

# DIRECTLINE

Winter 2017

## Festival of Trees & Winter Faire

Join us in ushering in the season with our first annual Festival of Trees and Winter Faire, Tuesday, November 28, thru Friday, December 1, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the UConn John Dempsey Hospital, Main Level. The event serves as our main fundraiser, with proceeds to support the UConn Health Patient Assistance Fund.

The Festival of Trees and Winter Faire will be home to a sparkling display of beautifully decorated trees donated by Auxiliary members, UConn Health faculty, staff, and students. Decorated in the tradition of the season or an imaginative theme, the trees will be judged in various categories and prizes will be awarded.

Best of all, every beautifully decorated tree will go home with a lucky winner in our Festival of Trees and Winter Faire drawing. Winners will be announced on Friday, December 1.

The new event also incorporates the Auxiliary's traditional one-day holiday bazaar into a four-day shopping extravaganza including the fan favorite holiday basket drawing. A variety of vendors offering holiday gift ideas, jewelry, chocolate, and more will be available Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

You can help to make the festival a success by decorating and donating a tree or holiday basket, volunteering at the event, or simply by attending.

Visit [health.uconn.edu/auxiliary](http://health.uconn.edu/auxiliary) for tree decorating guidelines and to register your tree or holiday basket. Space is limited—register today!

Interested in assisting with the event? Contact Chris Kaminski at [kaminski@uchc.edu](mailto:kaminski@uchc.edu).

UConn Health Auxiliary First Annual

# *Festival of Trees & Winter Faire*

November 28 - December 1

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

UConn John Dempsey Hospital, Main Floor





# Welcome To Our New Members

Dr. Audrey Chapman  
Dr. Tina Liang  
Dr. David Steffens &  
Dr. Lori Bastian  
Chris & Jodi Hyers

## Auxiliary Donation Benefits Diabetes Patients

Managing diabetes is not an easy task. Patients must adhere to medication regimens, monitor their glucose levels, adopt new diets and make smart lifestyle decisions. For the newly diagnosed patient, learning to take care of themselves can be overwhelming. UConn Health librarian Wendy Urciuoli partnered with registered dietician and diabetes educator Jean Kostak to discover whether online learning could be an effective and easier teaching tool for diabetes patients.

With a donation of tablets by the UConn Health Auxiliary and additional resources from a National Library of Medicine grant, diabetes educators were able to introduce online learning in their teaching sessions. Regardless of their comfort level, patients were eager to use the tablets. Videos in Spanish were particularly effective in teaching non-English speakers complicated tasks like carbohydrate counting, meal planning, administering emergency insulin injections, and monitoring blood glucose levels. Patients and family members were able to copy website links to their own tablet or smartphone which allowed the patient to review videos and practice skills at home.

Diabetes educators have found the availability of the tablets and access to online information makes teaching difficult concepts easier. The tablets gives them more flexibility, enhances their productivity, and helps them meet new health care reporting requirements. Educators plan on offering online learning at all UConn Health diabetes education sites.

Learn more about the UConn Health [Diabetes Self-Management Education Program](#).

**UCONN**  
**HEALTH**

AUXILIARY

### Contact Us

For more information about  
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