



Oberlin Heritage Center January 2024 Gazette

New Year, New Tour Schedule



OHC is happy to announce its 2024 tour schedule, which takes effect upon the museum's reopening on January 16. Reservations for tours can be made through [OHC's Event Calendar](#).

- **Self-Guided *Oberlin Origins* Tours of the Monroe House** - Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00am-3:00pm (last entry at 2:30pm). Currently, this tour is text-based, but OHC staff and volunteers are working on a video version that we hope will premiere this spring.
- **Guided *Oberlin Origins* Tours of the Monroe House and the Little Red Schoolhouse** - Thursday & Saturday, 10:30am & 1:30pm
- **Jewett House Tours** - first and third Friday of the month, 1:30pm: Join us for a guided 45-minute tour of the Jewett House.
- **Foiled Again! The Aluminum Mystery Experience** - Second Friday of the Month, 2:00pm: If you are unable to join one of OHC's scheduled offerings, this experience can be arranged as a group experience by reaching out to the Museum Education & Tour Manager.
- **Summer History Walks** - Saturdays beginning in June, 11:00am
 - [June - Freedom's Friends: Abolition & the Underground Railroad](#)
 - [July - Civil War to Civil Rights](#)
 - [August - Architecture](#)
 - [September \(9/7 & 9/14\) - Small Town, Big Stories \(Downtown Oberlin\)](#)

Upcoming Events

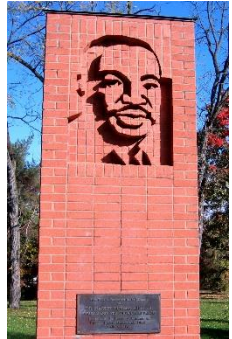
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Rededication to the Dream

Monday, January 15 at 12:15 p.m. on Zoom

Join the Metro Central Unit of the NAACP and all who wish to participate in the annual rededication of Dr. King's dream and the sharing of reflections, quotes, and inspiration. This event is free for all on Zoom or through the Oberlin Heritage Center's Facebook livestream. No advance registration is required. For more information: metro.central.naacp@gmail.com

Follow the link below on the day of the event:

<http://bit.ly/48xwcRX>



Save the Date: Black Business Owners & Entrepreneurship in Oberlin

Tuesday, February 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Oberlin Heritage Center's Museum Education & Tour Manager, Amanda Manahan, will present a public program in the community room of the Oberlin Public Library on Tuesday, Feb 20 at 6:30 p.m. featuring several of Oberlin's Black business owners of the 19th century through today. This updated presentation, which originally premiered in 2018, will highlight the long, remarkable history of these Oberlinians, including their accomplishments, struggles, and the legacies they left behind. This program will include an opportunity for the audience to share their own memories and stories of Black businesses of Oberlin's past and present.

Eclipse Party! Moon Without Shine



Mark your calendars and dust off your celestial gaze, because Oberlin is in for a once-in-a-lifetime experience! On Monday, April 8th, the 2024 Solar Eclipse will fill the sky in

mesmerizing darkness, and the Oberlin Heritage Center is throwing a party to celebrate this truly out-of-this-world occasion!

Get ready for:

- **Prime eclipse viewing:** Join OHC's festivities at Mill on Main (95 S. Main Street) starting at 1:00 PM, where you can come and go to witness the eclipse peak around 3:15 PM. Don't worry about Ohio's fickle weather – the party continues indoors with livestreams from sunnier locations!
- **Celestial-themed fun:** Dive into a mocktail social, munch on stellar snacks, and mingle with fellow eclipse enthusiasts under the cosmic glow (or lack thereof). And as a special souvenir, each registrant will receive a one-of-a-kind art print to commemorate the day which will be used as your pass in and out of the party that day.

The details:

- Cost: \$25
- Location: Mill on Main, 95 S. Main Street
- Time: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Eclipse glasses: Free pair with registration, extras now available at the OHC store for \$2.50 each.

RV Parking: Know someone traveling for the ultimate eclipse experience? Have them contact OHC's director at director@oberlinheritage.org about a downtown RV parking option for the weekend!

Don't miss this chance to experience the awe-inspiring eclipse in the heart of Oberlin, surrounded by good vibes and cosmic cheer. Secure your spot at OHC's Moon Without Shine party today and make April 8 a day you'll never forget!

News From OHC



Happy New Year From OHC

We at the Oberlin Heritage Center hope everyone had a happy and healthy New Year celebration.

We look forward to providing the same high quality and engaging educational content that we always have in 2024 and beyond!

New Strategic Plan Available

Hot off the presses! OHC's new 5-year strategic plan was approved in December and we are excited to begin a new journey of community-building and institutional growth. Thank you to everyone who participated in the process, including over eighty community forum participants and 170 survey respondents. Each and every comment shaped this guide for our future.

The five core goals of the plan are focused on community history and interpretation, collections and preservation, equity and accessibility initiatives, operations, and infrastructure for the future. Tasks range from growing youth leadership in the organization to strengthening cyber security. (So many of our history resources are digital now!)

As part of the planning process we also revised and affirmed OHC's Core Values of Stewardship, Inspiration, Inclusion, Equity, Integrity, and Sustainability.

It's an ambitious plan, with 145 tasks, but we look forward to working together with you to reach the 5-year vision to "educate and delight, bring diverse individuals together as a community, and inspire all who seek to understand how history shapes our world today and in the future."



New History Feature About Post-Prohibition Oberlin

A [new history feature](#) written by Cal Ransom (OC '23) is now up on the OHC website. The feature covers what liquor regulations in Oberlin looked like following the repeal of Prohibition in 1933 up to the 1990s. Cal originally came to OHC as a Winter Term intern in 2023 and stayed on as a volunteer through the remainder of their last semester.



OHC Joins *Museums for All* Access Program

Upon reopening to the public in 2024, OHC will be an official partner in [Museums for All](#), a signature access program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to encourage everyone to visit museums regularly and build lifelong museum-going habits. The program supports those receiving food assistance (SNAP) benefits visiting OHC to receive free admission for its regularly-offered house tours and history walks. Free admission is limited to four adults per SNAP Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card. All children under 18 continue to receive free admission. Similar free and reduced admission is available to eligible members of the public at more than 850 museums across the country, including more locally The Maritime Museum of Sandusky, Hale Farm & Village, and the Cleveland History Museum. Participation in *Museums for All* supports OHC's commitment to all members of our community as well as an objective in our new Strategic Plan to make OHC as welcoming and accessible as possible.

Filming in OHC's Buildings

OHC has been the backdrop for several film projects over the years. This December, a crew from Eden Valley Enterprises and FilmAffects came to film a scene for their upcoming documentary about Victoria Woodhull. Kate Luke, a recent Oberlin College graduate, portrays Victoria. The documentary has a projected completion date of spring 2024 and more information is available at <http://www.victoriawoodhullforpresident.org/>.



Museum & Members Update



It's been a whirlwind few weeks since our closure, and OHC staff has been hard at work! Clutter? Dust bunnies? Not anymore! Desks are gleaming and our cupboards have shed their winter coats of forgotten files and outdated office supplies. We didn't wait for the clock to strike twelve to jump in. You may also have noticed a few changes to the museum campus, besides the colorful nighttime lights. Shake Pro Solutions re-roofed the c. 1860 barn with wood shingles. In the process, they discovered former roofing layers that help us better understand the history of the barn. This roofing project was partially funded by a grant from The Nord Family Foundation.

You might also walk past the posts for a new accessibility ramp that will take visitors up to the front door of the 1884 Jewett House. (Don't worry about the height of the posts - they will be trimmed down after the carpentry is finished.) This project, being worked on by Grunwell-Cashero restoration company, is made possible by private donors. Calendars for next year are filling up with exciting events, meetings are buzzing with ideas, and we're gearing up to make 2024 our most impactful year yet. Stay tuned for details!

OHC would like to thank newest members, Connie and Robert Schubert.

It is with great sorrow that we note the passing of Bill Cutcher and Ruth Brown.

Also of Interest:

First Church in Oberlin U.C.C. Archives Intern Position

The First Church (U.C.C.) in Oberlin, Ohio is accepting applications for an intern to arrange and describe the archives of the church. This is a part-time position, 10-15 hours per week, and the wage is \$15.00 per hour. Except for social security and worker's compensation, this position does not come with fringe benefits of medical insurance, pension, or sick/vacation time. The duration of the position will be up to 15 weeks.

Required qualifications:

Holding a master's degree in archives or library and information science, working toward such a degree, or with substantial experience in the field.

Preferred qualifications:

An interest in the history of Oberlin, Ohio and the central role of First Church in that history and in the community today; knowledge of computer applications such as Word and Excel; and some experience working with websites.

Applications (cover letter, resume, and the names of two references) should be sent to the Rev. David Hill, First Church in Oberlin, U.C.C., 106 North Main St., Oberlin OH 44074. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

For questions about the position, please use the following email: office@firstchurchoberlin.org



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