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Some things in life are free...

Oberlin Heritage Center Offers Free Admission on *Smithsonian* Magazine's 8th Annual Museum Day

OBERLIN, OH (September 10, 2012) -- On Saturday, September 29, 2012, the Oberlin Heritage Center will offer free admission for guided tours at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., as the museum participates in the eighth annual Museum Day, presented by *Smithsonian* magazine. Museum Day involves hundreds of participating 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.

"Museum Day offers a great opportunity to take a tour of the Oberlin Heritage Center or to visit another participating museum" said Pat Murphy, the Heritage Center's Executive Director. "Exploring a museum is an ideal way to spend the day as a family, learn something new, and have a lot of fun together."

The Heritage Center's guided tour includes three beautifully preserved historic buildings that serve as backdrop to stories of everyday people doing extraordinary things ever since the college and town were founded in 1833. Visitors learn about the Underground Railroad and abolition, student life, women's history, the development of aluminum, decorative arts, and much more. Free parking is available off of West Vine Street (Google 20 West Vine Street for a map to the area) directly behind the 1866 Monroe House, which houses the main offices of the Heritage Center, and is the starting place for the guided tour.

Attendees must present an official Museum Day Ticket, available at www.Smithsonianmagazine.com/museumday, to gain free entry for two people to participating institutions. The Museum Day website also provides listings and links to more than 1,400 participating museum sites throughout the nation.

The award-winning Oberlin Heritage Center is located 35 miles southwest of Cleveland in Lorain County, Ohio. The organization is accredited by the American Association of Museums and certified by the Ohio Association of Non-Profit Organization's Standards for Excellence program.

For more information about the Oberlin Heritage Center, or *Smithsonian* magazine's Museum Day, please visit www.oberlinheritage.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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