Ohio State students to participate in BuckeyeThon
Dance marathon is a fundraiser for Children’s Hospital

More than 100 students and countless volunteers at The Ohio State University are taking part in a “party with a purpose” at this year’s BuckeyeThon, a student-run fundraiser for Children’s Hospital Behavioral Health Department. The event is to begin at 7 p.m. on Friday (2/1) and continue through 9 p.m. on Saturday (2/2) in the Ohio Union, 1739 N. High St.

It is thought to be by Ohio State historians the first dance marathon on campus.

Student participants will raise funds for Children’s Hospital and then take part in a 24-hour non-alcoholic party. At the party, students will have additional opportunities to get involved in community service activities, including making mittens for the Homeless Families Foundation, a quilt for Children’s Hospital and a card for children at the hospital.

For more information, see www.buckeyethon.org.

WHAT: Ohio State hosts BuckeyeThon, a 26-hour “party with a purpose.”
WHEN: 7 p.m. on Friday (2/1) through 9 p.m. on Saturday (2/2).
WHERE: Ohio Union, 1739 N. High St.
WHY: To raise money for the Children’s Hospital Behavioral Health Department and to take part in other community-service activities.
Ohio State students take part in 14-hour BuckeyeThon

Ohio State News

MEDIA ADVISORY
February 6, 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Ohio State students take part in 14-hour BuckeyeThon
Proceeds of dance marathon benefit Children's Hospital

Approximately 150 student dancers and 250 volunteers are taking part in the third annual BuckeyeThon, a 14-hour dance marathon that benefits Children's Hospital in Columbus.

BuckeyeThon, called a "Party with a Purpose," begins at 11 a.m. Saturday (2/7) in the Ohio Union Ballrooms, 1739 N. High St. The marathon is expected to end at 1 a.m. Sunday (2/8). The band Better Than Ezra will begin performing at 9 p.m.

For more information, see http://ohiouion.osu.edu/buckeyethon/

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WHY: To benefit Children's Hospital in Columbus.

For additional releases go to: http://www.osu.edu/news_db/index.php
OSU Faculty Experts guide is online at
http://www.osu.edu/news_db/experts_index.php
OSU Dance Marathon
benefits local hospital

By Heidi L. Williams
Lantern staff writer

Hundreds of Ohio State students will be putting on their dancing shoes and steppin' out to the university's first annual Dance Marathon this weekend.

From 8 p.m., April 17 through 8 a.m., April 19 at the French Field House on W. Woodruff Avenue next to St. John Arena, students will have 36 hours of games, socializing, entertainment and of course, dancing.

"I am so happy to hear that Dance Marathon is at OSU!" said Lori Landrum, an honors student and marathon participant.

Landrum heard about the success of Dance Marathon from a friend at Penn State University.

"OSU has great potential. This is the most important year because it is the building year," said Cynthia Duff, Telethon Coordinator from Columbus Children's Hospital.

All proceeds from this event will be donated to the cancer unit at Children's Hospital.

Alex Waibel, Dance Marathon President said, "Participants ranging from Greeks and College Republicans to ROTC will be taking pledges from friends and family."

Pledges will be taken based on either an hourly rate, or a flat rate for the entire event, said Waibel.

Making its debut at Penn State in 1978, Dance Marathon, the nation's largest student-run philanthropy has raised over $6 million for the Four Diamonds Fund at Hershey Medical Center in Pennsylvania.

Children's Miracle Network and Penn State have combined efforts to duplicate Dance Marathon at other universities around the nation.

Attracting over 1,300 members in 1991, Indiana University also adopted the marathon. Indiana students and Riley Hospital for Children reached their goal of establishing the Ryan White Infectious Disease Center through funds from Dance Marathon.

"Together, Penn State and IU have raised $1.5 million through the marathon," Waibel said. "We hope to have great results like this in the future."

Money given to Children's Hospital has a specific purpose.

"Children's will award a fellowship from the money accumulated to one of Ohio State's students in pediatrics," Duff said. "This will help to tie-in the funds students raised for the children."

Weekend highlights begin with music entertainment from bands such as the Ark Band, Identity, Chaos Theory, Situation Grey, Shukin Bubba, Ekoostitchookah, 50 Watt, Alarm Clock and Soul Finger.

Other features include billiards, volleyball, big screen television sets, a Sega display, dance lessons, and poster and card making for cancer patients at Children's Hospital.

Waibel anticipates success with Ohio State's Dance Marathon to be comparable to those of both Penn State and Indiana. With all of the activity this weekend, the Children's Miracle Network guarantees magic will be found surrounding the Dance Marathon if it is remembered to "Keep the Kids First."
Kelly Studebaker, a sophomore in communications, will be participating in Buckeyethon this weekend in order to support Children's Hospital, where she was once a patient.

Student keeps dancing

By Saba Alam
Lantern staff writer

For many students, daily life is full of hassles, worries and stress. One OSU student, however, is grateful for being able to live her daily life and wants to give back to those who helped her live it.

Kelly Studebaker, a sophomore in communications, said she owes her life to Children's Hospital. At age 11, the central hemorhage she was born with caused a blood vessel to burst in her brain. As a result, she had to re-learn how to do everything.

"I used to be right-handed, and since the left side of my brain was affected, I had to learn how to write with my left hand. I had to learn how to walk, how to talk, how to tie my shoes with one hand," Studebaker said.

"As a little girl, I enjoyed all forms of dance.

"Dancing was a big part of my life. I was good at aerobics and gymnastics. I also did jazz and ballet," she said. "But in the fifth grade, when I had the hemorrhage, I couldn't dance anymore. I had to start from scratch."

She had a hard time re-adjusting to life after the hemorrhage.

"I had a disability when I started junior high, and even though kids were understanding, they ignored me. That really hurt," she said.

Studebaker said she stopped caring about what others thought of her and started doing what she wanted to do for herself.

"It wasn't the norm, and people in high school finally respected me for that," she said.

Doctors told her family she would not be able to do any of the things she did before. They were mistaken, however.

"The brain surgeon told my family I would be in a wheelchair and wouldn't be able to dance or go to school or anything. But I've proved them all wrong," Studebaker said.

Studebaker heard about Buckeyethon and said she knew she wanted to participate immediately. The 26-hour dance marathon to raise money for Children's Hospital's Behavioral Health Department caught her attention.

"I can't say enough about Children's Hospital. If they hadn't been there, I'd be dead," she said. "Dancing is the best way for me to give back to Children's Hospital than by dancing. Dancing is my spiritual outlet, and I have the motivation to dance for 26 hours."

"When OSU chose the Children's Hospital Behavioral Health Department to be the recipients of the money raised at Buckeyethon, we were just thrilled," said Heidi Green, assistant director of development at Children's Hospital.

Green said the money raised at Buckeyethon will be used to purchase items for occupational therapy and play therapy toys, books and journals on proper parenting skills, computerized instruments used for diagnostic testing of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and blank journals for teens to write private thoughts and feelings they do not feel comfortable verbalizing.

Don Stenta, the faculty adviser for Buckeyethon, said OSU chose the Behavioral Health Department to set up an endowment because it is the least-funded area in the hospital.

In addition to the proximity to the Children's Hospital, its strong connection with the university and its commitment to helping kids make it a hands-down choice because of the incredible potential which exists in establishing a strong relationship with them, Stenta
Dear Students, Faculty and Staff:

This past weekend, the Ohio Union was filled with thousands of students for BuckeyeThon's annual Dance Marathon to raise money to help fight pediatric cancer at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

Our BuckeyeThon team members and leaders — and all those who supported them — deserve a big round of applause. This year, BuckeyeThon raised more than $1.6 million to champion families, mentor schools and boost medical research. These students are making a lifelong commitment to philanthropy and engaged citizenship, learning valuable lessons along the way.

Since its inception 17 years ago, BuckeyeThon has raised more than $8 million for this worthy cause. None of this would be possible without the generosity and steadfast support from our students, faculty and staff.

We are incredibly proud of our students who worked so hard to help so many! And we are truly grateful for the support of Buckeye Nation.
Thank you, again, for joining us in the belief that "Every Kid Deserves to be a Buckeye."

For The Kids!

Michael V. Drake, MD
President

Javaune Adams-Gaston, PhD
Senior Vice President for Student Life
Dancers fight cancer

Students raise funds for Nationwide Children’s Hospital at annual BuckeyeThon

By Marty Schladen The Columbus Dispatch
Students dance during the BuckeyeThon on Saturday at the Ohio Union. More than 3,000 participated in the event that started Thursday night and raises money for the pediatric cancer unit at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. [FRED SQUILLANTE/DISPATCH]

Freshman Madhurima Kota, front, of Columbus, dances on stage with her dance group Morale Captain during the BuckeyeThon. [FRED SQUILLANTE/DISPATCH PHOTOS]

They wore crazy costumes, teamed up by color and screamed and danced, but 3,000 Ohio State students did it for a purpose that’s deadly serious.

From 7 p.m. Thursday to 7 a.m. Friday, 2,000 students (mostly) stayed on their feet at the Ohio Union as part of the 19th BuckeyeThon. Then Saturday morning, the second shift of 1,000 took over.
Ribbons honoring loved ones who were stricken with cancer hang on the Ribbon Wall during the BuckeyeThon.

Hematology/Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at Nationwide Children’s Hospital.

This year’s haul wasn’t tallied until after press time, but it adds to $8.1 million already raised since the inception of BuckeyeThon. That’s a lot of money raised in a selfless cause by college students who are often broke and a little self-absorbed.

“Part of our vision is to teach our students the power of philanthropy, and we’re going to do so by ending pediatric cancer,” said BuckeyeThon President Imran Nuri, a third-year finance major. “We’re shaping them to learn the power of giving so that as they grow older they’ll consider other causes and give to them and understand why their giving is so important.”

Or, as Nuri explained it to the crowd in Saturday morning’s opening rally, it was “1,000 Buckeyes coming together to create a future for the kids who are just down the road.”

Columbus resident Natalie Andrews told the group of her family’s relationship with one of those kids. In 2013, she and her husband, Jason, adopted Samuel, a boy with severe hemophilia, from China.

He had a genetic condition making his blood reluctant to clot, meaning Samuel was in constant danger of bleeding to death. When the Andrews adopted Samuel as a 4-year-old, he was lying in a Chinese hospital that lacked the appropriate drugs to treat his condition.

Even back in the states, Samuel had to have two intravenous infusions of medicine every week — until October. That’s when the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved a new treatment that means Samuel now only needs two shots a month, Natalie Andrews said.
Participating in an event that funds such innovation is a big draw for students such as Sharadyn Ille, a second-year pre-med student from Cincinnati.

“It’s really cool, seeing the families and sharing this with them,” she said.

Natalie Pastor, a second-year psychology student from Cleveland, said hearing about the challenges faced by kids at Children’s Hospital prompted her to reflect on her own fortune.

“I love kids, I want to work with kids and give back to kids,” she said. “It reminds us how lucky we are.”

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Dear Students, Faculty and Staff:

President Michael Drake

Monday, February 11, 2019 7:15 AM

Haire, Kevlin

Subject: BuckeyeThon Success
On Friday and Saturday, thousands of students gathered at the Ohio Union for BuckeyeThon's annual Dance Marathon to raise money to help fight pediatric cancer at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

Our BuckeyeThon team members, leaders and community advocates — and everyone who supported them — deserve to be celebrated for achieving an extraordinary accomplishment.

This year, BuckeyeThon raised more than $1.7 million to champion families, fully fund psychosocial services and boost medical research. These students are making a lifelong commitment to philanthropy and engaged citizenship.

Since its inception 18 years ago, BuckeyeThon has raised more than $9.8 million for this cause that touches the lives of so many. We are incredibly proud of our students and equally grateful for the support from the entire campus community.

Thank you, again, for joining us in the belief that "Every Kid Deserves to be a Buckeye."

For The Kids!

Michael V. Drake, MD
President

Javaune Adams-Gaston, PhD
Senior Vice President for Student Life

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