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ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

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Education for Time and Eternity

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

January/February 2017

Oneida represented at state and regional events

Sharing our story at the Kentucky Baptist Convention



The OBI choir had the opportunity to sing for the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention at Florence Baptist Church in Florence in November.

After the choir sang, Oneida vocal director **Tim Cochran** led the congregational singing. Then OBI president **Larry A. Gritton, Jr.** (OBI '93) introduced two students who shared their thoughts about attending OBI.

Junior **Seth Shockley** gave his testimony about how OBI has impacted his life. Sophomore **Ivy Wandle** spoke of her excitement about attending Oneida and having more opportunities and a better school environment. **Lily Bitew** and **Riley Skyles** greeted pastors and other convention delegates who visited our OBI booth. □

Six participate in All-Festival Chorus



After the All-Festival concert, our singers posed for a photo with OBI vocal ensemble director **Tim Cochran**.

The 2016 Southeastern Kentucky Music Association's All-Festival Chorus concert was held November 22, 2016 at First Baptist Church in London, Kentucky. Six OBI singers were among the 250 choral students from 20 schools in the southeastern Kentucky region. The singers were divided between the SSA and the SATB choirs, and began rehearsals with guest conductors on November 20th.

The SSA All-Festival Chorus was directed by **Chris Hubbs**, a choral director in Kentucky public schools for 35 years, now retired. He is currently director of the McCreary Central Alumni Chorus, the Barbourville Community Chorus and the First Methodist Church choir. OBI sopranos **Autumn Emrich** and **Rachel Mannis** and alto **Chloe Monday** sang with the SAA chorus.

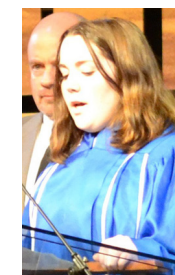
The SATB All-Festival Chorus was directed by **Dr. Richard Waters**, Director of Choral Activities and Professor of Music at Eastern Kentucky University and Chancel Choir Director at First Christian Church in Richmond, Kentucky. **Teni Onitiri** sang tenor and **Seth Smith** sang bass in the SATB chorus, while **Regina Barger**, a senior member of the OBI vocal ensemble, sang alto.

The students auditioned for the chorus, a regional event held annually, and then learned the music in practice sessions led by Oneida vocal director **Tim Cochran**. □



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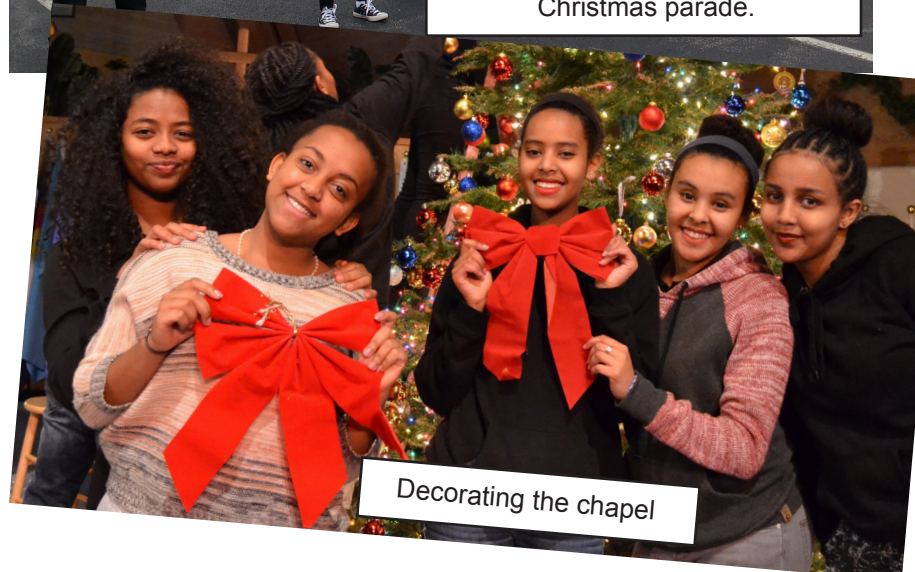
Happy holidays on campus 2016



FFA took part in the community Christmas parade.



Chapel Christmas concert.



Decorating the chapel



Christmas sweatshirt contest

“Missions is in my blood” Oneida staffer volunteers for worldwide charity



Student Coordinator

Susette Clark took her love for missions from a local level to a national scale in November. Ms. Clark volunteered for one of Samaritan's Purse's eight "Operation Christmas Child" processing centers around the U.S. She went to Boone, North Carolina and joined some 80,000 volunteers across the nation who man the centers each year.

Volunteers process the shoe boxes and ready them for shipping. In assembly line fashion, boxes are inspected to make sure only appropriate items will be sent to the children. Workers fill boxes that don't have enough gifts, tape them closed, put them in cases separated by age and gender of recipients, and load the cases onto a semi.

Clark worked an eight-hour shift one day and a six-hour shift the next. She began the first day by taping boxes. "My thumbs got sore after about four hours," she recalled, "because the boxes are full and you have to squeeze them shut and roll them on the tape." When someone went on break, she moved to inspecting the boxes. On the second day, Clark worked at various tasks, including packing the cases. "If you have a box that was paid for on line, you have to scan the bar code, then scan the case it goes in," she said. "When it arrives at its destination country, they scan the case again and you get an email telling where your box went."

She has contributed filled shoe boxes to Operation Christmas Child for several years through Oneida Baptist Church. Clark had read about the processing centers on the Samaritan's Purse Facebook page, and decided to sign up. "When the web site opens for registration, you have to jump in the first day to get a spot," she explained. "I did, but they were full by 9:00 a.m.! So I listed my name on a waiting list and got both days in a week or so."

"Missions is in my blood," Clark stated. From Sunbeams, GAs, Acteens, and Women on Mission to OBI, I have always been involved in missions. The idea of impacting a child's life for Christ through a simple shoe box intrigues me. Children in other countries don't have the opportunities we have here. Many countries see no value in education or caring for children. Some children have never had a gift, have never heard of Jesus, or felt like anyone loves them."

Clark enjoyed the fellowship with other volunteers. "I loved it," she recalled. "I met people from all over the country. Every time a case was filled, everyone cheered. Every couple of hours we would stop and have prayer over the boxes, and often someone would give a testimony about how a box impacted their life. It was very uplifting."

What about the future? "I am hoping to do it again this year, and would love to take a few folks with me," Clark said. "It takes five to six people on one side of a table to make it work, and would be fun to have our own 'team'." ☐ For more information see: <https://www.samaritans-purse.org/our-ministry/seasonal-employment-opportunities/>

Do you know someone who should be nominated for our Athletic Hall of Fame?

We traditionally induct new members into our OBI Athletic Hall of Fame at Homecoming each year. Recipients of this award may be outstanding coaches or athletes, and may be living or deceased. Only his/her OBI achievements will be considered.



Anyone may make a nomination. If nominating a former athlete, the nominee must have been outstanding in one or more sports while a student at Oneida, must have left OBI in good standing, and must have graduated from a high school at least five years before he/she is inducted.

Be watching for full criteria and a nomination form in the March/April issue of the *Oneida Mountaineer*.

Retelling the story



Dorm students, OBI staff members, day student families and people from our local community enjoyed the 16th annual "Walk To Bethlehem," sponsored by the Oneida agriculture department on December 18. At stops along a candlelit path from the main campus to the farm, OBI agriculture and FFA students presented the story of Jesus' birth in word and song.

Save the date!
Oneida Pastors' Conference

Oneida Baptist Institute
July 24-26, 2017

Cost: FREE!

Info: OPC@oneidaschool.org

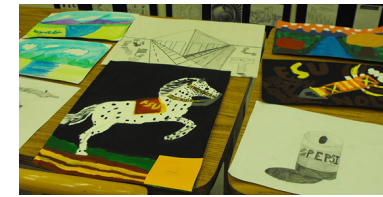


Art for all ages

On December 16 our middle school art class had an end-of-quarter show. There were six young artists in this elective course, and their teacher was **Dawn Lawson**.




Some of the students were on hand to explain their work and answer questions.



Each student entered several works, and there were a variety of projects on display.



Students each selected one piece to be judged by guests at the show.




OBI Drama
presents...

Romeo & Juliet's

UNOFFICIAL, UNNECESSARY

by Edward J. Thomas



Sequel

March 30, 31 & April 1
7:00 PM ~ OBI Chapel

All are invited! Admission is free!

Bits and tidbits

Our mission statement

The mission of Oneida Baptist Institute is to provide a Christian living, learning and working environment in which each of its students, Christian or non-Christian, is diligently challenged to grow mentally, physically, socially and spiritually in order to acquire an *Education for Time and Eternity*.

Need to contact us?

Phone: 606-847-4111 Fax: 606-847-4496

Does your church have a web site?

If so, ask them to link to OBI:

Web: www.oneidaschool.org

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/OBI.KY>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/Oneida_Baptist

Connect with Mr. Gritton:

<https://twitter.com/Igritton>

Want an easy way to give?

Go to our web site and click the "Give/Volunteer" tab, then the "Donate now" button to give via credit card, debit card or PayPal: <http://www.oneidaschool.org/support.shtml>

Want to receive the *Mountaineer* or *Alumni News* by e-mail?

Send your name, mailing address, e-mail address and the 5-digit number above your name on this issue's mailing label to: peggy.jackson@oneidaschool.org

Let her know if you'd like the e-Mountaineer or e-Alumni News or both. **IMPORTANT:** Be sure to add mountaineer@oneidaschool.org to your contact list in your e-mail program, or it may reject our publications as spam.

OBI continues these programs:

Tyson's "Project A+"™

Send entire labels from specially marked Tyson chicken products. They are worth 24 cents each, and return to us as cash. <http://projectaplus.tyson.com/>

General Mills "Box Tops for Education"™

Send specially marked box tops, each worth 10 cents with points-to-cash. <http://www.bboxtops4education.com/>

Oneida Baptist Institute is proud to be an institution of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

