



## Blue Ridge National Heritage Area PRIORITY INITIATIVE WORKSHEET

<b>Initiative Title:</b>	<b>Community-Based Educational Programs Relating to the Creation, Maintenance, and Preservation of Henderson County Heritage Resources</b>
<b>Project Narrative:</b>	<p>This initiative is to foster and support community-based training and educational programs that relate to our heritage, agriculture, eco-tourism, and the arts to ensure sustainability of our Heritage Tourism Plan. New training programs need resources to get established and existing programs require on-going promotion and support.</p> <p>Programs that involve Henderson County youth should be given special consideration and on-going support, provided these programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ provide hands-on skill training in any one of our heritage industries</li> <li>▪ include youth-driven service learning projects</li> <li>▪ involve youth in community tourism</li> <li>▪ involve youth in the preservation of cultural and natural heritage sites</li> <li>▪ improve opportunities for at-risk or unemployed youth</li> </ul> <p>Several programs and resources in the county need immediate assistance to establish new, or expand existing, youth educational programs. Among these are:</p> <p><u>Flat Rock YouTheatre*</u> Flat Rock Playhouse, The State Theatre of North Carolina, will adapt current facilities and construct an additional building to create a campus for the YouTheatre activities of classes and performance for students K – Adult. (See attached)</p> <p><u>The Bullington Horticultural Learning Center*</u> A new teaching classroom to expand existing programs at the Bullington Center. This unique, natural setting is used to provide hands-on horticultural education and vocational training to students, youth clubs, and adults. Last year, over 3000 school age children and over 500 adults participated in Bullington programs.</p> <p><u>DuPont State Forest Demonstration for Public Education*</u> A demonstration for public education that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Protect soil &amp; water quality</li> <li>▪ Preserve unique plant communities</li> <li>▪ Develop recreational opportunities</li> <li>▪ Produce timber products &amp; wildlife</li> </ul> <p><u>Hands On! A Child’s Gallery*</u> Non-profit gallery with educational exhibits that stimulate the imagination and motivate learning in a fun, safe, “Hands On!” environment. Plans include a</p>

mountain/waterfall that children are able to manipulate the flow of water to race their canoes and kayaks down. Other exhibits with a regional flavor will include a log cabin filled with old wooden mountain toys and building toys for kids to create their own cabins and an apple growing exhibit.

\*Supplemental information with details on some of the above programs is attached.

The goal is to promote and support community-based programs that provide training in 1) any one of the heritage tourism sectors; especially agricultural skills and the arts; 2) promote tourism; 3) the maintenance and preservation of heritage sites; and 4) promote entrepreneurship.

Henderson County is fortunate to have many local resources already in place to provide education and training opportunities, including:

- Henderson County Travel & Tourism
- Greater Hendersonville Chamber of Commerce
- Blue Ridge Community College
- Blue Ridge Community College - Louise Bailey Archives
- Blue Ridge Community College - Small Business Center
- Henderson County Parks & Recreation
- Hendersonville Parks & Recreation
- Fletcher Parks & Recreation
- Henderson County Public Library
- Holmes Educational State Forest
- Henderson County Genealogical & Historical Society
- Hendersonville Historic Preservation Commission
- Carl Sandburg Home, National Historic Site
- Historic Flat Rock, Inc.
- Historic Johnson Farm
- Mineral & Lapidary Museum of Henderson County, Inc.
- Mountain Farm & Home Museum Inc.
- Apple Wedge Packers
- Apple Valley Model Railroad Club at Historic Hendersonville Depot Flat Rock Nature Center
- Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair - SAFF
- YMCA
- 4-H
- Boys & Girls Club
- Civitan Club
- Rotary Club
- Lions Club
- Environmental & Conservation Organization
- Mud Creek Watershed Restoration Project
- NCCES (North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service) Henderson County
- Waste Reduction Partners
- WNC Air Museum

**Goal:** Provide community-based training and education programs to prepare our

	citizens (especially youth) to utilize innovative skills for sustainable employment in the area of community Heritage Tourism and preservation of Heritage sites.
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<b>Person/Organization Responsible:</b>	<b>Cost to Implement:</b>	<b>Estimated Time to Complete:</b>
Henderson County Citizens, Non-Profits, Corporations, and Small Businesses		On-going

**Blue Ridge National Heritage Area  
PRIORITY INITIATIVE WORKSHEET**

<b>Initiative Title:</b>	<b>Marketing &amp; Promotion of Youth Educational Programs that Focus on the Arts, Heritage, Agriculture, and Eco-Tourism<sup>1</sup></b>  <b>FLAT ROCK PLAYHOUSE YOUTHEATRE CAMPUS</b>
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<b>Project Narrative:</b>	Flat Rock Playhouse, The State Theatre of North Carolina, will adapt current facilities and construct an additional building to create a campus for the YouTheatre activities of classes and performance for students K - Adult.
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<b>Goal:</b>	To create an environment of learning and sharing through the performing arts. Classes will include performance, music, and dance
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Person/Organization Responsible:	Cost to Implement:	Estimated Time to Complete:
Robin R Farquhar, Executive Director	\$3,000,000.00	2 years, June 2007

Action Items:	Resources Required:	Who's Responsible:
Fundraising Campaign	Community and regional support, plus grant writing	Staff and Board of Trustees
Architectural Design and Construction	Contracted Labor	Staff and Board of Trustees
Planning and Development of additional staff and support resources	Grant writing and additional revenue source	Staff and Board of Trustees

<b>Performance Measures:</b>	
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<b>Status:</b>	Pre Planning is complete; Fundraising will begin the next two months, Architectural designs have begun.
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<sup>1</sup> Eco-tourism is responsible travel to natural areas which conserves the environment and improves the welfare of the local people

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PRIORITY INITIATIVE WORKSHEET**

<b>Initiative Title:</b>	<p align="center"><b>Marketing &amp; Promotion of Youth Educational Programs that Focus on the Arts, Heritage, Agriculture, and Eco-Tourism<sup>2</sup></b></p> <p align="center"><b>BULLINGTON CENTER HORTICULTURAL LEARNING CENTER</b></p>
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<b>Project Narrative:</b>	<p>The Bullington Center is a 12-acre garden where native trees and shrubs live along side unusual and exotic transplants from the Orient and other places to create a very special place in Henderson County, North Carolina for everyone to enjoy. This unique, natural setting is used to provide hands-on horticultural education and vocational training to students, youth clubs, and adults. Last year, over 3000 school age children and over 500 adults participated in Bullington programs.</p> <p>Amenities at the Bullington Center include an amphitheater, greenhouse, a 3,000 foot native woodland nature trail, and a discovery center. The Discovery Center includes a classroom, greenhouse, cold frames, and composting facility, plus other amenities for green building demonstrations.</p> <p>The Bullington Center offers a curriculum of horticultural workshops and classes for youth, schools, and adults, expanding the base of learning opportunities for the community. There are also annual plant sales and special events for the public and the "Friends of Bullington."</p> <p>The center is a growing classroom providing garden-based science and math instruction. It is a working laboratory that supplements classroom instruction for all grades. Students participate in making class gardens at several elementary schools and many more students participate at Bullington - learning about plants, plant math, and insects. All school programs are free to Henderson County Public Schools. Other schools are welcome to participate, as space is available, with a small per student fee.</p> <p>A variety of educational programs are hosted by the Bullington Center for school groups. Topics for school field trips include seed exploration, plant math, plant/wildlife interaction, and plant growth requirements. and seed education and plant-growth requirements.</p> <p>BOOST (Bullington Onsite Occupational Student Training), another school program, teaches special needs high school students horticultural skills and a good work ethic. The Bullington goal of BOOST, to develop responsible employees of the future by building their confidence and imparting an understanding of the basic job skills that are essential in any work environment</p> <p><u>Youth Programs</u></p> <p>In a program done jointly with 4-H each year, 5-8 year old youth raise giant pumpkins. When 750 kindergarten and first graders come to the Bullington Center to see giant pumpkins, it is not that we are preparing them to be</p>
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pumpkin farmers, but arousing their interest, curiosity and appreciation at an early age for plants and natural science. The Boys and Girls Club come during the summer months to learn how to grow a vegetable garden or about the role of plants in the environment.

The Bullington Center operates through a partnership with the Henderson County Education Foundation (HCEF), the Henderson County Public Schools, and the Cooperative Extension Service of Henderson County. These organizations have joined to support programs that emphasize the Bullington Mission

### Teaching Classroom

More than 70% of the funding has been raised to renovate a previously unused space in the former Bullington home and convert it into a modern, fully-equipped teaching classroom and multi-purpose space to accommodate a variety of functions. This teaching classroom would help expand existing programs at the Bullington Center. In addition to construction funds, there is a need for audio-visual equipment, materials, and amenities such as tables, carpeting, and comfortable chairs, etc.

**Goal:** To expand existing Bullington Center educational programs.

Person/Organization Responsible:	Cost to Implement:	Estimated Time to Complete:
John Murphy, Coordinator The Bullington Center	\$25,000	4-6 Months

Action Items:	Resources Required:	Who's Responsible:
Fundraising Campaign Brochure	\$1000	Marketing Committee - Bullington Center
Construction costs, furniture, fixtures, and equipment	\$24,0000	

**Performance Measures:** Fully funded and completed facility

**Status:** Under construction

Action Items:	Resources Required:	Who's Responsible:
Provide guidance and support for education and training programs		Henderson County Heritage Tourism Council

<b>Performance Measures:</b>	Sustainability of educational programs
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<b>Status:</b>	Existing and proposed projects need funding and fundraising support
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<b>Initiative Title:</b>	<b>Marketing &amp; Promotion of Youth Educational Programs that Focus on the Arts, Heritage, Agriculture, and Eco-Tourism<sup>3</sup></b>		
	<b>DuPont State Forest Demonstration for Public Education</b>		
<b>Project Narrative:</b>	<p>DuPont State Forest is fast becoming one of the leading mountain bike destinations in Western North Carolina. The forest offers over 80 miles of trail, nearly all of which is open to both equestrians and mountain bikers. DuPont offers everything from gentle forest roads to exciting single track, with an impressive variety of scenic attractions located only minutes apart.</p> <p>The forest, established only within the last ten years, already is the most visited forest in the state, with a total of 106,000 visitors in 2004. Visitors are attracted by the forest's beautiful natural setting, with four major waterfalls, crystal clear woodland streams, abundant flora, and natural wonders.</p> <p>The goal of this initiative is to offer a demonstration for public education that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Protect soil &amp; water quality Preserve unique plant communities</li> <li>▪ Develop recreational opportunities</li> <li>▪ Produce timber products &amp; wildlife</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b>	Offer demonstration for public education with emphasis on nature and the environment.		
<b>Person/Organization Responsible:</b>	<b>Cost to Implement:</b>	<b>Estimated Time to Complete:</b>	
DuPont State Forest and partners			
<b>Action Items:</b>	<b>Resources Required:</b>	<b>Who's Responsible:</b>	
<b>Performance Measures:</b>			
<b>Status:</b>	Currently in early stages of ownership. Long term planning in progress		

<sup>3</sup> Eco-tourism is responsible travel to natural areas which conserves the environment and improves the welfare of the local people

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<b>Initiative Title:</b>	<b>Marketing &amp; Promotion of Youth Educational Programs that Focus on the Arts, Heritage, Agriculture, and Eco-Tourism<sup>4</sup></b>		
<b>HANDS ON! – A CHILD’S GALLERY</b>			
<b>Project Narrative:</b>	<p>Hands On! is a new nonprofit children’s museum in Henderson County. Children’s museums are organized, non-profit institutions, educational in purpose, which utilize objects, maintain a professional staff and are open to the public on a regular basis.</p> <p>Hands On! received 501(c) (3) nonprofit status in 2004, and kicked off our fundraising campaign with a winter exhibit held Jan. 6-March 5, 2005 at The Arts Center. After serving an average of 70 people per day during that time (3100 people in just 44 days), we are seeking donations, grants and corporate sponsors in order to open on a permanent basis.</p> <p>Our winter exhibit focused on a variety of educational topics such as art, nature, health education, science and math, as well as the ever important imagination of a child. Our permanent facility will include all of these areas, and we will expand in order to create incredible exhibits focusing on a “local slant.” We feel that while teaching our community, we should focus on some of what WNC has to offer.</p> <p>Some of the exhibits we are working to create are a mountain/waterfall that children are able to manipulate the flow of water to race their canoes and kayaks down. This will be adorned with regional items such as stationary mountain bikes, a small climbing wall and local greenery. Other exhibits with a regional flavor will include a log cabin filled with old wooden mountain toys and building toys for kids to create their own cabins and an apple growing exhibit. There are numerous other ideas we are investigating. All of this “local area” will be surrounded with history, facts and pictures of Henderson County and WNC.</p>		
<b>Goal:</b>	Our mission is to serve the needs of children and families in our community by providing educational exhibits that stimulate the imagination and motivate learning in a fun, safe, “Hands On!” environment.		
<b>Person/Organization Responsible:</b>	<b>Cost to Implement:</b>	<b>Estimated Time to Complete:</b>	
Heather Boeke, Executive Director	\$105,000	Our goal is to open in the winter of 2006.	
<b>Action Items:</b>	<b>Resources Required:</b>	<b>Who’s Responsible:</b>	
<b>Performance Measures:</b>			
<b>Status:</b>			

<sup>4</sup> Eco-tourism is responsible travel to natural areas which conserves the environment and improves the welfare of the local people