



This year's Ninde Scholars are (front) Janet Gonzalez, Victoria Hardnett, Felicia Edwards, Saige McNeal, (back) Duncan Paynter, Tyler Tucker, Terrence Rush, Muhammadu Sillah, Mason Smith, and Robert Anderson. (Photo by Jan Hannauer)

Ninde Scholar class biggest yet

The Ninde Scholars Program is entering its fifth year as a community-based college access program and has announced its sixth, and largest, class of scholars.

The program welcomes Oberlin High School students Robert Anderson, Felicia Edwards, Victoria Hardnett, Janet Gonzalez, Saige McNeal, Duncan Paynter, Terrence Rush, Tyler Tucker, Muhammadu Sillah and Mason Smith. These scholars are driven students with aspirations of pursuing higher education

after attending Oberlin High School.

The Ninde Scholars Program supports these students with resources for college preparation by providing weekly tutoring from Oberlin College students, evening workshops, writing courses, and test preparation skills. This year's number of incoming students has nearly doubled from last year due, in part, due to a \$10,080 grant awarded to the program from the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation based in

Madison, Wis. An influential non-profit corporation, Great Lakes has a strong record of assisting students and organizations in making the college dream a reality.

The Ninde Scholars Program is headed by director Bo Arbogast and assistant director Will Torres who have done a great job expanding the program's impact on high school students by offering more college access services to all Oberlin High School students. The Ninde Scholars Program is part of the Ninde

Challenge Collaborative, whose partners include the Oberlin City School District, The Lorain County Urban League and Oberlin College. The Ninde Challenge was established by Dick and Nan Ninde, former residents of Kendal at Oberlin. Their original challenge grant was met by donations from many members of the Oberlin community and Kendal at Oberlin. The funds are managed by the Community Foundation of Lorain County.

More homes eligible for POWER grant

Every cloud has a silver lining, and the current economic crisis is no exception. The stimulus package has brought money to Lorain County to insulate and weatherize low-income homes.

Because of this, POWER (Providing Oberlin With Efficiency Responsibly) has expanded its eligibility criteria for 2009-2010.

In the winter of 2008-9, eight low-income homeowners in Oberlin had their homes insulated free. This year, POWER plans to insulate 15 homes, as well as expand the program to rental properties.

Because stimulus funds have allowed other programs in the area to raise their income cut-offs, POWER is widening their income guidelines as well. This year,

POWER will accept applications from families at or below median income for Lorain County (\$57,000 for a family of four).

Established in 2008, POWER is a grassroots organization whose mission is to increase energy efficiency of homes in Oberlin. In particular, POWER seeks to make low income individuals more financially secure in the face of rising utility costs, reduce the amount of pollution and CO2 emitted by Oberlin housing, and provide a way for the community to take responsibility for unavoidable CO2 emissions.

Individuals, businesses, and institutions can donate money to POWER as a way to offset their unavoidable carbon emissions from transportation, heating, and other use of fossil

fuels.

It costs about \$20 to prevent one ton of carbon from being emitted into the atmosphere. The average person in the United States is responsible for about 20 tons of carbon emissions per year and could offset a year's worth of emissions for \$400.

To find out if a household qualifies for a POWER energy efficiency grant, call Kathy Burns at Oberlin Community Services at 774-6579. There is no due date for applications, but POWER begins to work with applicants in early November with a free heat loss inspection provided by Oberlin Municipal Light and Power System (OMLPS). For more information about applying or donating to POWER, visit their website at

<http://www.oberlin.net/~power> or contact program coordinator Kristin Braziunas at 440-707-6233.

Rescued fencing merits state award for historians

Robert Frost once wrote that "fences make good neighbors." But the Ohio Association of Historical Societies & Museums and the Ohio Historical Society think fences sometimes make an excellent reason to bestow their 2009 Outstanding Achievement Award on the Oberlin Heritage Center.

The Oberlin Heritage Center was one of 14 organizations and four individuals to receive the awards at the OAHSM

annual conference, Saturday, Oct. 3, at the Ohio Historical Center in Columbus.

The heritage center was recognized for its Rescue, Restore, Reuse project, which salvaged the 1880s-era wrought iron railings from the Morgan Street Bridge which had been damaged by an automobile accident. OHC volunteers repaired and refurbished the railings, then installed them as a fence around the heritage center grounds.

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No school Friday but there's plenty for kids to do

Four Oberlin organizations have teamed up to offer activities and workshops to area students when Oberlin city schools are closed for NEOEA Day, Friday, October 16.

Parents looking for something to do can bring their young learners to a variety of activities and cultural events within walking distance of downtown.

Most activities are geared toward primary school-aged children. Adult chaperones are required at all locations. All activities are free and open to the public.

Historic games and activities will be offered by the Oberlin Heritage Center at the Oberlin Depot from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Children can try writing with a quill and ink, play marbles, express their creativity with craft projects, walk on stilts, and try other outdoor and indoor games.

Beginning at noon until 3 p.m., the Allen Memorial Art Museum will offer a mask-making activity and West African Drumming Workshop, instructed by artists from Young Audiences of Northeast

Ohio. AMAM student docents will also help with this day of creating and learning about art from West and Central Africa.

Also beginning at noon and running until 3 p.m. is a LEGO and block-building workshop offered by the Firelands Association for the Visual Arts (FAVA). Kinds will be able to construct vehicles, buildings, robots, or whatever they want. Parts and pieces will be provided, but participants will not be allowed to take projects home. Instead, photographs will be taken of completed models and posted so building blocks may be saved for future use. Pre-registration is not required.

From noon until 5 p.m., the Oberlin Public Library is holding "Game On!" — a day of games and activities for kids ages 8-8. This will be held in the meeting room of the library.

The Community Arts and Culture Day event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the AMAM education department at 775-8671.

School Menus

Oberlin Schools Oct. 14-20	FRIDAY: No school.
WEDNESDAY: Pizza, green beans, baked apples and graham crackers.	MONDAY: Rotini with meat sauce and mozzarella cheese, salad, garlic breadsticks and pears.
THURSDAY: Hot dogs with cheese, baked fries, fresh veggie and peaches.	TUESDAY: Chicken patties on bun, steamed cauliflower, fresh fruit and milk.

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THE 16TH ANNUAL LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE FAMILY FEST

On the campus of Lorain County Community College, 1005 North Abbe Road, Elyria, Ohio
12-6 P.M. • SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Food, Fun, Art Fest and Kids' Activities
 Check out LCCC and its University Partnership during this open house!

Free Admission to Festival.

Call (440) 366-4109 or visit www.lorainccc.edu/familyfest

ENTERTAINMENT	OTHER ACTIVITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colin Dussault's Blues Project • Jeff Sherman • Drum Circle by Ed Boas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veteran's Salute • Scholar Salute • Fab Lab Opening • Kids' Trick or Treat • Inflatable Rides • Pony Rides • Health Screenings • Gamers Fest (You could win a video game system) • Art Fest • Cake (Pie) Walk • Kids' Discovery Tent • Plus Much More!

PLUS YOU CAN VISIT the new LCCC Fitness Center in a public open house.

The new LCCC Fitness Center will be open for tours, demonstrations and other activities.

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