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06/21/2024

PRESS RELEASE

The Kellerman Lorimier Hall in Cape Girardeau, MO Awarded \$49,777.00 from Missouri Main Street Connection's Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Subgrant Program

Cape Girardeau, MO. – The Kellerman Lorimier Hall is one of thirteen properties in Missouri to receive a Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Subgrant from Missouri Main Street Connection (MMSC) and the National Park Service.

The Mary Ann and Bert J. Kellerman Foundation was awarded \$49,777.00 to facilitate needed repairs to this contributing building that has serviced the Cape Girardeau area in a variety of ways over the years as an elementary school and city hall. In addition to the \$49,777.00 provided by this grant, the Mary Ann and Bert J. Kellerman Foundation will invest a minimum of ten percent of the grant amount toward the final project as a match.

In its current state, the Kellerman Lorimier Hall is still historically contributing to Cape Girardeau but is currently closed to the public, meaning it is not contributing economically to its district. The restoration project that was approved by MMSC addresses the needed column and window repair, tuckpointing three chimneys, painting, and exterior lighting. It also enables the restoration of a powerful multi-use facility located in a regional landmark that encompasses a rich history and elicits an emotional impact from numerous area groups. Mary Ann Kellerman described the impact of this project as, "protecting and preserving the architectural, historical, and cultural heritage throughout the Southeast Missouri region. This restoration project will offer 'place making' at its finest."

Upon completion of work at Kellerman Lorimier Hall, the building will serve as a museum while also including community learning, commercial, and office space for Cape Girardeau and the greater surrounding Southeast Missouri / Southern Illinois region.

If you are a banking institution who would like to partner with MMSC to provide construction, commercial, and/or bridge loans for this project and/or any of the projects that have been awarded see what this looks like with MMSC's [information sheet](#).

This grant was made possible with assistance from the Historic Preservation Fund, administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior under Grant Number P23AP01967. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of



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the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Interior.

About National Park Service

Since 1916, the National Park Service (NPS) has directed the management and implementation of programming for the national parks across the country.

For over 100 years they have led the preservation of America's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. The NPS in partnership and cooperation with partners has taken care of the national parks and helping Americans take care of their communities. One way that this is accomplished is through appropriations authorized by Congress for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). The HPF, authorized through 2023, uses revenue from federal oil and gas leases on the Outer Continental Shelf, providing assistance for a broad range of preservation projects without expending tax dollars.

These grants mark the fifth year of funding for the program honoring the late Paul Bruhn, executive director of the Preservation Trust of Vermont for nearly 40 years. For more information about the grants and the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants program, please visit nps.gov.

About Missouri Main Street Connection

Missouri Main Street Connection is the leading statewide nonprofit organization devoted to preservation-based economic development. Through the Main Street America™ movement and our partners, we empower community revitalization by celebrating, supporting, and sustaining Missouri historic commercial districts in both rural and urban settings. Since 2005, Missouri Main Street communities have seen \$1 billion in public and private investment and MMSC has worked in over 180 communities. These Missouri Main Street communities and districts are thriving and vibrant by engaging the community members in revitalization strategies to create experiences that preserve their history and culture. Follow Missouri Main Street Connection on Facebook @MissouriMainStreetConnection and Instagram @MOmainstreet.

For additional information, contact State Director Gayla Roten at 417-334-3014. Mailing address for inquiries:
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