

## How to Use the Safe Passage Kit

*Safe Passage: The Underground Railroad in Southwestern Ohio* is an interactive, multifaceted resource designed for sixth- through ninth-grade language arts and social studies teachers. By engaging in this hands-on experience featuring the Underground Railroad, both teachers and students will begin their own journeys, exploring the theme through powerful fiction and nonfiction reading, thought-provoking writing assignments and the moving stories of the people and places of the Underground Railroad. Lessons address the Ohio Academic Content Standards in English Language Arts and Social Studies. Teachers may choose to do a few or all of the lessons in the kit. The lessons can be taught in whatever order works best for the teacher and the class—individual lessons can effectively stand alone.

Researched and developed by educators for educators, *Safe Passage* brings to the classroom the educational resources of Cincinnati's public television station, CET, the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center and the University of Cincinnati College of Education.

### Major Components of the *Safe Passage* Kit:

- ▶ Teacher Guide
- ▶ CD-ROM
- ▶ VHS Video
- ▶ Underground Railroad Poster
- ▶ Underground Railroad Books (4)
- ▶ Website
- ▶ Professional Development

## TEACHER GUIDE

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### LESSON FORMAT

Each *Safe Passage* lesson contains 14 sections:

- ▶ **Subjects:** A list of the academic areas covered in the lesson.
- ▶ **Grade Level:** All lesson activities are appropriate for grades six through nine.
- ▶ **Lesson Summary:** An overview of the activities in the lesson.
- ▶ **Objectives:** The lesson's specific student learning goals.
- ▶ **Ohio Academic Content Standards:** A link to the specific content standards covered in the lesson.
- ▶ **Time Needed:** Amount of time needed to complete the lesson. A class period is 45 to 60 minutes long.
- ▶ **Materials:** A list of what is required to complete each lesson.
- ▶ **Technology:** The technology requirements for the lesson. Many lessons utilize a TV, VCR and a computer with Internet and a CD drive.
- ▶ **Vocabulary:** Definitions of words used in the lesson.
- ▶ **Notes for the Teacher:** Specific information or tips that will help the teacher utilize the lesson materials in the classroom.
- ▶ **Preparation:** What the teacher needs to do before students arrive in the classroom.

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- ▶ **Procedure:** Step-by-step walk-through of the lesson activities.
- ▶ **Assessment:** A student assessment is provided for each lesson. Most of the assessment activities involve students demonstrating social studies and language arts knowledge through writing skills.
- ▶ **Handouts:** Provided for each lesson, these pages are reproducible sheets that the teacher and students will need to complete the lesson.

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES IN TEACHER GUIDE

The *Safe Passage* Teacher Guide includes several additional resource sections, created to help extend the learning experience or to serve as background information for teachers in preparation for the activities.

- ▶ **Introduction to the Underground Railroad:** Found at the beginning of the Teacher Guide, this section provides a general overview of the history and geography surrounding the Underground Railroad.
- ▶ **Ohio Academic Content Standards Spreadsheet:** Standards correlations for Ohio Academic Content Standards in English Language Arts and Social Studies for grades six through nine—charted for each lesson individually.
- ▶ **Underground Railroad Resources:** Additional resources include guides to Underground Railroad resources and field trip locations in the Southwest Ohio region, a bibliography of youth and adult titles and a timeline of slavery and the Underground Railroad.
- ▶ **Internet Sites:** Lists of websites about the Underground Railroad and sites for language arts and social studies teachers are provided.
- ▶ **Glossary:** Underground Railroad terms and definitions and the lessons' vocabulary lists—from A to Z.

### MULTIMEDIA DISCUSSION GUIDES

As companion pieces to the multimedia materials, a CD-ROM Discussion Guide and Video Discussion Guides are in the Teacher Guide. These guides include discussion notes for each section of the media. Background information on the video locations and historical figures highlighted is included. These background pages can be used as a teacher reference or as a reading activity for students. The discussion guides are located in a separate tabbed section of the Teacher Guide.

### CD-ROM

Through the CD-ROM students explore the various routes freedom seekers took as they traveled the Underground Railroad. Students learn through historic images, primary documents and spirituals how individuals fled to Canada, Florida and Mexico by foot, boat, and even the U.S. mail, in search of freedom. Full texts of primary documents, additional lesson materials and recordings and lyrics of slave spirituals are provided in addition to the interactive map of the United States. To view the additional lesson material, open the CD-ROM through the “My Computer” icon on a Microsoft Windows computer. This will show the file names of all the additional materials. Click on the desired file name to access the material. This material can also be accessed through an Apple computer.

Music for the CD-ROM is provided courtesy of the Plantation Singers. Visit <http://www.plantationsingers.com/> for more information about their music.

### INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO

A 30-minute, closed-captioned instructional video has been created for *Safe Passage*. The video is also available in high-definition for viewers with access to high-definition video technology.

Through the introduction, five internal segments and the closing section of the video, students and teachers are introduced to key figures of the Underground Railroad movement in southwestern Ohio through historic homes used as safe houses by freedom seekers. Students hear from the writings of former slaves and conductors and view period images of the Underground Railroad as they meet:

- ▶ Arnold Gragston, former slave and conductor on the Underground Railroad
- ▶ John Rankin, abolitionist and conductor on the Underground Railroad
- ▶ John P. Parker, former slave and conductor on the Underground Railroad
- ▶ Levi Coffin, abolitionist and conductor on the Underground Railroad
- ▶ Harriet Beecher Stowe, abolitionist and author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- ▶ Josiah Henson, former slave and conductor on the Underground Railroad
- ▶ Margaret Garner, freedom seeker

Each of the five internal segments runs approximately five minutes. The introduction and closing are approximately one and a half minutes each. The end of a section is indicated by the appearance of the *Safe Passage* logo. The teacher may choose to stop the tape after each five-minute segment to lead a discussion with the class or to do an activity from the *Safe Passage* Teacher Guide.

Music for the video is provided courtesy of Rounder Records and The Alan Lomax Archive and The Association for Cultural Equity. Alan Lomax, along with his parents, spent decades traveling across the United States recording and archiving traditional music, and he first developed the Library of Congress' Archive of American Folksong as a major national resource. For more information about Alan Lomax or American roots music at Rounder Records visit:

<http://www.alan-lomax.com/>

<http://www.alan-lomax.com/links.html>

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/lohtml/lohome.html>

<http://www.rounder.com/>

### LESSON SUPPLIES

Each kit contains a poster of routes of the Underground Railroad and four Underground Railroad books. Fiction and nonfiction reading is provided for students and the teacher. The books can be used as supplementary reading in an Underground Railroad unit or as part of specific *Safe Passage* lessons. The lesson plans indicate when and how to use each book. Classroom sets of each title are available for free loan from CET. For more information about classroom sets, email [safepassage@cetconnect.org](mailto:safepassage@cetconnect.org) or call 1-800-628-6695.

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### **Safe Passage book titles:**

- ▶ *Escape from Slavery* by Doreen Rappaport ISBN 0-06-446169-6
- ▶ *His Promised Land* by John P. Parker and edited by Stuart Seely Sprague ISBN 0-393-31718-8
- ▶ *The Underground Railroad* by The National Park Service ISBN 0-912627-64-6
- ▶ *Beyond the River* by Ann Hagedorn ISBN 0-684-87066-5

## WEBSITE

<http://www.safepassageohio.org/>

This interactive website has been created to help teachers deepen the learning experience for their students.

- ▶ The Teacher Guide and the *Safe Passage* video are available through the website as PDF files and streaming video files.
- ▶ The site includes numerous links to other websites and other reference sources.
- ▶ Additional lesson materials and historic images can be accessed on the site.
- ▶ Discover codes used by freedom seekers and myths of the Underground Railroad in the special web-only lesson, Myths and Codes of the Underground Railroad.
- ▶ Find more information about the project and professional development (workshop dates, registration, graduate course and scholarship information, etc.).

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To enhance teachers' implementation and understanding of the *Safe Passage* lessons, free introductory workshops and a graduate course through the University of Cincinnati College of Education are being offered. These professional development opportunities are available to participating teachers in the spring and summer of 2004. Scholarships to the graduate course are available to teachers in Ohio SchoolNet designated low-wealth school districts. Please consult the *Safe Passage* website (<http://www.safepassageohio.org/>) for further information and dates.

## FOR MORE SAFE PASSAGE INFORMATION

Phone: 1-800-628-6695

Fax: 513-381-7520

Web: <http://www.safepassageohio.org/>

Email: [safepassage@cetconnect.org](mailto:safepassage@cetconnect.org)

Write: *Safe Passage*, CET

1223 Central Parkway

Cincinnati, OH 45214-2890

The *Safe Passage* curriculum kit is being distributed free of charge to sixth- through ninth-grade language arts and social studies teachers in low-wealth southwestern Ohio public school districts. The kit is available for \$75 to any other interested teacher or school.

*Safe Passage* is made possible by a grant from the Ohio Educational Telecommunications Network Commission in support of the Ohio SchoolNet initiative, and is made possible, in part, by the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

*Safe Passage* is a collaborative project of the Greater Cincinnati Television Educational Foundation (CET), the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center and the University of Cincinnati College of Education.