Oberlin Heritage Center Looks at National Trends in History Museums

Just back from a three-week seminar in Indianapolis that focused on “Developing History Leaders,” Liz Schultz, the Oberlin Heritage Center’s Museum Education and Tour Coordinator discusses new trends in museum interpretation methods as well as public history’s changing roles in education and communities. The illustrated program, titled What’s New in History Museums and Historic Sites Leadership? takes place Wednesday, December 17 at 7:15 p.m. in Heiser Auditorium at Kendal at Oberlin (600 Kendal Drive). The event is free and open to the public.

Schultz was one of 21 participants from across the nation who attended what has come to be recognized as a premier training program in the field of history museum administration. Sponsored by the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH), the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and others, this professional development program is now in its sixth decade providing history professionals the tools, ideas, and connections that allow them to become effective leaders and managers in their field. Schultz met national leaders in the museum and preservation fields, discussed case studies with peers who represented history organizations of all types and sizes, visited local museums, and attended learning sessions daily that ranged from fundraising to the growing national “History Relevance Campaign.” Upon returning to Oberlin, Schultz summed up the experience as one that was both invigorating and reaffirming. “Everyone left with goals for improving their home institutions and demonstrating how history museums aren’t just nice, they’re essential,” she said.

For more information, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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