



AUTHOR SINNOTT SPEAKS ON HER NOVEL with CONNECTION to PETERBORO in 1835.

Author Deirdre Sinnott will present on her years of research that provide the accurate historical background for her first novel *The Third Mrs. Galway* at the National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum, 5255 Pleasant Valley Road, Peterboro NY 13134 Sunday, August 29 at 2 p.m. Jan DeAmicis, cochair of the Oneida County Freedom Trail Commission, a member of the Cabinet of Freedom for the National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum, and secretary of the Underground Railroad Consortium of New York State, will introduce his colleague Sinnott. DeAmicis states, "With historical accuracy, Deirdre Sinnott brings to life the surprising drama of freedom-seekers and slave-catchers in Oneida County. This book animates the history of the region and the larger Underground Railroad phenomenon in a way that street signs and public lectures cannot." DeAmicis will also explain the 1835 historical connection of Peterboro to the novel.

Deirdre Sinnott is an independent scholar, filmmaker, author, and activist. She grew up in Utica NY and earned a BFA in Acting/Directing from the Syracuse University theatre program. Currently, Sinnott is an historical consultant and researcher for the Ft. Stanwix Underground Railroad History Project, funded by the National Parks Service and led by noted historian Judith Wellman. Sinnott's writing has appeared in numerous places including *The New York History Blog*, the *Utica Observer Dispatch*, *ForeWord Magazine*, *Hippocampus Magazine* and the *Catskill Review of Books*. Her essay *Right-sized Rats* was nominated for a Pushcart Award by Hippocampus Magazine and appeared in the publication's anthology titled *Selected Memories*. Sinnott has directed two award-winning documentaries on social justice and mass incarceration issues, *23 Reasons Why 23 Years is Enough: Clemency for Pascual Carpenter and Multiple Injuries*. Sinnott lives in New York City's East Village and loves the Catskill Mountains

When the story of Mrs. Galway begins, it is 1835 and Utica NY is a city divided by a coordinated effort underway to destroy the plans of abolitionists to create a state-wide Anti-Slavery Society. Meanwhile, 19-year-old Helen has recently married Augustin Galway, a wealthy and much older pillar of the community who believes the best place for the formerly enslaved is in Liberia. Just as Helen is adapting to her new life, she finds a pregnant Imari and her young son running from enslavement in Virginia. Legally Helen is bound to turn them in to federal authorities, but morally she cannot find it in herself to abide by the law. Abolitionists arriving in Utica to found the New York State Anti-Slavery Society are accused by the local newspapers of being traitors to the Constitution, and everyone faces dangerous choices as they navigate this intensely heated personal and political landscape.

The National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum opens at noon on Sunday, August 29. Author Sinnott will welcome visitors before and after her program at 2 p.m. to chat and to sign her book which she will be selling and signing. The author will be making a donation to NAHOF for each book that is sold at the August 29 program. For more information: [www. Nationalabolitionhalloffameandmuseum.org](http://www.Nationalabolitionhalloffameandmuseum.org), nahofm1835@gmail.com, 315-694-3262



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