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Photo available upon request

Discovering Dave – 19th Century Artist, Poet, Slave

The Oberlin Heritage Center welcomes **George Wingard**, Program Coordinator at the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program, in a special community program co-sponsored with the Oberlin College Department of History on Tuesday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m. *Discovering Dave* is the story of an enslaved potter in early-19th century South Carolina who acquired the rare skills of reading and writing. Wingard co-produced the award-winning 2013 documentary *Discovering Dave – Spirit Captured in Clay* which pieces together Dave’s remarkable life and artistry. Following the 49-minute film, there will be an opportunity for asking questions and for examining one of Dave’s original pots. The program is free and open to the public and takes place at Hallock Auditorium in the Adam Joseph Lewis Center for Environmental Studies (122 Elm Street). Parking is available in nearby lots on either side of West College Street.

George Wingard joined the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program (SRARP) staff in 1993 with a B.A. in Humanities from the University of South Carolina. He is now the Program Coordinator and oversees the budgets, personnel and daily administration. The SRARP is a division of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology which is a department of the University of South Carolina. The SRARP is located on the Savannah River Site, a Department of Energy facility straddling Aiken, Barnwell, and Allendale counties.

Wingard’s research interests include the historic towns and remnant cemeteries located on the Savannah River Site, eighteenth and nineteenth century stoneware of the Central Savannah River Area, and the mill village of Graniteville, founded by textile giant William Gregg. He is currently co-producing a documentary, “Reconstructing Hawthorne,” about this former Savannah River Site community and two of its last living residents visiting their former home place.

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

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