

MISSISSIPPI HISTORY NEWSLETTER

MDAH
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF
ARCHIVES & HISTORY

A Publication of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History

March 2022

Volume 64, No. 1

2022 MISSISSIPPI MAKERS FEST MUSIC • FOOD • ART



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Mark Your Calendar

It is a Great Time to Love Mississippi History

Full of hope that we are emerging from Covid-19, we have a full line up of programs planned for the months ahead.

In partnership with the Mississippi Museum of Art, MDAH will participate in a yearlong initiative to expand the public's understanding of the Great Migration. MDAH will offer genealogy workshops and fellowships, History Is Lunch lecture programs on the Great Migration, and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition *The Negro Motorist Green Book Guide*.

Saturday, May 7, will be a big day for us. *The World of Marty Stuart* exhibit will open that day, and we will present the first-ever Mississippi Makers Fest that same day. Mississippi native and country music performer Marty Stuart is not only a famous musician. He is also a collector of country music artifacts from legends in the industry. We can't wait to show you the best of his stunning collection!

Mississippi Makers Fest on May 7 in front of the Two Mississippi Museums is an all-day outdoor celebration of the state's rich and diverse music and art. Live music from Mississippi bands will be played throughout the day, and there is something for everyone. Families will enjoy children's activities and Mississippi cuisine during the day, while others won't want to miss the party at night.

We can't wait to see you at the Two Mississippi Museums!



Katie Blount
Director
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Blount". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MDAH Introduces Mississippi Makers Fest 2022

On Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m.—10 p.m., the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) will host the first Mississippi Makers Fest on the Entergy Plaza of the Two Mississippi Museums. Enjoy live music, Mississippi made art, children’s activities, and food truck vendors at the free all-day event.

The festival headliner is the North Mississippi Allstars. Chapel Hart will take the stage at 5 p.m. followed by Framing the Red and then Mr. Sipp “The Mississippi Blues Child.” The North Mississippi Allstars will perform at 9 p.m. and close out the festival.

The North Mississippi Allstars, a blues and southern rock band from Hernando, was founded in 1996. The band has been together for twenty-five years, produced twelve albums, received four Grammy Award nominations, and sold out shows across the nation.

Mr. Sipp, a blues musician born in McComb, began playing the guitar at the age of six and through hard work and perseverance, has become a Delta blues force to be reckoned with. Mr. Sipp is known for his amazing vocals, songwriting ability, musicianship, and ability to produce records and entertain fans with an upbeat, outlandish show.

Framing the Red is a southern rock and roll band that is taking the national music scene by storm. The band delivers a show like none other, grabbing its audiences and bringing everyone to their feet with catchy riffs, great lyrics, and “high impact live stage shows” that people will continue to talk about.

Chapel Hart, a country music vocal group from Poplarville, consists of three women with big voices. The group’s colorful and contagious energy has flourished into a full live band experience that fills venues at home and around the country.

In addition to the musical entertainment provided at Mississippi Makers Fest, Mississippi artisans and makers will sell their handmade items. Makers featured at this year’s festival include Karl Compton, the owner of Dragonflight Pottery; Lee Washington, metal sculptor; Jamie Ross, chainsaw artist; and Tony Davenport, a Mississippi landmark painter.

For our aspiring artists, a mini-makers interactive experience will feature face painting, button making, shirt designing, and much more.

Mississippi Makers Fest is brought to you by the title sponsor, Southern Beverage Company, as well as by

Nancy and Ray Neilsen, New South Radio, The City of Jackson, Visit Jackson, Visit Mississippi, Mahaffey’s Quality Printing, C Spire, State Street Group, and the Foundation for Mississippi History. Visit msmakersfest.mdah.ms.gov to learn more.

“Having begun in Jackson, Mississippi in 1939, Southern Beverage Company is exceptionally excited to support local artists and makers,” said Theo P. Costas, President and CEO of Southern Beverage Co., Inc. “We feel like the Mississippi Makers Fest will be the perfect opportunity for Mississippi creatives to display their craft. We are honored to support the first Mississippi Makers Fest and look forward to its success and future.”



Welcome to the World of Marty Stuart

The World of Marty Stuart exhibit will debut at the Two Mississippi Museums in Jackson on Saturday, May 7, coinciding with the inaugural Mississippi Makers Fest, a music, food, and arts festival on the museum grounds.

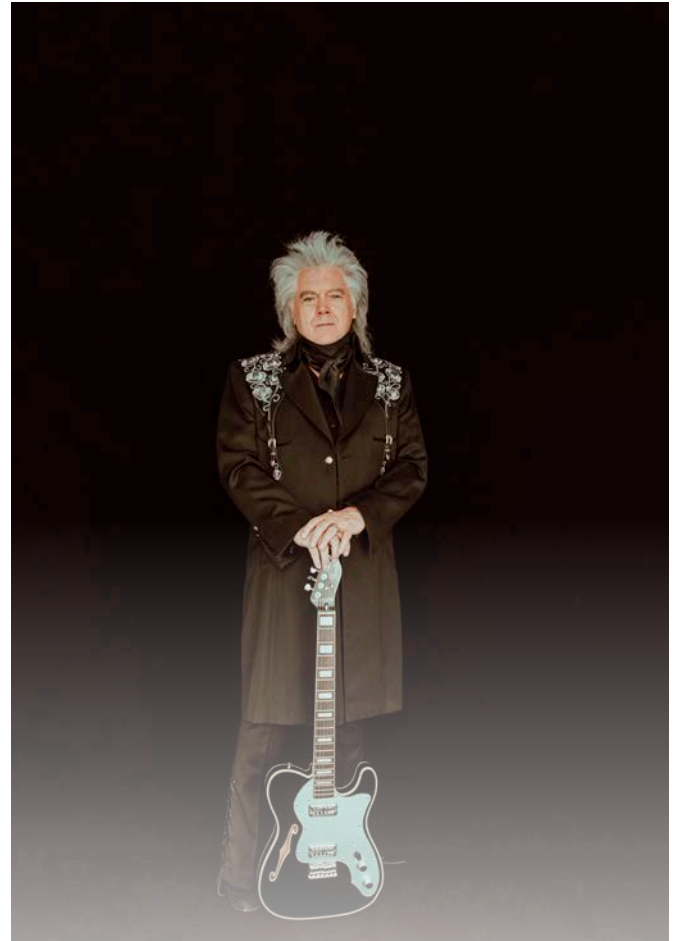
“We are thrilled to host *The World of Marty Stuart* exhibit and can’t think of a better way to kick it off than with the Mississippi Makers Fest,” said Pamela Junior, director of the Two Mississippi Museums. “Marty represents what it means to be a creative and hardworking Mississippian, and that’s what this festival will celebrate. We have a phenomenal musical lineup and several incredible food and art vendors from across the state.”

The World of Marty Stuart explores Stuart’s life and his legacy of collecting country music’s stories. The exhibit includes hundreds of items never shown before in Mississippi, including Marty’s first guitar, original handwritten manuscripts from Hank Williams, guitars from Merle Haggard and Pops Staples, costumes from Porter Wagoner and Dolly Parton, personal items from Johnny Cash, including his first black performance suit, and much more.

“It’s been incredible to work on this exhibit with Marty Stuart, a true pioneer in the preservation of country music history,” said Shane Keil, MDAH director of curatorial services. “*The World of Marty Stuart* not only showcases Stuart’s phenomenal artifact collection but highlights his journey to country music stardom. Visitors will see the role and influence of his small town Mississippi upbringing that took him to the world stage and ultimately has brought him back home.”

The World of Marty Stuart is brought to you by the title sponsor, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi, as well as by AT&T and Visit Mississippi. Visit mdah.ms.gov to learn more about the exhibit.

“Marty Stuart embodies the diligent and innovative nature of Mississippians,” said Sheila Grogan, vice president of community and public relations at Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi. “Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi is proud to sponsor this opportunity for the community to learn more about his roots and storytelling at the Two Mississippi Museums.”





Over \$3M in Preservation Grants Awarded

The MDAH Board of Trustees recently awarded more than \$3 million for the Community Heritage Preservation Grant program to eighteen preservation and restoration projects from across the state. The Community Heritage Preservation Grant program, authorized and funded by the Mississippi Legislature, helps preserve and restore historic courthouses and schools in Certified Local Government communities and other historic properties.

Auburn, Natchez, Adams County-\$234,192

Alcorn County Courthouse, Corinth, Alcorn County-\$150,000

Carrollton Water Tower, Carrollton, Carroll County-\$47,784

Chickasaw County Courthouse, Houston, Chickasaw County-\$214,690

Saenger Theater, Hattiesburg, Forrest County-\$250,000

Holmes County Courthouse, Lexington, Holmes County-\$276,630

Fulton Grammar School, Fulton, Itawamba County-\$93,860

Jefferson Davis County Courthouse, Prentiss, Jefferson Davis County-\$220,800

Madison County Jail (Old), Canton, Madison County-\$54,456

Columbia Waterworks, Columbia, Marion County-\$274,027

Booker T. Washington Gym, Philadelphia, Neshoba County-\$115,200

Noxubee County Library, Macon, Noxubee County-\$80,000

McCormick Administration Building, Senatobia, Tate County-\$264,000

Bowmar Elementary School, Vicksburg, Warren County-\$245,395

Warren County Courthouse, Vicksburg, Warren County-\$100,000

Edna M. Scott Elementary, Leland, Washington County-\$167,920

Wilkinson County Courthouse, Woodville, Wilkinson County-\$168,000

Yalobusha County Courthouse, Water Valley, Yalobusha County-\$191,275



Carter Burns Elected to MDAH Board of Trustees

Carter Burns, executive director of the Historic Natchez Foundation (HNF), has been elected to the board of trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH). The action took place at the regular meeting of the MDAH board of trustees on Friday, January 21. His nomination will be submitted to the Mississippi State Senate for confirmation.

“We are excited to welcome Carter Burns to the MDAH board,” said board president Spence Flatgard. “Not only does he have deep roots in Natchez, but he brings valuable expertise in historic preservation. With MDAH focused on two major projects in Natchez—at Historic Jefferson College and Grand Village of the Natchez Indians—Burns will be a tremendous asset to the board.”

A Natchez native, Burns has served as the executive director of the HNF for three years, where he is responsible for all staffing, operations, and programs. He holds a bachelor of arts in English from Millsaps College, a juris doctor from the University of Mississippi School of Law, and a master of historic preservation from the University of Georgia. He is a former board member of the Mississippi Heritage Trust and currently serves on the board of the Mississippi Historical Society and the National Preservation Partners Network.

The board also reelected Spence Flatgard, Ridgeland, as president and Hilda Povall, Cleveland, as vice president of the board. Betsy Hamilton of New Albany was elected to her third six-year term, and Kimberly Campbell of Jackson was reelected to serve a six-year term, after fulfilling the remainder of Reuben Anderson’s term.

Board nominees must be confirmed by the state senate. Members serve six-year terms. The other members of the board are Nancy Carpenter, Columbus; Betsey Hamilton, New Albany; Web Heidelberg, Hattiesburg; Edmond E. Hughes Jr., Ocean Springs; and Mark Keenum, Starkville.

MDAH Expands Tribal Outreach through NPS Grant

The National Park Service (NPS) has awarded a \$291,109 grant to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) from the Save America's Treasures (SAT) program.

The SAT program was created in 1998 to celebrate the cultural resources America has to offer. It was also created to help preserve nationally significant historic properties and collections that convey our nation's rich heritage to future generations. In over twenty years, the SAT program has awarded more than 1,300 grants totaling more than \$300 million to projects across the nation.

MDAH plans to use the SAT grant to fund the project *Moving Mounds: Uniting Mississippi's Native History with Modern Tribal Voices*. The project focuses on preserving and documenting artifacts removed from the Mississippi River Delta region. MDAH, along with its Tribal partners, is currently developing the best practices in documentation of cultural knowledge.

“Working with Tribal partners is a fundamental aspect of this project, and I am looking forward to facilitating conversations that will ensure respectful

assessment of large portions of the archaeology collections,” said NAGPRA collection coordinator Robert Waren.

The grant will fund two time-limited positions to catalog archaeological materials, incorporate Tribal knowledge of the objects' cultural use, and to purchase a vehicle suitable for the transfer of artifacts and NAGPRA collections.



MDAH archaeology staff: Meg Cook, Jessica Walzer, Robert Waren, Arianna Kitchens, and Sarah Durham

Explore Mississippi's Historic Objects Online

The MDAH Historic Objects Collection webpage is now accessible for public research and educational purposes on the MDAH website. Viewers can browse and examine hundreds of three-dimensional historic artifacts close-up. The selected artifacts are from the entire MDAH Historic Objects Collection, which includes more than 20,000 artifacts that tell the diverse history of Mississippi and its people.

Viewers of the webpage can search the online collection for select artifacts as well as historic artifacts related to famous Mississippians. These artifacts are housed in our state-of-the-art storage facility located at the Two Mississippi Museums and are available for research upon request online.

MDAH also actively collects new artifacts to add to its collection and welcomes any artifact donations of historical significance. Visit <http://proficioweb.mdah.ms.gov/> to access the MDAH Historic Objects Collection webpage or email collections@mdah.ms.gov to learn more about donating artifacts.





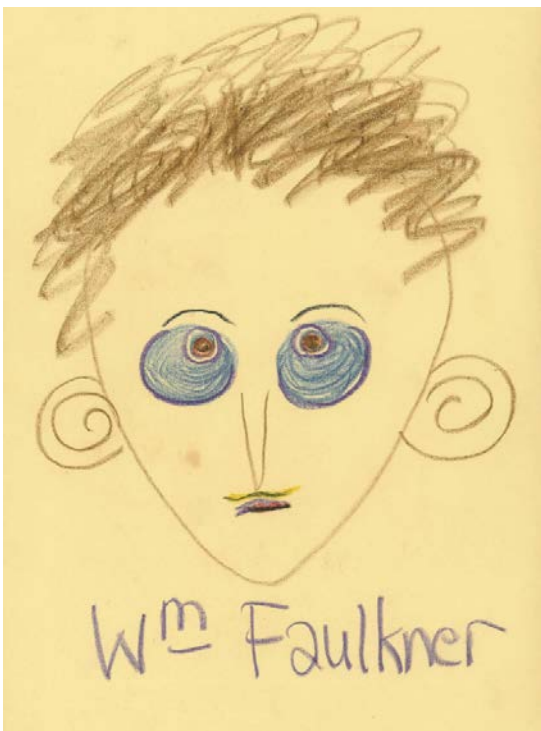
From *The World of Marty Stuart*

This dress was worn by Connie Smith at the Choctaw Indian Fair when twelve-year-old Marty Stuart saw her perform in person for the first time. That night he told his mother, “I’m going to marry her one day!” Twenty-six years later, Marty and Connie were married. To see more artifacts like this, visit *The World of Marty Stuart* exhibit at the Two Mississippi Museums starting May 7.

From the Archives

This caricature of William Faulkner was drawn by Eudora Welty in 1933. She and Faulkner met a number of times in person, including in the spring of 1949 when he took Welty and her friend John Robinson sailing on Sardis Lake in his boat, the *Ring Dove*. Welty also presented Faulkner with the 1962 Gold Medal for Fiction from the National Institute of Arts and Letters.

Image courtesy Eudora Welty, LLC



From the Archives

This photograph from the Al Fred Daniel Collection shows Capitol Street in 1921. A large print of this photo and others from the archives will be on display during Jackson’s bicentennial celebration throughout 2022.

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Mississippi Department of Archives and History
P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571

Mississippi History Newsletter
Laurin Paris, editor

For a free subscription to the newsletter
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Department of Archives and History
Katie Blount, director

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Eddie S. Glaude Jr.

Mark Your Calendar

Medgar Wiley Evers Lecture

Thursday, April 28, 6 p.m.

Moss Point native Eddie S. Glaude Jr., chair of the Department of African American Studies at Princeton University and author of *Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and its Urgent Lessons for Our Own*, will speak at the Two Mississippi Museums.

Mississippi Makers Fest 2022

Saturday, May 7

Enjoy music, food, and fun at the first Mississippi Makers Fest on the lawn of the Two Mississippi Museums.

The World of Marty Stuart

May 7–December 31

This new exhibit at the Two Mississippi Museums in Jackson will explore Marty Stuart's life and his legacy of collecting country music's stories, photographs, instruments, costumes, and more.