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Explore, Design, Create at OHC Summer Camps for Kids

Kids can discover a lot about themselves and the world around them this summer at the Oberlin Heritage Center’s week-long day camps featuring an imaginative mix of learning and fun. Camps welcome boys and girls ages 8-13 and are designed to stimulate children’s creativity and allow them to delve into history, architecture, art, crafts, games and the tastes and sounds of diverse cultures. The Heritage Center’s summer camp program is a recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Ohio Local History Alliance, an association of local history museums and historical societies from throughout the state.

The Heritage Center’s camps are led by experienced teachers assisted by college student interns and community volunteers. This summer’s line-up includes:

**Oberlin Changed the World** offered July 27-31, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ordinary Oberlinians did some pretty extraordinary things, even if it sometimes meant breaking the law! Together we’ll explore Oberlin’s history related to anti-slavery, women’s rights, scientific discovery, and healthy living. But we’re not just going to read or hear about history. We’re going to go where it happened – in historic buildings, parks, cemeteries, and more. We’ll play games, listen to music, and try activities and food from Oberlin’s past. Each participant will also receive an “Oberlin: Origins and Onward” history comic book.

**Architecture Camp** will be offered August 3-7, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00. Children will love learning the basics of architecture in this hands-on camp. Together we will tour Oberlin architecture, explore building materials, try construction challenges, sketch designs, construct mini buildings, and envision buildings of the future. Scouts attending this camp will also complete some requirements for Architecture badges.

**Artists in Their Time** takes place August 10-14, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Learn about master artists from world history and how their life and culture influenced their artwork. Then make art inspired by them! Explore Georgia O’Keefe’s rugged Southwest and make a watercolor. Learn about Rembrandt’s Netherlands and create a self-portrait (the original selfie!). Throughout the week, students will keep a sketchbook journal and then finish with a “gallery” showing.

All camp sessions are held at the air-conditioned Oberlin Depot at 240 South Main Street, with some walking field trips nearby. The cost of each camp is $110 per child ($100 for children or grandchildren of OHC members). Anyone registering prior to June 20 may take an additional $5 discount on each camp. Partial scholarships may be available to those who qualify for schools’ free lunch programs.

More information, including online registration, can be found at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or by contacting Liz Schultz, Museum Education and Tour Coordinator, at (440) 774-1700 or tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org.

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