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Oberlin's Response to World War I

The Oberlin Heritage Center launches its 2016 schedule of free community programming with a newly researched and illustrated presentation that focuses on the area's early 20th century history. **Great City, Great War: Oberlin's Response to World War I** brings to light many important, intriguing and inspiring Oberlin connections to events that occurred during the "Great War" (1914-1918). The program will be offered to the public twice: **Saturday, January 16 at 2 p.m. at the Oberlin Public Library** (65 South Main Street) and again on **Wednesday, January 20 at 7:15 p.m.** at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive).

By April 1917, when the United States entered World War I, the people of Oberlin had long worried about the effects of growing global turmoil. Town and college alike had aided relief efforts to the Allied Powers since the war's beginning in 1914, and when duty called, they did not hesitate to send their finest young men and women to the battlefield. AmeriCorps/Ohio History Service Corps member **Mary Manning** traces the experiences of Oberlinians who went to war, examines how questions of race and gender influenced their military service, and describes how those who stayed at home supported the continuing war effort.

Mary Manning has a BA in Art History and French from Case Western Reserve University and a MA and Ph.D. in Art History from Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ). Prior to joining the AmeriCorps team this past autumn, she worked as an intern in a number of art museum settings including the Cleveland Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, and the Smithsonian American Art Museum. As an AmeriCorps/Ohio History Service Corps member, Manning is based at the Oberlin Heritage Center where she devotes part of her time and effort, while the remainder is dedicated to a number of other local history organizations across the region. Manning presently is involved in several different local museum projects relating to programming, recruiting volunteers and maintaining collections. Her term of service in Oberlin runs through August 2016.

For more information about this upcoming event or other activities of the Oberlin Heritage Center, please visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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