



HISTORIC SAVANNAH FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS FOR 2021

SAVANNAH, GA – January 20, 2021 – Historic Savannah Foundation, a leading nonprofit preservation and cultural institution, has announced new Board of Trustees members who will help lead the organization in the upcoming year: Melinda Allen, Sam Carroll, Paul Hamilton, Louisa Morris, and Brent Watts.

Melinda Allen is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, and a graduate of the University of Toledo, where she earned an honors degree in biology and chemistry. She spent her early career in the pharmaceutical industry in the specialty care fields of cardiology and neurology. She later retired to concentrate her efforts on raising her family, serving her community, and playing an integral role in building the family's dental business. Allen and her husband Matthew moved to Savannah in 2002 after falling in love with the city's charm. Melinda has served on the Downtown Neighborhood Association board for nine years, including five years as president and CEO. She also maintains active roles in the Savannah Garden Club, Hancock Day School, and on various city boards including the Tourism Advisory Council. She is a past member of the Junior League and former vice president of the Christ Church Children's School. She and her husband Matthew are publishing their first book in early 2021, "Investigate the Edge," a leadership book for teens and young adults.

Sam Carroll is a licensed general contractor with over 15 years of experience restoring historic buildings in Savannah, Georgia. Originally from Pine Bush, New York, Carroll is a graduate of the Savannah College of Art and Design. He has restored, renovated, reconstructed, and owned numerous structures in Savannah's Historic and Victorian districts, returning vacant and condemned buildings back to their original grandeur. Carroll is a member of the Historic Savannah Foundation Revolving Fund committee, which works to save historically significant buildings in Savannah, and the Savannah Metropolitan Rotary. In 2016, he was awarded the Nichola Parker Coe volunteer award in grateful recognition of outstanding volunteer contributions to Historic Savannah Foundation.

Paul Hamilton Paul is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering. Prior to his retirement, he worked 30 years for PepsiCo in the beverages division.

He retired five years ago as a senior vice president for PepsiCo's beverage supply chain and had the privilege of leading their North American operations. In his role, he was responsible for all strategy, planning, logistics and commercialization activities. In addition, he had strategic responsibility for the development of all supply

chain initiatives and supporting technologies. In prior roles, his scope included responsibility for Spain, Russia, Greece, Turkey and Canada. Prior to joining PepsiCo, Hamilton held a number of roles in operations, quality and engineering for the Monsanto Chemical Company.

Hamilton has extensive board experience and is currently serving as an independent director for a privately held company. Additionally, he served as chairman for Ability Beyond Disability and president of the Board of Trustees at Memorial Hospital. Hamilton served three years as president of the Board of Trustees for Jesse Lee United Memorial Methodist Church, where he helped to set direction, worked to build the congregation, and helped the church achieve its mission.

Louisa Morris founded Jordan Design in 2002, a residential design firm focused on blending aesthetic beauty and classical design with the casual demands of modern upscale living. She specializes in mixing the old with the new, creating timeless collected interior spaces.

Morris is a native of Greenville, South Carolina and has helped clients realize their design aspirations throughout the Southeast. She and her family have lived in Mississippi, the United States Virgin Islands and Georgia. She has recently moved to Savannah from Atlanta and is enjoying living downtown and is constantly discovering new design elements and things of beauty in the historic city. She looks forward to getting involved in the city and making it a better place for all to enjoy.

Brent Watts is the founder of Cabretta Capital Corporation and serves as its president. He has acquired skills in partnership structuring, acquisitions, financial modeling, underwriting, fund management, and asset management. Brent has structured dozens of private placements and has provided equity for well over 100 multi-family, hospitality, and office properties during his career. Brent has been working extensively in low-income housing tax credit properties, historic tax credits, and several other tax advantaged programs since 2005.

The five new board members join the Executive Committee -- comprised of Chairman Josh Brooks, Vice Chairman Austin Hill, Secretary Gaye Reese, Treasurer Susan Clifford, Parliamentarian Gregori Anderson, and immediate past Chairman Brian Felder -- with the remaining board of trustees members, John Leonti, Gary Radke, Andy Dyer, Michael McLeod, Cody Tharpe, and Brad Whitfield to form the full HSF Board of Trustees.

"We are so fortunate to have these talented and well-accomplished individuals on HSF's board," HSF CEO and President Sue Adler said. "They will bring a fresh perspective to our board and help us achieve our mission of preserving and saving the uniqueness that is the historic city of Savannah."

Historic Savannah Foundation, a leading nonprofit preservation and cultural institution, saves buildings, places, and stories that define Savannah's past, present, and future. Following its formation in 1955, the organization started a Revolving Fund to save endangered historic properties, now totaling nearly 410 buildings throughout

several of Savannah's historic districts. HSF continues to build capacity within its operations, secure new financial resources, improve its image and visibility, and increase public policy efforts to protect Savannah's historic districts.

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