



Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

*We make a living by what we
get. We make a life by what
we give.*

-Winston Churchill

September 2014

The Foundation For Appalachian Advancement received its 501(c)(3) designation on August 25, 2014, and is now a tax-exempt organization. This allows for donations to be tax deductible, a big step forward in helping the F.A.A. raise money to achieve its lofty goals.



Appalachia is home to over 25 million people in 420 counties spanning 13 states. Within our region there are too many towns and counties that fall far behind our national economic and educational standards. In fact, many of the poorest parts of our nation are right here in Appalachia. It is with these problems in mind, and with great pride in our Appalachian history, heritage and culture that we formed the Foundation For Appalachian Advancement. With a focus on education, economic development, and the promotion of our culture and heritage, our organization is working toward a better tomorrow in Appalachia.

We have our work cut out for us in order to make a difference. Take, for example, a few staggering facts that we face here in Appalachia.

*During the previous recession, Appalachia lost the number of jobs gained from 2000-2008.

*Only 17 of 420 counties had positive employment growth from 2008-2010.

*Per capita personal income was 20% lower than the national average in 2008.

We face significant problems of socio-economic conditions, the need for more skilled trades, a need for more vocational and higher educational opportunities, and the stereotypes we face here in Appalachia. Together we can tackle these problems with a two-tiered approach to advancing and promoting our beautiful Appalachia.

Our Mission: The Foundation For Appalachian Advancement serves for the progress and enhancement of the Appalachian region through education, economic development of families and communities, and for the advancement of regional arts and culture.

Tier 1: Education and Economic Development

We will soon be announcing programs in development for scholarships aimed at high school students from low income families, adult education and vocational grants, as well as programs for economic education and small business development in some of the most economically depressed areas of Appalachia.

Tier 2: Highlighting Artists, History, and Culture

Appalachia is home to many notable actors, musicians, writers, poets, and artists of all stripes. The F.A.A. will be developing a broad database of artists throughout the region to highlight their work and celebrate our culture. In future newsletters we will feature a segment for “Artist of the Month” and announce plans for future events to celebrate our artists such as regional film festivals, galleries, and promotions centered around our writers and musicians.



*Photo above is South Holston Lake, Bristol, TN

Appalachian Progress

We will be developing a quarterly magazine that will feature our accomplishments, regional success stories, highlight artists, exceptional students and teachers, highlight popular places to visit, as well as a variety of other topics.

The Future

Our first order of business will be to develop our fundraising plan to pay for the programs that are needed in many of our communities. In the Spring of 2015 we plan to make available as many grants and scholarships as possible for our Adult Scholarship Program. For example, we will plan to offer grants for vocational training to out of work coal miners in our region. That will add to the economic diversification of Appalachia and keep those future earnings in our communities where they are needed the most.

We will also work to have funds available for scholarships for high school seniors that come from low income families in some of the most economically depressed areas of Appalachia.

These are lofty goals and without your support they are unreachable goals. We understand that the best way to predict the future is to create it. And with your help we can make a brighter future for the lives we touch here in Appalachia, the home we are all so very proud of.

Spread the word!

*Donations are tax deductible.

Donations can be made payable and mailed to:

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

P.O. Box 397

Richlands, VA 24641