

LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Friends of the Network to Freedom Association invites proposals for its upcoming annual conference. Taking a cue from our host city, Indianapolis, which is referred to as the “Crossroads of America,” this year’s conference theme is “Freedom Trails at the Crossroads: Paths to Telling the Underground Railroad Story through History, Teaching, and Technology.”

The conference will explore the Underground Railroad as a meeting point or a zone of contact in which cultures, geographies, regions, races, ethnicities, religious and political ideologies met and interacted. In addition to exploring past connections, the conference also seeks to explore ways in which present day people interested in the story of the Underground Railroad transcend local histories and make connections to a larger national story with global significance.

The Friends of the Network to Freedom Association welcomes proposals from a wide variety of academic, public, community partners, and interested Underground Railroad researchers. However, the conference program committee gives preference to session proposals that address the specific conference theme. Presentation topics can include but are not limited to:

- Conflicts of cultures and ideologies on the Underground Railroad
- State, interstate, and international travel connections on the Underground Railroad
- Evaluating your local Underground Railroad sites, facilities, and programs
- Religious and political support and opposition to Underground Railroad activity
- Modes of transportation (including maritime travel) used in the Underground Railroad
- The Underground Railroad in today’s American history curriculum
- Technologies and databases as a means of documenting, analyzing, preserving, and interpreting slavery and the Underground Railroad
- Myths and realities —evaluating and re-evaluating definitions and histories of the Underground Railroad

Submission Procedure—MUST BE DONE ONLINE

Proposals can be submitted for (1) panels up to three individuals and a moderator on a particular theme or topic and (2) individual 20 minute paper presentations. Conference applications can be completed and submitted online from the Friends Association website, www.UGRfriends.org for review.

Deadline for receipt of proposals: April 30, 2009

All proposals should include:

- A complete mailing address, email, phone number and affiliations (if any) for each participant;
- A 500 word abstract for the complete session and 250 word abstract for individual submissions; and
- A 250 word biographical sketch for each participant.

Registration fee for presenters will be waived. Presenters are responsible, however, for their own conference travel, lodging, transportation, and meals.

Accepted presenters can expect to receive notification by June 1, 2009.

Phone: 502-863-2203

Fax: 502-863-2231

E-mail: info@ugrfriends.org

Friends of the Network to Freedom Association

P. O. Box 13487

Lexington, KY 40583-3487

3rd National Underground Railroad Summit

Hilton Indianapolis North

8181 N. Shadeland Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46250

September 16-19, 2009

1-800-Hiltons

Alicestyne Adams, President
Friends Association

Dona Stokes-Lucas, Vice President Friends Association
President, Indiana Freedom Trails

Diane Miller, National Manager
National Park Service
Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program

James Hill, Manager
Midwest Region
Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program

De'anda Johnson, Coordinator
African American Research and Service Institute, Ohio University

Ada Woodson-Adams
Multicultural Genealogical Center
Chesterhill, OH

Dr. Cheryl LaRoche
University of Maryland

Dr. John McKivigan
School of Liberal Arts
IUPUI

Chris Meinhardt, President
Kansas Freedom Trails

Jeannie Regan Dinius
Indiana Department of Natural
Resources (DHPA)

Conference Advisory Committee
Rev. Dr. Lottie Hood
Congregational Church
Michigan Freedom Trails

Owen Muelder
Knox College

Cathy Nelson
Ohio Friends of Freedom

Glennette Tilley Turner
Illinois Freedom Trails

Dr. Veta Tucker
Grand Valley State University
Michigan Freedom Trails