

THINK ONE PERSON  
CAN CHANGE THE WORLD?  
SO DO WE.



OBERLIN

# HOW WILL YOU CHANGE THE WORLD?

From its founding in 1833, Oberlin College has been at the forefront of history. In 1835, we became **the first college in America to adopt a policy to admit students of color**. In 1841 we were the **first to award degrees to women** in a coeducational program. By 1900, Oberlin had produced one-third of all African American college graduates in the United States.

Our tradition of firsts shapes campus life today. Our students and faculty apply nanotechnology to killing cancer cells; compose original plays and music; and devise new ways to sustain the environment. **We are 2,900 students** who engage our determination, intellect, and creativity to better understand the world around us. **We embrace the idea that one person can change the world.**

Oberlin's learning environment is like no other, combining a **top-ranked liberal arts college**, a **prestigious music conservatory**, and one of the finest **academic art museums** in the country—on a single campus. And while Oberlin is highly selective, the student body is down-to-earth and noncompetitive.

## QUICK FACTS

Oberlin College comprises two main divisions: a distinctive College of Arts and Sciences and a world-renowned Conservatory of Music.

## LOCATION

Oberlin, Ohio (population 8,300) is 35 miles southwest of Cleveland and less than 30 minutes from Cleveland Hopkins International Airport.

## DEGREES OFFERED

Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music, and a Double Degree, which leads to both BA and BM degrees within five years or, in some cases, as few as 8 or 9 semesters. Oberlin also offers artist diplomas and master's degrees in music and teaching music.

## FINANCIAL AID

More than \$60 million in need-based grants and scholarships awarded annually; average aid package of \$37,500 per recipient, with approximately 80 percent coming from grants. Eighty-five percent of Oberlin students receive some form of aid.

## FACULTY

Student-to-faculty ratio is 11:1 (Arts and Sciences), 6:1 (Conservatory); 73 percent of classes have fewer than 20 students.

## STUDY ABROAD

Three-quarters of Oberlin students spend time abroad for study or service during their college years.

## STUDENT LIFE

22 intercollegiate sports; 175 student organizations; 500 concerts and recitals, several film series, national speakers, about 40 theater and dance productions, and two operas annually; one of the top 5 college art museums in the nation.

## ATHLETIC FACILITIES

Sports—whether varsity athletics, club sports, intramural, or recreational—are a valuable part of the Oberlin experience. In addition to a state-of-the-art track and field and soccer facility, we have just built a multi-sport complex and have plans for a health and wellness center with a fully renovated pool, fitness area, and café. Facilities are currently equipped with full cardio and weight machines, racquetball and squash courts, indoor track and tennis courts, and a 25-foot climbing wall.





## WE CHALLENGE CONVENTION.

Our students and faculty remain ahead of the curve, whether working for environmental sustainability or challenging conventional thought in music, science, the arts, or humanities. And we are just as committed to changing the world for the better. For example, [Rachel Manning](#) (*above*), a sociology and East Asian studies double major from Princeton, N.J., won a Udall Scholarship for her Mountain Garden Initiative in the Kentucky Appalachian region that addresses food access issues and promotes healthful eating. Food, by the way, is an important part of the Oberlin culture: 40 percent of food served in the dining halls comes from local sources, including a nearby organic farm where students work. And one in five Oberlin students choose to live or eat in a co-op; others live in one of nine program houses that offer immersion experiences such as African or Asian culture or Russian or Spanish language.



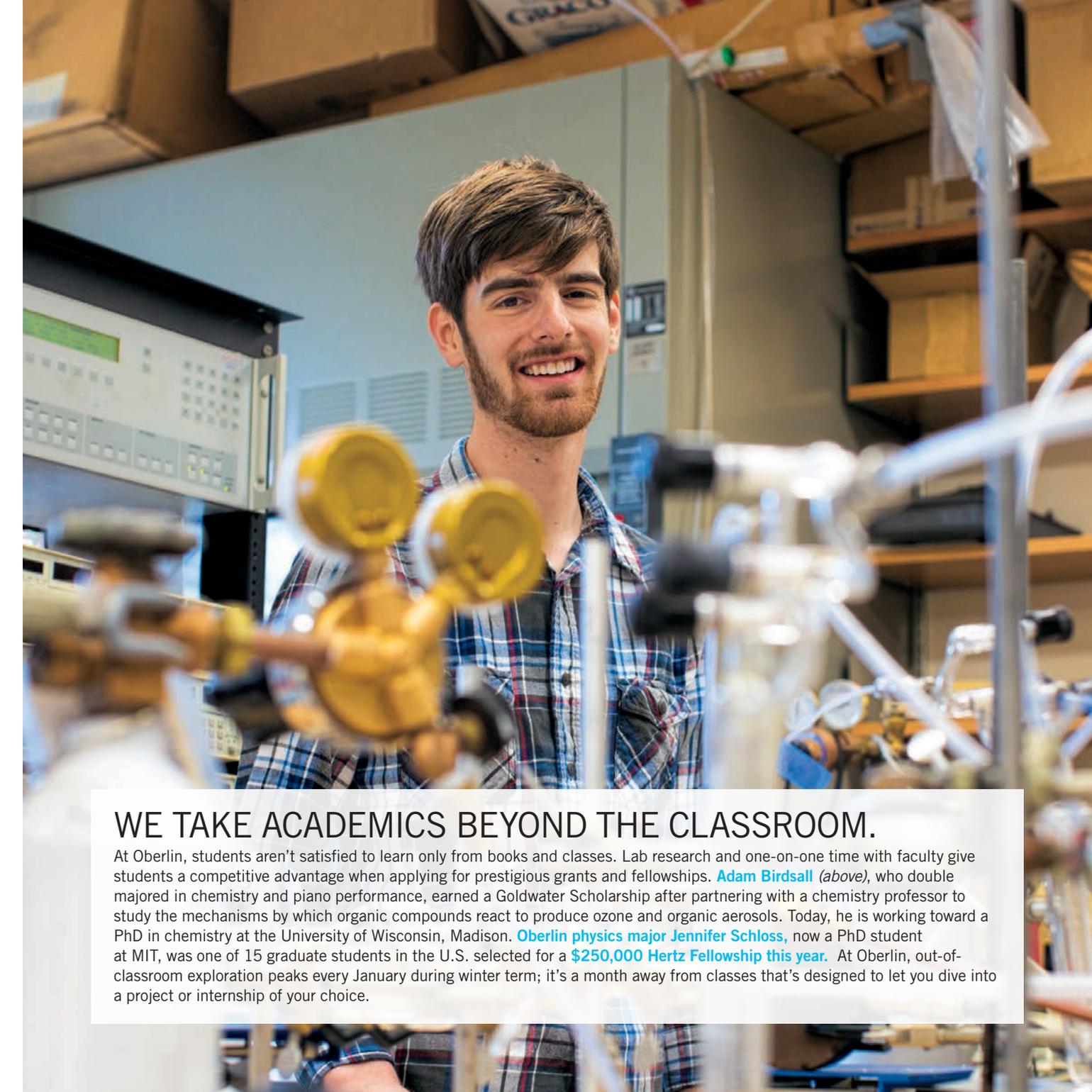
## WE ENCOURAGE ARTISTIC RISK-TAKING.

Students of all majors thrive in Oberlin's ever-present live music and arts scene. The Conservatory of Music sponsors nearly 500 concerts annually, and our campus disco hosts pop, rock, folk, and rap groups all year long. Our one-of-a-kind art rental program lets students borrow original works of art each semester for \$5 from the Allen Memorial Art Museum—home to paintings by Monet, Picasso, and Warhol. A large number of Oberlin graduates channel their passion to become prominent in their chosen field—but always with a higher purpose in mind. Musicians [Claire Chase '01](#) and [Jeremy Denk '90](#), for example, are the ninth and tenth Oberlin graduates to win a [MacArthur "genius" grant](#). Studio art major and Boston native [Matthew Gallagher](#) (*above*) was chosen from his peers as the Grand Award winner of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio [Award for Excellence in the Visual Arts](#)—symbolizing his transition from student artist to professional artist.



## WE PUT OUR BELIEFS INTO ACTION.

At Oberlin, we don't shrink from difficult issues—we use our knowledge to make a difference. For example, a project called [Kenya Reads](#), led by students Ty Diringer, Peterson Njamunge, and Shauna Godfrey (*above*), supplies textbooks and created the first-ever interschool library for students in an impoverished area of Kenya. Also, in a groundbreaking collaboration between Oberlin College and the city, students and faculty launched the [BioRegional Dashboard](#), a user-friendly way to provide feedback on energy and water usage across the community — and ultimately to foster more environmentally engaged citizens. Finally, 63 percent of Oberlin students complete 100,000 hours of community service each year; in the [America Reads](#) and [America Counts](#) programs, for example, students offer one-on-one tutoring in the local schools. Students also packaged [10,000 meals for shipment to Haiti](#) through the organization Stop Hunger Now.



## WE TAKE ACADEMICS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM.

At Oberlin, students aren't satisfied to learn only from books and classes. Lab research and one-on-one time with faculty give students a competitive advantage when applying for prestigious grants and fellowships. [Adam Birdsall](#) (*above*), who double majored in chemistry and piano performance, earned a Goldwater Scholarship after partnering with a chemistry professor to study the mechanisms by which organic compounds react to produce ozone and organic aerosols. Today, he is working toward a PhD in chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. [Oberlin physics major Jennifer Schloss](#), now a PhD student at MIT, was one of 15 graduate students in the U.S. selected for a [\\$250,000 Hertz Fellowship this year](#). At Oberlin, out-of-classroom exploration peaks every January during winter term; it's a month away from classes that's designed to let you dive into a project or internship of your choice.

# CHOOSE FROM MORE THAN 50 MAJORS, OR CREATE YOUR OWN.

## MAJORS

Africana studies  
Anthropology  
Archaeological studies  
Art  
(history, studio, and  
visual arts)  
Biochemistry  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Cinema studies  
Classics  
(Greek, Latin, and classical  
civilization)  
Comparative American  
studies  
Comparative literature  
Computer science  
Creative writing

Dance  
East Asian studies  
Economics  
3/2 Engineering  
English  
Environmental studies  
French  
Gender, sexuality, and  
feminist studies  
Geology  
German language and  
literature  
German studies  
Hispanic studies  
History  
Individual major  
Interdisciplinary  
performance  
Jewish studies

Latin American studies  
Law and society  
Mathematics  
Musical studies  
Neuroscience  
Philosophy  
Physics  
Politics  
Pre-professional  
(pre-medicine and  
pre-law advising)  
Psychology  
Religion  
Russian language, literature  
and culture  
Russian and East European  
studies  
Sociology  
Theater

## CONSERVATORY MAJORS

Performance  
(20 private study areas)  
Historical performance  
Jazz studies  
(composition or  
performance)  
Composition  
Technology in Music  
and the Related Arts  
(TIMARA)  
Music history  
Music theory  
(minor only)  
Ethnomusicology  
(minor only)  
Piano pedagogy  
(minor only)  
Individual major

## CONSERVATORY GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Master of Music  
(conducting,  
contemporary  
chamber music,  
and performance  
on historical  
instruments)  
Master of Music  
Teaching

## WHERE WE COME FROM

We enroll about 2,900 students—2,400 in the College of Arts and Sciences and 570 in the Conservatory of Music, including 200 in the Double-Degree Program. **Our student body includes 7% in-state, 85% out-of-state, 8% from abroad, and 22% people of color.**

## CONNECT WITH US

Office of Admissions  
College of Arts and Sciences  
101 North Professor St.  
Oberlin, OH 44074-1075  
[T] 800.622.OBIE (6243)  
or 440.775.8411  
[F] 440.775.6905  
college.admissions  
@oberlin.edu  
oberlin.edu/admissions

Office of Admissions  
Conservatory of Music  
39 West College St.  
Oberlin, OH 44074-1576  
[T] 440.775.8413  
[F] 440.775.6972  
conservatory.admissions  
@oberlin.edu  
oberlin.edu/  
conservatory/admissions/

**OBERLIN**

COLLEGE  CONSERVATORY

Oberlin College admits students of any race, religion, age, sex, color, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and national or ethnic origin.