



The William C. Goodridge Freedom Awards 2008

William C. Goodridge, a freed slave, lived in York from the 1820's to 1860's. He became one of the York's wealthiest businessmen, as well as one of the most watched citizens by slave catchers from the South. Mr. Goodridge used his home and business properties around York to hide runaway slaves and smuggled them to freedom by transporting them on railroad cars he owned and operated, all while putting his family and businesses at risk if caught as an Underground Railroad conductor.

The William C. Goodridge House is designated by the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, as a site of the *National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom*. The Crispus Attucks Association of York, PA, as owner of the building, is undertaking the renovation of the Goodridge House and will open it to the public as The William C. Goodridge Freedom House and Underground Railroad Museum.

On Saturday, September 20, 2008, the Goodridge Freedom House will host an Emancipation Proclamation Celebration at the Martin Library from 2-5 p.m. The event will feature a play, written by York native Vienna Carroll, which uses spirituals to tell the story of a family of runaway slaves. Local residents and Ms. Carroll will present an adaptation of the play. In conjunction with the Emancipation Proclamation Celebration, the second annual Goodridge Freedom Awards will be presented to local leaders and businesses for their commitment to civil rights and entrepreneurship in York, Pennsylvania.

We are currently seeking nominations for the following categories:

Business Excellence

- This award will be given to a York County business with a long-time commitment to civil rights. This company will also exemplify the innovative and progressive qualities of William C. Goodridge, who was a successful entrepreneur and business owner.

Emerging Leader

- This award will be given to a York area individual up to the age of 35 dedicated to working to build a community that understands, respects, and appreciates diversity. This individual will exemplify the leadership qualities of William C. Goodridge.

Lifetime Achievement

- This award will be given to a leader who has a long standing, persistent, and dedicated commitment to civil rights in York, PA. This individual will exemplify the courageous and creative qualities of William C. Goodridge.

Tickets for this event are available for \$30.00 each for community members, family members, and supporters of the winners. The winners of each award will receive one (1) free ticket to attend.



Please complete this application to nominate a business, organization, or individual that you believe exhibits the attributes and commitment of William C. Goodridge.

Nomination Procedure

One winner from each category will be selected. Please complete this nomination form and return it to: Goodridge Freedom Awards, P.O. Box 1144, York, PA 17405. Applications due: September 5, 2008.

- 1. Name of Nominator _____
- 2. Contact information of Nominator: () _____ email _____

Nominee Information:

- 3. Name of Individual/Company for Award _____
- 4. Legal Address (Number/Street) _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
- 5. Work Phone () _____ Evening Phone () _____
- 6. Preferred Email address: _____
- 7. Position _____
- 8. Nomination for which award?
_____ Business Excellence _____ Emerging Leader _____ Lifetime Achievement
- 9. Why should this nominee be selected for this award? (Attach separate sheets if necessary)

- 10. How is this nominee involved in the York, PA community? (Attach separate sheets if necessary)

I agree to abide by the rules, regulations, and policies of the Goodridge Freedom House. I certify that the information recorded on this application is correct.

Date: _____ Signature of Nominator _____

(Please note that failure to provide complete and accurate information will remove the nomination from consideration.)