



## New York Tenement Museum Founder to Speak

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Ruth J. Abram, founder of the Lower East Side Tenement Museum in New York City, will speak at the Mercantile Library at 6 pm on Friday, January 22, 2016. **The lecture is sponsored by the Over-the-Rhine Museum, which secured an Ohio Humanities grant to cover costs.** Ms. Abram, a social activist and historian, is the 2015 recipient of a \$175,000 J.M. Kaplan Innovation Prize, an award she earned on behalf of her project, *Behold! New Lebanon*.

Behold! New Lebanon is Ruth J. Abram, President described as “a rural museum without walls” that is “breaking new ground in the interpretation of rural life and culture.” Ms. Abram is also founder of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience and organizer of both the Institute on Women’s History at Sarah Lawrence College and the National Women’s Agenda Coalition.

Ms. Abram has consulted on historic interpretation for museums around the world including the National Park Service, the National Public Housing Museum, Lincoln’s Cottage, Weeksville, the Gulag Museum in Russia, the Liberation War Museum in Bangladesh, and the English Workhouse Museum. Her contributions have been recognized by numerous awards and fellowships including from New York University, Sarah Lawrence College, Muhlenberg College, Russell Sage College, Hebrew Union College, and the Aspen Institute.

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