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Oberlin Heritage Center Seeks Volunteers for History Walks

The Oberlin Heritage Center will offer two training workshops for volunteers interested in learning how to be docents/tour guides who lead small groups of visitors on themed history walks in and around downtown Oberlin. No previous training is needed; all that is required is a commitment from docents to lead at least four history walks within the coming year. The Heritage Center presently offers two different walking tours, including the Tappan Square History Walk and the Freedom's Friends History Walk. Volunteers may choose to attend the training for either or both of these tours. Both training sessions are free and each begins at the Monroe House (73½ South Professor Street in Oberlin) and will move on from there.

The Freedom's Friends History Walk training session takes place on Sunday, April 25 from 1-4 p.m. Volunteers will learn about Oberlin's role in the history of abolition and the Underground Railroad and how to present a 75-minute walking tour through historic neighborhoods surrounding downtown Oberlin. Registration is requested by April 22.

The Tappan Square History Walk training session takes place on Sunday, May 2 from 1-4 p.m. Volunteers will gain a new appreciation for the fascinating history and architecture surrounding Oberlin's Tappan Square as they learn how to present it in a 60-minute walking tour around the Square. Registration is requested by April 29.

Enrollment is limited for each workshop, so register soon. For more information, or to reserve your place at the workshop, please call the Oberlin Heritage Center's Museum Education and Tour Coordinator, Elizabeth Schultz, at 440-774-1700 or send her an e-mail at tourinfo@oberlinheritage.org. Volunteers may also register online at www.oberlinheritage.org.

The Oberlin Heritage Center was designated a "Preserve America Steward" last year by the U.S. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the White House for its excellent volunteer programs that help care for the community's history and culture. Volunteers contribute greatly to the ongoing success of the Oberlin Heritage Center's mission which is to preserve and share Oberlin's unique heritage and to make the community a better place to live, learn, work and visit.

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