



2020 HAF Grants

We were unable to host our annual Garden Party and Meeting this spring due to the critical public health directives of social distancing. We are accustomed to announcing Grant awards from our Preservation Fund at this annual event. Since the inception of the Grants Program 30 years ago, well over \$1,000,000 has been distributed by the HAF Preservation Fund. Because these grants are so important to the groups and sites that receive them, the HAF Board proceeded with reviewing applications and making awards as usual this year. We are proud to announce four very special awards and to share details of them with you.

The Alexandria Elks Lodge, # 48, 227 N. Henry St., in the Parker Gray Historic District, was awarded a \$10,000 grant. The grant is for emergency roof and masonry repairs and the preparation of a comprehensive report on the building's conservation needs. With a history in Alexandria dating to 1903, this fraternal organization serves as an anchor for the African American community. The Lodge has always hosted weddings, funerals, and educational activities, and during the era of segregation, it was the venue for famous entertainers such as Ray Charles, Tina Turner, Fats Domino and Little Richard.

The Athenaeum was awarded a \$5,000 grant. This grant will go towards repair of the Athenaeum's east-facing basement windows. One of the city's Greek Revival architectural treasures, the building serves many roles in our community. HAF has a long history of contributing to the preservation of this beloved structure, including the restoration of its iconic Doric columns and the exterior stucco walls.

The Freedom House Museum at 1315 Duke Street was awarded a grant of \$5,000. This grant will pay for the digitization and transcription of approximately 151 folders of archival material from the Rice C. Ballard Slave-Trading Papers, 1822-1888, held as a part of the Southern Historical Collection at the Library of the University of North Carolina. Portions of this collection will be integrated into an expanded Freedom House Museum in the form of physical reproduction of key documents and exhibit panels.

The T.C. Williams Scholarship Fund of Alexandria received a \$5,000 grant. This grant will support a scholarship for a graduating senior who intends to major in history, architectural history, archaeology, or architecture during his/her university study. HAF provided a pilot scholarship a few years ago and is pleased to offer once again this opportunity to a T.C. Williams High School senior.