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## **Heritage Center Annual Meeting Features Portrayal of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Sculptor Edmonia Lewis *17<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Award Recipients Honored***

The public is invited to the annual dinner meeting of the Oberlin Heritage Center on **Wednesday, April 4** at The Hotel at Oberlin (10 East College Street). This year's gathering of Heritage Center members and friends features a historical performance by actress **Sherrie Tolliver** of the Cleveland-based nonprofit *Women in History*, who presents a first-person portrayal of internationally acclaimed 19th-century sculptor Edmonia Lewis. Lewis was of mixed African and Native American heritage and came to Oberlin as a college student in 1859. Her time at Oberlin was marked by discord and she eventually left to build a career in art through commissioned work and among the studios of Europe, becoming a prominent neoclassical sculptor. The Heritage Center appreciates the support of **Northwest Bank** for sponsoring this evening's special presentation.

The event's Social Hour (with cash bar and a basket raffle) begins at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m., with the business meeting and program immediately following. The Heritage Center's 17th Annual Community Awards rounds out the evening, with recognition given to several local leaders in history education, historic preservation, and community service. This year's award recipients are **Francis M. Stuart** and **Officer Bashshar Wiley** (Community Historians); **Adenike Sharpley** (Heritage Guardian Award); **Zaria Amerson** (Youth Community Service Award); and **Carl W. Jacobson** (OHC Volunteer of the Year). The evening also includes a brief business meeting with the election of new Heritage Center Board members and officers.

Reservations for the Oberlin Heritage Center's annual meeting are \$40 per person for Heritage Center members and \$45 per person for the general public and may be purchased online at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org), or by contacting the Heritage Center at (440) 774-1700. The deadline for making reservations is March 28. For more information, visit [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or e-mail [ohcbiz@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:ohcbiz@oberlinheritage.org).

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