

# Diversity and Inclusion at Oberlin



# O!

For Obies, there is no typical college experience—Oberlin means different things to different students. Yet students who are attracted to Oberlin find an environment that is supportive, intellectually challenging, engaging, socially active, artistic, and exciting.

Students come to Oberlin from across the nation and around the world to pursue a relevant, extraordinary education. They come for opportunities to learn and grow in their personal lives. They come because they believe in Oberlin's legacy of inclusion and diversity.



# Multicultural Offices, Organizations, and Housing Communities

At Oberlin, we provide academic and personal support to students from historically underrepresented groups. We recognize the unique circumstances that may affect students' academic and professional lives.



## **MULTICULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER (MRC)**

Promotes a climate in which all students belong and have equitable opportunities and outcomes, particularly students of color, LGBTQ+ students, and first-generation college students.

## **CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS**

Provides academic support and guidance, particularly for first-generation and low-income students.

## **STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES**

Facilitates academic, housing, and dining accommodations while encouraging and helping students to develop self-advocacy.

## **OFFICE OF EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION**

Upholds non-discrimination policies that reflect campus culture and federal guidelines. Offers support to students involved in reports of discrimination or harassment.

## **CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

Helps students identify and achieve meaningful career objectives through advising, workshops, and experiential opportunities.

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RESOURCE CENTER**

Helps with community-building, advising, VISA regulations, and immigration paperwork.

## **OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL LIFE (ORSL)**

A multifaith resource center that provides and supports diverse religious, spiritual, and ethical programs and activities.

## **OFFICE OF CONSERVATORY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Assists Conservatory students and Arts & Sciences students majoring in musical studies in attaining skills to develop diverse and fulfilling careers in music.

# Support Programs

Oberlin offers many cohorts—including some specifically for students from underrepresented racial groups and low-income and first-generation students. All cohorts come with financial assistance, a built-in community, and one-on-one guidance in navigating college:

**Bonner Scholars Program**

**Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF)**

**Oberlin FIRST/Brenda Grier-Miller Scholars Program (BGM)**

**Oberlin College Research Fellowship (OCRF)**

**Science and Technology Research Opportunities for a New Generation (STRONG)**

Oberlin is also a partner of Posse Chicago and QuestBridge

To learn more about these programs, visit:

[Oberlin.Edu/bcsi](https://Oberlin.Edu/bcsi) and

[Oberlin.Edu/undergraduate-research/programs](https://Oberlin.Edu/undergraduate-research/programs)

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## Students Helping Students

**Center for Learning, Education, and Research in the Sciences (CLEAR)**

**Yeworkwa Belachew Center for Dialogue (YBCD)**

**Oberlin Workshop Leaders (OWLS)**

**Peer Advising Leaders (PALs)**

**Peer Mentors**

**Peer Tutors**

**Peer Writing and Speaking Associates**

To learn more about academic services and resources, visit:

[oberlin.edu/arts-and-sciences/resources-and-support](https://oberlin.edu/arts-and-sciences/resources-and-support)



# Housing Communities

Oberlin offers several identity- and theme-based communities across campus that offer a variety of interests and identities. These include language-based houses; identity-based houses; and theme, living/learning, or academic communities.

	Living/Learning*	Identity	Interest	Language
Afrikan Heritage House	●	●	●	
Asia House	●	●	●	
Brotherhood Wing		●		
French House	●			●
German House	●			●
Hebrew Heritage House		●	●	
Latinx Heritage House		●	●	
Obie-Xings / First Gen Commons		●		
Roots in STEM **	●	●	●	
Russian House	●		●	●
Sisterhood of the Yam		●		
La Casa Hispanica	●		●	●
Third World House		●	●	
Women and Trans Collective		●	●	
World Cultures Wing		●	●	

**\*Living/Learning:** Residence halls that have a connection to an academic department. Most academic-based program houses have a faculty member in residence who teaches within the major. This creates a living/learning community in which students can practice their skills and increase cultural knowledge through various academic and cultural offerings. These programs often include lectures, art exhibits, dance, and theater groups from the regions.

**\*\*The Roots in STEM Living Learning Community** offers a space in which underrepresented students in STEM can identify as scientists without losing their connection to their communities and identities.

*Note: Oberlin offers additional interest-based housing communities. See a full list at [www.oberlin.edu/housing/options](http://www.oberlin.edu/housing/options).*

# Student Groups Supporting Multiculturalism

Oberlin supports more than 45 multicultural student groups that host 150-plus events each year. You'll never have a shortage of opportunities or communities!

## 45+

Student groups Supporting Multiculturalism

- Identity-based: about 25
- Academic: 5
- Art and Music Groups: 12
- Faith Based Groups: 6
- Events: 150+
- Non-binary athletic teams: 2 (Rhinos Rugby and Preying Manti Ultimate Frisbee)



- ABUSUA
- African Students Association (ASA)
- ALT Black
- And What?! (Hip-hop dance troupe)
- As I AM (literary journal focusing on APA communities)
- Asian American Alliance (AAA)
- Black Musicians Guild (BMG)
- Black Scientist Guild (BSG)
- Black Student Athlete Group (BSAG)
- Black + Queer
- Buddhist Fellowship, Oberlin
- Capoeira Angola
- Chabad Jewish Student Group (CJSG)
- CHALLaH cappella
- Chinese Student Association
- Christian Fellowship, Oberlin (OCF)
- Dance Diaspora
- Drag Ball Committee
- Eclectic Christians of Oberlin
- Femme Artists Breaking Boundaries (FABB)
- Filipinx American Students Association (FASA)
- Gender Inclusivity in Music (SGIM)
- Hillel (HLEL)
- International Students' Organization (ISO)
- Japanese Student Association (JSA)
- La Alianza Latina (LAL)
- Latinx Music Union
- Movimento (Latinx dance group)
- Muslim Student Association (MSA)
- Newman Catholic Community
- Oberlin Black Student Athletes
- Oberlin Hip-Hop Collective (OHOP)
- Oberlin Jazz Society
- Oberlin Korean Student Association (OKSA)
- Oberlin Slam Poetry Team (OSLAM)
- Oberlin Students for Gender Inclusivity in Music
- Obies for Undocumented Inclusion (OUI)
- Obility, Dis/Ability Solidarity
- Multiracial Students Association (Multi)
- Pan-Asian Community
- Preying Manti (Womens and Trans Ultimate Frisbee)
- Queer & Formal Reasoning (QFR)
- Rhinos Rugby (Trans-inclusive Women's Rugby Team)
- Students of Carribean Ancestry (SOCA)
- South Asian Students Association (SASA)
- Taiko
- Trans Advocacy Group: Lilac
- Vietnamese Students Association (VSA)
- Zami

\*Not all student organizations are listed. For complete list, go to [www.oberlin.edu/life-at-oberlin/clubs-organizations](http://www.oberlin.edu/life-at-oberlin/clubs-organizations)

# Oberlin's Multicultural Visit Program (MVP)

Oberlin's MVP is a selective program for high-achieving high school seniors from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds who are interested in the College of Arts & Sciences and/or Conservatory of Music. To learn more, visit [www.oberlin.edu/mvp](http://www.oberlin.edu/mvp).



**Naeisha McClain**, a native of Columbus, Georgia, studied sociology and cinema studies. She was an Academic All-American on Oberlin's track and field team, a Mellon Mays Research Fellow, a Bonner Scholar, a member of the Heisman Club board, a Village Housing assistant, and treasure of the Student Finance Committee's million-dollar budget.

***“My only visit to Oberlin was through the Multicultural Visit Program. I knew little about Oberlin but was pleasantly surprised by the campus culture. I got to go to a Noname concert, dine in Afrikan Heritage house, go to classes, and meet people who would later become my closest friends/mentors. At Oberlin, I've been given endless opportunities to succeed academically, athletically, and personally. I have found that the people here make it the place where you can truly find community and flourish in all aspects of life.”***



## Welcome to Ohio!

Oberlin students enjoy the best of both worlds: the coziness of a small town plus access to the major city of Cleveland just 35 miles away. Almost everyone stays for the weekends—making it easy to focus on academics, create friendships, and take part in campus life.

Although we mark the founding of our town and college in 1833, the history of the land that Oberlin occupies extends much further than that. Our institution was founded on the traditional homelands of the Erie and Potawatomi people.

The only way we can in good conscience celebrate Oberlin's values is to first acknowledge the indigenous peoples whose stories and role in our land's history have long been ignored. While this single gesture is not enough, we use this as a step towards bringing visibility and increasing engagement with all of the histories and communities that have led us to the Oberlin community we cherish today.



## Affordable Oberlin

Oberlin demonstrates its commitment to access by meeting 100% of demonstrated financial need for all students. And all applicants, regardless of need, are considered for additional merit-based scholarships.

### **Applying for aid is easy. We require:**

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- College Scholarship Service Profile (CSS)

### **Estimate your need-based financial aid online using:**

- MyinTuition Oberlin at [go.oberlin.edu/myintuition](https://go.oberlin.edu/myintuition)
- Net-Price Calculator at [collegenpc.com/Oberlin](https://collegenpc.com/Oberlin)

## Supporting Undocumented Students

Undocumented students living in the United States are considered domestic candidates for admission. We meet 100% of demonstrated need for all admitted students.

**GET TO KNOW US!  
VISIT [OBERLIN.EDU/ADMISSIONS](https://oberlin.edu/admissions)**

## Our Students

<b>Mid-Atlantic</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Midwest</b>	<b>20% (6% from Ohio)</b>
<b>Western</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>New England</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>South</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Southwest</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Outside of US</b>	<b>12%</b>

<b>U.S. STUDENTS OF COLOR:</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Black/African American</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Asian American</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Hispanic/Latinx</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Native American/     Alaskan Native</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Native Hawaiian/     Pacific Islander</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>White, non-Hispanic</b>	<b>62%</b>
<b>International (representing nearly 50 foreign countries)</b>	<b>11%</b>

*Note: Percentages include some students in multiple categories. About 10% of incoming students identify with more than one racial/ethnic category.*