



"AND WE WANT YOU TO CATCH IT!

Our annual OBIE scholarship award is back, preserving the legacy of inventor/philanthropist Oberlin Smith and reconnecting today's aspiring students to the historic Ferracute site & the story that once put Bridgeton on the industrial and technological cutting edge.

Last year, we asked students to get CRAZY creative and rethink Smith as a comic-strip hero. **Carolyn Gomez and Tiffany Saquicaray--**two FIRST-YEAR students of Art teacher Liz O'Brien at Bridgeton High-rose to the challenge. Their nine colorful cartoon frames unspool a brilliant dramatic retelling of the story behind one of Smith's greatest contributions to engineering: **the invention of magnetic recording**. As they re-imagine the unique and historic meet-up between Smith and Thomas Edison at Menlo Park, NJ, in 1878, they give a fine little satirical twist to the little drama that might just have played itself out between the two most famous engineering minds of their day.

Carolyn and Tiffany bring insight and humor to the personalities of both men, recreating a relationship as polite--AND genuinely competitive--as these two geniuses might just have had in real life!





THIS WHOLE AMAZING LITTLE PICTURE STORY IS ON OUR WEBSITE: HISTORICBUILDINGARTS.ORG WITH A LINK TO THE DONATION PAGE Our award-winners are banking their OBIE toward graduation. But we're hoping they'll enter the contest again this year, and--if they can keep on winning--add some more CHABABUCKS to their college kitty!

And YOU can help them --and others who compete!

PLEASE--make an investment in our kids' futures AND help keep the Smith/Ferracute story alive as a true beacon of pride and aspiration for Bridgeton schoolkids. Go to: <u>www.historicbuildingarts.org</u> and use CHABA's online crowdfunding link at to make a SECURE tax-deductible gift to the OBIE Scholarship fund!

Or send a check to CHABA marked "OBIE" to:

31 West Commerce St, Bridgeton, NJ 08302.

THANK YOU!

historic Keeping our neighborhoods beautiful...& keeping them real.

OVER FOR MORE NEWS the CHABA newsletter Bridgeton, NJ: Winter 2017

COMING SOON

How the little Nail House made Bridgeton receeding BIG! and saved the City Park for future generations!

...A "Grunge-to-Green" children's book for kids of all ages!!

Due out in early 2017 ...email us to reserve your copy: <u>centerhabarts@gmail.com</u>



is huge

This little building

MORE ABOUT OUR RESTORATION PROJECT

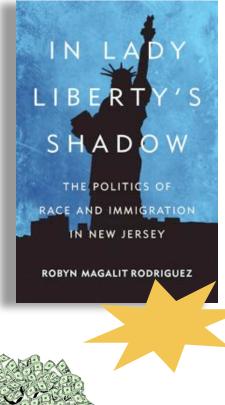
We are in the last phase of our engineering study and will have a blueprint for repairs soon.

This hands-on work will need your help and support. Please give generously .

Right: Looking out on City Park from the window of the Nail House



...And in the "We HATE to brag...(but)" department:



from the ground up.

CHABA and Bridgeton enjoy a featured place in the timely new book by **Professor Robyn Magalit Rodriguez** about immigrants in New Jersey, just published by Rutgers University Press. <u>In Lady Liberty's Shadow: the Politics of</u> <u>Race and Immigration in New Jersey</u>

focuses largely on the impact of anti-immigrant municipal ordinances on New Jersey cities and towns. BUT the author's final and most HOPEFUL casestudy describes the work CHABA is doing right here in Bridgeton to try to engage our Hispanic communities—ALL our communities— in grassroots neighborhood improvement and active, hands-on historic preservation. Thank you, Dr Rodriguez!



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