Friends of the Davenport House Annual Giving Campaign:
Math, Serendipity and Annual Giving

Generally speaking history people are not terrific mathematicians. Regardless, they/we need to understand the numbers to be realistic stewards of a museum property. In our case the Davenport House is 192 years old, sees 35,000 visitors annually, trains and supports 55 docents, cultivates 124 friends of the Davenport House and has a $367,000 operating budget. All of these numbers and what they mean act upon and affect the others. However, there is not always logic behind the reality of the numbers. Sometimes magic takes over where the numbers leave off. The numbers cannot explain the generosity of donors with their gifts and volunteers with their time. Math cannot explain the love and tenacity of patrons, the enthusiasm of our junior interpreters or the creativity of our people. And, math cannot explain the Davenport House’s survival when so many other structures of its vintage were lost. Thus is the serendipity and the reality of the Davenport House.

We are lucky to have this old house as a symbol of the past and as a vibrant living place of beauty, learning and fun for the present. Because of our friends the 2011-2012 Annual Giving Campaign is coming together nicely. Under the leadership of Cornelia Groves and Archie Davis we are on target to meet and exceed our goals this year. Thank you and know the museum’s future depends on the growth of its Friends program. We ask that you share your commitment to the museum with others — letting them know what the museum means to you! The future depends on you and those like minded community-spirited people who understand the numbers as well as appreciating the serendipity.

Please know that your gifts supply the funds necessary to protect the house and operate the museum - through collections care, lively programming and research projects. Your gifts are vital to the DH and make a significant difference in the programs and services it provides.

PRESERVATION FESTIVAL & THE DH:
Isaiah Davenport, the Carpenter and The Garden Party

The DH will host two new events during May’s PRESER-
VATION FESTIVAL, Savannah’s month-long celebration of historic preservation. On Saturday, May 19th, we will premier “Isaiah Davenport, the Carpenter” and on May 31st we will host the closing event The Garden Party which will be held in the DH garden and Columbia Square. The Garden Party will incorporate favorite features from the Savannah Garden Expo including a silent plant action and a container garden exhibition. “Isaiah Davenport, the Carpenter” will be an evening of exploration and craftsmanship which will make a lasting impact on the site’s story.

In anticipation of the May 19th event CosmosMariner Productions is creating a short film to premier. In addition the event will examine buildings associated with Davenport.

Several noted scholars have agreed to assist including SCAD architectural historian E. G. Davis Rossell, PhD., engineer and SCAD professor Tom Hoffman, architectural consultant Dirk Hardison, historian Vaughnette Goode-Walker, preservationist Danielle Muenier, historian and antiquarian John Duncan, and historian/educator, Hugh Golson, among others.

The Greene Square/Columbia Square area will be emphasized with new perspectives on the DH as well as information on Laura Cottage and the “Davenport House” on Greene Square. Participants will enter 528 E. State Street as well as Greg Guenther’s shop at 409 West York Street. As an added treat participants will also enter 321 West York Street, known as the Frederick Selleck House.

Both Isaiah Davenport, the Carpenter and The Garden Party will offer food and the opportunity to socialize with fellow preservation devotees and DH friends.
Interview with Katherine Albert, Chair

What is your relationship to the new events in May?

I am thrilled to be involved with Preservation Festival 2012 as the chair. There are seven exciting events throughout the month of May and we have an outstanding committee dedicated to making sure this inaugural year of Preservation Festival is a huge success.

What is your background?

I am originally from Spartanburg, South Carolina. I attended Furman University where I received a BA in History. Previously, I worked as the Director for the Savannah Tour of Homes and Gardens. My husband, Matt, is originally from Savannah.

What is Preservation Festival?

Historic Savannah Foundation is pleased to introduce Savannah’s Preservation Festival. The National Trust for Historic Preservation designates May of each year as “Preservation Month.” As a Local Partner of the National Trust, Historic Savannah Foundation is embracing Preservation Month by developing a festival celebrating what makes Savannah a worldwide destination and why residents choose to make it home. The theme for this year's festival is, “Preserving a Sense of Place.”

What do you hope to achieve?

We hope this event will become one of Savannah’s best-loved festivals, extending the mission of Historic Savannah Foundation, “Preserve Savannah’s heritage through advocacy, education and community involvement,” to a diverse audience. Through corporate sponsorship, patron sponsorship, individual ticket sales and auction revenue, we hope to generate proceeds for Historic Savannah Foundation and Davenport House’s excellent programming. In the coming years, we plan to partner with VisitSavannah and the Tall Ships Festival, making May as a nationally-recognized month full of preservation, history, beauty and education – right here in Savannah.

What are the components?

All components of the Festival can be viewed in detail at www.myHSF.org. Tickets and patron packages are now available. See the line-up to the right. Additional components of the Festival include a month-long destination package auction, a fine art auction with work by West Fraser, Preston Russell, Nancy LeBey Solana, Elizabeth Cain, Cedric Smith and more, a poster contest with entries from Savannah Chatham Schools, an exotic plant auction, a container garden display and auction, epicurean delicacies from local caterers – the month-long festival is sure to be a wonderful celebration of Savannah’s architecture, art, talent and tradition!

What is the future?

Terri O’Neil, Development Director of Historic Savannah Foundation is actively planning the calendar for Preservation Festival 2013. If you would like to be involved, please contact Terri at 912-233-7787.

Who is involved?

Volunteers and staff from Davenport House and Historic Savannah Foundation are involved in planning and executing Preservation Festival 2012. Corporate sponsors secured to-date include Mopper-Stapen, THA Group, Belfor, Enmark and Savannah Magazine.

2012 Preservation Festival: Preserving A Sense Of Place

Thursday, May 3rd from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Preservation Festival Launch Party

Ships of the Sea Museum Garden
$75 per ticket

Saturday, May 5th

Work Day at W. W. Law House
710 West Victory Drive
No tickets required

Thursday, May 10th from 11:30 until 1 p.m.

HSF Awards Luncheon

Ships of the Sea Museum’s outdoor Assembly Hall
$45 per ticket

Friday, May 18th from 6 until 9 p.m.

Preservation Wine Tour

Private Homes on Madison Square, launched from the Green-Meldrim House
$45 per ticket

Saturday, May 19th from 5:30 until 8:30 p.m.

Isaiah Davenport, The Carpenter

Davenport House Museum and environs
$95 per ticket

Thursday, May 24th at 7 p.m.

Lecture: Even Thompson, Executive Director, Preservation Society of Charleston

Ships of the Sea Museum

Tickets not required

Thursday, May 31st from 6 to 9 p.m.

The Garden Party

Davenport House Garden
$75 per ticket

See myhsf.org for additional information and to purchase tickets.
Friends of the Davenport House 2011-2012 Appeal

The DH is grateful to its Friends!

**McKinnon Circle/$1000 +**
- Anonymous
- Mr. and Mrs. Craig Barrow III
- Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Bradley for the Davenport House Garden
- The Critz Family Fund
- Mr. and Mrs. Archie Davis
- Mr. and Mrs. George Fawcett
- The Gardner Family Foundation
- Mr. and Mrs. Rick Muller
- Mr. Murray C. Perlman and Mr. Wayne C. Spear
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard Platt
- Mr. and Mrs. Ib Raae
- Dan and Diane Reitman & ExxonMobil Foundation
- Matching Gift Program
- Trustees Garden Club

**Fire Warden – $600 to $999**

**Alderman - $250 to $599**
- Dr. and Mrs. John D. Chapman
- Mrs. Katherine Chisholm
- Colonial Foundation, Inc.
- Jamie Credle and Raleigh Marcell
- Connie and Glen Darbyshire in honor of Jamie Credle and Cornelia Groves
- Mr. Charles Ellis
- Mrs. Cornelia Groves
- Mr. Lynn Hadwin
- Dr. and Mrs. Rodney Hartmann
- Mr and Mrs. Warren Kelleher - honor of Cornelia Groves
- Nita Ann and Chris Klein
- Don and Marsha Moore
- Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Muller
- Mr. and Mrs. William H. Pinson, Jr.
- Mrs. Marjorie Simpson in memory of Ethelwyn N. McKinnon and Billy McKinnon
- Mrs. Elizabeth Taipale
- Mr and Mrs. Wiley Wasden
- Mrs. Elizabeth L. Yingling

**Master Builder - $150-249**
- Dr. and Mrs. John H. Angell
- Mr. and Mrs. Daniel H. Bradley
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coker
- Kim and Robert Daugherty
- Mr. F. Reed Dulany, Jr. in memory of Susan Dulany
- Mrs. Claudette Engvall
- Mrs. Linda Garner

**Carpenter - $50 to 149**
- Mrs. Emily Amburgey-Pidgeon in honor of Jamie Credle
- Diantha Barstow
- Dick and Sue Bordenkircher
- Mr. and Mrs. William C. Bouton
- Mrs. Meg Bremer
- Roslyn and Terry Brown
- Mr. and Mrs. C. Lee Butler
- Mr. Malcolm Butler
- Mrs. Marshall Campbell, Jr. in honor of Jamie Credle
- Dr. Tom and Sally Clark
- Mrs. Julia Credle
- Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Culver
- Mrs. Arla DaCamara
- Mr. William T. Dolan
- Mr. Hugh S. Golson
- Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Groves III
- Greg W. Guenther, Guenther Wood Group
- Mr. Benjamin Head
- Ms. Roseann Hooper
- Judy and Burton Howell
- Felton and Karen Jenkins in honor of Cornelia Groves
- Mrs. Chris Johnson
- Mrs. Elizabeth H. Kaynor
- Mr. and Mrs. Lou Kemp
- Mrs. Susan Kinnaird
- Ms. Dorothy Kraft in honor of Jamie Credle
- Mrs. Marlowe B. Laiacona
- Mrs. Shari Lee Laist
- Ms. Sarah Lamar
- Gene and Helen McCracken
- Rod and Trish McLeod
- Mrs. Claudia Mills

**Brick Mason – to $49**
- Mrs. Nancy Bader in memory of Eric Reitman
- Mrs. Janice Boekenheide
- Mrs. Judy Crisp
- Mrs. Patricia Fraker
- Mrs. Theodora Gongaware
- Mrs. Janice Highland
- Ms. Patricia Kelly
- Mr. Bruce Kessler
- Mrs. Georgia Klautzer
- Dr., Jane W. Rehl
- Mrs. Eudora Roebling
- Dr. E. G. Daves Rossell
- Ron and Karen Washburn

**Memorials:**
- In Memory of Lucille Freeman
- Jamie Credle and Raleigh Marcell
- Mrs. Elizabeth Yingling
- Mrs. Gayle Mongrandi
- Mrs. G. Philip Morgan, Jr. in honor of Cornelia Groves
- Stella & Walton Nussbaum
- Mr. Dennis and Dr. Maureen O’Connor
- Dr. and Mrs. M. Gage Ochsner
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- Roger Smith and Kevin Peek
- Sprague-Carr Family Fund
- Dr. and Mrs. Roland S. Summers in memory of Sarah Alexander Patterson Summers
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- Mrs. Lynn Townsend in memory of Rob Townsend
- Mrs. Mary C. Waddell
- Ms. Helen Waters
- Mr. and Mrs. Pendleton P. White
- Dr. and Mrs. Leslie L. Wilkes

**In Memory of Martha Striplin**
- Andrea Dove
- Jeff Freeman

**In Memory of Lucille Freeman**
- Davenport House Volunteers and Staff
- Davenport House Volunteers and Staff

**Friends of the Davenport House 2011-2012 Appeal**

The DH is grateful to its Friends!
2012 Davenport House Oyster Roast

Oyster Roast Committee:
Kim Bockius-Suwyn, Sylvia Coker, Connie Darbyshire, Cornelia Groves, Nita Ann Klein Jenny Long

Date: Saturday, January 14, 2012
Location: Three Rivers Home of Nita Ann and Chris Klein
Featuring a visit to the garden of Judge Harris Lewis and John McEllen and a visit to Camp Low on Rose Dhu Island

Window Patron
Dale Critz Family

Garden Light Patrons
Betty and Lee Butler
Sylvia and Charles Coker
Archie and Sally Davis
Lyn Hadwin
Landmark Veterinary Service
Kevin and Caroline Pennington
Hue and Fran Thomas

Oyster Roast ticket patrons:
John and Cort Atkinson
Jan and Rus Boekenheide
Martie Campbell
Daniel Carey
Ron and Barbara Coley
Judy Crenshaw
Connie Darbyshire
Bill Dolan
Kay and Don Gardner
Bob and Claudette Engvall
Hugh Golson
T. Gongaware
Cornelia Groves
Ben and Helen Johnson
Holly Kenreich
Nita Ann and Chris Klein
Ann and Dudley Koontz
Sarah Lamar and Scott Gress
Bill and Susan Lovett
Jenny and Blake Long
Dottie Lynch
Cindy Moore
Dale Morgan
Rick and Del Muller
Barbara Paull
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Mary Raines
Dan and Diane Reitman
Elaine and Carl Rosengart
Chris Savage
Diane and Edward Schmults
Roger Smith
Cathy Solomons
Dan and Kim Suwyn
Julie and Drew Wade
Lois Wooten

Additional Contributions:
C. Scott Bartlett
Lynda G. Beam
Katherine and Tom Owens
John G. Kennedy Foundation, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sisk
Polly and John Tucker
W. Lloyd Wood

Goodie Bag and Event Service Donors:
Tom Coker/Young Plantations
Old Town Trolley
River Street Sweets
Savannah Bee Company
Senior Citizens, Inc.

Table decorations!
Fran Thomas
Camellia exhibit on Rose Dhu Island
“Savannah Doesn’t Have Enough Wallpaper”
says Dave Cocco

Recently a docent-on-duty ran into the office asking if staff wanted to meet “the man who made our wallpaper.” In greeting Dave Cocco of Adelphi Wallpaper Hangings we found an enthusiastic artist who will retire to Savannah one day. Right now he and his partner are restoring a house in the Victorian District. They took an afternoon off from sanding and caulking to see some Savannah sites. Cocco had no idea on entering the DH that he would see a variety of the wallpapers his company makes. He was excited and proud. And he will have you know that he expects our visitors to be excited by them as well. In fact he says that he expects them to say “Wow, look at these papers.” Staff reassured him that they do!

Cocco is one of four craftsmen who make the blocks and stamp the papers in the old way. He says everything in the manufacturing process is done by traditional techniques except for the glues they use. Today they use acrylic glues instead of rabbit glue which would require heating and constant stirring. He offered that our guests should realize that the pigments of today were not available back then. And, what Adelphi uses are the colors – pigments and chalk—which were available to the master builder Isaiah Davenport.

He also said that on their strolls around Savannah glimpsing into historic interiors from the sidewalk that “Savannah doesn’t have enough wallpaper.”

**DAY TRIPPIN’ WITH DH VOLUNTEERS!**

Davenport House volunteers take two continuing education field trips each year, one in the winter and one in the fall, to become familiar with area cultural resources. For the February 2012 field trip, Architectural Savannah’s Jonathan Stalcup took nineteen DH community members on a visit to his alma mater, Savannah College of Art of Design. Along with seeing the new SCAD Museum of Art, DH travelers visited the 1909 SCAD Student Center on Montgomery Street, which was originally the synagogue of Congregation B’nai B’rith, designed by Hyman Witcover, and the 1887 Eichberg Hall, which was constructed as an office building for the Central of Georgia Railroad. All are impressive rehabilitations now reserved for students use.

**SPRING MAINTENANCE PROJECTS**

You may recall from the December Friends newsletter the need for maintenance work at the Davenport House particularly with regard to garden lighting and window sash repair. The projects are well on underway. The lighting is in place thanks to Mac’s Landscape Lighting. In March, Bloomquist Construction executed a list of repairs to the museum house and Kennedy Pharmacy, the most significant being the replacement of window sashes in Isaiah’s Office, the Morning Room, Cornelia’s Room and the Master Bedroom.

Also this winter saw the most significant landscape work to the garden in a number of years. Landscape consultant John McEllen’s recommended and supervised much of the work including pruning shrubs and trees. The old and declining crabapples were removed and new ones were put in their place. This work was done by Southeastern Tree. The irrigation system was examined and upgraded to suit the current growth of garden plants. Mark Webster did this work. In March the pond will receive a new filter with work executed by Luigi Trapani. And, then all will be ready for the Garden Club of America’s Annual Meeting which will be held in Savannah for the first time in mid-April. The DH is a stop on the meeting’s itinerary.
If “Edgy” Isn’t Your Forté: Come Have Tea at Mrs. D’s

Museum futurists say the way to attract a young, hip, contemporary audience is to be “edgy,” which has two definitions: one “tense and nervous” and the other “cutting edge and daring.” Well, the DH’s tea programs do not exactly fit the “edgy” description; in fact they are comfortable and enjoyable in a familiar and delightful way. Is there room in the world for light and happy programming that teaches a lesson in a painless way about something important yet seemingly trivial? The Davenport House hopes so! The museum offers two tea programs in the spring: one in March called Tea at Mrs. Davenport’s where a sit-down tea with living history characters is held in a museum room and in May called Tea in the Garden where tea is served in the garden. Visitors learn about the role tea played in early 19th century America, see and touch tea equipment and accoutrements, see the rooms where tea was served and learn how it was done. They then see and engage spritely living history interpreters while taking tea in a museum room. The best part about the program is the performance of living history interpreters Jan Vach, Brooke Wilford, Emily Pickels, Anne Hagan, Lauren Purcell, Jamie Credle and Jeff Freeman. The premise is that Mrs. Julia Johnson (Credle) is at home with her 24 year old daughter Martha Louisiana (Purcell) who is more interested in reading books than finding a husband. Her sister Mrs. Helen Rawlings (Wilford) and brother Mr. Jeffries (Freeman) are also at the residence. For the afternoon’s tea, a special guest from Washington City, Mrs. Margaret Bayard Smith (Vach and Hagan) and her granddaughter Mary (Pickels) come to call. They all sit down to tea together with the DH’s program guests. They discuss Mrs. Smith’s voyage to Savannah, writers and poetry, fashions — particularly those of women in Charleston — while having refreshments of gingerbread, Sally Lunn bread and tea. The visit concludes with tea leaves being read. Thanks to Raleigh Marcell for creating the dialogue from historical sources.

The DH is hopeful that these programs will find an audience! Maybe if the young, hip contemporary crowd gives Tea at Mrs. D’s a try they might find that soft is as enjoyable as edgy – maybe more so!
Davenport House Program Calendar
Spring 2012

Tea at Mrs. Davenport’s Thursdays and Fridays (and one Wednesday) in March 2012
[Program dates and times: March 21 at 5 p.m., March 22, 29 and 30 at 4:30 p.m.]
60 to 75 minutes
Admission: $18
Reservations recommended. Limited attendance.
Learn about tea traditions and experience an early 19th century tea in the historic atmosphere of the Isaiah Davenport House Museum. Patrons will tour areas of the historic home where tea service took place and will participate in an afternoon tea with costumed interpreters. The performance requires that guests be able to walk up and down stairs.

Tea in the Garden at the Davenport House Thursdays and Fridays in May 2012
[Program dates and times: May 3, 4, 10, 11, 17 and 18 at 4:30 p.m. and May 24, 25 and 31 at 5:00 p.m.]
60 to 75 minutes
Admission: $18
Reservations recommended. Limited attendance.
Learn about tea traditions and experience an early 19th century tea in Davenport House’s beautiful courtyard garden. Patrons will visit areas of the home where tea service took place and will participate in an afternoon tea given with costumed interpreters in the garden. The performance requires that guests be able to walk up and down stairs.

Discovering 1820s Savannah: Early Bird’s Walking Tour of the City Isaiah Knew Saturdays in May 2012
[Program dates: May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26]
At 7:30 a.m.
100 minutes. Distance 2.7 miles.
Admission: $20
See what survives of the 1820s Savannah that master builder Isaiah Davenport knew. Beginning at the Davenport House Museum (1820) participants will walk by some of the finest examples of preservation in the city and learn about what no longer remains. Topics to include the Great Fire of 1820, the yellow fever epidemic of 1820, Lafayette’s visit to Savannah in 1825 and the celebrations surrounding the 50th anniversary of the United States in 1826. Coffee and treats in the Davenport House garden will follow.

A Toast to Spring! DH Annual Garden Party on Thursday, June 7
We moved our annual garden party out of May and into June so as not to conflict with PRESERVATION FESTIVAL activities. However, we cannot let the season pass without a thank you celebration to the people who make it all happen. So, mark your calendar for Thursday, June 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. While we know that many in our community will have made the trek north by June 7th, we hope those remaining in the Low Country will come on down to the DH for conviviality, recognition and celebration.

There will be music and food with all of your DH friends. Staff will be watching the weather and if it is too warm to celebrate in the garden, we will celebrate in the Kennedy Pharmacy! The highlight of the afternoon will be the awarding of the Davenport House Community Service Scholarship to a worthy high school senior.

Invitations will be in the mail in May.

Deb Wilford performs as Mrs. Helen Rawlings for Tea
Friends of the Davenport House: Annual Giving Response Info

$1—49 – Brick Mason  $50—149 – Carpenter  $150—249 — Master Builder
$250—599 – Alderman  $600—999–Fire Warden  $1000—McKinnon Circle

Every dollar counts! Donations are tax deductible.

Renewal: ________  First time member: ________  Additional Gift: ________

In honor of: ____________________________

Name: ____________________________  Telephone: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________  City, State, Zip: ____________________________

Daytime Telephone Number: ____________________________  Email Address: ____________________________

Make check payable to Friends of the Davenport House or charge by credit card: ___________

Visa  MasterCard  (circle) - Donation Amount to Charge: ____________________________

Account Number: ____________________________  Expiration Date: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________

Send to: Davenport House Museum, 324 E. State Street, Savannah, GA  31401

Remember the Davenport House Shop for gift purchases!!