

Old Swedes Foundation of Delaware, Inc.

Old Swedes Historic Site

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Old Swedes Foundation receives grant from Jessie Ball DuPont Fund

Wilmington, DE (3/29/2021) – The Old Swedes Foundation is pleased to announce it has received a \$15,000 grant from the Jessie Ball DuPont Fund. These funds will support the newest project, *‘Facilitating Change with Collaborative Neighborhood Placemakers’*.

This grant will launch Old Swedes Historic Site’s expansion of programming to be more inclusive of its neighbors on Wilmington’s East Side and beyond. Old Swedes is committed to establishing a center for lifelong learners grounded in its origins dating back to 1638. Old Swedes aspires to make the historic site a place to find commonality in stories from the past and to inspire greater engagement in the community.

“In 2021, Old Swedes is committed to looking outward, re-establishing its historic role in serving its community and offering youth engaging opportunities for learning. The Jessie Ball DuPont grant allows us to establish a foundation for this program’s success.” said Old Swedes Acting Executive Director Jane B. Conlon.

Partners in the program expansion include Dr. Ja’neair Macklin of the Stop the Violence Coalition and Academy for Peace, and a newly established Teacher Task Force including four Red Clay Consolidated School District teachers. Dr. Macklin also serves as board member of the Old Swedes Foundation.

The Jessie Ball DuPont Fund awards grants to organizations in Delaware through a competitive application and review process. The Fund’s mission is “to serve the communities that Jessie Ball duPont knew and loved... envision[ing] a world in which every member of those communities feels they belong.”

Old Swedes Foundation/Historic Site includes the 1699 Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church, 1638 Burial Ground, and early 17th century Hendrickson House, and is a unit of First State National Historical Park. Tracing the legacy of the Swedish colonists in Wilmington, the site offers visitors a distinctive view of the history of Delaware and the surrounding area.

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