

# *Louisiana* *Trust* for HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Louisiana Preservation Conference to take place in Alexandria, April 29 – May 1, 2009**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana, March 9, 2009 - The Board of Directors of the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation is pleased to announce that the 2009 Louisiana Preservation Conference, entitled *Preservation in Progress*, will be held in Alexandria on April 29 through May 1, 2009.

"This is a commemorative year for the Louisiana Trust and our partners, Louisiana Main Street. 2009 celebrates 30 years of organizational excellence for the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation and 25 years of phenomenal programming by Louisiana Main Streets," notes Jean Hurley O'Roark, Board President of the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation. "With a stellar group of speakers and presentations, this year's conference is certain to offer our Louisiana preservationists a unique opportunity for education and networking."

During the three-day forum, preservationists from across the state and the nation will convene in the historic city of Alexandria and its unique downtown will take center stage. Attendees will include partners such as: the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism, Main Street® Managers, and members and partners of the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation. In addition, distinguished officials from the National Trust for Historic Preservation will be on-site along with renowned professionals throughout the field, such as keynote speaker Donovan Rypkema - Principal of PlaceEconomics, a recognized industry leader in the economics of preserving historic structures. Topics

for the 2009 educational sessions include: preservation architecture and design guidelines; tax credits for historic properties; statewide civil war trails; insurance practices for historic structures and much more.

O’Roark adds, “We have received a tremendous response from our professional partners such as the local chapter of American Institute of Architects, who will be offering continuing education – CEU - credit for their members attending our conference sessions. We see this as a testament to our high-caliber programming and are pleased to offer this benefit to AIA.”

In addition to the slate of notable speakers, there will be an opportunity to experience significant historic and cultural attractions throughout the Alexandria area, such as Loyd Hall Plantation, Kent House, the Alexandria Museum of Art and The Diamond Grill; each a featured site on the conference agenda. Also on the agenda is the Honor Awards Luncheon, to be held Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> in recognition of individuals and organizations that have excelled in Louisiana’s preservation efforts.

The conference culminates on Friday morning at Fort Polk in Leesville with a field study of the Army-Community Heritage Partnerships Program or *A-CHPP*, an initiative of the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Main Street Center and the United States Army, intended to strengthen the ties (economic, historic, social) between Army installations and neighboring communities by providing a program of technical services and training in preservation-based economic development strategies.

For more information about the 30<sup>th</sup> *Annual Louisiana Preservation Conference*, please contact the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation at (225) 344-6001 or visit [www.lthp.org](http://www.lthp.org).

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Celebrating 30 years of preservation, the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation is a 501(c)3 organization founded in 1979 for cultural and educational purposes pertaining to historic preservation. The Founders understood that an organized statewide network of preservationists was a critical component to promote the preservation of the heritage and historic resources of Louisiana through education, technical assistance, outreach and advocacy. The Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation is the statewide partner of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.