

SOPHIA COLBY

scolby@oberlin.edu

EDUCATION

Oberlin College

Oberlin, OH

Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing and Cinema Studies, *Phi Beta Kappa*

May 2024

Minor in Music

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Oberlin Conservatory of Music

Oberlin, OH

Research Assistant, Department of Technology in Music and Creative Arts

August 2022 – May 2023

- Researched, interviewed, recorded, and edited for 3 oral histories per semester of women working at the intersection of technology and sonic arts, and maintained an archival website containing over 16 oral histories
- Designed and facilitated workshops for 20 participants per year, uniting the local senior and English learning communities through creative technology projects shared through digital media and physical installations

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Oberlin College

Oberlin, OH

Intro to Fiction Teaching Assistant, Department of Creative Writing

February 2024 – May 2024

- Organized and led weekly creative writing workshops for 30 participants in prose fiction
- Provided sensitive feedback to foster emerging writers' voices and cultivate creative community

International Rescue Committee

Charlottesville, VA

English for Speakers of Other Languages Teaching Assistant

June 2022 – August 2022

- Facilitated recently arrived refugees' language learning through one-on-one and small group practice sessions
- Welcomed and oriented new arrivals to the United States and its culture

PUBLICATIONS

- "ILOVEYOU: The Computer Worm that Went Global by Exploiting Human Psychology," *The Synapse: Intercollegiate science magazine*: 29, no. 1. (November 2021), 26–27.
- "Blossom," *The Fabulist*. (May 2021).

HONORS AND AWARDS

Stuart Friebert & Diane Vreuls Prize for Excellence in Creative Writing

2024

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| Phi Beta Kappa | 2023 |
| Pushcart Prize Nominee | 2021 |
| Emily Couric Leadership Scholarship Nominee | 2020 |
| John F. Oberlin Scholarship | 2020 |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| Oberlin College and Conservatory | Oberlin, OH |
| <i>Multifaith Chaplaincy & Sustained Dialogue Coordinator, Multifaith Chaplaincy</i> | August 2025 – Present |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent a confidential multifaith spiritual support resource, connecting religiously diverse students to the chaplain and responding to community bereavement • Assist chaplain with creation of religiously pluralistic initiatives like the Multifaith Faculty Advisory, the forthcoming Multifaith Scholars Program, and the Multifaith Baccalaureate Ceremony • Plan and promote signature programs by recruiting participants, reserving venues, liaising with sponsors, participants, and staff, and advertising events through digital and print media • Act as a dialogue host, modeling principles of hospitality and finding meaning across difference to 7 student dialogue groups per week • Manage budget of \$30,000, overseeing purchases and submitting requisitions • Use Constant Contact to write and design weekly Oberlin multifaith community newsletter for 8,000 recipients, with an open rate of 60% • Recruit, interview, train, and oversee team of 4 office interns | |

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| Oberlin College | Oberlin, OH |
| <i>Admissions Counselor, Office of Admissions</i> | August 2024 – August 2025 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborated with supervisors to plan and execute visit programming for over 5,000 prospective students per year, including panels, meals, accommodations, meetings, and specialized tours • Created specialty tour and information session programming for prospective students interested in the practicing arts (creative writing, film, theater, dance, and studio art) • Presented informative and engaging information sessions to groups of 1 to 50 visitors • Served as a primary point of contact for inquiries by assisting with the admissions email account and answering the main Oberlin College phone line • Read and evaluated 1,000+ college applications, presenting applicants to the admissions committee • Planned and executed independent travel to student recruitment events in 7 different states for 8 weeks per year | |

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| Oberlin College | Oberlin, OH |
| <i>Senior Fellow, Office of Admissions</i> | August 2023 – May 2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented informative and engaging information sessions to groups of 1 to 50 visitors | |

Oberlin College

Tour Guide, Office of Admissions

Oberlin, OH

August 2022 – May 2023

- Offered tours to groups of 1-15 visitors

Oberlin College

Dramaturg, Department of Theater

Oberlin, OH

February 2023 – May 2023

- Conducted in-depth historical, cultural, and literary research to enhance production authenticity, including travel to settings depicted in script
- Created comprehensive dramaturgical research presentations to support cast and creative teams

Wonder Worldwide

Television and Film Development Intern

Beverly Hills, CA

January 2023 – February 2023

- Analyzed and wrote coverage of screenplays, novels, and other IP and pitched one original deck

EXTRACURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT

Ballet Oberlin

Dancer, Student Organization

Oberlin, OH

August 2021 – Present

- Attend weekly intermediate ballet lessons and perform short choreographed pieces with amateur ensemble

Independent Sheet Music Transcription

Sheet Music Transcriber and Arranger

Oberlin, OH

August 2022 – Present

- Created instrumental and vocal arrangements of primarily media soundtracks using music notation software Sibelius
- Earned roughly 25,000 views on online sheet music sharing platform MuseScore (username *SebSongs*)

Musical Union

Choir Member, Oberlin Conservatory of Music

Oberlin, OH

February 2025 – Present

- Sing as a soprano in the second-oldest continuing choral tradition in the United States to perform one choral masterwork per semester

Bardic Reading

Bardic Reader, Oberlin College Department of Classics

Oberlin, OH

August 2021 – May 2024

- Participated in a collaborative, non-stop, non-abridged reading of 1 ancient Greek or Roman epic poem per semester

VOLUNTEERING AND SERVICE

Christ Episcopal Church

Oberlin, OH

Strategic Planning Committee Member

August 2024 – Present

- Selected for committee of 8 to plan use of \$10 million endowment, setting priorities for ambitious facility renovation and community outreach strategy overhaul

Oberlin College and Conservatory

Oberlin, OH

Interfaith Student Council Member, Office of Religious and Spiritual Life

August 2023 – May 2024

- Collaboratively coordinated and promoted activities, lectures, and workshops for student body across intersections of faith and spirituality to promote cross-cultural understanding

Charlottesville Sexual Assault Resource Agency

Charlottesville, VA

Peer Educator and Dialogue Facilitator

August 2018 – May 2019

- Underwent extensive training on empathetic listening as a crisis intervention technique
- Toured area high schools, libraries, and performance venues with team to facilitate dialogue surrounding sexual violence and consent

Live Arts Community Theatre

Charlottesville, VA

Lighting Design Apprentice & Selection Committee Member

August 2017 – May 2019

- Assisted lead designer in developing lighting for theatrical productions and operated lighting during performances
- Collaborated with committee members to evaluate and select a balanced season of productions, reading and analyzing scripts across genres

SKILLS

- Music performance (voice, piano, violin, guitar, cuatro)
- Music theory (transcription and arrangement using Sibelius and Musescore)
- Audio production and engineering (DAWs such as Logic Pro, Reaper)
- Visual content creation (digital photography, design using Canva)
- Web design and development (HTML, CSS, Drupal CMS software)
- Basic object-oriented programming (Java, Python)
- Public speaking
- Dialogue facilitation
- Event planning and promotion
- Microsoft and G Suites

LANGUAGES

Spanish (proficient reading, listening, and translation, functional writing and speaking)

REFERENCES

Ghassan Abou-Zeineddine

Assistant Professor of Creative Writing

Department of Creative Writing

Oberlin College

440-775-5868, gabouzei@oberlin.edu

Geoff Pingree

Director of Cinema and Media

Department of Cinema and Media

Oberlin College

440-935-1267, gpingree@oberlin.edu

Elizabeth Rogers

Assistant Professor of Creative Writing

Department of Creative Writing

Oberlin College

440-775-5135, erogers2@oberlin.edu

Joshua Sperling

**Assistant Professor of Cinema and Media
and Creative Media Director**

Department of Cinema and Media

Oberlin College

440-775-6601, jsperlin@oberlin.edu