

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Peggy Erickson – 301-515-0753 – director@heritagemontgomery.org

Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County Announces FY 2012 Mini-Grant Awards – Round 2!

Germantown, Maryland: The Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County is a non-profit organization created to bring the county's rich history to the attention of its residents and visitors. The Mini-Grant Program recognizes county groups and their programs that contribute to interpreting, promoting, preserving, researching and/or supporting our historical legacy.

A second Mini-Grant round was opened specifically for activities in support of the **15th Annual Heritage Days Weekend – June 23 & 24, 2012.** This annual Heritage Montgomery celebration features over 35 heritage sites open free-of-charge all around Montgomery County with fun family activities – music, games, children's activities, food, and more! Heritage Montgomery is pleased to announce seven grants totaling \$3,925 to the following recipients:

Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts & Culture, Glen Echo – \$750 for performances of Civil-War era music by the Washington Revels Heritage Voices and Roustabout Band, and the portrayal of Anna Maria Weems, a young enslaved girl conducted to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

Hyattstown Mill Arts Project, Hyattstown – \$750 for musical performances by Shortbread, Jason & the Gravy Soppers, and the Tumbleweeds at the historic grist mill/arts center.

Pleasant View Historical Association, Gaithersburg – \$300 for an interactive children's program by Kinderman at the Old Quince Orchard School in Gaithersburg.

Sandy Spring Slave Museum, Sandy Spring – \$750 for the Washington Revels Jubilee Voices, showcasing Civil War-era and other traditional African-American music and a portrayal of Anna Marie Weems, a young enslaved girl and her journey to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

Sugarland Ethno-History Project, Poolesville – \$750 for a performance at the historic St. Paul Community Church by the Washington Revels Freedom Singers as part of a focus on the post-Civil War African-American experience.

Sugarloaf Regional Trails – \$375 for a performance of Civil War music by Doug Jimerson at Edward's Ferry/Lockhouse 25.

Warren Historic Site Committee, Martinsburg – \$250 for the Garbo Singers performance at this unique African-American history site.

Heritage Montgomery Executive Director Peggy Erickson is "looking forward to another great Heritage Days weekend, enhanced by these entertaining programs." Heritage Montgomery, one of Maryland's 11 designated heritage areas, is a partnership of the State of Maryland and Montgomery County government with a goal of encouraging economic development through heritage tourism.