



SUPPORT OUR MISSION MAKE AN IMPACT THAT LASTS



ABOUT US WHO WE ARE

As the birthplace of West Virginia and an early industrial hub along the Ohio River, Wheeling holds a unique place in American history.

Designated by Congress as a National Heritage Area, and operating as a West Virginia Main Street Community, **Wheeling Heritage** works to preserve this rich history while driving the city's revitalization.

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY

Since 1994, **Wheeling Heritage** has leveraged funding and expertise to protect historic resources, support small businesses and entrepreneurs, foster public art and cultural events, and invest in Wheeling's overall economic development – including the future Wheeling Gateway and Heritage Center.



Scan the QR code to explore our full timeline and learn more about our impact over the years.

FUELING OUR FUTURE

Your gift helps **Wheeling Heritage** preserve our past while driving future growth. By supporting our mission, you ensure the long-term sustainability of our work – from revitalizing historic spaces and strengthening local businesses to creating cultural experiences that boost Wheeling's economy and enhance our community for generations to come.

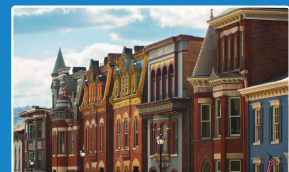
MISSION AND VISION

Wheeling Heritage is a catalyst for the revitalization of Wheeling. We accomplish this by preserving Wheeling's heritage, fostering public/private partnerships, investing in downtown and the riverfront, and engaging the community in meaningful projects and programs.

We envision a vibrant Wheeling, where economic growth and new opportunities thrive through the preservation and use of the city's historic resources and natural beauty within the Wheeling National Heritage Area.

WHY IT MATTERS

LOCAL ECONOMIC IMPACT



Since our founding, **Wheeling Heritage** has leveraged funding and expertise to help revitalize our city. In fiscal year 2024–25 alone, the Wheeling National Heritage Area played a key role in generating more than \$221.6 million in economic impact, supporting 2,199 jobs and creating \$18.9 million in tax revenue.*

We don't do this work alone. We do it with partners—and with donors like you.

NATIONAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

In 2024, National Heritage Areas across the country:

- Leveraged more than \$60 million in cash and in-kind support
- Engaged 5,200+ partners
- Benefited from over 178,000 volunteer hours, valued at more than \$5.7 million

When you give to **Wheeling Heritage**, you're not just supporting one organization. You're investing in a proven national model that brings people together to make places better.

*Source: economic impact study facilitated by Tripp Umbach.



A MEMBER OF THE
National Heritage
Area System





Note from Our Executive Director:
SUSTAINABILITY

Wheeling holds a special place in my heart, and I'm grateful to be a part of this community. I want to take this time to thank you for believing in our work and investing in Wheeling's future. Unlike a typical National Park, a National Heritage Area is a lived in landscape, with a story to tell and continued work to do. It's your support that allows us to leverage partnerships and provide a return on your investment. Together, we're building a place where creativity and connection flourish. With your help we can keep making our community a thriving and sustainable home for generations to come.

~Scott Schenerlein



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

As a West Virginia Main Street Community: Wheeling Heritage is dedicated to growing entrepreneurship and supporting revitalization.

Show of Hands: 11 years, \$159,000+ raised to launch and grow local businesses. 2025 Videos supported by the Truist West Virginia Foundation.

CO.STARTERS: 110+ entrepreneurs guided in starting or expanding businesses.

Funded in part by the Truist CRA Grant and the Women's Giving Circle in 2025.

Wheeling Gateway Center: A multi-million-dollar redevelopment along the I-70 corridor to boost tourism and economic growth, expected to attract 175,000 visitors annually. The Wheeling Heritage Foundation has invested \$308,000+ to date.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Live Here Guide: A Wheeling Heritage and Weelunk initiative, relaunched as a digital guide showcasing why Wheeling is a great place to live, work, and play.

Wheeling Historic Revitalization Subgrant Program: Received \$1.5M from the National Park Service's Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant to award to historic downtown and neighborhood projects – scan the QR code to see the impact.

City of Lights Snowflake & Logo: Main and Market Streets sparkle with LED snowflakes for the holidays, thanks to local sponsors, with a fresh new logo designed by a West Liberty University student.

Volunteer Wheeling: 225+ volunteers dedicated 2648 hours this past year.



ARTS AND CULTURE

Partnership Grants: Supporting Wheeling for over 20+ years with \$794,000 awarded to revitalize the city through arts, historic preservation, and community development, funding over 550 events and projects.

Wheeling Artisan Gallery: Showcasing the work of 160+ local artists, hosts engaging art shows, and strengthens the creative community, with more than 11 exhibits, since the Artisan Center renovation.

Cultural Event Support: Assisting fairs and festivals with funding, marketing, photography, video, and other resources.

Artisan Center Shop: Providing a platform for 177 local and regional artists to sell handcrafted work, featuring live artisan and author demos, special promotions, and support for local organizations.



2026 INITIATIVES

YOUR SUPPORT FUELS OUR ROAD TO SUSTAINABILITY

- **WHEELING GATEWAY & HERITAGE EXPERIENCE**
- **HISTORIC DISTRICT EXPANSION** • **THE BLUE CHURCH**
- **ARTISAN CENTER 3RD FLOOR RENOVATION** • **SUSTAINABILITY**



**SUPPORT
OUR
MISSION**



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visit us at wheelingheritage.org

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