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State Historical Records Advisory Board announces grant funding awards

PIERRE, S.D. -- Five state history organizations were recently awarded grants through the South Dakota State Historical Records Advisory Board (SD SHRAB).

The organizations that received funding this year and the amounts of their grants include:

- the Black Hills Mining Museum in Lead, \$680;
- the Fall River County Historical Society in Hot Springs, \$680;
- the Fassbender Photographic Collection in Deadwood, \$680;
- the George B. German Music Archives in Sioux Falls, \$850; and
- the Riverview and Virgil United Methodist Churches in Huron, \$110.

The SD SHRAB received a \$5,591 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission and \$3,000 of the funding was set aside for re-grant funding.

The South Dakota SHRAB advocates for the preservation of historical records, educates the public and records caretakers about the importance of the historical record, and leads the historical community in preserving and providing access to the state's documentary heritage.

"The organizations will be using the funding to purchase archival quality boxes and enclosures and purchase technical equipment to aid in the description and accessibility of the collections," stated Chelle Somsen, state archivist with the South Dakota State Historical Society at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre and chair of the board. "The re-grant funds allow the board to work with historical organizations and get funding out to the historical organizations in our state that really need it."

Local repositories, archival organizations, historical societies and tribal and local governments were urged to apply for the re-grant funds in order to encourage and support identification and preservation of historical records and training for the staff that care for those records.

For more information see <http://history.sd.gov/Archives/SHRAB/shrabactivity.aspx> or call the South Dakota State Historical Society-Archives at (605) 773-3804.

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The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Tourism. The Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism, the South Dakota Arts Council and the State Historical Society. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered

at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.