OBERLIN
COLLEGE & CONSERVATORY

WILDER BOWL



May 2025

Welcome to Wilder Bowl, a monthly glimpse of campus life for families of Oberlin students. Wilder Bowl is produced by the Office of Communications.

Congratulations, Class of 2025!

Oberlin's Class of 2025, more than 700 graduates spanning the college and conservatory, celebrated Commencement under a sun-filled sky on Memorial Day. The ceremony, which featured a keynote address from investigative journalist and critically acclaimed author **Sonia Shah '90**, capped a weekend of Commencement and Milestone Reunion Weekend festivities that included socials, recitals, and Sunday night's Illumination on Tappan Square.

For a complete Commencement recap, visit Oberlin.edu; view photos on Oberlin's Flickr.



Improved Bookstore Experience in Store for Fall

Oberlin will launch a new online bookstore and retail location this year, moves that align with national trends in campus bookstore operations and student buying habits and that address longstanding faculty concerns about timely and affordable procurement of course materials.

By fall, the Campus Store will open in renovated space on the first floor of Mudd Center, next to Azariah's Café. Beginning this summer, faculty and students will select and obtain textbooks through a dedicated bookstore website. Learn more about the upgrades at Oberlin.edu.

Oberlin Earns High Marks for Sustainability

Oberlin has earned a "Gold" rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. The nonprofit's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS) is the most widely recognized framework for publicly reporting sustainability efforts across all aspects of higher ed.

Key to our success was the completion of the Sustainable Infrastructure Program, the four-year initiative that made carbon neutrality possible. Congratulations, Obies!

Omukoko Okoth Addresses Fellow Graduates

Omukoko Okoth served as student speaker at Oberlin's May 26 Commencement celebration. A new graduate in economics, Okoth immersed himself in his studies and campus life throughout his time at Oberlin, building community as a resident assistant, student senator, and facilitator of Barefoot Dialogue groups, among many other roles.



“I have been pulled out of my comfort zone, challenged to think boldly, and encouraged to explore a world of endless possibilities,” he said prior to Commencement. Learn more at Oberlin.edu.

Congrats from Career Exploration!

The staff in **Career Exploration and Development** are proud to support our alumni, who are always welcome to schedule advising appointments for continued career guidance. Here are a few of our key resources:

- Juniors still exploring summer opportunities can take advantage of **Internship+**.
- Students and alumni are encouraged to use **OberLink** for networking, job postings, and career resources.
- Have professional attire to spare? CED gladly accepts donations of gently used business clothing for our **Career Closet**.
- Want to see the impact of our work? Check out our **Career Insights Report**, and follow-up with us at career@oberlin.edu

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Help Your Obie Build Career-Ready Skills

Learning Enhancement Across the Disciplines—commonly known as LEAD courses—help students develop the career-ready skills employers value: communication, problem-solving, critical thinking, and leadership. They empower Obies to thrive in any field by combining real-world learning with personal growth. Encourage your student to explore options and register for a LEAD course this fall. Browse current LEAD courses.

Start Strong with Summer Success Coaching

Success Coaches will be available all summer to meet with current and incoming Obies; we offer flexible virtual and in-person sessions Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST). Students can work with a

coach to set goals, explore campus resources, and create a personalized success plan.

Schedule your appointment with the Center for Student Success at CSS@oberlin.edu to get started. Their journey to success starts this summer!

Five Faculty Earn Excellence Awards



Five Oberlin faculty members were presented with the Excellence in Teaching Award for 2023-24, an honor celebrated with a dinner reception at the home of President **Carmen Twillie Ambar**.

The honorees, pictured from left, are **Jason Stalnaker** (physics), **Christie Parris** (sociology), **Andrew Pau** (music theory), **Drew Pattison** (bassoon), and **Matthew Wright** (theater). Congratulations to all! Learn more on Oberlin.edu.

Wellness Ambassadors Finish First Year

The Wellness Ambassadors program, a peer-led initiative that launched last fall with a focus on promoting student well-being across campus, completed a successful first year this spring. Our Wellness Ambassadors supported events, led wellness activities, and encouraged healthy habits among their peers. We're excited about the impact they've made and look forward to growing the program in future semesters!

Signs of Big Things: Congratulate Your Grad!

Congratulate your graduating Obie with a yard sign! Take this 18" x 24" file to a local or online print shop (Office Depot, Staples, etc.) and create a sign for your yard. Don't have a yard? Print a poster for your window or door! Find the link on the Commencement website, and scroll to "Congratulatory Yard Sign."

Obie Athletes Close Out Strong this Spring

Our teams finished a fantastic spring with a long list of achievements; here are a few highlights:

- Oberlin finished with 22 athletes earning all-conference in **men's lacrosse** and **women's lacrosse**, **men's tennis** and **women's tennis**, **track and field**, baseball, and softball.
- At The Obies Awards, **Walter Moak** and **Heather Benway** earned Athlete of the Year Award and the NCAC/John N. Stern Award.

Follow your favorite teams as they head into the postseason at GoYeo.com!

Celebrate the Class of 2025!

As parents and families of graduating seniors, you can celebrate your student by making a meaningful investment in the future with a contribution honoring their accomplishments.

Cumulative gifts from seniors and their parents help provide life-changing education for the next generation of Oberlin students. Gifts of all sizes and designations are encouraged.

Make a Gift

When making a gift, be sure to include your graduate's name. We look forward to celebrating with you!

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