

# Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette – January 13, 2010

## **Cleveland Goes Modern**

Cleveland architect, **Anthony Hiti**, discusses mid-century modern residential architecture in northeast Ohio in “Cleveland Goes Modern,” presented at Kendal at Oberlin’s Heiser Auditorium on Tuesday, January 19, at 7:15 p.m. Hiti’s illustrated program focuses on the time period 1930 to 1970 and features the work of several architects who introduced the innovative spirit of modernism to the Cleveland area and exposed the region to radical ideas in floor plan, facades void of historical ornamentation, new building materials and energy efficient design. Anthony Hiti is a principal of **Herman Gibans Fodor, Inc. – Architects (HGF)** of Cleveland. He may be a familiar face to some Oberlinians as he was HGF’s principal-in-charge for several recent improvements to Kendal at Oberlin including the Phase I and II cottage expansions, dining room renovation and expansion, Buttonbush covered walkway and Marketing addition. His presentation is based on the *Cleveland Goes Modern* exhibit organized by the Cleveland Artists Foundation in 2007 at the Beck Center for the Arts in Lakewood, Ohio. The event is free and open to the public.

## **Help OHC Recognize Those Who Make Oberlin a Better Place**

The Oberlin Heritage Center’s Community Awards program, now in its ninth year, is accepting nominations of individuals, businesses, or organizations whose outstanding accomplishments are in keeping with the Heritage Center’s mission to “preserve and share Oberlin’s unique history and to make the community a better place to live, learn, work and visit.” Anyone may submit a nomination. Award categories include:

- Community Historian – to be given to an individual who contributes to the knowledge of the history of the Oberlin community through research, writing, and/or educating others.
- Heritage Guardian Award – to be given to an individual or group dedicated to the ideals of conservation and preservation and who serves the community as a leader in preserving Oberlin’s history, historical records, or historic buildings.
- Teacher of the Year Awards – to be given to area educators who inspire students to get involved in history, historic preservation, or community service.
- Keep Oberlin Beautiful Award – to be given to an individual, business, or organization that helps to enhance the aesthetics and appearance of the community.
- Oberlin Heritage Center Volunteer of the Year Award – to be given to a volunteer who makes extraordinary contributions of time and talent to the Oberlin Heritage Center.
- Business Leader Service Award – to be presented to a business that provided exceptional support to the Oberlin Heritage Center in contributions and/or contributed services during the past year.
- Youth Community Service Award – for a young person who makes extraordinary contributions of time and talent to the Heritage Center.

Previous awardees, current Oberlin Heritage Center trustees and paid staff members are not eligible for awards. Downloadable entry forms, which include a listing of previous award winners, are available on our [website](#).

**Deadline for submitting a nomination is February 2, 2010.** Award recipients will be notified in March and will be invited to attend the Oberlin Heritage Center’s Annual Meeting in April to receive their awards.

## **Winter Term Projects Add Six New College-Student Faces to OHC Team**

The staff of the Heritage Center more than doubled this month as six Oberlin College students began Winter Term projects for the organization. Please welcome: **Claire Baytas**, a sophomore majoring in Comparative Literature and Mathematics; **Chloe Pak Drummond**, a third-year student at the College and the Conservatory working on a double degree in Biology and Piano Performance; **Eli Goldberg**, a sophomore majoring in Archaeological Studies and Classics with a Chemistry minor; **Tim Krumreig**, a sophomore majoring in Geology; **Rachel Luczkowski**, a sophomore majoring in Art History, and **Daniella Polyak**, a senior majoring in History. Claire, Eli and Daniella are working with Prue Richards on several collections care endeavors including a 1930s Dollhouse project that involves developing a furnishings restoration and preservation plan as well as an exhibit plan for not only the dollhouse but for many other old-fashioned dolls and toys that are part of the Heritage Center's historic collection. Chloe is working on several research projects with Liz Schultz and Pat Holsworth, while Tim and Rachel will be working with Pat Murphy and other OHC staff learning about museum management, issues concerning preservation in the green movement, and more. The Winter Term interns, along with several of the OHC staff, Board, and docents began the year with a "field trip" to the world-renowned McKay Lodge Conservation Laboratory in Oberlin to learn more about art conservation. Interns also will spend a day this month with Steve McQuillin, of Westlake, to learn more about his work as a historic preservation consultant.

## **A Splendid New Look for the Monroe House Front Parlor**

As you enter the front doors of the Monroe House your eyes will feast upon the marvelous restoration-in-progress taking place in the **Front Parlor**. The new look is the result of long hours of research by Collections Assistant Prue Richards who combed through Julia Monroe's papers and receipts housed in the Oberlin College Archives to put together a plan based on Julia's known preferences for color and style, meshed with the most fashionable interior design trends of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Heritage Center's Collections Committee worked hard to determine how the plan would be implemented and funded. Much of the work was done by staff and volunteers, with materials and additional paid services underwritten by private donors. Kudos to **Scott Broadwell (Broadwell Painting)** and **Tim Cowling (Creative Carpentry)** for donating many hours of their professional time and expertise to the project. Next steps in the "re-do" include reproducing the original parlor fireplace tiles and hearth to their original finery. Stay tuned for details on how you can get involved!

## **An Oberlin Heritage Center Salute to...**

- ❖ **283 Annual Fund donors** who contributed \$36,463 to the 2009 Annual Fund campaign, surpassing the goal of \$30,000 and keeping the Oberlin Heritage Center in the black during a year that was very, very tight financially for OHC and many other nonprofit organizations.
- ❖ **748 Members** as of December 31, 2009 – an all-time high total of individuals, households, business and organizations! If you are not a member of the Oberlin Heritage Center, please join us by visiting our [website](#) or calling 440-774-1700 for more information.
- ❖ **Prue Richards** – who is marking her tenth anniversary as the Collections Assistant on the Oberlin Heritage Center staff. Prue's colleagues and friends congratulate her on this milestone and thank her for the highest standards of excellence she brings to all areas of her work with the museum's collections, exhibits and archives.

## Save the Dates

Plan to congratulate and thank **Erik and Michele Andrews** for all they do to make Oberlin a better place by attending a special community-wide reception on **Sunday, February 21, from 2-4 p.m.** at First Church in Oberlin, U.C.C. (located at the corner of Main and Lorain Streets, also known as SR 58 and SR 511). Erik and Michele, who are OHC members and volunteers in addition to the many and varied other ways they contribute to Oberlin's well-being, recently were recognized by the *Oberlin News-Tribune* as the **2009 Oberlinians of the Year**. This event is co-hosted by the Oberlin Heritage Center and the *Oberlin News-Tribune* in cooperation with First Church and the Oberlin Schools.

**“History Explorers Camp”** will be the first-ever OHC camp for kids offered during **Spring Break** – plan to join us the week of **March 29-April 2** for this fun learning experience for boys and girls ages 8-13. Reservations are underway and there is an “early bird” discount on the camp fee if you register before March 17, 2010. Visit the Oberlin Heritage Center's [website](#) to download a spring break camp flyer and registration form.

## In Memory

The Oberlin Heritage Center lost a much beloved friend last month with the passing of Board Member and volunteer extraordinaire, **Ruth Shaeffer**. Ruth had been a member of the Heritage Center since moving to Kendal at Oberlin in 1995, and she served on the OHC Board of Trustees since 2005. Prior to that, she assisted the Heritage Center through a study done by Management Assistance to Non Profits (MANA) a consulting group comprised of retired Kendal management professionals. Ruth was active on the Heritage Center's Membership Committee and Strategic Planning Committee, and she played a major role in securing contributions for the Endowment for History Education campaign. Everyone who knew Ruth admired her brilliance and her positive “can-do” spirit, and loved her for her dry wit and warm, twinkling smile. The Heritage Center's Board, Staff, Volunteers and friends will miss Ruth dearly.

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