Save the Dates

Join Us For
A Toast to Ollie Webb!
Fall Fundraising Event
November 4, 2021

and

Dionysia: Three Greek Myths
Annual Fall Theatrical Production
November 5 – 7, 2021

More details to follow!

The November 4th fundraising event will benefit Ollie Webb Center, Inc.

Our annual fall production is open to the public and will carry on our thespian tradition!

Mission Statement
To enrich the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families through support, programs and advocacy.
2021 Arc of Omaha Membership Drive!

“Time and money spent in helping people to do more for themselves is far better than mere giving.” ~ Henry Ford

This has been a difficult year for all of us, but the impact of COVID-19 on individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families has been especially devastating. Many of our clients are still largely self-quarantining due to underlying health conditions and have limited access to their cherished friends, hobbies, and routines.

Please consider becoming an Arc of Omaha member today so our clients can safely enjoy virtual adaptations of programs such as the First and Next Chapter Book Clubs, Friends and Best Buddies Mentoring Programs, and sibling and parent support.

**Becoming a member for 2021 is easy!** Options start at just $25. This can be done by mail (fill out the form below) or online at www.olliewebbinc.org. The benefits of continued membership include:

- Use of the Ollie Webb Center, Inc. pass to Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo. Pass use is unlimited based on availability and entitles 2 adults and up to 6 children free admission to the zoo.
- Discounts on many activities and events sponsored by The Arc of Omaha. For more information, please reference our monthly newsletter or www.olliewebbinc.org.
- Support from The Arc of Nebraska and The Arc of the United States, including representation at local, state, and national policy forums and publications on a variety of topics.
- The satisfaction of supporting a local community agency that tirelessly informs the public of the needs, rights, and abilities of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Your Arc of Omaha membership sends a strong message in support of the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Please consider becoming a member today!

**The Arc of Omaha 2021 Membership Form**

Your membership will be valid from January 1 through December 31, 2021

Thank you for your past support! Please consider once again being a part of our team!

Name (s) ___________________________________________________________________________

(As you wish it to appear when we publicly recognize our members.)

Address ____________________________________________________________________________

City/State________________________________________________ ______ Zip _________________

Phone _________________________ E-mail ______________________________________

*May we send our monthly newsletter to your email address: ____Yes     ____No

Each Single Membership is entitled to one (1) vote. Each family membership is entitled to two (2) votes.

Please circle:
Single $25        Family $40        Contributing $75        Sustaining $100        Corporate $150

☐ I would like to sponsor an additional single membership for a person who is unable to pay, for an additional $25

Total amount enclosed: $______________  Y our contribution is tax deductible.

Please make your check payable to Ollie Webb Center, Inc. Mail this form and your check to:
Ollie Webb Center, Inc.,  1941 South 42nd Street, Suite 122, Omaha, NE 68105

---

**Zoo Pass Available to 2021 Arc Members!**

The Arc of Omaha has a free Family Zoo Pass available for use by its 2020 members. It allows two adults and four children to visit the Henry Doorly Zoo. Please note the following rules for its use:

1. The pass can be used anytime the zoo is open.
2. Families may use the pass as often as they like, as long as it is available.
3. Families using the pass must sign it out, giving their name, address, phone number, date of use and date returned. If a family misuses the pass, it is possible that the pass may not be available for them to use again.
4. When families arrive at the zoo, they must present the pass and check in at the Visitors Center.

Call 402.346.5220 to reserve the Family Zoo Pass.

---

**Weather Policy**

The following weather conditions may cause us to close our office and/or cancel/reschedule events.

- Tornado warnings
- Extreme heat of 90+ degrees and humidity
- Severe thunderstorms and/or lightning

If the weather is questionable, our services will be canceled.

If Omaha Public Schools cancel their day/evening activities and/or staff deem it unsafe for travel our services will be canceled.

Note: If you are not sure if an evening/weekend event will be held or canceled, call 402.346.5220 ext. 31 for event updates.

Most decisions will be posted by 3:00 p.m. for evening activities, and 8:00 a.m. for daytime activities.
What is Best Buddies?
• Global, non-profit organization – site located at Creighton
• Fosters 1-1 friendships between adults with IDD and Creighton University college students from October-April
• Monthly hosted group events by Creighton members
• Weekly contact and monthly individual hangout requirements

What are typical group events?
• Peer Matching Ceremony → Halloween Event → Christmas/Holiday Event → Creighton/UNO Sport Event → Movie/Game Night → Spring Fling/Formal Dance → Bowling → Zoo Event

Register online at Bestbuddiesonline.org.
• Click “Membership Application” and complete all questions to help students find your best match!

Email Alexa Edwards at aedwards@olliewebbinc.org with questions.

Be a friend, make a friend.
Next Chapter Book Club

Book Lovers Wanted

For just one hour a week, make a difference in the lives of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities by being a Next Chapter Book Club Facilitator!

Books, Friendship, and Community

Join one of our 14 clubs in the Omaha Metropolitan Area.

Contact Tara at 402-981-6976 or at twaln-lewellyn@olliewebbinc.org

Be part of a growing movement of over 300 clubs nationwide.

www.olliewebbinc.org
www.nextchapterbookclub.org

"Next Chapter Book Club truly fits our understanding of literary activism and what that kind of movement can do. When any community is dismissed, when we lose a voice or an audience, we all suffer for it. Next Chapter Book Club is using literature as a way to bring people with intellectual disabilities into a conversation we should all be having." - Lisa Lucas, Executive Director, National Book Foundation.
The Ultimate Life program is a fee-based companion recreation program for adults aged 18 and older with developmental disabilities. This program offers opportunities for adults to participate in small, planned group activities or one-on-one outings of their choice in the community. Trained staff accompany participants and transportation to and from the activities is part of the program. APPLY NOW! Registration fee is $30.

In-Person Events Coming Soon
Stay Tuned!

Past Ultimate Life Events

- Line Dancing at Bogies West
- Mallory Kountze Planetarium
- Dave & Buster's

- UNO Soccer and Basketball
- Dinner and a Movie
- Outdoor Concerts
- Old Market

- Spielbound Board Game Café
- Omaha Community Playhouse
- Picnic and Hike

- Omaha Stormchasers Baseball
- Midtown Crossing Night Market
- Miniature Golf

- Bowling
- Dancing at the Ozone
- Chalk Art Festival
- Midwest Pirate Fest

- Bridge Beats
- Durham Museum
- Aksarben Farmers Market
- Pizza Tour

- Summer Arts Festival
- Dinner with Friends
- The Rose Theater
- Car Shows

- International Omaha Horse Show
- Joslyn Art Museum
- Haunted Hayride
- Morozko

- Pumpkin Patch
- Westroads Mall
- Lauritzen Gardens
- …and more

We offer 8-10 Group Events a Month!
The Art of Imagination classes are focused on the visual and performing arts. Classes offer artistic opportunities in traditional art forms such as painting, writing, drawing and photography and more. Theater classes include improvisation, playwriting, scripted pieces and radio drama culminating in rehearsals and public performances.

SUCCESSFUL AUDITIONS!
Dionysia: Three Greek Myths

Recently Managing Director, Carrie Nath and Artistic Director, Jim Hoggatt of The Art of Imagination (AoI) held auditions for Ollie Webb Center, Inc.'s upcoming inclusive theater production *Dionysia, Three Greek Myths*. The auditions were conducted via the online video conferencing platform Zoom. Each auditionee signed up for a 10-minute slot during the two-night audition process. A total of 26 individuals participated, having prepared exceptional monologues, songs, poems, dances, and movement pieces.

Over the past decade that Hoggatt has been the Artistic Director of The Art of Imagination, he has observed and received feedback from many families that participants in AoI classes, productions, and projects have shown ongoing improvement in diction and enunciation. This enhanced elocution was evident in the recent auditions where strong, positive voices were in abundance during the audition process.

Auditionees adjusted their webcams and tablets and stood back so that the auditioners could see them clearly and fully while they moved. Physical presence is another important powerful skill gained from the study of the performing arts. One young woman began her audition with a monologue, moved into a piano piece, and then finished with an elegant, original dance number staged all around her living room. The audition process also included a short interview. Participants were well spoken, prepared, and confident in their skills and abilities.

Most of the individuals auditioning for the *Dionysia, Three Greek Myths* have experienced training through The Art of Imagination performing arts program at Ollie Webb. The skills they have gained through these classes were clearly evident in their auditions and are skills that will also benefit them in any professional pursuit.

Rehearsals for the production begin in July so save the date for *Dionysia, Three Greek Myths* on November 4-7th at the Scottish Rite in downtown Omaha.
The Continuing Education program extends the learning experience beyond high school. Classes are offered in a variety of formats and settings and focus on independent living, money management, social and employment-related skills. Courses provide a person-centered approach that focuses on increased independence as opposed to the maintenance of skills. A five day-a-week program is available and follows a typical college schedule.

Community Engagement

As many are aware, Ollie Webb Center offers continuing education classes/day services to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. These services are funded through the Department of Health and Human Services under the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services waiver.

Over the last year and a half, our organization has not been able to hold classes in the community due to the COVID-19 pandemic and instead offered these services via Zoom. Although there have been many benefits to holding classes online, it was not the same as gathering in-person in the community.

In July, we were pleased to announce that we were returning to in-person services and excited to highlight the amazing community partners that are supporting us this summer through the use of their spaces. Our arts-based classes are being held at the Jun Kaneko Studio and at Hot Shops Arts Center. This helps promote and facilitate opportunities for program participants to explore their craft and encourages creativity while being surrounded by other professional artists.

Our personal growth and development classes are being held at the AV Sorensen Community Center and Do Space. The equipment and facilities help participants focus on wellness and movement in everyday life. We are also offering a course in horticulture and animal science at the Sherman Community Center. Sherman has an incredible community garden which participants are working in and able to literally see the fruits of their labor.

A final partnership we wish to spotlight is with Heartland Workforce Solutions. This center is focused on helping underrepresented populations obtain employment and become thriving members of their community, a mission that Ollie Webb is also dedicated to fulfilling.

We are looking forward to delivering continuing education and arts classes in meaningful community locations and collaborating with existing and new partners in the coming months.
Supported employment is a community-based work option for adults with developmental disabilities. Supported employment is based on the premise that work should be accessible to everyone, regardless of disability. By providing the necessary support, people with disabilities increase their opportunity for community integration, independence and productivity. Services in this area include: Job Development and Job Coaching.

Back to Work!

On June 24th of this year, AMC Theatres reopened to a full seven day a week schedule. This is great news for the Omaha community and for the staff who work there, including two program participants of Ollie Webb Center’s supported employment program. Chris and Jason have been working at AMC Theatres for over 20 years combined, with Jason celebrating 12 years of service since June of 2009 and Chris coming up on his 8th year this September.

AMC Theatres has been a positive and consistent work experience for these two employees over the years. Like many individuals, their jobs were impacted in 2020 because of COVID-19. For the health and safety of their guests and crew, AMC had to close their doors temporarily and furlough many team members, including Chris and Jason. The management there was determined to do everything to keep Jason and Chris on staff and bring them back to work when the time was right.

At the start of this year, Jason got his chance to return to work when AMC Theatres opened for weekends only, Fridays through Sundays. During this time, Jason had to learn advanced cleaning and sanitary techniques as well as new procedures and processes for food preparation with the support of his Ollie Webb job coach. Now with AMC Theatres fully opening up, Jason has had the opportunity to increase his hours at work and is working several days a week. Chris was able to start back recently as well and is currently working two days a week, similar to his work schedule pre-pandemic. Chris is also learning new skills and tasks with a job coach to assist as needed. Both men are grateful for the opportunities they’ve experienced at AMC Theatres and are excited to be back at work at the jobs they love.
Independent living services provide instruction for individuals who live in their own home (apartment or house) or in their family’s home. Education, training and support is provided to maintain or increase independent living skills, such as money management, health and safety, interpersonal relations, community awareness, recreational skills, nutrition, hygiene and leisure.

Dave Brown – Best of Luck in Retirement!

Please join me in congratulating Dave Brown on his up and coming retirement! We are very sad to see him leave Ollie Webb as he has been a cornerstone of the residential department for over 11 years. Dave is a wonderful person and so passionate about helping to meet the needs of the individuals he supports. His knowledge and expertise will be greatly missed!

Dave has built strong and longstanding relationships with many programs participants and their families and their feedback is a testimony to the amazing work he has done.

Scott (participant):
“Dave’s a good job coach. I like working with Dave because he’s a nice guy. He’s very reliable. He’s fun to work with.”

Kathy and Tim (parents):
“We know our son is in good hands when he’s working with Dave. Dave is very patient and kind. We’ll miss working with Dave, but we’re very happy for him, and hope he gets to enjoy going on long bike rides and hikes!”

Barb (parent):
“Although we are happy for Dave to start his well-deserved retirement, our first reaction was "Noooooo!" Grant has really built a good relationship with Dave. Grant would say, "Dave is great!" Dave has been supportive and flexible in his work with Grant, introducing Grant to some new places (like the coffee shop) and ideas, while being sensitive to Grant’s interests. Grant feels safe and happy when he's with Dave - they go places in the community or work on activities at our home.

During the time when Grant’s program was to learn to plan activities, Dave went along with Grant's plans, whether it was the (baseball) batting cages, (golf) driving range, cooking at home, or walking the Bob Kerry bridge.

Over time, Dave has become like a part of our family; we trust him as he works with Grant. Dave has such a variety of life experiences, which he has shared with us over the time we've known him. I hope we'll be able to keep in touch, even after he retires. So, congratulations to Dave on his retirement, but we'll really miss him!”

Janell (parent):
“Dave was a staff who got to know my son and would even watch my son's favorite show with him. He knew how to motivate my son and was always willing to help out in any way he could. It will be hard to replace Dave, he was a compassionate and dedicated individual.”

Julie (parent):
“We have appreciated Dave and Ollie Webb's support in the past years and especially the past year during COVID.”

From All of Us… Happy Retirement Dave!!!
### Administrative Office Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Ext.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laurie Ackermann</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Dougherty</td>
<td>Compliance Director</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Hillebrandt</td>
<td>Controller</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenny Koley</td>
<td>Receptionist</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin McArthur</td>
<td>Operations Director</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Stocking</td>
<td>Executive Assistant</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Program Support Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Ext.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Ackermann</td>
<td>Education Services Manager</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aimee Addison</td>
<td>Health &amp; Wellness Services Coordinator</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Brown</td>
<td>Independent Living Services Coordinator</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexa Edwards</td>
<td>Mentoring Services Coordinator</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Hoggatt</td>
<td>Artistic Director</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Kneifl</td>
<td>Employment Services Coordinator</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa McMichael</td>
<td>Independent Living Services Manager</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrie Nath</td>
<td>Managing Director</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tara Waln-Lewellyn</td>
<td>Personal Development Services Coordinator</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheri Albin</td>
<td>Family Services Coordinator</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>