



NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Historical Society
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615-1099
785-272-8681

REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

Contacts:

Bobbie Athon • 785-272-8681, ext. 262 • bathon@kshs.org
Teresa Jenkins • 785-272-8681, ext. 263 • tjenkins@kshs.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 11, 2008

DONORS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TAX CREDITS TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON HISTORIC SITES

\$67,000 still available for fiscal year 2009

TOPEKA, KS—The Kansas Historical Society has \$67,000 in state tax credits available to taxpayers this year that can be used to help keep historic sites operational and open to visitors across the state.

Last year the organization received \$34,500 in tax credit donations through the Partnership Historic Sites program, which allows donors to make a contribution to a qualifying historic site and receive a tax credit equal to 50 percent of their donation.

State Senator Derek Schmidt, a proponent of the Partnership Historic Sites tax credits, encourages donors to consider the program. "In addition to decreasing one's tax burden, this is a great opportunity for those like myself who are interested in historic preservation to make a valuable impact on an historic site in our state."

The William Allen White House State Historic Site in Emporia, operated by the Kansas Historical Society in conjunction with the William Allen White Community Partnership, Inc., is already benefiting from a gift received because of the 2008 tax credits. John Mallon of Emporia made a gift to the Historical Society, earmarked for the White home. "The tax credit allowed me to make a larger gift, and therefore a larger impact, on the site," Mallon said. "The William Allen White site does not receive any state funding, so it has to rely on support from private donors. There's a great story being told at that site, and it would be a shame if we could no longer share that story with school children and other visitors."

Three Historical Society state historic sites have been approved to issue tax credits in fiscal year 2009. Donors to Goodnow House State Historic Site in Manhattan are eligible for \$10,000 in tax credits. This site is in need of major rehabilitation. Donors to Grinter Place State Historic Site in Kansas City are eligible for \$10,000 in tax credits and will see their gifts create new exhibits now that a major rehabilitation has been completed. Donors making a gift to the William Allen White House State Historic Site are eligible for up to \$20,000 in tax credits. Their gifts will help bring more school groups to the site. If a donor isn't sure where their funds are needed the most, an additional \$30,000 in tax credits are available for general operations and endowment of all state historic sites.

DONORS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TAX CREDITS – Add 2

For more information on the Partnership Historic Sites tax credits, call KSHS, Inc. Executive Director Vicky Henley at 785-272-8681, ext. 201. KSHS, Inc., is a non-profit organization that supports the Kansas Historical Society, a state agency, whose mission is to identify, collect, preserve, interpret, and disseminate materials and information pertaining to Kansas history. The Historical Society was organized by a group of Kansas newspaper editors and publishers in 1875. Today the state agency operates the Kansas Museum of History, the State Archives & Library and maintains 16 state historic sites throughout Kansas. KSHS, Inc., provides program support through fund-raising, membership and retail activities.

The Kansas Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs. The Historical Society requests prior notification to accommodate individuals with special needs or disabilities.