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North Carolina Museum of Art to Improve Park's Upper Tributary and Forest with \$92,000 Grant from Duke Energy

Raleigh, N.C.—Today the North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) received a \$92,000 grant from Duke Energy for upper tributary and forest improvement in its Ann and Jim Goodnight Museum Park. The grant is part of the Water Resources Fund, a \$10 million commitment from Duke Energy to improve the environment.



The grant will be used to improve the headwaters of the tributary to House Creek in the Museum Park in an effort to reduce sediment and nutrient runoff in the Neuse River Basin. A new trail and signage will also offer visitors an enhanced experience in nature.

"We are incredibly thankful to Duke Energy for this generous grant that will allow us to continue our mission of improving the sustainability of our Museum Park," says Rachel Woods, the NCMA's curator of horticulture and sustainability. "This important project will complete the first phase of a multiphase endeavor to restore the health and natural beauty of the stream system in the Park."

The North Carolina Museum of Art is one of 12 organizations across North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia to collectively receive more than \$770,000 from the fund during the fourth grant announcement. The Water Resources Fund is a multiyear commitment that will leave a legacy of improved water quality, quantity, and conservation in the Carolinas and neighboring regions.

"Duke Energy is closely connected to the rivers and waterways that power our regional economies," says Shawn Heath, president of the Duke Energy Foundation. "These waterways are valued resources we strive to protect and restore. We look forward to our partnership with the North Carolina Museum of Art and the impact this grant will have in North Carolina."

Investment decisions are carefully reviewed by the Water Resources Fund committee, an independent body that includes five environmental experts and two Duke Energy employees. Selected projects are chosen on several criteria, including whether the project is science-based and research-supported.

Duke Energy anticipates two grant announcements per year over the course of the Water Resources Fund. Visit duke-energy.com for more information.

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About the North Carolina Museum of Art

The North Carolina Museum of Art's permanent collection spans more than 5,000 years, from ancient Egypt to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the South. The Museum's collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing national touring exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The Museum opened West Building, home to the permanent collection, in 2010. The North Carolina Museum of Art, Lawrence J. Wheeler, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, Pat McCrory, governor, and an agency of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Susan Kluttz, secretary.

About the Duke Energy Foundation

Duke Energy Foundation provides philanthropic support to address the needs of the communities where its customers live and work. In 2015 the foundation provided more than \$30 million in charitable gifts. The foundation's education focus spans kindergarten to career, particularly science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); early childhood literacy; and workforce development. It also supports the environment and community impact initiatives, including arts and culture.

Duke Energy is committed to building on its legacy of community service. For more information visit duke-energy.com/foundation.

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