



March 3, 2022

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Office of the Director
Office of Management and Budget
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Washington, DC 20503

Mr. Michael Hildner
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Acting Director Young and Mr. Hildner:

We appreciate this opportunity to present recommendations for Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations. We, the undersigned, represent a coalition of national historic preservation organizations.

We offer deep gratitude for the robust funding recommendations made by President Biden for historic preservation priorities during the FY 2022 cycle. Especially significant was the President's recommendation of \$151.8 million for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), the first recommendation above the authorized level in the history of the HPF. We look forward to the FY 2023 budget recommendations and how they will address the ongoing needs for investments to sustain our nation's rich heritage of cultural and historic resources that also generate lasting economic and civic vitality for communities throughout the nation.

The HPF is the principal source of funding to implement the nation's preservation programs. HPF funding supports fundamental preservation activities such as survey, nomination of properties to the National Register of Historic Places, public education, and project reviews required for federal Historic Tax Credit (HTC) projects. Among many highlights, we would like to emphasize the support for the African American Civil Rights grants program and for the second year its expansion to preserve and highlight sites and stories associated with securing civil rights for All Americans, including women, American Latino, Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and LGBTQ Americans. The competitive grant programs within the HPF have seen remarkable growth in recent years, and could reach even greater heights to effectively steward our nation's vast historic and cultural resources with forward-looking investments. We are also appreciative of the increases provided to state and tribal historic offices and know they continue to have significant unmet financial needs.

We request the President recommend a total **FY 2023 HPF appropriation of \$200 million**. Within that funding we recommend:

- \$65 million for State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs);
- \$34 million for Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs);

- \$24 million for competitive grants to preserve the sites and stories of efforts to advance African American Civil Rights;
- \$5 million for the History of Equal Rights Grants program to preserve the sites and stories associated with securing civil rights for All Americans, including women, American Latino, Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and LGBTQ Americans;
- \$12 million for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities to preserve and rehabilitate historic buildings;
- \$35 million for Save America's Treasures grants;
- \$12 million for Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization grants; and
- \$3 million for competitive grants for the survey and nomination of properties associated with communities currently underrepresented on the National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks.

Thank you for considering our request. We stand ready to assist in any way to support our recommendations.

Sincerely,

National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers

National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers

National Preservation Partners Network

National Alliance of Preservation Commissions

Preservation Action