

SCAD School of Building Arts partners with Historic Savannah Foundation through a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation

Spring 2012 project will result in LEED-certified home design for historic districts

SAVANNAH, Georgia—The Savannah College of Art and Design’s School of Building Arts announces a new partnership with Historic Savannah Foundation to design sustainable, affordable Habitat for Humanity housing, with the ultimate goal of forging a new model of collaboration to educate cities throughout the country on building affordable, sustainable housing to revive and preserve historic communities.

The partnership between SCAD and Historic Savannah Foundation is made possible through a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Project stakeholders also include the Georgia Chapter of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) and Habitat for Humanity.

“The future is the city, and we are seeking new ways for diverse teams to collaborate,” said Christian Sottile, dean of the SCAD School of Building Arts. “This project is particularly significant on a national scale because the research and development process created by SCAD could become a model for historic districts across the U.S.”

In early 2012, Historic Savannah Foundation received a prestigious Julia and Richard Moe grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to develop an affordable, historically appropriate house in the Cuyler-Brownville National Register Historic District in Savannah, a Victorian-era, traditionally African-American community. The focus of the project is an open building lot, for which the residential building will be designed. Proposals will conform to Habitat for Humanity standards, to the historic guidelines for the Cuyler-Brownville district, and to the USGBC criteria for LEED-certified sustainable structures.

Historic Savannah Foundation has engaged the expertise and innovative talent of SCAD’s historic preservation and architecture programs to collaborate on the neighborhood research and architectural design.

“We sought SCAD’s perspective into this project because we’re confident they will help shape a process that will have a positive and lasting impact on the historic Cuyler-Brownville neighborhood,” said Daniel Carey, president and CEO of Historic Savannah Foundation. “We’re delighted to be part of this creative collaboration.”

Historic preservation students at SCAD will begin the project in late March by conducting research on the neighborhood and its historic resources and document the assets and structures of the community. The documentation, along with input from Coastal Empire Habitat for Humanity, will be presented in a design charrette involving SCAD architecture students, Historic Savannah Foundation and the Georgia USGBC. During the two-day charrette, students will create

designs for the infill building, which is expected to be to be constructed and granted to a Habitat for Humanity family.

SCAD's School of Building Arts includes architecture, architectural history, historic preservation, interior design, furniture design, and urban design. Students learn to become professional architects, designers and preservationists who are strategic thinkers, global communicators, collaborative partners and ethical practitioners. Industry partnerships and interdisciplinary programs such as the Historic Savannah Foundation project help fulfill the School of Building Art's goals for developing leaders of the future city.

SCAD: The University for Creative Careers

The Savannah College of Art and Design is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution conferring bachelor's and master's degrees at distinctive locations and online to prepare talented students for professional careers. SCAD offers degrees in more than 40 areas of study, as well as minors in nearly 60 disciplines in Savannah and Atlanta, Georgia; in Hong Kong; in Lacoste, France; and online through SCAD eLearning.

SCAD has more than 20,000 alumni and offers an exceptional education and unparalleled career preparation. The diverse student body, consisting of more than 11,000 students, comes from all 50 United States and more than 100 countries worldwide. Each student is nurtured and motivated by a faculty of more than 700 professors with extraordinary academic credentials and valuable professional experience. These professors emphasize learning through individual attention in an inspiring university environment. SCAD's innovative curriculum is enhanced by advanced, professional-level technology, equipment and learning resources and has garnered acclaim from respected organizations and publications, including 3D World, American Institute of Architects, BusinessWeek, DesignIntelligence, U.S. News & World Report and the Los Angeles Times.

For more information, visit scad.edu.

About Historic Savannah Foundation

[Historic Savannah Foundation](http://www.myHSF.org) is a non-profit historic preservation organization supported by a strong and dedicated membership. HSF was established in 1955 to save the 1820 Isaiah Davenport House from demolition. From this initial project, Historic Savannah Foundation launched a Revolving Fund which has since saved 350+ buildings. The mission of Historic Savannah Foundation is to preserve and protect Savannah's heritage through advocacy, education and community involvement. For more information, visit www.myHSF.org.

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