

Apr 26th, 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM

2013 Senior Symposium Program

Office of the Dean of Studies

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2013

SENIOR SYMPOSIUM

Celebrating the Scholarly and Artistic
Achievements of Oberlin's Class of 2013

April 26, 2013
Oberlin Science Center

'13

OBERLIN
COLLEGE & CONSERVATORY

DEAN'S GREETING

One of the hallmarks of an Oberlin education is the opportunity to pursue independent research or creative endeavors. Each year, hundreds of students engage in intensely focused work on their own projects: investigating phenomena in the laboratory, combing through archival materials, analyzing a collection of texts, finding new patterns in social science data, or creating new works for exhibitions or performances. The Senior Symposium establishes a forum for the recognition and celebration of these accomplishments and invites students to bring their work from the laboratories, libraries, and studios to share with the community as a whole. In this fourth annual celebration, more than 50 seniors will present their work this afternoon, and dozens more will be displaying or performing their work in other venues throughout April and May.

This event was made possible by the efforts of Randal Doane, assistant dean of studies, and funding from the Mellon Foundation. Cosponsors for this event include the Office of the Dean of Studies and the Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences. To the seniors presenting at the symposium: congratulations on your accomplishments. I am looking forward to hearing more about your work.

Sean Decatur

Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

PROGRAM

1:00 P.M.

*Science Center
Craig Lecture Hall*

OPENING REMARKS

Joyce Babyak, Associate Dean of the Arts and Sciences

1:30-2:30 P.M.

locations vary

SESSION 1

Choose from among five panels, see pages 5-6

2:45-3:45 P.M.

locations vary

SESSION 2

Choose from among five panels, see pages 6-7

4:00-5:00 P.M.

locations vary

SESSION 3

Choose from among six panels, see pages 8-9

5:00-6:00 P.M.

*Academic Commons
Science Center*

RECEPTION

SESSION I • 1:30-2:30 PM

PANEL 1: Modal Fanaticism / Infantile Fantasy: Experimentation and Expression in Musical Forms

Moderator: Rebecca Leydon, Associate Professor of Music Theory

Nicholas Osborne	The Italian Madrigal, Anglicized: Modal Theory and Enharmonic Chromaticism
Andrew Wise	Evocations of Childhood in the Music of Ravel
Asher Butnik	Heard and Not Seen: The Child in Contemporary Euro-American Pop Music

Science Center, A154

PANEL 2: The Weight of a Nightmare: Making Sense of History in Guatemala, Chile, and Argentina

Moderator: Patrick O'Connor, Chair of Hispanic Studies and Associate Professor of Comparative Literature

Maggie Paulin	Teaching History in Post-Conflict Societies: The Case of Quetzaltenango, Guatemala
Sofia LeBlanc	A Prison of Culture: Afterlives of Dictatorship in a Community Arts Center
Alexis Burdick-Will	How Does the Present Affect Interpretations of the Past? <i>La Nación</i> and the Memory Debate in Argentina

Science Center, A155

PANEL 3: The Maintenance of Tradition, Tongues, and Difference: Case Studies from the U.S. and Mexico

Moderator: Moderator: Heather Hogan, Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences and Professor of History

Rocío León	Lo que el carro cambio: Changing the Performance of Tradition in a Transnational Community
Michael Everdell	Reconsidering the Puebloan Languages in a Southwestern Areal Context
Thomas La Voy	The Disparate Effects of Photo ID Laws on Voter Turnout Across Race and Ethnicity

Science Center, A254

PANEL 4: Meditations on Text/Image/Translation

Moderator: Azita Onsaloo, Visiting Assistant Professor of Creative Writing

Megan MacDonald Translation: Alexandra David-Néel's Writings on China and Tibet

Matthew Davis Translating Chris Ware's *Lint* into Russian

Emma Hosford A Translation of *Ränder* by Jürgen Becker

Science Center, A255

PANEL 5: Metals/Models/Method: Notes on Environmental Exposure, Climatology, and Geochemical Dating Techniques

Moderator: Dennis Hubbard, Professor of Geology

Marion (Myung Rang) Park Environment and Disease: The Effect of Heavy Metal Ions on Huntingdon's Disease

Christopher Rackauckas Did Glaciers Cover the Planet? An Inquiry into "Snowball Earth"

Akemi Berry An Archaeometric Study of Black Gloss Ceramics from Monte Pallano, Abruzzo

Science Center, K209

SESSION II • 2:45-3:45 PM

PANEL 6: Written on the Body: Inscriptions of Gender, Racialization, and Student Activism

Moderator: Greggor Mattson, Assistant Professor of Sociology

Brittany Craig Access and Activism: Reproductive Health at Oberlin College, 1960-1980

Julie Christensen Human Connection as Activism: Analysis of a Student Movement for Global Health

Alex Hamada, Han Jung, and Karl Orozco Social Responses to Alcohol Flush Reaction

Science Center, A154

PANEL 7: Composing Reflections: Responses in the Forms of a Film, a Film Score, and a Musical Homage

Moderator: Arnie Cox, Associate Professor of Music Theory

Stefan Berg	Presenting <i>Color Organology</i>
Andrew Churchill	Original Film Score to Georges Méliès' <i>A Trip to the Moon</i>
Ross Chait	<i>Gesang</i> Dream: Functions of Faith in Stockhausen's Electronic Mass

Science Center, A155

PANEL 8: Requiems, Refusals, and Retreats: Studies in Spanish-language Literature (a bilingual presentation)

Moderator: Sebastiaan Faber, Professor of Hispanic Studies

Alice McAdams	Luis García Montero's <i>Quedarse sin ciudad: The City as Phoenix in Post-Dictatorial Spain</i>
Emma Smart	César Aira and Spanish Inheritors of the French Avant-Garde
Laura Weiss	Obsession, Incest, and Eating Dirt: Internalization and the Reader's Response in <i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i>

Science Center, A254

PANEL 9: Determinant Spaces in the Politics of Culture: Reflections from Japan, New York, and Jamaica

Moderator: Gillian Johns, Associate Professor of English

Cassandra Guevara	Facing Cultural Subjugation: Ainu and Okinawan Identity through Literature and Music
Sophia Bamert	Manhattan Transference: Reader Itineraries in Modernist New York
Warren Harding	Soundin' National Cultcha: Creolization, Migration, and Jamaican Music

Science Center, A255

PANEL 10: On the Down Low: Studies of Groundwater and Gypsum

Moderator: Bruce Simonson, Professor of Geology

Jennifer Bower	Using Short-Lived Radionuclides to Explore the Effects of Agricultural Drainage Tiles on Erosion Depth in the Vermilion River Watershed
Alden Gilliom	Groundwater Storage in Western China and Eastern Tibet Observed from Precipitation-Discharge Hysteresis
Arianna Goodman	Remote Sensing Gypsum in the Chihuahuan Desert

Science Center, K209

SESSION III • 4:00-5:00 PM

PANEL 11: Mapping the Genus: Studies of Flora and Phylogeny

Moderator: Mike Moore, Associate Professor of Biology

Spencer Wight	Widespread Population Sampling of Gaillardia (Asteraceae)
Rebecca Mostow	The Phylogenetic Reach of Hybridization-Based Enrichment
Jonah Joffe	The Evolution of Ecophysiological Divergence in Asteraceae Tribe Coreopsideae

Science Center, A154

PANEL 12: The Boundaries of Community: Case Studies in Historical Memory, Post-Urbanism, and Contemporary Christianity

Moderator: Daphne John, Associate Professor of Sociology

Tiesha Cassel	We Were Never Meant to Survive: A Localized Discussion of Historic Erasure, Black Churchwomen, and Possible Solutions in Cleveland, Ohio
Steven Niedbala	Building the Post-Industrial Community: New Urbanism in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Aimee Klingbeil	Inclusivity and Incarnation: How the New Monasticism Straddles the Line Between Church and Culture

Science Center, A155

PANEL 13: The Powers (and Limits) of Persuasion: Case Studies in Liberation, Representation, and Privatization

Moderator: Michael Parkin, Associate Professor of Politics

Jason Bent	Land Reform and Democratization in Rajasthan State
Anna Dardick	Media Coverage of the U.S. HIV/AIDS Epidemic's Blood Bank Controversy
Charlotte Landes	Private Corrections, Public Implications: The Local Economic Realities of Private Prisons

Science Center, A254

PANEL 14: Rewrites, Replays, and Remixes: Reflections on Shakespeare, The Ramayana, Music Technology, and Chile

Moderator: Jeff Pence, Associate Professor of Cinema Studies and English

Carter Sligh	Staging <i>The Winter's Tale</i>
Thomas Nunan	Renegotiating a Beheading: Literary Opposition to Varna Hierarchy in Shambuka's Story
Max Mellman	Engaging with Music Through Technology in the 20th Century and Beyond
Elise Shulman-Reed	Re-membering, Re-telling and Re-surfacing Histories: An Examination of Memory in Post-Dictatorial Chilean Society

Science Center, A255

PANEL 15: The Bourgeois, the Bicep, and the Abject: Anomalous Gazes in Painting, Sculpture, and Cinema

Moderator: Erik Inglis, Associate Professor of Art History

Lisa Yanofsky	Painting Siblings, Performing Gender: Gaze and Pose in Sofonisba Anguissola's <i>Double Portrait of a Boy and Girl of the Attavanti Family</i>
John Michael Morein	Chris Burden: Body and Sculpture
Hannah Scharlin-Petree	The Abyssal Womb: Queer Spectatorship and Abjection in Horror Cinema

Science Center, A209

PANEL 16: The Well-Tempered Self and Others: Case Studies in Philosophy and Psychology

Moderator: Cindy Frantz, Associate Professor of Psychology

Kevin Gilfether	The Content of Thought Experiments and Philosophical Context
Pailyn Brown	Virtue of Attunement: Contributions of Yuasa's Embodied Self-Cultivation Practices to Toadvine's Ecophenomenology of Difference
Katherine Lemoine	Achievement Goals as a Factor of Homophily

Science Center, A262

MEET THE PRESENTERS

SOPHIA BAMERT **ENGLISH and ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**

Advisor and Mentor: T.S. McMillin, English and Environmental Studies

Manhattan Transference: Reader Itineraries in Modernist New York

John Dos Passos' *Manhattan Transfer* (1925) follows dozens of characters through modern New York City. The novel is organized as a fragmented montage and, in this project, I argue that transit functions as both a central theme and the structuring principle of the text. I compare *Manhattan Transfer* to works by Walt Whitman and William Dean Howells and draw upon spatial form theory to examine how experiences of urban transportation influence literary forms. Ultimately, I suggest that *Manhattan Transfer's* modernist form offers readers itinerant ways of perceiving the complicated networks of which cities are made.

Sophia is a native New Yorker and managing editor of the Oberlin Review. In previous semesters, she worked as a Writing Center tutor, campus tour leader, and academic ambassador. She loves dancing and has taught the Continuing Swing and Continuing Tap ExCos. Sophia spent her first winter term in Zurich teaching herself Swiss German and, in summer 2011, studied at Humboldt Universität in Berlin. She loved interning at Seven Stories Press in Manhattan. She has eaten in OSCA her entire time at the college. After Oberlin, Sophia plans to pursue a PhD in literature, specializing in environmental criticism and urban studies.

JASON BENT **ECONOMICS and HISTORY**

Advisor: Barbara Craig, Economics • Advisor and Mentor: Michael Fisher, History

Land Reform and Democratization in Rajasthan State

At the time of Indian independence in 1947, the region of Rajputana included roughly two dozen princely states under British suzerainty. After independence, these states were integrated into the greater state of Rajasthan and underwent tremendous economic and political reforms. The first Congress Party-led government of Rajasthan had a limited role in the integration process, and thus emphasized land reform as a core policy priority. The landlord class, known as Jagirdars, fiercely opposed land reform, and the issue ultimately became a driving force in the politics of Rajasthan.

Jason hails from Madison, Wisconsin, and serves as a student representative for the history department, as well as a member of the Student Finance Committee. He was introduced to India during his first winter term, when he toured India and China. In the fall of his junior year, he spent a semester abroad at St. Stephen's College in Delhi studying modern Indian history. Jason is an avid historian and is also interested in pursuing work in economic development.

STEFAN BERG **CINEMA STUDIES**

Advisor: Geoff Pingree, Cinema Studies • Mentor: Jeff Pence, Cinema Studies

Color Organology

Experiments in combinations of image and sound have the capacity to shape community memory. My film *Color Organology* presents a hybrid of visual and auditory stimuli; it draws inspiration from bird calls, composer Alexander Scriabin, and organology (the science of musical instruments and their classification). This method of composing has the possibility of producing more immediate and universal communication than classic linguistics, and may open new modes of human interactions and new conceptualizations of group and individual identities. *Color Organology* is to be presented on May 8 as part of the Cinema Studies' Senior Showcase at the Apollo Theatre.

Stefan hails from East Lansing, Michigan, and takes pride in his completion of courses in 20 academic disciplines. He has also engaged in arts marketing, performed internships in company management and museum curation, and has been trusted to fulfill many duties while employed in five separate positions for the college. In his free time, he enjoys traveling and playing intramural sports and was fortunate enough to study in Florence, Italy, in spring 2012. After college he hopes to begin positively affecting others through urban development in Detroit.

AKEMI BERRY
ARCHAEOLOGY and GEOLOGY

Advisors: Susan Kane, Archaeology, and Dennis Hubbard, Geology

Mentors: Susan Kane, Archaeology, and Zeb Page, Geology

An Archaeometric Study of Black Gloss Ceramics from Monte Pallano, Abruzzo

This study examines the reliability of geochemical data for determining the provenance of black-gloss pottery. Samples of black-gloss ware from Monte Pallano (Abruzzo, Italy), from the first through fourth centuries B.C., were analyzed using XRF and SEM-EDS techniques. Geochemical analysis is useful for provenance studies of naturally occurring rocks, but is less reliable when examining ceramics and other engineered materials. Geochemical and archaeometric techniques were compared to determine chemical correlations and mineralogical constraints on identification. While correlations within the datasets arose, comparison of the analytical methods revealed mineral constraints on pottery classes, but chemical and mineralogical data were uncorrelated.

Akemi is from Evanston, Illinois. Her passion for marine science has led her to become president of the Oberlin SCUBA Club, for which she coordinates SCUBA certification for fellow students. Akemi is also cofounder, president, and performer of the Oberlin College Aerialists. Since sophomore year, she has completed research in marine geology, focusing on coral reef development and decline. After graduation she plans to pursue graduate studies in marine geology.

JENNIFER BOWER
ORGAN PERFORMANCE and GEOLOGY

Advisors: James David Christie, Organ, and Steven Wojtal, Geology • Mentor: Amanda Schmidt, Geology

Using Short-Lived Radionuclides to Explore the Effects of Agricultural Drainage Tiles on Erosion Depth in the Vermillion River Watershed

In this study, we explore the relationship between agricultural land use, drainage tiles, and depth of erosion in the Vermillion River watershed. Land use in the Vermillion watershed is primarily agricultural, and many farmers use drainage tiles to combat clayey and compacted soil. While the effect of drainage tiles on erosion is not well constrained, we can record variations in erosion depth in relation to the percentage of drainage tiles in the different sub-watersheds in our sample. Using short-lived radionuclides, we analyzed the samples for ¹³⁷Cs and ²¹⁰Pb and made further inferences using GIS software.

Jennifer hails from St. Louis, and for the past three years has been president of the Organ Pump Committee. During winter term 2011, she traveled to Stade, Germany, to play on historical organs. In January 2012, she went to San Francisco to practice baroque Spanish repertoire on reproductions of historical organs and, in 2013, she accompanied Bach cantatas in Boston as part of the Emmanuel Music Bach Institute. In October 2012, Jennifer presented a poster at the Geology Society of America meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina.

PAILYN BROWN
RELIGION

Advisor: James Dobbins, Religion • Mentor: James Swan Tuite, Religion

Virtue of Attunement: Contributions of Yuasa's Embodied Self-Cultivation Practices to Toadvine's Ecophenomenology of Difference

Contemporary environmental ethicists imagine the human-nature relationship as a harmonious web-of-life, and thereby ignore the experience of difference between self and world. Ted Toadvine posits that any environmental ethic must directly address the problem of difference, but does not provide any practical possibilities for the body to explore difference. Yuasa Yasuo proposes instead that through habituated practices, the body can and should be used to understand difference. Yuasa's concerns for religion, culture, and self-cultivation help to inform Toadvine's work on the body. By using these two ethicists, I argue that a virtue of attunement is critical to how one can live and act as a responsible body.

Pailyn grew up in Bangkok, Thailand, and attended high school in Frederick, Maryland. She is a student representative for the religion department and is also an active member of the Religious Ethics Work Group. She is one of the founders of the Food for Thought Collective, whose mission is to bridge student and faculty from a variety of departments and interests in creative conversations. Pailyn has spent her winter terms studying at the Rochester Zen Center, working for a tenants' advocacy group, traveling in Thailand, and working on an organic farm in California. She also took a semester abroad to study in Peru. After college, she hopes to live a simple and quiet life in the mountains.

ALEXIS BURDICK-WILL
LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Advisor and Mentor: Steve Volk, Latin American Studies

How Does the Present Affect Interpretations of the Past? *La Nación* and the Memory Debate in Argentina

Argentina transitioned from dictatorship to democracy in 1983. Issues of memory and interpretations of the past remain ever-present. This analysis of editorials of *La Nación*, a leading conservative newspaper, from six major events in Argentina since 1983 focuses on the language, metaphors, and messages implemented to form an understanding of the 1976-1983 dictatorship. By tracking the changes and patterns within the editorials, this study seeks to explain how our understanding and explanations of the past always adapt to present circumstances.

Alexis grew up in Philadelphia. Since freshman year, she has worked with student and community groups on public transportation issues facing the Oberlin student body and Lorain County. She has also taught Spanish with the SITES program. In fall 2011, she studied abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina. After college, she will begin teaching elementary school in New York City as a corps member of Teach for America.

ASHER BUTNIK
ETHNOMUSICOLOGY and GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND FEMINIST STUDIES

Advisors and Mentors: Jennifer Fraser, Ethnomusicology, and Greggor Mattson, Sociology

Heard and Not Seen: The Child in Contemporary Euro-American Pop Music

How do we make sense of the use of the xylophone in Gotye's "Somebody That I Used To Know," *Billboard*'s #1 song of 2012? Using Peircian semiotics, this paper examines sounds and phrases associated with childhood in contemporary Euro-American pop music, ranging from toy instruments to nursery rhymes. What associations evoke "child-ish-ness" for the listener? How is innocence conveyed musically, and to what effect? I examine the ways these invocations adhere to ideas about the child propounded by queer theorists. The role of the child in popular music has remained largely unexplored, but I seek to bring these conversations into ethnomusicological discourse.

Asher hails from Altadena, California, and came to Oberlin for the nice weather. Since his freshman year, he has been involved in Lambda Union and Kosher-Halal Co-op (KHC), chairing the former for a year and DLEC-ing the latter

for three semesters. He is also a GSFS student representative, an avid contra dancer, and one of KHC's favorite cooks—presently in charge of its pizza night. He plans to take time off from school before pursuing a graduate degree.

TIESHA CASSEL

RELIGION

Advisor and Mentor: A.G. Miller, Religion

We Were Never Meant to Survive: A Localized Discussion of Historic Erasure, Black Churchwomen, and Possible Solutions in Cleveland, Ohio

My project explores historic erasure and its effects on the preservation of Black churchwomen's histories in archive spaces. In 2012, in the archives of the Western Reserve Historical Society and the Cleveland Public library, I searched for the stories of churchwomen in Cleveland's Black Baptist community. My search yielded little; it left me with barely a glimpse into these women's lives and led me to interrogate what archival spaces mean for the histories of Black churchwomen. My research uses historic recreation to investigate the historic erasure in archival spaces of Black churchwomen and their experiences.

Tiesha hails from Cleveland. She is a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Research Fellow, and her work is centered on Black church women, archival erasure, and historic remembrance. During her four years in Oberlin she's worked closely with the Prison Justice Project, a student group focused around educating others about the prison industrial complex. She is also a board member for the Edmonia Lewis Center for Women and Transgender People, a student-run resource center on campus.

ROSS CHAIT

ENGLISH and MUSICAL STUDIES

Advisors: T.S. McMillin, English, and Jennifer Fraser, Ethnomusicology • Mentor: Paul Cox, Musicology

Function of Faith in *Gesang Der Jünglinge*

In *Gesang der Jünglinge* (1956), Karlheinz Stockhausen presents a mass for electronic music. My research focuses on the presences and functions of Christian choral traditions in this pioneering piece of electroacoustic music. My analysis focuses on the history and creation of these abstract sounds, and on the trajectory of Christian choral and liturgical traditions, in order to illustrate how Stockhausen's devotion to Catholicism resonates in this revolutionary piece. To complement this analysis, I have composed music for voice and electronics in the style of *Gesang Der Jünglinge*.

Ross grew up in Los Angeles. As a performer and composer, he has played in venues across the country, often with his own hand-crafted collection of instruments. For winter term 2013, he toured the Midwest and East Coast with conservatory composer Myles Emmons, performing improvised electroacoustic music. Ross is involved in concert booking with the Modern Music Guild and helped found Oberlin's chapter of an Animist Orchestra. After graduation, he will be back on tour, completing his first solo album (ILSE Records). He plans to pursue a career in music criticism.

JULIE CHRISTENSEN

ANTHROPOLOGY

Advisor and Mentor: Baron Pineda, Anthropology • Mentor: Crystal Biruk, Anthropology

Human Connection as Activism: Analysis of a Student Movement for Global Health

The fervor of student activism around issues of global health continues to grow in the United States. For this ethnographic project, I have been a participant-observer the past two years in the life of a nonprofit organization called GlobeMed, a largely student-led network of chapters with partners in community health organizations. I focus on the history and development of GlobeMed and explore the organizational structure and my own experience as a chapter founder. Next, I present life narratives of young people and social dynamics within the network. Finally, I

analyze the way these components contribute to the dually humanitarian and professional field of global health.

Julie grew up in Minnesota. Her research focuses on global health and has involved work in the Harvard Retroviral Laboratory, King Edward Hospital in South Africa, the Center for Community Health Promotion in Vietnam, and the Chicago Department of Public Health. In Oberlin, Julie has worked for the Bonner Center for Service and Learning, Kendal at Oberlin, and currently works in the Office of Student Wellness. Julie is the cofounder of GlobeMed at Oberlin College and was cochair of Oberlin's medical student association. In the future, Julie plans to attend medical school to become a primary care physician for the urban underserved.

ANDREW CHURCHILL **ECONOMICS and MUSICAL STUDIES**

Advisors: Ellis Tallman, Economics, and Steven Plank, Musicology

Mentors: Brian Alegant, Music Theory, and Paul Cox, Musicology

Original Film Score to Georges Méliès' *A Trip to the Moon*

Le Voyage dans la Lune (1902), directed by French illusionist Georges Méliès, was one of the first narrative films ever made. Its special effects were on the cutting edge of the early-20th century, and its sequence of a spaceship blasting into an anthropomorphized moon is still well-known. Originally released as a silent film, the picture inspired me to compose an original score for this short work. I have composed in an amalgam of musical styles to fit the eccentric nature of the film, and I will debut the picture and score as part of my presentation.

AJ Churchill is from São Paulo, Brazil, and has been writing music from a very young age. In the past four years, he has composed original works for theater productions, short films, documentaries, a museum exhibit, and national and international advertising campaigns. He has also penned a number of concert pieces. His music covers a range of styles and combines pop influences with grand, romantic sensibilities and textures. In September, he plans to begin graduate studies in film composition at the Royal College of Music (London).

BRITTANY CRAIG **GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND FEMINIST STUDIES and HISTORY**

Advisor: Zeinab Abul-Magd, History • Mentor: Carol Lasser, History

Access and Activism: Reproductive Health at Oberlin College, 1960-1980

This research traces how, at Oberlin College, the reproductive rights movement was first born within the women's liberation movement and later emerged as an autonomous social movement. I use oral histories, archival documents, and student publications to paint a picture of Oberlin women's activism as a particular representation of American second wave feminism with characteristic motivations, tactics, and goals. From 1960 to 1980, reproductive rights activism formed through discussions of institutional sexism, development of a feminist vocabulary, and evolving sexual mores. Reproductive rights activism existed in dialogue and overlapping membership with campus feminism, but maintained its own constituency, practices, and objectives.

Brittany hails from western Pennsylvania and is an Oberlin College Research Fellow. She has been working in reproductive health activism for the past three years. Brittany is also a resident assistant of the Women and Trans Collective, a tutor for America Reads, and a peer career advisor. Next year, she will be working as a reading tutor and college counselor for high school students who will be the first in their family to attend college.*

ANNA DARDICK
BIOLOGY and LATIN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Advisors: Yolanda Cruz, Biology, and Kirk Ormand, Classics • Mentor: Adam Haberman, Biology

Media Coverage of the U.S. HIV/AIDS Epidemic's Blood Bank Controversy

Media portrayals of emerging diseases reflect contemporary prejudices, sway public opinion and, in turn, have the power to shape history. My research focuses on the controversy concerning HIV-infected blood in American blood banks from 1982 through 1985. My analysis of articles from national news sources and queer media illuminates stark differences in the interpretations of scientific research. Most popular media representations of HIV/AIDS paradoxically interpret science as objective truth and perpetuate unsubstantiated claims about risk and transmission. U.S. media coverage must be viewed within its capitalist environment—fear sells, and the accuracy of scientific information suffers as a result.

Anna is originally from St. Louis and spends her time fencing, editing the Synapse, volunteering at the Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland, and supervising workshop leaders with the Oberlin Workshops and Learning Sessions program. She has taught environmental education in Israel, conversed in Latin in Rome, and conducted research on wildlife conservation in Kenya and Tanzania. After college, she plans to work in the field of public health, particularly HIV/AIDS advocacy, and eventually attain a master's of public health degree.

MATTHEW DAVIS
RUSSIAN LANGUAGE and LITERATURE

Advisor and Mentor: Tom Newlin, Russian

Translating Chris Ware's *Lint* into Russian

The translation of comics is rarely practiced with any appreciation of the medium: they are usually translated as prose, ignoring the words' relationship to the pictures. I chose Chris Ware's work, known for pushing the boundaries of comics' language, for its translation mandates formal engagement with comics as a medium. My project also involves dealing with the problems of translating into a non-native tongue, cultural translation, and placing Ware's comics in the Russian existentialist tradition.

Matt hails from Hamden, Connecticut. He is a cofounder and editor of the Oberlin Comics Collective, which represents itself nationwide at comics and art conventions. He also enjoys healthier activities such as meditation and running. After graduation he plans to move to Chicago to enter the world of professional picture-making.

MICHAEL EVERDELL
ANTHROPOLOGY

Advisor and Mentor: Jason Haugen, Anthropology

Reconsidering the Puebloan Languages in a Southwestern Areal Context

Areal linguistics is the study of diffused linguistic features across languages that are geographically contiguous and culturally connected. My research seeks to clarify definitions for widely used concepts, subject to inconsistent use, that apply cross-linguistically to any linguistic area. My case study is the Pueblo and North American Southwest, which have been linked culturally, but there is little agreement over their status as a single linguistic area. I conclude that they are distinct linguistic areas, but that they may fall within a much larger linguistic area including the Great Basin and Plains.

Michael is from Boston and enjoys playing soccer, teaching fencing, heavy metal music, and culture. He has stage-managed shows at the college and was one of the construction heads for most of the RTC and Solarity events. For his winter terms, Michael studied generative syntax and Uto-Aztecan nominal morphology. He is presently working on a paper with Professor Jason Haugen on irregular morphology (suppletion) in Uto-Aztecan languages. He will pursue graduate studies in linguistics and hopes to one day become a professor.

KEVIN GILFETHER PHILOSOPHY

Advisor and Mentor: Dorit Ganson, Philosophy

The Content of Thought Experiments and Philosophical Context

Thought experiments are a common method of trying to make a philosophical point. There is the question, though, about how useful thought experiments are in telling us about the world: what does thinking about killing a king tell us about actually killing a king? Timothy Williamson offers an account of thought experiments based upon a general cognitive capacity to consider counterfactuals. Anna-Sara Malmgren is critical of such a capacity. This work assesses both accounts in relation to common philosophical thought experiments and finds Williamson's perspective could be sharpened with an account of philosophical context.

Kevin grew up in a small northeast Ohio college town called Oberlin. He is involved with OSCA as the Harkness dining treasurer, Science Fiction and Fantasy Theme Hall as a hall leader, and various tutoring and mentoring organizations. Kevin is also the bassist for Oberlin's loudest metal band, MEAT. Following graduation, he plans to enroll in an elementary Master of Arts in Teaching program and become a public elementary school teacher.

ALDEN GILLIOM GEOLOGY

Advisor: Karla Hubbard, Geology • Mentor: Amanda Schmidt, Geology

Groundwater Storage in Western China and Eastern Tibet Observed from Precipitation-Discharge Hysteresis

The project examines the transitive processes of precipitation to river discharge on the eastern Tibetan Plateau. This transfer of water produces a dynamic lag—"hysteresis"—between peak precipitation and peak discharge. This lag has important implications for potentially increasing demand for water and decreasing quality of water available. Previous studies of Nepali Himalayas groundwater storage in aquifers was behind the hysteresis. We employed this technique in our study and found that the data exhibited defined hysteresis. The next stage of our analysis may aid the management of current water resources with an eye toward future strain on water resources.

Alden originates from Athens, Ohio, and is a student representative for the geology department. She conducts research on earth surface processes and water movement. Alden competed on the swim team for three years and is an active scuba diver. After graduation, she hopes to work for the National Park Service through the Geoscientist-in-the-Park program and, subsequently, to pursue graduate work in geology. She eventually wants to become a water quality specialist with the federal government.

ARIANNA GOODMAN BIOLOGY and GEOLOGY

Advisors: Marta Laskowki, Biology, and Steve Wojtal, Geology • Mentor: Michael Moore, Biology

Remote Sensing Gypsum in the Chihuahuan Desert

Plants that require specialized soils display complex but underexplored genetic patterns related to the distribution of the soils on which they live. A group of plants in the Chihuahuan Desert grow exclusively on island-like patches of gypsum, but the sites of these soils have been poorly mapped and incompletely explored. A comprehensive map of Chihuahuan Desert gypsum could help researchers answer questions about island biogeography in gypsophiles. My research focuses on using satellite imagery to remotely sense these gypsum exposures. I have used maximum entropy analysis and applied spectral indices to create large-scale, medium-resolution maps of gypsum in the region.

Arianna comes from Snohomish, Washington, and spends her free time cooking and playing outside. Involved with OGROW, Slow Foods Oberlin, and OSCA, she has spent winter terms learning about soil, working for a botanic garden, and looking at tectonic structures in California. Last fall, she took a semester off to study environmental science at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole. After Oberlin, she hopes to work outdoors in a conservation-related field.

CASSANDRA GUEVARA
EAST ASIAN STUDIES

Advisor: Suzanne Gay, East Asian Studies • Mentor: Jed Deppman, Comparative Literature

Facing Cultural Subjugation: Ainu and Okinawan Identity through Literature and Music

Long before the Japanese Empire embarked on its brutal campaign for the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, the Meiji government pursued a violent, nationalistic expansion to the islands of Hokkaido and Okinawa. The indigenous Ainu and the Okinawan peoples were subject to discrimination, displacement, and forced assimilation, resulting in cultural suppression, suffering, and death. An examination of their rich literature and music, from early Ainu folktales to modern-day “Uchina Pop,” provides under-represented perspectives on Japan’s long colonial history from within.

Cassie hails from West Nyack, New York. Since her first year at the college, she has sung with Collegium Musicum and played with Oberlin College Taiko, for which she is now cochair. During a yearlong study abroad program at Kansai Gaidai University in Osaka, Japan, she developed a strong interest in the history, music, and literature of Okinawa. She is currently researching the topic of Nisei (Japanese-Americans) in Oberlin during the World War II era. Cassie is a Shansi Fellow and will teach English at J.F. Oberlin University in Tokyo for two years after graduation.

ALEX HAMADA, HAN JUNG, KARL OROZCO
SOCIOLOGY (ALL)

Advisors: John Peason, Art, and Rick Baldoz, Sociology

Advisor and Mentor: Greggor Mattson, Sociology

Social Responses to Alcohol Flush Reaction

Although much literature exists on the biological processes related to alcohol flush reaction, little research has investigated the social responses to “flushing.” Flush reaction, while rare amongst whites, blacks and Latinos, heavily affects Asians. Within biology, alcohol flush reaction is commonly referred to as a “genetic defect” or “genetic mutation.” We analyzed interviews and focus groups from Oberlin College students (Asian Americans, non-Asian Americans, flushers and non-flushers). After examining the emotions felt by flushers and the perceptions of flushers, we argue against the classification of alcohol flush reaction as a “genetic defect.”

Alex is from Los Alamos, New Mexico; Han is from Seoul, Korea; and Karl is from New Milford, New Jersey.

WARREN HARDING
AFRICANA STUDIES and HISTORY

Advisors: Gordon Gill, Africana Studies, and Shelley Lee, History

Mentor: Meredith Gadsby, Africana Studies

Soundin’ National Cultcha: Creolization, Migration, and Jamaican Music

This project draws upon historical and postcolonial theories to highlight the problem of “authenticity” in Jamaican music. I argue that Jamaican musical genres should be historically located in a transnational music dialogue whose definition lay in the transnational experience of the dance hall. In order to do so, this project documents the developments in sound in Jamaican music between 1945 and 1962, and focuses on the varying sound movements in Jamaica, the invention and adoption of the Jamaican sound system, and the major actors in the rise of ska.

Warren comes from Kingston, Jamaica, by way of Staten Island, New York. As a former resident assistant of Afrikan Heritage House, cochair of Students of Caribbean Ancestry, and member of ABUSUA, he has been active in the Africana community on campus. Since junior year, he has volunteered at Langston Middle School, tutoring in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Spanish as part of the Practicum in Tutoring course and a Bonner scholar. Warren is also a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Research Fellow, for which he has been researching Jamaican cultural production after World War II. After college, Warren plans to apply to graduate school and obtain his PhD in history.

EMMA HOSFORD COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Advisor: Jed Deppman, Comparative Literature • Mentor: Steve Huff, German

A Translation of *Ränder* by Jürgen Becker

Jürgen Becker won the Gruppe 47 prize for *Ränder* in 1967. His writing has been described as not merely a novel, a story, or poetry, but rather an experimental mix all its own. He has been a prolific poet in the German literary scene since the early 1960s, and he is still writing and publishing books today. Becker, however, is almost completely untranslated. Many of his books use the visual arts, and he often works in collaboration with painters and photographers. This project includes my translation of the first chapter of *Ränder*. I also intend to create a book of this work, looking at the visual representation of the book as a translation in-and-of-itself.

Emma is from a small town outside of Ann Arbor, Michigan. She studied German at the Goethe Institute in Munich, and has always been passionate about the arts in all forms. Emma especially enjoys multi-media and book projects.

JONAH JOFFE BIOLOGY

Advisor and Mentor: Michael Moore, Biology

The Evolution of Ecophysiological Divergence in Asteraceae Tribe Coreopsidae

The Coreopsidae is an ecophysiological diverse tribe of plants in the sunflower family (Asteraceae) whose species inhabit a broad range of habitats, from tropical islands and aquatic ecosystems to grasslands and deserts. To resolve the evolutionary history of the tribe, two regions of the chloroplast genome and one from the nuclear genome were sequenced for approximately 75 species in Coreopsidae. The resulting phylogeny will be used to infer the evolution of ecological characteristics, such as a higher tolerance for arid climates or for gypsum substrates.

Jonah is from Wynnewood, Pennsylvania, and has worked in Professor Moore's lab since January 2011. He has had summer research internships at the New York Botanical Gardens and West Virginia University, respectively, and has been working on the Coreopsidae project since September 2012. After graduation, he hopes to pursue graduate studies in evolutionary biology. When not in the lab, he enjoys backpacking and playing bluegrass mandolin.

AIMEE KLINGBEIL RELIGION

Advisor: Cynthia Chapman, Religion • Mentor: Margaret Kamitsuka, Religion

Inclusivity and Incarnation: How the New Monasticism Straddles the Line Between Church and Culture

This project describes and analyzes New Monasticism, the phenomenon of intentional Christian communities in the contemporary United States. New Monasticism is situated here within the context of the Emergent Church Movement, with which it shares some history and theology. I also review some of the critiques of the New Monasticism — namely its lack of orthodoxy, extreme inclusivism, and claim to a superior way of Christian life. I argue that the New Monasticism's response to such critiques positions them uniquely between church and culture in such a way as to mirror the dual nature of the incarnated Christ.

Aimee comes from Cleveland and since freshman year has been heavily involved in Oberlin Christian Fellowship and has led several small-group Bible studies. In addition to religious studies, Aimee is passionate about the study of literature and enjoys writing creatively. After college, she hopes to find a way to merge her interests by pursuing a career involving artistic ministry and social justice.

THOMAS LA VOY
ECONOMICS and POLITICS

Advisor: Barbara Craig, Economics • Advisor and Mentor: Paul Dawson, Politics

The Disparate Effects of Photo ID Laws on Voter Turnout Across Race and Ethnicity

Increasingly strict photo ID voting laws have made the news in recent years. In 2012, federal courts blocked such laws from being implemented in both Pennsylvania and Texas. The sole piece of social science evidence considered worthwhile by the federal judges in the Texas case was a 2008 study at CalTech. This study seeks to address whether strict photo ID voting laws affect voter turnout between racial and ethnic groups and violate the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

Thomas is from Cheverly, Maryland. At Oberlin, he has been an active member of the Oberlin College Democrats and cochair of the Oberlin Student Finance and Investment Club. Thomas was a 2012 summer intern at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and this year he worked on campus as a student ambassador for the Partnership for Public Service. After Oberlin, Thomas may pursue an internship with the Friends Committee on National Legislation, the Washington, D.C.-based Quaker lobbying organization, or spend the next two years in the Peace Corps. He then plans to pursue a career in government, law, and politics.

CHARLOTTE LANDES
ECONOMICS

Advisor: Barbara Craig, Economics

Mentors: The Economics Department, especially Hirschel Kasper, Barbara Craig, Carlos Chiapa

Private Corrections, Public Implications: the Local Economic Realities of Private Prisons

The coercive power of the state is distinctive, and yet incarceration is becoming more widely privatized. For-profit prisons market themselves as a solution to municipal and statewide economic woes alike. Using standard Ordinary Least Squares models, I explore the relationship between privatized prisons and local economic health. Despite the companies' promises of secure, high-paying jobs, I find no significant relationship between the public/private nature of a prison and these economic indicators. Local and state officials would be well served by a careful review of advertised benefits before handing over to corporations the authority to detain and punish our fellow citizens.

Charlotte grew up on Lake Michigan and is a candidate for honors in the economics department. She has a longstanding interest in community-building and bureaucracy, and has served as a student senator and cochair of the Student Finance Committee for the last four semesters. Charlotte is also a founding member of the Food for Thought Collective, which capitalizes on the residential nature of Oberlin College to bring students and faculty together over home-cooked meals to discuss key topics needing the minds of the campus. After college, she hopes to continue to pursue social justice policy, research, or both.

SOFIA LEBLANC
HISPANIC STUDIES and PSYCHOLOGY

Advisors: Ana Cara, Hispanic Studies, and Patty Dewinstanley, Psychology

Mentor: Patrick O'Connor, Hispanic Studies

A Prison of Culture: Afterlives of the Dictatorship in a Community Arts Center

In Chile, wounds from the Pinochet dictatorship of 1973 to 1990 still fester under the surface of its "post-transitional" society. The regime of terror lives on in economic policies, architecture, the country's grave-pocked landscape, and in the everyday lives of Chileans. My research examines a former prison and torture center that has been converted into a cultural park: a space of culture, art, and community, sanctioned and administered by the state. It serves as a microcosm for Chile, which has chosen to erase its violent past while also perpetuating a system of class stratification and power structures that come directly from the dictatorship.

Sofia is originally from Frenchtown, New Jersey. She has spent four winter terms in Latin America taking silverwork

jewelry classes in Mexico, backpacking across Argentina, and conducting research on her honors project in Chile. She studied abroad in Valparaiso, Chile, works on campus as a Hispanic studies teaching assistant, and has worked for the Spanish in the Elementary Schools program. She spent several summers working for education reform in New Jersey. After college, Sofia plans to go back to Latin America and work in education policy.

KATHERINE LEMOINE
PSYCHOLOGY

Advisor: Cindy Frantz, Psychology • Mentor: Travis Wilson, Psychology

Achievement Goals as a Factor of Homophily

In this project, I examine how homophily, the tendency for children to affiliate with similar others, is related to children's achievement in terms of mastery goals (emphasizing effort and individual improvement) and performance goals (emphasizing ability compared to others). Much of the research in this field indicates that children befriend others similar based on visible characteristics, but I examine whether children affiliate on achievement goals—i.e., a less visible characteristic. Results indicate that third-grade children differ on their achievement goals but there are no sex differences; that is, males and females demonstrate similar patterns of achievement goals, preferring mastery to performance goals. Results concerning achievement goals within friendship groups are in progress.

Katie comes from Los Angeles. She is a lifeguard and Special Olympics swim coach. This is her third season as a captain of the women's rugby team at Oberlin, where she was instrumental in writing the team's trans-inclusion policy. Katie has been an intern at the American Civil Liberties Union and a member of the Oberlin Mock Trial Team. She also circumnavigated the globe with the University of Virginia's Semester-at-Sea program. Katie assists Travis Wilson with his research in developmental psychology and is expanding on that research in her psychology honors thesis. She plans to pursue a graduate degree in psychology.

ROCÍO LEÓN
HISTORY

Advisor: Pablo Mitchell, Comparative American Studies and History

Mentor: Gina Perez, Comparative American Studies

Lo que el carro cambio: Changing the Performance of Tradition in A Transnational Community

Migrants in the U.S. from Mexico continue to adapt the ways in which they maintain connections to their hometowns. Using oral histories and a transnational approach, this research analyzes the experiences of migrants from the rural town of Toyahua de Abajo, Zacatecas, Mexico and the celebration of La Fiesta de Octubre, an annual festival that occurs in honor of La Virgen del Rosario. I use the festival as a case study to understand how migration has transformed tradition and how migrants build on cultural and religious identities through economic and social engagement with their hometowns.

Rocío is from San Diego and is the daughter of Mexican immigrants. She is currently a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, a Bonner Scholar, and a member of La Alianza Latina, the Mexican-American Student Alliance. She has dined in Third World Co-op since her first year. After leaving Oberlin, Rocío plans to continue to work with migrant communities in Southern California.

MEGAN MacDONALD
COMPARATIVE LITERATURE and FRENCH

Advisor and Mentor: Grace An, Cinema Studies and French

Translation: Alexandra David-Néel's Writings on China and Tibet

Alexandra David-Néel's *Voyage d'une Parisienne à Lhassa* (1924) is a well-known memoir of her voyage as the first European woman to cross Tibet and enter the "forbidden city" during the early 1900s. Many of David-Néel's writings remain untranslated, including two articles addressing the intersection of race, gender, and nation amidst nascent globalization. I am translating them because David-Néel's work as a pioneering female explorer, even a century later, sheds light on enduring efforts toward cross-cultural understanding.

Megan comes from the Detroit area and is one of two student representatives in the French department. She has studied French with L'Alliance Française in Rouen, France, and at Bryn Mawr's L'Institut d'Études Françaises in Avignon, France. She is passionate about sexual assault prevention and works as a volunteer on the National Sexual Assault Online Hotline. When not studying French or comparative literature, she loves to blues dance. After graduation, she hopes to pursue a career in women's health.

ALICE McADAMS
COMPARATIVE LITERATURE and HISPANIC STUDIES

Advisors: Ana Cara, Comparative Literature, and Sebastiaan Faber, Hispanic Studies
Mentors: Sebastiaan Faber, Hispanic Studies, and Bernard Matambo, Creative Writing

Luis García Montero's *Quedarse sin ciudad*: The City as Phoenix in Post-Dictatorial Spain

We can cross borders without moving. Luis García Montero's 1994 prose poetry collection *Quedarse sin ciudad* (*To Be Left Without City*) addresses the emotional obstacles of living in a city that undergoes rapid cultural change, forcing the poet to be "a foreigner in his own desire, in his own city." It is a loving ode to Granada, Spain, at the same time that it catalogs the jarring, painful palimpsest of memory. I explore the dichotomies expressed in *Quedarse sin ciudad* and their function as a narrative of the sociopolitical evolution of Spain in the 1970s, '80s, and '90s, paying special attention to García Montero's feminization of the city and his use of prose poetry to illustrate the sense of duality that dominates this collection.

A Portland, Oregon, native, Alice is editor-in-chief of the Oberlin Review and the student major representative of the comparative literature department. She has studied Spanish language in Guadalajara, Mexico; volunteered on an organic farm in Almería, Spain; and studied at the Universidad de Córdoba in Córdoba, Spain. Her honors thesis this year includes original translations of two of García Montero's collections. Next year, Alice will pursue a master's degree in Spanish literature with Middlebury College in Madrid. After returning from Spain, she hopes to pursue a PhD in Hispanic studies, with a dual focus on Iberian studies and 20th-century Spanish poetry.

MAX MELLMAN
MUSICAL STUDIES

Advisor: Ellen Sayles, Associate Dean of Studies • Mentor: Paul Cox, Musicology

Engaging with Music Through Technology in the 20th Century and Beyond

This year, I have been creating Maestro, a music platform providing new ways for audiences and performers to interact and engage with music. In my capstone project, I explain Maestro's development process from inception to current iteration, and then frame it in the context of other technologies in music, beginning with the early 20th century. This will include the use of wax cylinders, magnetic tape, the Internet, and the orchestra. By investigating how people engage with these mediums, I will clarify my target audience and what I can contribute to how we think about music.

Max is a multi-instrumentalist from Montclair, New Jersey, and one of five proud seniors in the Obertones. This year, he

has been collaborating with computer science students to create *Maestro*, a music platform that turns all your devices into a speaker system, letting you control which instruments each speaker plays. During summers, Max is the song leader at Cedar Lake Camp, leading more than 600 campers and staff in Jewish song and services. Last year, he spent his spring semester in the Czech Republic, learning Czech language and culture. He plans to continue developing *Maestro* after graduation.

JOHN MICHAEL MOREIN

ART HISTORY

Advisor and Mentor: Sarah Hamill, Art History

Chris Burden: Body and Sculpture

In his most famous work, *Shoot*, artist Chris Burden had himself shot in the upper arm with a .22 caliber rifle fired by an assistant. While scholars have concentrated on the broader social and political ramifications of this violent and confrontational work, Burden himself has called *Shoot* and his other early performances “sculptures.” My research explores what it means to call a bodily performance a sculpture and what sculpture tells us about the broader social and ethical implications of this art.

John is from Lafayette, Louisiana, and has been active in the art history department as a writing associate and researcher of the Clarence Ward Art Library’s collection of artists’ books. He spent a winter term reconstructing the narrative of his hometown’s desegregation. After graduating, he hopes to work as a researcher for a Louisiana humanities endowment.

REBECCA MOSTOW

BIOLOGY

Advisor: Katherine Cullen, Biology • Mentor: Michael Moore, Biology

The Phylogenetic Reach of Hybridization-Based Enrichment

The goal of this project is to evaluate the efficacy of hybridization-based DNA enrichment over a wide phylogenetic range. Hybridization-based enrichment uses RNA probes to identify and extract multiple regions of interest from sampled DNA. In the case of this study, the regions of interest are the nuclear genomes of several groups of gypsum endemic plants. Baits are traditionally designed from and for the genome of a single species. I will use baits to enrich the nuclear genomes of species closely and distantly related to the bait source species. I will then use this data to analyze the effect of phylogenetic distance between bait source and target species on the efficacy enrichment.

Rebecca is originally from Seattle and is the proud captain of the intramural soccer team, the Stevenson Courage. She’s had a wide variety of research and travel experiences while at Oberlin, including studying the population dynamics of peccary in Panama, kelp reproduction in Alaska, invasive snails in San Francisco, and chromosome counting in Mexico City. She hopes to continue pursuing this winning combination of travel and research after graduating.

STEVEN NIEDBALA

ART HISTORY

Advisor: Sarah Hamill, Art History • Advisor and Mentor: John Harwood, Art History

Building the Post-Industrial Community: New Urbanism in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The conceptualization of the post-industrial era coincided with a revival of communitarian rhetoric in post-industrial theory. My research investigates how the nostalgic tendencies of architecture in the post-war era complements the economic imperatives of post-industrial capital. I use the case of urban development in the former industrial center of Pittsburgh to form a critical perspective upon the intersecting narratives of post-industrialism and post-war architectural history.

Steven hails from Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, a small Appalachian town that has inspired him to author a series of loose literary and musical explorations of rural life. He writes for the Grape student newspaper and serves as president of the Modern Music Guild. After Oberlin, he will continue his studies in the art history PhD program at Columbia University.

THOMAS NUNAN RELIGION

Advisor and Mentor: Paula Richman, Religion

Renegotiating a Beheading: Literary Opposition to Varna Hierarchy in Shambuka's Story

The *Ramayana's* Shambuka story tells of a controversial incident that has served as the basis for the negotiation and renegotiation of social power structures in India for thousands of years. Because the episode is fundamentally about India's system of caste hierarchy, or varna, any retelling will by its very nature engage in a formulation of relation between different social identities and locations. Close reading of these retellings reveals the ways in which the adaptations and appropriations of each version create new literary meaning that provide insight into varna hierarchy as a normative body of social control. Despite the Shambuka incident's hegemonic history, transgressive participation in this narrative tradition constitutes a form of literary opposition to the established order. By breaking the tradition's reiteration of normative ideologies, these retellings open space for new conceptions of power and varna relations.

Tommy was born and raised in Los Angeles. Within the religion department, his studies have focused on religion as a medium for social change, with a specific focus in South Asia. He is also an HIV peer tester and a trip leader for Immerse Yourself in Service. After college, Tommy hopes to teach.

NICHOLAS OSBORNE MUSICAL STUDIES

Advisor: Jared Hartt, Music Theory • Mentor: Paul Cox, Musicology

The Italian Madrigal, Anglicized: Modal Theory and Enharmonic Chromaticism

Using Elizabethan madrigals, I will shed light on the role of modality in the expressive chromaticism that plays a strong role in this repertoire. In 16th-century Italy, the madrigal was a compositional venue for experimentation in *musica ficta* and temperament, as discussed in the (often polemical) treatises of Zarlino, Vicentino, and Lusitano. By the time Nicholas Yonge published his Italian madrigal anthology *Musica Transalpina* (1588), this genre was already being naturalized in England. This leads to questions of performance practice, textual analysis, and theoretical assimilation that I examine through critical analysis.

Nico grew up by the sea in Newburyport, Massachusetts. A multi-instrumentalist and singer, he has performed with numerous choirs and bands in Oberlin and enjoyed being part of the exciting performing art scene. In the short term after college, Nico wants to work in the live- and studio-audio industry. In the long term, he plans to learn the trade of violin-making and restoration, with the eventual goal of producing historically informed stringed instruments.

MARION (MYUNG RANG) PARK NEUROSCIENCE

Advisor: Mark Bradford, Neuroscience • Mentor: Gunnar Kwakye, Neuroscience

Environment and Disease: The Effect of Heavy Metal Ions on Huntington's Disease

Huntington's Disease (HD) is a neurodegenerative disease characterized by motor, cognitive, and psychological impairments. Although HD is mainly a genetic disorder, emerging studies have reported the contribution of environmental factors, including heavy metals, pesticides, and toxins in modulating age-of-onset, severity, and symptomology of the disease. The current project is aimed at investigating the effects of heavy metals on the most vulnerable cells in the brain, medium spiny neurons. I examine the effects of manganese (Mn) on cell viability in

mouse cells. My preliminary results demonstrate a unique neuroprotective gene-environment interaction between the unhealthy brain cells and Mn exposure.

Marion hails from Auburn, Alabama. She has been working in the Kwakye lab for almost a year and previously worked in the Heng-gye Man lab at Boston University. She was active as a cochair for the Neuroscience Majors Committee and now is director of campaigns for GlobeMed and coartistic director for Koreo, a hip-hop dance troupe. Outside of school, she frequents the Multicultural Resource Center, works at the climbing wall at the gym, and enjoys photography. After graduation, she hopes to attend medical school while pursuing basic science research in neuroscience.

MAGGIE PAULIN

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Advisor and Mentor: Steve Volk, Latin American Studies

Teaching History in Post-Conflict Societies: The Case of Quetzaltenango, Guatemala

What is the role of education in a post-conflict society and how is history taught in a country that cannot agree upon its past? This project explores these questions within the context of Guatemala, where a 36-year civil war and genocide (1960-96) have resulted in a contested and fragmented national narrative. Based upon my observations of history classes in three high schools in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, I consider how the actions and words of individual teachers challenge and support the dominant narrative of the past and complicate the path towards a peaceful future. It is in the space of the classroom, I believe, that the past is made present.

Maggie, from Madison, Wisconsin, has pursued work in education as a Spanish in the Elementary Schools (SITES) instructor, a teaching assistant at Eastwood Elementary, and a co-instructor of the ExCo Contemporary Issues in Education. She is also the cofounder of Mi Casita Montessori, located in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, where she plans to teach after graduation.

CHRISTOPHER RACKAUCKAS

MATHEMATICS

Advisor: Robert Bosch, Mathematics • Mentor: Jim Walsh, Mathematics

Did Glaciers Cover the Planet? An Inquiry into “Snowball Earth”

When the Budyko model was first analyzed in 1969, an interesting stable state for the Earth’s climate system, known as Snowball Earth, was discovered. Since then, increasing amounts of evidence have been found to show that the Earth may have experienced massive glaciations 750 to 580 million years ago. However, the exact nature of the state is uncertain and alternative models have been proposed to explain the massive glaciations. One such model is the Jormungand model, which proposes that while most of the Earth was covered in glaciers, there was a small belt of open sea water near the equator caused by a change in the albedo of glaciers as they enter the Hadley Cell latitudes. In this presentation, we will investigate the scientific evidence of the debate and use it to formulate a model for the Jormungand state. We will then investigate the solutions and the implications of the model.

Chris’s research interests include the applications of dynamical systems to mathematical modeling in areas such as climate science and evolutionary biology, algorithmic issues dealing with high performance/scientific computing, and statistical modeling. An example of a past project is a Research Experience for Undergraduates at University of Maryland, where he learned high performance computing in R, C, and MATLAB and developed a graphical user interface for the Department of Natural Resources to monitor the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay. Upon graduating, Chris will enter graduate school to pursue a PhD in applied mathematics.

HANNAH SCHARLIN-PETTEE

CINEMA STUDIES and GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND FEMINIST STUDIES

Advisor: Geoff Pingree, Cinema Studies

Advisor and Mentor: Meredith Raimondo, Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies

The Abyssal Womb: Queer Spectatorship and Abjection in Horror Cinema

This project is the first section of my interdisciplinary cinema studies/gender, sexuality, and feminist studies capstone. Here I examine depictions of women in horror that specifically draw from the archetype of the archaic, abject, parthenogenetic mother. By engaging with psychoanalytic and feminist film theory, I explore the possibilities of a subversive queer spectatorship strategy through deliberate identification with the monstrous female “Other” in the films *The Wicker Man* (1973) and *The Descent* (2005). The second part of my capstone, which I am working on this semester with a grant from the Cinema Studies Program, is a short feminist horror film.

Hannah is from the greater Boston area. She was a film editor for an online course that trains Unitarian Universalist ministers about sexuality and health issues within pastoral care. She has also done outreach for women's films at the National Center for Jewish Film at Brandeis University. Hannah studied abroad at King's College London, where she received a Study Abroad Excellence Award. On campus, she has volunteered for the Students United for Reproductive Freedom, the Sexual Information Center, and was a housing and loose ends coordinator at Harkness Cooperative.

ELISE SHULMAN-REED

HISTORY

Advisor: Steve Volk, History • Mentor: Leonard Smith, History

Re-membering, Re-telling and Re-surfacing Histories: An Examination of Memory in Post-Dictatorial Chilean Society

After years of censorship, military control, and a carefully crafted Pinochet narrative, Chile in many ways is a country still reeling from its own tortured past, yet exhibits a sort of cultural amnesia. This past was brought to the forefront of public consciousness once again in December, when 17-year-old Benjamín González sparked widespread debate with his critical graduation speech, in which he stated that not once in his formal education was he taught about the dictatorship years. In my research, I examine the significance of post-traumatic memory in contemporary society through a detailed exploration of the events that unfolded after González's critique, particularly in the rhetoric employed to insult his dissenting viewpoints.

Elise comes from Northampton, Massachusetts. Since freshman year she has been involved with the Oberlin Review as news editor and Headwaters as former editor-in-chief. In spring 2012 she studied abroad in Valparaíso, Chile, and since returning to Oberlin has continued to study Latin American history and to learn and teach Spanish to first graders at Eastwood Elementary through the SITES program and to other college students as a Spanish Conversation Class TA. As a research assistant at the study-away office, Elise helps students begin to plan their abroad adventures. After college, she hopes to return to South America to continue her research on collective memory and examine successful models of bilingual education.

CARTER SLIGH

THEATER

Advisor: Caroline Jackson-Smith, African American Studies and Theater • Mentor: Paul Moser, Theater

The Winter's Tale

My project was to direct a fully staged version of William Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*. With my combined interests in theater and history, my goal was to create a historically relevant version of the play, one that strengthened Shakespeare's language and made clear the themes of the play for a modern audience. I placed the play in the 1950s and '60s, hoping to express the strictness and subsequent loosening of social mores present in the play through the historical setting. The production ran for five performances, with great box office success.

Carter is from Leesburg, Florida. Through the Oberlin Musical Theater Association and the theater program, he has participated in more than a dozen theatrical performances during his time at Oberlin. Carter spent a semester on the Oberlin-in-London program, where he found his passions for history and theater could truly coalesce. He has spent four semesters participating in Eastwood Elementary's outdoor classroom, teaching environmental science to kindergarteners. After Oberlin, Carter hopes to bring his love of theater and history into an educational setting.

EMMA SMART

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Advisor and Mentor: Patrick O'Connor, Comparative Literature and Hispanic Studies

César Aira and Spanish Inheritors of the French Avant-Garde

Spanish-language writers have struggled with the lack of non-professionalized literary channels in their homelands, often looking to Paris's avant-garde movements between the two world wars [such as Surrealism] as a source of generative inspiration. This project examines the Argentine author César Aira, as well as Argentine writer/cartoonist/ playwright Copi and Barcelonan novelist Enrique Vila-Matas, all of whom posit the French avant-garde as a center of gravity in their contemporary texts, exploring and adapting Surrealism's methods in a literature of frenzied activity and continuum.

Emma is from San Francisco and is the second grade level coordinator for the Spanish in the Elementary Schools program, as well as a manager at the 'Sco. She became interested in Argentine literature after studying at the school of philosophy and letters at the University of Buenos Aires. This year, she is the treasurer for the Big Parade and spends a lot of time talking about float wheels. Emma enjoys translating poetry and after college would like to become involved in literacy advocacy and bilingual education.

LAURA WEISS

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE and HISPANIC STUDIES

Advisor and Mentor: Jed Deppman, Comparative Literature

Obsession, Incest and Eating Dirt: Internalization and the Reader's Response in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*

Gabriel García Márquez referred to the room where he wrote *One Hundred Years of Solitude* as "the hermeneutically sealed compartment called "The Cave of the Mafia." This "cave," where Márquez wove the five-generation story of the Buendía family, can be compared to Melquíades's room, an important space in the novel for the characters that seek to decipher his manuscripts. In this room, these characters lose their sense of both space and time, causing them to spiral into solitude and isolation. Along with Márquez, readers of *Solitude* experience a parallel process, which I investigate alongside the fates of the other characters.

Laura is from Berkeley, California. She is a writing associate and has worked in the Writing Center and as a tutor for a first-year seminar. Laura writes and performs in a sketch comedy group and teaches ESL in Lorain. She has been involved in various groups on campus during her time at Oberlin, including a Beach Boys-themed a capella group. She hopes to spend the next year traveling and teaching in Latin America and plans to pursue a career in investigative journalism or working internationally with education and human rights issues.

SPENCER WIGHT

BIOLOGY

Advisor: Taylor Allen, Biology • Mentor: Michael Moore, Biology

Widespread Population Sampling of *Gaillardia* (Asteraceae)

The genus *Gaillardia* currently contains 21 different species and includes seven gypsum endemic species. Growth in these plants is restricted to gypseous soils, which isolates them in genetic islands, increasing diversity within species. We sequenced DNA from nuclear and chloroplast regions in multiple populations of species and constructed MP

trees in an attempt to further clarify the phylogeny of the genus. Our results support three separate evolutionary origins of gypsum endemism in *Gaillardia*, and two populations of *G. pinnatifida*, which grouped within a gypsum endemic clade, suggesting that they are in fact a previously undescribed gypsum endemic species.

Spencer hails from Rockville, Maryland. Outside the lab, he spends most of his time singing on and off campus, be it with the Obertones, Oberlin's premier all-male a cappella group, or Three Dudes and a Guy, his barbershop group. He spent this past winter term SCUBA diving off the coast of the Yucatan Peninsula and hopes to pursue a career in marine biology after graduation.

ANDREW WISE MUSICAL STUDIES

Advisor: Steven Plank, Musicology • Mentor: Paul Cox, Musicology

Evocations of Childhood in the Music of Ravel

Maurice Ravel's *Ma mere l'oye* (1910), *Trois Chansons* (1916), and *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (1925), written before, during, and after the Great War, respectively, evoke distinct representations of childhood and fantasy. In this project, I explore how and why these ideas are presented and changed from one piece to the next through musical and biographical analysis. Ravel's ideals of childhood and obsession with toys influence many of his compositions. These three pieces are selected to provide insight into how the Great War shaped Ravel's idealized vision of childhood.

Andrew hails from New Orleans, Louisiana. He is a pianist of 15 years, a soccer player of 16 years, a blues dancer of one year, and an all-around good dude. He currently works at the Slow Train Café, where he will be employed full time next year while he figures out what he wants to do with his life.

LISA YANOFSKY ART HISTORY and INDIVIDUAL CONSERVATORY MAJOR

Advisors: Susan Kane, Art History, and Lorraine Manz, Voice • Mentor: Erik Inglis, Art History

Painting Siblings, Performing Gender: Gaze and Pose in Sofonisba Anguissola's *Double Portrait of a Boy and Girl of the Attavanti Family*

Sofonisba Anguissola's *Double Portrait of a Boy and Girl of the Attavanti Family* (1580s) is an unusual example of a Renaissance portrait of children as it depicts a tender and caring relationship between a brother and sister, as opposed to the formalized adult relationships usually depicted. Using the Renaissance conceptions of children's roles as well as Sofonisba's oeuvre, I will open a discussion on the *Double Portrait of a Boy and a Girl of the Attavanti Family* as a performance of childhood, gender, and youth through the pose and gaze of the sitters.

Lisa is from the Boston area. She is currently a research assistant to Christina Neilson in the art history department and has enjoyed past research experiences at Oberlin's Sangro Valley Project in Italy. Active in the theater and dance community, Lisa recently performed at the American College Dance Festival and is performing at the Ohio Dance Festival this weekend. She spent her sophomore-year winter term teaching in Moshi, Tanzania, and hopes to revisit Tanzania this summer when climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, Mount Meru, and Mount Kenya. After college, she plans to attend the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

**WE ALSO CONGRATULATE THE FOLLOWING SENIOR RELIGION MAJORS,
WHO RECENTLY PRESENTED THEIR CAPSTONE PROJECTS:**

CAL BRISBIN	Non-Male Colors
DAN COOK	Beyond Anthropocentrism: A Panentheistic Ecotheological Proposal
FAJER SAEED EBRAHIM	An Islam of Our Own: Broadening the Dimensions of Holistic Liberation for Today's Muslim Women
HANNAH ELHARD	Reclaiming Our Place on God's Mountaintop; Reimagining a Liberation Theology for Appalachia
JULIE GAYNES	Mark's Understanding of Jesus Christ as an Exorcist Savior
LIZ MITCHELL	Jesus, Mary, and Kali: Christianity and Hindu Notions of the Divine
DIANA NAVARRETE	A Merging of Spheres: The Use of Images in Books of Hours for Communal Orthopraxy
DANIEL OSHIMA	Do We Really Know Rumi? Problems with Secularized Renderings of His Poetry
CAROLINE ROGERS	Moderating Secularism: A Survey of State-Religion Relationships and Religious Minorities
MICHALA ROLLE	Women's Enlightenment in the Japanese Nichiren Buddhist Tradition: The Challenge for Risshō Kōsei-Kai
BRIANNA SCHLESINGER	Islamic Perspective on Organ Donation: Applying Eastern Scholarship to a Western Context
STEPHEN SCOTT	Augustine of Hippo: Exegetical Developments in the Treatment of Genesis 2-3
HANNAH SEIDEL	Petition, Prayer, and Poetry: The Composition of Non-liturgical Healing Prayers in Modern Judaism
LEIGH SMITH	Addicts in Context: An Ethical Analysis of Care for Addicts
THEA TOLENTO	Opening Gateways, Clearing Channels: Breath and the Spirit of Inclusivity in Chishti Meditative Practice and Mughal India
EMILY WILSON	The Literary Imagination as Ethical Agent: Understanding the Work of Percy and Pinckaers as Parallel Critiques of Enhancement Technologies

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