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NEWS RELEASE

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MILLER THEATER RECEIVES AWARD FROM GEORGIA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION



Officials from the Georgia Trust and Miller Theater project participants gather at First Presbyterian Church in Columbus

Augusta, GA – The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation awarded the Miller Theater the Marguerite Williams Award, presented annually to the project that has had the greatest impact on preservation in the state. The Miller Theater also received an award for Excellence in Rehabilitation. These awards were presented Friday, April 27, 2018 at the 41st annual Preservation Awards ceremony in Columbus, GA. Other organizations that were recognized include the Mary-Leila Lofts in Greensboro, the AB&A Historic Train Depot in Fitzgerald, the Cassina Garden Club Tabby Cabins on St. Simons Island, Breeson Hall at Georgia College & State University in Milledgeville, and the Benjamin Franklin Jones House and Watkinson & Company Grocers Building in Augusta.

The Georgia Trust shared, “The Miller Theater was recognized for its innovative use of virtually every preservation technique and program to achieve this astounding rehabilitation. This project is an exceptional example of community organizations and individuals coming together to create a facility that will have a lasting impact on the city of Augusta. Funded by a \$23 million capital campaign, the rehabilitation project has already spurred intense redevelopment in downtown Augusta.”

“This award is especially meaningful to me, as I began my preservation career with the Georgia Trust and knew Marguerite Williams, who had very high standards,” said Anne Catherine Murray, Executive Director of the Augusta Symphony, who owns the Miller. “I could not be more proud of our preservation partners and this community for making this project worthy of this award.”

The Miller Theater was built in downtown Augusta in 1940 as an Art Moderne movie theater and vaudeville house and operated until 1984. In 2008, Peter S. Knox IV donated the Miller Theater to the Augusta Symphony to be revitalized as a performing venue and home. The restoration was made possible by the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations, SPLOST funding, and state and federal historic tax incentives. Construction took place in 2016-2017, with the Christman Company as contractor and Lord Aeck Sargent of Atlanta and 2KM of Augusta as project architects. The Miller Theater reopened with a grand Opening Night Gala on January 6, 2018. The Miller Theater is the home of all Symphony Series and Pops! performances and features a multitude of varied programming throughout the year Learn more about the Miller at millertheateraugusta.com and the Symphony at augustasympphony.com.

Founded in 1973, the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation is one of the country's leading statewide, nonprofit preservation organizations. The Trust works for the preservation and revitalization of Georgia's diverse historic resources and advocates their appreciation, protection and use. To learn more about The Georgia Trust and the Preservation Awards, visit www.georgiatruster.org.

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*Our mission is to share the joy of great musical performance with our audience.
Together, we are music.*

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