

November 30, 2021

All we want for Christmas

At the early 20th century Fairview Colored School, a child's wish for Christmas would seem very humble to most of us today. Due to the limited resources of many families, children learned early what it meant to choose one gift that he or she wanted most. Through an expectant smile you could hear them say, "All I want for Christmas is _____." Top on the list could have been a new pair of shoes to wear to school, something store bought to dress up in for church; and Christmas morning could have been extra special with the brightness of a brand-new toy. Any wish granted made every Christmas the best one ever.

The Fairview School has a big smile on its face this Christmas, too. Despite the difficulties of the times, perseverance has led to our receiving a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission for a Historic Site Master Plan. This comprehensive business plan covering everything from operations to long term development will assure Fairview's sustainability into the future. That's just one reason to smile.

If you could ask the Fairview School to name another very needed gift this year, we're certain that the answer would be, "All I want for Christmas is to be wrapped in porches, ramps and walkways."

As we clear the hurdle of significant price increases for materials, we need your help to raise an additional \$52K of this \$76K Accessibility Project to obtain our Certificate of Occupancy. Please add the Fairview School to your 'giving list' this year. A most generous lead gift of \$5K, \$15K in grant funding, and \$4K in cash are already in hand. Your support and the continued recognition of Fairview's impact and importance by regional and national organizations are encouraging.

A special plaque recognizing all donors will be placed on the front porch by level of giving. Your tax-deductible contribution can be made by mailing your check to the address below, or visiting our website at www.fairviewbrown.org and clicking on the **'DONATE'** button. Thank you for your support.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday season.

Joyce Perdue-Smith, Chairman

Joyce

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