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## Oberlin Heritage Center Offers Warm-Weather History Walks & More!

As warm weather returns to northeast Ohio, so do the Oberlin Heritage Center's popular outdoor history walks. All ages can enjoy time outside and learn more about Oberlin's unique history and architecture through these fun learning opportunities:

**Freedom's Friends: Underground Railroad & Abolitionist History Walk.** Saturdays at 11 a.m., June, July, August. Prior to the Civil War, as many as 3,000 African Americans passed through or lived in Oberlin after escaping from slavery. Learn about Oberlin's famous freedom seekers and those known to have helped them make their way to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

**Radicals & Reformers History Walk of Westwood Cemetery.** *First* Sunday at 11 a.m., June, July, August. This guided tour promises a pleasing balance of Westwood's scenic landmarks and stories of some of the many spirited men and women of Oberlin who simply refused the status quo. Find out which resident was remembered as "gentle, soft-spoken, tolerant and yet nobody's fool." Visit the headstone of the man who escaped from slavery (twice!) and later served on the Oberlin village council.

Tickets for individual history walks must be purchased in advance and are \$6 for adults, and free for Heritage Center members, college students and children accompanied by adults. (Even when tickets are free, reservations still must be made in advance.) The walks range between 75 and 90 minutes and are most likely to be enjoyed by ages 9 and up. History walks also are available to groups of eight or more at other times by appointment.

Summer also is an ideal time to experience the Heritage Centers self-guided tablet tours that are convenient and adaptable to individual interests. Simply borrow an iPad from the Oberlin Heritage Center between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays, and learn about Oberlin in a "do-it-yourself" format. The **Freedom's Friends** tour allows participants to move at their own pace through town and campus to learn about local monuments and discover new stories connected to Oberlin's abolitionist history. The **Picture the Past: Historic Downtown Oberlin** tablet tour covers a one block radius extending from the corner of Main and College Streets and is filled with fun facts, historic photographs, and more! The fee is \$5/hour or \$20/day per tablet, with a 20% discount for OHC members.

Younger folks and the young-at-heart can also take part in some old-fashioned outdoor playtime at the Heritage Center's Little Red Schoolhouse all through the summer months. The Heritage Center will have free classic games such as ring toss, jump rope, hoops & sticks, stilts, spinning tops, and more available FREE during OHC's open hours, Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visitors just need to sign them out at the Monroe House (73½ South Professor Street) for use on the Heritage Center grounds. It's a great way to unplug, relax, and enjoy fresh air and fun with family or friends.

All year round, the Heritage Center also offers the "Upstairs/Downstairs Tour" which includes stories from Oberlin's 1833 founding through the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century set within the beautifully preserved Monroe House (1866), the Jewett House (1884) and the hands-on Little Red Schoolhouse (1836). These tours are offered every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., and walk-ins are welcome. The "Sneak Peek" Oberlin Origins Tour – a mini-version of the full tour for those who have less time yet still want to hit the highlights – is available Tuesday through Saturday on a walk-in basis between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. These tours are free to OHC members, children and college students; otherwise \$6/adult for the full tour or \$3/adult for the mini-tour.

For reservations or to obtain more information about any of the Heritage Center's tour experiences, please visit [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org), e-mail [tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

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