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Oberlin Heritage Center Receives History Outreach Excellence Award

The Oberlin Heritage Center earned a History Outreach Excellence Award for its publication of “Investing in Community: The History of the Nord Family of Ohio” by Martha M. Pickrell. The award was presented Saturday, Oct. 8 at the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus on behalf of the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums.

Many positive comments have been received about the book, which documents the lives of Nordson’s founders, Walter, Eric and Evan Nord, the history of a family from the early 1800s, immigration to the U.S., settlement on a remote farm, education and starting a company that began with simple basic machinery in a garage. Ultimately, the Nordson Corporation grew as a testament to how local people made a significant impact on their community and left a legacy of investing that continues today into a growing number of communities throughout the country. The 2004 publication of the book was timely as it coincided with Nordson’s 50th anniversary and made more poignant by Evan’s passing earlier that same year. The book, described by many as a “family album,” brings to life the early days of the company and has been widely received by Nordson employees, proud to see their company’s history documented professionally. More widely the book is now getting statewide recognition from peers in the history and museum world.

“This is indeed a great honor for our organization, and a tribute to author Martha Pickrell, the Nord History Project Committee, the editor/designer Sarah MacLennan Kerr, and many others who worked hard to bring the project to fruition,” said Patricia Murphy, Executive Director of the Oberlin Heritage Center. “It is an important story that can inspire each of us to think about how we can effectively contribute to our communities in our own ways.” The book is available at Mindfair Books, the Oberlin Bookstore, UnCommon Objects, and at the Oberlin Heritage for \$24.95. Proceeds from the sales benefit the Oberlin Heritage Center. For more information, visit our website at www.oberlinheritage.org or call 440-774-1700.

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