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## **Oberlin Heritage Center Offers History Fun for All Ages During Memorial Day/College Commencement Weekend**

The Oberlin Heritage Center's staff and volunteers will be seen all around town this Memorial Day Weekend as the history organization kicks off a busy summer season with a variety of tours, history walks, and scavenger hunts for kids. Events begin Friday morning May 28 and run through Monday afternoon, May 31. Advance reservations are requested for most Heritage Center events and may be made online at [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) or by visiting the OHC office in the Monroe House at 73½ South Professor Street. Free parking is available near 20 West Vine Street in Oberlin.

The Oberlin Heritage Center's main site features three beautifully preserved buildings including the Monroe House (1866), the Little Red Schoolhouse (1836), and the Jewett House (1884). Together the buildings and the stories they hold within offer visitors a glimpse into Oberlin's past and tell how ordinary people in this community did some extraordinary things to influence the history of our nation.

In addition to the on-site historic house tours, visitors will be able to reserve a space for one of several neighborhood history walks led by Oberlin Heritage Center docents. The Tappan Square History Walk focuses on the buildings surrounding Oberlin's downtown, park-like setting, while the Freedom's Friends History Walk includes stories of abolition and the Underground Railroad in Oberlin as visitors travel through the square and end at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. In case of rain, the history walks will be cancelled.

The Heritage Center is offering something new this year for children ages 5-11 (with an adult companion). The "I Spy Oberlin: History and Architecture Scavenger Hunt" will take place Saturday afternoon, May 29. This one-hour guided tour begins at the Heritage Center and progresses through town, as youngsters are encouraged to keep their eyes peeled for historic markers, decorative details, and Oberlin oddities. The tour moves inside the Heritage Center's buildings in case of rain.

The Heritage Center's Museum Store will be open extended hours throughout the weekend. Stop by for a variety of Oberlin-themed and history-related gifts, publications, unique hand-crafted jewelry by Jean Foggo Simon, and old-fashioned reproduction toys.

A schedule of the Heritage Center's Memorial Day Weekend events is listed below. All tours, history walks, and scavenger hunts will be repeated at other times throughout the summer. For more information, visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org), or contact Liz Schultz, Museum Education and Tour Coordinator at the Oberlin Heritage Center at (440) 774-1700 or e-mail [tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org).

**Friday, May 28**

11:00 a.m. Tappan Square History Walk. 60-minute walking tour, \$6 per adult. Walk is limited to 20 people; reservation required. Call 440-774-1700 or visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) for registration and start location information.

3:00 p.m. Freedom's Friends Underground Railroad and Abolitionist History Walk. 75-minute neighborhood walking tour, \$6 per adult. Walk is limited to 20 people; reservation required. Call 440-774-1700 or visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) for registration and start location information.

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Oberlin Heritage Center Museum Store open

**Saturday, May 29**

10:30 a.m. Oberlin Heritage Center Guided Tour. Monroe House, 73½ South Professor Street (on the path behind Oberlin College's new Kohl Jazz Building, or free parking available near 20 West Vine Street). 75-minute tour of three historic buildings, \$6 per adult. Tour is limited to 15 people; reservations appreciated.

11:00 a.m. Freedom's Friends Underground Railroad and Abolitionist History Walk. 75-minute neighborhood walking tour, \$6 per adult. Walk is limited to 20 people; reservation required. Call 440-774-1700 or visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) for registration and start location information.

1:30 p.m. Oberlin Heritage Center Guided Tour. Monroe House, 73½ South Professor Street (on the path behind Oberlin College's new Kohl Jazz Building, or free parking available near 20 West Vine Street). 75-minute tour of three historic buildings, \$6 per adult. Tour is limited to 15 people; reservations appreciated.

3:00 p.m. I Spy Oberlin: History & Architecture Scavenger Hunt. 60-minute walking tour for families with children ages 5-11, \$5 per child. Scavenger Hunt is limited to 25 people; reservation required. Call 440-774-1700 or visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) for registration and start location information.

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Oberlin Heritage Center Museum Store open

**Sunday, May 30**

11:00 a.m. Tappan Square History Walk. 60-minute walking tour, \$6 per adult. Walk is limited to 20 people; reservation required. Call 440-774-1700 or visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) for registration and start location information.

3:00 p.m. Freedom's Friends Underground Railroad and Abolitionist History Walk. 75-minute neighborhood walking tour, \$6 per adult. Walk is limited to 20 people; reservation required. Call 440-774-1700 or visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) for registration and start location information.

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Oberlin Heritage Center Museum Store open

**Monday, May 31**

1:00 p.m. Freedom's Friends Underground Railroad and Abolitionist History Walk. 75-minute neighborhood walking tour, \$6 per adult. Walk is limited to 20 people; reservation required. Call 440-774-1700 or visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) for registration and start location information.

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