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Photo available upon request

Walt Edling, Past President of Oberlin Heritage Center, Honored by Statewide Ohio Local History Alliance

The Oberlin Heritage Center's immediate Past President of the Board, Walter H. Edling, has been recognized by the Ohio Local History Alliance (OLHA) with an Outstanding Individual Achievement Award. Edling was among several honorees from throughout the state feted at an awards luncheon held at the OLHA Annual Meeting in Worthington, Ohio on Saturday, October 4, 2014.

The Outstanding Individual Achievement Awards recognize dedication and expertise in the field of local history. Nominees must be involved in a historical organization for at least 5 years, and demonstrate excellence in more than one area of an organization's operations. Edling has been active with the Oberlin Heritage since 2001, when he became a member of the local history education and preservation group. In 2006, he joined the Heritage Center's Board of Trustees, where he first served as Treasurer and Vice President before stepping into the role of Board President in 2010. Edling moved to the Heritage Center's one-year position of Past President in 2014, and presently continues in his fifth year of service as the President of the Board of the Heritage Center's Limited Liability Corporation, Vineway, LLC.

As OHC Board President, Edling provided solid, consistent leadership for the organization, and as a gifted administrator, educator and strategic thinker, he helped resolve some complex challenges and guided the Board in planning a strong future for the organization. A long-time resident of Oberlin, Edling is committed to the community in other ways as well and recently retired from a long term of service on the Oberlin Schools Endowment Board.

In receiving his award, Edling joins a growing list of Oberlin Heritage Center staff and volunteers who also have been recognized by this statewide association of peers from the museum and local history fields. OHC Executive Director Pat Murphy received the honor in 1999, followed by Cathe Radabaugh in 2005 (Past President of the Board of Trustees), Pat and Dick Holsworth in 2006 (Honorary Trustees; Pat also is Past President of the Board and a retired OHC staff member), Mary Anne Cunningham and Prue Richards in 2007 (respectively the Assistant to the Director and the Collections Assistant, now retired) and Jim White (Past President of the Board) in 2010. The Ohio Local History Alliance, in partnership with the Ohio History Connection (formerly, the Ohio Historical Society) has been recognizing excellence in Ohio's historical societies and museums with awards of this nature since 1960.

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