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State Historical Records Advisory Board announces grant funding awards, site visits

PIERRE, S.D. --Three 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 are as follows:

- Deadwood History, Inc. in Deadwood: \$1,333.33
- Heritage Hall Museum and Archives in Freeman: \$1,333.33
- Mitchell Area Historical Society in Mitchell: \$1,333.33

The SD SHRAB received a \$7,932 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, and \$4,000 of the funding was set aside for re-grant funding. The SD 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 arranging and describing collections to increase accessibility of the collections," said Chelle Somsen, state archivist with the South Dakota State Historical Society at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre and chair of the board.

In addition, site visits were awarded to the Gregory County Historical Society in Dallas, S.D., and the Minnehaha County Historical Society in Sioux Falls. Staff members from the South Dakota State Historical Society-Archives will visit these organizations this summer and provide advice concerning their archival collections. The site visits will include \$100 worth of archival supplies.

Local repositories, archival organizations, historical societies and tribal and local governments were urged to apply for the re-grant funds and site visits to encourage and support identification and preservation of historical records and training for the staff who 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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About the South Dakota State Historical Society

The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Education. 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.