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## Ring in the Holiday Season at the Monroe House

### December Mini-Exhibit: Toys & Amusements from the Past



The Oberlin Heritage Center celebrates the season of "*Wide-Eyed Wonder*" with a new mini-exhibit featuring children's toys and games from days gone by. Visitors will see some of the more entertaining objects from the OHC collection, and a few even offer hands-on experiences for all ages to enjoy! Combine the exhibit with a 30-minute Sneak Peek/Oberlin Origins tour between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays throughout the month.

**Opening Day Only:** On **Saturday, December 2**, Collections Manager **Maren McKee** offers guided tours of just the exhibit. Twenty-minute tours start on the hour 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Reservations encouraged.

The exhibit and Sneak Peek tours are free to OHC members, college students and children; \$3 for non-members. Make a reservation or find out more at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

## Steer the Ship!

### YOU are Invited to Take Part in Planning for OHC's Future



How can the Oberlin Heritage Center better serve community members, educators, history researchers and visitors? We want your suggestions! OHC members and non-members, youth and adults, long-time supporters and first-time participants, Oberlinians and regional residents -- are invited to attend a public meeting to share thoughts and ideas.

Choose from 3 identical meetings that best fits your schedule:

- **Monday, January 15 from 4-5:15 p.m.** at Kendal at Oberlin's Education Center (600 Kendal Drive)
- **Thursday, January 18 from 5:30-6:45 p.m.** at House of Zion Fellowship Hall (81 Locust Street)
- **Saturday, January 20 from 2-3:15 p.m.** in the Oberlin Public Library's Community Room (65 South Main Street)

## Steer the Ship continued

There will be snacks and refreshments served at each session. Those who plan to attend can send a quick e-mail to Liz Schultz ([liz.schultz@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:liz.schultz@oberlinheritage.org)) or call her at (440) 774-1700 and indicate which date you prefer.

## Introduction to Oral History Interviews

**Free Mini-Workshop Saturday, January 20 from 2-4 p.m.**



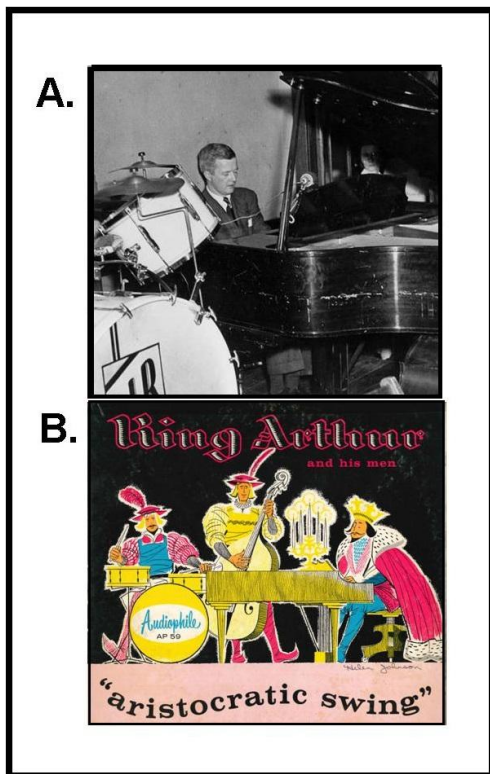
Volunteers of the Oberlin Oral History Project will host a free training/refresher course at the Oberlin Public Library (65 South Main Street) on how to prepare for and conduct interviews. If you are interested in getting involved in this ongoing project, or just want to learn about the basics of oral history for your own projects, please join us!

RSVP to committee chair **Carl Jacobson**

([obicarlo@gmail.com](mailto:obicarlo@gmail.com)) so that sufficient handouts can be prepared.

## The A Side and B Side of Arthur Dann

**Tuesday, January 23 at 7:15 p.m.**



Local historian **Sid Comings** presents an illustrated program about Arthur Dann (1913-1979), a professor of classical piano for over 40 years at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, who also performed jazz as "King Arthur and His Men." This multifaceted musician was on the one hand a recognized expert on the music of Frederic Chopin, while on the other, his gift for improvisation made him a popular performer in the world of jazz (an area relatively untouched by classical musicians of his era). Come to this lively presentation and listen to both sides of the maestro! The event will be held in Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive) and is free and open to the public. Learn more at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

*Side "A" photo of Arthur Dann courtesy of Oberlin College Archives.*

## Community Trivia Night Wrap-Up

### Ben Franklin's "Lightning Rods" Bolt to Top as Champs!



The Heritage Center's first-ever Community Trivia Night welcomed 65 enthusiastic players last month for a fun evening of challenges and camaraderie. **Super Dave Andrews**, morning deejay on **WOBL** (1320 AM and 107.7 FM) emceed the event and lived up to his (SUPER) name as he kept the show moving along through multiple rounds of questions and answers. The competition ended with first-place honors going to Oberlin's **Ben Franklin Store**, whose 9-member team, calling themselves "The Lightning Rods," electrified the room with their vast knowledge of trivia! Second place went to the multi-generational team of staff and families from the Allen Memorial Art Museum, and third went to a great group of Schubert/Flood family members competing under the clever moniker, "Floobert." The top three teams' names will be immortalized on a permanent Trivia Night plaque displayed at the Oberlin Heritage Center.

Special thanks to the event's premiere sponsor **Mercy Health/Mercy Regional Medical Center** and co-sponsors **Herrick Jewelry** of Oberlin and **Northwest Savings Bank**. A nod of appreciation also goes to **Lorenzo's Pizza** (Oberlin) for providing plenty of specialty pizzas for all to enjoy. Prizes were donated by **A David Anthony Salon** (Lorain), **Adeva Salon & Spa** (Oberlin), **The Hotel at Oberlin**, **The Main Street Barber** (Oberlin), **Mary Nelson** (Mary Kay Consultant, Oberlin), **Oberlin Business Partnership**, and **Subway of Oberlin**. The event raised more than \$1,000.00 for the Heritage Center's ongoing programs and services. We'll do it again next year so start planning your teams -- and you, too, could find your name on the champions' plaque in the future!

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*Photo collage: Top: The Fellowship Hall of The First Church in Oberlin, U.C.C. offered a welcoming venue for OHC's Community Trivia Night. Middle: Brandon County, a member of Oberlin's Ben Franklin team sports one of the "Trivia Champ" buttons presented with top honors (photo courtesy of Janis County). Bottom: The team of (left to right) Josh and Kaitlyn Donaldson, Rhonda Kunselman, Linda Gates, Mary Worthington and Tom Hinders may not have finished in the top three, but their award-winning smiles attest that a good time was had by all!*

# Who Will be OHC's Next Community Award Recipients?

Nominations Due by February 1, 2018



Consider nominating an outstanding individual, organization, or business whose accomplishments in serving the community are in keeping with the Heritage Center's mission to preserve and share Oberlin's unique heritage and to make our community a better place to live, learn, work and visit. Award categories include:

- **Community Historian** - *an individual who adds to the knowledge of the history of Oberlin through research, writing, and/or educating others*
- **Heritage Guardian** - *an individual/group dedicated to the ideals of conservation and preservation and who serves our community as a leader in preserving history, historical records, or historic buildings*
- **Oberlin Heritage Center Volunteer of the Year** - *a volunteer who makes extraordinary contributions of time and talent to the Oberlin Heritage Center*
- **History Teacher of the Year** - *an area educator who inspires students to learn more about history*
- **Community Teacher of the Year** - *an area educator who inspires students to get involved in community service*
- **Keep Oberlin Beautiful Award** - *an individual, business or organization that helps to enhance the aesthetics and appearance of the community*
- **Business Leader Service Award** - *a business that provided exceptional support to the Heritage Center in contributions or contributed services, and*
- **Youth Community Service Award** - *a young person who makes extraordinary contributions in time and talent to the Heritage Center.*

Community Award recipients will be honored at the Heritage Center's Annual Meeting on April 4, 2018. Download a nomination form at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or call (440) 774-1700 for more information.

## Save These Dates in 2018!

Full Events Calendar will be Sent to OHC Members Early in New Year

2018											
January			February			March			April		
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31											
May			June			July			August		
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31											
September			October			November			December		
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31											

Heritage Center staff members are busy planning a diverse line-up of programs, exhibits, workshops and more in 2018. Mark your calendars now to join us!

**February 11 at 2:00 p.m. African American Business Owners of Oberlin** presented by the Oberlin Heritage Center's Museum Education & Tour Coordinator **Amanda Manahan**. This free public program takes place at the House of Zion

Fellowship Hall (81 Locust Street, Oberlin).

## Save These Dates continued

**February 17- March 18**, various times and locations. *Courage and Compassion: Our Shared Story of the Japanese American WWII Experience* Special Exhibit and Programs. The Oberlin College Department of History has arranged for this national traveling exhibit to come to Oberlin where it can be viewed in the Richard D. Baron '64 Art Gallery (65 East College St., Suite 5) inside the Dewey Ward '34 Alumni Center. The Oberlin Heritage Center is a supportive partner of the exhibit series. More details coming in January!

**March 14 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. *Paintings Conservation Seminar*.** The Heritage Center, in collaboration with The Nord Family Foundation, ICA (Intermuseum Conservation Association), and the Allen Memorial Art Museum, hosts this program for small history and arts organizations in Lorain County. For details, contact AmeriCorps member **Sara Fisher** at [Sara.Fisher@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:Sara.Fisher@oberlinheritage.org) or (440) 774-1700.

**March 15 at 7:15 p.m. *Trail Magic: The Grandma Gatewood Story*.** Discover the amazing story of 67-year-old Emma "Grandma" Gatewood, mother of 11, who became the first woman to solo thru-hike the Appalachian Trail in 1955. This free, public program in Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive) features a 50-minute documentary film and a Q&A with film producer Bette Lou Higgins of Eden Valley Enterprises. The event is a collaboration between OHC and Kendal's Third Thursday program series.

## **Looking Ahead: Spring Kids' Camps**

**What a Wonderful World! March 27-29 or April 3-5**



Boys and girls ages 8-13 will enjoy this exciting and breathtaking exploration of the many wonders of earth! Campers will learn about the seven wonders of the ancient world, the "new" seven, and some of nature's unique marvels. Discover how people throughout history created immense and architecturally impressive structures, the science behind geological formations, and why cultures create – all through engaging, hands-on activities. Each three-day camp runs from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is held at the Oberlin Depot (240 South Main Street) with some walking field trips to places nearby. Camps are led by the Heritage Center's Museum Education and Tour Coordinator **Amanda Manahan** and AmeriCorps member **Sara Fisher** with assistance from adult volunteers and college student interns. Fee is \$70 per child; \$60 for children or grandchildren of OHC members. All participants registering before March 9 also receive an early-bird discount. Partial scholarships may be available to those who qualify for schools' free lunch programs. Contact Amanda at

[tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org) or call (440) 774-1700. Reservations may be made online at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org).

## Annual Fund Provides for Museum Operations and “Life Happens” Surprises

### Your Gift of Any Size is Needed Now More than Ever!

Annual Fund gifts cover regular operating expenses such as utility bills, staff salaries, and office supplies, yet did you know that these important contributions also help with unexpected costs when equipment fails, nature strikes, or the unforeseen happens? Such was the case last month when the Heritage Center's server broke down suddenly and staff found themselves without Internet or e-mail service in the days leading up to Oberlin College's Parents Weekend when online tour reservations are at their height! In this digital age, a crash like that can be a big set-back to any organization in terms of both time and money. Fortunately, repairs were made by the time visitors started arriving in town, and tours operated in full swing throughout the weekend. However, the \$800 repair bill was a big one to swallow! (We apologize if you tried to contact us during that time and we didn't respond. Some e-mails may have been lost after service was restored.)

Your gift to the Annual Fund goes far to ensure that the Heritage Center has the funds needed to operate effectively and can recover from life's big and little surprises. To date, the Annual Fund has raised \$25,800 from 232 donors, on the way to the 2017 goal of \$43,000. Every gift is wisely used and greatly appreciated. Your support helps OHC prepare for the unpredictable and remain focused on collecting, preserving and sharing Oberlin's unique and powerful history. Donate today at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) by clicking on the “Make a Gift” tab at the top of the home page.

## Heritage Center Values Openness and Accountability

Business Manager **Bethany Hobbs** recently posted to the OHC website the organization's **Form 990 for fiscal year 2016**. The 990 contains information about the Oberlin Heritage Center's finances, governance, and program and service offerings. Tax-exempt nonprofit organizations are required annually to submit Form 990 to the IRS as well as complete the charitable registration with the Ohio Attorney General's office. Review the document at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) and click on the “About” tab, then scroll down to “IRS 990 Form” on the pull down menu.

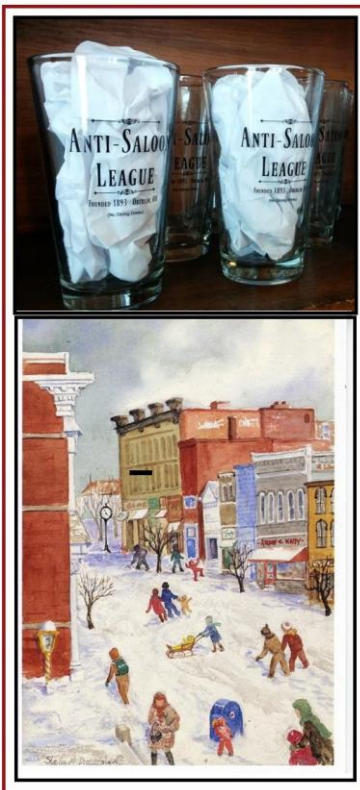
## Holiday Hours at the Heritage Center



The Oberlin Heritage Center will be closed December 24-26 and December 31-January 1. The office and Museum Store are open usual hours and days during the rest of the holidays. 90-minute Upstairs/Downstairs guided tours are offered Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Sneak Peek/Oberlin Origins tours (a 30-minute introduction that "hits the highlights") are offered during regular office hours, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Walk-ins welcome!

## Ho-Ho-Ho! OHC's Museum Store has Gifts for All!

### Shop Online or Stop by the Heritage Center's Monroe House



Who wouldn't love to see an Oberlin/Anti-Saloon League set of tumblers under the tree this holiday season?!! And who wouldn't be absolutely delighted to receive a hand-written greeting on one of these charming note cards featuring the artistry of Oberlin artist Stella Dickerman (1908-1991)? The Museum Store is well-stocked with these only-in-Oberlin beverage glasses and stationery, plus Oberlin-themed books, afghans, playing cards and more for each person on your holiday gift list. For the person who has everything -- consider an inscribed century-old brick placed along the Heritage Center walkway to salute a friendship, applaud a milestone, create a lasting legacy for a loved one, or simply give the gift where one-size-fits-all and never needs to be returned! For a gift that keeps giving all year round, how about an OHC membership, which offers free tours, history walks, discounts on events for which there is a fee, savings in the Museum Store, *PLUS* benefits at more than 300 history organizations nationwide through the Time Travelers Network.

For more information, visit the online Museum Store at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) (and click on the "Shop" tab on the home page's main menu bar) or call (440) 774-1700.

### Also of Interest

Oberlin's Indigenous Peoples' Day Committee hosts Part Two of the film series *We Shall Remain: America through Native Eyes*. The film "**Tecumseh's Vision**" tells the story of the (Ohio) Shawnee leader Tecumseh and his brother, Tenskwatawa, known as the Prophet. In the years following the American Revolution, the Prophet led a spiritual revival movement that drew thousands of followers from Native American tribes across the Midwest. His brother, Tecumseh, in the course of his brief and meteoric career, became one of the greatest Native American leaders of all time, orchestrating the most ambitious pan-Indian political and military alliance ever mounted on the North American continent. After his death he would live on as a potent symbol of Native pride and pan-Indian identity. This presentation takes place on **Monday, December 4 at 5:45 p.m.** at the Oberlin Public Library (65 South Main Street).

