



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Angelica Diggs, Executive Director

973-744-1796

### **Montclair History Center Receives Operating Support Grant from the New Jersey Arts and Cultural Renewal Fund at the Princeton Area Community Foundation**

**Montclair, NJ** – The Montclair History Center has been awarded a \$30,000 operating support grant from the New Jersey Arts and Cultural Renewal Fund at the Princeton Area Community Foundation. The operating support grant will aid in ongoing needs to service the community for in person programming initiatives while still maintaining the virtual initiatives developed out of the 2020 shutdown.

Like all organizations, the COVID-19 affected the Montclair History Center's ability to serve the public in 2020. The focus of MHC during the shutdown was to maintain our operations and strategize creative (virtual) programming when in person programming and events came to a halt. During this time, the Montclair History Center launched its popular History at Home series, an online initiative that is here to stay and made available on the Montclair History Center's YouTube channel (@montclairhistorycenter).

The MHC has seen a substantial return to in person programming initiatives this past year (even more than pre-pandemic levels) while maintaining the virtual initiatives developed out of the 2020 shutdown. The Montclair History Center staff and Board of Trustees are dedicated to providing exceptional educational, public programming, and research services to the public, meeting the community where and how they need it as we navigate this 'new normal.' The operating support grant of the New Jersey Arts and Cultural Renewal Fund at the Princeton Area Community Foundation will aid the Montclair History Center in fulfilling this mission to the public.

The Arts and Culture Renewal Fund (originally called the New Jersey Arts and Culture

Recovery Fund) was created by a coalition of funders to raise and direct much needed support to the nonprofit arts and cultural sector statewide. The fund was established with a lead gift from the Grunin Foundation and is hosted by the Princeton Area Community Foundation. Coalition leadership also includes the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, The Prudential Financial Foundation, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, New Jersey Historical Commission, and Stone Foundation of NJ.

About the Montclair History Center: The Montclair History Center, formerly the Montclair Historical Society, is an independent not-for-profit organization that has been dedicated to preserving, sharing, and educating others about Montclair's history since 1965. For additional information, please visit the website [www.montclairhistory.org](http://www.montclairhistory.org) or contact the Montclair History Center at 973-744-1796 or [mail@montclairhistory.org](mailto:mail@montclairhistory.org).

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