

# NINDE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

FALL NEWSLETTER



Visit us on the web: <http://www.oberlin.edu/ninde/>



(From left: Will Torres, Chris Hall, Parker Smith, Monica Rimbart, Cheryl Linsdly, Briana Reynolds, Tammy Hrinda, Beth Norton, Bo Arbogast)

*Established in 2005  
through the Ninde  
Challenge Collaborative*

## Fourth Class of Ninde Graduates Begin Next Chapter

This fall, seven more Ninde Scholars moved on to college, all of them to Ohio state colleges or universities.

Chris Hall-Ohio Wesleyan University, Parker Smith-Hiram College, Monica Rimbart and Beth Norton-Baldwin Wallace College, Cheryl Linsdly-Oberlin College, Briana Reynolds-Mount St. Joseph, Tammy Hrinda-Lorain County Community College.

We are very proud of all of the graduating class of 2009. We hope they will keep in touch and remember that we're here to help them along their path through college.

## Ninde Program Entering Year Five

In fall 2009 the Ninde Scholars Program will select its sixth, and largest, class of scholars. The program has become a well-known entity in the Oberlin community, dedicated to the vision of Dick and Nan Ninde, who sought to improve college access for Oberlin's young people. In 2004 the Nindes offered a generous challenge grant of \$450,000. The challenge was met, thanks to a concerted community fundraising effort.

### Inside This Issue

- Meet Our Tutors
- NSP Secures New Grant Funding
- Making the Most of Summer Break
- Local Scholarship Spotlight
- Examining College Costs
- Ninde Scholar Spotlight

Continued on Page 2

## Meet Our Tutors



Front Row (L-R): Jerome Goings, Sophie Schatt, Sam Rowe. Standing: Rose Wesche, Tamara Fingal.

We have a great group of tutors again this year from Oberlin College. Jerome Goings returns for his third year as a tutor and in 2009-10 will serve as the “Site Coordinator” for the program, helping with recruitment of Ninde Scholars, planning training sessions, and performing other administrative duties. Jerome is a senior from Las Vegas, Nevada and is majoring in Sociology and is also a Bonner Scholar. The Bonner program recognizes students who have an ongoing commitment to community service. Sophie Schatt, also a senior, is a History Major from Rochester, New York who joins us for a second year of tutoring. It’s great to have Jerome and Sophie’s experience on our team, though we will miss them after this year!

This year we are also fortunate to have Tamara Fingal, Sam Rowe, and

Rose Wesche join the program as tutors. Tamara is a third-year student at Oberlin in the double degree program (Music and Sociology). Tamara is from the Washington, D.C. area and has had considerable experience as a tutor and mentor. Sam Rowe, a third-year student, is from Albuquerque, NM, and is also a double-degree student (Music and English). Sam tutored in a very similar capacity last year with students in the nearby Avon public schools. Rose Wesche is a second-year student from Chicago who plans to major in Psychology. Rose is also a Posse Scholar. The Posse program awards one of the largest merit scholarships in the country to high-achieving students from urban high schools. All of our tutors are bringing great energy and expertise to the program and we look forward to an outstanding year.

## NSP Entering Year Five

Continued from Page 1

The goal of the Ninde Scholars Program is to provide dynamic college access services to students from Oberlin High School who demonstrate a drive for learning and advancement but who lack the full support and resources to apply to college. Most services through the Ninde Program are available to all Oberlin High School students, but some are specifically tailored for a small group of high-achieving “Ninde Scholars,” who commit to rigorous weekly academic and college-application related activities.

Ninde Scholars:

- meet weekly with a tutor from Oberlin College to work on test preparation, college essay writing, financial aid forms, and college applications;
- attend a series of workshops on the college search process;
- participate in an intensive summer writing program;
- complete weekly assignments related to college search and application; and
- participate in the program until they graduate from high school.

Applications for new students are available each fall.

## Ninde Scholars Program Receives Grant From Great Lakes Higher Ed Corp.

In August 2009 the Ninde Scholars Program received a grant in the amount of \$10,080 from the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation, which is based in Madison, Wisconsin. Great Lakes is a non-profit corporation with a strong record of helping both individuals and organizations to make college a reality. Since 2005, the Ninde Scholars Program has been using the clear and concise college-access materials produced by Great Lakes, including the “College Step-by-Step” guidebook. The new grant will help expand the size of the Ninde Scholars Program. In the past, the program has been able to accept 5 or 6 new students each year; that number is expected to double this fall. According to Ninde Scholars Program director Bo Arbogast, “We’re very excited to be able to have a larger group of Ninde Scholars this year. One critique of the program has been that a relatively small number of young people are able to take advantage of it. This grant from Great Lakes will help Oberlin College and the other Ninde Program partners to bring dynamic college access services to more students, but there’s likely to be an added benefit. Since many of our events and services are available to all Oberlin High School students, having more Ninde Scholars will help to build a stronger “college-going” culture in the community at large, with more young people talking about college and learning about scholarship opportunities.”



# The Cost of College: Avoiding Sticker Shock

Many high school students don't apply to colleges and universities because they are afraid that they won't be able to afford it. Parents sometimes discourage their children from applying to certain schools because of the seemingly high cost of tuition. The cost to students/families of attending college is often much less than people may think thanks to federal, state, and institutional financial aid. Here are some tips to help you avoid what is known as "Sticker Shock."

## 1. APPLY TO FIND OUT

Seniors should focus on finding a school that is a good fit for them before anything else. Apply to the colleges you feel are right for you (usually in December) and get accepted before panicking over cost and payment. Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after January 1, 2010. Complete the College Board's CSS/ Financial Aid PROFILE. Research and follow institutional and merit aid deadlines set by the schools you're applying to. Be sure to apply for other scholarships throughout your senior year! Use websites like FastWeb.com to supplement the bulletin boards provided by your high school. Ask about scholarships in the high school guidance office.



## 2. LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

	Sample 1: Ohio Public University	Sample 2: Ohio Private University	Sample 3: Ohio Private College
<b>Undergraduate Enrollment</b>	17,413 students	6,357 students	1,644 students
<b>Total Cost*</b>	\$17,454	\$39,100	\$49,540
<b>For all undergraduates, percentage of need** met by aid package</b>	77%	73%	98%
<b>Average Student Loan Debt for Most Recent Graduating Class</b>	\$22,929	\$22,879	\$20,627

\* "Cost" as defined as total cost of In-State tuition, Fees, Books and supplies, and Room and board (on campus)

\*\* "Need" as defined for financial aid results from a formula based on a student's situation. The formula considers family and student income, family size, unusual expenses, and the school's costs.

Source: Ohio Career Information System

## 3. NOW DECIDE

Once you get your Student Aid Report (SAR) from the federal government, you'll have an idea of how much you will be expected to contribute towards your education. Examine the financial aid letters sent by the schools that have accepted you to see what the actual cost of attendance will be for YOU. You can also call staff and ask them whether your financial aid package can be adjusted.



### INVEST IN YOURSELF

You may still need money for college. For most students, this will result in students and families taking out loans. You can also find a job and help pay your way through college with a lot of hard work on nights, weekends, and summers.

## Local Scholarship Spotlight on Community Foundation of Lorain County



Local scholarship dollars are an excellent way to close the gap between your financial aid and college costs. Lorain County has dozens of local scholarships that are carefully selected and generously given to students just like you! All of these scholarships are great, but one of the best in the area is the Community Foundation Scholarship.

As one of its services to the region, the Community Foundation of Lorain County has developed a program that allows students to apply for as many as 34 different scholarships with one common application. The scholarships serve different groups of students, but all offer opportunities that encourage students to continue to pursue higher education. Most of these awards are worth more than \$1,000 each, and many of them are renewable for the 4 years that you are in college! Still, there are somehow scholarships that go unused every year due to a lack of interest and qualified applicants.

### How Do I apply?

Students can visit <http://peoplewhocare.org> and click on "apply for a scholarship" anytime, to read the details of each scholarship or to download an application. The high school guidance office should also have applications available.



Community Foundation  
LORAIN COUNTY

# Making the Most of Your Summer

Summer is a great time to recover from the rigors of the school year. The first few days after school is out for summer, it's always great to sleep in,



relax, hang out with friends, take trips, visit family, and enjoy a wide-open schedule. But let's face it, before too long, boredom sets in. Three months of summer allows you to do lots of other worthwhile things, too!

Before you get the "Summertime Blues," look for enrichment activities that give you an opportunity to build character, improve your college application/resume, and even make money.

## You Can...

**ATTEND A CAMP** that focuses on becoming a Docent/Historian (John Mercer Langston House), Leader (Hiram College), Scientist (Ohio Wesleyan University), Athlete (MANY), or even a classical musician (Baldwin-Wallace College). You could also work at one of these camps!

**VOLUNTEER** at animal shelters, Kendal at Oberlin, or Oberlin College programs such as the Oberlin Summer Theatre Festival.

**VISIT COLLEGES** with family or friends all over the nation.

**PREPARE FOR THE ACT/SAT** Online, anytime with websites like:

[www.actonlineprep.com](http://www.actonlineprep.com)

**INTERN** with companies and organizations all over the world! Some groups, programs, and companies will **CREATE** internships for you, if you show the initiative and strong work ethic.

**WORK** a job. Make money for college tuition, a car, clothes, and more.

Teenagers should be encouraged to take advantage of the great opportunities that summer provides!

*NSP Staff*

Director: Bo Arbogast

Assistant Director: Will Torres

# Ninde Scholar Spotlight



*Cheryl Lindsly*

*OHS class of 2009*

**Attending: Oberlin College**  
**Possible Career: Music Therapy**

**At Oberlin High School:**

- Captain, Varsity Soccer
- Field Commander, Marching Band
- Captain, Varsity Softball
- Orchestra

**At Oberlin College:**

- Varsity Softball
- College Community Winds
- Newman Catholic Campus Ministry

"The NSP got me get closer to obtaining my goal of getting into college. The program gave me knowledge of college, test preparation, applications; things I would have never known about."

# Tiara Patton, OHS Senior

**Possible Majors in College:**  
**Forensic Science, Criminal Justice**

**At Oberlin High School:**

- Junior Class President
- Head of Prom Committee
- Student Council
- Spanish Club
- Varsity Softball
- Varsity Cheerleading
- JV Volleyball



Oberlin High School students enjoy gift certificates from Main Office Copy Shop as an incentive for completing an evening ACT Prep Workshop.

**Special Thanks to Our Many Donors:**  
**Your contributions of funds, incentives, skills, services, and discounts make a big difference!**





