

Oochworld Programming

Brett Outchcunis [ooch-KOO-nis] offers a variety of activities for events of all types. Whether it be a library, camp, scouting event, school event or party Brett is a unique fit for YOUR event.

First, a little about Brett and Oochworld . . .

Brett is a professional entertainer, motivator, dancer and DJ rolled into one, compact package. He has been dancing for about 21 years now and specializes in step and yo-yo dancing. Brett danced all the way through high school, competing in major dance competitions around the country and then graduated from UMass, Amherst with a degree in Communication in 1998. Directly out of college he got picked up by Yomega Corp., a yo-yo company based out of Fall River, MA. (www.yomega.com) and became a touring yo-yo professional. During that time, he taught dance (part-time) and auditioned for the Boston run of STOMP, making it to the third and final call back!

After 5 years of touring and performing for the yo-yo company, Brett decided to start his own entertainment company called Ninepoints Entertainment. He spends the academic year traveling to different schools in the New England area speaking to students on topics ranging from positive life choices to academic excellence. Also during that time, Brett visits corporations speaking on the importance of fun in the workplace and why it's important to re-capture the wonders of imagination before it's too late. As a bit of a side-job and hobby, Brett DJs parties of all types.

During the summers, Brett spends his time working with kids at libraries and camps around New England, offering a conglomeration of activities. Below is a listing of programs Brett offers. Choose which program is right for you.

Workshops

Yo-Yo Workshop - The basic purpose of this program is to teach kids how to become proficient yo-yo players. Brett also focuses on the development of social assets such as goal setting, sharing knowledge with others, self-esteem and performance skills.

Each child can expect to walk away with (AT THE VERY LEAST) a basic knowledge of how to use and maintain a yo-yo, having learned about 6 tricks ranging from "Walk the Dog" and "Around the World" to "Atom Smasher" and "Brain Twister". Wow!

Each class is broken into three skill groups - beginner, intermediate and advanced. Each group has a "group leader". The "group leader" can be either a parent or volunteer. The role of the "group leader" is to keep their group focused on the assigned task until Brett gives them a new one. Additionally, they are responsible for removing string tangles and knots as well as changing the yo-yo string when necessary.

Suggested ages for this program is 8 and up.
Suggested workshop time - 60 minutes

Step-Dancing/STOMP - Having gone through the audition process for the Broadway show STOMP, Brett has caught the STOMP "bug"! He shares a range of rhythms made by his hands and feet with his students, starting from easy exercises to advanced patterns. His students also learn the importance of working with each other AND listening to each other to create an environment of rhythm and fun! Each child leaves the step-dance workshop stomping and clapping their way to the day's next activity!

Suggested ages for this program is 8 and up.
Suggested workshop time - 60 minutes



Workshops

Hip-Hop- Everyone listens to the radio, right? Everybody bounces in his or her own way to their favorite jams but not everyone is confident in their ability to dance. Whether you've danced before or not, Brett's hip-hop workshop is fun for everybody. The class is broken into two groups – the "girls" and the "boys". Let's face it, the girls need their own moves and the guys need their own moves. As a guy dancer, Brett understands first hand the importance of individuality but at the same time, "safety in numbers" when learning how to dance. The class begins with everyone finding their "bounce" and ends with choreographed moves that the kids will remember for a long time to come!

Suggested ages for this program is 8 and up.

Suggested workshop time – 60 minutes

Yo-Yo Dancing - This is a unique workshop created and only offered by Brett. Don't worry, NO ONE NEEDS TO KNOW HOW TO USE A YO-YO to participate in this workshop. Brett handles the yo-yo part. All that's needed is concentration, memorization and a little rhythm. The workshop begins with Brett performing 5-10 different yo-yo tricks to the class. Each trick represents a dance move that Brett demonstrates. (Every dance move is easy to master and fun to perform). The students then learn how to keep rhythm. Once the kids can "step and clap" their way through a song, the fun begins. Brett then begins to perform yo-yo tricks throughout the song and the kids have to perform the correct dance moves correlated to the tricks. When the kids see the tricks they do the moves! It's like "Dance, Dance, Revolution" but with a yo-yo!

Suggested ages for this program is 8 and up.

Suggested workshop time – 60 minutes

Ballroom/Social Dancing (Swing, Foxtrot, Waltz) - If you have ever seen "Mad Hot Ballroom" then you'll know the importance of learning how to ballroom dance at an early age. If you haven't seen it – see it. This workshop focuses on 2-3 forms of ballroom dancing, depending on time constraints and learning ability of the class. Aside from learning the basics of the Foxtrot, Swing and the Waltz, each student learns how to communicate and work with their partner in order to move smoothly around the dance floor. This workshop is designed to encourage laughs, camaraderie and a fun, learning environment.

Suggested ages for this program is 10 and up.

Suggested workshop time – 90 minutes

Line Dancing (Country & Party) - Okay, so his grandmother got him into line dancing. No biggie. These days, Brett loves to teach all sorts of line dances to his students. This workshop focuses on popular line dances such as the "Cotton Eyed Joe" and the "Cha Cha Slide" as well as country line dances like the "Boot Scootin' Boogie" and "Country Walkin'" to name just a couple!

Suggested ages for this program is 8 and up.

Suggested workshop time – 60 minutes

Tap Dancing - Brett's specialty is tap dancing. His tap workshop caters to the skill level of the group. Beginners can expect to learn up to 10 different steps and techniques per workshop. Intermediate and advanced students will learn technique as well as combinations, syncopations and fun choreography.

Suggested ages for this program is 8 and up.

Suggested workshop time – 90 minutes

Performances

“Positive Spin” - The "Positive Spin" program is a 60 minute performance that empowers every student to make any bad situation good through the use of two, simple words - "Spin it!". The speech addresses issues that affect kids on a daily basis - popularity, earning respect of teachers and peers, becoming comfortable in your own skin, bullying and dealing with failure. Through the use of his own, personal stories and the help of music, magic, imagination, yo-yos and dance, Brett "Ooch" puts a positive spin on the challenges of growing up!

This is a great way to start off a camp!

Suggested ages for this performance: K- 8th grade

“Spinning Science into Fun” - “Spinning Science Into Fun” is a 60-minute, curriculum-friendly performance that focuses on the physics behind spinning objects. Through the demonstration of familiar toys like yo-yos, spin tops, flying discs, a Diablo and more “Ooch” puts an entertaining spin on science ... by the end of the show concepts like gyroscopic stability, rotational inertia, distribution of mass, centrifugal force, friction and planes of spin will have become child’s play. It’s amazing what can be gleaned from the observation of simple toys with a sprinkle of kinesthetic learning, comedy and skill ... With his fun approach to learning, Ooch reaches each child no matter his or her individual learning style. There’s something in this show for everyone.

The show is broken roughly into two half-hour segments. One segment focuses on science and physics while the other revolves around fun and safety. The segments are interchangeable to allow younger audiences the ability to share in the excitement.

Suggested ages for this performance: K- 8th grade

“Doin’ What You Love and Succeeding” - "Doin’ What You Love" is a 45-minute to one-hour show that empowers and motivates the audience on the importance of being uniquely you and doing what you love even if it isn't the norm. "Ooch" shares with the audience his story of becoming a professional yo-yo player and the choices he made to do what he loves to do and make a living out of it.

He discusses the choices made as a kid (such as taking dance classes and playing with a yo-yo when they weren't "cool") and the choices made as a young adult (such as staying away from alcohol, drugs and cigarettes, as well as striving to become a unique and cool individual in his own right). In fact, Brett has NEVER had a drink of alcohol, taken drugs or smoked and takes extreme pride in sharing that with his audience!

"Ooch" also makes a point to find out what the members of his audience LIKE to do and what they WANT to do as they continue to grow into young adults. Audience participation is an integral part of this show because it helps to cultivate and nurture confidence and pride in each student.

This program focuses on making sound decisions regarding peer pressure, drugs and alcohol, finding your own individual skill, working through the "tough" times of growing up and looking positively towards the future. By the end of the program, a connection will have been formed between the students and "Ooch." The students will walk away feeling good about themselves and will have been exposed to a positive role model in the process.

Suggested ages for this performance: K- 8th grade

“Yo-Yo Survival 101; The Yo-Yo ABC's” - After Brett gets to know the audience a bit and gives them some cool facts about yo-yos, he briefly shares with them his adventures as a yo-yo professional.

Performances Cont'd

He explains that becoming proficient with a yo-yo doesn't happen overnight, BUT that it doesn't HAVE to take a long time, either. Brett then plunges into the subject matter of the show – The ABC's of yo-yo play! He has simplified the yo-yo learning process by creating a 5-trick system that introduces the new yo-yo players to the different arm motions and techniques that comprise the fundamental skills that create a solid foundation for yo-yo play.

Here are the 5 basic tricks: Gravity Pull/Power Throw, Sleeper, Forward Pass, Loop the Loop and the Breakaway.

Through demonstrating these 5 tricks, he illustrates to his audience how each skill builds on the other to create some of the most amazing yo-yo tricks to date, such as "Boing Boing", "Atom Smasher" and "Iron Whip". (Don't worry, he fits the good ole' tricks in there, too!)

Each of the 5 tricks are easy to learn and fun to do both alone or with friends.

This program focuses on the importance of skill building, perseverance, practice and patience.

The show lasts between 45 to 60 minutes.

Suggested ages for this program: K-8th Grade

DJ Services

Brett offers DJ services to camps that are looking for anything from a family fun night to a beginning/end-of-camp bash. "DJ Ooch" (as kids affectionately call him) brings a spirit of fun and excitement to any camp event. He wants to play what the kids want to hear, so requests are strongly encouraged. If it's clean and appropriate, he'll play it. With his wide-range of music, games and fun activities, DJ Ooch truly brings the party to you!

Residencies & Bookings

Brett is available for residencies upon request. For more information on packages and bookings please contact:

Please contact **Lynne Richardson** for pricing.
617.775.7679 or oochworld@gmail.com



www.oochworld.com