

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area Program Highlights

- We provide interpretive grants to help partners with projects. Partners may receive up to \$3,000 for a project with a one-to-one local match.
- We pay one-half the fee of partners wanting to improve their organizations through the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH) Standards and Excellent Program in History (**STEPS**). **STEPS** is designed specifically for small- to mid-sized history organizations, including volunteer-run institutions. The 1,100+ organizations enrolled in **STEPS** benchmark themselves against national museum standards.
- We provide scholarship grants to assist partner professionals in attending training sessions to improve their museum's operation.
- We produce specialty workshops on running historical museums and maintaining collections.
- We produce shared temporary exhibits for our partners to encourage residents to re-visit their museum for new content.
- We produce regular partner meetings online and at partner sites to bring partners together on projects.
- We produce history programming such as our series on Underground Railroad sites in the heritage area available online for anyone to view.
- We have provided bus-on-us grants to organizations to encourage school trips to historic partner sites.
- We created a series of online programs with partners called "Portals to the Past" and "Free History" to engage residents during the pandemic.
- We developed an APP, map, and website to encourage everyone to explore our partner's shared stories. We regularly create additional driving and walking tours for our partners. Combined with our newsletter and unique tourism partnerships, we encourage visitors throughout the region.
- We developed our APP and lesson plans for teachers to use to teach our history to their students.
- We support and provide awards for National History Day programs for students in the heritage area.
- We share these activities each week in our "Monday Minute" with partners.