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Clayton County Board of Commissioners



PRESS RELEASE

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Commissioner Sonna Singleton Appointed as Vice Chair for NACo's Arts and Culture Commission

Jonesboro, Ga- District 1 Commissioner, Sonna Singleton, has been appointed National Association of Counties (NACo) Vice Chair for the Arts and Culture Commission. NACo President Glen Whitley recently made the announcement regarding the appointment. Singleton will immediately begin serving in her new role replacing Robert Downing of Calhoun County, AL.

"I am honored that Whitley, selected me as the Vice Chair of the Arts and Cultural Committee", said Singleton. "Most people know that I am an avid supporter of the arts and a big supporter of the arts and cultural initiatives we have in Clayton County."

Singleton has worked to ensure that the valuable history of Rex Village was not simply wiped away. From those efforts, Historical Rex Village has been added to The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation 2011 list of *10 Places in Peril* an honor that can lead to various opportunities for economic development and preservation grants for the community.

Commissioner Singleton has been a long-time supporter of the arts in Clayton County and she will now have an opportunity to provide that support on a national level as Vice Chair. Linda Summerlin, Executive Director of Arts Clayton has worked with the Commissioner over the years and is pleased with the Commissioner's appointment. "We extend our congratulations to Commissioner Singleton on this important appointment and look forward to working with her to keep Clayton County on the national stage as a leader in promoting and supporting the arts as an important component in a community's economic picture and quality of life for its citizens. Her particular interest in cultural tourism brought the Tubman African-American Museum's traveling exhibit to the Arts Clayton Gallery. Certainly, she is a 21st century leader in the arts. Commissioner Singleton appreciates the intrinsic value of the arts to enrich to lives of children and families in our community."

The Arts Commission was launched with the intention of bringing together county government officials, civic and business leaders and patrons who support the arts and humanities at the local and national levels. Since its inception, the Arts Commission has supported and promoted numerous workshops at NACo Annual Conferences that have included local practitioners who demonstrated how the arts can be used by county officials to provide solutions to many of the challenges that they face daily.

"I've heard rumors about cuts to arts programs at the federal level. As Vice Chairman, I plan to work with our president to ensure that NACo lobbies for continued funding for the arts. A lot of the counties depend on the arts in their communities", Singleton stated.

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