



PRESS RELEASE

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Touro Synagogue Receives Prestigious Grant to Support Planned Capital Projects

Touro Synagogue of New Orleans is one of 16 congregations, and the only Jewish congregation, selected to join the National Fund for Sacred Places, a program of Partners for Sacred Places in collaboration with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. As a 2020 awardee, Touro Synagogue can expect to receive at least \$125K from the National Fund for Sacred Places based on the capacity to double match funds as they launch a capital campaign in 2021. Capital projects will include the replacement of flat roofs on their historic buildings, a new HVAC system, all-gender bathrooms, an elevator, reconfigured office space, and preservation work. As a part of this grant program, Touro is receiving wraparound support services and training.

“Organizations like Touro Synagogue have a true commitment to service, offer tremendous civic value to their community, and are well poised to grow and thrive in the future,” said Bob Jaeger, President of Partners for Sacred Places. “We look forward to working with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Touro Synagogue to restore their building, help preserve an important piece of history, and support the expansion of their community offerings.”

Touro Synagogue has long acknowledged the civic responsibility inherent in being a historic landmark and architectural gem. Their majestic building has been both a wellspring of and a sheltering magnet for diverse, reliable community leadership, engagement, and support throughout the generations. Among Touro’s community impact initiatives is the housing of incubating charter schools for the past nine years, the urban vertical gardens that supply fresh greens to Broadmoor Food Pantry, the iconic community Jazz Fest Shabbat service, and the VIP Balcony provided during Mardi Gras for children and young adults who have special needs. Touro continues its vital role as a passionate and active advocate for the most pressing issues of our times and as a spiritual anchor in the city of New Orleans and the southern region of our nation.

Rabbi Katie Bauman, Senior Rabbi at Touro, notes, “In the entire world, there is no place like the city of New Orleans. And in the city of New Orleans, there is no place like Touro Synagogue. The majesty and sanctity of our building on St. Charles Avenue is a reflection of the exquisite inner landscape of our congregation. Our community is loving, engaged, and committed both to preserving the elegance of our cherished and historic landmark and strengthening our beloved New Orleans in every way we know. We are so honored that Touro Synagogue has been recognized by the National Fund for Sacred Places, and we look forward to the exciting journey of historic renewal ahead of us.”.

For more information regarding this grant and Touro Synagogue, please contact Rabbi Katie Bauman’s office at clergyassistant@tourosynagogue.com.

For more information on Touro Synagogue visit www.tourosynagogue.com.

For more information on The National Fund for Sacred Places visit www.fundforsacredplaces.org.