



ONWARD TO CHICAGO

Freedom Seekers & the Underground Railroad in Northeastern Illinois

Decades before the Civil War, Illinois's status as a free state beckoned enslaved people, particularly those in Kentucky and Missouri, to cross porous river borders and travel toward new lives. While traditional histories of the Underground Railroad in Illinois start in 1839 and focus largely on the romanticized tales of white men, Larry A. McClellan reframes the story, not only introducing readers to earlier freedom seekers, but also illustrating that those who bravely aided them were Black and white, men and women.

LARRY A. McCLELLAN

September 19, 2025 @ 7p.m. EASTERN

Register: <http://www.cwrtcongress.org/events.html>