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Oberlin Heritage Center Summer Camps Receive Statewide Excellence Award

The Oberlin Heritage Center's Summer Camp programs were honored at the annual meeting and conference of the Ohio Local History Alliance (OLHA) on Saturday, October 9, in Worthington, Ohio. The Heritage Center's fun and educational offerings for kids and teens received the History Outreach Award in the public programming category.

The Oberlin Heritage Center has a long history of connecting youth to local history in personal and fun ways. Popular week-long day camps have focused on Architecture, Kids and World Cultures, the Underground Railroad, Local Inventors and Innovators, and the "Green" movement. Single-day camps have helped scouts earn badges in areas of Good Citizenship and Local Lore. A workshop for older campers has trained teens to be Junior Docents at the museum site and has offered the opportunity to earn service hours by helping with special community events hosted by the Heritage Center. The OLHA award recognized the Oberlin Heritage Center's children's summer camps for the many varied and creative ways that these programs make history come alive for a new generation and engage our future historians.

Liz Schultz, the Heritage Center's Museum Education and Tour Coordinator, accepted the award on behalf of the organization. Liz thanked the OHC Board, staff and members for believing that history education is key to a flourishing local historical society. Other Oberlin Heritage Center representatives attending the awards luncheon were Honorary Trustee Jean Foggo Simon, Trustee Roberta Garcia, Trustee Donna Shurr, Executive Director Pat Murphy, and Americorps Volunteer Richard Donegan. This is the thirteenth achievement award that the statewide local history association has bestowed upon the Oberlin Heritage Center in as many years.

For more about the Oberlin Heritage Center and its summer camps for kids and teens, visit www.oberlinheritage.org. To add your name to the Center's Summer Camp mailing list, call (440) 774-1700 or e-mail members@oberlinheritage.org.

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