

## Membership & Boarding Guidelines

"Git on board, lil' children. Get on board... there's room for plenty a'more..."

Freedom Trails, Legacies of Hope continues to research, document, develop and network information, events, people and sites relevant to the Underground Railroad, Civil War, Migration, Civil Rights and human empowerment that can be converted into community and economic development.

From the time of early African-Americans on the frontier, one can trace impact, people and hallowed places that have contributed to Illinois being a state that has nourished escape, emancipation and empowerment. Even the Old Slave House, on Hickory Hill outside of the city of Equality in Southern Illinois, demonstrates just how far we have progressed on these issues in both this state and our USA.

Our challenges range from recovering and sharing information, to preserving and finding ways to support acquisition to assure public access. Any and all contributions are both acceptable and tax exempt to the extent of the laws governing 501 c 3 organizations. Below are some guidelines you might find useful.

**We need your help...All aboard !!!**

Categories below:

Freedom Seekers: \$20 Individual \$30 Family  
Elders: \$15 Aged 65 and up  
Initiates (Students): \$10 Individuals  
\$30 Classroom  
\$100 K-12 Schools  
Conductors: \$50 - \$75  
Captains : \$100 + Patrons  
Visionary Griots: \$150 + Patrons  
(historical societies, libraries, small sites, etc.)  
Legacy Sustainers: \$500 + Patrons  
North Stars \$1000 + Patrons  
(Corporations, Counties, Large Institutions)



Freedom Trails Legacies of Hope  
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# Freedom Trails Legacies of Hope

African-American Heritage Tourism Development

The Underground Railroad  
Civil War • Migration • Civil Rights



ILLINOIS

RIGHT HERE. RIGHT NOW.

9/03 1500

Luminaries • Celebrations • Commemorations

Escape • Emancipation • Empowerment  
In The Land of Lincoln

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# Freedom Trails: Legacies of Hope

## The Vision:

Designated as a six year state supported heritage project in 2001, Freedom Trails Legacies of Hope (T&L) is framed around the historic Under Ground RailRoad movement and other historic events, including 19th & 20th century migration, and the role of people and places having significant affect upon African American heritage in Illinois specifically, and America's history in general. The USA is built upon the quest for unity, humanity, freedom and the pursuit of happiness. At our best, democracy is demonstrated, diversity and tolerance promoted. Trails & Legacies functions as a contemporary UGRR system, minus secrecy: to rescue, protect and guide the heritage for safe keeping to pass on to other generations. We are working to build this "Over the Ground" system in Lincoln's Land.

## Mission Statement:

Freedom Trails, Legacies of Hope is to preserve, enhance and promote historic sites pertaining to African American heritage in the State of Illinois through research, collection, interpretation, education, information dissemination, product development & linkages of these trails/sites and experiences in a systematic order allowing for cultural and economic development opportunities impacting African American communities, thereby improving the quality of life for both residents and visitors.

## Connecting The Tracks



### Methodology for Linkage:

Building the trail starts with research, inventory and networking with individuals, community, preservation and tourism groups in seventeen (17) countries during Phase One to scouring the state in subsequent phases by the end of the 6th year of designation.



From the state's southern most city of Cairo, encountered by York of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, escaping slaves - "Freedom Seekers", Civil War contraband camps and 1960's civil rights action; to America's first Black town, Lovejoy or Brooklyn; to New Philadelphia, plotted by Free Frank; through and beyond the city Jean DuSable settled, that we know as Chicago, a tremendous wealth of African American Heritage exists. This heritage transcends color and creed, as many have risked life, limb, property and personal freedoms in pursuit of liberty...

### Cornerstone: Underground Railroad



Illinois Historic Sites Pictured Above:  
B.G. Roots House, Perry County; and Gillett B&B, Morgan Co.

## Acknowledging The Past Building The Future

In the words of Maya Angelou:  
"... And Still We Rise !"



### Celebrations • Commemoration Keeping The Spirit Alive !!!

- Homecoming Celebrations and Family Reunions
- Juneteenth Celebration ..... June 19th
- Kwanzaa Observance ..... December 26th - 31st
- Watch Night ..... Dec. 31st - Jan. 1st
- Martin Luther King Observance and other festivals and events throughout the state and year.
- African-American History Month ..... February

This history and heritage continues to unfold, most of which is not in history books. It's in your closets, attics, basements, bibles and oral histories. Please contact us about your discoveries, and share your stories. Invite us for presentations.

Contact: Ms. Anne Walker / Project Manager

Join Our Mailing List, Become A Member !

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 County \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_