Virginia Downtown Development Association recognizes Arts and Tourism partnership with 2009 Award of Excellence for Organizational Development

The Virginia Downtown Development Association's mission is to bring attention to the significance of historic downtowns to Virginia's economic vitality and to enhance the effectiveness of organizations, individuals and communities to foster vibrant economic development. It recognizes excellence in the organizational aspects of a local revitalization program such as consensus building, development of partnerships and outreach activities with an annual award. Awards of Excellence are presented to projects that are outstanding in concept and implementation.

The VDDA has announced that **the Isle of Wight Arts League and the Smithfield & Isle of Wight Convention & Visitors Bureau are the recipients of its 2009 Award of Excellence for Organizational Development**. The VDDA was impressed with the transformation of 319 Main Street into a shared arts and visitor center, but noted that the non-profit and public partnership in the launch of a cultural tourism initiative was particularly deserving of recognition.

Stop by the Arts Center @ 319. Share in the energy and creativity of our local artists and in the commitment the Arts League and Tourism teams have made to the vitality of the Smithfield Historic District.