

# OBERLIN

COLLEGE & CONSERVATORY

Office of Conservatory Communications

## The Oberlin Orchestra

“Oberlin has trained some of America’s best orchestral musicians for decades ....”  
— *The New Yorker*

The Oberlin Orchestra has enjoyed a rich history of notable guest conductors including Igor Stravinsky, Pierre Boulez, Sir Simon Rattle (whose son is an Oberlin alumnus), David Zinman, Robert Spano, and John Williams. Recent appearances by the Oberlin Orchestra include performances at Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles; at Cleveland’s Severance Hall, home of the Cleveland Orchestra; a 13-day tour of China in 2005 and a second tour of China, including Singapore, in 2011; and a 2007 critically acclaimed performance at Carnegie Hall in New York conducted by Robert Spano. the *New York Times* described the performance at Carnegie Hall as “stellar.”

After Sir Simon Rattle conducted the Oberlin Chamber Orchestra in December 2004, Plain Dealer music critic Donald Rosenberg wrote that the concert was “stamped by magnificence.” Indeed, Rosenberg included the Oberlin-Rattle performance of Mahler’s Symphony No. 4, which he described as “uncommonly rich in poetry and drama,” in his list of top 10 memorable events from the 2004 concert season.

The Oberlin Conservatory of Music, awarded the highest artistic honor in the United States, the National Medal of Arts, by President Obama in February 2010 is known the world over as an institution of exceptional excellence. Praised as a “National treasure” by the Washington Post, conservatory graduates have achieved prominence as solo performers; chamber, orchestral, and jazz musicians; composers; conductors; music educators and scholars; and are found in all major orchestras and opera companies around the world. In 2009, the conservatory produced the Grammy nominated recording *Air*, and this year opened the finest jazz studies facility in the world with guest artist Stevie Wonder.