Starving for Beauty
I write. I write for myself as a creative outlet, to inspire others and to bring other people's stories to life. I once told a professor that I wanted to take my readers by the hand and immerse them into the life of another person. This is my one goal in life; to take people on a journey, with me. Although you, yourself may hate writing, I'm willing to bet there's something out there that you're just as passionate about.

There are millions of ways to express yourself. Whether it be through writing, theater, sports, art, music or even tattoos, there are a million things that make you, well, you.

In this issue of the T&C magazine we've combed the campus to highlight how Otterbein students express themselves; we've even searched some phones along the way. From a sophomore composer to students dealing with eating disorders we've met some pretty impressive individuals.

So come with me, take my hand as we discover their stories together. Take a look at some of the hidden organizations Otterbein has to offer, let's explore the beautiful and unique tattoos of current students, and for a laugh, we can stop by page 8 and see a dating dictionary that one of our reporters put together which asks both the young and the old to define words such as “bae” and “backseat bingo.”

I hope you find that whatever your passion, whoever you love, whatever makes you, is as wonderfully unique as the people we've encountered in the creation of this issue.

Happy reading!

Taylor Numbers
editor-in-chief

Cover Photo // Susanna Harris
TABLE OF CONTENTS

features

Tattoo You // pg. 12
Take a peek at some body art on campus and find out what you should consider before getting a tattoo.

The Curtain Rises // pg. 16
Explore the rich history of Otterbein’s great Theatre Department.

Study Abroad // pg. 24
Discover the adventures of students who have studied abroad.

Audience of One // pg. 28
Read about how these student athletes express themselves through their faith.

profiles

Alumni with Cool Careers // pg. 4
Delve into the exciting life of a former Otterbein student who’s now an Assistant Editor.

Arranging Success // pg. 19
Get to know sophomore Michael Grimm and how he became talented in a cappella arrangement so early in life.

The Inner Food Fight // pg. 20
Uncover the inside life of Otterbein students with eating disorders.

Where in the World are you from // pg. 31
From Ghana to Westerville, experience growing up in different cultures with Claudia Owusu.

extras

Dating Package // pg. 6
Get a real in-depth look at the evolving world of dating.

What’s on your Phone // pg. 11
Look into the phone of a college student to see what apps make them tick.

Hidden Organizations // pg. 23
Explore the organizations you can get involved in on campus.

Otterbein’s Hall of Famers // pg. 26
Learn about the painting that features many of the most influential people in Otterbein’s history.

By the Numbers // pg. 32
Find interesting numbers and statistics from our stories on the back cover.
I t’s that time of year again. Seniors are starting to realize that there’s no such thing as senioritis in college and it’s finally time to put on that suit, or pencil skirt, and start looking for a grown-up job. But finding a job after graduation can prove quite the challenge. For this issue’s featured alumnus, the networking she did while she was still in college was ultimately what landed Lindsay Paulsen her dream job.

Assistant Editor at Dressage Today magazine
In 2014, Lindsay Paulsen graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in both Journalism and Equine Business and Facility Management with the dream of becoming the editor at an equine magazine. Today, she is the proud Assistant Editor at Dressage Today magazine, a national equine publication that is based out of Gaithersburg, Maryland.

What does your job as Assistant Editor at Dressage Today magazine entail?
As its name suggests, it focuses on a type of riding called “dressage,” which is a French term for training. We say that our magazine caters to a “niche within a niche,” so we talk to a very specific and well-educated audience of dressage enthusiasts. Our magazine covers everything from training articles to horse-health updates to equestrian fashion pieces.

Although we are a national publication, our staff is fairly small, which means I wear many hats! My day-to-day activities typically consist of editing articles, managing our social media platforms, selecting photos for the magazine, writing articles, interviewing industry experts, updating our website and communicating with other equine companies to learn about current horse products on the market.

How hard was it to find a job after graduation?
By the time January of my senior year of college rolled around, I was a mess wondering where the heck I would be after graduation. I always knew that I wanted to work for an equestrian magazine, but jobs in such a specific field aren’t always easy to come by and I didn’t expect to land one immediately after graduation.

I had interned with Dressage Today after my sophomore year of college and interned for their sister magazine, Practical Horseman, based in the same office the following summer. Right before my senior year of college began, Dressage Today asked me if I would be interested in working remotely on a part-time schedule during my final year of college. Of course I said yes, but I was doubtful that it would turn into a full-time position after college.

On one spectacular February day, several months before graduation, I got a phone call from Dressage Today asking if I wanted to join the team full time. And now, here I am!

The funny thing is that for months after I was offered the job, I was in such disbelief that I nearly expected someone to call me up and say, “Sorry, Lindsay. We were just kidding. Psych! Good luck in your job hunt!” I wouldn’t say that finding a job was a matter of difficulty, but it was a matter of being committed to my vision and being in the right place at the right time!

What advice would you have for recent graduates?
Go for the long shot. Working for Dressage Today was my dream job and I think it happened mostly because of the internship I had done with them. When I was initially looking for the internship, I sent an email to someone thinking it was out of my reach. Much to my surprise, it turned out that the opportunity was right there for the taking.

Also, if you have a really specific goal in mind...
for what you want to do, don’t settle for a more comfortable option because it is easier. It would have been easier and more comfortable to go home for those summers or to stay at school with friends, but I was ready for the challenge. And in hindsight, I can’t think of a more worthwhile experience.

What was the most difficult thing about going from an education setting to a professional setting?

That’s an easy one. Sitting at a desk for eight hours a day is kicking my butt. I love my job and I could not possibly be more interested in the subject matter—but I really miss the constant change of scenery that I had in college to keep my mind refreshed. In school, you’re all over the place. Now, I sit in the same spot all day. And no matter how interesting I think my job is, staring at the same screen all day can occasionally turn my brain to mush.

What do you think made you stand out from other applicants for your position?

I think the biggest thing I had going for me was an established relationship with my employers. They had known me for almost a year and a half before they hired me full-time, and they already knew how I performed at my job. They knew my skills and capabilities. They had seen me on my good days and my bad days over the course of several months, so it was like I had already taken the job for a test ride.

When I was an intern, I went really out of my way to make a lasting impression. I stayed late to finish stories and to sometimes even do more mundane tasks, like organizing magazines. If they asked me to do anything, the answer was always “yes.” I never said no. I wanted them to remember me.

What is the “coolest” aspect of your position?

Where do I start? I think the coolest thing about my job is that I get to spend every day immersed in something that I love. I have always loved horses. I love to write and edit stories. I love the study of dressage. I love riding and I love the community. I’ve always been hungry to learn more about it in any way I can, and my job allows me to do that completely. When I was a kid, I had photos of riders I idolized that were ripped from the pages of magazines and taped onto my bedroom wall. Next week, I actually have an interview with one of the riders whose photo I had on my wall as a kid. I’m still trying not to freak out about it. What could be better than getting to work with your childhood idols? I also get to wear my riding clothes to work, so that’s a plus, too.

How many hours “off the clock” do you spend preparing or doing additional things for your job?

It depends on the week. For the most part, my job is a 9-5 desk job. However, when we’re on magazine deadline, I make sure my evenings are clear so I can stay late at the office if I have to. Things are also a little different if we’re covering a horse show or we’re at a trade show where we work from early in the morning to late in the evening, and we don’t do much else besides work, eat and sleep. However, I don’t travel that often, so the hours are pretty consistent.

How do you like to spend your downtime away from your job?

This might be stating the obvious, but I spend most of my time outside of work at the barn or riding. Reading about dressage all day motivates me to be a better rider myself, so I’m investing a lot of my time in riding as many horses as often I can.

Separate from riding, I like to spend weekends exploring the city and going to new restaurants and bars with my friends. I’m also an avid Pinterest fan, so I like to do a lot of crafting, or attempting to craft, at least. I’m trying to convince myself that I like to cook, but so far that isn’t going well and instead, Chipotle just seems to be getting a lot of my business.

What are your future goals for your professional life?

You mean, like, besides wanting to become the equestrian-mogul version of Beyonce? I’m honestly still trying to figure that out since I reached my long-term goal much earlier than I had expected. I’m really happy where I am at the moment, but writing a novel is on my bucket list. I also really want to move forward in my riding career as well, so maybe that will be where I turn my attention next. Stay tuned!
Remember the good ol’ days when asking out a girl was, as simple as asking her? Not many people do. When did taking a girl out to dinner and a movie turn into ‘Netflix and chill’?

Otterbein has seen a lot of changes over the years and romance is one of them. Nowadays the game has changed. Our predecessors didn’t have Tinder and Snapchat, they actually had to talk to people. Our generation has so many more things going on that it can be hard for us to find “the one.”

Tinder, a popular dating app, has changed the way college students meet each other. With a simple swipe to left or right, people can interact with many others without having ever met before.

Lexi Roberts, a junior middle childhood education major, uses Tinder to meet new people quite often.

“Once you both swipe, the hard part is out of the way,” she said, speaking from several experiences with people she met on Tinder. “I think as a generation we rely less on face to face interaction, which is kind of sad.”

You take college for granted when it comes to meeting new people.

Zach Garster // ‘11 Alumna

Roberts notes she has never had anybody simply ask her out on a “real date” in person before. But simply “asking somebody out” isn’t impossible. It’s been done before and not too long ago.

Zach and Elizabeth Garster, Otterbein graduates of 2011, said that the dating scene when they went to school was very different. Back then you just had to say “hello.”

It was their sophomore year of college and in the middle of the pledging season. Zach Garster, an active member of Sigma Delta Phi, specifically wanted one person to be his switch little, Liz Weger. Liz, pledging the sorority Epsilon Kappa Tau, didn’t think much of her future husband at the time.

“At first I thought he was a douche, so I found out he was my switch big, I thought ‘oh great, this kid…’,” Liz said.

But Liz went above and beyond on all of her pledging duties to even write poems. “She really impressed me by writing not just a good limerick, but a good and funny limerick,” Zach said.

But before too long, he developed feelings for Liz, so much so he couldn’t even think about holding it in anymore. So he did what any confused college kid would do at the time; he called his mom.

After advice from his mom, he called Liz over their spring break to say “So I think I’m in love with you.” Unfortunately she was dating somebody else at the time.

“Once you know someone likes you, you see them differently,” Liz said.

They were together by the end of sophomore year. Two years later, on June 23, 2013, they were happily married.

Mr. and Mrs. Garster met “the old fashioned way” without an app, but in person. “You take college for granted when it comes to meeting new people,” Zach said.

Back then, the only way to Netflix and chill was to wait for the DVDs your parents would send you through the mail. Even though many things have changed, some things still stay the same. The nervousness of meeting someone new is daunting. But sometimes all you have to do is take a chance and say “Hello.”
Are you in a confusing “relationship” with someone? Do you not know where you stand with the person you like? Do you do everything a couple would do but not have that (boyfriend/girlfriend) title you want? Then you are probably, as we say these days, “talking” to someone. No, I don’t mean that you are just having a conversation with someone. Talking is a modern term people use to refer to a certain stage in a relationship; usually the early or beginning stages of the relationship.

During the talking stage, you may experience the totally confusing issue of not knowing where you stand with the person you like. It is also common that you probably text, FaceTime, tweet and snapchat them often, but unfortunately you might not be the only person they are texting and getting to know. A lot of times, during the talking stage, some guys (or girls) believe that because you are only talking to that person and not exclusively dating them, it is okay to “talk” to other people.

In the old days, people would define dating as going out on dates and getting to know someone (kind of like how we define talking). However, these days dating is a commonly used term for, as old people would say, “going steady” or also known as being “in a relationship.” If you are dating someone, you (hopefully) are faithful to one person and one person only; your significant other, or as I like to say: you two are exclusive. You probably go on real dates, not just hang out. You are likely to have met the friends, and possibly the family.

When you are talking to someone, it is up to you to set the terms and conditions and what you want out of the relationship. Tell them straight up: “I just want to get to know you, take things slow and see where things go,” or “If we are going to do this, I would appreciate if you respect that you are the only person I want to talk to and I want to be the only person you are talking to,” or “Look, I like you, but I’m really looking to just have fun right now and explore my options.”

Just be honest, people!

Now, as some of you may have experienced, the talking stage could last way too long. Some people just talk forever and never end up getting what they want out of the relationship. Usually that means the other person has commitment issues and that you should probably just end things now. It could also mean that the other person might be using you, and you definitely need to end it now.

But if you have been talking to someone for way too long and you want something more out of it (like a title or being exclusive) then sit down and have that conversation with them. If things get awkward or go downhill then you know it’s not going to work out and it’s just not meant to be. And you should be glad you are done wasting time on something that was never going to go anywhere. If things turn out good and you finally define your relationship, congratulations you’ve learned how to communicate with your partner!

But, no seriously, that’s great because communication is key to any relationship. I have been with my boyfriend for almost six years now and if there is one thing I have learned over the years, it is to always have good communication between the two of you in the relationship. Don’t go through things, GET through things. Together.

If you are lucky enough to find an amazing person to be with, like I was, and you have set your boundaries and made everything clear you are now “dating” that person.

Another perk of dating someone is that you get that title. Meaning you are now officially the boyfriend or girlfriend. You may now post your “man crush monday” (#mcm) or “woman crush wednesday” (#wcw) via Facebook, Instagram and Twitter if you’d like (but not every week please) and mention them in your bio. You finally know where you and your partner stand and it’s pretty freaking great.

Whether you are talking to someone or dating someone, always be true to yourself and make sure you master that communication piece.
DATING DICTIONARY

Bae  \Bey\ noun
Stephen Horwat, 66  “Lingo for babe.”
Kiera Hackman, 19  “Acronym for ‘before anyone else’.”

Back Seat Bingo  verb
Bob Murphy, 74  “Sex in the backseat of a car.”
Luke Hassenphlug, 21  “Foolin’ around in the back seat.”

Basic  \bà-sik\ adjective
Alyce Horwat, 57  “Not fancy, a negative term.”
Zachary Russ, 19  “If someone matches a certain stereotype or cliché, they are basic. Like if a blonde is dumb, she fits the stereotype.”

Facebook Official  adjective
Linda Murphy, 64  “Validation by Facebook.”
Brooke Nagorki, 21  “When your relationship is on Facebook and your request is accepted to be in the relationship.”

Getting Pinned  verb
Diane Wootman, age unknown  “Accept the pin of your frat boyfriend, going steady.”
Seth Hazen, 18  “Getting held down when things get heated.”
Little Black Book  *noun*
Stephen Horwat, 66  “Guys writing girl’s names and numbers in a book that you hide from your wife.”
Caleb Keyes, 19  “A collection of people who you may be interested in.”

Netflix & Chill  *verb*
Linda Murphy, 64  “Chilling with someone and watching a movie.”
Lilly Van Wyngaarden, 19  “Like, ‘Come over and let’s have Netflix on in the background while we do other stuff’.”

Sliding into someone’s DM’s  *verb*
James Prysock, 28  “Referring to Twitter, sending a person a direct message. Usually whoever is receiving the DM doesn’t want to be receiving the message.”
Will King, 20  “Sending nudes via social media.”

Thirsty  *adjective*
Alyce Horwat, 57  “Looking for a date.”
Chelsae Staton, 21  “Somebody that’s desperate to get laid.”

Wooing Someone  *verb*
Dan Steinberg, 60  “When you’re past flirtation stage, before the relationship stage, you woo them to get to the relationship stage.”
Geoffrey Gear, 19  “Sort of like putting on the charm, but not in a weird way.”
Java Central
20 South State St.
Uptown Westerville
(across from City Hall)
- the Music and Arts Café

Comfortable, multiple-rooms, seating for 60, free WI-FI.
Our own specialty coffees and drinks, and great food!
Live music Fri. and Sat.

Try our new NITRO BREW!
Nitro-infused cold brew specialty coffee drawn from a tap!

Like a coffee-based Guinness*
- cold, rich, creamy and oh so SMOOTH
(*non-alcoholic)
What’s on your Phone?

by Emily Jeffries

There is no denying that this generation loves their phones. Kendra Tilton, sophomore early childhood education major, admits that she loves her iPhone. Her phone has an array of apps that range from getting the inside scoop on Otterbein drama to aiding her distress during long hours of studying at the library. Take a look at the apps of a college student to see what entertainment is available with just the click of a download button.

**Spotify**

This app is an online music radio that plays certain artists, stations and genres based on the listener's preference. “I love music and I like finding different kinds of music from the radio. It is my go-to study buddy,” Tilton said.

**Pinterest**

This crafty app clusters certain images into PinBoards through social media. These PinBoards can collect ideas like travel destinations, recipes, workout tips and much more.

**Tumblr**

Tumblr is a shorter, more condensed form of blogging with images and accounts that people can follow for entertainment and inspiration.

**Netflix**

This app provides its viewers with internet streaming for movies, documentaries and TV shows. “Who doesn’t like to binge watch ‘The Office’?” Tilton said.

**Yik Yak**

This anonymous social media app allows people to post and look at other Yaks that have no identity linked to them. On Yik Yak the users can be discussing things that range from helpful freshmen tips to school gossip.

**Snapchat**

This photo-sending app sends pictures to recipients that are deleted after a certain amount of time. “Snapchat is a fun thing to do when I’m bored. It’s like texting through pictures,” Tilton said.

**Google Docs**

This app is a cloud-based software that helps people share documents online with others. It is open to editing and fixing at any time. This is a great app for students who do a lot of collaboration writing work. It allows for people to work in groups virtually through this app.
I'm in pain. My best friend holds my hand as I sit still, stunned and afraid of movement. One needle continuously pierces my skin. Over and over again, it leaves behind a design by inserting pigment into the puncture it has made in my skin. My mother begged me not to do this; yet, here I sit, leaning over a cold, black leather chair, topless might I add, in a sketchy looking two-story building entrusting some stranger to permanently mark my body.

I put a lot of thought into this. The tribal bird that rests atop my shoulder blade is significant to me for many reasons. First of all, it was designed by my sister-in-law, so it is unique to my body. Second, it's a literal translation of my favorite quote from my all-time favorite book, Tuesdays with Morrie. That quote states: "Do what the Buddhists do. Every day have a bird on your shoulder that asks, 'Is today the day [that I will die]? Am I ready? Am I doing all I need to do? Am I being the person I want to be?'"

As you can see, contrary to what my mother thinks, I didn't just go get a tattoo all willy-nilly. There are various studies about tattoos that show what the most important things to consider are when getting a tattoo.

**Self Expression:**

When I first came up with the idea for my tattoo, I was a senior in high school, but I didn't get inked until my sophomore year in college. I gave myself an ample amount of time to think through the idea, make sure it wasn't an impulse decision and to make sure the meaning behind it was something I wanted to stand for. A 2013 academic study entitled “The dilemmas of embodied symbolic representation: Regret in contemporary American tattoo narratives” expanded upon the importance of meaning behind the tattoo.

This qualitative study found that when someone gets a tattoo, they feel the need to justify it with a level of profound, symbolic meaning. Those people who feel like they don't live up to or fulfill those meanings become distressed. When people cannot reconcile or transcend the dynamic and relative nature of their tattoos' symbolic meanings, they feel regretful and oftentimes opt for tattoo coverups or removal.
Words have no power
to impress the mind
without the exquisite
horror of their
reality.
Placement:

As far as placement goes, mine was pretty much decided for me in the literal translation of the quote. However, it is a key factor one should take into consideration before permanently marking the body. The obvious reason to think about placement is the fact that the body stretches over time. When you gain or lose weight, the body stretches and tightens accordingly, oftentimes causing stretch marks. But if you have a tattoo, it could become distorted after that process. One should avoid getting a tattoo on any region of the body that stretches often, such as the stomach.

Placement also becomes a factor when you want your tattoo to look good for as long as possible. Tattoos in places such as hands or fingers will most likely fade within a few years because they are exfoliated often.

Perhaps the most obvious reason to think about placement is employment. It can be seen that the millennial generation believes the world is changing with them, that the people employing them are also a part of the ever-changing society. However, in “Tattoos and Piercings: Issues of Body Modification and the Workplace” they focus on the legal aspects of hiring and employing individuals in the U.S. with body piercings, tattoos and other body modifications. This study notes that, generally speaking, discrimination in employment based on tattooing and body piercing is not illegal.

Furthermore, in a study entitled “Visible tattoos in the service sector: a new challenge to recruitment and selection,” concluded that hiring managers were a source of prejudice against visible tattoos but only because of the way they believed their customers would perceive these individuals. The author went on to state that even individuals with tattoos judge others with larger, more visible tattoos.

Know the Artist:

When I first brought up the idea for my tattoo with my brothers, they quickly came up with a list of tattoo shops that I was allowed to go to. Since they both have five or more tattoos themselves, they seemed like the most reliable sources. Luckily for me, my sister-in-law designed my tattoo so I didn’t put as much thought into the artist as I could have.

A study titled “Determinants of a lasting purchase: The case of the tattoo patron” jointly studied cognitive and emotional factors during a consumer’s decision to make a large, lasting commitment. Part of this study looked at perceived trust in the tattoo artist. They found that people’s intent to purchase a tattoo is related to the perceived trust in the tattoo artist.

It is important to realize that, just like doctors, tattoo artists know what they’re doing and specialize on different parts of the body. So after picking the shop, one should get to know the certain artists, or at least do so much background that they feel like they know the artist. With social media these days, that shouldn’t be a problem. Make sure to check each artist’s Facebook, Instagram or maybe their website if they have one.

Pricing:

Although there is no academic study on pricing of a tattoo, it is still a key factor. It is important to know that most tattoo shops have what they call a “minimum.” The minimum covers the basic expenses of the tattoo, like the fresh ink and sterile needle. That means that those little stars people have behind their ears or the mustache tattooed on people’s fingers probably cost them about $50 to $75, which doesn’t seem like much when you consider it’s a lifetime purchase, but to the average person, may seem ridiculous.

The fact that tattoos are permanent marks on the body should be enough to make people realize that this is no time to bargain shop. This isn’t a BOGO sale at Payless; this is serious and you should be concerned if your large tattoo seems too cheap. Make sure whichever artist you choose is worth the money. And remember to tip your artist the same you would with a server (20% or more) as a thank you for making your own special tattoo flawless.
Lily Grace is a senior allied health major here at Otterbein. She thought of the idea for her tattoo one week and then the next week decided to get it. Grace admits to taking placement and meaning into consideration, but believes that her ultimate go ahead came through a sign she received on the way to the studio.

“When I was going to get it, the song Breathe by Ryan Starr came on shuffle and that’s where the idea came from,” Grace said. “And I was like ok, this is right, this is meant to be.”

Her tattoo is located on her ribs and says “Just Breathe” for her anxiety. It serves as a reminder that everything will be ok if you just breathe.

Adam Piccin is a senior with a double major in public relations and health communications. To date, Piccin has a total of nine tattoos. The biggest of which is a forest consisting of four trees that extends from his calf to his ankle.

“I got that tattoo because the tree has always been kind of symbolic to me; of my life, just kind of growing and changing. Life changes and evolves and you just have to go with it,” said Piccin.

Piccin notes that he waited about a year after thinking of each individual tattoo before he got it. In that time, he took into consideration what his family and peers would think. He also considered placement and how easily he could hide them for employment purposes. Each of his tattoos remain covered when he dresses for work.

“When people ask Piccin if he is still going to want his tattoos when he’s 80 years old, he responds: “Well if you can guarantee me that I’m going to be alive and well when I’m 80, then I will consider it, but I would rather live in the moment now and do what makes me happy.”

Mijewell Gabriel is a freshman nursing major. When brainstorming ideas for her tattoo, Gabriel says she wanted something that meant something to her.

“I knew I wanted a quote, so I picked one from my favorite poet,” said Gabriel. “And I thought since it’s a dandelion blowing, it would look best on my back.”

Gabriel didn’t have to worry about her parents freaking out since they both knew ahead of time, and her mother took her to get it. She made sure to get something that was easy to cover so she wouldn’t have to worry about employment.

Luke Hasenpflug is a senior early childhood education major here at Otterbein. Before getting inked, Hasenpflug admits that he took multiple things into consideration including his mother, future employment, placement and which shop.

After much research, he chose to go to Evolve, which is a tattoo studio in uptown Westerville. He chose the lower bicep since it would be easier to hide during teaching. Although his mom was thrown off guard when he revealed it to her, she does admit that she likes it.

His tattoo reads “dancing through life” and is located on his lower bicep. It was inspired by the musical Wicked, and Hasenpflug decided to get this tattoo after he injured his knee while dancing.

“I’m not able to dance anymore and so I am dancing through life,” Hasenpflug said.
William Shakespeare once wrote: “All the world’s a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits, and their entrances, and one man in his time plays many parts.”

Odds are you’ve probably read or heard this line before. Perhaps it was in your English class or in high school drama. For Otterbein University’s Theatre Department, whose students do indeed “play many parts,” this line is held in high regard. So much so, that *As You Like It* was the first production staged on campus on the front lawn of Towers Hall.

It is a program that has evolved over time and is one of the first things people think of when they hear the word “Otterbein.”

The theatre department’s historical origins really began with the formation of a group called the Otterbein Lyceum. The organization was founded in 1851 by a small group of students including Benjamin Russell Hanby. It was a place where they could practice parliamentary procedure, public speaking and debate.

According to Stephen Grinch, Otterbein’s archivist, “It was big, because everybody wanted to be in it.” The students involved in the Lyceum met weekly for dramatic readings, speech-giving and performances. Lyceum members also presented one-act plays. In fact, the first reading of a dramatic work took place during a meeting. Eventually, the Lyceum split into various literary societies.

Although the literary societies did practice dramatic oration and read from classic works and plays, the theatre department did not yet exist. According to Stephen Grinch, if there were performances given at that time, they were most likely done through the English department.

Otterbein Theatre has come a long way since the summer of 1907 when that first Shakespeare performance was given. As the theatre department evolved, two of the most notable faculty members were Dr. Charles W. Dodrill and Fred “Pop” Thayer. These were the two men who really helped the department grow.

“IT WAS THE KIND OF THEATER WHERE I LEFT FEELING MOTIVATED.”

*Natalie Szczerba // Junior Theatre Major*
Stephen Grinch describes these men as “two sides of the same coin.” For example, Dodrill was a force of nature and Thayer was more of a nurturer.

Mark Peters, a theatre alumnus from 1970, describes Dodrill as a “flamboyant personality, a hard driver, and very demanding.”

In contrast, Peters said, “Fred was this quiet, caring, effective person, to be quite frank. He probably wasn’t the best designer in the universe, but he was exactly the right person to counteract Dodrill.”

As it has modernized, the theatre department has had continued success, including various local awards from the Columbus Dispatch and The Central Ohio Theatre Critics. Students in the fields of acting, light design and costume design have also won awards.

“It was the kind of theatre where I left feeling motivated and just wanting to pursue my dream even more,” junior theatre major Natalie Szcerba said.

The department has produced notable alumni as well. These include Dee Hoty, a three-time Tony Award nominee, Sam Jaeger, of the television show Parenthood, and Cory Michael Smith, who plays The Riddler in the television series Gotham.

Current students, like Szcerba, have benefited from their department’s success. “What I love about our department is that everyone wants what’s best for each other,” Szcerba said.

Szcerba attributes the department’s success to one thing. The heart of it all.

The 2015-2016 Otterbein theater season begins with the musical RENT! Other productions include William Shakespeare’s Much Ado About Nothing and Fiddler on the Roof.

Hans Conried, the voice of Captain Hook in Disney’s Peter Pan, comes to Otterbein and serves as the university’s first guest artist.

Dodrill, the longtime chairman and director of the theater department, retires.

Cowan Hall is renovated. The theater is also given a new name: Fritsche Theatre

1962

1967

1991

1993

2005

2015

The Otterbein Summer Theater Series begins in the new (and air conditioned) Campus Center

Thayer, longtime theater professor, retires.
Michael Grimm, a sophomore music education major, came to Otterbein and not only discovered his love for education, but he also found success as a talented vocal arranger of a cappella music.

Grimm exceeds the expectations of a typical college sophomore by reaching goals that some work for their whole lives. Grimm’s talent in a cappella arrangement has resulted in the widespread distribution of his work across the world.

Grimm’s arrangements have been performed not only at Otterbein, but also in other places such as other areas of Ohio, Colorado, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

The internet was key in allowing Grimm’s music to be shared in so many places.

Grimm used the website Betteracappella.com for what he thought would be a place for him to personally keep track of his arrangements. Instead, he started getting hits from all over the world. People were hearing his pieces and wanted to use them.

It all started during his freshman year. Grimm joined Ottertuned, he assisted the musical directors and arranged for the group. Last year, Ottertuned joined Ottertuned, he assisted the musical directors were hearing his pieces and wanted to use them.

Grimm started getting hits from all over the world. People for what he thought would be a place for him to places.

The arrangement has resulted in allowing Grimm’s music to be shared in so many places.

A cappella requires changing the original instrumental parts of a song into voice parts for the arrangement. To begin his arranging, Grimm chooses a song and breaks down the melodic and harmonic components to fit the voice parts of the group he’s writing for.

Grimm said that his favorite part about the arranging process is when he gets the chance to hear a group perform one of his arrangements live.

Grimm also did other arrangements for Otterbein. Camerata, a former choir at Otterbein, performed Grimm’s version of “Moon River” from “Breakfast at Tiffany’s” during the spring of 2015.

Arrangements by Grimm of the “Otterbein Love Song” for both the Men’s Chorus and the Women’s Chorale look as if they are going to stay in the Otterbein music library for decades to come.

Junior Lauren Blumberg, fellow music education major, has had the opportunity to work alongside Grimm in the music department and see his talent grow.

“Michael is not only a talented musician, but a passionate educator with a genuine desire to inspire children through music,” Blumberg said. “He is wise far beyond his years and has a bright future ahead of him in the music education field.”

Though his success is impressive for his young age, Grimm still has many goals for the future.

Grimm would love to teach elementary music classes. Further down the road, he dreams of directing his own a cappella group and full concert choir.

Besides his obvious talent and passion for music, Grimm has a desire to make a difference in the lives of children through teaching.

“I honestly believe that education is [the] most noble profession you can go into because you’re spreading all of your knowledge onto potentially hundreds of people’s lives throughout the span of your own,” Grimm said. “I just think that’s really awesome that one would dedicate their life to do that, so I applaud every teacher that has passed through my life.”

Even though Grimm didn’t begin experimenting with arranging music until late in his high school career, music has been a vital part of his life since childhood.

At age three, Grimm began classical training in piano. In the fourth grade, he joined his school choir and learned about his talent as a vocalist. He has been in a choir every year since then. Later, he taught himself how to play the drum set and would sometimes join in playing with his high school pep band. Grimm also has experience playing in a pit orchestra for a school play his senior year of high school.

High school is also where Grimm got his first taste of the education world. In choir, his instructor saw his talent in working with other students and would put him in charge of leading small practice sessions within the group.

In theater, the director also noticed Grimm’s talent and tasked him with helping to teach music for the productions. When Grimm was a student producer for a show, he remembers being nicknamed “backstage mom” to the kids in the show because how well he worked with them.

However, Grimm’s most influential experience that led him to become a music education major came when he attended the Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership program (HOBY). This is when Grimm saw how much of a difference he could make in the lives of children.

“This is awesome. This is what I want to do with the rest of my life. Work with young people and empower them to do great things in the world.”

Michael Grimm // Sophomore Music Education Major
She kept it a secret for as long as possible. Even when her clothes became baggier and her skin got colder. She refused to say a word to anyone. After all, eating disorders aren’t something people talk about.

The day her mother found her journal lying on the kitchen counter was the day her private world was exposed. This journal was filled with her deepest thoughts about her body and what she was doing to it.

She avoided eating at all costs. She would skip meals for as long as she possibly could. When she finally gave in to eating, she would counter it by making herself throw up. Then she would repeat the process all over again.

Her secret was out. It was the secret she tried to keep contained inside her own mind. It was the secret that was consuming her life, even though she was too blind to see it at the time. Emily had an eating disorder.

“I didn’t even realize I had an eating disorder. I was that unaware of what I was doing to myself,” Emily Bubeck, sophomore theatre major said.

Eating disorders are a mental disorder that effect up to 30 million individuals in the United States. Not only that, but they have the highest mortality rate of any other mental disorder.

Many people don’t realize that they are a health crisis on college campuses across the country. Only a few know about this epidemic, and that is mostly because they have fallen victim to it.

Sadly though, this crisis is more consuming and dangerous than the freshmen 15 will ever be.

According to the National Eating Disorder Association, in a survey of 185 female students on a college campus, 58 percent felt pressure to be a certain weight, and of the 83 percent that dieted for weight loss, 44 percent were of normal weight.

Twenty-five percent of college aged women engage in bingeing and purging (eating large amounts of food, and later throwing it up) as a weight-management technique.

Although eating disorders are more prevalent among women, men are also subject to them. Even more so if they are college athletes. An estimated 5-15 percent of people with anorexia or bulimia are male.

Eating disorders can develop from a range of things like low self-esteem, feelings of inadequacy, little control of life, anxiety or even history of physical or sexual abuse.

Coming to college is also a huge factor in the evolution of an eating disorder. Students are on their own, completely independent and have the freedom to eat whatever they want. Or not eat anything at all.

College is a time of stress due to an increase in studying and course load requirements. Stress relief can come in many forms, and some turn to exercise to calm the nerves that come with being a college student. Which is a good thing, until the gym becomes a sanctuary where people worship the burning of calories and body fat.

“College students are usually undergoing a lot of changes and going off on their own for the first time. Stress levels are high, life can feel chaotic, and eating and exercise can become a source of routine and comfort,” Erica Cushion said, RDN (Registered Dietitian Nutritionist).

Working only with people who have eating disorders, nearly 40-60 percent of Cushion’s clients are of college age at any given time.

“There is pressure to look good and be doing all you can: getting straight As, working in your field of interest…having fun socially, and for some, that pressure can cause changes in eating and food..."
behaviors,” Cushion said. A common misconception that people have about eating disorders is that they are only about losing weight. That is only partially true. People with eating disorders are obsessed with losing weight. But for many, that is only because it serves as a coping mechanism for problems that lay deep under the surface.

“My disorder was rooted in not feeling good enough. I fell short of my own personal standards. I felt like I was always missing the mark, no matter what,” Bubeck said.

Bubeck was diagnosed with EDNOS (Eating Disorder Not Otherwise Specified) her sophomore year of high school. EDNOS is the most common diagnosis for eating disorders. This diagnosis means that the person does not meet the full criteria for either anorexia, bulimia or binge eating, the three other common eating disorders. EDNOS has the highest mortality rate of any other type of eating disorder.

Eating disorders aren’t just a phase, a lifestyle choice or something that can change overnight. They are a distraction to problems that their victims want to escape from. An eating disorder offers a way out of their pain through the preoccupation with food and body image.

“I realized that my eating disorder wasn’t going to give me better grades, popularity or my parent’s favor. For a long time I believed that it would. So I had to ask myself ‘who am I without this’…it dictates your identity. Dealing with my eating disorder was scary because I didn’t know who I was without it,” Bubeck said.

Media perception has a great deal of influence on society. Constant messages are being sent to people through TV screens and billboard ads. Every magazine at the pharmacy has the newest trick on how to keep the weight off for good and promises the newest no-fail diet.

Barbie doll’s body measurements are unproportioned when compared to an actual human being, and every food label at the store is branded with the words low-fat or low-calorie. The messages are everywhere and this aids in provoking the obsession of thinness in Western culture.

According to National Association of Anorexia Nervosa, 47 percent of girls in 5th-12th grade reported wanting to lose weight because of magazine pictures. Eighty-one percent of ten-year-olds are afraid of being fat. Thirty-five percent of “normal dieters” progress to pathological dieting. Of those, 20-25 percent progress to partial or full-syndrome eating disorders.

It seems as if society today only obsesses over how people look, rather than how people feel. Health and beauty today is determined by how much space a person is able to take up, instead of the amount of life that is able to be lived and enjoyed by someone.

“Eating less and working out more does not always lead to weight loss or being thin. Your metabolism depends on feeding your body what it needs and exercising moderately. Going above and beyond leads to primal hunger…biological starvation alone creates preoccupation with food and obsession with becoming fat,” Cushion said.

Bubeck remembers when all she cared about was what other people thought of her body. It even got to the point where she didn’t even care what she thought of herself because she was so obsessed by what other people saw when they looked at her.

“At the end of the day when I was hungry, drained, and out of focus, it didn’t matter to me. I was under the illusion that someone else valued the way I looked…and that was a lie. If we truly believed that nothing was wrong with us, eating disorders wouldn’t be an issue anymore,” Bubeck said.

If you or someone you know is suffering from an eating disorder, get help. Seeking treatment is the only way eating disorders have the opportunity to change. Student Affairs offers up to five free counseling sessions with clinical psychologists. They can then refer students to local, off-campus counseling services that specialize in eating disorders and disordered eating. “Even when you don’t want to reach out, do it anyway,” Dr. Kathleen Ryan said, Otterbein’s clinical psychologist.
I was always heavier. Even in the first grade, I remember. I remember wanting to be delicate, to be light and skinny like my friends. In my mind, lovely and thin were synonyms. They were the beautiful ones. I was the funny one with the pretty face. The slender figure I desired was engraved into my brain at the age of six. I remember when the doctors started to get concerned. They said I shouldn’t be this heavy at such a young age. So I was put on a few ‘diets’ and was told simply one thing: exercise more, eat less. At age eight, my parents, being loving and concerned caretakers, listened to these professional voices. So I was signed up for swimming classes, along with my sisters, just so I didn’t feel like the fat, ostracized sister. I was counting calories by the time I was in fifth grade. None of it worked. In fact, things only got worse. The more I wasn’t allowed to eat the more I wanted to eat. I remember my dad, lovingly but misguidedly saying to me one day, “You’re not hungry, Emily. You just want to eat. Drink a glass of water.” So, I’d tell myself I wasn’t hungry, drink a glass of water and then eat a whole plate of cookies that night with tears in my eyes. Years later, that warped mentality took me into a dark place where I felt as if the only possible way to become beautiful was to hurt my body in the process. The ugly-beautiful process. Obviously, I didn’t consciously think this, but in my heart that was a decision I decided to make. And the process was working. I was 40 pounds lighter, but my heart felt 40 times heavier.

People started telling me about how great I was looking on the outside while my insides felt hollow and empty. I stopped reading books, stopped singing along to the radio and stopped smiling. It hurt to do anything besides run, sleep and make multiple trips to the bathroom to get rid of the food my body desperately needed.

And I hated that. I hated that I needed something. I hated that I woke up hungry and went to bed unsatisfied. I hated that I lived in fear of a number.

Meanwhile, my friends and family started seeing me differently than before when I was being encouraged and supported in my weight loss journey. They said I was beginning to look too thin; I said I wasn’t thin enough. How could I explain to them that my eyes worked differently than theirs? I tried as hard as I could to not feel shame every time a fork touched my mouth, but I just couldn’t. It wasn’t until I finally told my mom that I needed help that things started to change. Once I started seeing a counselor, I finally started to understand why my eating disorder occurred. I wanted consistency. I wanted one thing, in my crazy swarm of a life, to stay the same. Dependable, reliable, always there for me when I needed it. That’s what my eating disorder is. My go-to coping mechanism.

Let me give you all a mid-column disclaimer: I am nowhere near healed in this messy, hurtful process. I’m still seeing a counselor, and there are days where it takes everything in me not to take that trip to the single stall bathroom. Or go to Clements Recreation Center and stay on the elliptical for an entire evening. I still have so far to go on my path to reach freedom and redemption from my eating disorder. But, by the grace of God, I am working on it. And sometimes that means messing up, relapsing and feeling the guilt all over again. But that’s okay. It’s okay that I am not okay. And to anyone out there at Otterbein trapped in the claws of an eating disorder right now, it’s okay that you’re not okay.

If there is one thing I could leave you with, it would be something I wish someone would have told me before I knew the consequences of an eating disorder: it’s not worth it. The idea of beauty and thinness is something that our media and culture drills into us at a young age. Being skinny isn’t worth the pain and suffering that comes with an eating disorder.

It isn’t worth the nights spent awake as you mourn over what you had for dinner, the tears you shed as you stand on the scale and see that the declining numbers do nothing for your soul or the realization of what you’ve done to yourself as your head hangs over the toilet with shame. We are made for more than this. This is not our life’s work. This is not our calling.

We are called to love ourselves fiercely and look at the mirror and finally say that it just doesn’t matter anymore. We have to wave the white flag, leave the battlefield and make peace with the body we have made an enemy out of.

We must do this because we are extraordinary beings who deserve to be loved.
Otterbein is known for its abundance of ongoing organizations ranging from Greek life, community service, student government and so much more. With so many organizations on campus it's hard to branch out and discover other organizations that may fit you. There are plenty of organizations that will add an important dimension to each student's life, creating a way for close friendships to be made, to contribute to important cause, and to learn new skills. Let's uncover some of Otterbein's “hidden” organizations that could be of interest to a variety of students across campus.

The African American Student Union (AASU): AASU was established in 1987 to promote unity and cooperation among African-American students as well as any students with similar interests and/or backgrounds. Membership is also open to any Otterbein student.

Heritage of Latino American (HOLA!): HOLA! promotes a sense of community and pride among Latino American students at Otterbein. Friendship and cooperation is very important and is promoted across campus for all students who want to be involved in the encouragement, academic excellence, and cultural appreciation that the Latino American students embody.

Men of Vision (MOV): MOV is an organization of Otterbein male student leaders. The mission of MOV is to promote male leadership within the Otterbein community, encouraging males to become active in leadership roles and service on and off campus.

Otterbein’s Gamers’ Guild: The Gamers Guild provides a fun social atmosphere to all gamers regardless of skill or platform preference, striving to promote the joys of gaming with others.

AEGIS Humanities Journal: The multilingual journal is designed to catalyze a deeper critical appreciation of the humanities at Otterbein University. The journal is published once annually in the spring and includes Otterbein students’ scholarly essays and book reviews that advance the presence and values of the humanities on campus and beyond. Submissions are read by a student panel during Fall semester to decide which selections will be published.

The International Students Association (ISA): ISA is open to both international and American students at Otterbein who have studied abroad, plan to study abroad or have interest in learning more about foreign cultures. ISA sponsors social events such as a party at Alum Creek park at the end of the year, as well as sponsoring cultural events throughout the year and assisting with the planning of the annual Global Dinner and Show. ISA loves to immerse themselves in different cultures and atmospheres. A way for them to do so is by going on an annual trip to Washington D.C, which helps each student see another culture beyond Otterbein.

Otterbein Deaf Culture Club (ODCC): The Otterbein Deaf Culture Club works to promote deaf awareness on campus and in the community through service and events.

Starving Artists: This organization promotes the appreciation and education of art throughout the Otterbein community as well as to promote and develop the artwork of Otterbein art students. To fulfill their mission, Starving Artists offers an open membership to any person at Otterbein who is interested in doing community outreach programs with schools in the area, and promoting and developing ways to creatively express yourself through art.
Come Fly with Me

Study Abroad

by Sara Anloague

You’re at the airport saying goodbye to everyone you love. You are about to embark on the adventure of a lifetime; one that will change your life forever. As you sit on the plane, you realize you are on your way to a different country filled with unknowns. You land and realize that this new country will be your home for the next few weeks or months. You know no one. And yet, you know that the people you meet will have a lasting impact and that you will have the time of your life with them.

Otterbein junior, Mara Eisenbarth, experienced this exact moment last semester when she traveled to Perth, Australia to study abroad. She attended the University of Western Australia and lived at Saint Thomas More College. In Australia, the schools are very different than in America. They have one university where the classes are taken and multiple colleges, similar to Otterbein’s residence halls, where the students live, which is completely separate from the university. The colleges have an outdoor layout because the weather there is almost constantly pleasant.

Eisenbarth attended the University of Western Australia with 23,000 other undergraduate students. Eisenbarth noted the classroom dynamic was very different than Otterbein’s. The university had classes classified as lectures, labs and tutorials. There are so many students attending that lectures are not mandatory and the professors posted slides and a recording of their voice during the lecture onto a site similar to Blackboard. This way students who weren’t at the lecture could have access to the material.

Other than pursuing an international education, Eisenbarth had the opportunity to experience Australia’s zoos, culture and people. She is a zoo and conservation science major, so she was able to shadow a zookeeper at a local zoo. She was given the chance to work with many Australian animals and other animals from all around the world. Her favorite experience was one she had with the elephants.

The zoo takes its female elephants on walks through the zoo before guests arrive to exercise them. One day, the zookeepers told Eisenbarth to wait outside a gate.

“I was just standing there with these monkeys behind me waiting, and they open the gate and there is just these two giant elephants there. I was in awe of looking at them and walking through the zoo,” Eisenbarth said.

Eisenbarth also had the chance to actually play soccer with two elephants. She said it was her most memorable moment.

While she was abroad, Eisenbarth met some lifelong friends who were students that were also from the United States. She also made friends with Australian students that lived with in her college and people she met on a one-week volunteer trip she took to a rural school. The trip was called “Teach Learn Grow.” During that trip, she tutored kids from rural schools and met Aboriginal people.

Eisenbarth learned about Aboriginal culture and how it is similar to Native American culture. The Aboriginals are generally categorized into language groups and she met people who spoke Nyungar and...
Eisenbarth had a few struggles during her experience abroad. She dealt with culture shock, jet lag from her 34-hour flight and she did not know anybody there or what to do and where to go. However, she said studying abroad was 100 percent worth it and she got way more out of it than she ever thought she would.

One factor that was not a burden for Eisenbarth was the cost of studying abroad. Many people have a common misconception that studying abroad is "too expensive." What many students don't realize is that a lot of times, it is less expensive or the same price to go abroad than it is to stay at school in the U.S. Since Eisenbarth was an exchange student, she paid for her tuition at Otterbein and only had to pay for room and board there, which was far less expensive than at Otterbein. She also had to cover the cost of her plane ticket.

According to Jerrin Hill, study abroad coordinator at Otterbein University, Otterbein gives $2,000 to students who study abroad. There are also scholarships and federal financial aid available. Depending on the country, studying abroad could cost anywhere from about $7,000 to $18,000.

For senior management major Mary Murphy, who is currently abroad in Italy, studying abroad cost about the same amount that it would for a semester at Otterbein. The only additional costs she had were spent on traveling during the weekends.

“The cost, as well as any additional costs, has been well worth it. I'm experiencing, learning and seeing things that I wouldn't be able to if I were in Ohio,” Murphy said.

Murphy's main struggles while abroad have been language barriers and dealing with her anxiety. She is also very attached to her friends and family and has a hard time staying in contact with them because the time difference is six hours.

“The time away from my phone has helped me better enjoy things around me, live in the moment and to better appreciate the time I do get to talk to people back home,” Murphy said.

Murphy has also met some amazing people in Italy. She has grown close with one of her business professors who has inspired her through his passion for business and Italian culture. She now feels ambitious and confident that she will be able to run her own business one day.

Education wise, she says she has learned a lot. She is taking Business Finance, International Entrepreneurship, International Economic Relations and Italian Art. Taking these classes have been very eye opening for her and she encourages any students to take the opportunity to study abroad if they have the chance or desire to.

Murphy has also learned a lot outside of classes. She attended Festa della Rificolona, which is the Florence Paper Lantern Festival where they celebrate Virgin Mary's birthday with a lantern parade. She went to Oktoberfest in Germany too, which is a true celebration of Bavarian history and culture. Almost everyone in attendance was dressed in traditional Bavarian attire, which includes dirndels for girls and lederhosens for boys.

In Italy, Murphy learned about the new culture she is now immersed in. She has begun to realize that Italians move at their own pace; they take their time and are never in a rush. Except when it comes to the road. She said that the drivers there are crazy, as most roads are one ways and there aren't any speed limits posted so people don't pay attention.

Something that she recognized was that they have a very strict eating schedule. They eat four meals a day starting with breakfast, then lunch, "appetizer time" and dinner. When Mary first got to Italy, she went to a restaurant for dinner and the only food that was offered was Aperitivo (appetizers). She asked the waiter if she could order dinner, and they said no, but they do serve gelato everywhere and at any time!

One thing that was strange for Murphy was the fact that people don't tip in Italy. Not in restaurants, taxis or other services where we would normally tip. She felt bad for not leaving a tip, but faculty at her school assured her that in Florence the people make enough money without tips and that they don't expect it.

Mary says that the best part of her experience has simply been experiencing new things every day.

“I can't begin to describe what a rewarding feeling that is. I wake up every day knowing that I will experience something new, whether it be meeting someone, tasting a new food or seeing a piece of art or landmark I've never seen before,” she said. “I have felt encouraged to take this sense of discovery home with me and to truly live life to its fullest.”
If you have ever visited President Kathy Krendl’s office, you have seen, or maybe even overlooked, a significant piece of Otterbein’s history. Here, in the Office of the President, hangs a painting that captures the leaders and most influential people at Otterbein, past and present. So how did it come to be?

Growing up in Westerville with parents who each attended Otterbein, Bruce Bailey has always been a part of the Otterbein community.

Bailey continues to reside and work in Westerville, where he is an attorney at Metz, Bailey & McLoughlin, a law firm. He is a graduate of Wittenberg University with a Bachelor’s degree in geography and urban studies and holds a law degree from Capital University. Bailey was a business law adjunct professor at Otterbein from 1978 to 1992.

Between his parents involvement with Otterbein, his residence in Westerville and his teaching position at Otterbein, Bailey has come to know many members of the Otterbein community.

“Throughout my life I have been aware of many distinguished, interesting and influential Otterbein professors, alumni and friends. All of whom have greatly influenced my life,” Bailey said.

Bailey wanted to find a way to honor the people at Otterbein who have made a significant impact on his life personally and on the campus as a whole.

Bailey worked with Otterbein’s archivist Stephen Grinch and Kevin Buckland, a watercolor painter, to create a one of a kind painting that features 59 “Otterbeinians.”

“When thinking of a painting, there was no building or scene that best exemplified my feelings towards Otterbein, rather what makes Otterbein unique, which is its people,” Bailey said.

“Particularly, in the last half century, Otterbein has had some truly unique and outstanding individuals that influenced the university, the community and the many students who attended Otterbein.”

With Grinch’s extensive knowledge of Otterbein’s history, Bailey was able to include influential Otterbeinians that he was previously unaware of. Grinch provided Buckland with photographs of the individuals for the painting.

The background of the painting features Towers Hall, which according to the glossary of the painting, “serves as the symbol of the University,
and is the one thing that links all Otterbein students and alumni from 1872 to present day.” Some of the people featured in the Otterbein Hall of Fame Homecoming painting are as follows:

- Glen Grant Grabill: Author of our fight song and alma mater song “The Otterbein Love Song”
- Bob Gatti: Otterbein’s current vice-president for student affairs and longest serving administrator
- Kathy Krendl: Otterbein’s current and first female University President
- Joseph Hannibal Caulker: First foreign student to enroll at Otterbein
- Dick Reynolds: Twelve sport Otterbein letterman who went on to become the winningest OAC basketball coach at his alma mater
- William Henry Fouse: Otterbein’s first African American graduate (class of 1893)
- Cardy the Cardinal: First declared the official mascot of Otterbein in 2006
- Lewis Davis: Founding father and two-time president of Otterbein
- Charles “Chuck” Dodrill: Father of Otterbein’s outstanding Theatre Department
- Ernest Barnhard: Considered the “Father of Otterbein Athletics”

Among all 59 individuals included, Bailey notes the most influential person to him was his father, Francis “Red” Bailey, a graduate of Otterbein’s class of 1943. He says that his father looks the same in the painting as he did when he attended Otterbein back in the day. “Red” earned his way into the painting by being the co-founder of the “O” Club, being an attorney for Otterbein and a coach on Otterbein’s only undefeated football team.

The painting was completed and presented at the 2014 Homecoming celebration.

Bailey appropriately calls the participants Otterbein’s “Hall of Famers.”
Fans come to watch their home team come away with a victory. They’re cheering and screaming your name, encouraging you to get that next goal, bucket, kill or point. At times there will be losses, but there is an audience of one who is still there picking you up when you fall down. This audience sees beyond these losses and understands that there is a reason behind every shortcoming.

Audience of One, also known as AO1, is a motto that many student athletes of faith live by. These athletes don’t play for themselves but for God who has given each of them their gifts and abilities. It’s a form of expression for them to be competing for God.

Sophomore track star Shyla Cummings isn’t concerned about the titles. But she is more concerned with a bigger prize.

“I’m running for God, but I’m also running for people to see Him through me. Once people notice that, it’s a gateway to God,” Cummings said.

Although not everyone on the team is spiritually led, that doesn’t take away from the friendships and bonds she has made.

“The majority of the people on the team are in a Christian action group, but that doesn’t tear us apart from those who aren’t. All of us are motivated, in different ways, but something we all have in common is trying to be the best versions of ourselves that we can be. That kind of motivation is a constant reminder for me to keep on going and to help my teammates,” Cummings said.

Christianity is sometimes looked upon as a religion where those who are believers think they’re better than those who aren’t. But that’s not the case for any of these athletes.

Hogan Marshall, sophomore football player, doesn’t want to turn his teammates or anyone away because of his faith, but he wants to use his faith as a way to bring people closer.

“Those who are in the faith definitely bring a presence to the team, but that doesn’t cause a divide from those who are Christians and those who aren’t. The guys are great and we are brothers. I just want to influence the rest of the team and to be a light,” Marshall said.

Any athlete wants to help teammates become better, not just on the court, but off the court as well. Sports shape people in so many more ways than what we think.

Marie Thornton, a sophomore volleyball player, is not just using her presence on the court to influence people, but she is using her voice and positivity as an outlet of influence as well.

“It’s important that people see you play in a positive way and that you have a good attitude, shining a positive light. Everyone struggles, whether that’s in their faith or during the game, but it’s my job to help pick up each player. I know they’d do the same for me,” Thornton said.

The positive and uplifting attitudes of these students are contagious. There is always another driving factor that pushes these students to do their best other than their teammates. For some of these athletes it’s Athletes in Action, better known as AIA.

AIA is an organization that hosts meeting times every Wednesday night where athletes gather and talk about Christ. Being involved in an atmosphere that is loving and accepting has been life changing for those who are seeking more from life.

Marshall said, “The fellowship is amazing and it’s a big reason of where I am at now, on and off the field. Everyone in AIA has poured so much into me and I’m so thankful. I’m more bold and confident in what I want to do. There is more guidance and structure for me now. With people like that on your side, life is always good.”

There is a presence from the staff and faculty members at AIA as well. It’s encouragement to the students, seeing that their coaches are supportive of different faiths they’re surrounded by. Showing support and being inclusive is something that is very important to Athletic Director, Dawn Stewart, who believes that this is why Otterbein is such a great campus.

“We are a Methodist-based university, but we are very supportive of all faiths. It’s our position as an institution to be supportive of the diversity of religions. I’m appreciative of the openness approach that Otterbein gives to faith. I’m a Christian but I’m also willing to be open about hearing about others’ faith. As AD it’s my job to make sure everyone respects one another. We love and support everyone,” Stewart said.

Moments of support like this enable us to learn more about someone else’s background. There is power in seeing the unseen, making the invisible visible. All it takes is time and the want to understand who they are, what they believe in and why they believe it.

“We need to take care of each other in every way. There have been so many people and stories of people who have met someone with a different background and have learned so much from them. It gives me goosebumps thinking about how we support each other and get to know people. I love it,” Stewart said.

From on the field or off the field, from on the court or off the court, there is a bigger picture, one that we are all trying to see. These students who are a part of this audience of one are reaching out their hands to their classmates and teammates, being more than a friend but brothers and sisters. There are always those who support us and help us to learn and grow, teaching us that there is no progression without loss, failure or sacrifice. This is the audience of one.
go to otterbein.tv to learn more
When Claudia Owusu came to the United States from Ghana, Africa, 7 years ago with her father she was only 9 years old. Even at a young age she was surprised with the amount of differences she saw in the community. Everything from the not wearing uniforms to the amount of different skin tones surprised her.

She experienced a lot of things for the first time here like snow, and even white people. Back in Ghana the only time they saw a white person was during the news or when her and friends were watching Home Alone. But when she arrived at Mifflin High School, her alma mater, she encountered many different cultures.

“Every day when I would walk down the hall, I would hear at least five different languages,” she said, as she recounts her days at Mifflin.

Owusu also recalls that there were a lot of cultural differences between Ghana and the United States. In Ghana, she and her friends would always hold hands quite frequently, but here that is considered gay. Also in Ghana she wore a uniform to school every day. But when she went to school in the U.S. she quickly realized she didn’t have to wear the same outfit to school every day.

When Owusu first arrived here at Otterbein, she didn’t think she would like it at all. However, she quickly fell in love with the campus.

“[Professor] John Kengla really helped me feel at home on campus,” Owusu said.

Owusu notes that Ghanaian professors are much more strict than those here in the U.S.

“Ghana schools allow teachers to discipline students however they see fit. In fact, parents encouraged it. I went from being beaten by a teacher for excessive talking in class to freely calling my teachers by their first names in America. That’s still very weird to me. Especially being in college and all,” Owusu said.

Today, 7 years since she first arrived in the U.S., Owusu says that she enjoys each and every day here in America.
Including the summer season, Otterbein’s theatre department puts on a total of **8 productions** a year.

Over the last **six years** otterbein students have traveled abroad in more than **30 countries** as undergrads.

**11%** of American adults have used an **online dating app**.

**1 in 4** athletes says that God has an influence in sports.