



NEWS RELEASE

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MAIN STREET GREENWOOD, INC. RECEIVES 2014 NATIONAL MAIN STREET ACCREDITATION

GREENWOOD (June 30, 2014) Main Street Greenwood, Inc. has been designated as an accredited National Main Street Program for meeting the commercial district revitalization performance standards set by the National Main Street Center®, a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Each year, the National Main Street Center and its partners announce the list of accredited Main Street® programs in recognition of their exemplary commitment to historic preservation and community revitalization through the Main Street Four Point Approach®.

"We congratulate this year's nationally accredited Main Street programs for their outstanding accomplishment in meeting the National Main Street Center's performance standards," says Patrice Frey, President & CEO of the National Main Street Center. "Accredited Main Street programs create vibrant communities by using a comprehensive strategy to preserve their historic character and revitalize their commercial districts, which helps make these great places to work, live, play and visit."

The organization's performance is annually evaluated by The Mississippi Main Street Association which works in partnership with the National Main Street Center to identify the local programs that meet ten performance standards. These standards set the benchmarks for measuring an individual Main Street program's application of the Main Street Four Point Approach® to commercial district revitalization. Evaluation criteria determines the communities that are building comprehensive and sustainable revitalization efforts and include standards such as fostering strong public-private partnerships, securing an operating budget, tracking programmatic progress and actively preserving historic buildings.

Since 1995, Main Street Greenwood has worked tirelessly to promote and preserve historic downtown Greenwood. In the past year, Main Street Greenwood has completed 7 façade projects, helped in the establishment of 5 new downtown businesses, and created 2 new downtown events while bringing home 2 MS Main Street Awards.

"National accreditation confirms that we, at Main Street Greenwood, are carrying out integral preservation work, which is both vital and necessary to downtown Greenwood's revitalization. Our community needs to understand that downtown Greenwood is an active part of preservation work at the local, state and national levels and this is made possible through Main Street Greenwood." (Brantley Snipes, Executive Director Main Street Greenwood)

Established by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1980, the National Main Street Center helps communities of all sizes revitalize their older and historic commercial districts. Working in more

than 2,200 downtowns and urban neighborhoods over the last 34 years, the Main Street program has leveraged more than \$59.6 billion in new public and private investment. Participating communities have created 502,728 net new jobs and 115,381 net new businesses, and rehabilitated more than 246,158 buildings, leveraging an average of \$33.28 in new investment for every dollar spent on their Main Street district revitalization efforts.

Main Street Greenwood, Inc. is a non-profit organization that promotes and celebrates downtown Greenwood through the preservation of our historic resources and through projects, events, and activities that make downtown a viable place to live, work, and visit. For more information, visit www.mainstreetgreenwood.com.

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