

Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette ♦ November 2016

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OHC Expands Tour Schedule for College's Parents Weekend

All are Welcome Friday through Sunday, November 4-6



During the first weekend of November, out-of-town visitors and local residents alike are invited to enjoy a variety of guided tours taking place at the Heritage Center and in the community. This weekend will be the last opportunity to enjoy the out-of-doors themed history walks until warmer weather returns in the spring. Choose among several different themes and times; each is led by an OHC staff member or

volunteer and is 60- to 90-minutes in length. Admission is \$6, with that fee waived for OHC members, college students and children accompanied by an adult. Advance reservations are recommended. The line-up includes:

Freedom's Friends Underground Railroad & Abolitionist History Walk - Friday, November 4 at 3 p.m. and Saturday November 5 at 3 p.m.

"One Step More": Oberlin Women's History Walk - Saturday, November 5 at 11 a.m.

Music in the Home Tour - Sunday, November 6 at 11 a.m.

Scholars & Settlers Tappan Square History Walk - Sunday, November 6 at 1 p.m.

If your weekend is tight on time, consider the **Oberlin Origins/Sneak Peek Mini-Tour**, which hits the highlights of Oberlin's first century in just 30 minutes! Mini-tours will be offered every half hour at the Monroe House on Friday, November 4 from 1-4 p.m. and again Saturday, November 5 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (last tour begins at 3:30 p.m.) Fee is \$3, and free to OHC members, college students and children accompanied by an adult.

If you prefer the freedom to take a tour at your own pace and on your own schedule, try out one of the Heritage Center's new tablet tours. Rent an iPad for \$5/hour or \$20/day and do-it-yourself with the **Picture the Past: Downtown Oberlin** or the **Freedom's Friends: Underground Railroad & Abolitionist** digital tour.

To learn more or to make a reservation for any of these weekend events hosted by the Heritage Center, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

African-American Business Owners in Oberlin

OHC's Amanda Manahan is Guest Speaker at AMAM's Tuesday Tea



*Gayter's Skating Rink,
late 19th or early 20th century.*

The Heritage Center is pleased to be invited to participate in the Allen Memorial Art Museum's "second Tuesday" series with a presentation by **Amanda Manahan**, OHC's Museum Education and Tour Coordinator. Manahan's talk covers aspects of Oberlin's early involvement in the abolitionist movement and stories of African-American settlers, highlighting African-American owned businesses. The event takes place on **Tuesday, November 8 at 2:30 p.m.** in the art museum's East Gallery (87 North Main Street). All are welcome to enjoy this free program followed by tea and light

refreshment. For more information, call (440) 775-8665 or visit http://oberlin.edu/amam/tuesday_tea.html.

Mark Twain: An American Life

Thursday, November 17 at 7:15 p.m.



The Oberlin Heritage Center welcomes folksinger/storyteller **Judy Cook** (seated at left) in a multimedia program on the life and times of American writer Mark Twain (1835-1910). The presentation includes excerpts from Twain's writings read by **Dennis Cook** (standing, left), songs and tunes of the era sung and played by Judy, and projected images including photos of the day, works of art, and lyrics to musical choruses so that all may join in. The spoken word, illustrations and music combine to provide fascinating insights into Twain's life and the America he lived in. This free public program takes place at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive) and is presented in collaboration with Kendal's *Third Thursday* program series. Learn more about Judy at www.judycook.net. For information about this program, call (440) 774-1700 or visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org.

Tune in to WOBC for Heritage Center Feature!

Sunday, November 20 at 1 p.m.



Museum Education & Tour Coordinator **Amanda Manahan**, along with several OHC volunteers, will be featured guests on WOBC's Community Hour, which has been putting the spotlight on local nonprofits this fall. Amanda and crew will discuss some of the special projects that the Heritage Center is working on in the community. Listeners can tune in to Oberlin College's student-run freeform community radio station at 91.5-FM in Lorain County, Ohio and on the web at www.wobc.org.

The Last Fugitive Slave: The Story of Sara Lucy Bagby

Wednesday, November 30 at 7 p.m.



This incredible, true story from our nation's Underground Railroad past will be presented by Cleveland's *Kulture Kids* in a FREE community performance and panel discussion at The First Church in Oberlin, United Church of Christ (106 North Main Street). *Kulture Kids* is a nonprofit dedicated to creating original, interactive arts programs that inspire community, cultural awareness, and lifelong learning. Artistic Director Robin Pease portrays Lucy, while community volunteers read the roles of others involved in her story. A discussion follows that digs deeper into Lucy's story and her struggle for freedom, as well as our country's struggle to carry out justice, then and now. The event is a partnership with the Oberlin Heritage Center and The First Church in Oberlin, UCC, and it is funded in part through a grant from the Ohio Arts Council and the National

Endowment for the Arts. Those planning to attend also have the option of enjoying a community meal served by church members, beginning at 5:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (\$3 meal, payable at the door; free for students). To find out more about this event, call (440) 774-1700 or visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org. To learn more about *Kulture Kids*, visit www.kulturekids.org.

Halfway There – OHC's Annual Fund Needs You!

Help the Heritage Center Raise \$41,200 by December 31

The Annual Fund is a critical part of the Heritage Center's operating budget, enabling the organization to sustain programs, tours, collections, research and volunteer opportunities. While memberships, tour fees, and fee-for-service projects help pay the bills, they do not fully cover the basic costs of operations. Your Annual Fund commitment aids in filling the gaps, keeping the organization healthy and strong, and allowing time and energy to be focused on collecting, preserving and sharing Oberlin's unique and influential history. To date, 173 donors have contributed \$20,812 to the fund -- we're well on our way, but we need YOUR help to get to the finish line! No matter the size of the gift, each and every donation is needed and appreciated! Please make a tax-deductible contribution today by mailing your gift to the Oberlin Heritage Center, MPO Box 0455, Oberlin, OH 44074-0455 or making an online donation at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org.

Your Holiday Shopping Can Benefit the Heritage Center

Two Easy Ways to Raise Funds for OHC!



Support the Heritage Center through **Amazon Smile**

(www.smile.amazon.com) and when you shop, Amazon gives to the charitable organization of your choice at no extra expense to you. The Heritage Center is listed under its legal name, the Oberlin Historical and Improvement Organization.

And remember the Heritage Center's Museum Store as a source for holiday gift-giving ideas. Browse among books, tee shirts, Oberlin afghans, history playing cards,

Your Holiday Shopping Can Benefit the Heritage Center continued...

and other Oberlin-themed mementos. *Beginning November 15, take advantage of end-of-the-year savings as all in-store-only purchases will receive a 20% discount* (cannot be combined with other discounts). Consider an inscribed century-old brick placed along the Heritage Center walkway to honor a special person or occasion in your life, or provide the gift of an OHC membership to family and friends who like to support local nonprofits doing good work in the community. Shop [online](#) or visit the Monroe House (73 1/2 South Professor Street) Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Members Update

Welcome to new OHC members **Katherine A. & Robert A. Bosch, Robert C. Browne** (Sagamore Hills), **Susan & William Colley, Ann Devenny** (Elyria), **Stephen FitzGerald & Yumi Ijiri, Harry Haskell** (Guilford, CT), **Margaret Kanost, David Kaplovitz** (Bloomfield Hills, MI), **Benjamin Linowitz, Christoph Marx**, and **Booker C. Peek**. We also welcome new business and organizational members: **African American College Counseling Reform (Annessa Wyman)** and **Global Vocabulary LLC** (Columbia Station). Members are from Oberlin unless indicated otherwise. Every member helps keep the Heritage Center a strong and vibrant resource for residents, visitors, researchers, teachers, students, genealogists, history buffs and more – you, too, can help keep OHC a valued community asset by becoming a member today! Join online at www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700 and request a membership brochure.

OHC Staff, Board, Volunteer and Intern News

Several OHC staff, volunteers and Board members hosted acclaimed author and journalist Ann Hagedorn (www.annhagedorn.com) for breakfast last month, while the writer was in town to present lectures at Oberlin College and Kendal at Oberlin. A lively discussion ensued based on Hagedorn's book *Beyond the River: The Untold Story of the Heroes of the Underground Railroad* (2003) and the Heritage Center's forthcoming book about local antislavery efforts. The Oberlin book is a joint project by OHC Board member **Ron Gorman** and Executive Director **Liz Schultz**, and is currently in the writing phase.

Museum Education & Tour Coordinator **Amanda Manahan** was interviewed about OHC's fall events for **Radio Stations WOBL 1320** and **WDLW 1380/98.9 FM**, while Board member **Judy Cook** appeared with Cleveland WKYC (NBC-affiliate, Channel 3) Jim Donovan to talk about the Heritage Center's new event "*Every Good Story Has a Plot*," which took place in Westwood Cemetery at the end of October. Judy was one of three costumed interpreters featured in the special guided tour.

Collections Manager **Maren McKee** is busily preparing a new temporary mini-exhibit that will include a sampling of collections items acquired in the past year. View the display at the Monroe House throughout the month of December.

Business Manager **Bethany Hobbs** attended two financial workshops at the end of October. **Cohen & Co.**, the firm that completes the Oberlin Heritage Center's annual audit and Form 990, presented a *Leading the Nonprofit* seminar on topics of Governance, UBIT (Unrelated Business Income Tax), and the latest accounting updates affecting all nonprofits. The next day, Bethany attended a workshop on *Financial Compliance Basics* presented by Lynn Koster, CPA

OHC Staff, Board, Volunteer and Intern News continued...

for Meaden & Moore, Ltd and hosted by the Community Foundation of Lorain County.

The Heritage Center extends a warm welcome to volunteer **Nancy Harper** of South Amherst who assists weekly with programming and public relations work, and to **Annessa Wyman**, who is assisting with oral history transcribing and is a member of OHC's Collections Committee.

Applause also for newly trained docent volunteers **Barbara Evans, Rhonda Kunselman** and **Annessa Wyman**.

Congratulations to OHC's former Executive Director **Pat Murphy** who completed her 25th marathon in Chicago last month!

Thanksgiving Weekend Hours at the Heritage Center



Warmest thanks are sent to OHC's members and friends for all that you do to keep Oberlin's rich history alive for future generations. The Heritage Center will be **closed Thursday, November 24** (Thanksgiving Day) and **open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, November 25 and Saturday, November 26.**

Wondering what to do with out-of-town family and friends visiting for the holiday? Bring them to the Heritage Center to take part in a 30-minute Oberlin Origins/Sneak Peek tour, or rent an iPad and enjoy a "do-it-yourself" digital tour of

downtown Oberlin or of the community's abolitionist history. Guided "Upstairs/Downstairs" tours, which include OHC's three beautifully preserved historic buildings, will be offered on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The Heritage Center makes it easy and fun to entertain guests in Oberlin this holiday weekend.

Also of Interest

All are invited to the dedication of a new Ohio Historical Marker commemorating Civil War General Quincy A. Gillmore who was born in Lorain, Ohio in 1825. Members of the **Quincy Adams Gillmore Civil War Round Table** will present a short program at Lakeview Metro Park (1800 East Erie Avenue, Lorain) on **Saturday, November 5 at 11 a.m.** The Oberlin Heritage Center's AmeriCorps member, **Mary Manning**, will speak briefly on behalf of the statewide Ohio History Connection, and the celebration includes Civil War costumed participants and music of the era. Plan to attend and learn more about one of Lorain County's pioneers who helped shape American history.

In case you missed taking part in the free collections care workshop hosted by the Oberlin Heritage Center last spring, the program is being repeated on **Wednesday, November 9 at 6:30 p.m.** at Cleveland Grays Armory Museum (1234 Bolivar Road). ***Care and Handling of Collections 101*** will be presented by Jennifer Souers Chevraux, Education Outreach Officer of ICA-Art Conservation, the oldest not-for-profit regional conservation center in the country. Call (216) 621-5938 or e-mail grays1837@yahoo.com to reserve your seat.