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Oberlin Heritage Center Looks at History of Early 20th Century Oberlin Women and their Influence on Social Reforms

Ohio History Service Corps/AmeriCorps member Sara Fisher explores how the rise of physical education – locally influenced by Oberlin College’s Delphine Hanna and Gertrude Moulton – intersected with reinvigorated women’s social movements in the early 20th century. “From Private Sphere to Public Sphere: A History of Early 20th Century Oberlin Women” takes place on Tuesday, August 14 at 7:15 p.m. at Kendal at Oberlin’s Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive) and is free and open to the public. Fisher provides a historical glimpse into women’s public activities in Oberlin that, along with the rise of physical education, proved to have a lasting impact on the community’s history and on larger social and health-related initiatives across the nation.

The Heritage Center also will salute Kendal at Oberlin’s 25th Anniversary year and the positive impact that the Kendal community has had on the ongoing work of the local history organization. OHC’s Assistant to the Director Mary Anne Cunningham presents a 15-minute illustrated program highlighting Kendal’s involvement with the Heritage Center’s development and growth over the past quarter-of-a-century.

Sara Fisher has spent the past year at the Heritage Center as a member of the AmeriCorps/Ohio History Service Corps – a program funded by ServeOhio, Ohio’s commission on service and volunteerism. At the Oberlin Heritage Center, Sara spends half her time helping with OHC tours, social media administration, and special projects, while spending the other half in service to local history organizations throughout a 5-county region in northeast Ohio. Originally from Port Clinton, Ohio, she received her undergraduate degree in History with a Women & Gender Studies certificate from Ohio University and a Masters in History from Wright State University. Fisher is completing her second year as an AmeriCorps member, having spent her first year at the Quaker Heritage Center in Wilmington, Ohio.

For more information about the Oberlin Heritage Center and upcoming programs and activities, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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