



Martin O'Malley, Governor

PRESS RELEASE



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Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Provides 55 Grants to Heritage Tourism Sites, Activities, and Organizations Across Maryland

More than \$2.6 million awarded by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority

CROWNSVILLE, MD (July 12, 2010) – Maryland non-profit groups, museums, and governments received 55 matching grants totaling \$2,617,146 from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) for heritage tourism projects and activities that expand economic development throughout the state (full listing attached). Heritage tourism is “traveling to experience the places and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present,” as defined by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and “includes historic, cultural and natural resources.”

“Targeted investments by Maryland’s Heritage Areas Program promote economic growth and job development in our cities and towns by encouraging more people to visit and stay longer while enjoying Maryland’s unique historic places, natural landscapes, and distinctive cultural traditions,” said Governor Martin O’Malley. “I congratulate our eleven Certified Heritage Areas and their heritage tourism partners on these well-deserved awards. Their efforts boost Maryland’s economy, preserve our state’s valuable legacy and contribute to a Smart, Green and Growing Maryland.”

Since its creation in 1996, the MHAA has enjoyed steady growth, enthusiastic private and public support and a record of achievement. This past March, the MHAA released its strategic plan for 2010-2020, entitled “Charting A Sustainable Course for the Next Decade: 2010 – 2020,” to assist the program in meeting the challenge of managing a mature system of state Heritage Areas and sustaining that system over time. This plan lays out goals for the program and its management and specifies timelines and measurements for evaluating its implementation.

Over \$10.6 million dollars has been invested into 231 projects throughout Maryland’s 11 certified Heritage Areas under the O’Malley-Brown Administration. Even in tough fiscal times, Governor O’Malley included full funding for the heritage areas program in his FY 2011 budget. He successfully defended this important program in the General Assembly session underscoring the importance of heritage tourism as an economic engine and a tool for preserving Maryland’s historical assets.

The Maryland Heritage Areas Program helps communities use heritage tourism to strengthen their economies through the protection, promotion and enhancement of local cultural, historical, and natural resources. Heritage Areas are important partners in Maryland’s efforts to encourage smart and sustainable growth by

preserving our state's treasured landscapes and investing in heritage tourism destinations that encourage more visitors to these communities.

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 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.

Today, 23 Maryland counties and Baltimore City have one of the eleven State-certified Heritage Areas within their boundaries. Each of Maryland's Certified Heritage Areas is defined by a distinct focus or theme that makes that place or region different from other areas in the state. These distinctive places exhibit tangible evidence of the area's heritage in historic buildings and districts, archaeological sites, cultural traditions, and natural landscapes, as well as resources such as museums, parks, and traditional ways of life as revealed in food, music, and art. The "special flavor" of each Heritage Area attracts not only out-of-state visitors, but locals who want to learn more about their heritage and take pride in their community's unique sense of place. Since its inception in 1996, the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority has awarded over \$21 million in financial assistance and leveraged approximately \$73.5 million in non-state funds for heritage tourism projects and activities statewide.

To learn more about the Maryland Heritage Areas Program and the state's 11 certified Heritage Areas, please visit http://mht.maryland.gov/heritageareas_program.html.

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Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Grants Awards for Fiscal Year 2011

Anacostia Trails Heritage Area

Located in Prince George's County

Project Title: Heritage Area Management Grant

Recipient: Anacostia Trails Heritage Area

Grant Award: \$99,000

Project Title: 4319 Gallatin St. – ATHA Office and Visitor Center Build-out

Recipient: City of Hyattsville

Grant Award: \$75,000

Project Title: War of 1812: Bladensburg Mural/Port Towns Industrial Revolution Mural

Recipient: Port Towns Community Development Corporation

Grant Award: \$24,250

Project Title: Brentwood Heritage Tour (signage, brochures)

Recipient: Town of Brentwood

Grant Award: \$29,250

Project Title: ATHA Banner Program Expansion (visitor information banners)

Recipient: City of College Park

Grant Award: \$10,000

Number of Funded Applications: 5
Total Dollar Amount: \$237,500

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

Located in Anne Arundel County

Project Title: Heritage Area Management Grant

Recipient: Annapolis, London Town, and South County Heritage Area

Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Reconstruction of London Town's 18th-century Rumney-West Ordinary: Preliminary Research and Planning

Recipient: The London Town Foundation, Inc.

Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: Maryland Hall for Creative Arts Restroom Modernization

Recipient: Maryland Hall for Creative Arts, Inc.

Grant Award: \$90,000

Project Title: Project Run-A-Way (Publicly-accessible programs on the history of enslaved people and servants in the early Chesapeake)

Recipient: Historic Annapolis, Inc.

Grant Award: \$36,000

Project Title: Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse Interpretive Exhibits

Recipient: United States Lighthouse Society

Grant Award: \$12,000

Number of Funded Applications: 5
Total Dollar Amount: \$288,000

Baltimore Heritage Area

Located in Baltimore City

Project Title: Heritage Area Management Grant

Recipient: City of Baltimore

Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Iron Horses at War – Train Excursion for 150th Anniversary of the Civil War

Recipient: B & O Railroad Museum, Inc.

Grant Award: \$20,000

Project Title: USS Torsk & USS Constellation Dry Docking (vessel repairs)

Recipient: Historic Ships in Baltimore, Inc.

Grant Award: \$90,000

Project Title: Steam Tug Baltimore Preservation Project

Recipient: Baltimore Museum of Industry

Grant Award: \$40,000

Project Title: Star-Spangled Virtual Resource Center (web-based War of 1812 information/education center)

Recipient: Friends of Fort McHenry / Living Classrooms Foundation

Grant Award: \$40,000

Number of Funded Applications: 5
Total Dollar Amount: \$290,000

Canal Place Heritage Area

Located in the City of Cumberland, Allegany County

Project Title: Heritage Area Management Grant

Recipient: Canal Place Preservation & Development Authority

Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Canal Place Heritage Area Programming (public programming/events)
Recipient: Canal Place Preservation & Development Authority
Grant Award: \$30,000

Project Title: Retail Space Roof Safety Improvements
Recipient: Canal Place Preservation & Development Authority
Grant Award: \$7,500

Project Title: Marketing Assistance (Heritage Area marketing & Advertising)
Recipient: Canal Place Preservation & Development Authority
Grant Award: \$50,000

Number of Funded Applications: 4
Total Dollar Amount: \$187,500

Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area

Located in Dorchester County

Project Title: Heritage Area Management Grant
Recipient: County Council of Dorchester County
Grant Award: \$100,000

Project Title: Restore Handsell: Preservation Plan, Interpretive Signs, Brochures
Recipient: Nanticoke Historic Preservation Alliance
Grant Award: \$9,945 (*Partial award funding the preservation plan, interpretive signage and brochure)

Project Title: Hooper Island Lighthouse Restoration Design & Planning
Recipient: United States Lighthouse Society
Grant Award: \$9,000 (*Partial award funding the design and planning for structural repairs of the lighthouse caisson and tower)

Number of Funded Applications: 3
Total Dollar Amount: \$118,945

Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area

Located in Carroll, Frederick, and Washington Counties

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

Project Title: Heart of the Civil War Marketing Project/2010-2012
Recipient: Tourism Council of Frederick County, Inc.
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: Newcomer House / Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area Visitor Center
Recipient: Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau
Grant Award: \$24,000

Project Title: Roofing and Carpentry Phase of Rehabilitation of Former Warehouse to Serve as Frederick Visitor Center
Recipient: Tourism Council of Frederick County, Inc.
Grant Award: \$90,000

Project Title: Frederick Visitor Center Exhibit Fabrication
Recipient: Tourism Council of Frederick County, Inc.
Grant Award: \$30,000

Number of Funded Applications: 5
Total Dollar Amount: \$294,000

Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Area

Located in Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties

Project Title: Heritage Area Management Grant
Recipient: Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Committee, Inc.
Grant Award: \$70,000

Project Title: Teackle Mansion restoration
Recipient: Friends of Teackle Mansion (Princess Anne, MD)
Grant Award: \$90,000

Project Title: Ward Museum “Decoy in Time” Gallery Renovation
Recipient: Ward Foundation, Inc.
Grant Award: \$30,750

Number of Funded Applications: 3
Total Dollar Amount: \$190,750

Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Heritage Area

Located in Cecil and Harford Counties

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

Project Title: Heritage Area Marketing Phase II
Recipient: Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway, Inc.
Grant Award: \$40,000

Project Title: Rodgers Tavern Facility Readiness Project Phase III (renovation of 18th-century Rogers Tavern)
Recipient: Town of Perryville
Grant Award: \$57,000 (*Partial award funding the sewerage system connection for the Tavern)

Project Title: Reconstructing Havre de Grace's Community History – The War of 1812
Recipient: Havre de Grace Decoy Museum
Grant Award: \$34,000 (*Partial award funding for schools-based oral history project, scale model of War of 1812-era town, traveling exhibition)

Number of Funded Applications: 4
Total Dollar Amount: \$231,000

Montgomery County Heritage Area

Project Title: Heritage Area Management Grant
Recipient: Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County
Grant Award: \$97,500

Project Title: Heritage Days, Fall Foliage Festival and Civil War Program
Recipient: Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County
Grant Award: \$30,000

Project Title: Rehabilitation of Lockhouse 25
Recipient: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park
Grant Award: \$20,200 (*Partial award funding the materials for the project)

Project Title: Washington Revels Civil War Heritage Project (Civil War-era musical & theatrical programs marking 150th anniversary of Civil War)
Recipient: Washington Revels, Inc.
Grant Award: \$25,000

Project Title: Button Farm Living History Center (on-site visitor experience enhancements)
Recipient: Menare Foundation
Grant Award: \$8,750

Project Title: Civil War Heritage and Environmental Stewardship in Montgomery Parks (public trails interpretive/educational signage)
Recipient: The Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission
Grant Award: \$32,000

Number of Funded Applications: 6
Total Dollar Amount: \$213,450

Southern Maryland Heritage Area

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

Project Title: Heritage Area Management Grant
Recipient: Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland
Grant Award: \$54,000

Project Title: Cove Point Keeper's House Restoration
Recipient: Calvert Marine Museum Society, Inc.
Grant Award: \$90,000

Project Title: Interpreting Benedict
Recipient: Charles County Commissioners
Grant Award: \$6,000 (*Partial award funding design and production of brochure and development of interpretive plan)

Project Title: Implementing Living History Reinterpretation of Sotterley
Recipient: Historic Sotterley, Inc.
Grant Award: \$9,600

Project Title: Southern Maryland 1812 Map and Guide
Recipient: Calvert Marine Museum, Inc.
Grant Award: \$6,500

Project Title: Three Notch Trail Phase VI
Recipient: Board of County Commissioners for St. Mary's County
Grant Award: \$90,000

Number of Funded Applications: 6
Total Dollar Amount: \$256,100

Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area

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

Project Title: Heritage Area Management Grant
Recipient: Eastern Shore Heritage, Inc.
Grant Award: \$40,225

Project Title: Saving the Buy Boat Annie D
Recipient: Echo Hill Outdoor School, Inc.
Grant Award: \$44,976

Project Title: The Lee House (Tilghman Island “W” House renovation for use as museum)
Recipient: Tilghman Watermen's Museum Inc.
Grant Award: \$90,000

Project Title: Denton Pedestrian Wayfinding Project (visitor wayfinding signage)
Recipient: Denton Development Corporation
Grant Award: \$6,000

Project Title: John Wesley Church Rehabilitation Project
Recipient: John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church of Oxford, John Wesley Church Rehabilitation Project Board of Trustees
Grant Award: \$16,900

Project Title: Centreville Heritage Master Plan
Recipient: The Town Council of Centreville
Grant Award: \$21,800

Project Title: Chestertown Gateway Park Acquisition
Recipient: Town of Chestertown
Grant Award: \$50,000

Project Title: Kennard High School (1936): Rehabilitation as an African American Cultural Heritage Center
Recipient: Kennard Alumni Association, Inc.
Grant Award: \$20,000

Number of Funded Applications: 8
Total Dollar Amount: \$289,901

Multi-Heritage Area Grant:

Project Title: Maryland Cultural Data Project
Recipient: The Pew Charitable Trusts
Grant Award: \$20,000

(Statewide)

GRAND TOTAL = \$2,617,146