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**A N N U A L F U N D C A M P A I G N**

# SUPPORT HHF WITH A GIFT TO THE ANNUAL FUND



*Nathan Betcher, National Park Service historian, presents Historic Huntsville Foundation Executive Director Donna Castellano with the Certificate of Acceptance to the Reconstruction Era National Historic Network*



*We were honored that Mac McCutcheon, Chair, Madison County Commission and Daylan Woodall, Pastor, First Missionary Baptist Church, delivered remarks at the Reconstruction Network Announcement*



*Council member Jennie Robinson, Probate Judge Frank Barger, and HHF Board Member Bart Siniard.*

Dear friends,

Thanks to you, we've had an incredible year of growth at the Historic Huntsville Foundation and Harrison Brothers Hardware!

In October, we debuted the Historic Huntsville Museum, a dedicated space in Harrison Brothers that will be used for permanent and revolving history exhibitions. Along with making a local impact, the museum has already achieved national recognition. The National Park Service listed the Harrison Brothers building and our "Brick by Brick: The Legacy of Henderson and Daniel Brandon" exhibition to the Reconstruction Era National Historic Network. The Network connects historic places that share the experiences of freed men and women following the abolition of slavery.

Our community outreach mission has never been stronger. We launched the first of five travelling exhibitions of "Brick by Brick: The Legacy of Henderson and Daniel Brandon." We hosted 24 FREE history programs and presentations. And our expansion of the art offerings in Harrison Brothers ensures that our favorite hardware store remains a hub of downtown activity.

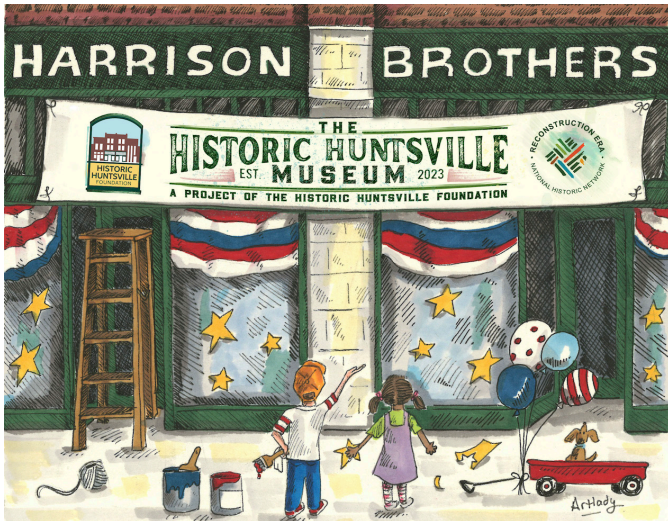
As you plan your end-of-year giving, we hope you will consider a donation to the Historic Huntsville Foundation's Annual Fund Campaign. We've assembled some of our best memories of 2023, to show how HHF invested your contributions back into the Huntsville-Madison County community. Your contribution will directly support the Historic Huntsville Museum, our community outreach programs, and further our work to bring people together through history.

Jerry Barclay, Chair  
Historic Huntsville Foundation



# A SMALL SPACE MAKES A BIG STATEMENT

The **Historic Huntsville Museum** in Harrison Brothers Hardware is a place where Huntsville's past and future come together. This space shares the history of the Harrison Brothers store and the lived experiences of those who patronized their business.



Sonya Clemons, the "Artlady" captures the spirit of the Historic Huntsville Museum

Our permanent exhibition, "**Brick by Brick: The Legacy of Henderson and Daniel Brandon,**" brings long overdue recognition to a masonry firm who constructed some of Huntsville's most iconic buildings, including the Harrison Brothers building.

The Madison Public Library hosted the first of FIVE travelling Brandon exhibitions.

Our current featured exhibition, "**Harrison Brothers: House and Home - From Traditional to Modern,**" shows the evolution of interior design as Huntsville transitioned from the Watercress Capital of the World to the Rocket City. This is a collaboration with the University of Alabama-Huntsville Archives, Special Collections & Digital Initiatives.

“ We value our relationship with the Historic Huntsville Foundation. Collaborative projects with HHF have advanced our mission to serve the research needs of the UAH community and beyond. The synergy that has been created between HHF and the Archives will be valuable to those who come after us.”

*Dr. David Moore, Library Director,  
UAH Salmon Library*

“ The progress made by the Historic Huntsville Foundation with the Historic Huntsville Museum in such a short time is worthy of recognition. Their work serves as an effective model for similar efforts by local historical organizations across the state.”

*Erik London, Museum Services Curator  
Alabama Department of Archives and History*

“ As a brick mason here in Huntsville since 1988, I am pleased to see this exhibition.”

*Todd Kinley, Historic Huntsville Museum visitor*

“ It's perfect. Don't change a thing.”

*Student, Everyday Learning LLC,  
Historic Huntsville Museum visitor*

## BRICK BY THE LEGACY OF BRICK: HENDERSON & DANIEL BRANDON

**PERMANENT  
EXHIBITION**

Harrison Brothers Hardware

**22,400**  
**ANNUAL VISITORS**  
(and counting!)

Representing 38 states  
and 8 countries

**TRAVELING  
EXHIBITION**

Madison Public Library  
For the month of  
November

**20,000**  
**LIBRARY PATRONS**  
**PER MONTH**

**42,400 VISITORS FOR  
"BRICK BY BRICK" EXHIBITION IN 2023**



The Harrison brothers' work desk is home to the "House and Home" exhibition. Emily Seibel, HHF-UAH volunteer and Drew Adan, UAH Library Archivist

# EDUCATE. ADVOCATE. ENGAGE.



“ The Historic Huntsville Foundation is doing excellent and much-needed work by shining a light on the role African Americans have played in building our city. ”

**Robert Buddo, President & CEO,  
Downtown Huntsville Inc.**

*Our Alabama Authors lecture series brought together noted experts to share their knowledge and insights with the greater Huntsville community.*

Education is a key component of our mission, and Huntsville-Madison County has many classrooms. We've introduced children to Huntsville Women Who Made History on the sidewalks outside Harrison Brothers and in the Triana Branch of the Huntsville-Madison County Library. We've shared the history of Daniel Brandon in the pulpit of Lakeside United Methodist Church and at a family reunion in East Limestone County. And we've partnered with everyone from the Epsilon Gamma Omega chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority to the Alabama Association of University Women--all in a quest to bring awareness to Huntsville-Madison County and its historic sites.

Our "Alabama Authors" quilt programs and lecture series allowed us to make new community connections. From Dr. Elliott Knight's presentation on the Gee's Bend quilters to Dr. Charlotte Teague's program about the featured artists on the quilt, to Tiavalya Befecadu's discussions about the making of the quilt, we've reached new audiences who share our passion for history and the arts..

**FREE  
EDUCATIONAL  
PROGRAMS  
HOSTED BY  
THE HISTORIC  
HUNTSVILLE  
FOUNDATION  
IN 2023**

Henderson and Daniel Brandon: Brick by Brick .....	<b>9</b>
The Social and Political Activism of Huntsville Women .....	<b>7</b>
Alabama Author Lecture Series .....	<b>5</b>
Events/Activities/Tours for School Children .....	<b>3</b>
<b>FREE PROGRAMS .....</b>	<b>24</b>



There were smiles all around at our “Huntsville Women Who Made History” program at the Triana branch of the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library

HHF ED Donna Castellano’s tour of “Brick by Brick” introduces Huntsville students to Henderson and Daniel Brandon



Our “Best Moms in History” Mother’s Day card art project recognize Huntsville women of history



This public presentation focused on the activism of Huntsville’s Black suffrage and civil rights leaders

## 2023 PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

# 1,310

in-person + livestream attendees

“ It takes many voices, many perspectives to do justice to the history of Huntsville and Alabama. The Historic Huntsville Foundation is a valued partner in this quest. They know when to lead, when to support, and when to listen.”

Mrs. Ollye Ballard Conley, retired educator, principal, and Huntsville history advocate

# HARRISON BROTHERS HARDWARE

Harrison Brothers Hardware, one of Huntsville's most recognizable icons, is an important historical landmark, a must-see tourist attraction, and since 1897, a popular shopping destination for generations of Huntsvillians. But honoring the past while at the same time maintaining relevance 126 years later requires reflection and creative flexibility!

In keeping with Downtown Huntsville's exciting growth and renewed energy, and with an eye to the future, the Harrison Brothers staff and the store's Advisory and Properties committees embarked on an ambitious project in July. The team's top priorities: (1) to respect and preserve the historic look and feel of Harrison Brothers while updating and refreshing its layout and design; (2) to celebrate Huntsville's rich heritage by enhancing the store's offerings with merchandise primarily sourced and created by local artisans, visual artists and authors; and (3) to serve as a "first stop" destination for unique, high quality specialty items that complement the look and feel of the store. All on a nonprofit budget.

The Harrison Brothers team has been busy and while the project is ongoing, the enhancements so far are palpable. Perhaps the most exciting innovation is the new Harrison Brothers Gallery on the west side of the store. The store has sold artwork for years, but the "new Gallery" is now bursting at the seams with spectacular masterpieces created by more than 40 area artists, with new artists and artwork accepted weekly.

We invite you to visit Harrison Brothers soon and experience the magic! We are confident that you will find what you need - and more - at Huntsville's favorite "old store!" And while you are there, be sure to visit The Historic Huntsville Museum, which shares the stories of Huntsville's history and history makers!

## MEET THE ARTISTS RECEPTION

More than 150 guests attended a festive "meet the artists" reception at the new Harrison Brothers Gallery in October. The event featured 11 visual artists whose works are now on exhibit and available for sale. And what a sale it was, with 38 paintings sold during the two-hour reception! Future quarterly events are planned and will celebrate the arts and the Gallery's talented local artists.



The Harrison Brothers Gallery features 2- and 3-dimensional artwork by local artists. Enhancements to the Gallery will be made after the holidays.



Featured artists Suzanne Matthews, Lakshmi Nallamala, Carole Forêt, Robin Monroe, Mitzi Roess, Leslie Lockhart, and Heather White  
Not pictured: Pat Thomason, Lee Anne Smith, Kathryn Price, Christina Wegman

## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Harrison Brothers was abuzz with the sound of holiday music, the laughter of children, and the hustle and bustle of shoppers at the store's holiday open house in early November.



May Luttrell added author Craig Paulus' book, "When the Bears Hear the Lights" to her wish list for Santa.

Addie Evans enjoyed watching the Harrison Brothers trains go 'round the tracks!



Mayor Tommy Battle served as honorary conductor and "started the engines" of the store's model trains, on loan from our friends at the Huntsville/Decatur Railroad Depot, and signifying the beginning of the holiday shopping season.

“ Harrison Brothers is one of my favorite places to shop local. Not only do they have a fabulous selection of Huntsville and Alabama artists and artisans, but they host the most wonderful special events. Shopping Harrison Brothers is a great way to support the arts AND enrich our community! ”

*Jennifer Swoboda, Member, Historic Huntsville Foundation*



## CELEBRATING LOCAL AUTHORS

Harrison Brothers regularly hosts book signing events and with books penned by 40 area authors in our book nook, we've been busy!

## WELCOME!

Our new rocking chairs have been a welcome addition to Harrison Brothers' "front porch!"



**GEORGINA CROSS**  
September 16



**CRAIG PAULUS**  
November 4



**KELLY KAZEK**  
November 11



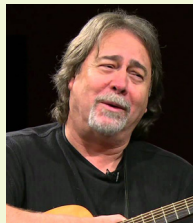
**JAN SHADE BEACH**  
Illustrator,  
November 11



**TOM BORCHERT**  
November 25



**MARTIE DUNCAN**  
December 2



**JIM McBRIDE**  
December 9



**ROBERT BAILEY**  
December 16



**HHF MEMBERS JOINING OR RENEWING AT THE \$50 LEVEL (OR HIGHER) RECEIVE**

**10% OFF**

**HARRISON BROTHERS MERCHANDISE.**

[Exclusions: consignment and sale merchandise]

**HOLIDAY SHOPPING HOURS**

**MONDAY – SATURDAY:**

**10:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

**SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER:**

**12:00 – 4:00 PM**

# YOUR ANNUAL FUND CONTRIBUTION IMPACTS OUR MISSION.

*Through your generosity, you can help fund Historic Huntsville Museum exhibitions, support our outreach programs, and underwrite our historical research.*

## THE HISTORIC HUNTSVILLE MUSEUM

Huntsville's only FREE history museum whose exhibition meets the exacting standards of the National Park Service.

### DEBUTING THREE FEATURED EXHIBITIONS IN 2024:



#### TOSSING STONES AND MAKING WAVES:

##### SHELBY JOHNSON AND GRAND CLEANERS

Founders of Grand Shine Cleaners and Grand Cleaners, Lou Bertha and Shelby Johnson's successful lawsuit against the City of Huntsville in 1945 proved that you can fight city hall.



#### HUNTSVILLE HIGHLIGHTS:

##### THE MONTE SANO HOTEL COLLECTION OF JERRY BARCLAY

An avid collector of all things Huntsville, Jerry Barclay shares his collection of artifacts from the Monte Sano Hotel, a resort which operated on Monte Sano mountain from 1887-1900.



#### AN AMERICAN SIGNATURE QUILT:

##### A TIME CAPSULE OF AMERICAN HISTORY

The autographs of Ronald Reagan, Harper Lee, John Glenn, and Elizabeth Taylor are among the 50 original signatures of notable Americans featured in the "American Signature Quilt," a project undertaken in 1991 to benefit Harrison Brothers Hardware.

## OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Our free educational presentations, programs, and community events bring people together through history.

## HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Our museum exhibitions and educational programs are the products of original research. Together, we are adding new chapters to Huntsville-Madison County's rich history.

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WITH A DONATION TO THE ANNUAL FUND**

