



## 2020 Community Leader Organization Award



### **Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center**

The Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center opened in May of 2018 and is the culmination of twelve years of research, documentation, planning, and loving collaboration by its dedicated staff, board, and community leaders. This acclaimed and award winning museum is a testament to the bravery, resilience, and resourcefulness of African Americans seeking freedom and those who helped them along the way.

The Center is a regional treasure, one that in a very short period of time has registered hundreds of member/supporters, most of whom are local, and has welcomed thousands of visitors from every state and even foreign countries. What makes the Center so unique is the way it so movingly portrays the indomitable spirit of people yearning and working for freedom. It shows a living history, exploring the lives and stories of those it portrays, giving them voice and making it easy to connect the struggles for equity today with those who came before.

For its work to shine a light on this important part of our local and national history, the NFJC is proud to present the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center with the 2020 Community Leader Organization Award. Accepting this award is Ally Spongr, Interim Director.