

# OWENS COMMUNITY COLLEGE Foundation & Alumni



NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

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## In Memoriam: [Allan J. Libbe](#)



[Allan and Suzanne Libbe  
Accepting the Owens  
Community College  
Philanthropy Award,  
October 30, 2018](#)

Owens Community College offers its deepest condolences to the family of **Allan J. Libbe**, who recently passed away at the age of 95. Owens was privileged to have received 30 years of his active and dedicated service to the Board of Trustees and Foundation Board of Directors.

Allan was a 1947 graduate of Findlay High School and a 1951 graduate of Bowling Green State University. He served in the Army Counterintelligence Corps, and after his military service, he taught at Lake High School in Millbury, Ohio. In 1955 Allan, along with his cousins, Fritz and Phil Rudolph, founded Rudolph Libbe Inc. He was the leader of the construction company's estimating and finance department until his retirement in 2000. He also enjoyed traveling with his beloved wife of 65 years, **Suzanne**, visiting all seven continents in his lifetime. [Read more](#)

Allan and Suzanne's philanthropic legacy has had a profound effect on much more than the business industry. Their strong commitment to education and community service has impacted thousands of individuals and families. Gifts in memory of the Libbes can be directed to either of the scholarships named in their honor through the Owens Foundation:

- RLG - Allan Libbe Honorary Endowed Scholarship
- Allan and Suzanne Libbe Endowed Scholarship

## [Alumni Spotlight: Nataley Smith](#)

Eight months after graduating from high school, **Nataley Smith** graduated from the EMT program at Owens. Now at 19-years-old, Smith is living her dream as a full-time Firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician for the Swanton Fire and Rescue Division. Starting her high school journey at Swanton High School, Smith attended Penta Career Center as a sophomore and for half of her junior year. After that, she was a full-time college student. She knew early on the path she wanted to take, and this quick journey was preplanned. Both of her parents were previously first responders, and close friend Patty Brown was as well; their influence helped Smith set her goals. Growing up, Smith also said her family had a lot of help from the Swanton community during some struggles, making it important for her to give back to the community. [Read more](#)

Please feel free to continue sharing your Owens alumni success updates [here!](#)



## **Conversations Podcast with Dr. Dione D. Somerville**

The award-winning Conversations podcast features [Owens President Dr. Dione D. Somerville](#) sitting down with community leaders each month. The Conversations podcast is available on Amazon, Apple, Google, iHeart Media, Spotify and many more podcast streaming platforms. Also check it out on the podcast's host site: [Listen Here](#). Then join the conversation - tell us about YOU by taking the four-question [Listener Survey!](#)



[In this episode](#), Dr. Dione D. Somerville sits down with Toledo Tomorrow President **Bob Savage**. Toledo Tomorrow was founded in 2018 as the northwest Ohio region's first College & Career Access Group, and has worked to build broad and diverse educational & community partnerships, and achieved good changes and progress. Toledo Tomorrow's mission is to eliminate barriers to student success and ensure that all students and adults, regardless of race, ZIP code or life circumstance, have a pathway to complete a meaningful education and enter the workforce.

[Listen Here](#)

President Bob Savage has strong ties to the regional community's education, nonprofit, government, business and philanthropic sectors, serving as member of the Ohio College Access and Success Network, Ohio Attainment Coalition and Ohio Cradle2Career Network.

## **President's Blog - [read more](#)**

In her latest blog post, President Somerville reflects on our campus designs and facilities. Owens leadership team has been talking about our physical plant. However, these discussions have gone beyond buildings; they've been about strengthening the true sense of pride and community around Owens.

This idea of community extends beyond physical structures into the heart of who we are as an institution. It's about ensuring that when someone steps onto our campuses, they feel a sense of belonging, purpose, and opportunity.

As we reimagine our spaces, the picture has become clearer: this is about creating environments that signal to students, faculty, and visitors alike that they've arrived somewhere special.

Transformation of our campuses is about honoring our history while embracing a shared vision for the future. Our commitment is clear: to ensure that Owens is a college that reflects the needs of today's learners and tomorrow's leaders.

## **Department Announcements and Event Dates**

We would love to see you at one of the many on-campus activities available to our community! Please be sure to check details and RSVP for events which may require pre-registration due to limited seating availability. You may also let us know you were here by scanning the Alumni QRCode at various event locations.

### **OWENS COMMUNITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS**

#### **Game Schedules Available:**

[Express Men's Basketball](#)  
[Express Women's Basketball](#)

### **Dental Hygiene Clinic**

Access to Care Days  
February 4 & 11, 2025  
Appointments are required  
Please call 567-661-7294

#### **Get Screened For Vascular Disease**

Owens Vascular Sonography is offering free vascular screenings to those with certain risk factors. [Click here](#) for more information and to schedule an appointment.

### **Owens OutComm Student Media**

Owens OutComm Student Media is presenting new audio and video content. For more information and listening schedules, visit the [OutComm website](#)

### **CULTIVATING *the* ARTS**

[Walter E. Terhune Art Gallery](#)

#### **Passages:**

#### **Juried High School Art Show**

Reception and awards ceremony  
Friday, February 7 from 6-8 p.m.  
Show on display through March 21

#### **SPARK SUMMIT**

March 6, 2025  
Registration now open

#### **Creative Expressions and Alumni Hall of Fame Awards**

#### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Saturday, May 3, 2025 5:30pm @ CFPA



#### **Sponsorship Opportunities Available**

["The Faces Of" Art Exhibit: 4/4 - 5/4/25](#)

Opening Reception April 4, noon-1pm

[Author Visit with Sara Novic - 4/24/25](#)

10am Toledo & 3:30pm Findlay

[Catch up on BIG Read Podcasts!](#)

### **Work & Play**

#### **Career & Enrichment Classes:**

[Basic Life Support/CPR](#)

[Ceramics](#)

[Computer Training](#)

[DIY Home Repairs & Renovations](#)

[Encaustic Painting w/Studio Time](#)

[Online Professional Development](#)

[Photography](#)

[Studio Art Welding](#)

[Real Estate Pre-Licensing Program](#)

eligible for funding through our Ohio Talent Ready grant - [click here to apply](#)

#### **REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

#### **FOR KIDS SPRING CLASSES**

#### **AND SUMMER CAMPS**

Register early to ensure your child gets a seat in these rapidly filling programs!

## Your Foundation Support at Work

At Owens Community College, we know that success in the classroom starts with stability outside of it. While scholarships help cover tuition, unexpected financial hardships - like car repairs, utility bills, or medical expenses - can stand in the way of a student's education. That's where the Student Emergency Fund makes a difference.

In the 2024-2025 academic year, the Owens Foundation has provided approximately \$250,000 in scholarships, and thanks to generous donors like you, nearly \$10,000 in emergency assistance that has helped students stay in school when life threw unexpected challenges their way. Due to increased demand, this critical fund is running low - and we need your help to ensure we can continue supporting students in need.

Will you share the love this Valentine's Day by making a gift of opportunity? A donation to the Student Emergency Fund can help cover essential expenses such as transportation, rent, utilities, child care, and more - allowing students to focus on their education instead of financial stress.

You can also make a meaningful difference in students' lives by [supporting the fund](#) that matters most to you, or explore other ways to [increase your impact](#). You can [give easily online](#) at the button below to make a one-time or recurring donation, or make checks payable and mail to: Owens Community College Foundation, 30335 Oregon Road, Perrysburg, OH 43551.

Together, we can keep students on the path to success. Thank you for making a difference in students' lives!



### Contact us!

[foundation@owens.edu](mailto:foundation@owens.edu)  
[owensalumni@owens.edu](mailto:owensalumni@owens.edu)  
 567-661-7100



*The Gift of Opportunity*

## Join the New Facebook Page to Engage Further

*You asked and Owens answered - new and improved ways to engage with fellow alumni and friends!*

PLEASE VISIT AND FOLLOW [OUR NEW FACEBOOK PAGE FOR ALUMNI AND FOUNDATION FRIENDS!](#)

If you like the new monthly enewsletter, just wait until you see our new and improved Facebook page - be sure to like and follow to stay up to date throughout the month and [join the conversation with other newsletter readers!](#)



OWENS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
**FOUNDATION**