



HSF TO HOST RIBBON CUTTING FOR NEW PRESERVATION CENTER, KENNEDY PHARMACY RESTORATION

SAVANNAH, GA – APRIL 13, 2022 – Historic Savannah Foundation will host a ribbon-cutting and grand-opening ceremony to commemorate the completion of the Murray C. Perlman & Wayne C. Spear Preservation Center as well as the restoration of the Kennedy Pharmacy. The community is invited to join HSF for the celebratory event at 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 26 at the pharmacy, located at 323 E. Broughton St. in Savannah.

HSF President and CEO Sue Adler encourages the public to attend, as HSF is eager to celebrate the momentous occasion – one that has been a couple years in the making. Contractors broke ground on the projects in December 2020. The center and the pharmacy restoration were designed by Felder & Associates, LLC architectural firm, led by firm founder and Managing Principal Architect Brian Felder, who is also a previous chairman of HSF’s Board of Trustees. The work was completed by Brooks Construction, led by Josh Brooks, the board’s immediate past president.

“We are thrilled to finally open the doors to the Preservation Center – a beautiful new community resource – and welcome our members, supporters, friends and visitors,” Adler said. “With the help of HSF’s project partners, Felder & Associates, LLC, Brooks Construction and DMDG2, and the support of our donors, members and board of directors, this multi-faceted project has come to life beautifully.”

The new Preservation Center contains an educational space for visitors that may be used for exhibits or a meeting area, and the Kennedy Pharmacy renovation includes the relocated Davenport House Museum (DHM) gift shop, tour ticketing area, restrooms, and offices for DHM staff. The renovation is historically accurate to Kennedy Pharmacy’s original 1890 layout and will be maintained by HSF.

Felder elaborated on the research and collaboration that went into the project.

“For this design, we looked at existing small retail buildings in the Historic District for inspiration. Because of the position of the lot and the understanding that this space needed to integrate seamlessly with the surrounding historic building, our team focused more on structures facing secondary streets or

lanes, and we are pleased with the result. Expanses of glass windows allow views of Habersham Street, Columbia Square, and the Davenport House. This meeting space will be highly functional as well as visually striking. We worked closely with Doug Mund of DMDG2, a museum and exhibit designer, who was instrumental in the design of the ground floor gift shop, as well as programming for the new multi-purpose space. Our team is proud to preserve the unique history of Savannah and design a building that both enhances the block and fits in aesthetically with the structures surrounding it."

Josh Brooks agreed with Felder's sentiment, stating that his team enjoyed their role in the project as well.

"Brooks Construction Group was honored to be a part of such a landmark project for HSF and our city. The incredible staff at HSF was a joy to work with, and we are proud to support their worthy mission in keeping our city authentic and beautiful. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to be a part of the restoration of the Kennedy Pharmacy and new Preservation Center," Brooks said.

Gregori Anderson, head of HSF's building committee and the board parliamentarian, looks forward to seeing this phase of the project completed, and acknowledged everyone who has made it possible.

"I am excited about the completion of the first phase of the Preservation Center/Kennedy Pharmacy project. For the tremendous effort of the donors, staff, architect, contractor, and volunteers, I am also very thankful," Anderson said.

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.

To learn more about HSF and its other upcoming events, or to become a member, please visit www.myhsf.org or call 912-233-7787, and follow HSF on their social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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