

# Oberlin Heritage Center E-Gazette September 2017

MPO Box 0455, Oberlin, OH 44074

(440)774-1700

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## OHC Welcomes Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures



Visitors to the Oberlin Heritage Center will have the unique opportunity to experience collections of two-museums-in-one throughout the month of September. OHC's 1866 Monroe House provides an intimate setting for the special exhibit offered by the Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures of Lorain, which includes more than 150 pieces of art and artifacts representing 19 Spanish-speaking countries from around the world (*including pieces from Panama pictured at left, Honduras center, and Cuba right*).

Step into a "Mexican Kitchen" or delight in the charming accents of a young girl's room. Broaden your understanding of customs and traditions in the arts and heritage of Latino cultures and talk with others about the similarities and differences that we recognize. Guests will be able to choose among several ways to explore the exhibit: on its own, or combined with an "Upstairs/Downstairs" Oberlin history tour, led by an English-speaking guide or presented in both English and Spanish. There's even a self-guided option for those who prefer to take it all in at their own pace. The admission fee of \$6/adult (\$5 for OHC members, and free for children and any college student) will benefit the missions of both museums. Circle the date of September 23 when all tours will be FREE for everyone in conjunction with Smithsonian Museum Day, and all are invited to stop by the Oberlin Public Library for a *Fiesta en la Biblioteca* from 3-5 p.m. (Read about this lively gathering in the feature that follows...) Find out more about dates and times for various public tour options by visiting the Oberlin Heritage Center's website at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or calling (440) 774-1700. Educators who wish to bring a school group to tour the special exhibit may contact Museum Education & Tour Coordinator Amanda Manahan at [tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org).

## Fiesta en La Biblioteca

Saturday, September 23 from 3-5 p.m. at the Oberlin Public Library



*Todos están invitados a venir a la fiesta (y es gratis!).*  
*Everyone's invited to come to the party (and it's free!).* Join us in the Community Room at the Oberlin Public Library (65 South Main Street) for a fun-filled afternoon of music, dancing, food and more! Taste a tamale, polish off some pastelillos, or hoist a cold Jarritos -- not sure what we're talking about? -- then drop in and find out! The cultural celebration is co-hosted by the Oberlin Heritage Center and the Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures of Lorain,

with support from The Community Foundation of Lorain County. Find out more at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

## Smithsonian Museum Day

**FREE Tours for All on Saturday, September 23!**



The Oberlin Heritage Center offers free admission for guided bilingual (English/Spanish) tours at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. as part of the annual Museum Day celebration presented by *Smithsonian* magazine. Museum Day involves more than 1,000 museums around the country and allows for one day only the free-admission policy of the Smithsonian's Washington, D.C.-based properties to be emulated throughout America. Attendees should present an official Museum Day Admission Card downloadable at the Smithsonian Magazine website, which provides free entry for two people. The Heritage Center tour includes the special guest exhibit from the Lorain Museum of Hispanic and

Latino Cultures. Reservations for the 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. tours are recommended. Guests who prefer a self-guided version of the tour can drop-in to visit the exhibit on its own between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. with no admission fee. Take part in Museum Day by visiting the Oberlin Heritage Center or check out the dozens of other participating museums near you! Find out about all of the museums nationwide that are participating in Museum Day, or download the free Admission Card, at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/museumday/venues/museum-day-live-2017/>.

## Heritage Center Welcomes Oberlin College Students Serving Up FREE Root Beer Floats on the Jewett House Lawn



As another new school year gets underway, it's a good time to be reminded of all the opportunities OHC offers for local college students.

Oberlin College students are invited to stop by the Oberlin Heritage Center (73 South Professor Street) on **Friday September 8 from 4 - 6 p.m.** for a refreshing root beer float and a peek inside the Heritage Center's historic museum buildings – the 1866 Monroe House, the 1836 Little Red Schoolhouse and the 1884 Jewett House. (And hear about Chemistry Professor Frank Jewett's fondness for making his *own* root beer at the turn of the century.) Special shout-outs go to OHC business members **Oberlin IGA** and the **Ohio Educational Credit Union** for co-sponsoring this event.

Remember that the Heritage Center welcomes ANY college student for FREE tours and history walks all year round. OHC's Resource Center and website provide excellent sources for local history research, and volunteer opportunities abound for college students who want to learn more about museums, nonprofit administration, historic preservation, and more. Local college students can visit the OHC booth and talk to Museum Education & Tour Coordinator Amanda Manahan at

the **Oberlin College Connections Fair on Wednesday, September 6 from 4:30 - 6 p.m.** in Wilder Bowl on the Oberlin College campus, or contact Amanda directly at [tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org).

## A Night at the Apollo

Tickets on Sale Now for October 12 (7 p.m.) Event



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There's no denying that cinema, from *Citizen Kane* to *Star Wars*, has shaped American history and culture. Join OHC members and friends at Oberlin's century-old Apollo Theatre (19 East College Street) to enjoy a lively (if not always accurate) romp through time with our own showing of the science-fiction, adventure, comedy film *Back to the Future*. Tickets are \$10/adult, \$7/college students, and \$5/for those 18 and under. Swirling around the evening will be fun, movie-themed activities including basket raffles, photo ops with a cool DeLorean automobile, and a costume contest judged by Oberlin's Queen of Retro, Ratsy Jo Kemp! Prizes will be awarded in three categories:

- \* *Best costume under 18 years of age,*
- \* *Best costume 18 and older, and*
- \* *Best family/group in costume.*

Community partners supporting this event are OHC business members **Kurt G. Sarringhaus Co., L.P.A.** and **Ratsy's Store of Oberlin**. All proceeds benefit the Oberlin Heritage Center's Endowment for Heritage Preservation.

Tickets can be purchased in advance through the Cleveland Cinemas/Apollo Theater website

<http://clevelandcinemas.com/movie/6377/Back-to-the-Future-Trailer-and-Info>. If seating remains, tickets also will be sold at the theater on the night of the show.

## New History Features at the Heritage Center

Interns Research and Write about 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century Oberlin History



Isaiah Krugman



Mary Manning

Don't miss two new history features now linked to the Heritage Center website. Summer college student intern **Isaiah Krugman** (Williams College) researched and edited a thoughtful essay on **John Mercer Langston: Educator and Statesman**. Fast forward to the next century for an enlightening review of an Oberlin incident that followed closely upon the May 4, 1970 unrest at Kent State University. Ohio History Service Corps/AmeriCorps member **Mary Manning's** piece on **Citizens vs. The City: Reexamining the Events of May 8, 1970** ends with a call for the public to share with the Heritage Center their own

memories or items related to Oberlin's May 8 incident. You can find each of these new features, along with many others, under the "Research and Learn" tab on the home page of the OHC website (scroll down and click on "History Features").

## OHC Volunteers Keep the Organization Looking Good!



Thank you to eight new Oberlin College students who volunteered to help with grounds clean-up at the Heritage Center last month by taking part in the annual **Day of Service** sponsored by the Bonner Center for Service and Learning. The students spent the afternoon weeding, pruning, and sweeping the pathways and ended with some Schoolhouse fun (*as pictured at top left*).



Meanwhile, more clean-up work is underway in another corner of the grounds by OHC business member **McKay Lodge Fine Arts Conservation Laboratory**. The McKay Lodge staff brought their own equipment to begin moving (literally) tons of replacement sandstone pieces that had been stockpiled behind Monroe House (*pictured at bottom left*). A special thanks to Bob Lodge and team for tackling this big project and keeping the sandstone for long term storage on the business property. Their helpfulness immediately makes OHC's grounds safer and greener for visitors.

### Volunteers Needed - No Previous Experience Necessary

Room monitors are needed to help with the Museum of Hispanic and Latino Cultures' Guest Exhibit on Saturdays in September for two-hour shifts between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Helpers will be stationed to oversee one or two display rooms in the Monroe House and direct guests on to the next part of the exhibit. If you are available to help, please contact **Amanda Manahan** (440-774-1700 or [tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org)) and let her know the dates and times most convenient to you.

## The First Church, UCC Celebrates Dodransbicentennial

All are Invited – Sunday, October 8, 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon



The First Church in Oberlin, United Church of Christ (*pictured at left in the early 20th century*) warmly invites the community to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the Church Meeting House (1842). The historic occasion includes a special service of music and worship followed by a reception open to all. Anyone who wishes to sing two musical numbers with the community choir can attend a rehearsal on Saturday, October 7 from 9-11 a.m. at First Church (106 North Main Street). The

Meeting House from its beginning welcomed all Oberlinians not only for worship, but for community gatherings and discussions about abolition, temperance, social justice and other issues of the day. Frederick Douglass, Clara Barton, Mark Twain, Woodrow Wilson, Jane Addams and Martin Luther King, Jr. are just a few of the leaders who spoke at the Meeting House through the years. For more information, visit the First Church website at [www.firstchurchoberlin.org](http://www.firstchurchoberlin.org) or call the office at (440) 775-1711. Singers should contact [carol.longsworth@oberlin.edu](mailto:carol.longsworth@oberlin.edu).

## Members Update

Welcome to new OHC members **Debra Cochrane** (Amherst), **Kai Joy**, **Isaiah Krugman** (Elyria), **Leslie Price**, and **Maya Vermue Peters**. *Members are from Oberlin unless indicated otherwise.*

OHC members are committed to keeping the organization strong. New members *always* are needed to assure the Heritage Center's continued stability and success. Not yet a member? Join today to enjoy learning about local history, meet others who share your interests, save money on tours, events, Museum Store purchases, and at many other history museums around the country (through the Time Travelers Network), and support a well-managed, creative and collaborative nonprofit organization doing good work in the community!

Join or renew your OHC membership at [www.oberlinheritagecenter.org](http://www.oberlinheritagecenter.org) (and click on the "Join Now" tab at the top of the home page), or call (440) 774-1700 to request a membership brochure.

## OHC Staff News



It is a pleasure to announce that **Mary Worthington** joined the OHC staff late last month as Museum Housekeeper, working 6-hours per week with Collections Manager **Maren McKee** to keep the buildings and collections properly cared for and looking their best. Mary's first career spanned 31 years as a librarian and library administrator, and she recently retired as Assistant Director of the Westlake Porter Public Library. She loves reading, history, and historic homes, and is looking forward to having more time to spend in the community to enjoy the uniqueness of Oberlin. Mary and her husband, Tom Hinders, also a librarian and recently retired from Oberlin College's Mudd Library, reside in Oberlin.

Congratulations to OHC's AmeriCorps member **Mary Manning** who completed two years of service with the Ohio History Service Corps this summer. As Mary's AmeriCorps experience came to a close, she was hired by the Western Reserve Historical Society (Cleveland) to serve as Region 3 Ohio History Day Associate. All of us at the Oberlin Heritage Center wish her well as she continues her career in public history (and we're glad she's still nearby!) Stay tuned for an introduction to the Heritage Center's next AmeriCorps member in the October E-Gazette.

## Also of Interest

**The Yanks Are Coming: America in the Great War 1917-1919.** Lorain County Community College's Bass Library, Center for Lifelong Learning, and LCCC's Department of History have joined together to present a second series commemorating the 100th anniversary of the First World War. The fall series focuses on America's involvement in the epic struggle and includes lectures, book discussion and films that take place on the LCCC campus and at several area libraries. All presentations are free and open to the public. Visit the LCCC website at [www.lorainccc.edu/library/world-war-lecture-series/](http://www.lorainccc.edu/library/world-war-lecture-series/) or call (440) 366-4126 for more information. The programs are made possible in part by funding from the LCCC Foundation and Ohio Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

### Also of Interest, continued...

The **Oberlin African-American Genealogy & History Group** presents **Clovis White** with a program on *Finding Relatives Lost Through Racial Passing* at the organization's monthly meeting on **Saturday, September 2 at 11 a.m.** in the Oberlin Public Library (65 South Main Street). White is Associate Professor of Sociology and Africana Studies at Oberlin College. The event is free and open to the public.

The **Lorain Arts Council** hosts "**Mundo Latino**" on **Friday, September 15 from 6-10 p.m.** at the Black River Landing & Transportation Center (421 Black River Lane, Lorain). The fashion show fundraiser launches the Council's capital campaign to repair and restore its new permanent home for the arts in Lorain. The event features Jonathan Anderson Couture, live entertainment and Latino cuisine. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. For more information, call (440) 320-0295 or (440) 554-6702.

**Southern Lorain County Historical Road Show Tour.** Hop in your car and enjoy an autumn afternoon exploring history in our own backyard! The tour takes place on **Sunday, September 24 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.** and is a collaborative effort among six local historical societies, with each location featuring a different theme and refreshments. Pick up a guide at any of the participating museums and have it stamped as you move along the tour -- collect all 6 stamps and you might even win a prize! Participants and themes include the **Spirit of '76 Museum** (Antique Appraisals), **Pittsfield** (Civil War & 1840s One-Room Schoolhouse/Cookies & Pies), **Penfield** (Old Tools/Root Beer Floats), **Huntington** (One-Room Schoolhouse), **LaGrange** (Kipton Nickle-Plate Quarry Community/Chili-served for a donation) and **Rochester** (Family Tree Research). For more information, including a driving map, visit [www.pittsfieldtownshiphistoricalsociety.com](http://www.pittsfieldtownshiphistoricalsociety.com).

**Restore Cleveland Hope's FREEDOM FESTIVAL** is **Sunday, September 24 from 3-5:30 p.m.** on the front lawn of the historic Cozad Bates House (11508 Mayfield Road in University Circle). The free, family-friendly event includes music, dance and re-enactments. Restore Cleveland Hope, founded by Cleveland-area activist Joan Southgate, is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to celebrate Cleveland's rich anti-slavery past through educational programs and an Underground Railroad resource center. Find out more by calling (216) 231-0301 or send an e-mail to [info@restoreclevelandhope.com](mailto:info@restoreclevelandhope.com).



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73 ½ South Professor Street  
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