THINK ONE PERSON CAN CHANGE THE WORLD?
SO DO WE.

OBERLIN
2018 CLASS PROFILE
FOR GUIDANCE COUNSELORS
Oberlin is the only institution in which a top-ranked liberal arts college and a world-renowned conservatory of music share a seamless student culture and campus, including an art museum known as one of the very best in the country. Our flexible curriculum honors the individual and prepares students to tackle the complex challenges that face our planet and society.

Oberlin has been on the front lines of changing the world for almost two centuries, often serving as the prototype for progress even in the face of strong resistance, beginning with its admission of students of color in 1835 — the first in the nation to adopt this practice as policy.

Oberlin was built on a foundation of academic, musical, and artistic excellence and is a place of intense energy and creativity. With limitless opportunities for scholarly and cultural exploration and an unwavering commitment to social justice, Oberlin is the ideal laboratory in which to debate, study, and grow.
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WE TAKE ACADEMICS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM.

Oberlin students aren’t satisfied to learn only from books and classes. Lab research and one-on-one time with faculty give them a competitive advantage when applying for prestigious grants and fellowships. Physics major Jocienne Nelson, after working in a professor’s lab as a student researcher for two years, was awarded a 2014 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship to attend Cornell University’s PhD program in physics. Biology major Darrin Schultz, one of 15 recent Oberlin students to receive a Fulbright Fellowship, is studying in Japan, collaborating with scientists in the emerging field of bioluminescence — the production and emission of light by a living organism. And Noa Fleischaker, a 2014 Dalai Lama Fellow, is setting out to change the way that young Jewish-Americans learn about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through her series of children’s books and a workshop curriculum.

WE PUT OUR BELIEFS INTO ACTION.

At Oberlin, we don’t shrink from difficult issues; we use our knowledge to make a difference. For example, in a groundbreaking collaboration between the campus and city, students and faculty launched the Bioregional Dashboard, a user-friendly way to provide feedback on energy and water usage across the community — and ultimately to foster more environmentally engaged citizens. Through the Bonner Center for Service and Learning, an invaluable resource for curricular and extracurricular civic engagement programming, 63 percent of Oberlin students complete more than 108,000 hours of community service each year; in the America Reads and America Counts programs, for example, Oberlin students offer one-on-one reading and math tutoring in the local schools. Students also recently packaged more than 10,000 meals for shipment to Haiti through the organization Stop Hunger Now.

WE SHARE OUR TALENTS WITH THE WORLD.

Many Oberlin graduates channel their passions to become prominent in their fields, but always with a higher purpose in mind. For example: Claire Chase ’01 is the ninth Oberlin graduate to receive a MacArthur “genius” grant. The virtuoso flutist and arts entrepreneur co-founded the International Contemporary Ensemble, which works to attract new audiences for contemporary music. Cross-country track star Joanna Johnson ’11 earned All-American honors seven times at Oberlin, while majoring in both biology and French. She then earned a year-long Watson Fellowship to train with distance runners in three countries to discover what makes people of various cultures run. Jad Abumrad ’95 and Robert Krulwich ’69 are the creators and cohosts of National Public Radio’s Radiolab, the popular award-winning program that uses storytelling to examine big questions in science, philosophy, and the human experience.
Located 35 miles southwest of Cleveland, Ohio, Oberlin College enrolls about 2,900 students — 2,300 in its highly ranked College of Arts and Sciences and 600 in its prestigious Conservatory of Music (including 175 double-degree students).

Bachelor of Arts degrees offered in 47 majors in the College of Arts and Sciences; Bachelor of Music degrees in 8 majors in the conservatory, with a choice of 20 private study areas.

Student-to-faculty ratio of 11:1 (arts and sciences) and 6:1 (conservatory).

Founded in 1833, Oberlin was the first college in America to adopt a policy to admit students of color (1835) and the first to grant bachelor's degrees to women in a coed program (1841).

Financial aid packages average $37,500 per student (grants, loans, and work-study), with more than $60 million in state, federal, and institutional grants awarded to students.

More Oberlin alumni go on to earn PhDs than do the graduates of any other primarily undergraduate college in America.

Collections of the Allen Memorial Art Museum rank among the top five of any college or university museum in the country.