
MEDIA ADVISORY

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**SECRETARY SCHEDLER, GERMANTOWN COLONY MUSEUM SUPPORTERS TO
RECEIVE GRANT FROM WEBSTER PARISH CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU**

Secretary of State Tom Schedler will join supporters of the Germantown Colony Museum to accept a \$10,000 grant from the Webster Parish Convention and Visitors Commission on Tuesday, July 19 at 8 a.m. The check presentation will take place during the commission's regularly scheduled board meeting at the Minden/South Webster Chamber of Commerce in Minden.

The Friends of the Germantown Colony Museum formally requested funding from the Webster Parish Convention and Visitors Bureau in order to build a welcome center on the grounds of the museum. The new building will house artifacts related to the colony and new restrooms. The artifacts are currently being preserved at the Louisiana State Archives. Construction is projected to begin after the annual Germantown Bluegrass Festival in September.

The Germantown Colony, located northeast of Minden, offers visitors a glimpse of what its founders believed to be a utopian way of life. The Utopian Movement of the Harmonist Society founded the colony, only one of three of its kind, in the early 19th century. It was established in 1835 under the leadership of the Countess von Leon and operated on a communal basis until 1871.

For more information about the Germantown Colony Museum or the Secretary of State's Museums Division, visit www.sos.louisiana.gov/hht or call 225.922.2880.

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