attend this event, and registration is non-refundable. We hope to see you there!

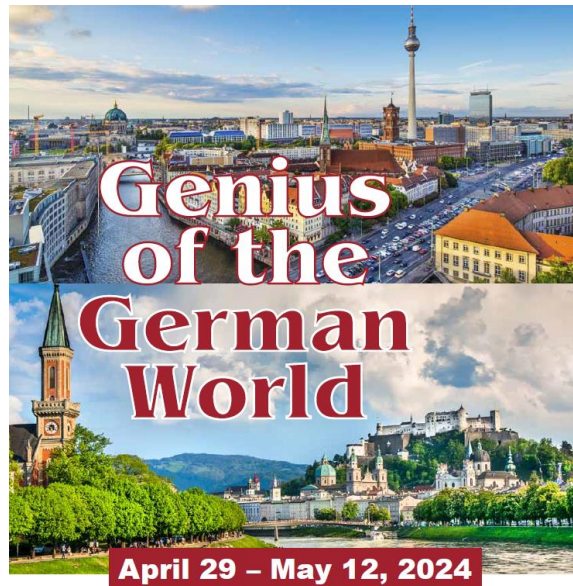


### **Rental Car Discounts for Olivet Alumni!**

In appreciation of our valued alumni association, we are happy to announce that Enterprise is extending their discounted rates to all Olivet alumni! Use the following link to book your next rental with leisure code XZ20YZ2:

[Reserve | Enterprise Rent-A-Car](#)

We appreciate you!



### **Travel Abroad Opportunity for Alumni**

Dr. Dustin Byrd, Associate Professor of Humanities, will be conducting a study abroad trip for UO students during the ILT term in 2024. We are extending the invite to alumni who are interested in participating! For more information, visit [bookings.wittetravel.com](https://bookings.wittetravel.com) and use booking code 042924BYRD. You may also email Dr. Byrd at [dbyrd@uolivet.edu](mailto:dbyrd@uolivet.edu).



### **Comet Commentary Podcast**

#### **in Conjunction with Media Production & Communication Students**

Do you want to share an interesting story or experience with the Olivet community? We would love to hear your stories based on the following themes: reflections on your experiences with WOOCR; campus ghost stories or local unsolved mysteries (October); giving thanks (November); traveling home for the holidays (December); celebrating the new year around the world (January); and more. MPC students will contact you and arrange an interview via Zoom. The audio file will then be edited and shared on our podcast. There will also be an option to record your story in person at Homecoming! Please use the Signup Genius link to let us know if you would like to participate.





### **Council Comments** from Alumni Council Chair Barron Evans '77

Welcome to the debut edition of a new feature from the perspective of your Alumni Council. The Council is a group of alums who are informing and helping lead Olivet's direction on behalf of the Alumni Association, of which you are a member. Many of you are already engaged with the university by attending events, following social media, and participating in academic and extracurricular activities. As we launch this school year, the Council has three defined focus areas:

**Engagement:** inspiring more of our alumni to be involved in diverse opportunities;

**Mentorship:** leveraging the Career Services team and the broad alumni base to support both current students and working adults;

**Enrollment:** partnering with the Enrollment team to identify and participate in new student sourcing.

As the Council plans its efforts around these key areas, we will seek your input and involvement to achieve these goals. We're working with the Alumni Office to help deliver across all facets of the Vision 2030 Strategic Plan, particularly with Engaging Beyond Our Hill. Here are ways you can make a difference:

\*Get reacquainted with your alma mater at [uolivet.edu](http://uolivet.edu)

\*Review [Shiphherd's Record](#) for inspiration on where you might engage.

\*Join [Comet2Comet](#) and encourage others to do the same!

\*Contact the [alumni office](#) or Barron Evans ([evansbarron@gmail.com](mailto:evansbarron@gmail.com)) to discuss how you can get involved, including joining the Council.

Look for additional updates from me in the months ahead. I hope to see you at Homecoming!

### **Alumni Events 2023/2024**

October 17-22, 2023 - HOMECOMING

November 18, 2023 - Potter Park Zoo Winter Wonderland of Lights, Lansing MI

December 8-18, 2023 - Alumni Learning Experience in Dubai

January 28, 2024 - K-Wings Hockey Game, Kalamazoo, MI

February 14, 2024- Cruising the Coast Dinner Cruise, Daytona, FL

February 15, 2024 - Walt Parker '58 Dinner, Ocala, FL

February 17, 2024 - Cruising the Coast Dinner Cruise, Naples, FL

March 2024 - Meijer Gardens Butterfly Exhibit, Grand Rapids, MI

April 2024 - Cocktail Reception, Chicago, IL

May 2024 - Cocktail Reception, Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit, MI

July 2024 - Lansing Lugnuts Baseball Game, Lansing, MI