

## Grant News

### Community Heritage Preservation Grants

Applications are available through the Mississippi Department of Archives and History for grants that may be used to pay the cost of preservation and restoration of many historic buildings statewide. The 2005 Legislature authorized the issuance of nearly \$4 million in bonds for the fifth round of the Community Heritage Preservation Grant Program, administered by MDAH. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on October 13, 2006.

### Grants for Archaeology Projects

A new program of MDAH will distribute \$25,000 in grants for archaeological projects across the state. The Mississippi Archaeological Research Grant Program will award grants annually to university archaeologists and graduate students for a wide range of projects, including field school excavations, analyses of collections, and laboratory testing.

### \$227K for Newsfilm Collection

MDAH will use a federal grant of nearly a quarter-million dollars to preserve an irreplaceable civil rights film collection.

### NEA Grant to Conserve Welty Film

The NEA is providing a \$10,000 grant to conserve the film footage of Eudora Welty from 1974-75 and make a high-quality digital copy. After the digital copy is completed, MDAH will make it available to the public at the William F. Winter Archives and History Building in Jackson and at the Eudora Welty House visitor's center (see photo of presentation, page two).

*Stories continued page three*

## Hall of Fame

### Nominate Notables for the Hall of Fame

Nominations are being accepted for the Mississippi Hall of Fame, which honors women and men who made noteworthy contributions to the state's history. Admission into the Hall of Fame is the most significant recognition granted an individual by the state through the Department of Archives and History.

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**The Mississippi Historical Society seeks nominations for its annual prizes. For details visit [mdah.state.ms.us](http://mdah.state.ms.us).**

## \$26 M for Katrina Repairs

Recently Congress passed the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Hurricane Recovery (Public Law 109-234), which included \$40 million for the rehabilitation of historic properties to be administered by the National Park Service. On August 1, 2006, from that appropriation, the National Park Service awarded the Mississippi Department of Archives and History \$26 million in supplemental funding for grants to pay the cost of the preservation, stabilization, rehabilitation, and repair of historic properties (listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places) affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Senator Thad Cochran was instrumental in securing this amount—the highest awarded the three states affected by Katrina.

Privately and publicly owned properties are eligible, but preference will be given to owner-occupied houses and properties that are located within the Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area, which consists of George, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, and Stone counties. Preference will also be given to projects that can be completed in an expeditious manner.

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# MDAH Events

## Jackson

### **Manship House Museum, 420 East Fortification Street**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 5–September 28,** 9 a.m.–2 p.m. at the Manship House Museum, Jackson. *Growing Up in Mississippi, 1857–1888.* Students K–4 experience history through hands-on activities to learn what life was like for nineteenth-century Mississippi children. Free of charge, reservations required. For information, call 601-961-4724.

### **William F. Winter Building, 200 North Street**

**Wednesday, September 6,** noon–1 p.m. *History Is Lunch* series, featuring *Clarion-Ledger* columnist **Orley Hood**, who will talk about **Mississippi baseball greats** and his experiences following baseball as a boy in Vicksburg. Coffee and bottled water provided. For information, call 601-576-6857.

**Friday, September 8,** 7–8 p.m. **reception and photo exhibit, “The Jackson Movement and the Tougaloo Nine,”** part of *Remembering the Jackson Movement*, featuring photographs from MDAH’s WLBT Newsfilm collection and the Tougaloo Collection, at the **Eudora Welty Public Library**, 300 North State Street. For information call 601-576-6857.

**Wednesday, September 20,** noon–1 p.m. *History Is Lunch* series. **Jim Barnett**, director of the Historic Properties division of MDAH, will present **“Wildcat Gravy: The Life of Nathan Bennett.”** During his life Bennett had many colorful jobs—lumberjack, hunting camp cook, mule-team driver for a circus, and cypress shingle and white-oak basket craftsman. He was also a masterful storyteller, and Barnett interviewed him many times. The title is derived from a story Bennett tells about how his grandfather would cook wildcats for his dogs to eat. Coffee and bottled water provided. For information call 601-576-6857.

## Natchez

### **Grand Village of the Natchez Indians 400 Jefferson Davis Boulevard**

**Thursday, September 14,** 6:30 p.m.: **Jessica Crawford**, Archaeological Conservancy, will speak on the Glass Site, a Vicksburg-area mound site. The public is cordially invited.

**Saturday, September 16: Bark in the Park**, annual fundraiser for the Natchez Humane Society. There will be an admission fee to attend dog show. For information call 601-446-6502.

### **Historic Jefferson College, Washington**

**Saturday, September 16: Copper Magnolia Festival and Flea Market.** Annual crafts fair features handmade crafts, food, and music. Free of charge, for information call 601-442-2901.

**Through September 18: From Mufflers to Monuments,** an exhibit about Mississippi’s varied outdoor sculptures, a traveling Museum of Mississippi History exhibit.

## Winterthur Workshops

Staff from the Winterthur Museum and Country Estate, Winterthur/University of Delaware shared their expertise in conservation with Mississippi institutions that house historical documents, paintings, photographs and objects immediately following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. They continue to work with MDAH and others, offering both public and professional educational workshops throughout the state.

The fall schedule for public workshops is as follows: paintings and painted surfaces, Saturday, September 23 at the Lauren Rogers Museum of Art, Laurel and Sunday, September 24, MDAH, Jackson; Sunday, October 15, objects, the Columbus/Lowndes Public Library, Columbus; and Saturday, No-

vember 18, furniture and wooden objects, the Historic Natchez Foundation Building (Commerce and Main Streets), Natchez. All workshops are from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

The fall schedule for the professional workshops is as follows: September 21, paintings and painted surfaces; October 12, objects (glass, metal, ceramic, leather, archaeological artifacts, etc.); and November 16, furniture and wooden objects. These workshops will be held on the campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Gulfport. Those interested in the professional workshops are asked to pre-register by calling 601-576-6850 or emailing Eleana Pope, [epope@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto:epope@mdah.state.ms.us). For additional information about any of the workshops, visit [www.mdah.state.ms.us](http://www.mdah.state.ms.us).

## Welty Film Footage Donated



*A collection of the earliest video footage to date of Eudora Welty has been given to the Department of Archives and History. The eight reels of 16mm film, shot in Jackson in 1974-75 as part of the PBS series “The Writer in America,” had been in storage at NEA offices in Washington, D.C. Only a few minutes of the film have been seen by the public.*

*NEA chairman Dana Gioia (above right) presented the film to MDAH (accepting are MDAH Board president William F. Winter, left, and Mary Alice White, Welty House director) August 24, calling the find “the greatest American literary discovery this year.” The footage shows Welty in her house and her garden, driving through Jackson, and reading several of her stories.*

## Community Heritage Grants *cont'd*

The program provides funds to help preserve, restore, develop, and interpret historic courthouses and schools. In Certified Local Government communities grant funds may also be used for projects involving historic buildings other than courthouses or schools. All buildings must have been designated Mississippi Landmarks prior to application to be eligible for grants.

For this round of grants the legislature stipulated that \$1,750,000 must be awarded to county governments for historic courthouse projects. Grants made to these courthouses may not exceed \$875,000.

Only county or municipal governments, school districts, and nonprofit organizations granted Section 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status by the IRS may submit applications. Those applications shall be in accordance with the provisions of grant procedures, criteria, and standards developed and

publicized by MDAH. After evaluation by department staff, all complete applications will be presented to the MDAH Board of Trustees for the board's action at a special meeting in December.

Grant awards will be paid on a reimbursable basis upon successful completion of the entire project or at the time of the completion of pre-established phases of the project. Applicants receiving grant awards should be prepared to cover all project costs before receiving reimbursements. A cash match of at least 20 percent must be provided.

To learn more about the CLG program, contact Todd Sanders in the Historic Preservation Division of MDAH, 601-576-6950. More information and printable grant applications are available online at [mdah.state.ms.us](http://mdah.state.ms.us), or contact Mingo Tingle in the Historic Preservation Division of MDAH at 601-576-6952 or at P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571.

## Hall of Fame, *continued*

Any Mississippian—native or adopted—deceased at least five years may be nominated for the Hall of Fame. Consideration for the Hall of Fame takes place only once every five years, and no more than five people may be admitted at each election. Nominees are voted on by the nine-member Board of Trustees of the Department of Archives and History. The deadline for nominations is October 1, and elections will be held at a special meeting on December 8.

Each nomination should describe the unique contributions of the nominee. Nominations should be carefully researched and

documented and should not exceed three double-spaced typewritten pages. A brief biography of the nominee is helpful, and letters supporting the nomination, photographs, newspaper clippings, and other supplemented

material is welcomed. Mail nominations to Mississippi Hall of Fame, MDAH, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571.



*Choctaw princess and Chief Phillip Martin with Pushmataha portrait, 2001*

## Archaeology *cont'd*

“We hope this program will provide the tools to analyze archaeological data and the opportunity to publish findings by researchers who are otherwise limited by financial constraints,” said Pamela Edwards Lieb, MDAH chief archaeologist.

Mississippi Archaeological Grant Program funds may be used for any public collections from Mississippi or sites located in the state. Research involving private collections is eligible if it involves a comparative analysis with a public collection. Applicants must be associated with a university or college, either as archaeological researcher, professor of archaeology or anthropology, or graduate student in archaeology or anthropology.

For an application, call the Historic Preservation division, 601-576-6940. Completed applications are due by 5 p.m. on October 13, 2006. The MDAH board of trustees will award the grants at a special meeting in December 2006. Grant amounts will not exceed \$10,000 per project.

## Katrina Funds *continued*

Publicly-owned properties that are listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places must also be designated a Mississippi Landmark property.

All work that is funded by the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act must be done in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.

To find out if your property is listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, please contact our National Register staff of MDAH at 601-576-6940.

Specific information on how to apply for grants will be disseminated as soon as Mississippi's grant program plan has been approved by the National Park Service. Please contact the Historic Preservation Division of MDAH at P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571, or check MDAH's Web site at [mdah.state.ms.us](http://mdah.state.ms.us) for more information.

## WLBT Newfilm Grant *continued*

The Department of the Interior has awarded a Save America's Treasures grant of \$227,000 to MDAH to digitize its WLBT Newfilm Collection, an important documentary source of the civil rights movement in the South 1954–1971. The matching grant requires MDAH to provide personnel and facilities as well as additional funds.

The WLBT Newfilm Collection is one of the department's most frequently used—appearing in the award-winning documentaries “Eyes on the Prize” and “The Murder of Emmett Till,” as well as in Tom Brokaw's recent NBC News report “Separate and Unequal.” The collection has been utilized by the FBI and the state attorney general's office in civil rights cases. It includes foot-

age of such nationally significant events as the arrival of the Freedom Riders, the Capitol Street Boycott, and James Meredith's enrollment at the University of Mississippi, as well as civil rights leaders Stokely Carmichael, Medgar Evers, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Martin Luther King.

The film was shot on location in Jackson and surrounding areas by WLBT news crews and donated to MDAH in 1980.

The grant spans a three-year period, beginning September 1, 2006. Staff will clean and repair the film during the first two years; digitization will begin in the third year, after which the film will be placed in cold storage to slow deterioration.

# The Music World Comes Home: October 7-15

The **Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame**, James Brewer, director, celebrates Mississippi music at “The Music World Comes Home,” in Vicksburg October 7–14. Scheduled are workshops, a talent contest, performances in major music genres, and the induction ceremony for new members of the Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame.

**Talent contest** preliminaries begin October 7 at the Vicksburg Convention Center at 8 a.m. Contest finals will be held October 14, 1-4 p.m.

**Music reviews** will be held at the Vicksburg Convention Center October 13–15. Country music will be presented October 13, 7–9 p.m., featuring **Carl Jackson, Mac McAnally, Fred Knobloch**, and others. The Willie Dixon “Wang Dang Doodle” Blues Festival (featuring **Pinetop Perkins and Dorothy Moore**, among others) will

be held October 14, noon–5:30 p.m. Gospel music will be featured October 15, 3–5:30 p.m. (headlined by the **Blackwood Brothers and the Mississippi Mass Choir**).

New members of the Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame will be honored at the **Induction Ceremony**, Vicksburg Convention Center, on October 14, 7–9:30 p.m., at which **Ace Cannon, “the Godfather of the Saxophone,” the Original Rolling Stones, and the Dawn Breakers** will perform. Workshops on the music industry, developing music attractions for heritage tourism, and teaching Mississippi music history will be held on October 14. Tickets are \$15 for all events except teacher workshops. For more information visit [msmusic.org/celebrates](http://msmusic.org/celebrates) or call James Brewer, 601-894-5601. Ticket information is at 601-630-2929.

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**To receive email reminders about MDAH events, send your email address to [events@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto:events@mdah.state.ms.us)**

## Victoria Gray Adams, 1927–2006

Victoria Jackson Gray Adams, a central figure in the Mississippi civil rights struggle in the 1960s and the first woman from Mississippi to seek a seat in the United States Senate, died August 12 at seventy-nine. In July 1964, she announced that she would challenge Senator John C. Stennis as a candidate of the newly formed Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. Gray Adams was defeated by a margin of 30–1 in the Democratic primary, but the party she helped to start went on to challenge the right of the all-white Mississippi delegation to represent the state at the 1964 Democratic National Convention.

## Jesse Mae Hemphill, 1935–2006

Jesse Mae Hemphill, who grew up playing with her famous fiddle and fife musician father Sid Hemphill, began playing her own music seriously in the 1970s with the help of folklorist and musician David Evans. She went on to be voted best traditional female blues artist in the W. C. Handy blues awards in 1987 and 1988, and her album *Feelin' Good* won a Handy award in 1991. She died July 23 at age seventy-one.

## Sam Myers, 1936–2006

Blues vocalist, drummer, harmonica player, and songwriter Sam Myers died July 17 at seventy. A Laurel native, Myers began his career in Jackson on Farish Street in the late 1940s and early 1950s. He moved to Chicago and began playing in bands of blues legends such as Elmore James, Muddy Waters, and Howlin' Wolf. In 1986 he started working with Texas guitarist Anson Funderburgh; together they recorded eight albums. Myers was honored as a Blues Ambassador at the 2006 Governor's Awards for Excellence.

## Jane Schutt, 1922–2006

Jane Menefee Schutt died July 23. A native of Washington, D.C., she moved to Jackson in 1943. A member of St. Columb's Episcopal Parish, Schutt began to form interracial worship groups, a practice based on her religious convictions. When she was invited to serve on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Advisory Committee for Mississippi, she served courageously, despite frequent scare tactics including a burning cross in her yard. She was also active with Girl Scouts and Headstart and was director of the first camp for the Hinds County Association for Retarded Children.