



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 20, 2017

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NORTHPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY RECEIVES GARDINER FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECTS

Northport Historical Society announced today that the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation has awarded the Society a capacity building grant in the amount of \$37,271. This funding will be used to strengthen and enhance the stewardship of the Society's historic collection and resources and provide for greater outreach to the communities it serves, namely: Northport, East Northport, Asharoken, Eaton's Neck, Crab Meadow, and Fort Salonga.

Funds earmarked for the Gardiner capacity building grant center around the development of a comprehensive business plan designed to expand awareness about the Society's projects, services, and events; determine methods to catalogue and share its Collection; and develop exciting ways to incorporate technology into its exhibits. "We're

Serving the communities of Northport, Asharoken, Eatons Neck, East Northport and Fort Salonga

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elated that the Gardiner Foundation awarded the NHS this substantial grant and in doing so, validates the Board's belief that it is imperative for the Society to develop a long range business strategy at this moment in time," said NHS President, Ted Kaplan. "We're intent on growing the NHS's audience and engaging the communities we serve to the best of our ability -- and this grant lays the foundation for doing just that," he added.

"The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation views the Northport Historical Society's location, collections and programming as a vital part of its community and a key to the economic growth of downtown Northport. This grant will prepare them to move forward to a new era of outreach and engagement," says Kathryn M. Curran, Executive Director of the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation.

In order to meet the needs of its community and better prepare for future audiences, The Society's Board of Directors has determined that its single most important capacity building requirement is to make the 100-year old Museum building ADA accessible. By instituting the methods and goals outlined in the Gardiner grant, the NHS is confident that the development of a multi-tiered business plan will increase community involvement in the project and provide the framework to make that goal a reality.

Located in the historic 1914 Carnegie Library building on Northport Village's Main Street, the NHS is the only local organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of the communities comprising the Northport-East Northport School District. Open

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six days a week, year-round, and operating with a part-time staff and numerous volunteers, the Society provides educational programs for both children and adults, and its Museum building serves as a central repository for the historic objects, photos and papers which encompass the heritage of the area. NHS exhibits and programs like their “Sunday at the Society” lecture series, historic walking tours, and quarterly Book Club meetings, encourage interest and appreciation for all things historical in the Northport area and make the Northport Historical Society one of the most active organizations in the area.

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