Study Guide and Our Consultants

Especially ideal for Black History Month, but meaningful and important any time of the year, the Underground Railroad Experience provides virtually endless educational and learning possibilities, opening doors to all kinds of further studies, with research, discussion and debate almost limitless.

To maximize learning opportunities, a special Underground Railroad Study Guide will be provided to schools undertaking the Experience. Prepared exclusively for us by Messrs. Hopkins and Smith, a portion of whose resumes follow, educators will find pre- and post-trip activities, additional slavery, Civil War and Underground Railroad information and background, as well as resources to enhance the learning experience and its relevancy to contemporary events.



Educators

e trust that by now it has become apparent how seriously and painstakingly we have undertaken this project, a full two years in the making. We believe in its importance, relevance and likelihood to impact the learning process. We are committed to its success, not only for the three or so hours you and your students are with us, but both before and after your trip as well.

To that end, we have retained two scholars whose work in Academia and Civil Rights makes them uniquely qualified to lend their knowledge not only to our study guide, but to overall content and feel of the entire Underground Railroad Experience.



Dr. Leroy T. Hopkins, Jr. Gurriculum Vitae

Education

B.A. in German/Russian from Millersville State College

Ph.D. in Germanic Languages & Literatures from Harvard University

Associate Director for Programs, Urban League of Lancaster County, Inc.

Awards

1988: Local History Association -- For Excellence in Local History Research

2007: For excellence in researching the Black History of Pennsylvania over the past 30 years. A citation from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

Community Service

1984-92: Trustee of Bethel A.M.E. Church (Lancaster)

1979-96: Member of Black History Advisory Committee of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

1987-89: Executive Director, Historical Commission of Harrisburg District of the A.M.E. Church (1st Episcopal District)

1992-95: President of the Historical Society of Lancaster County

1988-91: Member of Black History Advisory Committee of the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Division of School Equity

1992-93: Member, Advisory Board of Multicultural Center of School District of Lancaster

1998-99: Member of the Board of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

2007 – present: founding member and current President of the African-American Historical Society of South Central Pennsylvania



Randolph J. Harris

Curriculum Vitae

Education

B.A. - Journalism and Communications, Point Park University, Pittsburgh, PA, 1974

A.A. - Liberal and Commercial Arts, Community College of Allegheny County (PA), 1972

Professional Experience

2003 – present: Heritage conservation & community development services to organize and promote heritage-themed tours and public programming for community groups, schools, senior centers and individuals. Tours focus on Underground Railroad, African American Heritage and the life and legacy of Thaddeus Stevens.

1995 – 2003: Executive Director, Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County, PA.
1990 – 1995: Independent Consultant, Heritage conservation & community development services:

National Register of Historic Places—Listings of sites & districts: writing narratives, mapping, photography and graphic design to secure designation of properties, neighborhoods and districts as significant in local, state or national history.

Publication design and development, video production, research and writing.

1978 – 1990: Assistant to the Manager for public affairs & internal communication initiatives, U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, Pittsburgh Office.

Community Involvement

Shreiner-Concord Cemetery Foundation - Includes the grave and monument of U.S. Congressman Thaddeus Stevens (1792-1868), champion of free public education in Pennsylvania, a founder of Republican Party, Abolitionist, and Underground Railroad activist.

St. James Episcopal Church, Lancaster, PA- Mission & Justice Committee

Lancaster County Livable Communities Initiative Board of Directors

Young Preservationists of Pittsburgh

African American Historical Society/South Central Pennsylvania, 2014 to present Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program, Partner, National Park Service, 2004.