

Ohio History Fund Grant Recipients



by Andy Verhoff, Team Lead, Local History Services

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The Ohio History Connection announced at Statehood Day on February 26 the recipients of \$85,900 in grants from the Ohio History Fund. The History Fund is a competitive matching grant program administered by the Ohio History Connection's Local History Services department. Money for the grants comes from you, who support the program in three ways: by **donating a portion of your state income tax refund to the Ohio History Fund** (the "tax check-off"), by **purchasing Ohio History "mastodon" license plates**, and by **making donations to the Ohio History Connection designated to "Ohio History Fund."**

Your donation of a part of your Ohio tax refund is the lifeblood of the program. Most of the money the Ohio History Fund grants comes though the tax check-off, and most of that is generated during tax season, ending for many with the filing deadline of April 15.

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President's Message:



The Alliance is off and running with our new 5-Year Strategic Plan in the making. We spent a wonderful day together this month, brainstorming and envisioning our future with an outstanding facilitator, Rob Colby from Ohio Humanities.

Strategic Planning provides the opportunity to look both inside the organization, and outside the organization, and decide where we are going. Looking outside was pretty exciting, because there are so many opportunities to contemplate and build upon. One of these opportunities that grabbed our attention at our planning session was America 250. As the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commissioners have shared, "In a few short years, Americans will come together for the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding. The commemoration provides us with an unparalleled opportunity to celebrate the democratic ideas enshrined in the Declaration of Independence - principles that continue to guide us as a country and inspire people throughout the world."



The Alliance would like to explore being one of the lead organizations that helps Ohio create its role in celebrating this special occasion, following the U.S. Commissions requests to help American's remember their past, celebrate their present and look forward to a promising future. I encourage all our Ohio historic sites and museums to begin thinking about how they can celebrate this anniversary with programs that are celebratory, commemorative, educational and have a legacy focus. We want to hear your ideas! Don't hesitate to contact me to talk about this.

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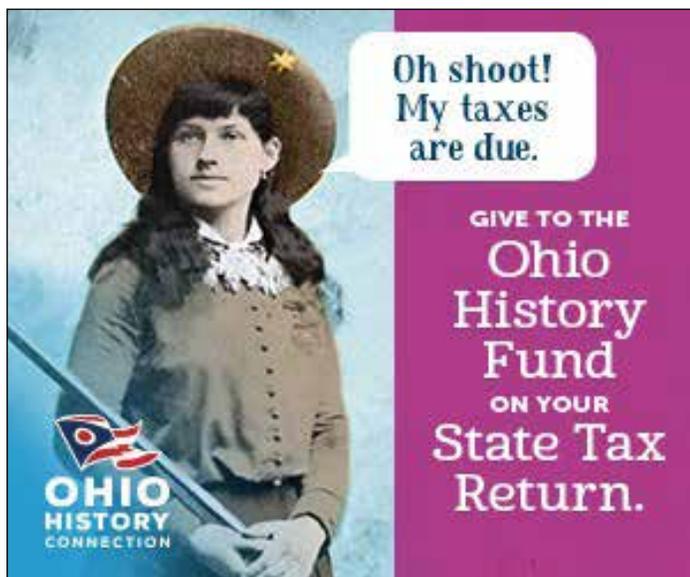
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The goal of the Ohio History Fund tax check-off in 2020 is the same as in 2019: to raise \$100,000. We were just \$308 short, or 35 x \$9 tax check-off donations, in 2019. (\$9-10 dollars is the average contribution.) For the price of lunch, you can make possible a ground-breaking oral history project, preserve historic buildings that are anchors for their communities, and enable all-volunteer local history museums to strengthen intellectual and physical control of their one-of-a kind collections.

Since 2013, the Ohio History Fund has made 81 grants in 40 counties totaling \$780,469. Proving there is a strong need for the grant program, it has received 388 grant proposals totaling \$4.7 million in requests.

To date, 43 Alliance members have received History Fund grants, totaling nearly \$450,000 (!!!). Five of the eight recipients in 2020, listed below, are members of the Ohio Local History Alliance (indicated with **).

Project descriptions are adapted from review panel recommendations comments and abstracts in grant applications.

Cincinnati Museum Center, Cincinnati

\$10,000 for the project “Rehabilitation of Deteriorated Storage Containers for Fort Ancient-age Artifacts.” The project will re-bag, retag, and reorganize artifacts in 194 boxes from four Fort Ancient village sites in the Cincinnati area. The original artifact bags from the 1930s-1950s, with accompanying field notes, are made of brown paper or plastic and are unstable. The old containers are in danger of rupturing and spilling their culturally significant contents, thereby losing associations and notes from field studies. The project preserves the artifacts and their notes by rehousing the artifacts in archivally safe containers and re-recording the notes on stable formats. Without this project, information about the cultures who created these objects could be lost. This well-planned project, managed by the applicant’s curator of archaeology and conducted by its NAGPRA coordinator and tribal liaison, is urgent.

Cleveland Hungarian Heritage Society, Cleveland

\$4,910 for the “Museum’s Collections Cataloging” project. The project will enable this all-volunteer organization, with professional help, to transfer the society’s collections catalog from a rudimentary Excel spreadsheet into more accessible records in the museum industry standard software PastPerfect. The society intends that project will help it to gain better physical and intellectual control over more than 800 objects entrusted to it and spur it to use its collections to more movingly tell the stories of Cleveland’s Hungarian community.

****Fort Recovery Historical Society, Fort Recovery**

\$8,303 for the project “Digital Exhibit of Fort Recovery Historical Society’s Precontact Collection,” a Story Map app. The project will enable the society to share more engaging information about artifacts of American Indian life before Europeans arrived. The app will include photos, 3D scans, videos, timeline, and cultural context for more than 1,000 objects society’s Precontact collection. Moreover, the app will provide access to this collection for both visitors and non-visitors. The project is a collaboration between the Fort Recovery Historical Society and Applied Anthropology Laboratories at Ball State University. Once complete, the app will be freely available on the websites of the Fort Recovery Historical Society and Applied Anthropology Laboratories.

****Indian Lake Area Historical Society, Russels Point**

\$2,849 for the society’s “Collections Storage Project.” Undertaken by an all-volunteer organization with professionally-trained help, the project will rehouse and provide archives-quality storage for the society’s paper collections. These include newspapers, photographs, color slides, paper ephemera, and brochures. The grant will also purchase specialized equipment needed to control light levels, as well as new display case. Overall, this project will result in more careful collections care and the better preservation of items vital to understanding Indian Lake’s identity. The new case will make it possible for the society to share its collection and inspire stories of the community.

Kent State University Foundation, Kent

\$13,646 for the project “Saving the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: A Digitization Project.” Known to history and historic preservation researchers simply as “Sanborn maps,” they are invaluable to those seeking to understand changes in buildings and streetscapes over time. This project receives a History Fund grant because it advances the applicant’s goal to digitize and make freely available the Kent State University Library’s collection of [Sanborn maps](#), the most comprehensive collection in Ohio. While some maps are available for some cities in the state, not all maps for all cities are. This project goes far to make available all Sanborn maps for Ohio accessible anytime and anywhere.

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****Marion County Historical Society, Marion**

\$17,500 for “The Marion Voices Bicentennial Folklife & Oral History Project.” *Marion Voices* is a local history project that seeks to document and amplify Black history, heritage, and experience in Marion County, Ohio. With History Fund support, the Marion County Historical Society will launch an oral history and folklife project, which will culminate in community co-curated exhibits and events to highlight Black history and heritage since 1960 for the county’s 2020 Bicentennial. The experience of project’s leaders is well suited to the project and very impressive, as is the fact that previous phases of the project have received support from [Ohio Humanities](#) and the [Ohio Arts Council](#).

****The Mercantile Library, Cincinnati**

\$8,692 for the project “Conserving Minutes Books of Cincinnati’s Mercantile Library.” The project will rebind nine minute books covering the institution’s history from the year it was founded, 1835, to 1964, when minutes began to be typewritten. The library’s history is intertwined with the history of Cincinnati and the region, and includes many individuals of lasting influence. These include the Taft family, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Herman Melville. The project will support ongoing public

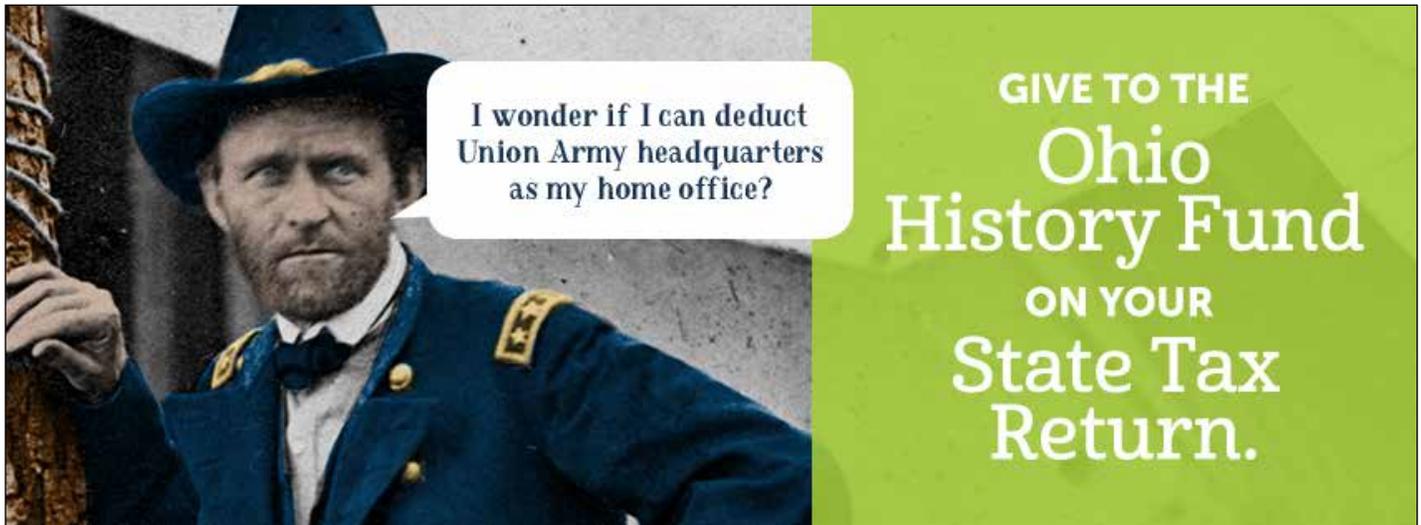
access to the handwritten minute books, which have become an essential resource for regional history researchers and genealogists. The condition of the books lends urgency to the project and the conservation methods proposed are well suited to carry it to a successful conclusion.

Shore Cultural Centre, Euclid

\$20,000 for the “Shore Cultural Centre Window Restoration Project.” The Centre was once Shore High School. Instead of razing the building when school was out, the city converted it into a successful community cultural center, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2000. The window project would advance the Centre’s longer term goal of repairing all of the former school’s 384 character-defining windows. This well-planned project is informed by a pilot in 2018 that successfully repaired five windows. This project extends that work to 16 windows, and will advance efforts to repair them all eventually.

Congratulations to this year’s grant recipients!

Applications for 2020-2021’s round of grants will be available in mid-June on the Ohio History Fund’s web site: www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund. In the meantime, contact Andy Verhoff, the Ohio History Fund’s coordinator, with questions: 614.297.2341 or averhoff@ohiohistory.org ■



I wonder if I can deduct Union Army headquarters as my home office?

GIVE TO THE
Ohio
History Fund
ON YOUR
State Tax
Return.

Ohio Memory: 20 Years!

Did you know that you can view more than 1 million Ohio history-related items from the collections of history- and-heritage organizations across the Buckeye State on one free website? Ohio Memory—ohiomemory.org—is the collaborative digital library of the Ohio History Connection and the State Library of Ohio. Photographs, objects, government records, books and other materials all come together in this one easy-to-access place to share stories of Ohio people, places and events.

From hyper-local happenings to those of national or even international significance, you'll find firsthand accounts of Ohio history at your fingertips thanks to contributions from the collections of hundreds of archives, historical societies, libraries and other cultural heritage institutions. Whether your interests lie in agriculture, architecture, arts and entertainment, business and labor, cultural groups, nature, politics, religion, science and technology, social movements, sports or weather, Ohio Memory has something for you.

Following industry standards and using the latest technologies, Ohio Memory lets you examine materials almost as if they were in your hands—sometimes in ways impossible with the originals. Zoom and pan features let you examine details you might miss otherwise, like faces in a crowd, or patterns in the fabric of a dress. Full-text transcripts help you decipher old handwritten materials, and find your search terms more quickly in printed documents such as newspapers. Detailed descriptions including title, subject headings, location, background, date and creator accompany photographs, objects, maps and other non-text materials so that you can easily find them on the website and understand them when you do.

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Log cabin patterned quilt | Courtesy of Ohio History Connection, Ohio History Connection Selections, ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll32/id/6003



White parsnip photograph | Courtesy of Ohio History Connection, Ohio History Connection Selections, ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll32/id/21906id/6003



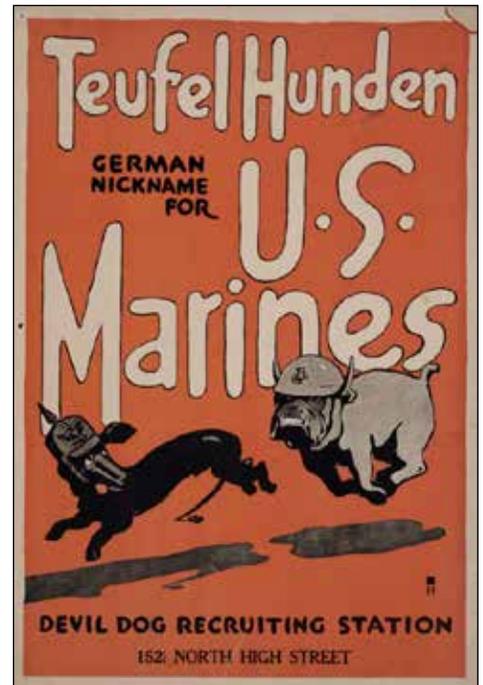
Frog effigy pipe | Courtesy of Ohio History Connection, Archaeology Collection, ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll7/id/519/id/21906id/6003

Ohio Memory by the Numbers

- Over **390** contributing cultural heritage institutions
- Over **1 million** images, including:
 - Photographs, maps, drawings and paintings
 - Manuscripts, letters, diaries and journals
 - Archaeological artifacts, natural history specimens and historical objects
 - Newspapers, yearbooks, city directories, books and e-publications
 - Audio/video footage, including oral histories
 - Represents all 88 counties
 - Covers ancient history to present day



Baby on chair with dog photograph | Courtesy of Ohio History Connection, Albert J. Ewing Collection, ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p16007coll19/id/6



'Teufel Hunden' poster | Courtesy of Ohio History Connection, World War I in Ohio Collection, ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p16007coll51/id/9639/

From online scrapbook to dynamic digital collection

Ohio Memory began in 2000 as a state bicentennial project. The goal was to allow the global community to discover and explore our state's rich past by building a searchable database of images celebrating Ohio and local history.

Between 2000 and 2004, more than 330 historical societies, public libraries, museums, government agencies and archives from all over Ohio contributed more than 27,000 images to the project.

Since then, even more images have been added from the collections of the Ohio History Connection, the State Library of Ohio, and 60+ cultural heritage institutions around the state. Now totaling more than 1 million images and counting, Ohio Memory has become a premier online resource where you can find primary and secondary source materials on Ohio history, from ancient times to the present day. Collectively they preserve and share stories of local, state and national importance.

The Ohio History Connection has been committed to ensuring that Ohio Memory is rich in content and reflects a balanced,

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Rainbow banners at the Ohio Statehouse about 1995 | Courtesy of Ohio History Connection, Ohio History Connection Selections, ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll30/id/57



Lake Erie harbor and docks | Courtesy of Ohio History Connection, Ohio Guide Collection, ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll34/id/8287

comprehensive history from its inception. To aid in this, we have developed the following selection criteria:

- **Historical Significance**—*Does the material represent either an experience common to all Ohioans or one that's unique to a specific local community? Does it reflect one of Ohio Memory's target subject categories?*
- **Complementary Value**—*Does the material help Ohio Memory represent various geographical areas, time periods, cultural groups and facets of life in Ohio?*
- **Scanning Potential**—*Is the item suitable for scanning based on its physical condition and likely image quality?*
- **Ownership and Copyright**—*Does the submitting institution own the material? Is the material protected by copyright? If so, has permission been granted to make it available through Ohio Memory?*

Frequently requested materials and items considered to be treasures of a participating institution's collection are also often included. Though not every part of Ohio history is covered on Ohio Memory yet, our contributors add content each year that makes the collection more inclusive. We aim to

share Ohio's diverse history as accurately, sensitively, and completely as possible by working with internal and external stakeholders to help guide our selection, description and promotional efforts.

Partners make it possible

One aim of Ohio Memory is to encourage cooperation between archives, historical societies, libraries, museums, and similar institutions with Ohio history holdings. While the Ohio History Connection is the lead institution for this program, it wouldn't be possible or sustainable without many partners.

The initial phases were supported by the Ohio Public Library Information Network (OPLIN), OhioLINK, Ohio Library Council, INFOhio, the State Library of Ohio and the Ohio Bicentennial Commission.

Over the past 20 years, dozens of dedicated library, archival, history and information professionals have also been instrumental to its ongoing success. Ohio Memory continues as an ongoing partnership between the Ohio History Connection and the State Library of Ohio.

Today, nearly 400 heritage institutions have contributed to Ohio Memory, and nearly 40 still actively add content, truly making

Using Ohio Memory

Just getting started? Try browsing Ohio Memory by:

- Contributor
- Place
- Subject
- Time period
- Collection

Already know what you're looking for? Type your terms into the search box on the home page and click "Search"! You can also:

- Limit your search by format or exclude full-text sources
- Try the advanced search to search multiple terms in combination and limit by date and/or collection name

Want other ways to explore Ohio Memory? Check out our blog or our interactive maps and timelines! Visit ohiomemory.org to learn more!

it a statewide, collaborative effort. Cultural heritage institutions from urban, suburban and rural communities have all chosen to make some of their collections available through Ohio Memory. Their contributions have increased access to materials in their collections tremendously.

Ohio's more than the mother of eight presidents, the birthplace of aviation and the home of the Ohio State Buckeyes. Our history comprises countless stories, some famous and some little-known. Through Ohio Memory, these stories are interwoven to offer a more complete picture of our state's history.

No matter where you're from or where you are, we invite you to explore Ohio Memory and find your own Ohio memories there. You never know when you might learn something new about your home town or even one of your family members, recognize connections that you may not have discovered in any other way, or just become engrossed in exploring some of the remarkable photos and other reminders of Ohio's past that Ohio Memory offers. (We've shared just a sampling on these pages.) Explore Ohio Memory free 24/7 at ohiomemory.org. ■



Elderly man on chair portrait | Courtesy of Ohio History Connection, Ohio History Connection Selections, ohiomemory.org/digital/collection/p267401coll32/id/27875

2020 Year of the Suffragette: A Starting Point

by Terrie Puckett, Executive
Director, *The Grail in the US*

Many of our members have struggled with how to incorporate this centennial celebration of the 19th Amendment in exhibits and programs when their sites do not have a direct tie to the suffrage movement. How do institutions such as this take part in an amazing year? We suggest that thinking broadly about this anniversary is a great way to jump start your institution's conversations around relevance.

The Grail is in this same position as it wasn't founded until 1921 in the Netherlands, and did not come to the US until 1940, and Ohio in 1944. Not wanting to miss an opportunity to really focus in on the story of women in our state, The Grail decided to see the signing of the 19th Amendment not as the END or culmination of a movement, but instead as the BEGINNING of all that came next, a necessary first step.

The story of the Grail in the US is a microcosm of the role of women over the last 80 years. The Grail itself for many decades led the way—an alternative to the then possibilities—but also shaping and adapting to respond to other cultural shifts that were occurring writ large.

So in honor of the 19th Amendment—that great watershed event of the same progressive spirit that gave birth to The Grail—this year we will focus on HERstory through our Art at the Oratory series. The series will showcase a Grail member and her art, partnering with community organizations that reflect our goals and values. The showcases will be multi-faceted and collaborative and will come from a place of “how does/did art and creative expression change lives, change communities?” challenging attendees to consider how they too can create for transformation.

Each showcase will be connected through a traditional exhibit tying



West Coast Lab Weekend, San Jose, CA @1972. Courtesy of The Grail in the US.

all three into an arc discussing the role of creative expression in change, how community histories can be traced through the art it creates, and how this snapshot of personal HERstory—a sampling of the Grail story—could not exist outside or without the 19th Amendment.

So for those organizations who feel that they are being left out of this BIG year in history, we challenge you to not take on a literal interpretation of the anniversary itself, and instead capture and interpret its cultural importance within the greater story of Ohio's women.

One way is to take a deep look at your community, your collection and the wealth (or dearth) of HERstories you have collected. Think you are

doing a pretty good job of it already? Great, but worth the time to audit your permanent exhibits and major events:

- *How many show a specific woman of import? Are they memorable for their contributions in Ohio, or simply because they were born here and the exhibit needed to “add a woman”?*
- *How many reflect women acting outside housewife chores?*
- *How many tell her story without couching it in terms of “to whom she belonged” but in her own right? (great example is the mini-room for Eleanor Roosevelt at the FDR Memorial in DC, where she is set apart, has her own statue, and is there for her role not as his wife but as co-author for the Uni-*

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NY People's Climate March 2014. Courtesy of The Grail in the US.

About The Grail in the US

The Grail's founding directly stemmed from the progressive era following WWI—a changed cultural atmosphere contributing to the eventual passage of the 19th Amendment. Like the suffrage movement, The Grail worked to harness the abilities, fervor and faith of young women—if you were 25 you were considered too old—, seeing in them a way to create a new future. This belief in the abilities of young women led to the expansion to the US and eventually to the founding of Grailville in Loveland, Ohio in 1944.

The Grail was from its beginning an organization of, by, and for women. Imagine it is post-WWII, women have been removed from the workforce through government propaganda asking them to do their duty and return to the home leaving the jobs for the men who need them. Suburban lifestyles were built around enticing women to not only accept but to embrace a return to their “woman’s sphere of influence.”

Sure, women had the vote, but they were being told by all forms of media that they were not capable of making such weighty decisions. In most geographic areas the only acceptable options for a young woman were marriage, family spinster, or “traditional female jobs” like shop clerk and secretary—low in status and pay, and structured to reinforce that a woman only had a job until she found a man who would support her, a concept still in effect today.

Suddenly, there is a new option (at least for Catholic women): The Grail. The activities of The Grail could have been achieved by the women becoming nuns—an already established and respectable pathway for a young Catholic woman—, but these early Grail members purposefully rejected that path in order to avoid being subject to the very patriarchal Catholic Church structure.

The Grail continued a focus on empowerment through education including Semester at Grailville and Seminary Quarter at Grailville. Through these programs, hundreds of college women from around the U.S. came to Grailville for an off-campus semester of intensive study, group living and work

experience. Many students worked in local social service and educational institutions as interns as part of their course of study. The seminary program provided training in feminist theology, ethics, and worship to women seminary students before such subjects were available at most seminaries and divinity schools.

Today The Grail in the US has members in 28 states and 6 foreign countries committed to:

- spiritual search
- social transformation
- ecological sustainability
- the release of women’s creative energy.

We are bonded in action, solidarity, and faith, working in 21 countries, as individuals and Grail groups, interconnecting regionally, nationally and internationally.

As a founding member of UFER The Grail has been a registered non-governmental organization (NGO) at the United Nations since 1953, and has had Special Consultative Status in its own right under ECOSOC since 1998, continuing active participation with the Commission on the Status of Women, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and The Working Group on Girls.

By 1962 an estimated 14,000 women from around the world had participated in Grail programs in the U.S. following the expansion to 12 city centers. One third of the women who attended Year School in Loveland went on to earn advanced degrees paid for by The Grail. By 1963 more than 100 Americans were also serving on Grail Teams in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

In the late 1960s and 1970s, The Grail, influenced by changes in the Catholic Church and by the growth of the women’s and civil rights movements, become more inclusive of other religious traditions, and Grail members became pioneers in Catholic feminist theology.

versal Declaration on Human Rights and first US Ambassador to the UN)

- When you talk to those 3rd grade students (half of whom will be girls), how much time is given to how the women helped settle this state?
- Are your major events centered on the traditional roles of men (military, exploration, business/commerce) implying they are the “worthy” or “important” stories to be told?
- Do your major events relegate women to “language of the fans”, ballroom dance, fashion, and childbirth?
- Are your collections/archives overflowing with the recorded words of men as leaders (City Council minutes, Chambers of Commerce Archives) but sparse on those of women (Women’s Guilds and Clubs)?
- Does your community story include the many institutions founded by the ladies in answer to social justice issues from the 1800s to now (the delightful “ladies who lunch” role)?

This year, if no other, is the time to look beyond women’s stories



Mariette Wickes, Lydwine van Kersbergen, Judith Hines (l to r) on the porch of Modicum. Graiville, Loveland, OH 1940s. Courtesy of The Grail in the US.

as an afterthought, and to their role in our nation’s many cultural evolutions and revolutions. Even if your organization does not formally

celebrate the 19th Amendment publicly, use it as a starting point to truly incorporate and understand women in local and state history.

Art at the Oratory

Art at the Oratory will be held at The Oratory in Clermont County, at the headquarters for The Grail in the US. Each showcase is free and open to the public. The exhibit will be on display from May thru November, Monday-Friday 10-4 or by appointment. The three showcases in 2020 are as follows:

May 3, 2020

Sharon Thomson, poet and playwright in collaboration with PONES dance troupe. Sharon—an active member in the modern feminist movement— will talk about the creative process, her founding of the Poetry Ritual Theater, do a reading of selections of her work with PONES adding an interactive performance to her spoken words, and will have a workshop where attendees can write their own poems.

July/August, 2020

Anne Mercier, fine arts in collaboration with Visionaries&Voices, an art studio for adults with developmental disabilities. As a Grail elder, Anne’s story is one of the earlier years of The Grail. Anne will be interviewed as part of her exhibit, picking 3 themes. Visionaries&Voices artists will exhibit works of their creation along those themes and will engage with attendees about their process. Then the participants will take part in a maker-space again using the themes, with their creations then joining those already on exhibit expanding the ideas of “what is a community?” “who is an artist?”

October/November, 2020

Finally, Muse: Cincinnati Women’s Choir will perform a concert of Lynn Malley’s music with interviews about Lynn, her impact on others, and the impact of both her faith and her feminism on her work. Lynn’s time with the Grail stretched from the end of the early days across to the 70s and 80s culminating in her adapting the lyrics of her music to reflect the feminist movement. As Lynn is deceased, Grail members will contribute to this concert in multiple ways to capture her perspective.

For more information on The Grail in the US, please visit our website at www.grail-us.org

Richard L. Davis and the Color Line in Ohio Coal

by Frans H. Doppen, Professor and Chair of the Department of Teacher Education, Ohio University

say white brother, because I believe that to be the proper phrase, inasmuch as I believe in the principle of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of all mankind no matter what the color of his skin may be.

Richard L. Davis and the Color Line in Ohio Coal tells the nationally significant story of Richard L. Davis. His unique legacy as a prominent African-American leader in the mine labor movement continues to teach us important lessons that matter today. It also contributes to the unique history of Southeast Ohio by recovering part of its long-forgotten history.

In 1882, 19-year-old Richard L. Davis arrived in Rendville, three years after it was founded by Chicago industrialist William P. Rend. There, he soon became a dedicated member of Local 1935 of the Knights of Labor. In 1884, two years after his arrival, the Little Cities of Black Diamonds microregion became the scene of the bitter Great Hocking Valley Strike that lasted into 1885. It was in 1886 that Richard L. Davis submitted his first three letters, two to the *National Labor Tribune* and one to the *Cleveland Gazette*. The amalgamation of the National Progressive Union, founded in 1888, and the Knights of Labor National District Assembly No. 135 led to the founding of the United Mine Workers of America in Columbus, Ohio, on January 24, 1890. Richard L. Davis was one of only two African Americans among the 194 delegates at this convention.

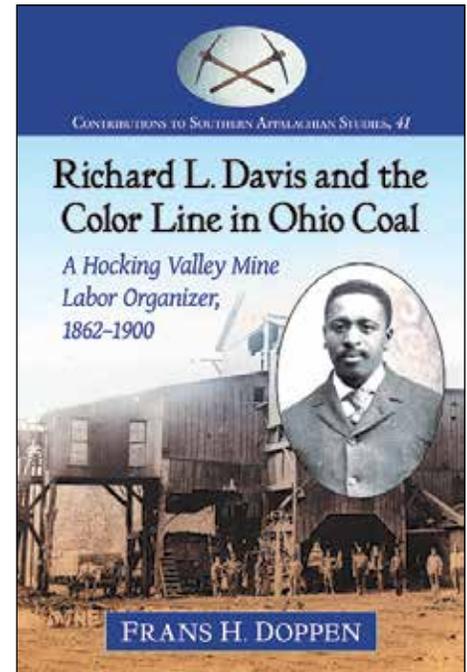
After the convention, and employed as a checkweighman in Rendville, Davis was elected to Executive Board of Ohio

District 6 on which he served for the next six consecutive years. It was during these years that he once again began to submit letters, at first to the *National Labor Tribune*, later to the *United Mine Workers' Journal*. While serving on the District 6 Executive Board, Davis was the center of an incident which took place on August 22, 1895, when at a UMW meeting at the Mercer Hotel in Corning, President Philip Penna, Secretary-Treasurer W.C. Pearce and Michael Ratchford (soon to be elected president) walked out when Davis was refused service because of the color of his skin.

Between 1890 and 1895 Davis submitted a total of 175 letters, all written in beautiful literary prose, full of passion, seeking to break the color line and end wage slavery. Illustrative of his passion, in 1892 he wrote:

Why is it that the colored people are so hard to conceive of the proper idea of organizing ... I know that in former days you used to sing "Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, you have all the world, just give me Jesus. But the day has now come that we want a little money along with our Jesus, so we want to change that old song and ask for a little of the world as well. Don't you think so friends? I have been thinking so for some time.

Davis' often dangerous life-threatening labor organizing, which



took him across Ohio, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania, led to his election to the National Executive Board of the United Mine Workers in 1896 and 1897. Away in Alabama to organize black miners into the UMW, he failed to be re-elected in 1898. Subsequently, his letter writing diminished significantly as during his final years as he found himself blacklisted. In these final letters Davis, now labeled the Sage of Rendville, described his dire circumstances and "never having boasted" of what he had done "in the interest of organized labor," he heart-wrenchingly wondered how to feed his starving children. Subsequently, in the *United Mine Workers Journal* of May 12, 1898, Old Dog called upon the UMW board members to not ignore Davis and instead provide for him and his family. In 1909, reminiscing Davis nine years after his untimely death, Old Timer addressed the new generation of UMW "barnacles" to not ignore those who have gone before, an admonishment we should continue to take seriously.

OPEN NOW:

The 2020 National Visitation Survey

By John Marks, Senior Manager, Strategic Initiatives, AASLH

AASLH is calling on all history organizations to complete the 2020 National Visitation Survey. The questionnaire should only take about five minutes to complete. [You can access it here](#). Your response is critical for helping the history community better understand national and regional trends.

Last year, more than 1,250 institutions responded, allowing us to provide a comprehensive assessment of visitation at history organizations around the country. Our analysis revealed that visits to historic sites, museums, and other history institutions rose nearly 6 percent between 2013 and 2018, with the strongest gains occurring at small history organizations. The data helped us identify other trends as well, like how paid-entry institutions fared better than those with free entry, and that visitation rose at museums and historic sites but declined at historical societies and libraries. You can read about our findings in greater detail in the [2019 National Visitation Report](#).

Last year's report raised many new questions as well, and your response to the 2020 survey can help us answer them. For example, the 2019 report identified a small decline

in visitation from 2017 to 2018; this year's data will be essential for understanding whether that dip represents the beginning of a new downward trend. In addition, a larger number of survey responses will enable AASLH to dig deeper, offering more finely-grained analysis of trends at every budget level and every institution type. Such analysis will allow us to speak with more confidence about the differences between small historical societies and large ones, for example, or between historic sites in New England and those in the West. More responses will help AASLH produce a report that will be more detailed and more useful for history professionals.

By taking five minutes to complete the survey, you're helping advance the work of the history community. Better data on national trends will help all history institutions as we advance advocacy, fundraising, strategic planning, and other work critical to the health of the field.

Please complete the [National Visitation Survey](#) and share it with your colleagues! The survey is scheduled to close March 15.

2020 OMA Annual Conference

Museums thrive as places for all - spaces that truly anchor our communities. Museums are at our best when we represent our broader world while embracing the unique attributes and perspectives of every individual who walks through our doors.

What can museums learn from past community engagement, interpretation and internal culture - and how can we take those lessons to create a vision of the future of museums in our communities? How can museums lead the way in accessibility and inclusion to not only remain relevant, but contribute to the vibrancy of our cities?

Join us in Cincinnati, April 5-6 as we explore these topics and more at the



2020 Ohio Museums Association's Annual Conference: [Sparking Community Connections: Vibrancy through Accessibility, Inclusion & Relevance](#).

[Click here](#) to download the full conference brochure

[Click here](#) to view the complete OMA 2020 Conference website

Grants from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board

The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board announces the availability of grants between \$500 and \$5,000 to archival institutions to fund projects to preserve and/or provide access to Ohio's historical records. The grants are funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), an arm of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

Grant applications are due March 28, 2020. More information on the grants, including the application packet, is available [here](#).

Projects eligible for funding in 2020 include:

- Assessment and Strategic Planning: hiring consultants to identify needs and priorities for improving the organization, description, preservation and access to collections.
- Access, Arrangement and Description: identifying, organizing, and improving access to historical records.
- Preservation: purchasing archival file folders, archival boxes, dehumidifiers, humidifiers, hygrothermographs, or HEPA vacuum cleaners.
- Website Development: Adding collections to online catalog, developing virtual archives, or creating an on-line database. Websites designed to support access to researchers (e.g., online catalogs, finding aids, and digitized collections, rather than curated web exhibits) will receive preference in funding.

Please note: *all projects should produce some type of online content, such as a finding aid, report or digital images.*

Questions? Please contact:

Ron Davidson
Special Collections Librarian
Sandusky Library
419.625.3834
rdavidson@sanduskylib.org



WHERE WOMEN MADE HISTORY:

Help the National Trust for Historic Preservation Find 1,000 Places Where Women Made History

This year the United States commemorates the 100th anniversary of women gaining the right to vote, providing an important opportunity to celebrate the place of women in American history. While history, of course, is complicated, and voting rights for many women continued to be denied because of discriminatory practices, we at the National Trust want to tell the full history—to uncover and uplift women across the centuries whose vision, passion, and determination have shaped the country we are today. Our goal: discover 1,000 places connected to women's history, and elevate their stories for everyone to learn and celebrate.

But to do this, we need your help. What places have you encountered where women made history? They can be famous or unknown, protected or threatened, existing or lost. No matter their condition or status, these places matter, and we encourage you to share them with the world.

Have a place you'd like to share? Submit a photo and a short description at savingplaces.org/where-women-made-history. Thank you for helping tell the full American story!

OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION

Genealogy Workshops

DNA: A Case Study: A Mystery First Cousin

March 14, 2020

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Ohio History Center

Have you ever wondered how amateur and professional genealogists identify unknown matches from the major DNA testing companies? Join Kelli Bergheimer, DNA expert, as she explains the methodology and steps needed to uncover who a person is in your autosomal match list.

\$20.00 Adult \$15.00 Ohio History Connection member

Advance registration recommended

13329a.blackbaudhosting.com/13329a/GEN-DNA-A-Case-Study-A-Mystery--First-Cousin

Latino Genealogy

May 9, 2020

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Ohio History Center

Come and explore how to trace your Latino roots in the United States with Nicole Martinez-LeGrand, Multicultural Collections Coordinator of the Indiana Historical Society Archives and Library Division. Learn the history of Latino immigration in the early 20th century and how to use online sources both free and subscription websites to discover your ancestors.

\$20/Adult \$15 Ohio History Connection Member

Advance registration recommended

13329a.blackbaudhosting.com/13329a/GEN-Latino-Genealogy



Be a Judge for an Ohio History Day contest near you!

Calling all educators, historians, museum professionals, and anyone with a love of history and community. As we enter into contest season, we need over 550 judges across the state, and we hope that you'll be one of them!

Signing up is easy! Just visit the Ohio History Day Regional Contest Page, (www.ohiohistory.org/learn/education-and-outreach/ohio-history-day/judges/sign-up!) pick the date and contest that you'd like to help with, specify a category preference and we'll take it from there. If you have no preference, no problem! We'll find a category that needs your help.

Before the History Day contest you'll receive your judging assignment with information on the category that you'll be judging, a contest rule book to read through prior to the event and a quick video to watch. The packet you receive will also contain information about what time you will need to arrive at the competition location for your judge orientation session and further instructions.

On the Web

What is . . .

Blog Series: Explaining Federal Grant Terminology in Plain Language.

The What is... Blog Series is designed to serve as a friendly entry point for readers who are new to federal grants

grantsgovprod.wordpress.com/category/learngrants/what-is-a-grant





SEPT. 11–20, 2020

Ohio Open Doors is your chance to explore inspiring buildings in your community!

Join us in honoring the history, design and stories of your local buildings and landmarks.

Tell your story and share your mission!

- Stimulate citizens' interest in landmarks' history and architecture in your community
- Create a time for members of your community to connect with you and each other
- Promote, education and inspire pride in Ohio's amazing heritage Ohio's amazing heritage

Open Your Heart to History!

Launched in 2016 and presented again in 2018, Ohio Open Doors is a proven success! In 2018 more than 260 events took place in 147 communities, covering 64 Ohio counties—truly a statewide event! Many local organizers reported large numbers of enthusiastic participants and first-time visitors. Nearly 25% opened places not normally open to visitors.

Ohio Open Doors 2020 promises to be bigger than ever. With more partners building early awareness, this year's statewide event will feature a broad range of Open Door venues. All will be advertised on a statewide calendar. Find out more and learn how to showcase your property.

Open the Doors to Your Building or Landmark!

To Participate:

- Hold at least one two-hour event anytime September 11–20, 2020.
- Ensure the event is free, open to the public and abides by all laws and local ordinances concerning safety and access.
- Create a special event for your neighbors: think of your event as an opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors inside your doors to share your site's unique stories.
- Consider opening buildings or spaces rarely seen by the public, having guided tours about the design and history of the place and provide a place and time for coffee and conversations.

We'll Help Make Your Event a Success!

The Ohio History Connection will support qualifying, participating properties with online advertising of the overall Ohio Open Doors 10-day period that reaches statewide. In addition to small-dollar stipends* available, you will also have access to:

- an online kit of useful materials for promotion
- use of the Ohio Open Doors logo
- a public online calendar of open houses that is shared with travel and tourism partners
- a package of materials to promote your Ohio Open Doors event

* A limited number of small-dollar stipends to help with out-of-pocket costs will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis for small non-profit participants (please inquire for further information).

The State Historic Preservation Office at the Ohio History Connection is the official historic preservation agency for Ohio. The team is made up of dedicated professional experts in history, archeology, architecture, planning and other key fields.

Questions?

Contact:

Amanda Terrell
Director, State Historic Preservation Office
Ohio History Connection 614.298.2000
aterrell@ohiohistory.org

For more information and to sign up visit ohiohistory.org/host

Sign up deadline: **August 1, 2020**

Regional Meeting Season is Here!

The Ohio Local History Alliance's regional meetings are a wonderful opportunity to be inspired and to learn from other local historians in your region of the state. This year's theme is *Local History is American History*.

You can find the regional meeting brochure and registration links at ohiolha.org/what-we-do/regional-meetings.

You can register in advance or at the door on the day of the meeting. Member registration for each meeting is \$30/person.

Region 1:

April 4, hosted by the Andrew L. Tuttle Memorial Museum at St. Paul United Methodist Church.

Pre-Registration Deadline is March 27.

Region 2:

March 28, hosted by the Morrow County Historical Society at Trinity United Methodist Church.

Pre-Registration Deadline is March 20.

Region 3:

April 4, hosted by and at the Westlake Historical Society at the Westlake City Recreation Center.

Pre-Registration Deadline is March 27.

Region 4:

March 28, hosted by the Sebring Historical Society at the Strand Theatre and the Sebring Mansion.

Pre-Registration Deadline is March 20.

Region 5:

March 21, hosted by and at Historic Fort Steuben.

Pre-Registration Deadline is March 13.

Region 6:

March 21, hosted by and at Kelton House Museum and Garden.

Pre-Registration Deadline is March 13.

Region 7:

March 14, hosted by and at the Armstrong Air and Space Museum.

Pre-Registration Deadline is March 6.



Region 8:

March 7, hosted by and at the Loveland Museum Center.

Pre-Registration Deadline was February 28. You can still register at the door.

Region 9:

March 9, hosted by and at the Ross County Historical Society.

Pre-Registration Deadline is March 6.

Region 10:

March 23, hosted by and at Historic Roscoe Village.

Pre-Registration Deadline was February 28. You can still register at the door.

Thank you to all of our meeting hosts!



**OHIO LOCAL
HISTORY ALLIANCE**
Inspire. Connect. Educate.



Digitization 101 Workshops June-August 2020

Sponsored by the Ohio Local History Alliance

Presented by Ohio Memory staff of the Ohio History Connection

Interested in learning how you can digitize your collections? Attend one of our FREE workshops! We'll cover a variety of topics, including:

- project planning and management
- funding
- vendor selection
- material selection
- copyright
- equipment
- scanning standards and best practices
- metadata standards and best practices
- newspaper digitization
- storage
- hosting and public access
- project evaluation

For more information and to register, visit bit.ly/DigitizationWorkshops. Space is limited so preregistration is required.

Northwest Ohio

Tuesday, August 25, 2020
10am-1pm

Hosted by Armstrong Air & Space
Museum
Wapakoneta, OH

Northeast Ohio

Wednesday, June 17, 2020
10am-1pm

Hosted by Roscoe Village
Coshocton, OH

Central Ohio

Tuesday, July 14, 2020
10am-1pm

Hosted by Ohio History Connection
Columbus, OH

Southwest Ohio

Tuesday, August 18, 2020
10am-1pm

Hosted by Butler County Historical
Society
Hamilton, OH

Southeast Ohio

Monday, August 10, 2020
10am-1pm

Hosted by Shawnee State
University/Clark Memorial Library
Portsmouth, OH

Contact:

Jenni Salamon
Unit Manager, Digitization
Ohio History Connection
614.297.2579
jsalamon@ohiohistory.org

Region 1

Allen, Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Lucas, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood Counties

The **Henry County Historical Society** is making plans to celebrate the county's bicentennial. Events will include presentations by local historians, kayaking/canoing trips on the Maumee River, and displays at the Henry County Fair.

Region 2

Ashland, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Marion, Morrow, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, and Wyandot Counties

The **Cleo Redd Fisher Museum** has earned a Silver certificate for Management in the StEPs program. StEPs certificates are awarded by the American Association for State and Local History and mark an institution's progress towards enhancing standards and management of their resources.

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

The **Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center** has been selected for the 2020 Best of Youngstown Awards in the category of History Museum..

Region 5

Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Wayne Counties

Region 6

Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Knox, Licking, Madison, Perry, Pickaway, and Union Counties

Region 7

Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Shelby Counties

Region 8

Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, and Warren Counties

The **Harriet Beecher Stowe House** has earned a Bronze certificate for Mission, Vision, and Governance in the StEPs program. StEPs certificates are awarded by the American Association for State and Local History and mark an institution's progress towards enhancing standards and management of their resources.

Region 9

Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton Counties

Region 10

Belmont, Coshocton, Guernsey, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, and Washington Counties ■

In 100 words or less, do you have outstanding news to share about your organization? Please email it to your regional representative for the next issue of *The Local Historian*. Contact information for the representatives in your region is on page 2 of this issue. Of course, you are welcome to forward your news directly to the editor of *The Local Historian* at ohiolha@ohiohistory.org. Rather than serving as a calendar of events, items for "News from the Regions" are chosen to inspire, connect, and educate the Alliance's members all over Ohio and celebrate notable and imitation-worthy accomplishments of Alliance members.

Joined or renewed between January 1 and January 30, 2020

Welcome New Members

INDIVIDUALS

Todd Hartline, *Canton*

ORGANIZATIONS

Wagnalls Memorial Library,
Lithopolis

Thank You Renewing Members

INDIVIDUALS

JoAnn Bertram, *Cincinnati*

Carl T. Engel, *Painesville*

Joan Kapsch, *Painesville*

ORGANIZATIONS

Ashville Area Heritage Society,
Ashville

Belmont County Historical
Society, *Barnesville*

Belpre Historical Society, *Belpre*

Brunswick Area Historical Society,
Brunswick

Enon Community Historical
Society, *Enon*

Franklinton Historical Society,
Columbus

Friends of White Water Shaker
Village, *Cincinnati*

Garnet A. Wilson Public Library of
Pike County, *Waverly*

Gates Mills Historical Society,
Gates Mills

Glendale Heritage Preservation,
Cincinnati

Granger Historical Society,
Medina

Harmony Hill Association, Inc.,
Williamsburg

Heritage Commission
Corporation, *South Charleston*

Heritage Sylvania, *Sylvania*

Highland County Historical
Society, *Hillsboro*

Kelleys Island Historical
Association Inc., *Kelleys Island*

Lake Township Historical Society,
Uniontown

Patricia A. Scarmuzzi, *Niles*

David M. Taylor, *Zanesville*

Licking County Library, *Newark*

Lorain Historical Society, *Lorain*

Loveland Museum Center,
Loveland

Marion County Federation of
Women's Clubs, *Marion*

Meigs County Historical Society,
Pomeroy

Mount Calvary Baptist Church,
Columbus

Museum of Hispanic and Latino
Culture, *Lorain*

Perrysburg Area Historic Museum,
Inc., *Perrysburg*

Rendville Historic Preservation
Society, *Athens*

Richfield Historical Society,
Richfield

Thomas A Edison Birthplace
Association, *Milan*

Underground Railroad Museum,
Flushing

Watt Center for History & the Arts,
Barnesville

Whitehouse Historical Society,
Whitehouse

Williams County Historical
Society, *Montpelier*

Windsor Historical Society,
Windsor

MARCH 7:

Region 8 Meeting, hosted by
the Loveland Museum Center

Region 10 Meeting, hosted by
Roscoe Village

Region 2 History Day contest.
For more information, see
page 15.

Region 3 History Day contest.
For more information, see
page 15.

Region 7 History Day contest.
For more information, see
page 15.

Region 9 History Day contest.
For more information, see
page 15.

MARCH 14:

Region 7 Meeting, hosted by
the Neil Armstrong Air and
Space Museum

Region 9 Meeting, hosted by
the Hocking County Historical
Society

Region 1 History Day contest.
For more information, see
page 15.

Region 5 History Day contest.
For more information, see page
15.

Region 10 History Day contest.
For more information, see
page 15.

DNA: A Case Study Genealogy
Workshop. For more
information, see page 15.

MARCH 21:

Region 5 Meeting, hosted by
Historic Fort Steuben

Region 6 Meeting, hosted by
the Kelton House

Region 8 History Day contest.
For more information, see
page 15.

MARCH 28:

Region 2 Meeting, hosted by
the Morrow County Historical
Society

Region 4 Meeting, hosted by
the Sebring Historical Society

OHRAB Grant Applications Due.
For more information, see
page 14.

APRIL 4:

Region 1 Meeting, hosted by
the Andrew L. Tuttle Memorial
Museum

Region 3 Meeting, hosted by
the Westlake Historical Society

Region 4 History Day contest.
For more information, see
page 15.

APRIL 5-6:

Ohio Museums Association
Conference. For more
information, see page 13.

APRIL 15:

Taxes Due! Support the
Ohio History Fund. For more
information, see page 1, 4 & 5.

MAY 9:

Latino Genealogy Workshop.
For more information, see
page 15.

JUNE 17:

Digitization 101 Workshop,
Northeast. For more
information, see page 18.

JULY 14:

Digitization 101 Workshop,
Central. For more information,
see page 18.

AUGUST 1:

Ohio Open Doors sign up
deadline. For more information,
see page 16.

AUGUST 10:

Digitization 101 Workshop,
Southeast. For more
information, see page 18.

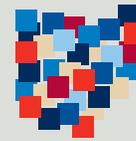
AUGUST 18:

Digitization 101 Workshop,
Southwest. For more
information, see page 18.

AUGUST 25:

Digitization 101 Workshop,
Northwest. For more
information, see page 18.

JOIN THE OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE...



OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE
Inspire. Connect. Educate.

...or connect a sister organization to the Alliance and ask its leaders to join in one of the following categories:

Organizational Member

Get six issues of *The Local Historian*, save when you register for our Alliance regional and statewide local history meetings, receive periodic email updates, and save on Ohio Historical Society services for organization, including speakers and customized training workshops. **Best of all, when you join the Alliance as an Organizational Member, your membership benefits all of your organization's staff and members**—they will all qualify for discounts on registration for the Alliance's regional and statewide meetings and when buying Alliance publications.

Operating budget:

Over \$200,000 a year:	\$100	(\$190 for 2)
\$100,000-\$200,000 a year:	\$75	(\$140 for 2)
\$25,000-\$100,000 a year:	\$60	(\$110 for 2)
Under \$25,000 a year:	\$35	(\$65 for 2)

Individual Member

Get six issues of *The Local Historian*, save when you register for our Alliance regional and statewide local history meetings, receive periodic email updates.

Affiliate:	\$35	(\$65 for 2)
Individual:	\$50	(\$90 for 2)
Student:	\$20	

Business Member:

	\$100	(\$190 for 2)
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Join at:

ohiolha.org/about/join-the-alliance/

The Ohio Local History Alliance, organized in 1960 under sponsorship of the Ohio History Connection, is composed of local historical societies, historic preservation groups, history museums, archives, libraries, and genealogical societies throughout the state involved in collecting, preserving, and interpreting Ohio's history.

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Visit The Alliance online at

www.ohiolha.org and on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/ohio-localhistoryalliance

Annual Membership Dues:

Organizations:

Annual budget over \$200,000: \$100 (\$190 for 2)

Annual budget \$100,000-\$200,000: \$75 (\$140 for 2)

Annual budget \$25,000-\$100,000: \$60 (\$110 for 2)

Annual budget below \$25,000: \$35 (\$65 for 2)

Individuals:

Affiliate:

\$35 (\$65 for 2)

Individual: \$50 (\$90 for 2)

Students: \$20

Business:

\$100 (\$190 for 2)

Individual subscriptions to *The Local Historian* only are available for \$25 annually.

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Need to Contact Us? We at Local History Services love hearing from you.

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OhioLocalHistoryAlliance

and www.facebook.com/groups/OhioLHAMembers/



Ohio Local History Alliance



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