

Mississippi Development Authority
P.O. Box 849
Jackson, MS 39305

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Stephen Martin, 601.359.3555
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HATTIESBURG CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU AWARDED TOURISM DEVELOPMENT GRANT

JACKSON, Miss., January 8 – The Hattiesburg Convention and Visitors has been awarded a \$28,654 tourism development grant to be used for the following projects; advertisement in the Mississippi Tour Guide, Golf Postcard, Outdoor Package Postcard, Downtown Holiday brochure, New Orleans billboard, 2001 Convention South advertisement, 2001 Mississippi Business Journal advertisement and a reprint of the Visitors Guide, announced J.C. Burns, Executive Director, Mississippi Development Authority today.

Applications submitted by Mississippi Convention and Visitors Bureaus, Chambers of Commerce with a designated Tourism Council or Commission, or established tourism Councils with the primary objective of promoting tourism were reviewed by a five-member Tourism Advisory Council Grants committee. The committee is composed of the President or their representative for the Hotel/Motel Association; Mississippi Restaurant Association; Mississippi Travel Association plus two additional members recommended by the Chairman and appointed by the Director of the Mississippi Development Authority.

“The matching grants program empowers local communities to partner with the State in promoting Mississippi,” said Renee Ebner, Grants Coordinator for the Tourism division.

Projects are awarded funds that must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by the applicant. The next deadline for submitting grant applications will be September 1.

The goal of the matching grants program is to generate increased travel into and/or within Mississippi. Projects must have a broad appeal, targeting markets beyond the local area and make an economic impact on the area through tourism promotion.

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