

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Shaker Museum

## **SHAKER MUSEUM AWARDED \$2,456,000 GRANT FROM THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS' CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND**

*Funds will Support the Construction of Shaker Museum's New Permanent  
Home in Chatham, NY*

**CHATHAM, NEW YORK. APRIL 29, 2024** – Shaker Museum, which stewards the most comprehensive collection of Shaker material culture and archives, announced today a grant award totaling \$2,456,000 from the New York State Council on the Arts' (NYSCA) Capital Projects Fund. Shaker Museum will use the generous state funding to build its new museum home designed by Selldorf Architects in Chatham, NY.

The new facility is essential to the museum's ability to deliver humanities programming to local, national, and international audiences, allowing it to share and preserve its unparalleled collection. The building will offer more than 27,000 square feet of space over four floors for exhibitions, events, workshops, convenings, and public use. The design of the physical space embodies and perpetuates the core ideals at the foundation of Shaker culture but will apply them in a modern and relevant context and form. The design and the programming envisioned for this new facility re-examine the experience and interaction of a visitor with a museum while keeping practicality and inclusivity at the forefront, ranging from the arrival experience to common space usage to exhibition accessibility.

"Shaker Museum is tremendously grateful to the State of New York for this generous grant and its continued support over the years. Moreover, we are thrilled to be among the group of culturally significant projects in New York State that are being supported by the New York State Council on the Arts' Capital Projects Fund this grant cycle. It is an honor," commented Shaker Museum Executive Director Lacy Schutz. "Building a new facility for Shaker Museum will help us share the story of Shakers with a wider audience while creating a deeper cultural anchor within our local community here in the Hudson Valley."

"The over 100 projects we're supporting through this funding will showcase arts and cultural organizations across the state and spur economic development for decades to come," Governor Kathy Hochul said. "From historic sites to new multi-use arts centers, these diverse projects will expand the accessibility and the sustainability of arts and culture organizations while growing local economies, driving tourism and creating jobs all across New York State."

New York State Council on the Arts Executive Director Erika Mallin said, "We are grateful to Governor Hochul and the Legislature for their support. These projects are essential to the prosperity and well-being of our creative industry and our communities, especially as we continue to navigate the recovery of our creative sector. This support will help stimulate local economies, catalyze investment in our communities and help to ensure the vibrancy of our cultural organizations for now and for the future. Congratulations to Shaker Museum, NYSCA is a proud supporter of your contributions to New York's arts and culture."

Including the Shaker grant, Governor Hochul announced on April 25<sup>th</sup> that nearly \$32 million has been awarded through the New York State Council on the Arts' Capital Projects Fund to support 102 projects in every region of the state. Read Governor Hochul's press release [here](#).

### **About Shaker Museum**

With more than 18,000 objects, Shaker Museum stewards the most comprehensive collection of Shaker material culture and archives. It is the leader nationwide among organizations devoted to Shaker history. Its permanent new facility in Chatham, NY, which is in development, was designed by Selldorf Architects. The facilities in Chatham include administrative offices, collection storage, a library, and archives housed on Jones Avenue. The museum also stewards

the historic site in New Lebanon, NY. The museum's collection can be viewed online at <http://shakermuseum.us>.

### **About the New York State Council on the Arts**

The mission of the New York State Council on the Arts is to foster and advance the full breadth of New York State's arts, culture, and creativity for all. To support the ongoing recovery of the arts across New York State, the Council on the Arts will award \$127 million in FY 2024, serving over 2,000 arts organizations and artists across all 10 state regions. The Council on the Arts further advances New York's creative culture by convening leaders in the field and providing organizational and professional development opportunities and informational resources. Created by Governor Nelson Rockefeller in 1960 and continued with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature, the Council is an agency that is part of the Executive Branch. For more information on NYSCA, please visit [www.arts.ny.gov](http://www.arts.ny.gov), and follow NYSCA's [Facebook](#) page, on X [@NYSCArts](#) and Instagram [@NYSCouncilontheArts](#).

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