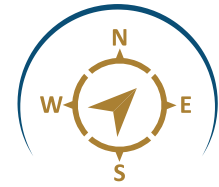


# New Directions

The Heritage Area of Anne Arundel County



## Chesapeake Crossroads

HERITAGE AREA

[ChesapeakeCrossroads.org](http://ChesapeakeCrossroads.org)

### MHAA GRANTS MAKE AN IMPACT



Children's program in the lowest level of the Paca Garden, which will become accessible through this year's grant to Historic Annapolis.

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## Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Awards Grants Totaling \$301,273 to Anne Arundel Non-Profits

In July, Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area joined the Hogan Administration in announcing 8 new Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) grants totaling \$301,273 to local Annapolis and Anne Arundel County non-profit organizations. The 8 local grants are among 107 matching grants totaling \$5.1 million awarded to Maryland nonprofits, local jurisdictions, and other heritage tourism organizations this year. These grant funds support heritage tourism projects and activities that

draw visitors and expand economic development and tourism-related job creation throughout Maryland.

“Heritage tourism is an economic development tool that creates jobs and brings visitors to the state while making our communities better places to live and work,” said Governor Larry Hogan. “Our administration is proud that this funding will allow for 107 projects to move forward and congratulate Maryland’s Heritage Areas and their tourism partners (Cont. Page 2)

## CHESAPEAKE CROSSROADS HERITAGE AREA

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*Education Committee*  
Laura Wood  
*Maryland League of  
Conservation Voters*

### STAFF

Carol Benson, Ph.D.  
*Executive Director*  
Jody Christian  
*Communications Coordinator*

(Continued from Page 1)  
for their support in changing Maryland  
for the better.”

Organizations receiving grant award  
include museums, parks, educational  
organizations, and other entities that  
steward and celebrate the unique  
cultural and natural resources located  
within Maryland’s Heritage Areas.  
Grantees in the Chesapeake Crossroads  
Heritage Area include:

- **Friends of Hancock’s Resolution, Inc.**, “Historic Hancock’s Resolution Exhibition Design Plan”
- **Historic Annapolis, Inc.**, “William Paca Garden Accessibility: Implementation Phase”
- **Kunta Kinte Celebrations Inc.**, “32nd Annual Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival”

- **London Town Foundation, Inc.**, “ADA Pathways and Stormwater Management for the Eastern Campus”
- **Wiley H. Bates Legacy Center**, “The Wiley H. Bates Storytelling Project – Educate, Elevate, & Empower”

In addition, ALTSCHA, Inc. received a Management Grant for \$100,000, a Block Grant for \$25,000 (which will fund the FY2023 Mini-Grant Program), and a Marketing Grant for \$25,000, making a total of \$301,273 in MHAA funding to organizations in the Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area for FY2023, for projects totaling \$621,176.

MHAA grant projects support tangible links to both place and the past. Our local stories have a special place in the American story that contribute to the economic well-being of our community.

## Five-Year Planning Kicks Off

This year we are undertaking a Five-Year Planning process to produce a Plan for the period from July 2023 through June 2028. This Plan will complement and serve as an update to the existing ALTSCHA Management Plan (approved in 2000), Five-Year Plan from 2013-2018, FY 2023 Annual Plan, and the Boundary Amendment Proposal that was approved in April 2021, which approximately doubled our geographic area served. After issuing an RFP, ALTSCHA’s Board of Directors selected Robert Forloney, an experienced consultant and educator.

Forloney has extensive experience in both interpretive methodologies and facilitating public meetings and planning projects with many cultural organizations including heritage areas, the National Park Service, and the Maryland State Arts Council. For these projects, he has led workshops with staff, key partners, and the general public in order to integrate stakeholder input into planning processes. He recently led interpretive planning processes in the region for Susquehanna Heritage, the Delmarva Discovery Museum, and the Ward Museum, as well as strategic planning for the Historical Society of Baltimore County, Accokeek Foundation, and the Waterfowl Festival, among others. Earlier



Robert Forloney

in his career, Robert served as the Director of Education for the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM), and as Director of the Center for Chesapeake Studies he oversaw the folklife and exhibition departments as well as the research aspects of the institution. Robert’s recent work has focused on partnering directly with diverse communities to help empower groups and assist them in telling their own stories. In the month of October, we will be hosting stakeholder groups for Listening Sessions facilitated by Forloney, and we look forward to the input from those sessions. Our goal is to complete this Five-Year Plan by early spring.

# Focus on Interpretive Themes

This year, Chesapeake Crossroads is undertaking a review of our Interpretive Themes, as outlined in our Management Plan and augmented through our Boundary Amendment. Our original Interpretive Themes were articulated as Waterways, Living with the Past, and America’s Roots, with a variety of subthemes.

In our 2013 Five-Year Plan, we also articulated priorities such as our National Register districts and properties, National Historic Landmarks, and other historic designations; our small rural communities; archaeological investigations that preserve the “archaeological record” of the past; the preservation of the built environment; and the conservation and stewardship of our natural resources.

In 2021, we stated our priority to work collectively to protect and promote diverse people and places that tell Maryland’s (and America’s) stories equitably and inclusively,

in their own voices. We also continued a long-time focus on Accessibility, which plays an important role in equity and inclusion. Also in 2021, as part of enlarging our boundary, Chesapeake Crossroads articulated new themes that are specifically related to our newly-added sites, including Recreational Trails, Native American Heritage, Natural Resources Experiences, and Railroad Heritage.

Chesapeake Crossroads Executive Director Carol Benson has led discussions with a variety of stakeholder groups to hear their thoughts about key Interpretive Themes and priorities, and she plans a series of Fall seminars to hear from colleagues who have developed Interpretive Plans for our region.

Speakers include Darian Beverungen of Anne Arundel County Cultural Resources and Karen Theimer Brown of Historic Annapolis. These sessions will be virtual; please check our website to learn more.



**“Fall is For Heritage!”  
in Chesapeake  
Crossroads**

Once fall arrives, the weather is fine, and it’s the perfect time to get the whole family out and about, to experience heritage events that engage and entertain!

A broad range of events is planned by a wide coalition of Chesapeake Crossroads partner sites especially for fall, and the heritage area is working to facilitate the cross-promotion, to maximize our impact and reach.

Visit our website, connect with our Events Calendar, and watch our weekly E-newsletter and social media to check out all the listings of events happening around the heritage area this fall!

You’ll want to check back often to see our updated listings! Do you have another event to share? Send your information to [heritage\\_area@aacounty.org](mailto:heritage_area@aacounty.org).



# SUMMER EVENTS AROUND THE HERITAGE AREA

During the summer months, a wide range of important heritage-related events took place in the heritage area, and Chesapeake Crossroads was excited to play a supporting role through grants or sponsorships.

On June 29, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) held a Ribbon-Cutting for its Woodlawn

Welcome Center and History Exhibits.

On August 23, a ceremony was held at City Dock for the International Day of Remembrance.

On September 9-11, the Maryland Dove, a recently constructed replica of the 17th-century ship, visited

Annapolis on its tour of the Chesapeake Bay.

The Galesville Hot Sox Ballfield and Michael E. Busch Pavilion held a Ribbon-Cutting on September 10.



MHAA Staff members visit the Dove (left to right, Ariane Hofstedt, Andrew Arvizu, and Martha Waldron; photo courtesy of MHT).



Lyndra Pratt Marshall and Randy Rowell, Jr. with an interpretive panel from the new History Exhibit at Woodlawn, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center.



Ceremony for the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade held at Annapolis City Dock.



Hot Sox Ballfield and Michael E. Busch Pavilion Opening Event (Photo courtesy Valentino Owens).



## You Make the Difference!

Please remember the Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area (legal name ALTSCHA, Inc.) in your charitable donations. Visit our website, [chesapeakecrossroads.org/support](https://chesapeakecrossroads.org/support) for details. ALTSCHA is a 501 (c) 3, charitable non-profit organization. Your contribution supports the heritage sites and organizations that make a difference to our region's quality of life.



### Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area

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