

# Oberlin College

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 41.292929°N 82.218576°W﻿ / ﻿

**Oberlin College** is a private liberal arts college in Oberlin, Ohio, noteworthy for having been the first American institution of higher learning to regularly admit female and black students. The college's motto is "Learning and Labor." While its school colors are often casually referred to as "crimson and gold," they are actually cardinal red and mikado yellow. Those colors were formally designated for the college by a faculty committee in 1889 and were drawn from the family coat of arms of John Frederick Oberlin.<sup>[2]</sup> They remain in the official registry of school colors maintained by the American Council on Education.

Oberlin is a member of the Great Lakes Colleges Association and the Five Colleges of Ohio consortium.

## Oberlin College



<b>Motto</b>	Learning and Labor
<b>Established</b>	September 2, 1833
<b>Type</b>	Private
<b>Endowment</b>	550.3 million USD <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>President</b>	Marvin Krislov
<b>Staff</b>	1,058
<b>Students</b>	2,850
<b>Location</b>	Oberlin, Ohio, United States
<b>Campus</b>	Rural
<b>Mascot</b>	Yeomen (men's teams) & Yeowomen (women's teams)
<b>Website</b>	[http://new.oberlin.edu/new.oberlin.ed

## Contents

- 1 History
  - 1.1 Presidents of Oberlin College
  - 1.2 Introduction of co-ed dormitories
- 2 Academics
  - 2.1 College of Arts & Sciences
  - 2.2 Conservatory of Music
  - 2.3 Allen Memorial Art Museum
  - 2.4 College Library
  - 2.5 OhioLINK consortium
  - 2.6 Experimental College
  - 2.7 Winter Term
- 3 Campus culture
  - 3.1 Student Cooperative Association
  - 3.2 Political activism
  - 3.3 Music
  - 3.4 Art rental
- 4 Sustainability
- 5 Publications
- 6 Athletics
  - 6.1 Football
  - 6.2 Rugby
  - 6.3 Ultimate
- 7 Notable alumni

- 8 In popular culture
- 9 References
- 10 External links

## History

Both the college and the town of Oberlin were founded in 1833 by a pair of Presbyterian ministers, John Shipherd and Philo P. Stewart.<sup>[3]</sup> The ministers named their project after Jean-Frédéric Oberlin, an Alsatian minister whom they both admired. Oberlin attained prominence because of the influence of its second president, the evangelist Charles Finney, after whom one of the College's chapels and performance spaces is named. Asa Mahan (1800–1889) served as Oberlin's first president from 1835–1850.



The Oberlin campus in 1909

The college was built on 500 acres (2 km<sup>2</sup>) of land specifically donated by the previous owner, who lived in Connecticut. Shipherd and Stewart's vision was for both a religious community and school. For a more detailed history of the founding of the town and the college, see Oberlin, Ohio.

Oberlin has long been associated with progressive causes. Its founders bragged that "Oberlin is peculiar in that which is good." Oberlin was the first college in the United States to regularly admit African-American students (1835) after a casting vote by Rev. John Keep. It is also the oldest continuously operating coeducational institution, since having admitted four women in 1837. These four women, who were the first to enter as full students, were Mary Kellogg (Fairchild), Mary Caroline Rudd, Mary Hosford, and Elizabeth Prall. All but Kellogg graduated. Mary Jane Patterson graduated in 1862 to become the first black woman to earn a B.A. degree. The college was listed as a National Historic Landmark on December 21, 1965 for its significance in admitting African-Americans and women.<sup>[4]</sup> The college had some difficult beginnings, Rev. Keep and William Dawes were sent to England to raise funds for the college in 1839–40.<sup>[5]</sup>

One historian called Oberlin, "the town that started the Civil War" due to its reputation as a hotbed of abolitionism.<sup>[6]</sup> Oberlin was a key stop along the Underground Railroad. In 1858, both students and faculty were involved in the controversial Oberlin-Wellington Rescue of a fugitive slave, which received national press coverage. Two participants in this raid, Lewis Sheridan Leary and John Anthony Copeland, along with another Oberlin resident, Shields Green, also participated in John Brown's Raid on Harpers Ferry. This heritage was commemorated on campus by the 1977 installation of sculptor Cameron Armstrong's "Underground Railroad Monument" (a railroad track rising from the ground toward the sky)<sup>[7]</sup> and monuments to the Oberlin-Wellington Rescue<sup>[8]</sup> and the Harper's Ferry Raid<sup>[9]</sup>.

### Presidents of Oberlin College

- Asa Mahan 1835-1850
- Charles Grandison Finney 1851-1866
- James Harris Fairchild 1866-1889
- William Gay Ballantine 1891-1896
- John Barrows 1899-1902
- Henry Churchill King 1902-1927
- Ernest H. Wilkins 1927-1946
- William Edwards Stevenson 1946-1960

- Robert K. Carr 1960-1969
- Robert W. Fuller 1970-1974
- Emil Danenberg 1975-1982
- S. Frederick Starr 1983-1994
- Nancy Dye 1994-2007
- Marvin Krislov 2007-present

## Introduction of co-ed dormitories

In 1970, Oberlin made the cover of *Life Magazine* as one of the first colleges in the country to have co-ed dormitories.<sup>[10]</sup>

Historian Geoffrey Blodgett, a professor and graduate of Oberlin, pointed out that campus dorms caused anger among students during the 1960s. Students reacted vocally against the new dorms of the 1950s and 1960s (Dascomb, East, North and South), calling them expedient "slabs" of "sleeping and feeding space,"<sup>[11]</sup> and this protest soon took on other controversies, including the Civil Rights Movement and the Vietnam War. Dascomb went from being the impetus for protest to the vehicle of social change in 1967 when it was transformed into a co-ed dorm during winter term of 1969. Hebrew House, as it was known, was set up as winter term project to operate similar to an Israeli *kibbutz*. The experiment was a success, and now all but one of Oberlin College's dormitories are coed. The Baldwin Cottage is open only to women and transgender students.<sup>[12]</sup>

## Academics

Of Oberlin's 2,800 or so students, roughly 2,200 are enrolled in the College of Arts & Sciences, a little over 400 in the Conservatory of Music, and the remaining 150 or so in both College and Conservatory under the five-year Double Degree program. Oberlin is the only institution in the United States to have a top ranked College and a top ranked conservatory of music.

### College of Arts & Sciences

The College of Arts & Sciences offers over 45 majors, minors and concentrations. Based on students graduating with a given major, its most popular majors over the last ten years have been (in order) English, Biology, History, Politics and Environmental Studies. The College's science programs are considered strong for a smaller liberal arts college, especially Chemistry and Neuroscience.

### Conservatory of Music



Peters Hall, home of the language departments.

The top-ranked Oberlin Conservatory of Music is located on the Oberlin College campus. Conservatory admission is rigorous, with over 1400 applicants worldwide auditioning for 120 seats. As a result, the quality of Oberlin's artistic community is high. Students benefit from over 500 performances yearly, most free of charge, with concerts and recitals almost daily. In 2010 the Oberlin Conservatory was awarded the National Medal of the Arts by President Barack Obama.

### **Allen Memorial Art Museum**

The Allen Memorial Art Museum, with over 12,000 holdings, was the first college art museum west of the Alleghenies and is held on par with those at Princeton, Harvard, and Yale.<sup>[13]</sup>

### **College Library**

Oberlin College Library system is one of the largest and finest undergraduate libraries in the nation. In addition to the main library there are branch libraries for art, music, and science, and a central storage facility. The libraries have strong collections of print and media materials and provide access to an extensive array of online databases and journals. Beyond the 2.4 million-plus items available on campus, Oberlin students have rapid access to more than 46 million volumes from over 85 Ohio institutions in through the OhioLINK consortium.<sup>[14]</sup> In addition to the breadth of its holdings, the Oberlin College Library is recognized for its quality: it received the Association of College and Research Libraries Excellence in Academic Libraries Award (<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/awards/excellenceacademic.cfm>) in 2002, and in 2006 Director of Libraries Ray English was named the ACRL's Academic-Research Librarian (<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/awards/librarianoftheyear/englishspeech.cfm>) of the Year. In the summer of 2007 the main level of the main library was converted into an Academic Commons that provides integrated learning support and is a hub of both academic and social activity.

### **OhioLINK consortium**

Oberlin students and faculty benefit by Oberlin's membership in the OhioLINK consortium, providing access to 12,000+ commercially licensed online journals, 130 databases, 18,000+ ebooks and is rapidly growing digital media collections. The OhioLINK Central Catalog represents the library holdings of 87 libraries in the state, including the State Library of Ohio, plus the Center for Research Libraries. The collection is nearing 10 million unique records representing 27.5 million holdings in the system, and undergraduates account for the larger percentage of OhioLINK online borrowing – the process by which any enrolled student can readily request the loan of books and other items from any other library in the system.

### **Experimental College**

The college's "Experimental College" or ExCo program, a student-run department, allows any student or interested person to teach their own class for a limited amount of college credit. ExCo classes by definition focus on material not covered by existing departments or faculty.

Many courses supplement conventional disciplines, from languages and areas of cinema or literature, to musical ensembles, martial arts and forms of dancing. Other ExCos cover an array of topics, in the past ranging from Aquariums<sup>[15]</sup> to Wilderness Skills<sup>[16]</sup> to Hacky Sack. Due to the nature of ExCo, while some staple courses are continued for years, the overall number and selection of classes offered varies dramatically from semester to



Conservatory of Music at Oberlin College

semester.<sup>[17]</sup>

## Winter Term

Another aspect of Oberlin's academics is the Winter Term during the month of January. This term was created to allow students to do something outside the regular course offerings of the college. Students may work alone or in groups, either on or off campus, and may design their own project or pick from a list of projects and internships set up by the college each year. Projects range from serious academic research with co-authorship in scientific journals, to humanitarian projects, to making avant-garde films about historic Chicago neighborhoods, to learning how to bartend. A full-credit project is suggested to involve five to six hours per weekday.<sup>[18]</sup>

## Campus culture

### Student Cooperative Association

The Oberlin Student Cooperative Association, or OSCA, is a non-profit corporation that houses 175 students and feeds 620 students in multiple sites. Its budget is nearly \$2 million, making it the third-largest of its kind in North America,<sup>[citation needed]</sup> and by far the largest relative to the size of the institution whose students it serves.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

OSCA is entirely student-run, with all participating students working as cooks, buyers, administrators, organizers. Every participant is required to do at least one hour per week of cleaning, ensuring that no one is valued above others. Most decisions within OSCA are made by modified consensus. Oberlin bans all fraternities and sororities, making the co-ops the largest student-organized social system at the college.

### Political activism

Oberlin students have a reputation for being notably liberal or progressive. The college was ranked among the *Princeton Review's* list of *Colleges with a Conscience* in 2005.<sup>[19]</sup> Recent activism among the student body has resulted in a campus-wide ban on sales of Coca-Cola products.<sup>[20]</sup>

Oberlin is also known for its liberal attitude towards sexuality and gender expression. Oberlin was ranked among the 20 friendliest campuses for LGBT students in *The Advocate's College Guide for LGBT Students*.<sup>[21]</sup> The school hosts a Sexual Information Center, where students may receive STI tests, free or heavily discounted condoms and lubricant, and counseling on sexual issues. The Sexual Information Center sponsors Safer Sex Night, originally started in the 1980s as a response to the AIDS crisis, as well as Drag Ball, which marks Transgender Awareness week. Both these events are well-attended by students, although they have drawn criticism from some social conservatives.<sup>[22]</sup>

Oberlin is a finalist in PETA's "Most Vegetarian-Friendly college" contest.<sup>[23]</sup>



Students passing through the Memorial Arch in front of Peters Hall. The arch is dedicated to the memory of missionaries from Oberlin who were killed in the Boxer Rebellion.

A sampling of the school's past commencement speakers reflects its reputation for embracing diversity, ranging from Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Jesse L. Jackson to figures as varied as Pete Seeger and Robert Frost; even Adlai Stevenson appeared, a month prior to his death.

## Music

In addition to the Conservatory, Oberlin has myriad musical opportunities available for amateur musicians and students in the college. The Oberlin Gilbert and Sullivan Players (OGASP) perform one Gilbert and Sullivan operetta each semester. The entirely student-run Oberlin College Marching Band (OCMB), founded in 1998, performs at various sporting events including football games, women's rugby, and pep rallies throughout the year. There are a number of a cappella groups, including the Obertones (all-male), Nothing But Treble (all-female), and 'Round Midnight (co-ed jazz). In addition, students in the college can form chamber groups and receive coaching through the Conservatory. Student composers also provide a demand for musicians to perform their work.

The college radio station WOBC-FM, and the party circuit (including the popular on-campus venue, The 'Sco) contribute to the campus music scene. Many alumni have pursued careers in popular and indie music, including members of the bands The Mars Volta, Come, Deerhoof, Liz Phair, Josh Ritter, Songs: Ohia, The Sea and Cake, Tortoise, Trans Am, Sleepytime Gorilla Museum, Skeletons, and the Yeah Yeah Yeahs. Due in part to both this and the school's proximity to Cleveland, the college attracts touring artists with a frequency nearly unparalleled among institutions of its size.

Oberlin College is also home to the steel drum ensemble Oberlin Steel, formerly known as the Can Consortium. The name was changed in 2000 out of concern that too many people would start calling the drums ("pans") "cans" because of the name. The band has performed at venues including Central Park, New York's Lincoln Center, and the Lincoln Memorial.

## Art rental

Oberlin's museum has a unique art rental program. At the beginning of every semester students camp out in front of the north gate of the college's Allen Memorial Art Museum to get first pick of original etchings, lithographs and paintings by artists including Renoir, Warhol, Dalí, and Picasso. For five dollars per semester, students can hang these works on their dorm room walls. The program was started in the 1940s by Ellen Johnson, a professor of art at Oberlin, in order to "develop the aesthetic sensibilities of students and encourage ordered thinking and discrimination in other areas of their lives."<sup>[24]</sup>

## Sustainability

Oberlin College has demonstrated its commitment to the pursuit of sustainability on a number of fronts. An estimated 50% of the school's electricity needs are met using sustainable energy sources. Oberlin's innovative Center For Environmental Studies, a building the Department of Energy labeled as one of the "milestone" buildings of the 20th century, incorporates a 4,600 square foot (425 square meter) photovoltaic array, the biggest of its kind in Ohio. The school utilizes biodiesel, hybrid, and electric vehicles for various purposes, offers financial support to a local transit company providing public transportation to the school, and has been home to the Oberlin Bike Co-op (<http://www.oberlinbikecoop.org/>), a cooperatively run bicycle center, since 1986. Each of the residence halls also monitors and displays real time and historic power and water use. Some dorms also have orbs which display a color depending on how real time energy use compares to the average historic energy use. The school's Campus Committee on Shareholder responsibility provides students, faculty, and staff with the opportunity to make suggestions and decisions on proxy votes. In 2007, Oberlin received a grade of

“B+” from the Sustainable Endowments Institute's annual College Sustainability Report Card, and was featured among schools as a “Campus Sustainability Leader”.<sup>[25]</sup> In 2008, Oberlin received an "A-" on the annual College Sustainability Report Card.<sup>[26]</sup> It was also listed as the school with the greenest conscience by Plenty in their green campuses ratings.<sup>[27]</sup>

## Publications

Oberlin students publish a wide variety of periodicals. The college's largest publications are *The Oberlin Review* and *The Grape*. The Oberlin Review is a traditional weekly newspaper, focusing on current events, with a circulation of around 2,500. The Grape is Oberlin's student-run alternative newspaper. There is also a newspaper pertaining to the interests of students of color, called *In Solidarity*.

Magazines on campus include *Drivel Magazine*, a satire and humor magazine, and *Plum Creek Review*, a literary review containing student-written fiction and poetry. *Spiral* is a magazine focused on genre fiction. The College also produces a quarterly alumni magazine<sup>[28]</sup>, while the Conservatory publishes its own magazine once a year.

In 2009, two students began *Fearless and Loathing* (<http://Fearlessandloathing.com/>), a news blog.

## Athletics

The school's varsity sports teams are the Yeomen and Yeowomen. They participate in the NCAA's Division III and the North Coast Athletic Conference. Oberlin's football team was the first team coached by legendary coach John Heisman, who led the team to a 7–0 record in 1892. Oberlin is the last college in Ohio to beat Ohio State (winning 7–6 in 1921). Though in modern times the football team was more famous for losing streaks of 40 games (1992–1996) and 44 games (1997–2001), the Yeomen have enjoyed limited success in recent years.

The college also hosts several club sports teams, including the Oberlin Ultimate team. Oberlin Ultimate was founded in 1976 and is often among the top 10 teams in its region. Recently, leaders of the Athletic Department and various club sports have spoken out in favor of increased institutional support for the teams, requesting that the College provide access to professional sports trainers and team transportation.<sup>[29]</sup>

### Football

Oberlin football plays its home game at Savage Stadium.

Oberlin played its first football game in 1891, going 2 and 2 that season. In 1892, they were coached by John Heisman; Oberlin went 7 and 0, beating Ohio State twice by scores of 40–0 and 50–0. They outscored opponents 262 to 30.

Oberlin was one of the founding members of the Ohio Athletic Conference in 1902, along with Case, Kenyon College, Ohio State, Ohio Wesleyan University and Western Reserve. The league commonly was known as the "Big Six." Ohio State joined the Big Ten in 1913. Ohio State's all-time highest margin of victory was a 128–0 thrashing of Oberlin in 1916. Oberlin is the last in-state school to defeat Ohio State. The Yeomen upset the Buckeyes 7–6 at Ohio Field in Columbus in 1921.

The Oberlin teams of 1994 to 2000 have been rated the fifth worst college football team of all time by ESPN.com's Page 2. In 1994, Oberlin lost all nine games of its season scoring only ten points and giving up 358

points. In 1995, the Yeomen were outscored 469 to 72. In August 1996, *Sports Illustrated* featured Oberlin in its annual College Football Preview as the worst team in Division III. After four winless seasons from 1993 to 1996, Oberlin opened its 1997 season with an 18–17 victory over Thiel College sparking post-game jubilation with fans rushing the field. The victory garnered national attention as ESPN featured it on *SportsCenter*. Oberlin would not win again for years. Swarthmore College and Oberlin scheduled a 1999 matchup, with both schools nursing long losing streaks, just so one of them could end their streak. Oberlin lost 42–6 and continued a 44-game losing streak, ending it with a 53–22 victory over Kenyon College at home in October 2001.<sup>[30][31]</sup>

Since then the team has enjoyed modest success, staying competitive in most games and going 5–5 (with better than .500 records in conference) in 2003, 2006, and 2007.

In March 2008, Chris Schubert, a former wide receiver for Oberlin was invited to a mini camp hosted by the Cleveland Browns.<sup>[32]</sup> He did not make the roster but in November 2008, was signed by the Mahoning Valley Thunder of the AF2. He scored a touchdown in his first game for the Thunder.<sup>[33]</sup>

## Rugby

Oberlin has both men's and women's rugby teams, the Gruffs and the Rhinos, respectively. The women's rugby team defeated Ohio State University 14–0 in Spring 2008 and won the Teapot Dome Tournament.

The Oberlin College Men's Rugby team was founded in 1973 playing its first game against the Elyria Black River Rugby Club. Oberlin, formed as the Oberlin College Rugby Club (OCRC), was sponsored by the Oberlin College Rathskeller, the campus pub. In its second season, 1974, the team compiled a 3–2 record and carried a roster of 32 players comprised mainly of football and lacrosse players.<sup>[34]</sup>

## Ultimate

Oberlin has both a men's and a women's Ultimate team, known as the Flying Horsecows and the Preying Manti<sup>[35]</sup> respectively. The Horsecows have made trips to College Nationals in 1992, 1995, 1997, and 1999. The Manti qualified for Nationals for the first time in 1997. Both teams also maintain a tradition of emphasizing the spirit of Ultimate. Recently, the Flying Horsecows, after having an unsuccessful 2006–2007 season, hired a coach to work them into shape, and succeeded in advancing to the Regional championship tournament<sup>[36]</sup>.

## Notable alumni

*Main article: List of Oberlin College alumni*

- Alison Bechdel, a cartoonist;
- Mark Boal Academy Award winning screenwriter
- Stephanie Rawlings Blake, mayor of Baltimore, Maryland
- Stanley Cohen, Nobel-winning physician;
- Adrian Fenty, the youngest mayor of Washington, D.C.;
- Ben & Jerry's co-founder Jerry Greenfield;
- Charles Martin Hall, a chemist who invented an inexpensive process for producing aluminum.
- Ed Helms, a comedian and actor, known best for his work on *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* and *The Office*;
- Dr. D.A. Henderson, who led the WHO campaign to eradicate smallpox;
- Ralph F. Hirschmann, biochemist who led synthesis of the first enzyme.<sup>[37]</sup>
- H. H. Kung, a premier of China;



- Michelle Malkin, right-wing blogger;
- James McBride, author of *The Color of Water*, which spent over two years on the New York Times bestseller list;
- Robert Millikan, Nobel-winning physicist who measured the charge of an electron;
- Eduardo Mondlane, president of the Liberation Front of Mozambique;
- Liz Phair, alternative rock singer-songwriter;
- Josh Ritter, musician;
- Willard Van Orman Quine, the influential American analytic philosopher and logician;
- William F. Schulz, former executive director of Amnesty International;
- Roger Wolcott Sperry, Nobel-winning neuropsychologist;
- Tony- and Emmy-winning directors Julie Taymor and James Burrows;
- Moses Fleetwood Walker, the first African-American major league baseball player;

## In popular culture

Rich Orloff's play *Vietnam 101: The War on Campus* depicts the turmoil that occurred on the Oberlin Campus in the 1960s and 1970s as a result of the Vietnam War.<sup>[38]</sup>

## References

1. ^ As of June 30, 2009. "U.S. and Canadian Institutions Listed by Fiscal Year 2009 Endowment Market Value and Percentage Change in Endowment Market Value from FY 2008 to FY 2009" ([http://www.nacubo.org/Documents/research/2009\\_NCSE\\_Public\\_Tables\\_Endowment\\_Market\\_V alues.pdf](http://www.nacubo.org/Documents/research/2009_NCSE_Public_Tables_Endowment_Market_V alues.pdf)) (PDF). *2009 NACUBO-Commonfund Study of Endowments*. National Association of College and University Business Officers. [http://www.nacubo.org/Documents/research/2009\\_NCSE\\_Public\\_Tables\\_Endowment\\_Market\\_V alues.pdf](http://www.nacubo.org/Documents/research/2009_NCSE_Public_Tables_Endowment_Market_V alues.pdf). Retrieved March 15, 2010.
2. ^ Oberlin College ([http://www.oberlin.edu/giving/of\\_recognition.html](http://www.oberlin.edu/giving/of_recognition.html))
3. ^ <http://www.cityofoberlin.com/Administration/community.html>
4. ^ "National Historic Landmarks Program - Oberlin College" (<http://tps.cr.nps.gov/nhl/detail.cfm?ResourceId=450&ResourceType=Site>) . <http://tps.cr.nps.gov/nhl/detail.cfm?ResourceId=450&ResourceType=Site>. Retrieved 8 May 2007.
5. ^ The culture of English antislavery, 1780-1860 ([http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=SG-g\\_52iY6gC&pg=PA192&lpg=PA192&dq=%22William+Dawes%22+slavery&source=bl&ots=5a8Q7IO3TO&sig=e043LSF-W5JKeENqAHuN6U-IbAU&hl=en&ei=G\\_vdSZbnNp-ZjAfzp9GNDg&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&ct=result&resnum=8#PPA192,M1](http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=SG-g_52iY6gC&pg=PA192&lpg=PA192&dq=%22William+Dawes%22+slavery&source=bl&ots=5a8Q7IO3TO&sig=e043LSF-W5JKeENqAHuN6U-IbAU&hl=en&ei=G_vdSZbnNp-ZjAfzp9GNDg&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=8#PPA192,M1)) , David Turley, p192, 1991, ISBN 0415020085, accessed April 2009
6. ^ Brandt, Nat (1990). *The town that started the Civil War*. Syracuse University Press. ISBN 0-8156-0243-X.
7. ^ Underground Railroad Monument (<http://www.sculpturecenter.org/oosi/sculpture.asp?SID=44>)
8. ^ Oberlin-Wellington Rescue Monument (<http://www.oberlin.edu/external/EOG/CivilWarTour/Stop5.html>)
9. ^ Harper's Ferry Memorial (<http://www.oberlin.edu/external/EOG/CivilWarTour/Stop4.html>)
10. ^ College web site (<http://www2.oberlin.edu/175/didyouknow-coed.html>)
11. ^ Blodgett, Geoffrey (May 11, 1995). "The Grand March of Oberlin campus plans". *Oberlin Observer*. Vol. 16 No. 17 Sec. Observations. (web archive: <http://www.oberlin.edu/observer/observer16.17/observations.html>)
12. ^ College web site (<http://new.oberlin.edu/student-life/housing/housing-options/detail.dot?id=184702&buildingId=175104>)
13. ^ Short Tour: Allen Art Museum (<http://www.oberlin.edu/colrelat/welcome/octour/stourart.html>)
14. ^ Oberlin College Library (<http://new.oberlin.edu/arts-and-sciences/libraries/>)
15. ^ Fall 2002 Exco course listing (<http://www.oberlin.edu/exco/students/oldcourses/fall02.htm>)
16. ^ Spring 2003 Exco course listing (<http://www.oberlin.edu/exco/students/oldcourses/spring03.htm>)

17. ^ EXCO Committee (<http://www.oberlin.edu/exco/about/history.htm>)
18. ^ Office of Winter Term (<http://oberlin.edu/winterterm/>)
19. ^ Colleges with a conscience (<http://www.princetonreview.com/SchoolList.aspx?id=767>)
20. ^ Taylor, Samantha (November 19, 2004). "College set to ban Coca-Cola". *Oberlin Review* (web link: <http://www.oberlin.edu/stupub/ocreview/2004/11/19/news/article1.html>)
21. ^ The Advocate College Guide for LGBT Students is the best ever road map to gay-friendly campuses. Even if we do say so ourselves. ([http://www.advocate.com/issue\\_story\\_ektid35308.asp](http://www.advocate.com/issue_story_ektid35308.asp))
22. ^ Pearce, Jean (2003-11-05). "Radical Activist U: Oberlin College" (<http://www.frontpagemag.com/articles/Read.aspx?GUID=63F0BBAF-685D-49D8-811D-FA1BF266CB2B>) . FrontPageMag. <http://www.frontpagemag.com/articles/Read.aspx?GUID=63F0BBAF-685D-49D8-811D-FA1BF266CB2B>. Retrieved 2008-10-02.
23. ^ <http://www.peta2.com/college/vegfriendlycollege-09/?c=923fs>
24. ^ Angell, Sue (September 26, 2005). "Art Rental Still Going Strong After 60 Years". *OBERLIN Online: News and Features*. (web link: <http://oberlin.edu/news-info/05sep/art.html>)
25. ^ "College Sustainability Report Card 2008" (<http://www.endowmentinstitute.org/>) Sustainable Endowments Institute. Retrieved on July 20, 2008.
26. ^ "College Sustainability Report Card 2009" (<http://greenreportcard.org/report-card-2009/schools/oberlin-college>) Sustainable Endowments Institute. Retrieved on October 1, 2008.
27. ^ "Green Campuses 3.0" ([http://www.plentymag.com/features/2008/09/green\\_campuses.php](http://www.plentymag.com/features/2008/09/green_campuses.php)) Plenty. Retrieved on October 1, 2008.
28. ^ <http://www.oberlin.edu/oam>
29. ^ Karlgaard, Joe, et al. (2007-10-05). "Club Sports Demand Equal Attention" ([http://www.oberlin.edu/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/ocreview/20080516.php?a=l\\_club\\_sports&sec=letters](http://www.oberlin.edu/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/ocreview/20080516.php?a=l_club_sports&sec=letters)) . *The Oberlin Review*. [http://www.oberlin.edu/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/ocreview/20080516.php?a=l\\_club\\_sports&sec=letters](http://www.oberlin.edu/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/ocreview/20080516.php?a=l_club_sports&sec=letters). Retrieved 2008-08-09.
30. ^ Page2 Staff. "Worst college football teams of all time". ESPN.com's *Page2*. (web link: <http://espn.go.com/page2/s/list/colfootball/teams/worst.html>)
31. ^ 2008 Oberlin College Football Media Guide (web link:[http://www.goyeo.com/documents/2008/8/4/2008\\_football\\_media\\_guide.pdf?id=357](http://www.goyeo.com/documents/2008/8/4/2008_football_media_guide.pdf?id=357) , pages 39–40)
32. ^ King, Steve (2008-05-03). "Oberlin's Schubert vying for a shot" (<http://www.clevelandbrowns.com/article.php?id=8426>) . *www.clevelandbrowns.com* (Cleveland Browns). <http://www.clevelandbrowns.com/article.php?id=8426>. Retrieved 2009-05-08.
33. ^ "Schubert Scores In Professional Debut with the Thunder" ([http://www.goyeo.com/news/2009/3/28/FB\\_0328093047.aspx](http://www.goyeo.com/news/2009/3/28/FB_0328093047.aspx)) . *goyeo.com* (Oberlin College). 2009-03-28. [http://www.goyeo.com/news/2009/3/28/FB\\_0328093047.aspx](http://www.goyeo.com/news/2009/3/28/FB_0328093047.aspx). Retrieved 2009-05-08.
34. ^ [1] ([http://www.oberlin.edu/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/ocreview/20080509.php?a=s\\_rugby\\_rhinos&sec=sports](http://www.oberlin.edu/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/ocreview/20080509.php?a=s_rugby_rhinos&sec=sports))
35. ^ The Preying Manti (<http://www.oberlin.edu/stuorg/obult/manti/index.html>)
36. ^ <http://upa.org/college/top25history/2008-top25-open.shtml>
37. ^ Hevesi, Dennis "Ralph F. Hirschmann, Leading Scientist on Early Enzyme Research, Dies at 87" (<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/19/science/19hirschmann.html>) , *The New York Times*, July 18, 2009. Accessed July 19, 2009.
38. ^ THE PLAYS OF RICH ORLOFF - Vietnam 101: The War On Campus (<http://www.richorloff.com/plays/fulllength/vietnam.htm>)

## External links

- Official website (<http://www.oberlin.edu/>)
- Oberwiki, the Oberlin wiki (<http://www.oberwiki.net/>)

Retrieved from "[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oberlin\\_College](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oberlin_College)"

Categories: 1833 establishments | Universities and colleges in Ohio | Liberal arts colleges | Lorain County, Ohio | Ohio Five | Educational institutions established in 1833 | Council of Independent Colleges | National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities | Posse schools | Oberlin College | National Historic Landmarks in Ohio | North Central Association of Colleges and Schools | History of African-American civil rights | History of women's rights in the United States

- This page was last modified on 1 April 2010 at 02:20.
  - Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. See Terms of Use for details.
- Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.

# List of Oberlin College alumni

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The people listed alphabetically below studied at Oberlin College. Most are listed with a year of graduation. Those without years studied but did not graduate.

**Contents:**    A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W Z

## A

- Jad Abumrad, American radio host and producer. Currently hosts and produces RadioLab on WNYC.
- Robert Alexander (1975), playwright, co-editor of the hip-hop theater anthology "Plays from the Boombox Galaxy" (among other works).
- Greg Allen (1985), founder of The Neo-Futurists experimental theatre troupe.
- William Ament, controversial missionary to China, criticised by Mark Twain.
- Hobart Baumann Amstutz, studied at the Conservatory 1914–15 before graduating from Oberlin High School in 1915. Later served as a Bishop for The Methodist Church.
- Susan Art (1973), Dean of Students at University of Chicago's undergraduate college.
- Mary Atkins, founder of Mills College.

## B

- Benjamin Bagby (1974), vocalist, harpist, scholar, and founder of early music ensemble Sequentia
- Peter Baker (1988), *Washington Post* journalist and author.
- Ishmael Beah (2004), author of *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*.
- Reginald Beasley (1988), radio personality & program director, touring nightclub DJ (under the name "Big Chicago" Reggie Beas).
- Alison Bechdel (1981), cartoonist (*Dykes To Watch Out For*) and graphic novelist (*Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic*).
- Robin Behn (1979), poet (*Horizon Note*).
- Arthur L. Benton (1931), neuropsychologist.
- Jacqueline Berrien (1983), associate director-counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund and President Obama's nominee for chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.
- Suzette Marie Bishop (1984), author (*She Took off Her Wings and Shoes*).
- Joani Blank (1959), founder of Good Vibrations.
- Richard Bliwas (1981), pianist and singer/songwriter.
- Geoffrey Blodgett (1953), historian and author of *Cass Gilbert: The Early Years*.
- Alex Blumberg (1989) producer, "This American Life."
- Mark Boal (1995) screenwriter, "The Hurt Locker."
- Eric Bogosian (1976), novelist, playwright (*Talk Radio*, *SubUrbia*) and actor (Law and Order: Criminal Intent).
- Wendy Brenner (1987), author of *Phone Calls From the Dead*.
- Noah Bopp (1996), Founder and Director, School for Ethics and Global Leadership<sup>[1]</sup>
- Chris Brokaw (1986), rock drummer for Codeine, Come, Consonant.
- Avery Brooks (1970 and an additional honorary degree in 1996), actor in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, *American History X*, *Spenser: For Hire*, best known for "Benjamin Sisko" in *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*.

- Chris Broussard (1990), ESPN sports analyst.
- Antoinette Brown (1847), the first ordained female minister in the U.S.
- Paul Brown, newscaster/reporter for NPR; from 2001 to 2003 Brown was NPR's executive producer for weekend programming, also served as acting executive producer and acting senior producer of NPR's Talk of the Nation, and as acting senior producer at NPR's Morning Edition.
- Gabriel Brownstein (1988), novelist and author of *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, *Apt. 3W* and *The Man from Beyond*.
- Blanche K Bruce, second African-American Senator from Mississippi serving 1874–1881.
- Peter Buchman (1989), screenwriter for *Jurassic Park III* and *Che* (film).
- Alice Rowe Burks (1942), author of *Who Invented the Computer?: The Legal Battle that Changed Computing History*.
- James Burrows (1962), producer and creator of *Cheers* and Emmy award-winning director of *Will & Grace*, *Wings*, *News Radio*, among other series.
- Michael Byers (1991), novelist and author of *The Coast of Good Intentions* and *Long for This World*.

## C

- Marc Canter (1980), co-founder of MacroMind (later Macromedia).
- Ben Calhoun (2001), political journalist for Chicago Public Radio.
- John Carroll (1984), historian.
- John Cazale (1954), actor in *The Godfather* and *The Deer Hunter*.
- Zoe Chace (2004), producer and journalist for NPR (various programs).
- Brian Chase (2000), drummer for the Yeah Yeah Yeahs.
- Tracy Chevalier (1984), novelist and author of *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, *Falling Angels*, and *The Lady and the Unicorn*.
- Ben Chew (2008), Managing Editor for the sports blogs, Outside the Boxscore and That NBA Lottery Pick
- Kevin Clarke (1991), renowned political methodologist, and currently Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Rochester.
- Yvette Clarke (transferred to Medgar Evers College, did not earn degree), Democratic representative for New York's 11th congressional district, 2007–present.
- Kathleen Neal Cleaver (transferred to Barnard College) Senior Research Associate at Yale Law School known for her involvement in the Black Panther Party.
- Rachel Cline (1979), author of *What to Keep*.
- Henry Roe Cloud, Native American political leader.
- Stanley Cohen (1945), Nobel Physiology and Medicine laureate in 1986.
- Marc Cohn (1981), Grammy Award winning singer-songwriter.
- Johnnetta B. Cole (1957), first female African-American president of Spelman College, president of Bennett College 2002–07.
- John R. Commons (1888), well-known institutional economist and labor historian.
- Fanny Jackson Coppin (1865), influential African-American educator and missionary.
- Richard Cowan, posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor during World War II.
- Jacob Dolson Cox, politician and author.
- Paul Drennan Cravath, famous lawyer, partner of Cravath, Swaine & Moore, creator of the "Cravath System" and founding Vice-President of the Council on Foreign Relations.
- Alev Lytle Croutier, a Turkish-American author.

## D

- Charles D'Ambrosio (1982), essayist, short story writer.

- Stephen Davenport (1953), author of *Saving Miss Oliver's*.
- Rennie Davis, a prominent anti-Vietnam war activist and one of the Chicago Seven.
- Carl Dennis, Pulitzer prize-winning poet of *Practical Gods*.
- Angel Desai (1994), actress, 2006 Company revival, multiple other plays and television shows<sup>[2]</sup>
- Robert Devereaux (1969), novelist and author of *Santa Steps Out: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups*.
- Michael Dirda (1970), Pulitzer Prize-winning *Washington Post* reviewer, author.
- John Langalibalele Dube, first President of the African National Congress
- Kelly Dwyer (1986), novelist, author of *Self-Portrait with Ghosts*.
- Michael Duffy (1980), Assistant Managing Editor of *Time*.
- David Kellogg Lewis well known philosopher arguing for Possible Worlds.

## E

- Chris Eldridge (2004), Guitarist, Punch Brothers; former guitarist, the Infamous Stringdusters.
- John Millott Ellis (1851), acting President of Oberlin College and abolitionist.
- Rhian Ellis (1990), novelist (*After Life*).
- Josh Emmons (1995), novelist (*The Loss of Leon Meed, Prescription for a Superior Existence*).

## F

- George Fairchild (1862), third President of Kansas State University.
- Adrian Fenty (1992), Mayor of Washington, D.C..
- Lee Fisher (1973), Lieutenant Governor and former Attorney General of Ohio.
- Jim Fixx (1957), author of *The Complete Book of Running*.
- Peter Tyrrell Flawn (1947), geologist and former President of the University of Texas at Austin.
- Kate Fodor (1993), playwright (*Hannah and Martin*).
- Beth Fouhy (1983) Former executive producer at CNN; AP reporter, covered Hillary Clinton's campaign in 2007–8.
- Kim France (1987), editor of *Lucky* magazine.
- Darcy Frey (1983), non-fiction writer.
- Su Friedrich (1975), experimental filmmaker.
- Sara Hoskinson Frommer (1958), novelist and author of *Witness in Bishop Hill: A Joan Spencer Mystery*.
- Alan Furst (1962), novelist, author of *Blood of Victory*.

## G

- Rhiannon Giddens (2000), instrumentalist (banjo, violin); member of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, an African-American string band; operatic vocalist (soprano).
- Chester Gillette, an American convicted murderer, the basis for the fictional character Clyde Griffiths in the Theodore Dreiser novel, *An American Tragedy*, which in turn was the basis of the 1951 Academy Award-winning film *A Place in the Sun*.
- John Gofman (1939), a scientist involved in the Manhattan Project and an activist concerning issues with nuclear power and radiation danger.
- Myla Goldberg (1993), novelist (*Bee Season, Wickett's Remedy*).
- William Goldman (1952), novelist (*The Princess Bride*) and Academy Award-winning screenwriter (*Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, All the President's Men*).
- Jason Myles Goss (2003), singer-songwriter.
- Elisha Gray, an inventor of the telephone.
- Denyce Graves, an accomplished American opera singer, sang the American Anthem during the 55th

Presidential Inauguration for President George W. Bush.

- Melissa Fay Greene (1975), author (*Last Man Out: The Story of the Springhill Mine Disaster*).
- Jerry Greenfield (1973), co-creator of Ben & Jerry's ice cream.
- Linda Gregerson (1971), award-winning poet (*Waterborne, Magnetic North*).
- Dr. Jamie Grifo (1978), director of New York University Medical Center's division of reproductive endocrinology.
- Erwin Griswold (1925), lawyer, Solicitor General of the United States and dean of Harvard Law School.
- Gary Grubb (1975), contraceptive developer (Norplant, Lybrel).

## H

- Richard N. Haass (1973), president of the Council on Foreign Relations and former Director of Policy Planning for the U.S. Department of State.
- Al Haig, jazz pianist.
- Charles Martin Hall (1885), co-discoverer of the electrolytic process of producing aluminium, founder of Alcoa, Inc. (and contributor to the American spelling of "aluminum").
- David Halperin (1973), author (*One Hundred Years of Homosexuality*).
- Jon Hamilton (1983), NPR science correspondent.
- Philip Hanawalt (1954), scientist, co-discoverer of DNA excision repair.
- Philip C. Hayes (1860), American Civil War general.
- Edward Haskell (1929), scientist and educator who dedicated his life to the unification of human knowledge into a single discipline.
- Janet Ruth Heller (1971), author (*How the Moon Regained Her Shape*)
- Walter Heller (1935), economist and educator
- Ed Helms (1996), actor (*The Office (US TV series)*, *The Hangover (film)*), comedian, correspondent on *The Daily Show*.
- Paul M. Herr (1978), social psychologist, Professor of Marketing at the University of Colorado, Leeds School of Business.
- Corin Hewitt (1993), American sculptor
- Joe Hickerson (1957), American folklorist.
- Ralph F. Hirschmann (1922–2009), biochemist who led synthesis of the first enzyme.<sup>[3]</sup>
- Cynthia Hogan (1979), Counsel to the Vice President of the United States, Joe Biden, under President Barack Obama.
- Jonathan Holden (1963), poet (*Knowing: New and Selected Poems*).
- Michael Hollinger (1984), playwright (*Red Herring*)
- Keith Holzman (1957), author (*The Complete Guide to Starting a Record Company*).
- Cathy Park Hong (1998), poet (*Translating Mo'um*).
- David Hoose (1969), Music Director of the Cantata Singers & Ensemble in Boston since 1982.
- Paul Horn (1952), jazz flutist.
- Teresa Heinz Housel (1994), communication professor, cultural critic, and journalist.
- Edward Everett Horton, actor (*The Front Page*, *Top Hat*, *Holiday*), voice actor (*Rocky & Bullwinkle*).  
{Left his junior year}
- Ralf Hotchkiss (1969), co-founder and current (2006) Whirlwind Chief Engineer of Whirlwind Wheelchair International, 1989 MacArthur Foundation Fellow.
- Noelle Howey (1994), author (*Dress Codes: Of Three Girlhoods—My Mother's, My Father's, and Mine*).
- Tim Hurson (1967), speaker, writer, creativity theorist, author of *Think Better: An Innovator's Guide to Productive Thinking*
- Robert Hutchins, educational philosopher, president (1929–1945) and chancellor (1945–1951) of the University of Chicago

## I

- Ernest Ingersoll, American naturalist.
- Bill Irwin (1973), actor in numerous plays and movies, including *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *Rachel Getting Married*, *The Goat*, or *Who is Sylvia?*, *My Blue Heaven*, and *Eight Men Out*, 1984 MacArthur Fellow, clown

## J

- Charlene Drew Jarvis (1962), president of Southeastern University.
- Lisa Jervis (1993), creator and editor of *Bitch* magazine.
- Robert Jervis (1962), International Relations scholar and Columbia University professor.
- Benjamin Joffe-Walt (1980), writer, CNN Africa Print Journalist of the Year
- Barbara Johnson (1969), literary critic, professor at Harvard University.
- Chris Johnson (1990), filmmaker, photographer, PBS – "Voyage of the Odyssey" / earthOCEAN.tv
- Martha N. Johnson (1974), former official in the Clinton administration and Administrator of the United States General Services Administration
- Vernon Johns (1919), African-American preacher, PhD University of Chicago, predecessor of Martin Luther King Jr. at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, widely hailed as the father of the civil rights movement.
- J. Richard Judson (1949), Rembrandt, Honthorst, and Terbrugghen scholar and Professor Emeritus at UNC and Smith Colleges.

## K

- Fred Kaplan (1976), journalist and *Slate* columnist.
- John Kander (1951), of the musical theater team Kander and Ebb (*Cabaret* and *Chicago*, among others).
- Maggie Keenan-Bolger (2006), actress and writer, wrote *From the Inside, Out*, co-founder of 4th Meal Productions, *The Will Rogers Follies* and *The Music Man* National tours
- James Kim (1992), Senior CNET editor and technology analyst. Died in a snowstorm in the Bear Camp Road region in Oregon in late 2006.
- Daniel Kinsey (1935), Olympic champion (110 m hurdles).
- Alex Klein (1987), Grammy-winning oboist.
- Robert Knopf (1983), author of *The Theater and Cinema of Buster Keaton*, and theater director.
- Jennifer Koh (1997), violinist (1994 International Tchaikovsky Competition winner).
- Anne O. Krueger (1953), award-winning economist, Deputy Director of the International Monetary Fund, and Oberlin trustee (1987–95).
- Robert Krulwich (1969), television and radio journalist (RadioLab on WNYC).
- H. H. Kung (1906), Chinese banker and Premier of the Republic of China (1938–39).
- Robert Kuttner (1965), co-founder and co-editor of *The American Prospect*, and one of five co-founders of the Economic Policy Institute.

## L

- John Mercer Langston (1849), early civil rights activist.
- Rex Lee (1990), actor, best known for his role on *Entourage*.
- Richard Lenski (1977), biologist and 1996 MacArthur Fellow.
- Edmonia Lewis, sculptor.



- Romulus Linney (1953, honorary degree 1994), playwright.
- Daniel London (1995), actor (*Minority Report* (film), *Old Joy*, *Patch Adams* (film)).
- Tom Lopez (1989), computer/new media composer.

## M

- John Edward Mack (1951), psychologist, author (*A Prince of Our Disorder*).
- David Maine (1985), novelist (*The Preservationist*).
- Michelle Malkin (1992), conservative columnist (*Los Angeles Daily News*, *The Seattle Times*), author (*In Defense of Internment*), political commentator.
- Rollo May (1930), psychologist, author.
- James McBride (1979), journalist (*Boston Globe*, *The Washington Post*), author (*The Color of Water*), musician.
- Catherine McBride-Chang 1989, Psychology. Prominent literacy researcher in the area of cross-cultural development of early literacy skills
- Megan McDonald (1981), writer of children's literature (*Judy Moody*, *The Great Pumpkin Switch*).
- John McEntire (1991), drummer (Tortoise).
- Charles Edward McGuire (1992), musicologist, professor of musicology at Oberlin College Conservatory of Music.
- Josh MacPhee (1996), political artist.
- George Herbert Mead (1883), philosopher, leading figure of American Pragmatism; his theories became the foundation of the symbolic interactionist school of sociology and social psychology.
- J. Hillis Miller (1948), literary critic (*The Ethics of Reading*, *On Literature*).
- Robert Millikan (1891), Nobel laureate (Physics, 1923) for measuring the charge of the electron.
- Jason Molina (1996), singer/songwriter with Songs: Ohia and Magnolia Electric Co.
- Eduardo Mondlane (1953), Mozambican political leader.
- Roger Montgomery (1949), Dean of Architecture, City Planning, and Landscape Architecture, University of California, Berkeley.
- Donn F. Morgan (1965), author (*The Making of Sages: Biblical Wisdom and Contemporary Culture*).
- Gregory Mosher (1971), Tony Award-winning director.
- Adam Moss (1979), editor of *New York* magazine.
- Thylas Moss (1981), poet, playwright, and 1996 MacArthur Fellow.

## N

- Amy X. Neuburg (1984), classical and pop singer.
- Josh Neufeld (1989), cartoonist (*Keyhole*) and graphic novelist (*A.D.: New Orleans After the Deluge*).
- Jim Newman (1955), founder of Dilexi Gallery and Other Minds New Music Festival, San Francisco.
- Thomas Newkirk (1970), author (*Misreading Masculinity: Boys, Literacy, and Popular Culture*).
- Thisbe Nissen (1994), novelist (*Out of the Girls Room and Into the Night*, *Osprey Island*)
- L. L. Nunn, Founder of Telluride Association and Deep Springs College.

## O

- Karen O, singer, Yeah Yeah Yeahs.
- Peggy Orenstein (1983), author (*Flux: Women on Sex, Work, Kids, Love, and Life in a Half-Changed World*).
- Rich Orloff (1973), playwright (*Big Boys*).
- Dzvinia Orłowski (1975), poet (*Except for One Obscene Brush Stroke*).

- Jena Osman (1985), poet (*The Character*).

## P

- Suzanne Paola (1980), poet (*Lives of The Saints*) and memoirist.
- Liz Phair (1989), singer/songwriter.
- Paul Pierson (1981), well known political scientist, professor of political science at the University of California, Berkeley.
- Sarah Pirtle (1971), children's musician and educator.
- John Wesley Powell, geologist and Civil War soldier.
- Jane Pratt (1984), creator of *Sassy* and *Jane* magazines.
- Nancy Priddy, singer-songwriter, perhaps best known for providing back-up vocals on Leonard Cohen's debut album, *Songs of Leonard Cohen*.
- Lia Purpura (1986), poet (*Stone Sky Lifting*), essayist (*Increase, On Looking*).

## Q

- Willard V. O. Quine (1930), philosopher and logician.

## R

- Stephanie Rawlings Blake (1992), Mayor of Baltimore, MD
- Marni Raab, singer/actress (Christine in *The Phantom of the Opera* on Broadway and the national tour)
- Daniel Radosh (1991), journalist, blogger, writing staff of *The Daily Show*.
- David Rees (1994), cartoonist (*My New Fighting Technique is Unstoppable, Get Your War On*).
- Edwin O. Reischauer (1931) Ambassador to Japan, 1961–1966
- Tim Riley (1983), author (*Tell Me Why: The Beatles: Album by Album, Song by Song, the Sixties and After*), NPR critic.
- Matthew Rinaldi (1969), civil rights worker, political organizer, author of "Olive Drab Rebels" 1974. Famous for political work in Mississippi with Oprah Winfrey's grandparents Elmore and Beatrice.
- Josh Ritter (1999), singer/songwriter.
- Anita Roberts (1964), molecular biologist (made pioneering observations of TGF beta).
- Elisabeth Robinson (1983), novelist (*The True and Outstanding Adventures of the Hunt Sisters*).
- Lucy Wainwright Roche (2003), musician, half-sister of Rufus Wainwright.
- Wilfred Roberts (1963), musician, principal bassoonist of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.
- Dick Rodstein (1971), award-winning narrator and voice actor.
- Martha Root (1890s), Hand of the Cause in the Bahá'í Faith.
- Carl T. Rowan (1947), journalist.
- S. J. Rozan (1972), novelist (*Reflecting the Sky*).
- John C. Russell (1985), playwright (*Stupid Kids*).
- Paul Russell (1978), novelist (*The Coming Storm*).
- Oren Rudavsky (1979), filmmaker (*Hiding and Seeking, And Baby Makes Two, The Treatment*).
- Seth Rudetsky (1988), Broadway actor, pianist, writer, radio host
- Michael Rudman (1960), award-winning theater director

## S

- Greg Saunier, drummer of San Francisco-based band, Deerhoof.

- Alex Scally (2004), guitarist in Beach House.
- William Sanders Scarborough (1875), classical scholar.
- Kathleen Schalch, general assignment reporter on NPR's national desk.
- David Schlesinger (1982) Editor-in-Chief, Reuters news, Thomson Reuters.
- Thom Schramm, (1992), poet and editor of *Living in Storms*.
- Kathy Lou Schultz (1990), poet (*Some Vague Wife*).
- William F. Schulz (1971), former Executive Director of Amnesty International USA.
- Julie Schumacher (1981), novelist (*Grass Angel*, *The Body Is Water*).
- Robert E. Scott, (1965), law professor and notable contract law scholar at Columbia Law School, Board of Visitors at College of William and Mary
- Elizabeth Searle (1983), novelist (*Celebrities in Disguise*).
- Stephen W. Sears (1954), author (*Gettysburg*).
- John S. Service (1931) Foreign Service Officer, China Hand
- Vijay Seshadri (1974), poet (*The Long Meadow*).
- Tanya Shaffer (1988), author (*Somebody's Heart is Burning: A Woman Wanderer in Africa*).
- Sonia Shah (1993), investigative journalist.
- Matthew Sharpe (1984), novelist (*Nothing is Terrible*, *The Sleeping Father*, *Jamestown*).
- Gary Shteyngart (1995), novelist (*The Russian Debutante's Handbook*, *Absurdistan : A Novel*).
- Arthur Simone (1999), actor (*Jigsaw*), improv comedian (*Coldtowne*), painter.
- George Smith (1987), ESPN investigative reporter, Division III Track & Field All-American.
- Lorenzo Snow, Mormon prophet, fifth president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
- Donald J. Sobol (1948), author of Encyclopedia Brown series.
- Michael J. Sorrell (1988), president, Paul Quinn College in Dallas, Texas
- Robert Spano (1983), music director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.
- Alix Spiegel NPR reporter, covering social policy; founding producer of *This American Life*; writer for the *New Yorker* and the *New York Times*.
- Roger Wolcott Sperry (1935 and 1937), neurobiologist and Nobel laureate (Medicine, 1981).
- Larry Squire (1963), Distinguished Professor of Neuroscience and Psychology at University of California, San Diego, a world expert in the field of memory, Past President of the Society for Neuroscience.
- Matthew Stadler (1981), novelist (*Allan Stein*).
- Sue Standing (1974), poet (*False Horizon*).
- Durham Stevens (1871), assassinated diplomat to Japan.
- Brooke Stevens (1980), author (*Tattoo Girl*).
- William Grant Still, composer.
- Lucy Stone (1847), feminist and abolitionist.
- Anna Louise Strong (1905), activist and author.
- Dick Sudhalter (1960), jazz musician and critic
- Jon Swan (1950), playwright, poet, librettist, and journalist.
- Larry Sweeney (2003), professional wrestler.

## T

- Richard Tatum (1988), award-nominated stage and voice actor, Associate Artistic Director of the Ark Theatre Company[1] (<http://www.arktheatre.org>) , Los Angeles.
- Julie Taymor (1974), Emmy and Tony award-winning theatrical and cinematic director, filmmaker, screenwriter (*Frida*, *Titus*, Broadway's *The Lion King*, *Across the Universe*).
- Jon Theodore (1996), Ex-drummer for the Mars Volta.
- Michael Teig (1990), poet (*Big Back Yard*).
- Jim Tucker (1981), translator.
- Jen Trynin (1986), rock singer/songwriter.

## U

- Peter Ullian (1988), playwright (*The Flight of the Lawnchair Man*).
- Emory Upton studied at Oberlin for two years before being admitted to West Point in 1856.

## V

- Dominique H. Vasseur (1973) art historian, curator of European art, author of *Edna Boies Hopkins Color Woodblock Prints*.
- John Vinocur (1961), senior correspondent for *The International Herald Tribune*.

## W

- George Walker (1941, honorary degree 1983), composer, Pulitzer Prize for Music 1996.
- Moses Fleetwood Walker (1881), first African-American player in baseball's major leagues.
- Geoffrey Ward (1962), author (*The West: An Illustrated History* and *The War: An Intimate History, 1941-1945*).
- Bruce Weigl (1973), poet (*Archeology of the Circle: New and Selected Poems*).
- Paul Wennberg (1985), chemist and 2002 MacArthur Fellow.
- William Drake Westervelt (1871 and 1874; honorary degree 1926), Hawaiian historical writer.
- C. Martin Wilbur (1931), historian, Sinologist.
- Thornton Wilder, novelist (*The Bridge of San Luis Rey*), playwright (*Our Town*).
- Harrison A. Williams (1941), U.S. senator and congressman from New Jersey.
- Warren Wilson, namesake of Warren Wilson College in North Carolina.
- Jonah Winter (1984), poet (*Amnesia*).
- Christopher Robin "Kit" Woolsey (1964), bridge internationalist and writer (*Matchpoints*) and backgammon expert.
- John Wray (1993), novelist (*The Right Hand of Sleep, Lowboy*).
- Franz Wright (1977), Pulitzer prize winning poet (*Ill Lit: Selected & New Poems, Walking to Martha's Vineyard*).
- Katharine Wright, sister of Orville and Wilbur Wright.
- Michelle Wright (1990), author (*Becoming Black: Creating Identity in the African Diaspora*).
- Willard Warch (1931), Oberlin professor of music and theory.

## Z

- James Zemaits (1990), head of Sotheby's 20th-century-design department.
- David Zinman (1958), music director of the Zürich Tonhalle Orchestra and the Aspen Music Festival and School.
- Stephen Zunes (1979), University of San Francisco professor of politics, and political activist.

**Contents:**    A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W Z

## References

- <sup>^</sup> [http://www.cceia.org/people/data/noah\_bopp.html Carnegie Council

2. ^ <http://www.asianamericansonbroadway.com/artistsMain.html>
3. ^ Hevesi, Dennis "Ralph F. Hirschmann, Leading Scientist on Early Enzyme Research, Dies at 87" (<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/19/science/19hirschmann.html>) , *The New York Times*, July 18, 2009. Accessed July 19, 2009.

Retrieved from "[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Oberlin\\_College\\_alumni](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Oberlin_College_alumni)"

Categories: Oberlin College alumni | Lists of people by university in the United States

---

- This page was last modified on 29 March 2010 at 00:51.
  - Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. See Terms of Use for details.
- Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.