



Martin O'Malley, Governor Anthony Brown, Lieutenant Governor
Israel C. Patoka, Executive Director

Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture
Theodore Mack, Chair

The Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture serves as the statewide clearinghouse for preserving evidence of and documenting the African-American experience in Maryland. It specializes in research assistance and collection of historical materials - art objects, memorabilia, manuscripts, photographs, and other articles of significance to African-American history and culture. The Commission provides exhibits, programs and resource materials for education systems, institutions and the community at large.

For Immediate Release

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**MARYLAND COMMISSION ON AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND
CULTURE AND MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST PROVIDE \$1,000,000
TO ASSIST AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE PRESERVATION**

CROWNSVILLE, MD –Nonprofit groups, local governments, and businesses around Maryland have received 14 grants totaling \$1,000,000 in FY2015 through the African American Heritage Preservation Program (AAHPP), a partnership of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC) and the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT).

The goal of the AAHPP is to identify and preserve buildings, communities and sites of historical and cultural importance to the African American experience in Maryland. The program offers assistance to non-profit organizations, local jurisdictions, business entities, and private citizens in their sponsorship of successful acquisition, construction, or improvement of African American heritage projects. This year's grant awards ranged from \$15,000 to \$95,000. (See attached detailed list for all grants awarded.)

The mission of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC) is to interpret, document, preserve, and promote Maryland's African American heritage; to provide technical assistance to institutions and groups with similar objectives; and to educate Maryland's citizens and visitors about the significance of the African American experience in Maryland and the nation. MCAAHC is housed within the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives.

The Maryland Historical Trust is an agency of the Maryland Department of Planning. The MHT was formed in 1961 to assist the people of Maryland in identifying, studying, evaluating, preserving, protecting, and interpreting the state's significant prehistoric and historic districts, sites, structures, cultural landscapes, heritage areas, cultural objects, and artifacts, as well as less tangible human and community traditions. Through research, conservation and education, the MHT assists the people of Maryland in understanding their historical and cultural heritage.

AAHPP applications for FY 2016 funding are available on MHT's website at <http://mht.maryland.gov/grants.shtml>. Applications must be made online and submitted by 11:59 p.m., July 15, 2014. Additional information may be found on the program's main webpage at http://mht.maryland.gov/grants_africanamerican.html.

For more information about the grant program, please contact Anne Raines (MHT) at 410-514-7634 or anne.raines@maryland.gov, or Dr. Joni Jones (MCAAHC) at 410-216-6180 or joni.jones@maryland.gov. You may also visit MHT on the web at www.mht.maryland.gov. For information about organizations receiving grants, please contact the institutions directly.

FY 2015 African American Heritage Preservation Program Grant Awards

COUNTY	APPLICANT	PROJECT TYPE	AMOUNT AWARDED
Anne Arundel	Town of Highland Beach	Highland Beach Town Hall Museum Annex	\$46,000
Anne Arundel	West River Improvement Association, Inc.	Wilson Farmstead	\$50,000
Baltimore City	The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons and Maryland and its Jurisdiction, Inc.	Prince Hall Grand Lodge	\$95,000
Baltimore City	The Church of St. Katherine of Alexandria	The Church of St. Katherine of Alexandria	\$92,000
Baltimore City	Union Baptist Church of Baltimore	Union Baptist Church of Baltimore	\$95,000
Baltimore County	St. Luke's United Methodist Church	St. Luke's Methodist Church Fellowship Hall	\$95,000
Calvert	Calvert County Division of Natural Resources	Kings Landing Park / Camp Mohawk	\$15,000
Dorchester	The Friends of Stanley Institute, Inc.	Christ Rock Methodist Episcopal Church	\$95,000
Kent	Asbury United Methodist Church	Asbury United Methodist Church	\$95,000
Kent	James United Methodist Church	James United Methodist Church	\$95,000
Montgomery	Grand United Order of Oddfellows Sandy Spring Lodge #6430, Inc.	Sandy Spring Odd Fellows Lodge	\$50,000
Prince George's	Friends of Historic Mt. Nebo Preservation Corporation	Mount Nebo A.M.E. Church	\$84,000
Somerset	Oriole Historical Society, Incorporated	St. James Methodist Episcopal Church	\$75,000
Washington	Friends of Tolson's Chapel	Tolson's Chapel	\$18,000
		TOTAL	\$1,000,000.00