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**FOX THEATRE AWARDS Union Point Downtown Development Authority 2022-2023 Preservation Grant**  
*Fox Theatre Institute Funds \$40,000 to Support Critical Project*

**Union Point, GA (November 15, 2022)** – The **Fox Theatre Institute** (FTI), a division of Atlanta’s Fox Theatre, Inc., has awarded Union Point Downtown Development Authority (DDA) a financial grant award for **\$40,000** to assist with the preservation of the Historic Union Theatre. Based in Atlanta, Georgia, FTI offers programming, consulting, and grant funding assistance to historic theaters and structures throughout Georgia and the Southeast. Overall, the FTI program has committed over \$500,120 in three funding categories this grant cycle.

“With the Fox Theatre Institute’s grant of \$40,000, we will be able to continue with the renovations of the historic theatre that has been underway for several years. Resources are limited for preserving local history and continued support from FTI, the City of Union Point, and other entities makes a huge impact,” says Jill Rhodes, Chairman of the DDA. “We are grateful for the funding opportunity that allows us to continue to preserve history in our community.”

Now, at the beginning of their 15<sup>th</sup> year of service, FTI continues to support historic theaters, and the Fox Theatre’s 2022-2023 grant program seeks to provide significant economic and cultural impact to local communities both in Atlanta and beyond.

“Looking toward celebrating 15 years of serving historic theatres in Georgia and the Southeast, we are particularly excited to return to the full funding of our vital grant program. Numerous theatres in our region and nationally continue to recover from financial consequences of the global pandemic. The incredible investment of our Board of Directors will offer significant assistance,” said Allan Vella, President & CEO of the Fox Theatre. “While this is part of our ongoing support for these theatres through financial investment, we also hope to see the ancillary businesses benefit from greater attendance the expanding programming that ensures these local landmarks are even more beneficial for all.”

The FTI program has committed more than \$2.7 million since launching in 2008. This grant is one of four grant funding categories through FTI – including Preservation, Historic Structures Studies or Planning, Technical Assistance and Services, and Urgent/Emergency Grant – all of which allows up to \$500,000 of much needed statewide grant subsidy.

“Now in 2022, surviving a 17-month closure and a subsequent funding pause, we are thrilled to further invest in historic theatres here in the Southeast. Our work continues to expand and support important economic and community development connecting us all to imperative touchstones for the arts,” said Leigh Burns, Director of FTI. “Our investment outside the Fox with other theatres is reminiscent of the dedication and commitment of many before protecting and preserving the legacy of our own treasured national historic landmark theatre.”

FTI oversees numerous outreach programs including the “Fox in a Box,” a free interactive curriculum-based program for Georgia’s elementary schools; Georgia Presenters, an innovative statewide talent booking consortium; and Preservation Grants to encourage preservation of historic theatres with outside funding not readily available elsewhere. For more information, please visit [www.foxtheatre.org](http://www.foxtheatre.org)

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