



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Germantown, MD – July 13, 2010
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HERITAGE MONTGOMERY BRINGS MAJOR GRANT DOLLARS TO LOCAL HERITAGE GROUPS

The Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County (Heritage Montgomery) is pleased to announce the local recipients of six FY 2011 Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) Grants totaling \$213,450:

- \$32,000 project grant to the **Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission** for Civil War and Environmental Stewardship interpretive signage
- \$25,000 project grant to **Washington Revels, Inc.** to develop Civil War theatrical and musical programs
- \$20,200 capital grant to the **C&O Canal National Historical Park** for historic rehabilitation of Lockhouse 25
- \$8,750 project grant to the **Menare Foundation** to develop living history program at the Button Farm Living History Center
- \$30,000 project grant to **Heritage Montgomery** for Heritage Days 2011, Fall Foliage Tour, & Civil War Programs
- \$97,500 management grant to **Heritage Montgomery**

Since 1996, MHAA has certified eleven Heritage Areas located across Maryland, including the Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County. 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. This year's awards totaled a 6% increase over last year's funding.

"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."

Heritage Montgomery Executive Director Peggy Erickson, stated that she "greatly values the continued support for Montgomery County Heritage Areas MHAA has demonstrated over the

years. This \$213,450 in FY 2011 funding will help promote a variety of special programs in our Heritage Areas. We will continue to work to bring additional state dollars to benefit the County. @

The mission of the Heritage Tourism Alliance is to enhance economic development in the designated Heritage Areas of the county by combining quality heritage tourism and small business development with preservation, cultural and natural resource conservation and education.

For more information, contact: Peggy Erickson at the Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County, 301-515-0753, director@HeritageMontgomery.org.

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