



73½ South Professor Street  
P.O. Box 455  
Oberlin, OH 44074-0455  
Phone: 440-774-1700  
Website: [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org)  
E-mail: [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org)

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Contact: Liz Schultz, Executive Director, at [director@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:director@oberlinheritage.org) or (440) 774-1700

*Photo available upon request*

## *Discovering Dave*

The Oberlin Heritage Center welcomes **George Wingard**, Program Coordinator at the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program, in a special community event on Thursday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Oberlin Public Library (65 South Main Street). *Discovering Dave* is a film that tells the story of an enslaved potter in early-19<sup>th</sup> 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, which is free and open to the public, is an encore presentation of the film shown during a previous visit that Wingard made to Oberlin in 2016. The current visit is funded in part by a grant from the Oberlin Schools Endowment Fund, and also will include several educational programs in the Oberlin City Schools about archaeology and Dave the Potter.

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. A second film co-produced by Wingard in 2016 titled “Reconstructing Hawthorne” traced the history of a 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](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

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