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THERE WILL BE NO LISTSERV THE NEXT TWO WEEKS DUE TO THE SEMESTER BREAK

The University will be closed from December 24, 2015 – January 3, 2016 for the semester break. University offices will reopen at 8:00am on January 4, 2016.
CHRISTMAS!

Christmas is a well-known holiday celebrated in many places around the world as both a religious holiday (Christianity) and a public holiday. The history and traditions of the Christmas holiday are rich and go back centuries, and you can learn more about it here.

The ISS Office wishes everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and wonderful holiday season. To those who have graduated – we wish you all the best! To those who will be back in January – we look forward to seeing you again!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!
CARRIAGE RIDES & SANTA IN DOWNTOWN STILLWATER

**When:** Saturday, December 19 from 5:00pm – 8:00pm  
**Where:** Downtown Stillwater  

Come out to Downtown Stillwater for Food Trucks, **FREE** Carriage Rides, and Santa Claus! Santa will be in Downtown from 5:00pm – 7:00pm, and the Carriage Rides and Food Trucks will end at 8:00pm. This is your last chance this season, so don’t miss it!

For more information, visit downtownstw.com.

THE CHRISTMAS TRAIN

**When:** Saturday, December 19 – Sunday, December 20  
**Where:** Oklahoma Railway Museum  
**Address:** 3400 NE Grand Blvd., Oklahoma City 73111  
**Admission:** $15 (free for children under 3 yrs.)

Join Santa for a **Christmas Train Ride**! Enjoy hot chocolate, sing Christmas Carols and hear a reading of the Polar Express. Trains run **Saturday, December 19** at 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm, 1:30pm and 3:00pm. Trains run on **Sunday, December 20** at 12:00pm, 1:30pm and 3:00pm.

For more information or to purchase tickets visit oklahomarailwaymuseum.org.
SANTA AT THE LAKE

*When:* Saturday, December 19 from 5:00pm – 9:00pm  
*Where:* Lake McMurtry East Recreation Area ([map](#))  
*Admission:* $6 per vehicle

Lake McMurtry welcomes everyone for an evening of Holiday Cheer! Come experience the lake during the winter season with cookies and hot chocolate, holiday crafts, Christmas stories, and a visit from Santa! The North Pole's elves will be there to play games and carolers will help welcome in the holiday season! Bundle up and head to the East Recreation Area at Lake McMurtry next Saturday!

Visit [lakemcmurtry.com](http://lakemcmurtry.com) or [facebook.com](http://facebook.com) for details.
WESLEY FOUNDATION CHRISTMAS DINNER

When: Sunday, December 20 at 6:30pm  
Where: Wesley Foundation  
Address: 823 W University St.

The Wesley Foundation at OSU would like to welcome all International and American students in town during the break for a Christmas Dinner! The dinner will be served on Sunday, December 20th at the Wesley Foundation. This year we are excited to have local families helping with the dinner and hosting students. If you are married or have children, they are welcome as well! After dinner at 7:45pm, there will be an optional traditional Christmas worship service in multiple languages and with a variety of music for those who would like to attend.

RSVP to Mason Williams at mason.williams@okstate.edu if you would like to attend. For more information visit the Wesley Foundation’s Facebook page.

TUESDAY NIGHT HOLIDAY MOVIES

When: Tuesday, December 22 at 7:00pm  
Where: Harkins Theater – Bricktown 16  
Address: 150 E Reno Ave., Oklahoma City 73104  
Admission: $5

Harkins Theatres is proud to present Tuesday Night Classics! Special presentations of classic films are brought back to the big screen on Tuesdays for only $5. Relive your favorite holiday films the way they were meant to be seen! This Tuesday, don’t miss The Polar Express (rated G)!
TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA

**When:** Wednesday, December 23 4:00pm and 8:00pm  
**Where:** Chesapeake Energy Arena  
**Address:** 100 W Reno Ave., Oklahoma City 73102  
**Admission:** $34 and up

The Trans-Siberian Orchestra (TSO) will bring performances to Oklahoma City this Christmas! The show will once again feature one of the group’s beloved stories performed in its renowned audio-visual manner. This year’s enchanted Yuletide tale is “**The Ghosts of Christmas Eve**”. Based on TSO’s multi-platinum DVD and long running PBS fundraiser, the story follows the journey of a young runaway who, on Christmas Eve, breaks into an abandoned vaudeville theater seeking shelter from the cold, and the ghostly visions she experiences from that concert hall’s past.

Tickets will be available at the arena box office, by phone at 1-800-745-3000 and online at [ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). For more information about the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, visit their website [here](http://www.transsiberianorchester.com).

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SHEN YUN

**When:** Wednesday, December 23 – Thursday, December 24 at 7:00pm  
**Where:** Civic Center Music Hall  
**Address:** 201 N. Walker Ave., Oklahoma City 73102  
**Admission:** $60 and up

*Shen Yun* brings to life 5,000 years of Chinese civilization through classical Chinese dance and music in an exhilarating brand new show you will never forget! The show moves quickly through regions, dynasties, and legends. Ethnic and folk dances fill the stage with color and energy. Tremendous athleticism, thunderous battle drums, and masterful vocalists are all set to animated backdrops that transport you to another world.

It is a grand production with nearly 100 artists, 400 costumes, and the only orchestra in the world masterfully blending the two of the world's greatest classical music traditions, Chinese and Western, into one glorious sound as permanent members! *Shen Yun* is the first company to present classical Chinese dance to the world on a large scale and it has taken the globe by storm, performing in over 100 cities. Every year, *Shen Yun Performing Arts* unveils an entirely new lineup of dances, songs, and musical scores that offers an exhilarating world-class production on a grand scale.

For more information, visit [shenyun.com](http://shenyun.com) or call 405-297-2264.
FRIENDS OF STILLWATER CHRISTMAS DINNER

When: Friday, December 25 at 11:00am  
Where: Stillwater Community Center  
Address: 315 W 8th St.  
Admission: FREE

Join the Friends of Stillwater for a Christmas Dinner! The dinner is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the Stillwater Community Center at 405-533-8433. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the dinner, contact Tisha Wilson at 405-880-4307.

ABOVE THE CLOUDS, BELOW THE SEA: 4 FILMS BY HAYAO MIYAZAKI

When: Saturday, December 26 – Thursday, December 31  
Where: Oklahoma City Museum of Art  
Address: 415 Couch Dr., Oklahoma City 73102  
Admission: $9 ($7 for college students with valid ID)

Don’t miss your chance to see four films by the great Japanese filmmaker Hayao Miyazaki on the big screen! The OKC Museum of Art will be showing Kiki’s Delivery Service, Castle in the Sky, Porco Rosso, and Ponyo. To check show times or to buy tickets, visit the OKC MOA’s website or call 405-236-3100.
OKC ART COUNCIL'S OPENING NIGHT

**When:** Thursday, December 31 from 7:00pm – 12:00am  
**Where:** Downtown Oklahoma City  
**Admission:** $10 ($8 in advance)

Ring in the New Year in style! Since 1987, Opening Night has been the place for families and friends to enjoy the performing arts and “open” the New Year in the spirit of community. Downtown Oklahoma City is the setting for a variety bands, fireworks, and an unforgettable children’s craft and performance area. The day begins with a festive 5k and all the excitement concludes with a fireworks extravaganza at midnight.

**Wristbands**
Wristbands (admission ticket) are available at 7-Eleven stores, metro Homeland Stores, MidFirst Bank locations, and the Oklahoma City Museum of Art. On the night of the event, you may purchase wristbands at sales locations across the event.

**Children’s Area**
The Children’s Area in the Civic Center Hall of Mirrors means family-friendly fun! Enjoy face painting, an interactive art project, and lively music performances – perfect to ring in the New Year!

**Food Trucks in Finale Alley**
We’ve rounded up some of the city’s best food trucks to bring you a variety of warm, comforting, exciting food. Get your dinner on Finale Alley any time before midnight!

**Fireworks Finale**
Shortt Dogg takes the Opening Night Finale Stage at Bicentennial Park at 9pm and will play until midnight. A group of eight dynamic musicians who reach for the sky every time they hit the stage, Shortt Dogg is non-stop excitement! Enthusiasm and energy best describe this funky, upbeat dance band. They’ll count us down to midnight and then a fireworks extravaganza will ring in 2016!

For more information and to check the schedule of events/locations, visit [artscouncilokc.com](http://artscouncilokc.com).
PASEO ARTS DISTRICT GALLERY WALK

When: Friday, January 1, 2016 – Saturday, January 2, 2016
Times: Friday from 6:00pm – 10:00pm; Saturday from 12:00pm – 6:00pm
Where: Paseo Arts District
Address: 3022 Paseo St., Oklahoma City 73103

The Paseo Arts District First Friday Gallery Walk is held on the first Friday and Saturday of every month. Over 60 artists in more than 17 galleries participate, all within walking distance. Four to six Art Opening Receptions on Friday night showcase the new work of the gallery/studio owners or the work of guest artists. It is a must see and do for visitors and locals alike!

Visit the Paseo Arts District’s website here for more information.

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LIGHTS ON THE HILL

When: November 27 – December 27 at 7:30pm  
Where: Chandler Park  
Address: 6500 W 21st St., Tulsa 74107  
Admission: FREE

Drive through miles of bright lights and whimsical displays in celebration of Christmas during the city's annual Holiday Lights on the Hill event! Chandler Park will be ablaze with the sights and sounds of the holiday spirit during November and December. Entry to the park is free; however, donations are appreciated.

For more information, call 918-591-6053.
A CHRISTMAS CAROL

When: December 2, 2015 – December 27, 2015
Where: Lyric Theatre
Address: 1727 NW 16th St., Oklahoma City 73106
Admission: $30 and up

In its fifth year running, the spectacular Oklahoma holiday tradition returns with Lyric Theatre’s production of Charles Dickens' classic, A Christmas Carol, sponsored by Devon Energy. Go on a magical journey with Ebenezer Scrooge and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future!

Visit lyrictheatreokc.com for details and show times.
TULSA BALLET PRESENTS: THE NUTCRACKER

When: December 11 – December 20
Times: 7:00pm and 2:00pm (see website for details)
Where: Tulsa Performing Arts Center
Address: 110 E 2nd St., Tulsa 74103

A young girl’s fantasy unfolds in this remarkable production that mixes the visuals of a Broadway show with the heartwarming story of a fairytale Christmas. More than 100 local children join the professional company to help the larger-than-life Mouse King battle the Nutcracker Prince and his toy soldier brigade. New elements that premiered in 2012, including a brand new opening party scene and the return of beloved character Mother Ginger, return again as part of the 2015 production.

Visit tulsapac.com or call 918-596-7111 for more information, to check show times, or to buy tickets.
THE NUTCRACKER IN OKC

*When:* December 12 – December 20  
*Times:* Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 7:00pm  
*Where:* Civic Center Music Hall  
*Address:* 201 N Walker Ave., Oklahoma City 73102  
*Admission:* $25 and up

Create special holiday memories that will last a lifetime with a visit to the Civic Center Music Hall to see The Nutcracker! With fanciful new set and costume designs that debuted in 2014 to audience and critical rave reviews, the story of Clara, her Nutcracker prince, and the Sugar Plum Fairy will enchant with 10 performances this holiday season. There will be special activities before and after performances for families to enjoy together! Have your photo taken with Santa before all performances (fee applies). And after each matinee you can meet and greet our dancers in the lobby and enjoy refreshments.

For more information or to buy tickets, call 405-297-2264 or visit okcciviccenter.com.
TULSA WINTERFEST

Where: BOK Center, Downtown Tulsa
Address: W 3rd St. & S Denver Ave. (map)

Winterfest is back! Head out to Downtown Tulsa for the city’s favorite holiday tradition. Come out for ice skating and tons of Holiday cheer! The cost for skating is $10.00 per person (skate rental included), $5.00 per person (with your own skates), and $5.00 for children age three and under. Hours and special events vary, so check out the Winterfest website here.