

*LIVE WHERE LIFELONG
LEARNING SURROUNDS YOU*



KENDAL[®]
at Oberlin

Kendal at Oberlin is a vibrant life plan community that prioritizes lifelong learning. Our campus, located one mile from Oberlin College and Conservatory, is a place where residents can thrive and grow, with easy access to music, art and educational programs.

Convenient Location

Living near Oberlin College makes learning fun and easy for our residents. Oberlin College is just a short bus or bike ride away from Kendal at Oberlin, which means residents frequently attend concerts and recitals at the Conservatory of Music, sit in on lectures and even audit classes.

“The idea of continual learning and intellectual stimulation are primary interests as we age,” says Kendal resident David D. “And only a short bike ride away.”

The proximity of the college campus to our own also encourages students to bring their talents to the Kendal community through recitals, programs and collaborative activities. These intergenerational connections can improve the lives of both the students and Kendal residents by promoting socialization and introducing new skills.

Obies at Kendal

Kendal residents who are also Oberlin College Alumni enjoy the opportunities for music, art and lifelong learning that come with having Oberlin College and Conservatory as their nearby friend and neighbor.



“Living at Kendal at Oberlin turns out to be the closest thing there is to being back at Oberlin as a student.”

- Resident Tina G., Oberlin College Class of '74



“There is a banquet of enticing options here at Kendal at Oberlin, Oberlin College and Conservatory, and surrounding areas.”

- Resident Mary B., Oberlin College Class of '66

[More From Oberlin Alumni](#)



About Oberlin College

Similar to Kendal at Oberlin, Oberlin College and Conservatory is committed to diversity and inclusion. The liberal arts college and world-class conservatory celebrates individuality and wants each student to feel a sense of belonging and flourish in a supportive environment with faculty mentors and peers.

College of Arts and Sciences

Oberlin offers over 40 majors in its [College of Arts and Sciences](#) and focuses on keeping class sizes small. The college believes in hands-on experiences to make connections between learning and doing through research projects, undergraduate teaching, study-abroad trips, world-class music opportunities and more.

Conservatory of Music

Musically talented students may apply and audition to attend the [Oberlin Conservatory of Music](#) in undergraduate, master's and performance programs. Oberlin Conservatory of Music students gain access to internationally renowned faculty, visiting artists and exceptional facilities.

The Conservatory presents nearly 500 concerts annually that span five centuries of music. Students appreciate using one of the nation's top conservatory libraries and having access to nine concert halls, 150 practice rooms, over 240 Steinway pianos and more than 30 organs for both practicing and performing.

Campus Experience

The four-year residential college fosters a strong community of students through campus [housing and dining](#). Students have various housing options, including residence halls, co-ops, college-owned houses and apartments, and identity-based communities and language houses.

Course Selections

Kendal at Oberlin residents, with permission from an Oberlin College professor, can [audit liberal arts classes at no cost](#). They may attend concerts, recitals and other musical events at the Conservatory of Music throughout the year, as well as on-campus activities and lectures.

“I’ve audited everything from Shakespeare to Constitutional Law and several art history courses,” says Kendal resident Elizabeth H. “I really enjoy having my mind challenged and watching the bright and lively minds of the students at work.”

Oberlin students and professors have worked together with Kendal at Oberlin on energy and environmental initiatives, as both organizations [value sustainability](#). We also collaborate on musical performances featuring musically gifted residents and Oberlin Conservatory students.

Oberlin College has four libraries — Main, Art, Science and Conservatory. All are open to Kendal residents who have valid Oberlin Public Library Cards. Additionally, the college owns the century-old Apollo Theater, which hosts everything from blockbusters to foreign and independent movies. During warmer months, residents can even walk or bike to this attraction to catch a show.

Getting Started

The Kendal at Oberlin Residents Association (KORA) publishes a monthly newsletter, *The Kendalight*, which features numerous lifelong learning opportunities both on Kendal's campus and nearby Oberlin College and Conservatory. The issue is packed with classes, activities, outings and volunteer opportunities.

There's something for everyone, and if you're interested in starting something new, you can — and should! Kendal at Oberlin's [resident-led lifestyle](#) encourages engagement, purpose and ongoing involvement in lifelong and new interests. Dozens of resident committees plan most of the programming mentioned in the monthly newsletter.

Joining a committee is fun! You can meet new friends, learn something new and engage in meaningful activities.

“We learn from each other; it's really fun,” says Kendal resident Mary V.N. “It's like creating anything — it's beautiful, gives me pleasure and helps me relax. And being on a committee, you make new friends.”



Beyond the Classroom

Aside from the plethora of lifelong learning opportunities that Oberlin College and Conservatory offers, Kendal at Oberlin hosts a variety of enriching and educational [on-campus activities](#) as well.

Here's a sampling to give you an idea of what to expect:

Lectures/Entertainment:

- Health Lectures
- News and Views
- Lecture Series
- Oberlin College Opera Theater Previews
- Poetry and Writing Groups
- Play-Reading Group

Special Interests:

- Pottery / Painting / Woodworking
- Photography
- Horticulture / Gardening
- Arboretum
- Newsletter - *The Kendalight*
- Flower-arranging
- Music Performance Groups
- Art Committee

Wellness:

- Aerobics (Land & Water)
- Strength Training
- Balance Classes
- Tai Chi & Yoga (Land & Water)
- Tennis
- Meditation & Mindfulness

Recreation:

- Table Tennis
- Bocce Ball
- Croquet
- RC Model Yacht Club
- Bridge
- Trips - Cleveland Orchestra and Museums
- Tennis
- Pickleball
- Hiking / Walking Groups

[Learn More About Wellness](#)

Residents may also choose to [volunteer](#) within the community, either on a resident committee or in a supportive role for new residents. Resident volunteers may offer companionship and social interaction with Stephens Care Center residents and their families.

Additionally, there are several volunteer opportunities not far from the Kendal campus, including places of worship, Oberlin City schools, Meals on Wheels, Oberlin Heritage Center, Allen Memorial Hospital Information Center and more.

Resident Stories of Lifelong Learning

Kendal residents enjoy a [close relationship](#) with the students and faculty at Oberlin College. In fact, over one-third of our residents are alums or former faculty and staff. One could say that we're each other's biggest fans.

Meet a few Kendal residents who embody lifelong learning:



Meet Catharina "Cathy" C.

Daughter of a Kendal founder, a renowned musician with strong ties to Oberlin College and a long-time Oberlin resident.

[Cathy](#) has taught a lifelong learning class on baroque music at Kendal. She was a former cellist with the Cleveland Orchestra and former Associate Professor of viola da gamba, baroque cello and cello at the Oberlin Conservatory.

She uses one of her bedrooms as a music room to play music and give private lessons. Cathy also helps plan the Kendal bus trips to the Conservatory concerts.



Meet Tom R.

Grew up in upstate New York, Oberlin College music alum and retired Professor of Music at the University of Colorado Boulder.

[Tom](#), a cellist, studied as a music major at Oberlin College and Conservatory — the only college he applied to. Still a working academician, he wanted to retire close to a college library and museum.

Kendal and Oberlin College provide him with the perfect musical and lifelong learning opportunities. He loves the spirit of Kendal and its commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.



Meet Nanette "Nan" H.

Nan's son, Ben, is Oberlin College's Assistant Vice President of Admissions Communications. Ben and his wife are Oberlin alums, and their two sons are Oberlin College students.

Before moving to Kendal, [Nan](#) decided that once she did, she wanted to audit a class at Oberlin College every semester. Her first class focused on Ukrainian literature and film in the 20th century.

Nan also serves on Kendal's horticulture and philanthropy committees. She loves gathering with residents who share two of her special interests: Peace Corps and Bryn Mawr College.

This Could Be You!

Join us and embrace the energy, intergenerational connections and special community bond of a college town.
Live where lifelong learning surrounds you — at Kendal at Oberlin!

Schedule a Tour



Connect with us...



kao.kendal.org