



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **SOUTHERN CULTURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION RECEIVES MAC CARES EMERGENCY GRANT FROM MISSISSIPPI ARTS COMMISSION**

(Jackson, Miss.) – (7/7/2020) The Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation (SCHF) of Vicksburg, Mississippi has been awarded a \$4,800 grant from the Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC). This grant is a portion of the approximately \$441,100 in CARES Act COVID-19 recovery funding MAC received from the National Endowment for the Arts. The grant awarded to the SCHF will be used to continue the mission of the SCHF and bring exceptional events and quality programming to the community through artistic excellence.

Using funds from the CARES Act, the National Endowment for the Arts awarded almost \$30 million to the nation's 50 states, the District of Columbia and several territories including Puerto Rico. A state arts agency, MAC established the [MAC CARES Emergency Grants program](#) to distribute these funds and provide economic relief as quickly as possible while focusing assistance on independent arts organizations with staff.

"We are incredibly grateful to Congress, the President, and the NEA for providing this much-needed recovery funding for the arts," said Malcolm White, executive director of MAC. "Like much of the economy, the arts sector in Mississippi and the nation have faced significant challenges as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Closing facilities and canceling events equates to lost revenue. We are thankful that the federal government has recognized this need and has responded."

The Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation, a non-profit organization, is committed to preserving the history and architecture of the Southern Cultural Heritage Center, while providing all citizens with the opportunity to experience cultural, educational and artistic programs. Among the numerous activities scheduled throughout the year, these funds are vital in supporting the River Kids free after school art program, a variety of concerts, workshops, lectures, exhibits and the many other events and programs that are instrumental in growing the awareness of the arts to the Vicksburg community and surrounding areas.

The Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency, serves the residents of the state by providing grants that support programs to enhance communities; assist artists and arts organizations; promote the arts in education and celebrate Mississippi's cultural heritage. Established in 1968, the Mississippi Arts Commission is funded by the Mississippi Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mississippi Endowment for the Arts at the Community Foundation for Mississippi and other private sources. The agency serves as an active supporter and promoter of arts in community life and arts education. For information about the Mississippi Arts Commission, please contact Anna Ehrgott, Communications Director, 601-359-6546 or [aehrgott@arts.ms.gov](mailto:aehrgott@arts.ms.gov).

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