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## DAVENPORT HOUSE MUSEUM HAS REOPENED WITH HEIGHTENED HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

**SAVANNAH, GA – June 16, 2020** – The Davenport House Museum (DH), located at 324 E. State St., enthusiastically began welcoming back visitors earlier this month after having temporarily ceased tours in March due to COVID-19 state mandates and closures. The Museum has reopened its doors, adhering to their normal business hours of 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and Sunday 1 p.m.-4 p.m., with the last tour beginning at 4 p.m. daily. To help ensure the health of its visitors, the Museum has implemented several heightened safety measures, including enhanced cleaning procedures, readily available hand sanitizer and disposable gloves (for accessing handrails) for guests while they are inside the Museum and Kennedy Pharmacy buildings. Face coverings are a requirement for guests and staff while they are inside the two buildings, with the ADA exception of guests with breathing issues and children age 2 and under. If guests do not have a face covering with them, disposable masks are available at a nominal fee.

“The Davenport House enjoys having a wonderful mixture of locals and tourists as our guests,” Davenport House Museum Director Jamie Credle said. “We’re pleased that our reopening has gone so well, and that everyone’s been great about adhering to the protocols put in place in order to keep everyone safe.”

As the reopening phase continues, the DHM will continue to work with colleagues at museums and historic houses in the Coastal Empire and Lowcountry to share vital information, experiences and best practices.

In addition to wearing face masks, the DHM staff also reminds guests that COVID-19 remains a threat to public safety and asks them to please refrain from visiting if they feel ill, making sure their hands are clean (the museum's restrooms are stocked with plenty of soap and hand sanitizer) and maintaining a social distance of 6 feet from others who are not in their party.

The Davenport House is proud to have its patrons experience the place where Savannah's preservation efforts first began by offering tours with groups of 10 or less people every 15 minutes. Visitors can enjoy a guided tour while outside the house and then a self-guided experience inside with a brief introduction by a docent. Docents are also available inside the house to answer questions and to help ensure safety and security practices are followed. To abide by tour size restrictions, visitors are encouraged to call in advance to check on availability at 912-236-8097. See the Museum's website [www.davenportmuseum.org](http://www.davenportmuseum.org) for additional information.

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