



Willamette Heritage Center (WHC) is Proud Recipient of Gannett Foundation Community Grant

For Immediate Release

The Willamette Heritage Center is the proud recipient of the Gannett Foundation Community Grant in the amount of \$1,500.

In partnership with the *Statesman Journal*, WHC is using the newspaper's 160th anniversary as an occasion to reflect on the Salem growth and the paper's changing role in the community.

A Gannett Foundation grant will assist WHC with two related projects. One is the curating of "Dateline Salem: Reporting Our Community's History" a traveling photographic and text display (to be completed in the summer of 2011) that explores how the newspaper reflected the city's evolution. Second, the WHC will host the "Salem's Chroniclers," lecture series in the Fall 2011 that will enable individuals who have devoted their careers to reporting local news to reflect on the interaction between the newspaper and Salem's growth.

"We are very grateful for the generous donation of the Gannett Foundation and the opportunity to showcase the history of Salem as documented and presented by the *Statesman Journal*," said Peter Booth, executive director of The Willamette Heritage Center.

For more information, contact the Willamette Heritage Center, 503-585-7012 or visit <http://www.missionmill.org>.

The Willamette Heritage Center at The Mill, a unification between Mission Mill Museum and Marion County Historical Society, is a stroll through the history of the Willamette Valley. Its 5-acre campus is home to the 1841 Jason Lee house (arguably the oldest wooden framed house in Oregon), 1841 Willamette Mission Parsonage, 1847 John Boon home, 1858 Pleasant Grove Church and the 1896 Thomas Kay Woolen Mill, named an *American Treasure* by the National Park Service. Since its founding in 1964 as a private non-profit association, Mission Mill Museum has established a reputation as a leader in the preservation and interpretation of Oregon's history. The museum's histories are shared with visitors through daily and group tours, speakers, living history, children's programs, hands-on activities, special events, the museum store and rental facilities. For more information call 503-585-7012 or visit <http://www.missionmill.org>.

The Willamette Heritage Center is a private not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. It is not managed by city, county, state or federal agencies.

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