



## The Conservatory celebrates grand opening gala

It truly was a gala event as close to close to 400 people attended the grand opening of The Conservatory on September 20. Miami Hamilton's newest building, the 7,000-square-foot botanical oasis, will soon open to the public with regular hours. Until then, staff continue to care and log in new plants that arrive weekly as they prepare the center for public use. For volunteer opportunities, contact Dick Munson, manager, at 785-3234.

## Discovery Carts go mobile with Ohio EPA grant

Miami University Hamilton has been awarded a \$4,994 grant from the Ohio EPA Office of Environmental Education to establish mobile Discovery Carts to be used in educational programs at The Conservatory.

The Discovery Carts, small 4'x3'x2' wheeled resource centers, are constructed around ecological themes. The carts demonstrate scientific concepts and provide learners a unique, hands-on experience while illustrating environmental conservation activities learners can implement to help protect the Earth.

Because the carts are mobile, they can be used outside of The Conservatory and they are designed especially for classrooms. This spring, Miami Hamilton staff will show fourth grade teachers from the Hamilton City Schools how to use the carts and will provide training materials for the teachers.

## Teaching American History project expands with new grant

Miami University Hamilton, The Fairfield City Schools and the Northwest Local School District have been awarded a three-year, \$995,093 U.S. Department of Education Teaching American History Grant. Also included in the grant are The Lane Public Libraries and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

This is the second U.S. Department of Education Teaching American History Grant awarded to Miami University Hamilton. The campus, through its Michael J. Colligan History Project, the Hamilton City School District and the Lane Public Libraries were awarded a \$731,631 grant in September 2003.

### *The Quest for Freedom*

The first grant launched the project "America's Journey: The Quest for Freedom, 1492-1836," with the goals of raising student achievement in American History and providing resources for teachers in their development of more effective history lesson plans.

The second grant expands the project into two new local school districts. As with the 2003 grant, this 2005 grant will provide three years of seminars and five-day institutes each summer for 50 history teachers in the Fairfield and Northwest school districts. During these seminars, teachers will explore history content and teaching methods. The project also will create resources that can then be shared with other districts.

In addition, Lane Public Libraries and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County will provide venues for Teaching American History exhibits, homes for collections related to the project, and expertise during the seminars.

Miami Hamilton Executive Director Daniel E. Hall, applauds the partnership. "All the partners will benefit from this award - the schools, libraries, and Miami Hamilton. Most of all, students in the Northwest and Fairfield schools will benefit from enriched American history instruction."

## Upcoming Events

### Latino Festival celebrates diverse cultures

Join us for a celebration of the diversity of Latino and Hispanic cultures Thursday, October 13, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Schwarm Commons on the campus of Miami Hamilton. Food, crafts, performing and visual arts, music, and dance will be showcased.

### Racial Legacies & Learning XIV welcomes Yvonne Bynoe

Author and lecturer Yvonne Bynoe examines the relevant issues of politics, culture, and economics within the context of American popular culture during the fourteenth Racial Legacies & Learning: How to talk about race. Bynoe has been called one of the most important voices of her generation.

The event, free and open to the public will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, October 20, in the Harry T. Wilks Conference Center.

### Historian examines Alexander Hamilton's contributions

One of the nation's leading authorities on Alexander Hamilton, Stephen Knott, examines how this founding father helped to shape the American dream during this next lecture of the Michael J. Colligan History Project. The lecture will be held Wednesday, October 26, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Harry T. Wilks Conference Center.

### Artist Series welcomes Longview

Longview, featuring James King, Lou Reid, Ronnie Stewart, Don Rigsby, J.D. Crowe and Marshall Wilborn, capture the sounds and spirit of the 1950s and 1960s during a performance Saturday, October 22, at 8 p.m. For tickets, charge by phone at 513-529-3200.