



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Historic Augusta's Downtown Loft Tour, May 1 and 2, 2015

Historic Augusta's annual Downtown Loft Tour is an exciting way to experience what makes living and working in downtown Augusta, Georgia unique. Held during National Preservation Month on First Friday, May 1st and Saturday, May 2nd, the tour features the architecture and interiors of renovated spaces in the Augusta Downtown Historic District. Tickets are valid for both tour days, from 6-9 pm on Friday and from noon-5 pm on Saturday.

The Downtown Loft Tour seeks to encourage interest in the preservation and use of historic buildings in the Augusta Downtown Historic District by providing the public with an intimate look at their interiors. The tour includes ten buildings of various sizes and styles, each with distinctive architectural features and design. Featured on this year's tour will be:

- A. 1263 Broad Street was formerly the Fire Department Headquarters. The building is now being used as the Marbury Center, an event facility and loft apartments.
- B. 1246 Broad Street, the Mrs. T.R. Maxwell Building, formerly the Faulk Furniture Store is now being used as commercial space by Fireside Grills as well as loft apartments.
- C. 1242-1244 Broad Street, the former Union Cash House Dry Goods Store is now occupied by Kruhu, a local graphic design firm.
- D. 1002 Broad Street at the corner of 10th Street, the Claussen Building once held classrooms for Paine College and is now being used as retail and office space with apartments.
- E. 1022 Broad Street, the Henry Kennedy Building was the previous site of the Book Tavern and now features commercial space with four newly rehabilitated apartments.
- F. 936 Broad Street, The JB Whites Building has been rehabilitated to house condominiums, local businesses and restaurants.
- G. 670 Broad Street, the Commerce Building is being rehabilitated to accommodate architectural offices on the upper floors.
- H. 309 Eighth Street, Castle Hall, once the YMCA headquarters is now used for apartments.
- I. 912 Ellis Street at the corner of James Brown Blvd. was built as Lowrey Wagon Works before being taken over as the Confederate Shoe Factory. The three-story warehouse is now 19 loft apartments.

J. 314 Broad Street, across from Heritage Academy in Olde Town, the Dunbar-Howard House, originally a duplex and formerly a bed-and-breakfast, is currently used as studio apartments.

Tickets for the loft tour can be purchased for \$15 in advance or for \$20 during the tour. Advance tickets can be purchased at: Historic Augusta, Inc., 415 Seventh Street, Augusta; First Bank of Georgia; and Mellow Mushroom, 1167 Broad Street, Augusta, and 4348 Washington Road, Evans. Credit cards are accepted as payment only at Historic Augusta. Cash and checks are accepted at all ticket locations. During the tour, pick up a tour map and purchase tickets at tour headquarters in front of 1002 Broad Street at the corner of 10th Street.

Proceeds benefit the programs and projects of Historic Augusta, Inc., a nonprofit membership based organization. The mission of Historic Augusta, Inc. is to preserve historically or architecturally significant structures and sites in Augusta and Richmond County. To purchase tickets or for more information about this or our other programs, please contact Historic Augusta, Inc. by telephone at 706-724-0436 or visit www.historicaugusta.org.

The Downtown Loft Tour is sponsored in part by: The Augusta Chronicle; First Bank of Georgia; Rex Property and Land, LLC; WAGT 26 News; Charleston Street Home Fine Flowers and Events; Outback Steakhouse; Phoenix Printing; Kruhu; Fulcher Hagler, LLP; 2KM Architects, Inc.; Tom and Kathy Brittingham; Casella Eye Center; Christopher Booker & Associates, PC; Mr. and Mrs. James R. Davis; Mary and Mark Donahue; The Emporium; Natalie McLeod, MD; Gate 5 Self Storage; Georgia Power; Paula and Larry Knox; Merry Land Properties, LLC; Dr. and Mrs. Glen Owen, Sr.; Strothers Printing, Inc.; Summit Green Solutions; and Dr. and Mrs. Frederick L. Thielke.