



FRIDAY GREETINGS

FROM OIE

Hello, Students & Scholars!

Fall break is nearly here! We hope you get some well-deserved rest to get ready for the rest of the semester. Although the air is getting cooler, we're bringing you some of this week's hottest happenings. Pittsburgh's upcoming events are both spooky and spicy, and a great way to get your fill of the autumn season. We hope you enjoy this issue of the OIE "Friday Greetings" newsletter!

OIE & CMU News & Events

Proposed Rule to Add OPT Fee

The United States Department of Homeland Security published a [proposed rule](#) Oct. 8 which would add new fees to the Optional Practical Training (OPT) application process if implemented as a final rule. **It is important to note that this is a proposed rule and is not currently in effect.**

[Read More](#)

Carnegie Classic 2026 Ballroom Dance Competition

Oct. 10

Have a ball! Competitors will take the floor in Standard, Latin, Smooth and Rhythm events throughout the day, from newcomer through championship levels. Spectators are welcome, and admission to watch the competition is free! No ballroom dance experience is needed — come cheer on the dancers and enjoy a full day of dancing in Rangos Ballroom!



[Learn More](#)

Our Pittsburgh Picks

21+ Night: Haunted Science Center

Oct. 9 from 6 p.m. to 10

IT'S ALIVE! Experience weird science at Kamin Science Center's 21+ Night. Explore the entire museum, watch spooky science demonstrations, try out ghost-hunting devices and catch a haunted planetarium show. Costumes are encouraged!



[Learn More](#)



Rivers of Fire Hot Sauce Festival

Oct. 9 - 10

Get fired up for the hottest festival in town! Head to South Side to sample sauces, cheer on contestants at a hot pepper eating contest, watch performances, participate in a scavenger hunt and more.

[Learn More](#)

Pittsburgh Dragon Boat Festival

Oct. 10

On your mark...get set...go! Created to showcase the sport of dragon boat racing, and to support Breast Cancer Survivors, the Dragon Boat Festival features spirited racing, culture, community and survivorship. The races are free to spectate, and the day will include cultural performances, family-friendly activities, vendor booths and food trucks.



[Learn More](#)

Have an announcement to share?

If you have an event or announcement that you wish to submit for inclusion in OIE's Friday Greetings newsletter, please submit it via our [Event Submission Form](#) by **Wednesday at 5 p.m. Eastern Time** for inclusion in the following Friday's newsletter.

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