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## Lessons from the Past – Early Education in Ohio

If you think the education system was simple back in the “good old days,” think again. **Liz Schultz**, the Oberlin Heritage Center’s Museum Education and Tour Coordinator, presents a look back at early schooling as Oberlin and other communities throughout Ohio were being settled by westward-moving pioneers. The illustrated program on **Wednesday, June 12 at 7:15 p.m.** covers the “ABC’s” of early education including schoolhouse architecture, typical subjects, teacher qualifications, state-wide initiatives and schoolyard diversions. The event takes place at Kendal at Oberlin’s Heiser Auditorium and is free and open to the public.

Providing opportunity for education was a priority since Ohio’s days in the Northwest Territory, and over the years, learning environments ranged from humble homes to brick and stone towers of learning. The “smart boards” of today were blackboards back then, and no electricity was required for students’ slate tablets. James Fairchild, third president of Oberlin College, summarized school shopping in the 1820s Ohio frontier: “There was no money to buy books, and the books were not in the country to be bought.” Hear more of Fairchild’s school reminiscences and those of other Oberlinians and Ohioans in this fun program that spans the early 1800s to the early 1900s.

Liz Schultz is a native of Wisconsin and has been the Museum Education and Tour Coordinator at the Oberlin Heritage Center since 2007. She graduated with degrees in archaeology and anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and Binghamton University (NY), and earned a M.A. in museum studies with a focus in museum education from the Cooperstown Graduate Program (New York).

Kendal at Oberlin’s Heiser Auditorium is located at 600 Kendal Drive, one block east of State Route 58. For more information about the Oberlin Heritage Center and its summer calendar of guided tours and community programs, visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

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