



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Contact

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## DENISON MAIN STREET ANNOUNCED AS 2023 GREAT AMERICAN MAIN STREET AWARD SEMIFINALISTS

### One of Eight Organizations Recognized for Excellence in Transforming Downtown Districts

**Denison, Texas (9-21-22)** – Main Street America has announced Denison Main Street as a 2023 Great American Main Street Award (GAMSA) Semifinalist. This prestigious award is the nation’s top award recognizing communities for their excellence in comprehensive preservation-based commercial district revitalization. A jury of professionals and leaders in the fields of community and economic development and historic preservation convened to review a nationwide pool of applicants. After thoughtful deliberation, the jury unanimously selected eight semifinalists that demonstrate exemplary use of the Main Street Approach™ to lead community-based transformation strategies in their downtowns.

The 2023 GAMSA Semifinalists are:

- [River District Association](#) – Danville, Virginia
- [Denison Main Street](#) – Denison, Texas
- [Downtown Florence Main Street](#) – Florence, South Carolina
- [Metuchen Downtown Alliance](#) – Metuchen, New Jersey
- [Mills 50 Main Street](#) – Orlando, Florida
- [Ruston Main Street](#) – Ruston, Louisiana
- [Downtown Sheridan Association](#) – Sheridan, Wyoming
- [Downtown Sykesville Connection](#) – Sykesville, Maryland

“The Great American Main Street Award is the highest honor that we grant to organizations within our network,” said Hannah White, Interim President and CEO at Main Street America. “We are proud to recognize Denison Main Street and seven fellow organizations as 2023 GAMSA Semifinalists for their excellence in transforming their downtown districts through strategically implemented economic vitality, design, promotion, and organization initiatives.”

From small towns with traditional downtowns to commercial corridors within larger cities, the 2023 GAMSA represent the diversity of the Main Street America network and the power of the Main Street Approach™. Semifinalists have generated over \$872 million in local reinvestment, helped open 863 net new businesses, facilitated the creation of 4,706 net new jobs, catalyzed the rehabilitation of 1,922 historic buildings, and leveraged 178,452 volunteer hours.

“We are excited to be honored in this way,” said Donna Dow, Main Street Director for the City of Denison. “It validates the work that has been done since 1988 when Denison first applied to become a Main Street Community. Our stakeholders deserve this recognition.”

The 2023 Great American Main Street Award winners will be announced at the Opening Plenary of the 2023 Main Street Now Conference in Boston, Massachusetts on March 27, 2023.

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#### **ABOUT THE GREAT AMERICAN MAIN STREET AWARDS**

The Great American Main Street Award program recognizes communities exemplifying the use of the Main Street Approach™ to revitalize commercial districts. Winners are selected from a nationwide pool of applicants by a jury of Main Street professionals and leaders in the fields of community and economic development and historic preservation. Since the award's inception in 1995, over 100 Main Street programs have been honored as GAMSA communities. For more information, visit [mainstreet.org](http://mainstreet.org).

#### **ABOUT MAIN STREET AMERICA**

Main Street America leads a movement committed to strengthening communities through preservation-based economic development in older and historic downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts. For more than 40 years, Main Street America has provided a practical, adaptable, and impactful framework for community-driven, comprehensive revitalization through the Main Street Approach™. Our network of more than 1,200 neighborhoods and communities, rural and urban, who share both a commitment to place and to building stronger communities through preservation-based economic development. Main Street America is a nonprofit subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. For more information, visit [mainstreet.org](http://mainstreet.org).

Mayor Janet Gott and Main Street Director Donna Dow will be available from 1:15-1:45 today by appointment for interviews. E-mail [ddow@cityofdenison.com](mailto:ddow@cityofdenison.com)