



Dear Friend of Georgia History,

“Fellow citizens, we cannot escape history.”
~ Abraham Lincoln

Today’s headlines make painfully clear how the current fiscal crisis is affecting the education of Georgia’s schoolchildren: *Budgets slashed. Teachers furloughed. Students underperforming.*

As we approach the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, *fewer than half* of 17 year-olds polled by an independent educational research organization can place that war in the correct century, not to mention being able to explain why the war still has meaning 150 years later.

There is no doubt that these are difficult times for those charged with educating the next generation. That’s why the work of the Georgia Historical Society is so vital to the future of our state and nation.

As the premier, independent statewide historical institution responsible for collecting, examining and teaching Georgia and American history, GHS supports teachers and students. In addition to organizing a wide variety of school programs and classroom instruction during the popular *Georgia History Festival*, GHS provides free history-based curricula on its website, accessible by students and teachers on a year-round basis. Furthermore, we train K-12 and university-level educators in how to better teach Georgia and American history.

This past year, **the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded GHS a grant of \$100,172 to process, catalogue and digitize thousands of maps, portraits and artifacts from Georgia’s past.** These primary source materials are used by educators to create meaningful history lessons that engage students.

In order to release these federal funds, GHS must raise the same amount to match the grant. We hope you will consider making a gift toward the IMLS match. Your contribution helps GHS to make available these irreplaceable treasures, guaranteeing their preservation in perpetuity for future generations. With your support, GHS can continue to step into the breach and provide under-funded schools, teachers and students with the tools they need to study the past and prepare for the future.

History tells us that in order for democracy to work its citizens must be informed and educated. It is through your ongoing and invaluable support that we can continue to offer and expand upon important educational programs and lay the foundation for our future. Please help us continue to teach Georgia’s history by using the enclosed envelope to send your fully tax-deductible gift to the GHS Annual Giving Campaign in support of the IMLS match.

SAVANNAH
501 Whitaker Street
Savannah, GA 31401
Tel 912.651.2125
Fax 912.651.2831

ATLANTA
260 14th Street, N.W.
Suite A-148
Atlanta, GA 30318
Tel 404.376.8161
Fax 404.671.8570

www.georgiahistory.com

Thank you for joining us in our efforts to continue to provide opportunities that empower new generations with the knowledge of the past.

Very truly yours,



W. Todd Groce, Ph.D.
President and CEO

Enclosure

P.S. A gift of \$250 (matched by an equal amount in federal dollars) will allow us to preserve approximately five items. This means that teachers, students and researchers can have ready digital access to such historic items as:

- An original map of the Indian Nations in the South from 1766
- An original 1772 land survey of the “province of Georgia”
- A collection of original Girl Scout badges and early handbooks from Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low
- An original map of the state of Georgia’s road system in 1938

As a supporter of GHS we know you care about collecting and sharing history.

Please help us meet the IMLS match so Georgia’s schoolchildren will have access to more of our state’s rich history.