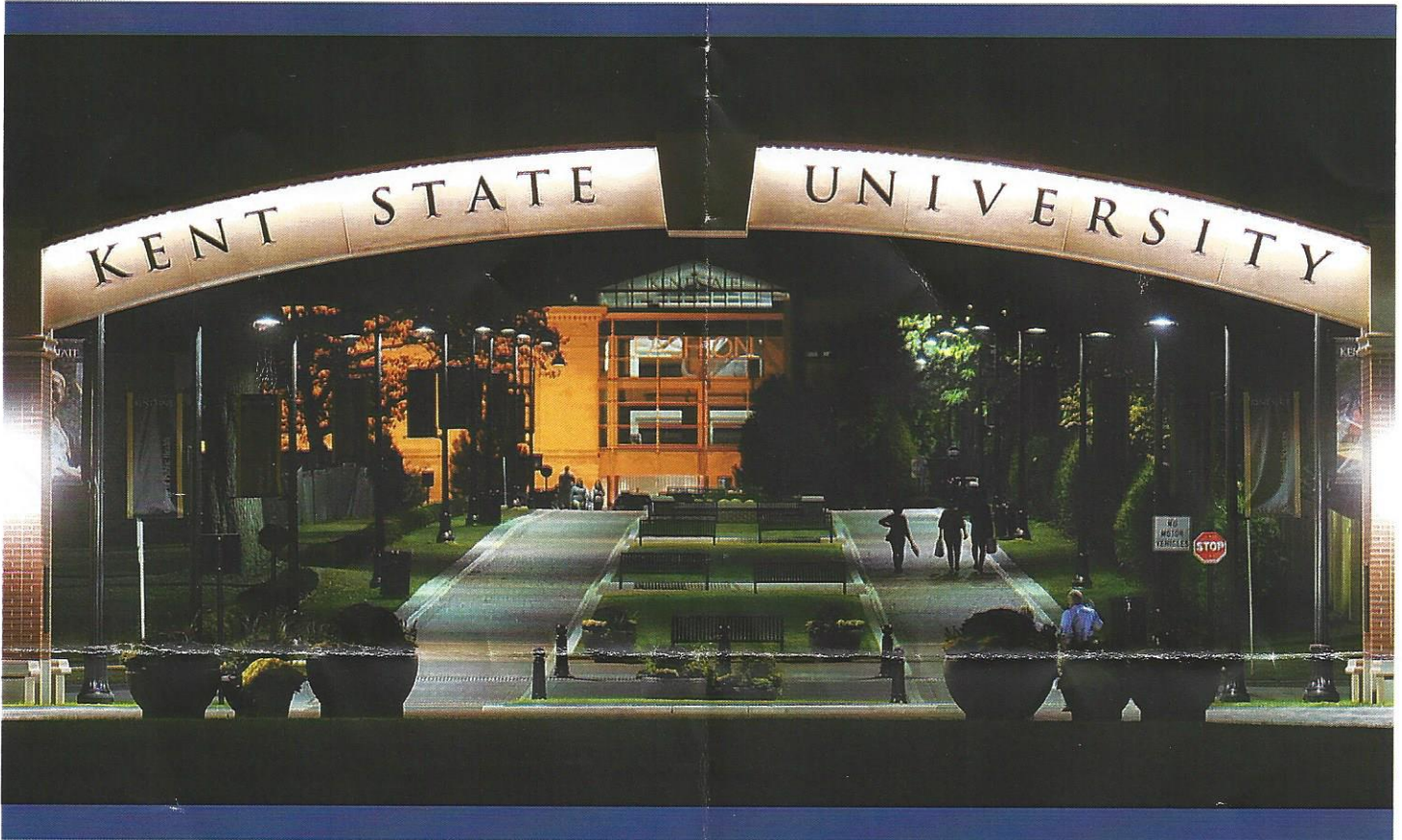




RACE ETHNICITY AND PLACE VIII



September 21-23, 2016

Kent State Hotel and Conference Center

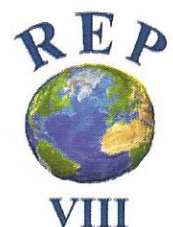
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Kent Ohio: not just your everyday college town

Come experience NE Ohio at REP VIII. We will organize fieldtrips and self-directed tours on the following:

The City of Kent

Historically part of the Connecticut Western Reserve, the city's landscape is dominated by its railroads and iconic grain elevator, the Cuyahoga River, and Kent State University. The city is also known for its designation as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation, and for its art and music scene. In recent years, Kent's downtown underwent a \$110 million transformation, with mixed-used retail and office space replacing parking lots. Retail space doubled, and a walking path built by the university reconnected the campus to downtown. The public-private partnership won Best Project Award from the Ohio Economic Development Association in 2012 as well as recognition from the International Economic Development Council and International Town-Gown Association.



Cuyahoga National Park

Only 10 miles from Kent, and wedged between the urban areas of Cleveland and Akron, the Cuyahoga Valley National Park seems worlds away. The winding Cuyahoga River gives way to deep forests, rolling hills, and open farmlands, and the park is a refuge for native plants and wildlife. You can walk or ride the Towpath Trail to follow the historic route of the Ohio and Erie Canal.



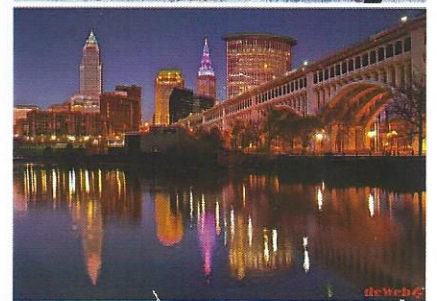
Kent State University and the site of the May 4th 1970 shootings

Kent State became a place of international significance when four students were killed and nine were injured by the Ohio National Guard who opened fire on a group of students peacefully protesting the invasion of Cambodia during the Vietnam War. The impact of the shootings was enormous, triggering a nationwide student strike that forced hundreds of colleges and universities to close. Come learn about the significance of May 4th and Kent State which is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



The Cities of Cleveland and Akron

Only 40 miles to the NW of Kent, Cleveland is one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the USA. Major populations of African American, Chinese, Italian, Slovenian, Hungarian, Ukrainian, Czechoslovakian, German and Irish live there; many settling in the area at the time that the Ohio-Erie Canal was built. Home to some of the best medical facilities in the World, festivals are abound year round and Cleveland is a rising star on the foodie scene. Akron, known locally, as the "Rubber City", has a thriving Arts scene.



Amish in Northeast Ohio

Northeast Ohio is home to the world's largest Amish population. The Amish split from the Mennonites in the late 17th Century and have attempted to preserve most elements of late 17th century European rural culture. The Amish try to avoid many of the features of modern society by developing practices and behaviors which isolate themselves from American culture.



Northeast Ohio and the Underground Railroad

The Underground Railroad was a network of secret routes and safe houses used by 19th-century slaves of African descent in the United States to escape to free states and Canada with the aid of abolitionists and allies who were sympathetic to their cause. Residents from the town of Franklin Mills (now Kent) aided many fugitive slaves in their flight north towards Canada. Antislavery organizations and abolitionist newspapers made Northeast Ohio, including Kent and the adjacent Cuyahoga Valley a hotbed of abolitionist activities.



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