

February 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1 Stories & Songs ages 2-3, 10:30am @ Oberlin Public Library	2  OberlinKids Playgroup 9:30 -10:30 @ The Depot	3 Pre-K Dalcroze  11:00-12:00	4
5	6	7  OECC Preschool Storytime	8 Stories & Songs ages 2-3, 10:30am @ Oberlin Public Library	9  Pre-K Field Trip Cleveland Museum of Natural History 9:30-1:30	10 Pre-K Dalcroze  11:00-12:00	11
12	13	14  Oberlin Public Library Toddler Storytime	15 Stories & Songs ages 2-3, 10:30am @ Oberlin Public Library	16  OberlinKids Playgroup 9:30-10:30 @ The Depot	17 Pre-K Dalcroze  11:00-12:00	18
19	20 Oberlin Public Schools Closed 	21	22 Stories & Songs ages 2-3, 10:30am @ Oberlin Public Library	23	24 Pre-K Dalcroze  11:00-12:00	25
26	27	28				

February 2017 News - A MUST READ!!!!



Did you know that our program was founded in 1968 as an experimental summer program for low-income families of preschoolers? Originally located in the basement of Christ Episcopal Church, the program moved within

a matter of months to a larger space in the basement of First Church. After gaining non-for-profit status in 1973, the program became popular and it was clear that we needed our own space. With the influence of Evan Nord of the Nordson Corporation, the Nordson Corporation Family Foundation agreed to build a facility on land located on East College Street. Ground was broken in 1975, and in April of 1976 the building was completed and the program moved to 317 East College Street.

Over the past forty-two years, hundreds of children and multiple generations have been served by the staff at OECC. We want to continue to ensure children and families can benefit from our high quality early learning environment for fifty more years. **Our Board of Trustees has worked diligently to position our organization to engage in a facility renovation and expansion project to meet the needs of our children, families, staff, and community.** To support us in this project, the Board of Trustees selected Clark and Post as our architect. We are fortunate to have Ron Coco from Clark and Post work with us again as he was the architect who originally designed managed the building of OECC.

As we work through the steps to create the design for the center we will seek input from staff, parents, children, and community members through focus groups.

We are in the process of planning these focus groups and we need your input. If you wish to be part of a focus group please email Executive Director, Jennifer Harris at jharris@oberlinearlychildhood.org.

We will have a special reveal of the new design of the building once it has been approved. We anticipate this happening in March. At this point, it is

difficult to identify when construction will begin as it is dependent on our success with our capital campaign.

Please be reassured that *it is our priority to ensure there is no financial impact on families or any disruption in service throughout construction.*

Here are just a few of the needs we are planning for this project to support:

- Expansion of our infant program
- Increase in the environmental integrity of our facility
- Relocation of the prekindergarten classroom within the facility
- Expansion of the office space
- Development of a staff training room and lounge
- Increased safety and security measures throughout the facility
- Increased ability to utilize technology throughout the building
- Incorporation of a breastfeeding space for moms
- Addition of a multi-purpose community room & OberlinKids space
- Updating classroom bathrooms, sinks, flooring, etc.
- Development of spaces to align with our Reggio Inspired Curriculum
 - Atelier or “art studio”
 - Café for group mealtime
 - Recycling center
 - Outdoor naturescape

Updates on this project will be included in this newsletter every month. Please make sure to pick your copy up.