

Contact:

Cindy Boyer

cboyer@landmarksociety.org

(585)546-7029 x12

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**MEET FREDERICK DOUGLASS
AND OTHER ROCHESTER AFRICAN-AMERICAN ANCESTORS
WHEN THE LANDMARK SOCIETY PRESENTS: “WALK THE WALK”**

FREE PUBLIC PERFORMANCE DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

ROCHESTER, NY January 30, 2020 – Meet Frederick Douglass and other African-Americans from Rochester’s past at the Landmark Society’s *Walk the Walk: Encounters with Rochester’s African-American Ancestors*. Experience the music, laughter, joys, sorrows, challenges overcome and inspiration offered – everything you want in an enjoyable FREE evening performance on Friday February 7.

“We’ll encounter a number of amazing people such as Austin Steward and Bessie Hamm from Rochester’s past during the performance,” said Cindy Boyer, The Landmark Society Director of Public Programs. Captain Sunfish, a late 18th century frontiersman, vividly portrayed by Shawn Dunwoody, will lead the event.

“You’ll leave this performance with a better understanding of what people from our past have accomplished – and be inspired by what people of today can achieve,” said Boyer. The show will be preceded by a special musical performance.

Now in its 24th year, *Walk the Walk* is offered FREE during a single performance only – Friday, February 7th at 7 p.m. – at The Memorial AME Zion Church, 549 Clarissa Street in the historic Corn Hill District. The congregation is one of the oldest in Rochester, having formed in 1827. The program will be preceded this year by a short walking tour of the historic windows and photo display at 6:40 p.m.

Started in 1996, *Walk the Walk* has become one of Rochester’s premier Black History Month events, bringing to life some of Rochester’s richest characters in an entertaining, engaging and educational theatrical production. The performance is a must-see for anyone who appreciates history, theatre and the ribbons of experience that tie all humans together.

About The Landmark Society: The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc. is one of the oldest and most active preservation organizations in America, serving nine Western New York counties. Formed in 1937, The Landmark Society continues to protect the unique architectural heritage of our region and promote preservation and planning principles that foster healthy and sustainable communities. For additional information about The Landmark Society, visit www.landmarksociety.org. The Landmark Society is supported in part by New York State

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