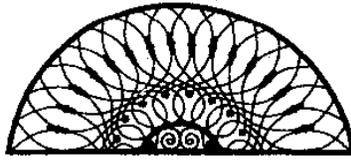


History Museum of Mobile  
Southern Market/Old City Hall  
111 South Royal Street

Phoenix Fire Museum  
203 South Claiborne Street

Historic Fort Condé  
150 South Royal Street



# History Museum of Mobile

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 10, 2012

## **HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR ARTIFACT PRESERVATION**

The History Museum of Mobile will hold The Grand Auction, a silent auction with music, fun and light refreshments to raise money for artifact preservation on Sunday April 29 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Guests will be able to bid from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and children will be able to participate in a conservation activity. During the event, curators will launch Adopt an Artifact, a new Museum program that solicits funds for ongoing treatment and preventative care of deteriorating artifacts.

The Museum's collection currently boasts more than 80,000 artifacts; about 75 percent of these pieces are in danger of being lost forever, according to the Museum's Curator of Collections Holly Jansen.

"Though we work hard to protect the museum's artifacts, objects deteriorate over time," Jansen said. "Paintings fade, iron rusts, and items made of natural materials, like silk and wood, break down over time. If we want to exhibit these artifacts and save them for future generations, we need to fix them now."

Donors to Adopt an Artifact will be able to choose from different levels of support, ranging from \$25 to \$500 or more.

Some of the artifacts currently available for adoption include an African chief's headdress brought by a Mobile missionary from the Congo in the 1870s, a pair of saddlebags famed Apache warrior Geronimo owned while imprisoned in Mount Vernon, and one of the last remaining 19th century horse-drawn hearses from the Southeast.

Donations to the program are tax-deductible. A certificate of adoption and museum benefits, such as special gifts from the Museum Store and one-year memberships, are provided to donors based on their level of giving.

Those planning to attend The Grand Auction are encouraged to RSVP no later than April 25 by contacting Jansen at (251) 208-7420 or [holly.jansen@cityofmobile.org](mailto:holly.jansen@cityofmobile.org). Admission will be \$5 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens and \$3 for students.

Patrons solely interested Adopt An Artifact may contact Jansen, as well.

**HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE:** Located in the Old City Hall/ Southern Market at 111 South Royal Street in downtown Mobile, the History Museum of Mobile documents the 300-year history of Mobile and the surrounding region. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the Museum is \$5 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens, and \$3 for students.

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