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WOMEN ON 20s JOINS DRIVE TO #BringHarrietHome

Grassroots group that helped get Harriet Tubman's portrait on the \$20 bill aims to get newly discovered photograph of Tubman off the auction block

March 7, 2017 (New York, NY) – [Women On 20s](#), the tiny non-profit group whose social media campaign inspired the major changes coming to U.S. paper money, is on a new mission. Following the discovery of a photographic portrait of a relatively young Harriet Tubman, who will be the face of the new \$20 bill, the organization is backing efforts to raise money to keep the rare and valuable image off the auction block.

The image is scheduled to be auctioned by Swann Galleries in New York City on March 30th. It was discovered recently by a private citizen in a photo album believed to have been owned by a Tubman friend and fellow 19th century abolitionist. In a race to raise needed funds to purchase this only known photo of the freed slave and freedom fighter taken in her prime, the Tubman Home in Auburn, New York today is launching a crowd-funding campaign titled #BringHarrietHome. The historic 32-acre property, Tubman's residence for 50 years following her days as an "underground railway" conductor and Civil War Union Army scout, was designated a National Park in the closing days of the Obama Administration and exists on meager funding from donations and the efforts of volunteers.

In a statement on its website, Women On 20s organizers Barbara Ortiz Howard and Susan Ades Stone wrote, "We are proud to have been part of the historic campaign to bring Tubman, a great American hero, the recognition she deserves. The statement continues, "And now we're asking you, the people who made it happen, to give what you can to get Harriet Tubman off the auction block and home where she belongs."

Authenticated by Tubman biographer and historian Dr. Kate Clifford Larson, the photo is believed to have been taken at a studio in Auburn and is expected to fetch between \$20-\$30,000, according to Swann Galleries. Hunted as a fugitive slave and desperate to keep her identity hidden, Tubman avoided having her image captured. Even from later in her life there are only a few photos of her in circulation.

Howard, founder of Women On 20s, said, “We hope to raise public awareness and sentiment to persuade the owner of the photograph to accept a generous and fair offer from the Tubman Home and guarantee that the photo can be returned to its rightful home.”

Any funds raised beyond a generous purchase price could be used to help the Tubman Home curate its collection of artifacts and bring its rich history to the public.

The crowdfunding campaign, known as #BringHarrietHome, is hosted by Women You Should Fund, a new venture by the founders of Women You Should Know, a leading digital hub of women’s and girls’ empowerment.

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