



2024 Michigan Freedom Trail Commission Heritage Gathering
Working Towards Freedom: Occupations and the Underground Railroad
 Saturday, September 21, 2024 Michigan History Center

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Registration	Rotunda
9:00 – 9:15 a.m.	Opening Remarks and Commission Updates	Forum
9:15 – 10:30 a.m.	<i>A Talent for Freedom</i> Cheryl Janifer LaRoche, Ph.D, author and historical Archaeologist Commissioner: Roy E. Finkenbine	Forum
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	break	
10:45 a.m. – noon	<i>The North Star and the Barber Pole: Black Barbers and the UGRR in the Old Northwest</i> Roy E. Finkenbine, Professor of History, University of Detroit Mercy Mark Evans, Black Barber descendent Commissioner: Randal Jelks	Forum
noon – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch and socializing	Rotunda
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.	<i>Farmers, Fugitives, and Freedom: Oakland County's Network of Underground Railroad Activism</i> Rochelle E. Danquah, Historian and Michigan Freedom Trail Commissioner Commissioner: Kimberly Holley	Forum
2:00 – 2:15 p.m.	break	
2:15 – 3:15 p.m.	<i>A Real Caretaker: William Dolarson in Detroit's Underground Railroad</i> Jamon Jordan, Official Historian for the City of Detroit Commissioner: Adelaide Lancaster	Forum
3:15 – 3:30 p.m.	Closing Remarks and Thoughts	Forum

Be sure to fill out the survey throughout the day. Your constructive comments help guide the future events.