

## ***State Lawmakers announce \$371K in grants for Knox historic sites***

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – **State Reps. Dave Wright**, R-Corryton, **Jason Zachary**, **Justin Lafferty**, **Michele Carringer**, and **Elaine Davis**, each of Knoxville, today announced more than \$371,000 in grants to Knox County museums and historic sites.

Historic Ramsey House received \$84,080, Historic Westwood received \$70,000, the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame received \$38,000, Hazen Historical Museum Foundation received \$97,990, the East Tennessee Historical Society received \$39,640, and the Blount Mansion Association received \$42,000 totaling \$371,710 for sites in Knox County.

The funds are part of a larger \$5 million appropriation approved by members of the General Assembly for the Tennessee State Museum in the 2023-24 state budget.

“These historic sites offer great insight into Knox County’s past,” the lawmakers said. “We’re proud to announce the significant investments into their missions and are appreciative of the Tennessee State Museum’s work in historic preservation.”

The funds must be used for building and land improvements, including structural changes and renovations.

Out of 170 applications totaling \$12.5 million in requests, 108 museums across 58 counties were granted a total of \$5 million in full or partial awards from the State Museum, according to Ashley Howell, the executive director of the Tennessee State Museum.

The money was made available to 501(c)(3) nonprofits or museums affiliated with government entities through the Tennessee General Assembly’s 2023-24 Appropriations Act. Each request had a minimum of \$5,000 in improvements and a maximum of \$100,000. The projects covered by the grants have a completion deadline of June 30, 2024.

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