



*For Immediate Release*

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## **Upcountry History Museum Receives SC Humanities Bridge Grant**

**Greenville, S.C.** – The Upcountry History Museum–Furman University, a Smithsonian Affiliate, is pleased to announce that it has been awarded an \$11,000 Bridge Grant from South Carolina Humanities. Funding for the Bridge Grants has been provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act economic stabilization plan.

Since opening its doors in 2007, the Museum has dedicated itself to not only preserving the past of Upstate South Carolina, but to ensuring that the significance of our past and lessons learned impact positively the present and the future. While our ability to remain focused on preserving, presenting, and promoting the history of Upcountry South Carolina has required us to operate in new realities as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, it is strengthened by the support of South Carolina Humanities and the NEH which advocated for inclusion of financial support in the CARES Act.

Though the doors of the Museum have been closed to the public as we respond to the Coronavirus challenge safely and responsibly, essential functions and maintenance are still required. The funds from this grant are earmarked for operational expenses to allow attention to be given to safeguarding the facility and collections.

“The Museum deeply appreciates the commitment of South Carolina Humanities to recognize the value museums and other cultural organizations bring to communities,” said Museum CEO Dana L. Thorpe. “This grant affords us the opportunity to ensure that as members and visitors cross the Museum’s threshold when we reopen on June 9, 2020, they can still engage in experiences that enhance their curiosity and interest in history.”

The Museum’s mission of connecting people, history, and culture in the Upstate supports a broader principle by which the Museum helps empower the public to understand the value of their own stories and to consider the world from different perspectives. We know history is being made every day, and now, under the shadow of a global pandemic, we realize the need to be even more diligent in fulfilling this mission.

The Upcountry History Museum is located at 540 Buncombe St., in Greenville, S.C. For more information, call 864-467-3100 or visit [www.upcountryhistory.org](http://www.upcountryhistory.org).

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