



# SAFE PASSAGE

An OET/SchoolNet Project

*Safe Passage: The Underground Railroad in Southwestern Ohio* is a multimedia curriculum based on Ohio's academic standards in language arts and social studies for sixth- through ninth-graders. By engaging in this hands-on experience featuring the Underground Railroad, both teachers and students 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. Lesson plans cross several curricular areas, helping teachers provide their students with tools for learning and the knowledge necessary to succeed on state testing.



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*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.

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*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.

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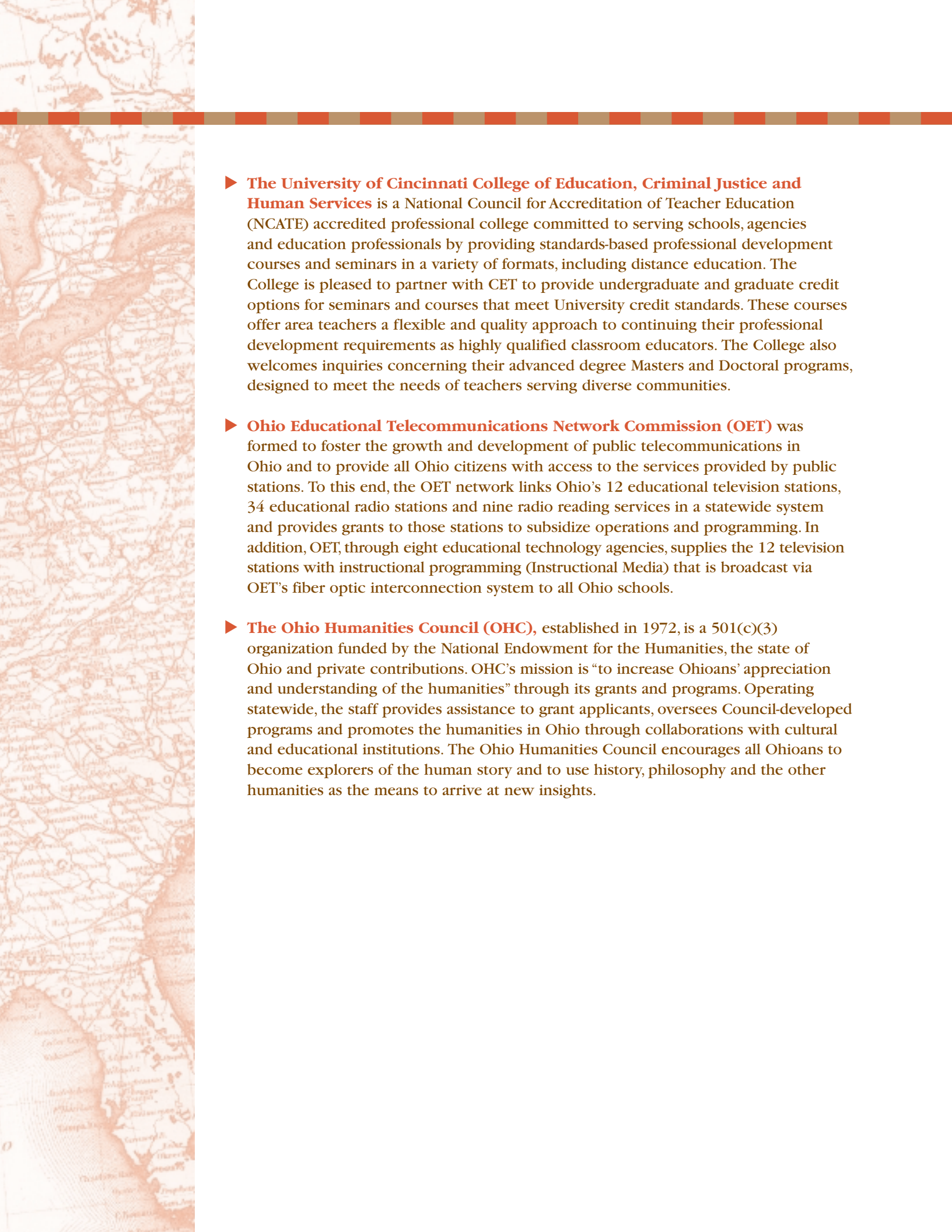
## PROJECT PARTNERS

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*Safe Passage: The Underground Railroad in Southwestern Ohio* was created through collaborations among nonprofit and government institutions. CET's expertise in video production and educational technology combined with the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center's skill in Underground Railroad and freedom education to create the instructional materials, website, CD-ROM, video and professional development workshops. The video takes students into the world of seven Underground Railroad participants through archival photos and visits to historic homes. Funding for the project is provided by the Ohio Educational Telecommunications Network Commission in support of the Ohio SchoolNet initiative and the Ohio Council for the Humanities, a state-affiliate for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

- ▶ **The Greater Cincinnati Television Educational Foundation (CET)** has worked for nearly 50 years with schools, teachers and students to expand their educational experiences and extend their horizons using technology. CET's Learning Services department is a regional and statewide leader in the use of distance learning and other educational technologies. As a designated training site for Ohio SchoolNet, CET provides instructional technology and professional development opportunities for teachers. In partnership with Time Warner Cable, CET provides professional development and classroom resources to teachers on the Instructional Media cable system, reaching more than 245,000 students in Southwest Ohio. Teacher training and university courses are delivered via satellite, broadcast television, Internet and videoconferencing to schools across Ohio and across the country. *Safe Passage* builds on the past success of CET award-winning projects—*Producing Ohio: Creating Our Economy* (economics), *Behind the Glass* (art education) and *Ohio Math Works* (math in the world of work).
- ▶ **The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center** will open its 158,000-square-foot facility on the banks of the Ohio River in downtown Cincinnati, Ohio, in the summer of 2004. Its purpose is to recount and connect the powerful American story of freedom from slavery to contemporary issues of freedom today. The Freedom Center will use history exhibits, educational programs, research, live performances and interactive and simulation media to inspire visitors with a renewed commitment to citizenship and civic engagement.

A \$110-million facility, the Freedom Center features three pavilions, celebrating courage, cooperation and perseverance. The story of freedom is woven through the heroic legacy of the Underground Railroad and the American struggle to abolish human enslavement and secure freedom for all people. Using the Underground Railroad as a lens through which to explore a range of freedom issues, the Freedom Center offers lessons and reflections on the struggle for freedom in the past, in the present and for the future. And it helps visitors discover the power of one voice, shared with many, by speaking out about the meaning of freedom.

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- ▶ **The University of Cincinnati College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services** is a National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accredited professional college committed to serving schools, agencies and education professionals by providing standards-based professional development courses and seminars in a variety of formats, including distance education. The College is pleased to partner with CET to provide undergraduate and graduate credit options for seminars and courses that meet University credit standards. These courses offer area teachers a flexible and quality approach to continuing their professional development requirements as highly qualified classroom educators. The College also welcomes inquiries concerning their advanced degree Masters and Doctoral programs, designed to meet the needs of teachers serving diverse communities.
  - ▶ **Ohio Educational Telecommunications Network Commission (OET)** was formed to foster the growth and development of public telecommunications in Ohio and to provide all Ohio citizens with access to the services provided by public stations. To this end, the OET network links Ohio's 12 educational television stations, 34 educational radio stations and nine radio reading services in a statewide system and provides grants to those stations to subsidize operations and programming. In addition, OET, through eight educational technology agencies, supplies the 12 television stations with instructional programming (Instructional Media) that is broadcast via OET's fiber optic interconnection system to all Ohio schools.
  - ▶ **The Ohio Humanities Council (OHC)**, established in 1972, is a 501(c)(3) organization funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the state of Ohio and private contributions. OHC's mission is "to increase Ohioans' appreciation and understanding of the humanities" through its grants and programs. Operating statewide, the staff provides assistance to grant applicants, oversees Council-developed programs and promotes the humanities in Ohio through collaborations with cultural and educational institutions. The Ohio Humanities Council encourages all Ohioans to become explorers of the human story and to use history, philosophy and the other humanities as the means to arrive at new insights.