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Governor

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Maryland Department of Planning

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Press Release

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Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Provides 57 Grants to Heritage Tourism Sites, Activities, and Organizations Across Maryland

More than \$2.7 million awarded by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority

CROWNSVILLE, MD – Non-profit groups, museums, and governments across Maryland received 57 matching grants totaling \$2,795,000 from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) for projects and activities that support economic development through heritage tourism. Heritage tourism is defined as “traveling to experience the places and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present. It includes historic, cultural and natural resources” (National Trust for Historic Preservation).

“Investment in heritage tourism and, specifically, Maryland’s Heritage Areas is a key ingredient to preserving the historic character found in all parts of our State,” Governor O’Malley said regarding the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority’s announcement. “I applaud the activities of these Heritage Areas and congratulate them on these well-deserved awards. Their efforts impact positively on the State’s economy and contribute to a Smart, Green and Growing Maryland.”

Since 1996, the MHAA has certified eleven Heritage Areas located across Maryland. Historic buildings, sites, and districts; distinctive natural landscapes; museums; parks; and other arts and cultural resources located in Certified Heritage Areas, are eligible to receive MHAA grants for capital and non-capital projects. MHAA capital project grants support the acquisition, development, and restoration of heritage sites and structures. Non-capital project grants support the development of interpretive exhibits and signage, events, performances, and festivals. Additionally, MHAA grants provide operating support for the eleven locally-managed Certified Heritage Areas, and the marketing of heritage area sites and activities.

The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority is an independent unit in the Executive Branch of government administered by the Maryland Department of Planning. MHAA was formed in 1996 to help strengthen and revitalize communities by combining heritage tourism and small business development with historic preservation, conservation of cultural traditions, natural resource protection, recreation, and marketing of Maryland’s unique history, culture, and landscapes.

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NOTE: See the attached lists for details on all grants awarded. For more information about Maryland Heritage Areas Authority grant programs, please contact Richard Hughes, Administrator, Maryland Heritage Areas Authority at 410-514-7685 or rhughes@mdp.state.md.us. For information about the projects and activities receiving grants, please contact the grant recipient institutions directly.

Anacostia Trails Heritage Area

Located in Prince George's County

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: Anacostia Trails Heritage Area
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Language Adventures on the Anacostia Trail
Recipient: The National Museum of Language
Grant Award: \$12,350

Project Title: Lackawanna Streetscape Improvements
Recipient: City of College Park
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Greenbelt Farm and Garden: Victory Garden & Walking Tour Brochure
Recipient: Greenbelt Farmers Market
Grant Award: \$2,650
(*Partial funding to create interpretive "Victory Garden and Greenbelt Walking Tour brochure)

Number of Funded Applications: 4
Total Dollar Amount: \$215,000

Four Rivers: The Heritage Area of Annapolis, London Town & South County

Located in Anne Arundel County

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: Annapolis, London Town, and South County Heritage Area
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: "Oysters on the Half Shell" Museum Exhibition: Exhibit Fabrication & Installation
Recipient: Annapolis Maritime Museum, Inc.
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: Contee Mansion Ruins and Farm Complex: Revealing History Surrounding the Java Plantation
Recipient: Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: Charles Carroll House Rehabilitation
Recipient: Charles Carroll House of Annapolis, Inc
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: ARCHAEO-TOURISM! Archaeological Heritage Tourism Destinations: A Planning & Research Program for the Chew Site in Anne Arundel County, MD
Recipient: Anne Arundel County Trust for Historic Preservation
Grant Award: \$14,450 (*Master Plan development)

Number of Funded Applications: 5
Total Dollar Amount: \$314,450

Baltimore Heritage Area

Located in Baltimore City

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: City of Baltimore
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Planning Grant for the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House Exhibition entitled "Family Flag Makers: The Young-Pickersgill Family, Witnesses to Birth of America"
Recipient: Star Spangled Banner Flag House Association
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: Wall Hanging System for Civil War and War of 1812 Exhibitions
Recipient: Maryland Historical Society
Grant Award: \$4,830

Project Title: Baltimore Visitors Center & Convention Center Display Upgrades
Recipient: Baltimore Area Convention and Visitors Association
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: War of 1812 Traveling Exhibit
Recipient: The Society for the Preservation of Federal Hill and Fell's Point, Inc.
Grant Award: \$26,250

Project Title: Introducing Baltimore - A National Heritage Area
Recipient: Baltimore Heritage Area Association
Grant Award: \$50,000

Number of Funded Applications: 6
Total Dollar Amount: \$281,080

Canal Place Heritage Area

Located in the City of Cumberland, Allegany County

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: Canal Place Preservation & Development Authority
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Canal Place Heritage Area Programming
Recipient: Allegany Arts Council, Inc.
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: Retail Space Improvements to the "Shops at Canal Place"
Recipient: Canal Place Preservation & Development Authority
Grant Award: \$5,000 (*Partial for to spate utilities between tenant spaces at Shops at Canal Place)

Number of Funded Applications: 3
Total Dollar Amount: \$155,000

Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area

Located in Dorchester County

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: County Council of Dorchester County
Grant Award: \$93,330

Project Title: Interpreting and Preserving an Authentic Dorchester County Experience: The Bestpitch Ferry Bridge
Recipient: County Council of Dorchester County
Grant Award: \$4,650

Project Title: FROM WITH IN: An Inclusive Project to Discover, Define and Develop a Vision for East New Market's Heritage Celebration, Tourism, and Redevelopment (Development of Preservation and Heritage Tourism Plan)
Recipient: Town of East New Market
Grant Award: \$5,000

Project Title: Marketing and Reviving Brand of Heritage Area
Recipient: County Council of Dorchester County/Dorchester County Tourism
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: Wallace Office Building Rehabilitation
Recipient: West End Citizens Assoc., Inc.
Grant Award: \$15,000

Project Title: Dorchester Center for the Arts, Second Floor Renovation (Cambridge, MD)
Recipient: Dorchester Center for the Arts
Grant Award: \$100,000

Number of Funded Applications: 6
Total Dollar Amount: \$267,980

Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area

Located in Carroll, Frederick, and Washington Counties

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: Tourism Council of Frederick County, Inc.
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Catoctin Mountain Wayfinding Kiosk Design
Recipient: Downtown Frederick Partnership, Inc.
Grant Award: \$10,000

Project Title: Hagerstown Visitor Interpretation-Production & Installation of 15 Exterior Exhibits at Civil War Related Sites
Recipient: City of Hagerstown
Grant Award: \$5,000

Project Title: Hagerstown Streetscape Improvements-Sidewalk Café District
Recipient: City of Hagerstown
Grant Award: \$100,000

Number of Funded Applications: 4
Total Dollar Amount: \$215,000

Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Area

Located in Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Committee, Inc.
Grant Award: \$98,500

Project Title: Teackle Mansion Climate Control System Installation
Recipient: Teackle Mansion, Inc.
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Rackliffe House Exhibit Design, Fabrication of Exhibits
Recipient: Rackliffe House Trust
Grant Award: \$17,500

Number of Funded Applications: 3
Total Dollar Amount: \$216,000

Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Heritage Area

Located in Cecil and Harford Counties

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway, Inc.
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: North Park Trail Development
Recipient: Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway, Inc.
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Rodgers Tavern Building Rehabilitation, Phase II
Recipient: Town of Perryville
Grant Award: \$100,000

Number of Funded Applications: 3
Total Dollar Amount: \$300,000

Montgomery County Heritage Area

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County
Grant Award: \$95,500

Project Title: Interpreting the Quaker, Underground Railroad and Civil War Heritage in Montgomery County Parks
Recipient: Montgomery County Department of Parks, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: Sugarloaf Regional Trails Website Development and Branding
Recipient: Sugarloaf Regional Trails, Inc.
Grant Award: \$5,400

Project Title: Heritage Days 2010
Recipient: Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County
Grant Award: \$9,000

Project Title: Civil War in Montgomery County Video/Podcast
Recipient: Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County
Grant Award: \$25,000

Montgomery County Heritage Area continued

Project Title: Sandy Spring Heritage Signage Project
Recipient: Sandy Spring Civic Association
Grant Award: \$5,000

Project Title: Sandy Spring Museum Increasing Educational Capacity
Recipient: Sandy Spring Museum, Inc.
Grant Award: \$10,010

Number of Funded Applications: 7
Total Dollar Amount: \$199,910

Southern Maryland Heritage Area

Located in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: African Americans in Southern Maryland Exhibit
Recipient: Calvert Marine Museum Society, Inc.
Grant Award: \$10,000

Project Title: Reinterpreting Sotterley Plantation-Interpretive Plan Revision
Recipient: Historic Sotterley, Inc.
Grant Award: \$20,000

Project Title: Prince Frederick to Chesapeake Bay Overlook Trail
Recipient: American Chestnut Land Trust
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: Chapel Sites Interpretive Pavilion
Recipient: Historic St. Mary's City Foundation
Grant Award: \$29,000

Project Title: Indian Head Heritage Trail Connection
Recipient: Board of County Commissioners for Charles County
Grant Award: \$100,000

Number of Funded Applications: 6
Total Dollar Amount: \$259,000

Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area

Located in Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties

Project Title: Heritage Area Operating Assistance
Recipient: Eastern Shore Heritage, Inc.
Grant Award: \$85,000

Project Title: Tilghman Watermen's Museum: Production of Tilghman Island Oral History Video
Recipient: Tilghman Watermen's Museum Inc.
Grant Award: \$8,000

Project Title: Poplar Neck Visitor Experience Interpretive/ Immersion Plan: Harriet Tubman/Underground Railroad Sites
Recipient: Caroline Economic Development Corporation
Grant Award: \$25,000

Project Title: African-American Oral History and Heritage Brochure
Recipient: Eastern Shore Heritage, Inc.
Grant Award: \$15,000

Project Title: Chester-Sassafras Water Trail Creation
Recipient: Sultana Projects, Inc.
Grant Award: \$45,871

Project Title: Restoring the Historic Lobby of Prince Theatre, Chestertown, MD
Recipient: Prince Theatre Foundation, Inc.
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Opening the Federalsburg Historical Society's Museum in the Covey-Williams Garage (ca.1913)
Recipient: Town of Federalsburg
Grant Award: \$18,400

Number of Funded Applications: 7
Total Dollar Amount: \$297,271

Multi-Heritage Area Grants:

Project Title: Regional Cultural Art Guide
Recipient: Denton Development Corporation
Grant Award: \$14,332

(Includes Cecil, Harford, Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties)

Project Title: Harriet Tubman Byway Interpretive Wayside Signage and Installation Program
Recipient: County Council of Dorchester County/ Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area
Grant Award: \$40,000 (*Partial-It is anticipate a Scenic Byways grant will provide the additional \$60,000 needed to complete the project)

(Includes Caroline and Dorchester Counties)

Project Title: Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway Interpretive Companion Audio Program/Tour
Recipient: County Council of Dorchester County/ Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area
Grant Award: \$20,000 (*Partial-It is anticipate a Scenic Byways grant will provide the additional \$30,000 needed to complete the project)

(Includes Caroline and Dorchester Counties)

Number of Funded Applications: 3
Total Dollar Amount: \$74,332

TOTAL GRANT FUNDS AWARDED: \$2,795,023