

THE RIDGE RECEIVES BLACK BELT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ARTS GRANT

May 2015 - The Ridge Macon County Archaeology Project (TRMCAP) received the wonderful news this month that our proposal to offer an introductory southeastern Native American finger weaving (twining) crafts workshop was selected for a 2015 Black Belt Community Foundation Arts Grant. The Black Belt Community Foundation (BBCF) is based in Selma, Alabama. The BBCF offers community program and arts grants each year to non-profit organizations in its 12-county region (see www.blackbeltfound.org).

The hands-on finger weaving workshop will be presented this fall by Monica Newman Moore to the members of the Macon County Young Preservationist Association and interested adult community residents. Twining is an ancient Native American, utilitarian art form. It is associated with the Creek Indians. The Creek Indians are one of three significant cultural groups of The Ridge project area. Workshop participants will learn how to make a bracelet or bookmark.

Monica Newman Moore is a living historian who is based in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. She teaches workshops on twined bags and deer toe leggings shakers. The shakers are used for traditional Creek Indian stomp dancing. She also offers a how-to program on stomp dancing and a Creek Indian hunting camp demonstration (see www.twinedbags.com).

On Saturday, June 20, TRMCAP Board member Pastor Katrina Love, and TRMCAP volunteer Mr. Willie Pace, accompanied Shari Williams, TRMCAP Executive Director, on a trip to Selma to attend the BBCF awards ceremony for grant recipients.

TRMCAP is honored to be selected as a recipient of this grant and extend thanks to the Black Belt Community Foundation, and the Alabama State Council on the Arts for the opportunity to expose youth and adults in The Ridge Project area to this unique form Native American craft.

