



# Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.

12610 Catoctin Furnace Road  
Thurmont, Maryland 21788

December 14, 2022

Leigh K. Adams  
Executive Director  
Ausherman Family Foundation  
7420 Hayward Road, Ste. 203  
Frederick, MD 21702

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Anderson Comer

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Brink

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Professional, Alyssa  
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President Emeritus,  
Christopher  
Gardiner

Dear Leigh,

The Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. (CFHS) is thrilled to present the Ausherman Family Foundation with this 2022 Maryland Preservation Award from the Maryland Historical Trust. The Ausherman Family Foundation is recognized for Project Excellence: Preservation Partnerships with the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.

Partnerships at Catoctin Furnace are the most essential ingredient in nearly 50 years of preservation success. Our partnerships with groups like the Ausherman Family Foundation have expanded the reach and impact of our site geographically, temporally, socially, financially, personally, and educationally well beyond the 12 structures and cultural landscape in the village, creating and maintaining unique and mutually beneficial relationships. Through our partnerships we have been able to preserve Catoctin Furnace's historic structures and landscape; commemorate the village's cultural heritage through free, public seasonal events; educate the community through tours, workshops, open museum days, and craft demonstrations; cooperate with local schools, educators, and groups like the Ausherman Family Foundation to host field trips; mentor college interns and emerging professionals; partner with Silver Oak Academy and Living Classrooms to provide training for at-risk students; engage in groundbreaking research with the Smithsonian Institution and Harvard University that has brought to light the important role that enslaved ironworkers played in the history of the United States; pursue of an agenda of reparative knowledge transfer; and provide economic opportunity through heritage preservation. None of this would be possible without you and we trust you know how very grateful we are for your valued partnership.

Your support is integral to helping CFHS further its mission of preserving the rich history of the pre-Revolutionary War-era iron furnace and village of Catoctin Furnace. Your critical partnership helps us preserve the historic village and ensure that current and future generations can see an example of life in an early nineteenth-century industrial town.

Catoctin Furnace illustrates the lifeways of diverse, hard-working furnace laborers who helped produce the iron ore and finished products used throughout the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in the United States. The lessons taught during a visit to the Museum of the Ironworker, the Collier's Log House, and the village of Catoctin Furnace are important and cannot be lost to history. Your support and partnership ensure that the stories and sites of this unique iron-making village will be carefully preserved for generations to come.

Again, thank you for your invaluable partnership.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Comer, President

Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.

240-288-7396

[www.catoctinfurnace.org](http://www.catoctinfurnace.org)

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