

# Ohio History Fund Recipients Announced on Statehood Day

GRANT PROGRAM FUNDED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS



*L to R: Ohio History Connection Board President Charley Moses, Executive Director & CEO Megan Wood, and Curator Tracie Evans, from OHLA member Sauder Village (Region 1) at the Statehood Day event in 2023. In a change this year, the History Fund is going on the road to present 'big checks' at recipients' organizations. Visits are scheduled for March and April.*

## WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2** [President's Message](#)
- 5** [History Fund Recipients \(con't\)](#)
- 7** [Historic Structure Reports](#)
- 9** [Food Safety Basics](#)
- 10** [America 250 Ohio Update](#)
- 10** [Announcements](#)
- 17** [News From The Regions](#)
- 18** [Members | Calendar](#)

**T**he Ohio History Connection is proud to announce 2024's Ohio History Fund grant recipients. Fourteen recipients, listed below, will receive a total of \$187,600, an amount second only to 2022's total of \$207,100. The History Fund is a competitive matching grant program administered by the State Historic Preservation Office.

Most of the money for the grants comes from you, who support the program in three ways: by contributing a portion of your [state income tax refund](#) to the Ohio History Fund ([line 26d](#)), by purchasing Ohio History [license plates](#), and by making [direct donations](#) to the Ohio History Connection for the Ohio History Fund.

Your contribution of a part of your Ohio tax refund is the lifeblood of the program. Most of the money the Ohio History Fund grants comes through donations of portions of income tax refunds. Most of that is generated during tax season, ending for many with the filing deadline of April 15.

In addition to your contributions, a new stream of grant funds became available in 2022 and is continuing to bolster the History Fund this year: revenue from the Rover Pipeline, LLC settlement.

Rover funds are earmarked specifically for historic preservation projects, as it was the destruction of the c.1843 Stoneman House in Carroll County that resulted in the settlement. Although for historic preservation projects, revenue from the settlement

*(continued on page 5)*



Regional meetings are the OLHA focus for March and April; I hope you can attend your regional meeting for this season. As I was going over the sessions for each region, I was happy to see the focus on the past, present and future with a variety of topics. My time orientation is in the past, while others think more about the present or the future. I believe all time orientations should be considered as stewards of history. Study the past, interpret for the present and preserve for the future.

Leslie

**Leslie Wagner**  
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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### McGuffey House and Museum

The McGuffey House and Museum at Miami University introduces and warmly welcomes **Jennifer Lorenzetti** as their new Administrator and Curator. Jennifer Patterson Lorenzetti graduated from Miami University in 1991 with a BA in History and 1993 with an MS in College Student Personnel Services. She is currently a visiting professor at Miami University teaching History of Design in the Communication Design program. She has also taught design history, history of photography, history of advertising, art history, and western civilization for universities including Wittenberg University and Sinclair College.

Jennifer is currently pursuing an MA in History with a concentration in Public History from Southern New Hampshire University. Her research focuses on cultural formation and expression in small towns. She actively studies the history of Key West and design history, but she is also passionate about Medieval European history and the history of Christianity. Jennifer lives in Huber Heights (Dayton), Ohio, with her husband Daniel and their two dogs, Shinnosuke and Eva.

### Shelby County Historical Society Director Marks 25 Years!

*By Jane Bailey, SCHS*

February of 2024 marks the silver anniversary of the Shelby County Historical Society's fearless leader, **Matilda Philipot**. For 25 years, Tilda has been working at the Society, first as administrative assistant and then as director. According to the *Historical Highlights*, the Society's newsletter, Tilda was originally hired to "support volunteer activities of the fast-growing organization" under the direction of Jim Sayre. At this time, the Society's membership had jumped from less than 200 members to more than 500 within a year's time after the successful "Give Your History a Home" campaign in 1998 to establish the William A. Ross, Jr. Historical Center at 201 N. Main Ave. in downtown Sidney. She began working part time, focusing on accounting and member services. As we all know, however, no job is as simple as its brief description. With the aid of multiple volunteers and even her own children, Tilda and the rest of the Society's team began remodeling their new home.



By December of 1999, Jim Sayre retired, agreeing to still volunteer his time and services, and Philipot was named the new acting director. By this point, the Society had more than reached its goal of acquiring \$250,000 to restore and equip its new home. On January 19, 2000, a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house was held to officially open the Ross Historical Center, home of the Shelby County Historical Society. That following December, the Historical Society debuted its Christmas of Yesteryear Open House. This annual Christmas tradition stemmed from an idea Tilda had to bring an old-fashioned Christmas to the children of Sidney and Shelby County. Every year

*(continued on page 2)*

on the first Saturday in December, the Ross Historical Center is bustling with hundreds of visitors to see Santa and get their picture taken, decorate a gingerbread house, make an ornament, view woodcarving demonstration, and watch a toy train display.

Over the next several years, the Historical Society continued its award-winning children's programs under the direction of Matilda Phlipot. As the Ohio Bicentennial approached in 2003, Tilda took the initiative in forming multiple local committees for programs and events to celebrate the historic landmark, one of which resulted in the Applefest held every fall in downtown Sidney for over a decade. She also managed to bring a temporary exhibit from the Smithsonian Institute to the Ross Historical Center in Downtown Sidney. Another memorable event was the painting of a barn on St. Rt. 29 with the Ohio Bicentennial logo. The barn remained standing until just a few years ago.

As the years progressed, Tilda focused on carrying out the Shelby County Historical Society's mission: "To actively engage our community to preserve and promote local history." One such way was with a project in the early 2000s in collaboration with her daughter, Sara, the Jackson Center Historical Society, *The Sidney Daily News*, and Amos Press. Together, they were able to microfilm 3,000 pages of *The Jackson Center News Weekly* and preserve them on 11 reels of microfilm. This project led the initiative for the "Bring Our History Home" project to catalog and microfilm other small, local news publications that would then be given to both the Amos Memorial Library and the Shelby County Historical Society to be used for research.

Programs geared to impact the children of Shelby County were high on Tilda's priority list. She worked with the Just for

Kids Committee to create the Civil War Educational Day at the Shelby County Fairgrounds. This educational program is attended by nearly every 8th grade student in Shelby County, offering them insight into both sides of the war and how it affected our country. This program later received an award of excellence from both the Ohio History Connection as well as the Civil War 150th Anniversary Committee. To this day, this is one of our best-attended children's educational events.

Another project to preserve Shelby County's history was the Veteran's History Project, which the Shelby County Historical Society ran in conjunction with the schools in Shelby County. Together, they interviewed dozens of veterans from every recent US conflict which were then archived in Washington D.C. as well as at the Ross Historical Center. This was only the first of many veteran's projects the Society would soon be involved with. From 2009 to 2016, the historical society aided the Shelby County Vets to D.C. program, with Tilda Phlipot making the trip herself on several occasions. However, in 2010, Tilda and the Shelby County Historical Society would undertake one of the biggest projects they've ever accomplished, with lots of help of course!

Late summer of 2010 marked the arrival of the Traveling Vietnam Wall and Field of Flags. This memorable event was chaired by Tilda Phlipot of the Shelby County Historical Society and involved multiple other organizations throughout Sidney and Shelby County. This event wasn't just a replica of the monument in Washington, D. C., but a testament to members of our own community who gave their all fighting for the freedoms we celebrate today. Thousands of veterans, school children, and visitors gathered to view the impressive sight of the black monument with

1000 American flags spanning the length of Custenborder Field in Sidney. Later that year, Tilda was named Grand Marshall for the Winter Wonderland parade due to her efforts in not only creating a magnificent event, but for her overall contributions to bettering our community and preserving its history.

Over the past two decades, the Shelby County Historical Society has undergone many changes. Employees have come and moved on, but Tilda has remained faithful to the organization. More educational programs have been implemented, such as Manufacturing Day, Pioneer Day, and Fishing with Northwood students. The Society has received multiple awards at the state level, with the most recent for the creation of our newest building and permanent exhibit: The Wallace Family Learning and Innovation Center. Other new public events have been created, such as the annual Tawawa Park Cruise-In and the biannual Civil War Living History Weekend. In 2022, Tilda was honored by Shelby County Veterans Services on Veteran's Day at the Shelby County Fair for all of her efforts aiding our local veteran community. She was also chosen by the Ohio Local History Alliance to be a representative for Region 7 as well as be a part of the America 250 Committee at the state level to create local and statewide programs for the semiquincentennial celebrations in 2026.

We are so thankful for all the time and dedication that Tilda has given to the community and the Shelby County Historical Society. Words cannot describe our gratitude enough for this amazing woman. With luck we will have her for a few more years and look forward to all of her ideas for the Society's future!



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has extended the History Fund's grant-making overall.

Including the awards listed below, the Ohio History Fund has made 136 grants in 41 counties totaling more than \$1.4 million! Proving there is a strong need for the History Fund, it has

received 564 grant proposals totaling \$6.9 million in requests.

To date, 53 Alliance members have received History Fund grants, totaling nearly \$596,000. Six recipients this year are members of the Ohio Local History Alliance (indicated with \*\*).

## 2024 Ohio History Fund Grant Recipients

### [Alliance Area Preservation Society, Alliance](#)

**\$12,700 for "Restoration of Floor and Joists of Original 1827 Section of the Haines House."** The house, a station on the Underground Railroad, was built in stages from 1827 – 1842. Although the visiting public may not notice these well-planned repairs when finished, they are vital toward maintaining the oldest part of the house and keeping it safe and accessible to visitors. The work was recommended in a historic preservation needs assessment in 2021 and will be overseen by preservation professionals. The house is on the National Register of Historic Places and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties will guide the restoration.

### [American Sign Museum, Cincinnati](#)

**\$7,804 for "Restoration and LED Upgrade to Key Ohio Signs."** The museum is national in scope and is the largest public museum devoted to signs in the country. Nine signs that either advertised Ohio businesses or were made by Ohio companies are the subject of this excellent proposal. Signs for Basinger's Jewelers of Lima and the Plaza Motel of Dayton will have their neon components restored and relit. The others will be made more energy-efficient: incandescent bulbs and fluorescent lights will be replaced with equally bright LEDs. The History Fund is helping the museum become more sustainable and preserve a shining part of Ohio's and the nation's Mid-Century road-scape.

### [Anderson Township Historical Society, Cincinnati](#)

**\$19,000 for "Miller-Leuser Log House Chimney Restoration."** The log house dates from 1796 and the chimney, original to the house, is its most distinguishing feature. Well-meaning attempts to restore the chimney, undertaken decades ago, have taken their toll. To save this example, built before Ohio was a state, the historical society is turning to professional historic preservationists, who will use period appropriate materials to preserve the chimney and make it useable again. The Miller-Leuser Log House is on the National Register of Historic Places and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties will guide the work.

### [\\*\\*Chagrin Falls Historical Society, Chagrin Falls](#)

**\$12,631 for "Digitizing The Exponent (1904-1964): Preserving the History of the Chagrin Valley and Vicinity"** Like the society's successful efforts to digitize earlier runs of *The Exponent*, this project will increase its accessibility via Ohio Memory to a regional and world-wide audience. While the newspaper exists in other collections in Ohio and the Library of Congress, no complete run of the paper help anywhere else save for Chagrin

Falls, nor has it been digitized. The paper's copyright has been conveyed to the society, enabling the project. The review committee was especially impressed that application specifies in detail how the project will follow accepted professional standards, those of the National Digital Newspaper Program.

### [City of Niles](#)

**\$18,981 for "Ward-Thomas Home ADA Improvements & Estate Upgrades"** The house (1862), on the National Register of Historic Places, is the headquarters of the [Niles Historical Society](#) - an OLHA member - and is owned by the city. Inspired by a recent needs assessment, the city and historical society will take steps to remediate barriers to accessibility so that the house can be marveled at by all. The entities will also maintain the site's historic appearance, as required by the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and *Preservation Brief 32, Making Historic Properties Accessible*.

### [Dairy Barn Arts Center, Athens](#)

**\$19,000 for "The Dairy Barn's Historic Cupola Restoration Project."** From 1914 to c. 1967, the building was actually a dairy barn for the Athens State Hospital. The barn has been an arts center since 1978. It is an excellent example of what historic preservationists call "adaptive reuse." The three cupolas, noted in its National Register of Historic Places listing, are an iconic, "character defining" feature. Their deterioration and subsequent roof leaks damage the facility and restricts access to its upper floors. Addressing the problem before it worsens, this well-planned initiative will start with an assessment of the damage and then proceed to repair it, guided by historic preservation professionals and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

### [Darke County Park District, Greenville](#)

**\$17,046 for "4th Grade Pioneer Days."** Called a "well-oiled machine" by one reviewer, the program gives Darke County 4th graders the chance to experience the area's early 19th century history by completing hands-on activities. They do this in the setting of [Bear's Mill](#), a working, 174-year-old water-powered grist mill on the National Register of Historic Places. The "hands-on" approach makes history much more interesting to children and brings to life learner outcomes in the State of Ohio's 4th grade curriculum for Ohio history. The panel was also impressed that a Shawnee tribal member, a historical interpreter, is scheduled to present the Native American station, ensuring a more well-rounded presentation of area history.

*(continued on page 6)*

**[\\*\\*Delaware County Historical Society, Delaware](#)**  
**\$18,611 for “Meeker Homestead Museum Stairs Stabilization and Preservation.”** The grant will enable the society to repair the stairs in the National-Register listed Meeker Homestead (1823). The project will make it safer for more visitors at one time to see exhibits on the homestead’s second floor. The application identifies the structural deficiencies this project will correct and outlines detailed steps [pun intended] to complete the repairs. They will be guided by a board member who is a professional architect with preservation experience. The society will complete this well-planned project according to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation.

**[Kenmore Historical Society, Akron](#)**  
**\$6,677 for “Kenmore Historical Society Rotating Exhibits at Better Kenmore CDC Headquarters.”** The historical society, which has no “home of its own,” is collaborating with [community development corporation](#), which does. The historical society will supply the history, in the form of artifacts now stored in members’ homes, and the Community Development Corporation will provide the exhibit space. Together they will host a series of changing exhibits about the neighborhood’s history. The History Fund grant will support the construction and installation of exhibit cases and the creation of interpretive placards to be mounted in storefronts in the district. The review panel is convinced that the well-considered cooperation between the two groups in Akron’s largest National Register-listed historic district will set an example for other organizations to follow.

**[\\*\\*Mahoning Valley Historical Society, Youngstown](#)**  
**\$19,000 for “Mahoning Valley Historical Society Collections Consolidation.”** The grant will pay in part the cost to move more than 6,800 artifacts stored in closets and crannies in the society’s house museum to a new, climate-controlled, and secure facility. This new location is better suited to preserve the collection and make it more accessible. Although experienced and trusted movers will transport the collection, they will do so under the watchful eye of the society’s curators, who will have carefully packed the artifacts for transfer. This well-planned project is part of a larger initiative to unite the society’s extensive artifact collections and care for them in one centralized facility that allows for room for growth.

**[Medina County District Library, Medina](#)**  
**\$18,723 for “Medina County District Library Aerial Photos Digitization Project.”** This project will digitize 2,000 negatives of aerial photographs taken of Medina County between 1952-1965, when it was much more rural than it is today. As the first big initiative of a planned Medina County Memory website, library staff will collaborate with community partners to identify the content of each negative more comprehensively. Reviewers noted this will be a boon to researchers, but it will also remind the project’s staff and partners of how much their county has changed in the last three quarters of a century. The panel was also impressed by standards for digitization library staff will follow to complete the project.

**[\\*\\*Noble County Historical Society, Caldwell](#)**  
**\$3,919 for “Historical Jail Museum Furnace and Air Conditioning System.”** This impactful and well-planned, but relatively inexpensive project, will replace a furnace and air conditioning system at the end of its useful life. The new unit will help stabilize temperature and humidity levels in the building, providing a better environment for artifacts displayed inside and for the staff and volunteers working there. The society’s [Historic Jail Museum](#) (1882), once the actual county jail, is on the National Register of Historic Places. The project will adhere to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and will not disturb the historic fabric and appearance of the building.

**[\\*\\*Oberlin Heritage Center, Oberlin](#)**  
**\$9,956 for “Sustainable Climate Control for the Monroe House.”** According to one reviewer’s summation, the current system is at the end of its useful life and breaks down often. Lack of reliable climate control causes an unstable collections storage environment and makes the second floor of the house an uncomfortable place to work for staff and volunteers. A new, and more environmentally sustainable unit will ameliorate this. The installation unit will conform with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and will not impact the historic fabric of the building or its appearance. The [Monroe House](#) (1866) is inscribed as a local landmark according to the City of Oberlin’s historic preservation ordinance and the city is a Certified Local Government.

**[\\*\\*Pro Football Hall of Fame, Canton](#)**  
**\$3,552 for “Conservation of Joe Namath’s Historic Knee Brace.”** The plan for this project is sound, detailed, and complete. For a modest sum, it will conserve an important piece of both sports and medical history: the first functional orthopedic knee brace, developed in 1969 for Hall of Fame quarterback, Joe Nameth. Nameth played professional football from 1965 – 1977 and is best known for leading the New York Jets to victory in Super Bowl III in 1969. In addition to its association with Nameth, the object, patented by its inventor Dr. Jack Castiglia of Lenox Hill Hospital in New York, is a prototype for knee braces prescribed in orthopedic therapies today.

#### **[Congratulations to this year’s grant recipients!](#)**

Applications for 2024’s round of grants will be available in mid-June on the Ohio History Fund’s web site: [www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund](http://www.ohiohistory.org/historyfund). The application deadline is Tuesday, September 10, 2024. Contact Andy Verhoff, the Ohio History Fund’s manager, with questions: [averhoff@ohiohistory.org](mailto:averhoff@ohiohistory.org) or 614.562.4490.



# Benefits of Historic Structure Reports

by *Perspectus Architecture / Patrick Hyland, AIA, LEED AP and Olivia Hopkins, AIA*

**Y**ou or your organization have been asked to provide a Historic Structure Report (HSR) for an upcoming capital or maintenance project. What do you do next? This article provides an overview of what an HSR is, who creates them, and why you need one.

## What is a Historic Structure Report?

An HSR is an in-depth document which compiles information about architecturally or historically significant properties in a standard manner and format that follows guidelines created by the National Park Service (NPS). An HSR can be used for multiple structures, an object, or a district -- providing a physical and graphical description of the property's history, existing conditions, and character-defining features. The document becomes a tool which can help owners or stakeholders (Boards, Foundations) decide how to care for important assets and understand their options and budget requirements for next steps in preservation, restoration, or rehabilitation projects. It also provides legitimacy when making grant or other funding requests, ensuring comprehensive information is provided by professionals experienced in assessing structures.

The HSR dates back to the 1930's. Charles E. Peterson (1906-2004), joined the National Park Service (NPS) in 1929 and was considered "a seminal figure in the history of American historic architectural restoration."<sup>1</sup> While overseeing the restoration of the Moore House, Revolutionary war General Cornwallis' headquarters in Yorktown, Virginia, he developed the prototype of the Historic Structure Report. He also conceived and launched the NPS's Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in 1933 in an effort to engage unemployed architects, draftsmen, photographers, and artists in documenting threatened and disappearing examples of historic structures in the United States. In the 1950s there was refinement to the HSR, and in 1980 a standard three-part format was introduced by the NPS.

Agencies often require an HSR for funding, and it is not unusual to see HSRs included as attachments to grant applications. Royce Yeater, Director of the Jeffris Foundation, stated, "Boards and staff members who have never done a restoration... who thought they knew their building **find that they learned a lot from the HSR.** We (Jeffris) have also found that an HSR can be a powerful fundraising tool, because it helps convince major donors and granting agencies that they have done their homework and are taking a professional approach to their restoration."

<sup>1</sup> *The Coalition to Protect America's National Parks – Voices of Experience, Charles E. Peterson (1906-2004), Accessed February 1, 2024 <https://protectnps.org/centennial-biographies-2/charles-e-peterson-1906-2004/>*

(continued on page 8)



*This USO Building research provided original plans and photographs of the building use by the local community after the military no longer used the building.*



*Historic images of this USO building identified changes to the exterior roof structure and interior ceiling of the main room, which can inform future restoration efforts.*



*The USO project is recommended to be a two-stage restoration project in the HSR.*

The HSR provides many benefits:

- Documentation of the existing condition and historic fabric at a fixed point in time;
- Record of the history of the building and site, and any prior work;
- Guidelines for the work, assuring treatments are appropriate;
- Determination of future needs for programming, maintenance, new work;
- Prioritization of work for any immediate needs; and
- Professional and third-party insight on capital needs and the historic preservation efforts involved in preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, or reconstruction.

### Work Involved with an HSR

The work to create an HSR will involve a core team from the Board or governing body (owners), facility managers, architects, structural engineers, and historic preservationists. It may also require enlisting specialists for roofing, mechanical, plumbing and electrical systems, paint, masonry, sculpture, landscape, or other professionals. Together this team will visit the site, conduct interviews, collect research through oral history/archives/library and other sources, take photographs, and complete testing when necessary. Depending upon the size of the project, it could take anywhere from a few days to a few weeks to collect the relevant information. Schedules and weather can impact the timing of everyone involved, so an organized schedule will help direct the work in an effective manner. Compiling the information and creating the report can take 4-8 months and may vary in cost from \$25,000 to \$75,000 – many variables can affect these numbers.

The standard format of the HSR consists of three parts after the Executive Summary:

- A. Executive Summary and Methodology: This section provides a summary of the overall report content, outlines the process used for research and assessment, and includes a summary of maintenance needs and future work.
- B. Part 1, Developmental History and Significance: This section presents the history of the building(s), site and

architects, evolution, conditions assessment, and areas of concern and deficiencies. It will include a detailed architectural description of the exterior and interior along with an evaluation of its significance. This section is a mix of written narrative, architectural drawings, and photographs to illustrate areas of concern and deficiencies.

- C. Part 2, Treatment and Use: This section identifies the Historic Preservation Objectives defining the goals for restoration or rehabilitation efforts. This will inform the priorities and phases/sequencing of work, the Secretary of the Interiors Standards that are applicable, or other jurisdictions having authority and a cost opinion. This section will also provide a materials inventory with care/upkeep information.
- D. Part 3, Record of Treatment: This section is for future documentation by the owner to record treatment after the HSR is completed. This would include general project information, summary of work, team members, list of documents, and locations of archived documents.
- E. Appendices: Includes image references, bibliography and other professional reports

In summary, the HSR can be an invaluable resource for use by building stewards to organize information about their asset, and in turn be better prepared to protect it in the future. If you have further questions, please contact Perspectus at [phyland@perspectus.com](mailto:phyland@perspectus.com) or [ohopkins@perspectus.com](mailto:ohopkins@perspectus.com).

For more comprehensive information, refer to the National Park Service Preservation Brief #43, "The Preparation and Use of Historic Structure Reports" at <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1739/upload/preservation-brief-43-historic-structure-reports.pdf>

#### Consultant Resources:

Ohio Historic Preservation Consultants: [Consultant Lists & SHPO Fees - Ohio History Connection](#)

Heritage Ohio Resources: [Artisans, Contractors, Consultants Database - Heritage Ohio](#) : [Heritage Ohio](#)

Jeffris Foundation Resources: [Historical Links - Jeffris Family Foundation \(jeffrisfoundation.org\)](#)



# Who Invited *E. Coli* to the Party?

## FOOD SAFETY BASICS FOR LOCAL HISTORIANS

by Kristal Bell, Director of Business Development, Ohio History Connection

**F**ood is fun! Bake sales, pig roasts, pancake breakfasts, historical baking demonstrations – wonderful memories are made every day through the medium of food. However, there is a dark side that we have all experienced - Food poisoning. It has touched our lives in one form or another through personal encounters and seemingly weekly recalls on local and national grocery store items. You may be asking yourself, what is food poisoning and why does it matter?

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that 48 million people get sick from foodborne illnesses each year in the United States. Of those people, 128,000 are hospitalized, and 3,000 die. The groups most at risk for developing a severe reaction to a foodborne illness? Children under 5, adults over 65, pregnant people, and people with weakened immune systems – groups who are most likely to visit our sites and museums. It is highly recommended to read more about the symptoms and long-term effects of food poisoning on the CDC's website: [www.cdc.gov/foodsafety](http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety). The statistics are alarming.

Threats to food safety come in different forms. Foodborne illnesses are typically biological – bacteria, mold, and other living organisms contaminating our food can cause a range of symptoms from mild to serious, common to life-threatening. However, biological contaminants are not the only concern. Physical and chemical contaminants pose just as serious of health risks. A bit of plastic from a bag of lettuce can not only be an unsettling surprise in your salad, it can pose a choking hazard. Cleaning countertops with bleach might not seem all that bad until small droplets end up in the mashed potatoes nearby.

So, what does it mean to be food safe? Let's start with four rules of thumb: Clean, Separate, Cook, and Chill.

- **Clean:** Cleaning is not only a food safe practice for others, it is general safety practice for yourself. Washing your hands, surfaces, and tools often with warm water and soap will greatly reduce cross contamination and the ability for bacteria to grow. When in doubt, wash it out. The water does not have to be boiling hot. It should be a temperature warm enough to handle. The hotter, the better but it should not scald the skin.
- **Separate:** While you are prepping and serving foods, don't mix raw meat and vegetables or ready-to-eat foods. Raw meat should be kept on a separate cutting surface with different tools as much as possible. If it is not possible to utilize separate surfaces, deeply clean surfaces and tools between meat and vegetables.
- **Cook:** When cooking items, make sure to heat foods to the correct and recommended temperatures. Foods should be heated throughout the dish.

- **Chill:** Once heated to the correct temperature, keep hot food hot and cold food cold. Bacteria growth flourishes exponentially when hot foods fall below 140 degrees and cold foods come above 40 degrees. Using thermometers to check the temperature and limiting the time food sits out (no more than 4 hours) will go a long way in keeping food and your patrons safe.

After all of that, what else could possibly be required? Permitting and food licenses. The food production and food service industries are regulated at the federal, state, and local levels. The local health department is a great resource for more information on food safety, best practices, and how to apply for a temporary food license as needed. Especially if there is a plan to sell foods to patrons, it is best to reach out and ask about what is legal. They will also have access to a program called ServSafe which is an in-person or online training course about food safety and best practices. It is recommended for anyone who might be in contact with food and the public. There are only a couple of slides about bugs, don't worry.

If that all sounds like too much, prepared foods from licensed food providers such as grocery stores, caterers, bakeries, etc. are fantastic options for events and programming. Cookies and muffins from the grocery store are low cost and have a very low chance that someone licked the spoon between stirs. Even after the food has been purchased through a licensed provider, precautions still need to be made for public safety. Wear gloves (non-latex) and use tongs whenever handling food. If there is a plan to reuse trays throughout the day, wash the tray in warm soapy water between uses. The biggest thing to remember is that ice is food. While the bag of ice may be one solid block when purchased from the store, do not bang it on the ground to break up the chunks. Bags of ice have small holes in them, and this will introduce dirt into the ice. Yum.

The question remains, why does this matter? Public institutions have a legal obligation to keep their patrons safe, but they also have a moral obligation to do their best with the knowledge that they have. Our patrons trust that we are doing our best to keep them and their families safe from harm. Think back to the first time you experienced food poisoning. How quickly did you trust that picnic potato salad again? Have you sworn off street vendor oysters forever? Do you want this to be the kind of memory folks have of your site?

Now that you know some of the food safety best practices, observe the world of food service. The next time you are at a football tailgate, pick the bag of ice up off of the ground and put it on a clean trash bag. Observe how often the barista washes their hands after wiping their nose. Throw away the charcuterie board that was left on the counter for four hours. E. Coli? Say E. Col-Bye!



## 4th Grade History Pass: Providing Access to Learning History

By Chris Hurtubise, Communications Director



Official  
America 250-Ohio  
Project

The America 250-Ohio Commission recently launched a new 4th Grade History Pass – a special program that allows Ohio 4th grade students the chance to visit participating history museums and historic sites free of charge, with a paid adult. This program is for family visits and not for student or school group use.

Any history-related museum or site is welcome to participate. We will provide a simple memo of understanding for review and completion, share information for your admissions team, and include your site on our website.

To date we have over 23 sites from across the state who are participating, with new ones joining every day. There is tremendous excitement about this program, and we would love to include your location.

For more information, please see the webpage <https://america250-ohio.org/fourth-grade-pass>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Congratulations to the Ohio Communities and Organizations Receiving America 250-Ohio Fall 2023 Buckeye Impact Grants!

As Ohio prepares to celebrate and commemorate America's 250th anniversary, America 250-Ohio, awarded \$398,240 in grants to 23 communities and organizations across 15 Ohio counties as part of the commission's first funding cycle. More than 70 organizations throughout the state submitted applications for the grants program, which is managed in partnership with [Ohio Humanities](#). Projects funded in this round must be completed between March 1, 2024, and February 28, 2025. Two types of grants were awarded: Buckeye Impact Grants and Trillium Local Activity Grants.

#### Buckeye Impact Grant Recipients – Fall 2023

The Buckeye Impact Grants offer up to \$50,000 for projects with a statewide, regional, or significant local impact. These projects may include significant exhibitions, regional commemorative activities, substantial digital and documentary media projects and signature public events. These are the projects that are receiving funding through the Fall 2023 grant round:

#### Teaching Cleveland On Our Watch Cleveland, Ohio

The project "On Our Watch" is designed to support and distribute the 70-minute documentary film, "A Death in the City: In the Wake of Segregation," written and directed by Marquette Williams and produced by iFILM216. The film recounts and contextualizes

stories told by those who fought for, and those most impacted by, the fight for the desegregation of Cleveland's public schools in the 1960s. The film title refers to Bruce Klunder, the 26-year-old white Protestant minister who was crushed to death by a bulldozer during a 1964 CORE protest. Everyone involved in that historic moment would have stories to share about how the community pulled together to effect change. Every story brings a message of empowerment to audiences of every age and demographic. We will be writing and designing a study guide to accompany the film and set up a distribution network that will allow organizations, groups, and schools to screen the film using materials and moderators provided by Teaching Cleveland.

#### Jazz Arts Group Celebrating Ohio Jazz Columbus, Ohio

The Jazz Arts Group of Columbus proposes to organize and produce a Columbus Youth Jazz Orchestra concert tour to 5 Ohio locations throughout summer 2024. The "Celebrating Ohio Jazz" concert will perform the music and tell the stories of famous and not so famous jazz musicians from Ohio, past and present. Education staff will develop engaging collateral materials which will be provided to audiences and venues to deepen the experience and be available to teachers beyond the concert tour and grant period.

*(continued on page 11)*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Preble County Historical Society** **Preble 250 – A historic timeline, plaque program, and history trail** *Preble County, Ohio*

The project, Preble 250, will serve as an important component of Ohio's America 250 and will share the important points in history that have taken place locally and had effects on regional, state, and national developments along the way. Production of a printed and digital timeline in harmony with a historic plaque program and resulting history trail will highlight and tell stories important to Preble County, Ohio, and the Nation.

## **Green Umbrella** **Cincinnati's Foodshed: An Art Atlas** *Cincinnati, Ohio*

Cincinnati's Foodshed: An Art Atlas showcases and celebrates Ohio's rich agriculture, food history, people, and innovations by sharing stories through infographics, maps, timelines, and art. The project has 3 sections: past, present (2000-today), and future; and 3 deliverables: a coffee table book, art exhibitions/community events, and a public-facing archive. The Atlas team has worked with 160+ collaborators to share over 120 stories (many untold), illustrating the important role Ohioans have played in shaping regional and national food culture. From the First Americans, European Settlers, the Slave Trade, Disassembly Line, Proctor & Gamble, Fleischmann's, Kroger, and Manischewitz, to redlining, the modern food movement, role of immigrants, our craft beer revolution, to dreaming of future food systems. Major partners include Green Umbrella's Food Policy Council, Wave Pool, Cincinnati Museum Center, and the University of Cincinnati's Office for Innovation and Community Partnerships.

## **OhioDance** **OhioDance Virtual Dance Collection** *Columbus, Ohio*

To support the documentation, preservation, and expansion of the OhioDance Virtual Dance Collection®, an archival project of Ohio's dance history for the public domain. OhioDance proposes to share the OhioDance Virtual Dance Collection® (VDC) as part of America 250-Ohio. OhioDance would offer showings of the documentary film, *Ohio: A State of Dance*, school residencies, display a traveling exhibit and offer presentations on the detailed dance history of Ohio found in the collection. OhioDance would assist with coordination of dance performances throughout Ohio at a variety of venues in celebration of America 250-Ohio.

## **Cleveland Restoration Society** **Preserving and Sharing the Stories of Cleveland's Historic Black Churches** *Cleveland, Ohio*

Cleveland Restoration Society (CRS) is leading a community effort to document, preserve, and share the stories of Cleveland's historic Black churches, highlighting their significance to African American cultural heritage and to larger American contemporary culture. The grant will enable CRS to engage history scholar Dr. Aaron G. Fountain, Jr., who played a leading role in the creation of the CRS-led Cleveland Civil Rights Trail website, funded in

part by Ohio Humanities. Over the one-year project period, Dr. Fountain will interview 12 church leaders and members who bore witness to events significant to Cleveland's African American cultural heritage and history; research and write an overarching narrative (approximately 8,000 words) about the history of the Black Church in Cleveland and place it in a national context; and produce a 30-minute video featuring archival footage and selections from the oral history interviews, with a live Q&A following its public premiere.

## **Great Circle Alliance** **Recovering Ohio's Indigenous Voices** *Licking County, Ohio*

"Recovering Ohio's Indigenous Voices" creates an event for the general public to engage with invited artists from Ohio's Removed Tribes. Selected through a competitive application process, the returning artists will tour Ohio and offer their responses to the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks as well as present and discuss their oeuvres reflecting indigenous values and worldview. This event is intended to enhance the visibility of contemporary indigenous artists from the Removed Tribes and raise awareness of a Native American presence in Ohio—a state where tribal communities once flourished but struggle today to attain visibility and agency. By engaging key partners in outreach, the project establishes a community foundation for Part Two, an artist residency culminating in an exhibition in 2026 of the invited artists' responses to the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks and the inception of a permanent collection of contemporary indigenous art in Licking County.

## **ArtWorks Cincinnati** **Tuskegee Airmen Mural & Traveling Exhibition** *Cincinnati, Ohio*

A two-part mural project, the Tuskegee Airmen Traveling Exhibition and Heilbrun-Leahr Mural will celebrate the 58 Tuskegee airmen from Ohio through both a permanent mural and a traveling exhibit throughout Ohio. The project will draw attention to the inspiring story of John Leahr, who was a black, World War II pilot and Tuskegee airman, and Herb Heilbrun, who was a white, World War II pilot, who formed a friendship late in life after realizing they had been in the same 3rd grade classroom in the Cincinnati neighborhood of North Avondale and had then served in the war together but never met due to segregation and racism in the military. This important and seldom told story will be shared through innovative and compelling public exhibitions created by local, emerging Ohio artists who come from a diversity of backgrounds. Their unique points of view will lend authenticity to the story shared – and amplify the respective communities' sense of pride.

## **The City of Sandusky** **"Freedom's Echo: Sandusky's Underground Railroad Legacy" Celebrating Ohio's Contribution to Freedom and Liberty** *Sandusky, Ohio*

This is a dynamic, multi-agency initiative commemorating the 250th anniversary of the United States. Collaborating

*(continued on page 12)*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

with partners such as the Erie County Historical Society, Sandusky Library, and Shores & Islands Ohio, we will illuminate Sandusky's pivotal role in the Underground Railroad through an interactive walking tour, enriched with wayfinding signage and audio narratives. This transformative project, aligning with AM250-OH goals, bridges historical preservation and modern technology. It aims to engage diverse audiences, including tourists, students, and history enthusiasts, fostering pride in Ohio's enduring impact on freedom and equality. The project's success will be measured by economic tourism impact, walking tour participation, and enhanced community awareness. We envision this project having a lasting impact, instilling pride and appreciation for Sandusky's, and Ohio's, integral contribution to the nation's historical narrative.

## **Capitol Square Foundation** **The Founding of the State of Ohio booklet** *Columbus, Ohio*

The Founding of the State of Ohio booklet will be a high-quality publication about the history of and the people involved in the founding of the State of Ohio. This piece will cover Ohio's early history, starting with Lord Dunmore's War and ending at Ohio's statehood in 1803. The goal of the project is to raise awareness of Ohio's place in U.S. history during the American Revolution, and to highlight the many figures who played crucial roles in Ohio as a frontier, territory, and state. Historians and museums educators at the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board will provide the content and include various perspectives on Ohio's pre-state history. The publication will be available, for free, to the thousands of visitors who come to the Ohio Statehouse each year.

## **International Women's Air and Space Museum** **Sharing the Stories of Women in Air & Space** **Through Educational Programming** *Cleveland, Ohio*

Women's stories are often left out of our school curriculum or are a fleeting mention. However, women's lasting impact permeates every facet of our collective history. The International Women's Air & Space Museum (IWASM) will develop in-classroom resources for teachers about the lasting impact of women in air and space history. Through teacher focus groups and workshops, teachers will inform how resources created will best supplement what teachers in grades 7-12 are already doing. This statewide engagement with primary and secondary sources will align with state and national education standards. Women's air and space history is fundamental to Ohio's more than 120-year aviation and aerospace legacy. Lesser-known roles of Katharine Wright, Cleveland's own NACA site as far back as 1915 (the predecessor to NASA), the Curtiss-Wright Cadettes, and so many more are integral to understanding where we've come and where we will go in the future as a state and a nation.

## **Midstory** **Withlstanding: a multipart film series highlighting the stories and lives behind the buildings, landmarks and architectural sites of Ohio, examined through a lens of the built structures' evolution, innovation and reinvention through time.**

*Toledo, Ohio*

Architectural sites, as testaments of the evolution of identity, beauty and function, are laden with powerful social narratives. Our project highlights Ohio architecture, landmarks & buildings that have withstood the test of time and been repurposed and adaptively reused throughout their histories. By telling the stories of buildings' pasts—in industry, immigration & social change—alongside their presents—mobilized in creative & innovative ways—we not only celebrate Ohio's history but also envision our future in a new American era. We will capture stories of transformation and reconciliation at select architectural sites across Ohio's diverse communities through a six-part multimedia story series. The series will feature six 5- to 10-minute films with accompanying web stories providing interactive context, including text, graphics (diagrams, archival images, architectural drawings) and data visualizations. A public event will exhibit the project through physical and digital means.

## **Marion Voices Folklife + Oral History** **North-Central Ohio Cultural Heritage Assets** **Mapping Project (CHAMP)** *Marion, Ohio*

The North-Central Ohio Cultural Heritage Assets Mapping Project will be the first major project to bridge Marion Voices' six years of work documenting, interpreting, & amplifying cultural heritage in Marion County with a survey of cultural heritage assets & resources in our surrounding 10-county North Central Ohio area. The project will lap the second half of an already-planned Marion County cultural heritage assets mapping project — consisting of half-day participatory cultural heritage assets mapping sessions across the county, & culminating in a series of zines & a digital directory — by expanding the project process to Hardin, Wyandot, Crawford, Richland, Ashland, Morrow, Hancock, Seneca, Huron, & Knox Counties through strategic sessions with cultural heritage organizations & leaders, county folklife surveys, county reports, & development of a new regional website & directory building critical infrastructure for folklife & cultural heritage in a region of Ohio rich in tradition.

## **Next Grant Funding Round Now Open**

The winter 2024 funding cycle is now open with applications due March 15, 2024. During this round, the America 250-Ohio Commission will award approximately \$600,000 in grant funding. The period of performance for winter 2024 recipients will be June 15, 2024, through May 31, 2025. Eligible parties must be non-profits registered within the State of Ohio, educational, and local governmental organizations located in Ohio. Individual artists, authors, or performers must apply through a non-profit fiscal agent/sponsor. For more information on eligibility, project guidance and information on applying for a grant, visit [America250-Ohio.org/grants/](https://America250-Ohio.org/grants/).

## OHRAB Grant Applications Open

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 31, 2024.** More information on the grants, including the application packet, is available [here](#).

Projects eligible for funding in 2024 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.
- **Projects focused on under-documented communities and topics, as well as underserved communities, are encouraged.**

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

Applicants are encouraged, but not required, to submit draft grant applications for feedback. Draft applications must be received by **February 23** and must include all of the components of the application. Comments and recommendations on the drafts should not be construed as guaranteeing a grant award.

Questions? Please contact: Virginia Dressler, Digital Projects Librarian, University Libraries, Kent State University ([vdressle@gmail.com](mailto:vdressle@gmail.com)).

## Ohio Holocaust and Genocide Memorial and Education Commission Announces 2024 Grant Cycle

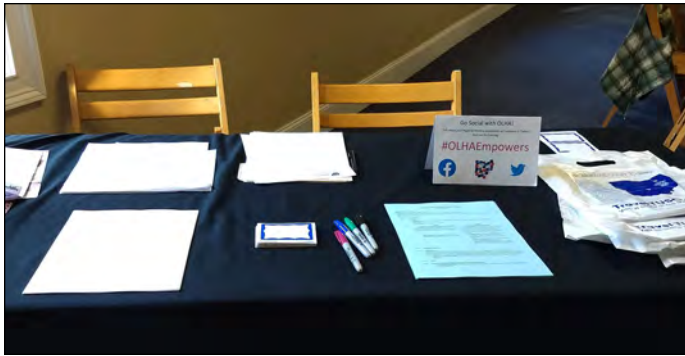
Applications are available for the second year of Ohio Holocaust and Genocide Memorial and Education Commission (OHGMEC) grants week to support projects and programming in communities across the state about the Holocaust and genocide.

"The Commission is pleased to again offer financial support to so many institutions that are creating sustainable and engaging Holocaust and genocide resources and programs," said OHGMEC Executive Director Andrea Brookover. "By working together, we can ensure that Holocaust and genocide education is accessible to all Ohioans and build a more informed and engaged society."

To be eligible for an OHGMEC grant, applicants must be not-for-profit, educational or governmental organizations with a program or project that educates about and/or memorializes the Holocaust and/or other genocides. OHGMEC grants are not available to individuals, for-profit organizations or political or advocacy organizations. Applications will be accessible on February 15 and will be accepted until the deadline of Monday, April 15. Grant amounts will be up to \$10,000, and funded projects must be performed between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025. Full grant guidelines can be found on the Commission's website.

OHGMEC grants are distributed in partnership with Ohio Humanities, a statewide nonprofit grantmaking organization. Ohio Humanities and OHGMEC and will host a webinar on March 18, 2024, at 1:00pm for potential applicants.

The OHGMEC was established by the Ohio General Assembly in December 2020. The Commission is charged with gathering and disseminating Holocaust and genocide educational resources and promoting awareness of issues relating to the Holocaust and genocide while advising state government officials on these relevant issues. To learn more about the Ohio Holocaust and Genocide Memorial and Education Commission grant program guidelines, please visit the grants page at [holocaust.ohio.gov](http://holocaust.ohio.gov).



## 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 Truth and Consequences.

All meetings are on Saturdays. You can find the regional meeting brochure with more detail about each meeting and registration links at [ohiolha.org/what-we-do/regional-meetings](https://ohiolha.org/what-we-do/regional-meetings).

**Region 1:** April 6, hosted by Auglaize Village & Farm Museum at Bethel Church Defiance. Pre-registration deadline is March 29.

**Region 2:** March 2, hosted by the Wyandot County Historical Society at the Upper Sandusky Community Library. Pre-registration deadline was February 23; on-site registration is available.

**Region 3:** March 23, hosted by the Summit County Historical Society at Lock 3 Commons. Pre-registration deadline is March 15.

**Region 4:** March 16, hosted by and at the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor. Pre-registration deadline is March 8.

**Region 5:** March 23, hosted by and at the Reeves Museum. Pre-registration deadline is March 15.

**Region 6:** March 16, hosted by the Southwest Franklin County Historical Society at the Kingston Center. Pre-registration deadline is March 8.

**Region 7:** March 9, hosted by and at the Shelby County Historical Society. Pre-registration deadline is March 1 (TODAY).

**Region 8:** March 2, hosted by the Friends of White Water Shaker Village at Fernald Preserver. Pre-registration deadline was February 23; on-site registration is available.

**Region 9:** April 6, hosted by and at the Ross County Historical Society. Pre-registration deadline is March 29.

**Region 10:** March 9, hosted by The Great Stone Viaduct Historical Education Society and the Bellaire Public Library at the Bellaire Public Library. Pre-registration deadline is March 1 (TODAY).

**Thank you to all our meeting hosts!**

## Professional Development Funding

The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB) is pleased to announce a development opportunity for students, volunteers, and records professionals.

OHRAB, with funding provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), is offering scholarships up to \$300 to support continuing education for graduate students and individuals who care for the historic record. The Board will award scholarships to assist individuals in attending a professional development opportunity of their choosing. The meeting may be in person or virtual. Applications are due on **April 30, 2024**.

Funding is available to support attendance at development opportunities offered by such organizations as:

- The Midwest Archives Conference,
- The Society of American Archivists,
- **The Society of Ohio Archivists,**
- **The Ohio Local History Alliance,**
- The Academic Library Association of Ohio,
- The Ohio Municipal Clerks Association,
- The International Institute of Municipal Clerk,
- The Ohio Township Association,
- The National Association of Government Archives & Records Administrators,
- The Ohio Genealogical Society, or
- Other professional development opportunities subject to approval by OHRAB.

Applicants must be individuals who are full-time (minimum of 9 credits) graduate students currently enrolled in an Ohio institution of higher education; individuals working or volunteering in an Ohio library, archive, special collection, or government repository; individuals who serve as a state, county, municipal, or township official or their designee whose main responsibilities is to maintain public records; and those who work or volunteer in other roles caring for or providing access to records within the State of Ohio.

Please see the attached Scholarship Description and Application for eligibility and requirements. Or go to <https://ohrab.org/>.

The completed application and required narrative should be sent or emailed to: Tina Ratcliff, Montgomery County Records Center & Archives, 117 South Main Street, 6th Floor, Dayton, OH, 45422. Or [ratcliff@mcoho.org](mailto:ratcliff@mcoho.org).



## 2024 Newark Earthwork Open House Dates

A few times a year, visitors are invited to fully experience all three segments of [Newark's Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks](#). Inscribed as an UNESCO World Heritage site in 2023, these massive artifacts of creative genius served social, ceremonial and astronomical functions for their builders. The 2024 Open House dates are:

- Sunday, April 14th
- Monday, April 15th
- Monday, July 22nd
- Sunday, October 20th
- Monday, October 21st

Details on daily program offerings are currently being developed. But until then, here are some interesting earthwork tidbits!

- The Newark Earthworks are remnants of a 2,000 year-old complex that is the largest set of geometric earthworks ever known.
- Enclosing 50 acres, the Octagon Earthworks has eight walls, each measuring about 550 feet long and from five to six feet in height.
- Great Circle Earthworks is nearly 1,200 feet in diameter and was likely used as a vast ceremonial center by its builders. The 8 feet (2.4 m) high walls surround a 5 feet (1.5 m) deep moat, except at the entrance where the dimensions are even greater and more impressive. Visit the museum, learn about the earthworks, and see artifacts!
- Wright Earthworks consists of a fragment of a geometrically near-perfect square enclosure and part of one wall that originally formed a set of parallel embankments, which led from the square to a large oval enclosure. Originally, the sides of the Newark square ranged from 940 to 950 feet in length, and they enclose a total area of about 20 acres.

## Call For Judges!

### Ohio History Day State Contest

Calling all educators, historians, museum professionals, and anyone with a love of history and community! We need your help to ensure this year's Ohio History Day is a HUGE success for Ohio's students.

We're looking for over 100 judges, and we hope you'll be one of them!

Ohio History Day, an affiliate of National History Day, gives students in grades 4-12 the chance to become historians. Based on their own research and aligned to the annual theme, students create exhibits, documentaries, performances, websites and academic papers, and present their findings at competitions. Thousands of students take part in Ohio History Day competitions across the state each year.

We hope to see you soon at an Ohio History Day Contest!

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024  
CAPITAL UNIVERSITY, BEXLEY, OH

REGISTER TODAY! [HTTPS://OH.NHD.ORG/](https://oh.nhd.org/)



## Ohio Museums Association Pilots Year-Long “Empowering Museum Voices” Fellowship Program

The [Ohio Museums Association](#) (OMA) has announced the participants of their pilot year of the Empowering Museum Voices Fellowship Program, which started in January of 2024 and will continue through December 31, 2024.

This fellowship connects OMA with 10 Fellows from backgrounds historically underrepresented in the museum field due to historic exclusion. This includes, but is not limited to, the BIPOC community, people with disabilities, Appalachian and rural communities, lower income communities, LGBTQ+ communities, and justice-impacted citizens.

“This fellowship will not only provide access to OMA professional development resources for our Fellows, but also provides a platform for our Fellows to share valuable feedback and input as to how our organization can better engage and serve their communities,” said Johnna McEntee, Executive Director of OMA. “The Ohio Museums Association is excited to launch the pilot year of this fellowship program, and build this fellowship into the future. We are especially looking forward to learning from the Fellows’ experience and insights.”

Through generous grant support from [Ohio Humanities](#), and the [Ohio Arts Council](#) via their ArtRise grant, the program will provide the Fellows with a year’s worth of OMA webinars, travel expenses and registration to the OMA annual conference in 2024 (April 13-15, Sandusky, Ohio), registration to OMA’s 2025 annual conference, four years of OMA membership for each fellow, and compensation for program planning the Fellows will contribute during the 2024 year and beyond.

“We are so grateful to Ohio Humanities and the Ohio Arts Council for their generous support, without which we would not have been able to launch this important program. Because of Ohio Humanities and OAC support, this fellowship will help amplify these diverse voices to aid OMA and museums across the state as we strive to better represent the communities we serve, and help strengthen and diversify the leadership in Ohio museums,” McEntee said.

The ten Fellows of the inaugural year of the Ohio Museums Association’s Empowering Museum Voices Fellowship are:

- **Ashley Aldrich**, Director of the Lilian E. Jones Museum \*\*
- **Erin Augenstein**, Executive Director of the Campus Martius and Ohio River Museum\*
- **Asja Bard**, Manager of Program Initiatives at The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
- **Code Beschler**, Accessibility Intern at the Wexner Center for the Arts
- **Krysty Bishop**, Columbus Museum of Art
- **Chase Fleece**, Board of Directors for the Hardin County Historical Museums\*
- **Janos Jalics**, Graduate Student at Cleveland State University
- **Soli Foster Lopez**, Independent museum professional
- **Joy Mistovich**, Education Department Assistant at The Butler Institute of American Art
- **Deicie Sawyers**, Community Engagement Coordinator at Imagination Station

“The Ohio Museums Association has been given a wonderful opportunity to advance not only our organization but the museum field as a whole. We are excited to be working with these ten Fellows – providing them access to continuing education in museum practices, but also learning from them to better the work we do every day. We can’t wait to see the innovative ideas and initiatives we can create together,” said Jacob Masters, President of the OMA Board of Trustees and Director of Development at Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens.

For more information on the Ohio Museums Association, please contact 614.297.2375 or visit [www.ohiomuseums.org](http://www.ohiomuseums.org).

\*OLHA member organization

\*\*OLHA Board Member and member organization

*The Ohio Museums Association’s Empowering Museum Voices Fellowship has been made possible in part by Ohio Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities: Democracy demands wisdom. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of Ohio Humanities or the National Endowment for the Humanities.*

*The Ohio Museums Association’s Empowering Museum Voices Fellowship is made possible in part by state tax dollars allocated by the Ohio Legislature to the Ohio Arts Council (OAC). The OAC is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally, and economically.*

## 2024 Ohio Museums Association Annual Conference in Sandusky, “Sustaining Museums for Future Climates” April 13-15, 2024

In so many areas of our regular life the climates are changing from what was usual in the past. In the museum world, sustainability and shifts in climates are happening too, and encompass a broad range of topics and impacts.

Of course, museums think about sustainability regarding their environmental impact, but also in terms of financial sustainability, the changing climate of visitor and donor behavior, sustaining and supporting the workforce, the future of grant and foundation support, shifting volunteer demographics, changing

trends in tourism, and more – all while sustaining and staying true to their mission.

Museums across Ohio are tackling the many facets of sustainability so they can remain strong, vibrant, and essential community cornerstones no matter what future climates bring.

Join us in Sandusky, April 13-15 as we explore these topics and more at the 2024 Ohio Museums Association’s Annual Conference: [Sustaining Museums for Future Climates](#).

## NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

### Region 1

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

### Region 2

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

### Region 3

Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties

The **Weymouth Preservation Society** opened a new exhibit with over 200 girls’ toys and household items 1820s to 1950s including cooking, laundry, sewing, child care, cleaning, table settings, dolls’ clothes and furniture and educational and outdoor games and toys.

The **Cleveland Police Museum** has launched a Women’s History Project. We recognized that our collection is 95% “pale and male” and so we are actively collecting the stories and artifacts of the female officers of the Cleveland Police. Ohio History Service Corps member Kaitlyn Brulia has guided our committee through the process of creating an oral history program that follows industry standards. We conducted the first interviews in February and have a goal to complete 15 by the end of the year. We are excited to collect and preserve this untold story of Cleveland’s history.

### Region 4

Ashtabula, Geauga, Mahoning, Portage, and Trumbull Counties

### 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

### 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 e-mail 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](mailto: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 13 and February 20, 2024.

## Welcome New Members

### INDIVIDUALS

Reed Romine,  
*Medway*

### ORGANIZATIONS

Belle Valley Historical Preservation  
Society, *Belle Valley*

## Thank You, Renewing Members

### INDIVIDUALS

Rosalie Frazier,  
*Columbus*

Daniel L. Frizzi,  
*Bellaire*

Laura A. Russell,  
*Columbus*

### ORGANIZATIONS

Bay Village Historical Society,  
*Bay Village*

Belmont County Heritage Museum,  
*Saint Clairsville*

Belmont County Historical Society,  
*Barnesville*

Belpre Historical Society,  
*Belpre*

Brethren Heritage Center,  
*Brookville*

Chester-Shade Historical Association,  
*Chester*

Dayton Police History Foundation, Inc.,  
*Dayton*

Decorative Arts Center of Ohio,  
*Lancaster*

Dublin Historical Society,  
*Dublin*

Franklinton Historical Society,  
*Columbus*

Gahanna Historical Society,  
*Gahanna*

Gates Mills Historical Society,  
*Gates Mills*

Grand Rapids Historical Society,  
*Grand Rapids*

Granger Historical Society,  
*Medina*

Heritage Sylvania,  
*Sylvania*

Hicksville Historical Society Inc,  
*Hicksville*

Historical Society of Old Brooklyn,  
*Cleveland*

John Gee Black Historical Center, Inc.,  
*Gallipolis*

John Paulding Historical Society Inc,  
*Paulding*

Kent State University Library,  
*Kent*

Louisville-Nimishillen Historical Society,  
*Louisville*

Mantua Historical Society,  
*Mantua*

Minerva Area Historical Society,  
*Minerva*

Oxford Museum Association,  
*Oxford*

Parma Heights Historical Society,  
*Parma Heights*

Preservation Parks of Delaware County,  
*Sunbury*

Richfield Historical Society,  
*Richfield*

Strongsville Historical Society,  
*Strongsville*

The Grail In The US,  
*Loveland*

The John P Parker Historical Society,  
*Ripley*

Toledo Lucas County Public Library,  
*Toledo*

Westerville History Museum,  
*Westerville*

### MARCH 2:

Region 2 & 8 Meetings. For more information, see page 14.

### MARCH 9:

Region 7 & 10 Meetings. For more information, see page 14.

### MARCH 15:

America-250 Ohio Grant Application Due. For more information, see page 12.

### MARCH 16:

Region 4 & 6 Meetings. For more information, see page 14.

### MARCH 23:

Region 3 & 5 Meetings. For more information, see page 14.

### MARCH 31:

OHRAB Grant applications due. For more information, see page 13.

### APRIL 6:

Region 1 & 9 Meetings. For more information, see page 14.

### APRIL 13-15:

Ohio Museums Association Annual Conference. For more information, see page 17.

### APRIL 15:

OHGMEC Grant applications due. For more information, see page 13.

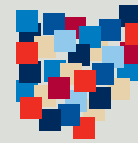
### APRIL 20:

State History Day Contest, Judges Needed! For more information see page 13

### APRIL 30:

OHRAB Professional Development applications due. For more information, see page 14.

# 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:	\$150	(\$290 for 2)
\$100,000-\$200,000 a year:	\$100	(\$190 for 2)
\$25,000-\$100,000 a year:	\$75	(\$140 for 2)
Under \$25,000 a year:	\$35	(\$60 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:	\$45	(\$80 for 2)
Individual:	\$65	(\$120 for 2)
Student:	\$20	(\$30 for 2)

## Business Member:

	\$130	(\$250 for 2)
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## Join at:

<https://www.ohiohistorystore.com/collections/ohio-local-history-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

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[www.facebook.com/ohio-localhistoryalliance](https://www.facebook.com/ohio-localhistoryalliance)

Annual Membership Dues:

Organizations:

Annual budget over \$200,000: \$150 (\$290 for 2)

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

Annual budget \$25,000-\$100,000: \$75 (\$140 for 2)

Annual budget below \$25,000: \$35 (\$60 for 2)

Individuals:

Affiliate: \$45 (\$80 for 2)

Individual: \$65 (\$120 for 2)

Students: \$20 (\$30 for two)

Business:

\$130 (\$250 for 2)

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### GET SOCIAL WITH THE OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE

