



HISTORIC SAVANNAH FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES EVENTS FOR 2019 PRESERVATION MONTH

SAVANNAH, GA – April 16, 2019 – Historic Savannah Foundation (HSF) will lead the observation of Preservation Month in May with four unique events that celebrate the art of preservation and exhibit its significant impact on the past, present and future of Savannah.

HSF will kick off Preservation Month on Monday, May 6 with the Louise Lauretti Lecture at 6:30 p.m. at the Savannah Theatre on Chippewa Square. The event is named for Louise Lauretti, a former HSF Trustee, who was lost to cancer in 2014. Louise was a devoted advocate for historic preservation and her husband, Scott Lauretti, sponsors the lecture in her honor. The lecture is free and open to the public, and will be followed by a reception in the theatre.

Guest speaker, Tom Mayes, vice president and senior counsel, for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will focus his lecture on issues raised by his new book, *Why Old Places Matter*, which highlights the role preservation plays in everyday life. Mayes is a highly respected author and expert on preservation easements, shipwreck protection, historic house museums, accessibility, preservation public policy, and the future of historic preservation. During the reception, a book-signing will take place and copies of *Why Old Places Matter* will be available for purchase. Mayes will donate a percentage of book sale proceeds made during the reception to support HSF's work.

The second Preservation Month event will be the annual Historic Home Tour and Wine Tasting, which is scheduled for Friday, May 10 at 6 p.m. It kicks off at 210 East Hall Street and will move into the surrounding area, east of Forsyth Park and in the Landmark Historic District. This fun and informal evening offers patrons an opportunity to stroll beautiful streets, admire historic architecture, and go inside a handful of restored private homes. Each host house will offer a tasting of unique wine selections paired with gourmet hors d'oeuvres provided by local chefs and caterers in Savannah. Tickets are \$50 per person and available for purchase online at www.myHSE.org. The Historic Home Tour and Wine Tasting is sponsored by United Community Bank and the Staci Donegan Group.

The revered HSF Preservation Awards Luncheon, which recognizes exceptional preservation projects in Savannah and Chatham County, is set for 11:30 a.m. on Friday, May 17 at the Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum. Tickets for the Preservation Awards Luncheon are available for \$50 each. The awards are sponsored by K Machine Industrial Services, LLC, and KEIM Mineral Coatings of America, Inc.

Concluding Preservation Month, HSF's 13th Colony (young professionals) members will embark on a "Hard Hat Tour" of the Kessler Plant-Riverside District from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, May 18. This event is also open to non-members for a \$5 fee. This behind the scenes guided

tour accentuates the 13th Colony mission to promote greater awareness and understanding of historic preservation to local young professionals.

All Ticketed events are available for purchase by calling 912-233-7787 or visiting <http://www.myhsf.org/special-events/savannah-preservation-festival/>. For more information about Preservation Month or Historic Savannah Foundation, please visit www.myHSE.org.

Anyone interested in becoming a sponsor or patron for Preservation Month events can call Kim Newbold at 912-233-7787 or email knewbold@myhsf.org. Various volunteer opportunities are also available for Preservation Month events. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit <http://www.myhsf.org/giving/become-a-volunteer/>.

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For media inquiries, please contact Hollie Barnidge at hollie@lesleyfrancispr.com or 912-272-8651 or Lesley Francis at lesley@lesleyfrancispr.com or 912-429-3950 or the team at 912-417-LFPR (5377).