

## PROGRAM

### The Underground Railroad in Michigan A Decade of Discoveries Conference

September 26 - 27, 2008, Grand Rapids, MI

## Friday, September 26

GVSU Pew Campus, Richard M. DeVos Center Building E

**8:00 - 8:30 AM - Registration** *Exhibition Hall*

**8:30 - 9:00 AM - Opening Remarks** *Loosemore Auditorium*

Veta Tucker - Conference Chair, Michigan Freedom Trail Chair  
Michigan Freedom Trail Commission Chair  
Provost Gayle Davis  
Dean Wendy Wenner - College of Interdisciplinary Studies  
Dean Fred Antczak - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Kathy Agard - Executive Director, Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership

**9:00 - 10:15 AM - Session A** *Loosemore Auditorium*

### **Abolitionism and Underground Railroad Resistance in Michigan**

*Panelists:* Roy Finkenbine - University of Detroit  
Owen Muelder - Knox College, IL  
Debian Marty - California State University, Monterey Bay

*Session Chair:* Daniel McClure - GVSU Liberal Studies Dept. and African and African American Studies Affiliate Faculty

**10:30 - 11:30 AM - Keynote Speaker** *Loosemore Auditorium*

Karolyn Smardz Frost - Archeologist and author of *I've Got a Home in Glory Land: A Lost Tale of the Underground Railroad*

*Session Chair:* Steeve Buckridge - GVSU History Dept. and African and African American Studies Affiliate Faculty

**11:45 - 12:35 PM - Lunch** *Eberhard Center, Room 215*

**12:45 - 2:00 PM - Keynote Speaker** *Loosemore Auditorium*

Allen Guelzo - Gettysburg College

Sponsored by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies

*Introduction:* Gleaves Whitney - Director, Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies

Q & A

2:00 - 2:15 PM - **Special Presentation** *Loosemore Auditorium*

**From Cass County to GVSU and Beyond**

Sondra Mose-Ursery - Local Historian, Cass County  
Drik Mose - GVSU alumnus

Edwin Joseph - GVSU Geography and Planning Dept.

2:30 - 3:45 PM - **Session B** *Loosemore Auditorium*

**Underground Railroad Stories for the Public**

Betty DeRamus - "*Aunt Sally's Coffee House*"  
Author of *Forbidden Fruit: Love Stories from the Underground Railroad*

David Boers - "*From St. Louis to Detroit*"  
Marian University, Fond du Lac, WI

*Session Chair:* Louis Moore - GVSU History Dept.

4:00 - 5:00 PM - **Session C** *Loosemore Auditorium*

**Quarlls Watkins Heritage Project, Detroit**

Kim Simmons - "*Having Our Say: The Descendants Speak*"

*Session Chair:* Bertrand Bickersteth - GVSU English Dept.

5:00 - 5:30 PM - **Book Signing** *Exhibition Hall*

Book sale and signing by Christopher Paul Curtis, Karolyn Smardz Frost, Owen Muelder and Betty DeRamus

5:30 PM - **Dinner / Keynote Speaker** *Eberhard Center, Room 215*

**Writing the Underground Railroad Story for Children**

Christopher Paul Curtis - Author of *Bud, Not Buddy*, *Elijah of Buxton*, *The Watsons go to Birmingham*, and more.

Awards Presentation - Carol Mull - Commissioner, Michigan Freedom Trail Commission

7:30 PM - **Book Signing** *Eberhard Center, East Lobby*

Book sale and signing by Christopher Paul Curtis

# Saturday, September 27

GVSU Pew Campus, Richard M. DeVos Center Building E

8:30 - 9:00 AM - **Registration** *Exhibition Hall*

9:15 - 10:30 AM - **Session D** *Loosemore Auditorium*

## Teaching Underground Railroad History as Critical Literacy for Elementary Students

*Panelists:* Patricia Bloem - GVSU English Dept.  
Denise Stuart - University of Akron  
Manuel Campins and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Class - West Ottawa Public Schools

*Session Chair:* Emily Garcia, GVSU English Dept.

10:45 - 12:00 PM - **Session E** *Loosemore Auditorium*

## Underground Railroad History for the Public: Tours and Museums

*Panelists:* Donna Odom - Kalamazoo Valley Museum  
Rev. Lottie Jones-Hood - First Congregational Church, Detroit, MI  
Dona Stokes-Lucas - Indiana Freedom Trail, Indianapolis, IN  
Michael Evans - Sojourner Truth Institute, Battle Creek, MI

*Session Chair:* Tamika Henry, Co-Curator, Muskegon County Museum of African American History

12:15 - 1:30 PM - **Luncheon** *Exhibition Hall*

1:45 - 2:45 PM - **Keynote Speaker** *Loosemore Auditorium*

## Legacy of the Underground Railroad in West Michigan

Anna-Lisa Cox - Author of *A Stronger Kinship*

*Session Chair:* John Weber, GVSU Geology Dept.

2:45 - 3:15 PM - **Book Signing** *Exhibition Hall*

Book sale and signing by Anna-Lisa Cox

3:30 - 4:30 PM - **Session F** *Loosemore Auditorium*

## Sharing Local Underground Railroad Stories and Legacies

*Panelists:* Kel Keller - Romeo, MI  
Carol Mull - Ann Arbor, MI  
Nancie Hudson (GVSU Student) - Allendale, MI  
Mary Edmond - Grand Rapids, MI

*Session Chair:* Veta Tucker, GVSU English Dept. and African and African American Studies Affiliate Faculty

4:30 PM - **Closing Reception** *Exhibition Hall*