



Happy New Year!



*"Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens.
This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live."
I Thessalonians 5:16-18 (The Message)*

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas, and that 2023 is off to a very good start for you. One thing is certain: Whatever this year holds for us, God will be with us and bring us through each and every challenging moment. Let this be a year of praise and thanksgiving to our Lord!

NEWS



PRESIDENT WILSON HONORED

President Dr. William M. Wilson was one of only 45 outstanding individuals in the state of Oklahoma to be named to The Journal Record's "2022 Power List of Most Influential Oklahomans." This honor comes to him in recognition of the impressive improvements that ORU has experienced under his leadership, and the ever-expanding impact both he and ORU have made—not just on Oklahoma, but far beyond its borders.

PRESIDENT'S HONOR

2023 ALUMNI AWARDS

It's time to nominate alumni for the 2023 [Alumni Awards](#). Each year, the Alumni Association recognizes alumni for their distinguished service to God, the Community, the Alma Mater, and "In Every Person's World." A "Rising Servant Leader" award is presented to an alumnus/alumna who received an undergraduate degree within the last 10 years and has already begun to make an impact in work/ministry. Read more about the criteria and nominate someone.



ALUMNI AWARDS



ALUMNI BOARD ELECTION

There are eight seats to fill on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. All graduates are eligible to vote. The candidates are listed on the Alumni website. (Click on the 2023 ELECTION button.) Voting will take place throughout the month of February. Watch your e-mail for a unique link to the ballot. Make sure the Alumni office has your correct e-mail address.

2023 ELECTION

UPDATE E-MAIL

THANK YOU!

We want to thank every alum and friend who made a gift to ORU before the end of 2022. Your generosity is amazing, and you are a blessing to our students, faculty, and staff. God bless you for supporting ORU in 2022.

We encourage you to continue doing so in 2023! Phase II of our [Whole Leaders for the Whole World campaign](#) is underway. The fundraising goal is \$50 million. With this, we will build two new residence halls and a new dining hall. We will also remodel EMR and Claudius residence halls and provide more scholarships for Quest First and International Quest students. A generous donor is offering a 3-to-1 match for gifts toward the new buildings.



2023 GIFT



FREEWILL = FREE WILL

ORU has partnered with FreeWill to offer a special FREE service to alumni and friends. FreeWill is an online estate planning resource that you can use to draw up your own legally binding will in a matter of minutes. This is an important step to take for anyone who wants to provide for their family and protect their assets. It's also an opportunity to include bequests to organizations you like to support (such as ORU). Take advantage of this free option.

START YOUR FREE WILL

FAQs

EVENTS

BASKETBALL GATHERINGS

Alumni, you need some ORU basketball! The men's team is coming to Kansas City on February 4 to battle the Roos (7:00 p.m. tip-off), and to St. Paul, MN on February 9 to take on the Tommies of the University of St. Thomas at 7:00 p.m. You can get tickets by clicking on the buttons below. For the Kansas City game, enter the promo code **ORU** to purchase tickets at the discounted price of \$12. There will be a 5:00 p.m. self-pay Alumni Pre-Game Dinner at Gates BBQ. For the St. Thomas game, there will be a 5:00 p.m. self-pay Alumni Pre-Game Dinner at Davanni's. Please click on the appropriate buttons below to RSVP for the dinners so we'll know to expect you.



Join your fellow alumni at the games to cheer on your Golden Eagles, including "Midcourt Max" Abmas, a two-time All American and one of the best players in the country.

[KANSAS CITY TICKETS](#)

[ST. THOMAS TICKETS](#)

[KC DINNER RSVP](#)

[MN DINNER RSVP](#)



DON'T FORGET ORU'S CAREER FAIR

The **2023 Spring Career Fair** will take place in Mabee Center on Wednesday, March 1, from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. (CST). Employers are invited to participate. This fair represents students and alumni of all majors. If you would like to register as an employer, please do so now.

[EMPLOYER REGISTRATION](#)

FIRST MILE 5K RUN

Lace up those running shoes! The Alumni Association's First Mile 5K Run is happening on April 1 at ORU—no fooling! Proceeds from the event will benefit the ORU Alumni Association, the Whole Leaders for the Whole World campaign, and the Quest First Scholarship, which goes to students who will be the first in their family to graduate with a bachelor's degree. Participants will also be running in honor of Eugene Quaynor, an ORU soccer team captain who was killed when a drunk driver hit his car in 2022. As you run this race, you will see the names of over 60,000 students who have attended ORU over the last 50+ years. ORU alumni, faculty, staff, and students get a discount: use the promo code **FM5K63** to pay just \$25. High school students get a discount when they use the promo code **FM5K22**. You can also be a race sponsor, or donate to the cause.



[REGISTER](#)

[DONATE/SPONSOR](#)

ALUMNI



Cassia Carr '09

Cassia Carr '09 is one of the Tulsa World's top 10 "People to Watch in 2023." She has been Tulsa's deputy mayor since August 2021—the city's second in command.

CASSIA

Tulsa attorney **Chris Davis '89, '91-MA, '92-MA** has been recognized and honored for his wealth of experience as a mediator and arbitrator—specifically, in the field of civil and commercial conflict resolution—by being inducted into the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals.

CHRIS



Chris Davis '89, '91-MA, '92-MA



Arthur Greeno '92

The Christmas tradition continues! **Arthur Greeno '92**, owner of two of Tulsa's Chick-fil-A restaurants, provided more than 600 meals for patients and their families—and the staff—at St. Francis Children's Hospital on Christmas Eve. It's something he's been doing for more than 10 years.

ARTHUR

Oklahoma's Lt. Governor, **Matt Pinnell '02**, has been selected for membership in the Rodel Fellowship's Class of 2023. This leadership development program is for state and local elected officials. Only 12 Republicans and 12 Democrats are selected each year.

MATT



Matt Pinnell '02

ATHLETICS



MAGNIFICENT MAX!

"Is there anything Max Abmas can't do on a basketball court?" That's the question after watching his half-court buzzer-beating shot to win the ORU vs. KC Roos game on January 7. There was more to celebrate on the 9th when he received the TicketSmarter #SummitMBB Peak Performer of the Week award, and was named the CollegeInsider.com Lou Henson Award National Player of the Week for the second time this season. "The shot" was also #2 on ESPN's

SportsCenter Top Ten Plays. And those are just three of the honors that came his way for his January 7 heroics. Come see him play before it's too late!

MAX!

DIAMOND DINNER

ORU baseball fans always look forward to the [Diamond Dinner](#). This year's event will feature ORU baseball alumnus Jeremy Hefner, the pitching coach for the New York Mets. The dinner will be held at the Glenpool Conference Center (12205 S. Yukon Avenue in Glenpool) beginning at 6:30 p.m. You can purchase tickets and/or become a sponsor for the January 27 dinner by clicking on the button below.



DIAMOND DINNER TICKETS



HALL OF FAME

ORU Athletics will hold its annual Hall of Fame ceremony during halftime of the ORU vs. Omaha men's basketball game on January 28. This year's lone honoree is three-time All-American Caleb Green, who led the team to three straight Mid-Continent Conference regular-season titles, back-to-back NCAA Tournament appearances in 2006 and 2007, and an NIT appearance in 2005; was Mid-Con Player of the Year in 2005, 2006, and 2007; and ranks #3 all-time in points scored at ORU, with 2,503. Tickets to the 7:00 p.m. game are available now.

CALEB

TICKETS

ETC.

For a limited time, you can still support ORU when you shop on Amazon. Go to [this page](#) to learn how to select ORU as your preferred nonprofit via the **AmazonSmile** program. Please note: **AmazonSmile** is scheduled to officially close by February 20, 2023.

ORU's Development and Alumni Relations office has gone paperless. That means when you make a gift to ORU, your receipt will come via e-mail. You can still choose a paper receipt, though, by filling out [this form](#).

DID YOU KNOW?



More and more ORU students are operating profitable businesses (also known as side hustles). Some were driven by need and others had a passion for a specific type of work or project. You can read about them in [The Oracle](#)—and learn more about the [Stovall Center for Entrepreneurship](#).



Oral Roberts University | 7777 South Lewis Ave. | Tulsa, Oklahoma 74171 | (918) 495-6610

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