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Oberlin Heritage Center Approved to Host AmeriCorps Volunteer for Second Year

The Oberlin Heritage Center will host an Ohio History Corps AmeriCorps service volunteer for the second year as part of a program launched in 2010 by the Ohio Historical Society and the Ohio Community Service Council. Twenty-one trained AmeriCorps members will be placed in communities across the State for the next year. The Ohio History Corps includes three service areas: the Civil War 150 Leadership Corps, the Historic Preservation Corps, and the Technology Corps. The Oberlin Heritage Center will be home base to one full-time AmeriCorps member of the Civil War 150 Leadership Corps.

During the 2010-2011 year, Karyn Norwood, of Bucksport, Maine, held the position. In addition to developing the new “Soldiers and Civilians Civil War History Walk,” and designing a children’s week-long Civil War Era day camp for the Oberlin Heritage Center, Karyn assisted dozens of other communities throughout northeast Ohio in making plans for commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The Oberlin Heritage Center received a \$2,000 grant from The Nord Family Foundation to support its costs to take part in the program in 2010.

Executive Director Pat Murphy commented that “This program offers a great professional development opportunity for those interested in history, historic preservation, heritage education, and the museum fields. We are very proud that the Oberlin Heritage Center was selected to participate for a second year, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Ohio Historical Society on this project. Having an AmeriCorps member as part of our team has helped the Heritage Center better serve our community and build partnerships with others in the region and State to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.”

All AmeriCorps members working with the Ohio History Service Corps receive a monthly stipend, health insurance, and upon completion of the program, an additional educational award that can be used for college, graduate school or to pay off existing school loans. Applicants interested in the Oberlin Heritage Center’s position, or in any of the other History Service Corps posts created throughout the state of Ohio, can log in and create an account at <https://my.americorps.gov> to complete an application by September 9, 2011. The term of service is from October 2011 through August 2012. More information is available on the AmeriCorps website or by calling Mary Cannon, AmeriCorps Project Director, at the Ohio Historical Society at 614-297-2392 or sending an e-mail to her at mcannon@Ohiohistory.org.

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