

NEWS RELEASE



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The Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation receives Mississippi Arts Commission Grant

JACKSON, MS: The Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation of Vicksburg has been awarded an \$18,000 grant from the Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC). This grant is a portion of the \$1.2 million in grants the Commission will award in 2008-2009 and will be used to bring exceptional events and quality programming to the community through artistic excellence.

The grants are made possible by continued funding from the Mississippi State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.

"Organizations across the state who receive grants from the Mississippi Arts Commission continue to prove that arts programs are vital to the growth of their area. The grants awarded by the Commission provided funding for the staging of festivals, theater performances and many other arts-related activities," said Malcolm White, Executive Director of MAC. "Communities across this state are also learning the affect the arts have on the education of their children. Arts-based activities have a proven positive impact on at-risk youth and children enrolled in after-school programs."

The Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation, a non-profit organization, is committed to preserving the history, culture, and architecture of this area and providing all citizens with the opportunity to experience cultural, artistic, and educational enrichment.

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The Mississippi Arts Commission is a state agency that serves more than 1.7 million people of the state through 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 Wallace Foundation, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation, Donna & Jim Barksdale, the Phil Hardin Foundation and other private sources. The Commission serves as the official grants-making and service agency for the arts in Mississippi.

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For information from the Mississippi Arts Commission, contact Susan Dobbs at 601.359.6031 or sdobbs@arts.state.ms.us.