

Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette – Special Edition

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Oberlin Heritage Center Announces New Executive Director

Following a national search, the Oberlin Heritage Center is pleased to announce that **Elizabeth (Liz) Schultz** has been selected as the organization's next executive director. Current director, **Patricia Murphy**, will retire in late August following 22 years at the helm. In announcing the transfer of leadership, Board President **Nick Jones** stated, "I am very pleased that the Heritage Center had the good fortune to find the best candidate for the position in our own Museum Education and Tour Coordinator, Liz Schultz. She submitted a strong application, was interviewed along with several outside candidates and received the unanimous support of our search committee." Schultz's appointment was confirmed by the OHC Board of Trustees on July 1, and she will officially take the reins as director on August 22, 2015.

Schultz has been with the Heritage Center since 2007, when she was hired as the organization's first full-time Museum Education and Tour Coordinator. Since then, she has expanded the Heritage Center's tour offerings to include themed history walks, self-guided tablet tours, and interactive team-building activities. She developed outreach programs for area schools, created history kits for teachers to borrow to enhance classroom learning, taken OHC's kids' camp programs to new levels of distinction, and spearheaded the Heritage Center's advancements in the digital world by serving as website manager and social media coordinator. Beyond her "in-house" duties, Schultz serves as a marvelous ambassador for the Heritage Center in the greater community, and volunteers for numerous local organizations. She is a past chair of the City of Oberlin's Historic Preservation Commission, and currently is the President of the Friends of the Oberlin Public Library, and also is active as a board member of the Oberlin Rotary Club.

Originally from Marshfield, Wisconsin, Schultz arrived at the Heritage Center with a strong academic background in History Museum Studies (Cooperstown Graduate Program, New York) and continued her professional development through many different avenues, including the Leadership Lorain County program (2009), a Rotary Group Exchange program to Italy (2012), and the Developing History Leaders @ the Seminar for Historical Administration (2014). She has demonstrated success in grant writing and management, and has a proven track record in presenting programs of interest to the general public as well as to her peers at professional conferences.

Schultz looks forward to working with OHC members, Oberlin residents, community leaders and visitors in her new role. "I fully appreciate and hope to continue the traditions of excellence established by Pat Murphy," she commented. "I am grateful to the Heritage Center Board, fellow staff members, and community supporters for entrusting me with this position." A national search is now underway to fill Schultz's position as Museum Education and Tour Coordinator. The organization anticipates a mid-September start date for Schultz's successor. More information is available at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org.

The community is invited to a casual farewell gathering for Murphy and a welcome to Schultz on **Saturday, August 8 from 3-4:30 p.m.** on the Heritage Center grounds. Brief remarks will be made at 3:30 p.m., and light refreshments will be served.