



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

**Arundel Center, 44 Calvert Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1930  
410-222-1805  
Heritage\_Area@aacounty.org  
www.fourriversheritage.org**

## **Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Awards Matching Grants Totaling \$427,000 to Local Heritage Organizations**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JULY 16, 2018**

**Annapolis, MD:** Four Rivers: The Heritage Area of Annapolis, London Town & South County joins the Hogan Administration in announcing 9 new grants totaling \$427,000 to local Annapolis and Anne Arundel County non-profit organizations by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA). The 9 local grants are among 114 matching grants totaling nearly \$5 million that were awarded to Maryland non-profits, local jurisdictions and other heritage tourism organizations including museums, and historic preservation, natural resources, cultural, and educational organizations. These grant funds support heritage tourism projects, historic preservation, natural resource protection and educational programs and activities that expand economic development and tourism-related job creation. MHAA oversees Maryland's system of 13 locally-administered, State-certified Heritage Areas, which are places to experience – see, hear and even taste – the authentic heritage of Maryland in a unique way that cannot be experienced anywhere else.

These grants, given for the last 21 years, produce economic activity in areas that contribute to Maryland's cultural heritage. By supporting capital projects and educational activities, the grants stimulate interest in Maryland culture from residents and visitors. "Heritage tourism fosters sustainable economic development and job creation, while making our communities better places to live and work," said Governor Larry Hogan. "Our administration is proud that this additional funding will allow for a record number of projects to move forward and congratulate Maryland's Heritage Areas and their tourism partners for their support in changing Maryland for the better." For the past three years, approximately \$3 million was available annually to fund these projects. The Hogan administration nearly doubled the funding to \$5 million in FY 2019, allowing for a record number of grants to be awarded.

Funded projects in the Four Rivers Heritage Area include:

- Annapolis Maritime Museum & Park, Non-Capital Grant, "New Permanent Exhibit – Final Planning Phase," \$50,000
- Captain Avery Museum, Capital Grant, "Smart, Safe Public Parking," \$22,000
- Hammond-Harwood House Association, Non-Capital Grant, "Creating 18th-Century Curb Appeal - A Cultural Landscape Study for Hammond-Harwood House," \$10,000
- Historic Annapolis, Inc., Capital Grant, "Capital Masonry Repairs at 99 Main Street," \$25,000
- London Town Foundation, Capital Grant, "William Brown House Restoration for Improved Interpretation and Visitor Access," \$20,000
- Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, Non-Capital Grant, "Improved Public Access for the Arts - Wayfinding and Signage," \$50,000
- Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Capital Grant, "Sellman House Building Envelope and Interior: Restoration of Windows, Doors and Marble Fireplace Mantles," \$100,000

In addition, Four Rivers received a Management grant for \$100,000, and two-year Marketing grant for \$50,000, making a total of \$427,000 in MHAA funding to the Four Rivers Heritage Area for FY19, for projects totaling more than \$1,116,800. The Management grant to the Four Rivers Heritage Area supports activities such as the annual mini-grants program, the annual heritage awards, regional interpreter training, networking meetings for site directors and managers, educational workshops, online resources, and new collaborative initiatives.

For a complete list of grant recipients statewide, visit. Download the Maryland Department of Planning Press Release about the grants here: [http://mht.maryland.gov/documents/PDF/Press\\_Releases/2018-0713-Press-Release-MHAA-Grants.pdf](http://mht.maryland.gov/documents/PDF/Press_Releases/2018-0713-Press-Release-MHAA-Grants.pdf). For more information, visit the Four Rivers website at [www.fourriversheritage.org](http://www.fourriversheritage.org), or contact Executive Director Carol Benson at 410-222-1805.

