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Photo Available Upon Request

Community Awards Presented at Oberlin Heritage Center’s Annual Meeting

More than 170 members and friends of the Oberlin Heritage Center gathered at the Oberlin Inn on April 6 to celebrate the nonprofit’s accomplishments of the past year and to look ahead to the organization’s future. Dean of the Oberlin Conservatory Andrea Kalyn presented the featured program on the *Legacy and the 150th Anniversary of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music*. Dean Kalyn spoke of three common themes that have influenced the Conservatory’s long history and which continue to direct its vision for the future: aspiring to the highest standards of excellence, nurturing artistic curiosity and experimentation, and making an impact on the world through music.

Highlighting the evening were the 15th Annual Community Awards presentations for outstanding dedication to history, service, and the Oberlin community. Award recipients included:

The **Oberlin African-American Genealogy and History Group (OAAGHG)**, which was recognized with the Heritage Guardian Award for preserving important aspects of the community’s African-American history with a number of free services and programs for all community members that further an interest in family history and research.

The Prospect School Third Grade Team (Felicia Christian, Brandi Hicks-Watson and Christine Hohman), who adapted traditional elementary lessons on Oberlin history into the International Baccalaureate program’s “Who We Are” Unit of Inquiry, was honored as a team with the History Teacher of the Year award.

Ken Stanley received the Community Teacher of the Year Award for his work as founder and driving force behind The Du Bois Project, which encourages underrepresented and minority children to enjoy math, while also successfully increasing self-esteem and building community among participants.

Melissa Clifford and **Eileen Telegdy** were hailed as the Oberlin Heritage Center’s Volunteers of the Year for their work in digitizing the Oberlin oral history cassette collection of interviews.

Leo Braido/Oberlin IGA received the Business Service Leader Award for partnering with the Heritage Center to create his store’s “Oberlin Proud” atmosphere through historic images from the OHC photograph collection.

Julia Elrod, an Oberlin High School honors student, was applauded with the Youth Community Service Award for her commitment to volunteering weekly at the Heritage Center in addition to her involvement in many other aspects of community service.

Heritage Center Board President **Nick Jones** conducted the annual business meeting. Governance committee chair **Donna Shurr** presided over Jones’ re-election as the organization’s president for another two-year term, as well as the re-election of Board members **Barbara Enos**, **Brittnei Sherrod** and **Gail Wood**. Voted in as new Trustee was **Laurel Price Jones**. Long-time Board member **Scott Broadwell** was appointed an Honorary Trustee.

For more highlights from the Annual Meeting and Awards Presentations, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org. **###END**