

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESERVATION MARYLAND AWARDS HERITAGE FUND GRANTS

Baltimore, MD – Preservation Maryland is pleased to announce it has awarded grants totaling more than \$24,000 to assist projects of nine non-profit organizations. Total project costs exceed \$176,000. Five grants were given in Baltimore City. The remaining four were made in Anne Arundel, Dorchester, Harford and Kent counties. The grants are:

B&O Railroad Museum, Baltimore City, Roof Repair of Mount Clare Station and the B&O Roundhouse

The B&O Railroad Museum was awarded a grant of \$1,000 to assist with the cost of repair to the slate roofs and gutters on the Mt. Clare Station and B&O Roundhouse. Both buildings are National Historic Landmarks.

Carroll Museums, Inc., Baltimore City, Public Access at the Phoenix Shot Tower

Carroll Museums, Inc., was awarded a grant of \$2,000 to assist with the cost of securing the tower's inner stairwell leading to the roof and rebuilding the roof's hatch. When it was built in 1828, the tower was the tallest structure in the US. It is currently one of few remaining shot towers in the US.

Christ Church I.U., Kent County, Plaster Ornamentation Restoration

Christ Church I.U. was awarded a grant of \$ 2,435 to assist with restoration of plaster ornamentation in the church's sanctuary. Built in the mid-1800s, the Gothic Revival Church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Maryland Inventory of Historic Places.

Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation, Baltimore City, Hebrew Orphan Asylum Redevelopment Plan

The Coppin Heights CDC was awarded a grant of \$5,000 in support of a Redevelopment/Feasibility Plan for the Hebrew Orphan Asylum. The building served as the first Jewish orphanage in Baltimore and has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Historical Society of Harford County, Inc., Bel Air, Hays House Restoration

The Historical Society of Harford County, Inc., was awarded a grant of \$3,000 to assist with the cost of restoration to the exterior of the Hays House. One of the oldest surviving residences in Bel Air, the house, built in 1798, currently serves as a museum operated by the historical society.

James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc., Cambridge, 5th Annual Cambridge Schooner Rendezvous Educational Sessions

The James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc., was awarded a grant of \$4,000 to assist with the educational component of their 5th Annual Cambridge Schooner Rendezvous. Educational sessions that include local maritime history and interactive musical performances will be held for public middle school students.

Shady Side Rural Heritage Society, Inc., Anne Arundel County, Fire Suppression System Repair

The Shady Side Rural Heritage Society, Inc. was awarded a grant of \$1,500 to support the cost of repairing the fire suppression system at their headquarters, the Captain Salem Avery House. The circa 1859 frame structure serves as a maritime-themed museum and center for community activities and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Waverly Main Street, Baltimore City, National Register Nomination

Waverly Main Street was awarded a grant of \$3,225 to assist with the costs of preparing a nomination for Historic Waverly's inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Woman's Industrial Exchange, Baltimore City, Structural Assessment

The Woman's Industrial Exchange was awarded a grant of \$2,000 to assist with the cost of a structural assessment of a crack in the building's exterior facade.

The Heritage Fund provides direct assistance for the protection of endangered cultural resources and promotes innovative demonstration projects that can be successfully replicated to meet Maryland's historic preservation needs. The Heritage Fund supports preservation projects and organizations through grants that are awarded for a variety of purposes -- from emergency repairs to case studies -- and range from \$500 to \$5,000. Along with historic sites, buildings, districts, and objects, projects benefiting archaeological resources are eligible for funding. This initiative is jointly sponsored by Preservation Maryland and the Maryland Historical Trust.

In 1996, the two organizations established the grant program to assist local governments and preservation organizations with projects that would not typically be funded by either group's existing programs. Since then, more than \$535,000 in grants has been awarded to historic preservation projects throughout the state. The grants have often been used as matching funds and seed money to initiate or support projects in their infancy or preliminary stages. Projects supported by the fund include bricks and mortar preservation and restoration, heritage tourism, organizational development, and educational, research and planning efforts related to resource preservation.

Preservation Maryland is the state's oldest historic preservation organization. Founded in 1931 as the Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities, Preservation Maryland is dedicated to preserving Maryland's historic buildings, neighborhoods, landscapes and archaeological sites through outreach, funding, and advocacy. A recipient of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's prestigious Trustees Award for Organizational Excellence, Preservation Maryland has also received certification in the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations Standards for Excellence program.