



20th Public History Conference on the Underground Railroad Movement and Its Relevance for Us Today

Learn the Past, Be the Present, Create the Future®

FreedomCon 2022 Toward Change – Toward Equality APRIL 1-3, 2022

Focusing on the nation's unprecedented, and long overdue, examination of systemic racism in America, UREC connects the historical Underground Railroad, the first civil rights movement in the United States, with the current struggles to dismantle injustice, oppression, and the false idea of White as superior. Due to the heightened polarization in the USA, the urgent need to address these issues cannot be overstated.

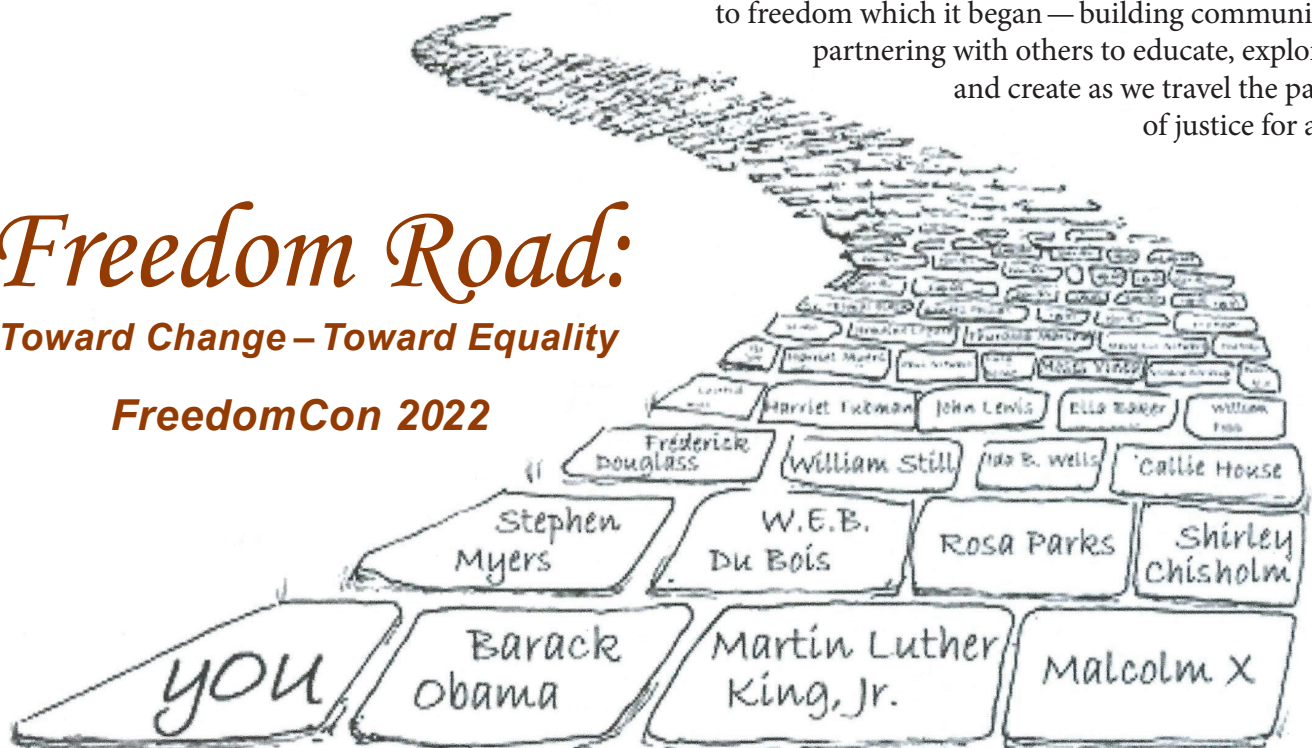
What is going on? What are the challenges? How can we be agents of change?

Following in the footsteps of our communal ancestors, The Underground Railroad movement provides a living model for continuing the road to freedom which it began — building community, partnering with others to educate, explore, and create as we travel the path of justice for all.

Freedom Road:

Toward Change – Toward Equality

FreedomCon 2022





H U M A N I T I E S **N E W Y O R K**

FreedomCon 2022 is made possible, in part, by a SHARP Action Grant from Humanities New York.

Humanities New York encourages critical thinking and cultural understanding in the public arena through grants, programs, networking and advocacy. Visit humanitiesny.org to learn more.

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FreedomCon 2022 Schedule

Friday, 4/1/22

7:00 – 9:00 pm **Locked In and Left Out:
Ota Benga, the Diversity Industry
and the Power of Portrayals**
Ms. Pamela Newkirk, PhD,
New York University

Saturday, 4/2/22

9:00 am **Registration Opens –
Vendors, Exhibitors,
Morning Refreshments**

9:30 – 9:50 am **Welcome**

10:00 – 11:15 am **Workshop: Session 1**

12:00 – 1:00 pm **Lunch**

1:30 – 2:45 pm **Workshop: Session 2**

3:15 – 4:30 pm **Workshop: Session 3**

4:45 – 5:00 pm **Raffle, Litany and Evaluation**

Six Workshop Tracks:

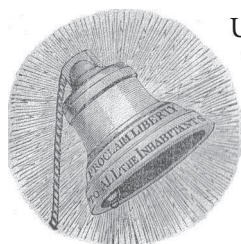
Each Track will consist of three related workshops. Attendees are encouraged to select one of the six Tracks and attend all three workshops. Workshops are in-person and virtual, except for the Teen Track which is in-person only.

1. Social Entrepreneurship: Impact as Agents of Change
2. The UGRR's Untold Stories through Research and Historical Fiction
3. Racism, Democracy and the Rebirth of Freedom
4. Antiracist Instruction in the Classroom
5. Environmental Racism – Where Are We Going?
6. Teens – Agents of Change

Sunday, 4/3/22

1:00 – 4:00 pm **Open House at The Stephen
& Harriet Myers Residence**
194 Livingston Ave., Albany

Underground Railroad Education Center



UREC seeks to acknowledge the Underground Railroad movement in our region, our state, and our nation; raise awareness about and stimulate interest in this little recognized part of our history; understand it in its historic context; encourage the recognition of its inspiring historic figures and the activities in which they engaged; preserve that history, emphasizing the participation of African American abolitionists and freedom seekers; and relate that history to us today.

UREC – 194 Livingston Ave., Albany, NY 12210
www.UndergroundRailroadHistory.org (518) 621-7793



UREC Conferences are part
of the National Park Service
Network to Freedom Program

Dear Fellow Travelers,

As we embark on the 20th annual Public History Conference, we are grateful for all of you having stayed the course, continuing to work for justice and equity. As we stand on the shoulders of our communal forebears, we, together, can be inspired by and gain strength from their dedication and fortitude. A courageous lot they were. And so can we be as we work together today to build a more equitable and just tomorrow. Many imposing forces push back against our efforts, but as our predecessors have taught us, “We Shall Not Be Moved.” Looking ahead to those who follow us, may we be a light, a beacon for them, as they endeavor to walk the freedom road.



We say a big THANK YOU to the Conference Planning Team — Deb Abel, Paul Stewart, Julia Holcomb, Matt George, MaryNell Morgan, Chris Cummings, Willie Terry, Randy McGough, David Hochfelder, Robert Ward, Brenda Twigg, Nicola Dutre, Andrea Hyary, and Ann Cohan — who have donated time, talent and treasure to bring FreedomCon 2022 to life for us this year. We couldn’t do this without them.

We also say THANK YOU in a big way to Brenda Hazard, Director of the Marvin Library Learning Commons at Hudson Valley Community College, who took UREC under her wing, supporting UREC in its outreach to partner with Hudson Valley Community College. Also, a major THANK YOU goes out to Hudson Valley Community College, whose Events Office and Technology staff have generously offered their expertise and patience as we worked through all the planning details that bring FreedomCon to life.

May we continue to be empowered by the courage and fortitude of those who have walked before us, being, as they were, people of courage, people of hope, seekers of justice. As we continue to walk in their footsteps, may the North Star be for us as it was for them, a guiding light to show the way to our freedom,

Sincerely,

Paul and Mary Liz Stewart

Co-founders (Co-instigators)

Underground Railroad Education Center

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Colleen Dore
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Administrative Assistant

Mission Statement

Underground Railroad Education Center researches and preserves the local and national history of the Underground Railroad movement, its international connections, and its legacy to today's social justice issues, thereby empowering people of all ages to be agents of change toward an equitable and just society.

Underground Railroad Education Center (UREC) is a non-profit educational organization that seeks:

1. To promote and encourage knowledge and understanding of the Underground Railroad Movement and its genesis and legacy in the Capital Region and in New York State, and as a significant element of the history of the United States;
2. To acknowledge the participation in, cooperation among, and felicity between African-Americans and other Americans in the Underground Railroad Movement;
3. To promote and encourage historical research on the Underground Railroad Movement in the Capital Region, in New York, and in the United States;
4. To gather, preserve, display, and make available for study artifacts, relics, books, manuscripts, papers, photographs, and other records and materials relating to the history of the Underground Railroad Movement in the Capital Region and New York State;
5. To encourage the suitable marking of places of historic interest relating to the Underground Railroad Movement in the Capital Region; and
6. To purchase, gift, devise, or otherwise acquire the title to or the custody of historic sites and structures relating to the Underground Railroad Movement in the Capital Region, to preserve and maintain such sites and structures, and to interpret them for the benefit of the public.

Since its inception in the late 1990s, this effort has created a strong program of education and research that celebrates and preserves the historically documented, inspiring story of this national movement of civil disobedience that is known as the Underground Railroad.

“Don’t follow the path. Go where there is no path and begin the trail. When you start a new trail equipped with courage, strength and conviction, the only thing that can stop you is you!”

— Ruby Bridges

FreedomCon 2022 Sponsors

Underground Railroad Education Center is grateful for the generous support of the following sponsors and donors:

Myers Circle

(\$1,000+)

Hudson Valley Community College

Humanities New York

Steven and Diane O'Connor

Johnson Circle

(\$500+)

Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor

Garnet Circle

(\$250+)

Anthony Opalka, Albany City Historian

Charles B. Buchanan

Christina Cummings

Cynthia and Herb Schultz

John Brown Lives!

Mayor Kathy M. Sheehan

The Albany District (NY) Chapter of
The Links, Incorporated

The Justice Center of Rensselaer County

Underground Railroad Consortium of New York State

Abolitionist Circle

(\$100+)

Albany Public School Teachers' Association

AnnMarie Hess

David Hochfelder and Ann Pfau

Deborah Abel

First Reformed Church of Schenectady

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Vale Cemetery Preservation

Freedom Seeker

(\$50+)

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Historical Records Project

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Susan DuBois

The Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence is Open for Business

- Alive and Kickin' -

194 Livingston Avenue, Albany, New York



Preservation at Work – Visiting Encouraged

The Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence, while still undergoing restoration, is an alive and active historic site that attracts both visitors and volunteers. Officially open for visitors and tour experiences, the site hosts an annual Independence Day Celebration, a Young Abolitionist Leadership Institute, UREC Reads, Celebrate Juneteenth, and other programs. It welcomes volunteers from area schools, colleges and community groups. Visitors have included family reunion groups, international visitors and tourists, and student classes from The College of Saint Rose, Union College, The Sage Colleges, The University at Albany, Siena College, and various high schools. The Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence is a documented, award winning UGRR site, on the National and State Register of Historic Places, a member of the National Network to Freedom of the National Park Service, a member of The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, and one of 26 sites on the New York State Underground Railroad Heritage Trail. Support toward its restoration has come from members of the community, Lewis and Irene Greenstein, Underground Railroad Education Center members, the NYS Environmental Protection Fund, Community Capital Assistance Program, 1772 Foundation, Bender Family Foundation, M & T Bank, Pioneer Bank, NPS Network to Freedom, Preserve New York, The National Trust for Historic Preservation, and many other sources.

Your donations to support the restoration are welcomed. Donate at UndergroundRailroadHistory.org or mail to UREC at 194 Livingston Avenue, Albany, New York 12210.

Underground Railroad Education Center

194 Livingston Avenue, Albany, NY 12210 | 518-621-7793 | UndergroundRailroadHistory.org

Friday, April 1, 2022

Opening Address (7:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

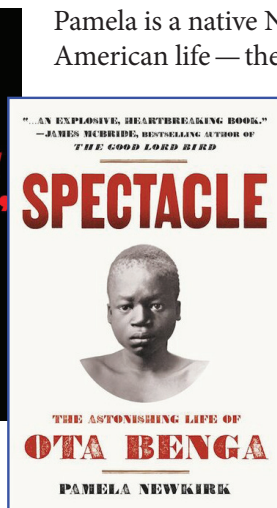
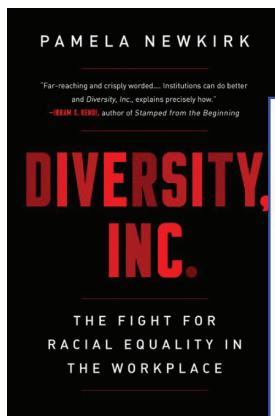
Bulmer Telecommunications Center Auditorium, Hudson Valley Community College

Locked In and Left Out:

Ota Benga, the Diversity Industry and the Power of Portrayals

Pamela Newkirk, PhD, New York University

Pamela Newkirk, PhD, is an author, award-winning journalist, professor and scholar whose work presents multidimensional portraits of African American life across the full spectrum of U.S. history. Her FreedomCon 2022 presentation will primarily draw upon two of her best-selling books: *Spectacle: The Astonishing Life of Ota Benga* (HarperCollins, 2015) traces the deeply troubling tale of Ota Benga's journey from the Congo to the United States, where he was exhibited at the St. Louis World's Fair and in 1906 in the Bronx Zoo Monkey House. The book received the 2016 NAACP Image Award and was listed among the Best Books of 2015 by NPR, *The Boston Globe* and *The San Francisco Chronicle*. *Diversity Inc.: The Failed Promise of a Billion-Dollar Business* (Bold Type Books, 2019) examines how workplace diversity initiatives have turned into a profoundly misguided industry — and have done little to bring equality to American institutions and industries. *Diversity, Inc.* was included on *Time Magazine's* 2019 list of Must-Read Books. Prior to joining the NYU faculty, Pamela was a daily news reporter at four news organizations, including the *Albany Knickerbocker News* and *New York Newsday* where she was part of a Pulitzer Prize-winning team. Her articles on race, media and African American culture have been widely published, including in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, and *Time* magazine.



Pamela is a native New Yorker who as a child was surrounded by the ephemera of African American life — the posters, letters, books and photographs — collected by her father. Those images became a life-long inspiration for Pamela, nourishing her scholarly interest in the unexplored history of the African Diaspora and the ways in which racial portrayals shape cultures, societies, institutions, public policies and the lives of individuals.

She holds undergraduate and graduate journalism degrees from New York and Columbia universities, and a PhD in Comparative and International Education from Columbia University.

Visit <https://www.pamelanewkirk.com> to learn more about Pamela Newkirk and her work.

"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality.... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word."

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

Saturday, April 2, 2022

Welcome (9:30 am – 9:50 am)

Bulmer Telecommunications Center Auditorium, Hudson Valley Community College

Welcoming remarks from Paul and Mary Liz Stewart, Co-founders of Underground Railroad Education Center and Ainsley Thomas, Chief Diversity Officer, HVCC.

Workshops

Six Workshop Tracks:

Each Track will consist of three related workshops. Workshops will address historic and contemporary conditions, challenges faced, and how work in the respective field can effect change. Attendees are encouraged to select one of the six Tracks and attend all three workshops in the series. Track workshops are in-person and virtual, except for the Teen Track which is in-person only.

Workshop Schedule

Workshop Session 1: 10:00 am – 11:15 am

Workshop Session 2: 1:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Workshop Session 3: 3:15 pm – 4:30 pm

1. Social Entrepreneurship: Impact as Agents of Change

Black, Hispanic and other entrepreneurs making change in the community toward equity and justice

Facilitated by Paul Stewart, Co-founder of UREC and Retired Director of Technical Assistance at The Community Loan Fund of the Capital Region and Angelo Maddox, Owner, Fresh and Fly Clothing Store

2. The UGRR's Untold Stories through Research and Historical Fiction

Exploring research and historical fiction as vehicles of change in the recounting of UGRR history

Facilitated by authors Deirdre Sinnott, Rosemary Nichols, and Ianna Fletcher

3. Racism, Democracy and the Rebirth of Freedom

Defending democracy as the frontline of freedom and antiracism

Facilitated by Willie Terry, Union and Community Activist and Joe Paparone, Poor People's Campaign

4. Antiracist Instruction in the Classroom

"Antiracism, as a transformative concept, points us toward liberating new ways of thinking." (Ibram X. Kendi)

How can this be achieved in today's classrooms?

Facilitated by Alan Singer, PhD, Hofstra University and Community Activist

5. Environmental Racism – Where Are We Going?

How is racism built into structures in our society that include capital investments, infrastructure and development decisions, and (un)healthy environments, and what is being done to change these systems?

Facilitated by Randy McGough, Community Activist, Aaron Mair, Environmental Activist, Jamaica Miles, Organizer of All of Us and Shawn Young, All of Us

6. Teens – Agents of Change (this in-person track is ONLY OPEN to TEEN PARTICIPANTS)

What concerns confront teens, what challenges do they encounter, and how do they want to be agents of change?

Facilitated by Retired Educators Julia Holcomb and Nicola Dutre

Lunch (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm)

Box lunches provided by HVCC Food Service – Mazzone Management

Vendors and Exhibitors are available throughout the day

VENDORS

Capital District Civil War Round Table
Clifford Oliver Photography
Ethnicitees LLC
Halffrican Nation
Indigo Awakenings
Luxe Warm Candle
Pris' Designs
Shea Tree, LLC
SpaMVP
Underground Railroad Education Center

EXHIBITORS

Daniel Stewart Memorial Fund
Early Photographer Award
Gerrit Smith Estate NHL and
National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum
League of Women Voters Rensselaer County
The Community Leadership Team (CLT)
The Staten Island African American Heritage Tour

Please visit the exhibitors' tables!

**Support our vendors through
your purchase of their wares!**

"The Myers Residence was an incredible experience, at certain times it felt surreal. It was nice to be able to walk around in living history. Being able to hold 'The Liberator' was unbelievably enlightening. Reading the specific language and being able to hold the ACTUAL paper was enlightening."

— Estaban C.



"It is amazing to have the opportunity to immerse yourself in the history of the Underground Railroad. Thank you for giving us this opportunity."

— CT

"I thought the tour of the house was very informative. I felt as if I really went back in time. I definitely feel more connected to my history. This type of experience is more than you can get from reading a textbook."

— Adrienne



Raffle Prizes and Contributors

A special thank you is extended to our raffle prize contributors:

Chris Cummings, Virginia Cummings, Matt George,
Underground Railroad Education Center

PRIZES

Samsung Galaxy Tab A7 Lite tablet with Cover
and 1-year protection plan

Vanguard Collectors' Edition: Recordings for the Connoisseurs;
When Colors Come Together: the Legacy of Harry Belafonte;
Sam Cooke: the Life, the Legend, the Legacy

Hydroflask 32oz + Two \$50 Etsy Gift Certificates

The Long Road to Freedom — An Anthology of Black Music

We Were Eight Years in Power; The 1619 Project; Down Along with the Devil's Bones;
1619 Twenty Africans; You Don't Know Us Negroes; Four Hundred Souls

Seasonal Dessert Set — four plates and serving platter

Hana Japanese Steak House and Sushi Bar Gift Card

Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza Gift Card

The Black President — Hope and Fury in the Age of Obama; Call Us What We Carry

His Truth is Marching On; This is Your Time; A Promised Land

Letters from Black America; Spectacle

Two-Bottle Wine Tote Amish Basket with Wine

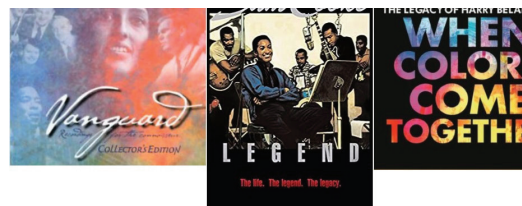
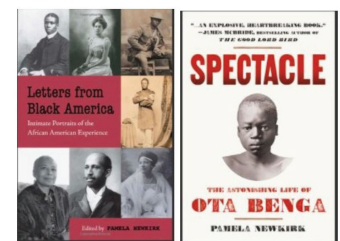
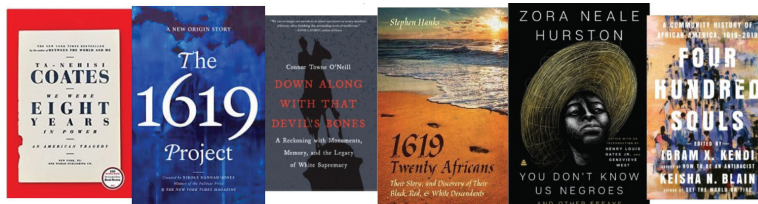
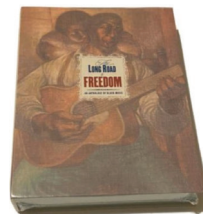
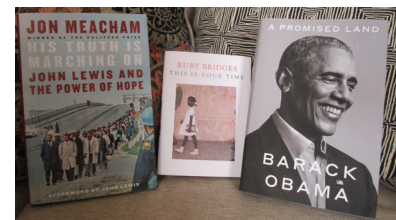
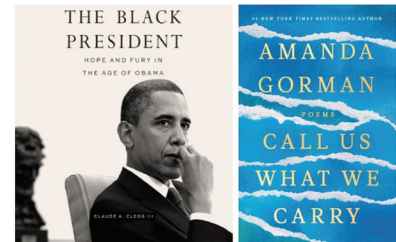
FreedomCon 2022 - Toward Change — Toward Equality
20th Annual UREC Public History Conference
Organized by Underground Railroad Education Center

1st Prize - Samsung Galaxy Tab A7 Lite with Cover + Protection Plan
2nd Prize - Vanguard Collectors Edition + When Colors Come Together + Sam Cooke CDs
3rd Prize - Hydroflask 32oz + Two \$50 Etsy Gift Certificates
4th Prize - The Long Road to Freedom - Harry Belafonte 5 CDs + Book + DVD
5th Prize - We Were Eight Years in Power, The 1619 Project, Four Hundred Souls + more

Additional prizes - Book sets, Gift cards, Gift Baskets, and more
1 ticket / \$5 You do not need to be present in order to win 3 tickets / \$10

Buyer's Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Take a chance!



Litany of Remembrance (4:45 pm – 5:00 pm)

Bulmer Telecommunications Center Auditorium

Join with us in honoring the courage and fortitude of those who escaped their enslavement, those whose lives ended in bondage, and those who dedicated their lives to the pursuit of justice past and present. Let us remember their names, their voices and their stories. Let us join together to honor them and be inspired by their courage and fortitude.

For **Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Stephen Myers, Harriet Myers, Jermain Loguen, William Still** and many others who led the movement known as the Underground Railroad and who fought for the abolition of enslavement in the United States. We remember you as one of the ...

(ALL) People of courage, people of hope, seekers of justice

For **Rev. William Barber, Rev. Liz Theoharis and the other leaders of the Poor People's Campaign** who lead the fight against injustice, inequity, discrimination, racism and bigotry, we remember you as representatives of the ...

(ALL) People of courage, people of hope, seekers of justice

For **Shaheed Vassell, Stephen Clark** and others who have been shot by police believing that they had weapons when they had none, and for **Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Freddie Grey, Tamir Rice, Philando Castillo, Tanisha Anderson, Sandra Bland, George Floyd** and others who have needlessly died, we remember you as ...

(ALL) People of courage, people of hope, seekers of justice

For people who were seeking their freedom from enslavement and passed through Albany such as **Benjamin Wilson, Elizabeth Barnes, Isaac Hinson, Harriet Taylor** and many others, we remember you as one of the ...

(ALL) People of courage, people of hope, seekers of justice

For the **more than 2 million refugees fleeing Ukraine, for Ukraine itself, for Afghanistan, for the Uyghurs of China, for Palestinians, for Iraq, for the people of Iran, for the people of Nigeria, Chad, Mali, Guinea and Sudan, Venezuela and Central America** who suffer economic hardship, political oppression and so much more. For those who have been separated from their children; For those who came seeking asylum but are being deported; For those crossing the border looking for freedom but find themselves subject to arrest and detention, we remember you as ...

(ALL) People of courage, people of hope, seekers of justice

May these people who are remembered here speak to us in the present. May we be mindful of and responsive to their call to us to continue to work together for the liberty and justice promised to all in our nation's founding document. May we take on the mantle of civic responsibility and meaningfully participate in our communities as we engage the past with the present and look to the future with justice as our standard.

Sunday, April 3, 2022

Open House (1:00 pm – 4:00 pm)

The Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence

194 Livingston Avenue, Albany, NY 12210

Be in the place where history happened! Experience the Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence, a treasure in the Capital Region's historic landscape commemorating the anti-slavery work of African American Abolitionists Stephen and Harriet Myers. Tour the Residence. Engage with the Seeking Sanctuary mural. Explore archeological artifacts uncovered in recent digs. Make a purchase at the Museum Shoppe. See you there!



The Myers Residence

*Learn the Past,
Be the Present,
Create the Future®*



“... the Albany Committee of Vigilance [run by Stephen Myers] has the reputation of being the most efficient organization in the state of New York, in the business of aiding the way-worn and weather-beaten refugee from slavery's shambles ...”

— David Ruggles, in The Liberator, May 24, 1844

2022 Conference Planning Team

Community members who generously volunteer their time and talent to make the conference an enriching, memorable event for all

Deb Abel
Ann Cohan
Chris Cummings
Nicola Dutre

Matt George
David Hochfelder
Julia Holcomb
Andrea Hyary

Randy McGough
MaryNell Morgan
Mary Liz Stewart
Paul Stewart

Willie Terry
Brenda Twiggs
Robert Ward



Underground Railroad Education Center

Learn the Past, Be the Present, Create the Future®

Eight Principles of the Underground Railroad Movement

1. Document Based
2. Reality vs. Myth
3. Public vs. Secret
4. Movement, not Safe Houses
5. African American Leadership
6. Civil Disobedience
7. Language and Public Memory
8. Relevancy Today



"We devote all our time to the care of the oppressed who come among us.

Our pay is small, but yet we are willing to continue to do what we can for them.

We have arrivals every few days from Southern oppression, and forward them to the next depot ..."

– Stephen Myers, 1860

The Underground Railroad comes alive and is made meaningful and relevant for all ages through the activities of Underground Railroad Education Center:

Research using primary sources since 1998, focusing on New York's Capital Region history in its national and international context.

Public Presentations to bring a new interpretation of this very old story to multi-age, diverse audiences in the Capital Region and beyond.

Annual Conferences every Spring to provide educational and experiential opportunities for educators, researchers, students, the general public and others to examine many facets of Underground Railroad history and its legacy.

Walking Tours in downtown Albany and Troy to engage participants with accounts of local Underground Railroad activism, walking where freedom seekers walked and visiting locations where abolition activists lived, worked, or conducted activities. To arrange a tour email info@undergroundrailroadhistory.org or call (518) 621-7793.

Work with Youth to help them learn about and preserve local Underground Railroad history, understand it in its national and international context, and relate that history with their lives today.

Archeology with youth during a youth summer camp, with college students and faculty through a SUNY Albany archeology field school, and with community members every October to celebrate International Archeology Day.

Historic Preservation at the Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence in Albany, NY. Identified by UREC's Co-Founders as an Underground Railroad site, the Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence is now owned by UREC and undergoing restoration thanks to NY State grants and generous supporters.

The building is an outstanding artifact of the Anti-slavery period. Stephen and Harriet Myers were leading abolitionists in Albany's Underground Railroad movement from the 1830s through the 1850s. The Residence is being restored to its period of greatest significance and, when completed, will stand as an interactive museum and provide opportunities to experience and celebrate the story. The exterior of the building is nearly completed, but support is needed to complete the interior and the full project.

Please Support Underground Railroad Education Center's Work

Please consider becoming a member or making a donation to Underground Railroad Education Center — your donation will help sustain UREC's important work. To join and/or support our work, visit us online at www.undergroundrailroadhistory.org.

Your contribution
stays local
and makes
a difference!

Underground Railroad Education Center

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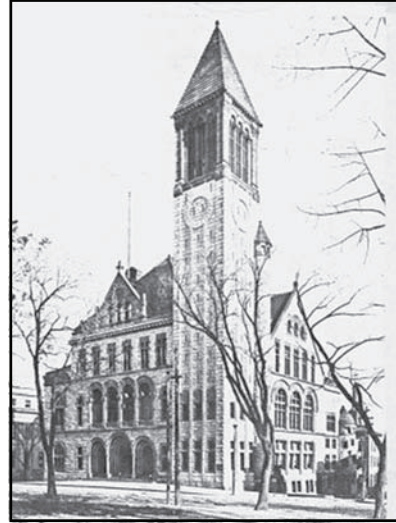
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to our advertisers
who came forward
to support the
20th Annual
UREC Public History
Conference!*

Congratulations

Underground Railroad Education Center
on the 20th annual Underground Railroad
Public History Conference

Anthony Opalka, Albany City Historian

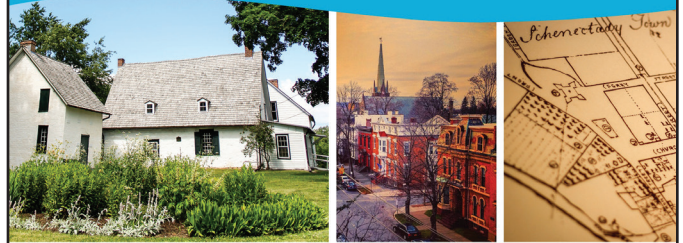


Albany City Hall



We will walk together until all
people of the world are free.
— Deborah Abel —

Schenectady County Historical Society



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schenectadyhistorical.org

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FreedomCon 2022

Thank you to the Underground Railroad Education Center for hosting the 20th Annual Public History Conference



Hon. John T. McDonald III, RPH
NYS Assemblymember
108th District



Hon. Patricia A. Fahy
NYS Assemblymember
109th District



An open congregation affirming all people

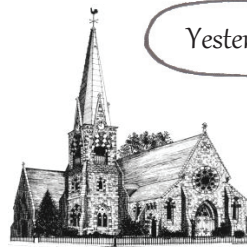
Sundays: 10am Worship & 5pm Jazz Vespers
10:15am Church School - 11:30am First Forum

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WHO WE ARE

The Underground Railroad Consortium of New York State (URCNYS) is a coalition of organizations across New York State with programs and sites related to the Underground Railroad that preserve and celebrate abolition history.

1816 Farmington Quaker Meeting House
Farmington, NY

Akwaaba: The Heritage Associates Inc.
Rochester, NY

Bowne House Historical Society
Flushing, NY

Bristol Hill Congregational Church
Fulton, NY

Buffalo Niagara Freedom Station Coalition
Buffalo, NY

Fenton History Center
Jamestown, NY

George & Rebecca Barnes Foundation
Syracuse, NY

Gerrit Smith Estate National Historic Landmark
Peterboro, NY

Harriet Tubman National Historic Park
Auburn, NY

Howland Stone Store Museum
Aurora, NY

John Brown Farm State Historic Site
Lake Placid, NY

John Brown Lives!
Westport, NY

John W. Jones Museum
Elmira, NY

Matilda Joselyn Gage Foundation
Fayetteville, NY

Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor
Buffalo, NY



Visit www.urnys.org to learn more about our partners & programming



WHAT WE DO

- Organize initiatives that support our members
- Maintain Archive & Oral History Project
- Freedom 2027 - New York's Abolition Bicentennial
- Produce the URCNYS Webinar Series

Mid-Hudson Antislavery History Project
Poughkeepsie, NY

Montgomery County Department of History
Fonda, NY

National Abolition Hall Fame & Museum
Peterboro, NY

Niagara Falls National Heritage Area
Niagara Falls, NY

Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center
Niagara Falls, NY

North Country Underground Railroad Historical Association
Ausable Chasm, NY

Oneida County Freedom Trail Commission
New Hartford, NY

Onondaga Historical Association
Syracuse, NY

Oswego Public Library
Oswego, NY

RMSC Museum & Science Center
Rochester, NY

Seward House Museum
Auburn, NY

Starr Clark Tin Shop & Underground Railroad Museum
Mexico, NY

The Park Church
Elmira, NY

Underground Railroad Education Center
Albany, NY

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SUPPORTERS

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- - Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., 1967,
from *Where Do We Go from Here*, pg. 62

* * * * *

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Toward Change – Toward Equality**

*Congratulations and thanks to:
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*Paul and Mary Liz Stewart
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this wonderful event!*

I want to support the Underground Railroad Education Center!

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Learn the Past, Be the Present, Create the Future®

Join UREC! Benefits of membership:

- Subscription to The Freedom Seeker (published three times a year)
- 10% discount on UREC program fees
- Email announcements of events by UREC and related organizations

___ \$25 **Freedom Fighter** (individual, under 30 or over 65 years)

___ \$35 **Abolitionist** (Individual, 30-64 years)

___ \$70 **Freeman's Advocate** (Family)

___ \$150 **Dr. Elkins Circle** (Family, group/organization)

___ \$500 **Abel Brown Circle** (2 free tickets to Myers Residence Tour Experience)

___ \$1000 **Vigilance Committee** (4 free tickets to Myers Residence Tour Experience)

___ **OTHER AMOUNT:** _____

___ ****Employer/other matching gift!** Form or note enclosed.

Please make check payable to UREC. Additional donation welcome.

This form with your donation can be left at the Registration Desk at FreedomCon 2022 or posted to UREC, 194 Livingston Avenue, Albany, NY 12210.

Make an online donation at <https://undergroundrailroadhistory.org/donate/> or become a member at <https://undergroundrailroadhistory.org/membership/>

UREC is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

For a copy of our annual financial report, please ask us, or contact the

NYS Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY, 10271.

12/21 (v9) (mls)

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Notes

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FreedomCon 2022: Toward Change – Toward Equality

10:00am–11:15am Workshop 1

12:00pm–1:00pm Lunch

1:30pm–2:45pm Workshop 2

3:15pm–4:30pm Workshop 3

4:45pm–5:00pm Litany of Remembrance

Six Workshop Tracks Include:

A series of three related workshops will be held in each Track. Workshops will address historic and contemporary conditions, challenges faced, and how work in the respective field can be an agent of change. Attendees are encouraged to select an empowering Track and attend each of the three workshops in that Track. Track workshops are in-person and virtual, except for the Teen Track which is in-person only.

Social Entrepreneurship: Impact as Agents of Change (Rm. 1)

Black, Hispanic and other entrepreneurs making change in the community toward equity and justice – Facilitated by Paul Stewart, Co-founder of UREC and Retired Director of Technical Assistance at The Community Loan Fund of the Capital Region and Angelo Maddox, Owner, Fresh and Fly Clothing Store

The UGRR's Untold Stories through Research and Historical Fiction (Rm. 2)

Exploring research and historical fiction as vehicles of change in the recounting of UGRR history – Facilitated by Authors Deirdre Sinnott, Rosemary Nichols, JoAnn Bakeman, Ianna Fletcher

Racism, Democracy and the Rebirth of Freedom (Rm. 3)

Defending democracy as the frontline of freedom and antiracism – Facilitated by Willie Terry, Union and Community Activist and Renee Powell, President of the Troy NAACP

Antiracist Instruction in the Classroom (Rm. 1106)

“Antiracism, as a transformative concept, points us toward liberating new ways of thinking.” (Ibram X. Kendi) How can this be achieved in today’s classrooms? – Facilitated by Alan Singer, PhD, Hofstra University and Community Activist

Environmental Racism – Where are We Going (Rm. 1030)

How is racism built into structures in our society that include capital investments, infrastructure and development decisions, and (un)healthy environments, and what is being done to change these systems? – Facilitated by Randy McGough, Community Activist, Aaron Mair, Environmental Activist, Jamaica Miles, Organizer of All of Us, and Shawn Young, Co-founder of All of Us

Teens – Agents of Change (this in-person track is ONLY OPEN to TEEN PARTICIPANTS) (Auditorium)

What concerns confront teens, what challenges do they encounter, and how do they want to be agents of change? – Facilitated by Retired Educators Julia Holcomb and Nicola Dutre and Ja’Deana Cognetta-Winfield

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FreedomCon 2022: Toward Change- Toward Equality - EVALUATION

	BEST 5	VERY GOOD 4	GOOD 3	FAIR 2	WORST 1	N/A
Overall Experience						
Registration (Fri / Sat)						
Opening Address speaker (Fri)						
Workshop Format (Sat)						
Workshop Content (Sat)						
Vendors & Exhibitors (Sat)						
Litany (Sat)						
Raffle						
Facilities (HVCC)						
Parking (Fri / Sat)						
Signage (Fri / Sat)						

Where did you learn about FreedomCon 2022?

What was the best part of FreedomCon 2022?

What was the worst part of FreedomCon 2022?

Recommendations for change?

2023 topic and/or speaker suggestions?

How were you changed by participating in FreedomCon 2022, and/or what will you do with your experience after FreedomCon?

Other comments

Would you like to volunteer? Please provide contact info: _____

Would you like to support the work of UREC as a donor? Please provide contact information and we will reach out to you after FreedomCon 2022 has passed:

Please use the back of this form for any additional comments.

Thank you for your comments which will help improve the FreedomCon experience. -

The FreedomCon Planning Committee

Return completed form to the Registration table or postal mail to UREC, 194 Livingston Avenue, Albany NY 12210