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## **Explore Historic Oberlin During May Holiday Weekend**

Looking for something memorable and out of the ordinary for your family to do this Memorial Day and Oberlin College Commencement/Reunion Weekend? Explore historic Oberlin and the Oberlin Heritage Center by enjoying a guided tour or history walk offered Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, May 24-27. Discover the history surrounding Tappan Square, learn more about Oberlin's role as a major stop on the Underground Railroad, or commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War by hearing Oberlin stories from the battlefield and from the homefront. Advance reservations are required for most Heritage Center events and may be made online at [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) or by visiting the OHC office in the Monroe House at 73½ South Professor Street. Free parking is available near 20 West Vine Street in Oberlin.

The Oberlin Heritage Center's main site features three beautifully preserved buildings including the Monroe House (1866), the Little Red Schoolhouse (1836), and the Jewett House (1884). Together the buildings and the stories they hold within offer visitors a glimpse into Oberlin's past and tell how ordinary people in this community did some extraordinary things to influence the history of our nation. Guided mini-tours of the first floor of the Monroe House will be offered every half hour from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 25 and Sunday, May 26. Walk-ins are welcome. Admission is \$3 per adult; free to OHC members, college students and children. For more information or to make a reservation, visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org) or call (440) 774-1700.

Reservations are required for the thematic neighborhood history walks led by Oberlin Heritage Center docents throughout the weekend. The Freedom's Friends History Walk includes stories of abolition and the Underground Railroad in Oberlin as visitors travel through the square and end at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. This history walk will be offered Friday, May 24, Saturday, May 25 and Sunday, May 26 at 3 p.m. and also on Monday, May 27 at 1 p.m. If you miss taking part this weekend, the history walk will be offered on alternating Saturday mornings at 11 a.m. beginning June 1 and continuing through the end of August.

The Scholars and Settlers History Walk focuses on the early history and architecture surrounding Oberlin's downtown, park-like setting of Tappan Square. It will be offered Friday,

May 24 and Saturday, May 25 at 5 p.m. Should you be unable to attend this weekend, it also will be offered on alternating Saturdays at 11 a.m. beginning June 8 through the end of August.

The Soldiers and Civilians/Civil War History Walk offers guests a visual perception of the war through sites and photographs from the time while hearing stories of exhausting marches, the frustration of false news, the struggles for equal treatment, and the loss of friends and family, told in the words of those who lived it. It will be offered Saturday, May 25 and Sunday, May 26 at 11 a.m. This is the only time (other than to groups by appointment) that the Soldiers and Civilians history walk will be offered to the public this year.

Each history walk is \$6 for adults; free to OHC members, college students and children accompanied by adults (although reservations still must be made in advance). The Heritage Center's guided walks are approximately 75 minutes and most likely to be enjoyed by ages 9 and up. In case of rain, the neighborhood history walks will be cancelled and refunds provided.

The Heritage Center's Museum Store will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Stop by for a variety of Oberlin-themed and history-related mementos and gifts, including Oberlin afghans, Oberlin history playing cards, Apollo Theatre tee-shirts, and the award-winning Oberlin History comic book.

For more information about the Oberlin Heritage Center or its summer calendar of tours and events, visit [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org), or call (440) 774-1700 or e-mail [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org).

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