



MacDudley Dragon Entertainment LLC

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MacDudley's Dragon Entertainment LLC is a company my husband, Allen, and I, Bridget, created to promote and bring awareness to different disabilities. My husband and I have been working Renaissance events for over 15 years operating as MacDudley Dragon Games. I am legally blind / visually impaired, and I also have spastic diplegia, a form of cerebral palsy. My husband has dyslexia, and his father had two prosthetic limbs and ran a 150-acre farm. Disabilities have always been in our life in one form or another. We took our love of learning new things and coupled it with teaching people / bringing awareness to different disabilities through the interactive nature of our games.

We are asking the Oshtemo Rotary club to partner with us for our upcoming MacDudley's Midsummer Fest June 19 and 20, 2021 to help educate our community about disabilities via the joys of Renaissance events. Most of our merchants and entertainers have a disability of some sort from our Food Truck Vendor, Freddy's Food Hut to our Clock Maker, The Blind Truth. On our end of the partnership, we can give you a space next to the front gate if you would like, put your logo on our website and event pages, have a Rotary Club donation box at the front gate, and make a 20% donation of our ticket sales to the Rotary Club. We are open to other suggestions of how we can partner with you for the event as well.

We are holding a two-day outdoor event called MacDudley's Midsummer Fest at Flesher Field, the same venue as our October 2020 event. The October event, MacDudley's Market Faire, featured local merchants and entertainment well known in the Renaissance world, that helped draw non-local event goers, bringing commerce to our community. We had a good showing from local and non-local event goers, even with the additional crowd and vendor COVID restrictions from the State and Local governments. Merchants from Kalamazoo and the surrounding area who make handmade merchandise as well as scrumptious food are returning for the Midsummer Fest! We will be having our Children's Quest again as well. The Children's Quest is a way to bring awareness to different disabilities and was a big hit with parents and the children. They travel from vendor to vendor to learn about the disability or life circumstance that vendor lives with. It gets customers into every booth and makes it an educational experience as well. We bring several elements together to talk about disabilities and show them in a positive light. One of our goals is to continue create income opportunities for people with various disabilities and educate the public that we can thrive and run businesses like everyone else. One of my mantras I use is "*Blindness, not just a matter of sight but a state of mind*". Which means to me, I do not let my blindness deter me from accomplishing things, I may have to use different methods from sighted people, but I get the same result.

I look forward to hearing for you about our possible partnership,

Bridget Ackley