It has been a busy summer for the Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN) in the Metro Detroit area! From launching Brick + Beam Detroit in partnership with Preservation Detroit and Detroit Future City, starting Phase III of the Jefferson-Chalmers Preservation Demonstration Project, and welcoming Jennifer Reinhardt, our new Detroit Preservation Specialist (see page 4 for an introduction to Jennifer), MHPN continues to build upon our core areas of education, advocacy, and community engagement.

**Brick + Beam Detroit**

Selected by the Knight Foundation as a Knight Cities Challenge winner in March of this year, Brick + Beam Detroit aims to create a forum in which building rehabbers and DIYers can connect with each other as well as developers, tradespeople, lenders, and organizations doing complementary work in order to demystify the building rehab process and get projects done.

Spearheaded by Emilie Evans (MHPN), Amy Elliott Bragg (Preservation Detroit), and Victoria Olivier (Detroit Future City), Brick + Beam Detroit had already hosted a June panel on the basics of building rehab and a July hands-on workshop on wood window restoration. Future projects include how-tos and online forums, rehab storytelling, social networking events and more. Be sure to check out the recent feature posted in Michigan Community Resources’ Neighborhood Exchange for more information and an in-depth interview with Emilie!

**Jefferson-Chalmers Preservation Demonstration Project**

MHPN’s Jefferson-Chalmers Demonstration Project in Detroit aims to demonstrate the role strategic preservation and rehabilitation play as catalysts for revitalization in a tipping-point neighborhood. Since beginning our ‘deep dive’ in Jefferson-Chalmers in 2013, MHPN has hosted three neighborhood workshops aimed at cultivating local skills and knowledge around older building maintenance, as well as a pop-up exhibit. The exhibit engaged youth in the neighborhood in exploring cultural heritage connections between public history and current conditions of their Jefferson-Chalmers neighborhood through photography.

As part of Phase III, MHPN has partnered with Jefferson East, Inc. to purchase and rehab a historic home at 845 Lakewood. We will also use the Lakewood house as a ‘living laboratory’ for community workshops and hands-on homeowner trainings in general maintenance, building assessments, weatherization, plaster, wood window repair, and more. Our goals are to reduce barriers to reuse and redevelopment, engage the community and local partners in preservation rather than demolition, and strengthen the housing market in Jefferson-Chalmers by reducing blight and preserving neighborhood density.

Stay tuned as we announce more details. Soon, we’ll release photos from our first Neighborhoods Day in Jefferson-Chalmers, which included a historic walking tour and ‘building hug’ in collaboration with Southeast Waterfront Neighborhood Association, Hope Community Outreach & Development, and Preservation Detroit!
“Resolve, Revolve, Evolve”
The Michigan Historic Preservation Network announces its 36th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference
May 12-14, 2016, in the City of Detroit,
headquartered at the McGregor Memorial Conference Center
on the campus of Wayne State University.

You are invited to submit a session abstract to be considered for presentation.
Deadline: Sunday, September 13, 2015, midnight.

Abstracts are invited from Michigan’s Upper and Lower Peninsulas as well as from neighboring states and Canada and may come from individuals and panels.

In 2016, we celebrate two landmark events: the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, and the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. We are also celebrating our return to the City of Detroit for the first time since 2001…and how things have changed since then! We see a new energy and determination in the city and in communities around the state of Michigan. We’ve rejoiced in many victories and have even mourned a few losses…but then, like Detroit, we rebuild from the ashes, stronger than ever.

As preservationists, we know that the strong growth of our state is firmly rooted in the resources of its past—in the buildings, landscapes and objects that we work to preserve. We use the tools developed by our predecessors to help us protect and build on those resources, from the documentation methods and standards developed by the National Park Service, to the expertise and stewardship of our State Historic Preservation Office, which was established by the National Historic Preservation Act. And we know that preservation is not about preventing change but about managing it, by finding new uses for historic resources that keep them relevant.

This year’s conference theme—“Resolve, Revolve, Evolve”—brings a fresh lens to what we do as preservationists. It recognizes that one of our most important tools is our Resolve: our determination to restore our historic resources and to revitalize our state’s communities, no matter their size or number of residents. Along the way, we work to resolve the problems facing those communities, whether it is conflicts between neighborhoods and downtowns, between urban centers and rural landscapes, or between those who want to preserve and those who want to build new. The theme welcomes the opportunity to Revolve: to look at old problems from different angles, to get creative in our solutions, and to keep the clock moving, knowing that the time to get things done is NOW. And it acknowledges that we must continually Evolve: nurturing new preservationists and allies, reaching out to young entrepreneurs and to the new residents who are flocking into Detroit and other communities, and looking for new ways to engage those who are already there.

Conference Tracks:
The Detroit Conference will include four tracks.

Track One: “Theme” focuses on the conference theme of “Resolve, Revolve, Evolve” and considers a wide array of options, many of which reflect new approaches to historic preservation. Some ideas include:

- Projects and programs that successfully resolved conflicts or problems in a community using historic resources or that demonstrated community commitment to preservation.
- Creative solutions or unique approaches to the reuse of historic resources that resulted in the revitalization of the community.
- Efforts that engaged a new audience in preservation activities or that opened up new opportunities for community residents.

Track Two: “Information” looks at the laws, policies, designations, and incentives available to manage change while still protecting the character of historic resources. Consider:

- Integrating the various programs of tax credits and loans, assistance, easements, etc., and working with all parties involved on financial packages that make preservation projects succeed.
- Becoming familiar with the laws and policies, the codes and procedures needed to effectively advocate for preservation.
- Identifying best practices in historic preservation, land use, and cultural activities that can be primary to a community’s revitalization, not just a sidelong.
A Gem Glimmers Again: MHPN’s 21st Annual Fall Benefit Hosted at Detroit’s Beautifully Restored Broderick Tower

Saturday, October 3, 2015

Picture this. From one of the “Sky Top Penthouses” of Detroit’s Broderick Tower, you look out on the City of Detroit as its lights go on at dusk. Though there’s not a game, you can see the green expanse of Comerica Park’s diamond directly below you. The quiet “swish” of the People Mover is there, as is the sound of a party going on just inside the balcony doors.

It’s the Michigan Historic Preservation Network’s 21st Annual Fall Benefit and you’re invited!

Members and friends of the MHPN have gathered for over twenty years to spend an enjoyable Fall evening together at a significant historic venue and to raise funds for the organization. Most often we’ve been in Detroit at landmark buildings such as the Fisher, Grand Army of the Republic, or Guardian, at venerable social gathering spots such as the Detroit Athletic Club or Yacht Club, or at wonderful surprises such as the Skillman Branch of the Detroit Public Library or the Bell Telephone Building. Sometimes we’ve traveled to other parts of Michigan to enjoy the Tibbits Opera House in Coldwater, the Union Station in Durand, or the Masonic Temple in Ypsilanti.

This year, we’re at the Broderick Tower. Louis Kamper designed what was first known as the Eaton Tower, a beautifully-conceived Neoclassical building constructed in 1928 on Grand Circus Park. Between 1890 and 1930, other high-rise commercial skyscrapers, elegant hotels, and movie palaces were built to line the streets leading to the park. At 34 stories in height, however, this tower stood out. In 1945, David Broderick, an insurance broker, purchased the building and managed it until his death in 1957. After numerous owners held the property over the next two decades, the Higgins family purchased it in 1976 and most recently, with co-owners, invested more than $50 million to restore the Broderick Tower to accommodate retail, office, restaurant, and residential uses.

Located at 10 Witherell Street in Detroit, the Broderick Tower will welcome guests from 5:30 PM–9:00 PM on Saturday, October 3. Tickets are $100 per person or $75 for students and government officials. Included are complimentary valet parking, tours of some of the building’s highlights during the first hour of the event, strolling dinner fare and hosted wine bar, auction, and finally dessert and coffee to send you on your way. You do not have to be a member to attend! RSVP by September 25, at 6:00 PM on-line or by printing a registration form to mail or fax; both are at www.mhpn.org. To learn more, check the website, call 517-371-8080, or e-mail admin@mhpn.org. Responses are taken to the penthouse's 80-person capacity. Full refunds are provided only up to the RSVP deadline. The MHPN is a 501-c-3 organization; $50 of your ticket fee represents a gift in support of programming. The entire first floor of the Sky Top Penthouse is barrier free; some portions of the building visited during the tours are not. Dress is business attire.

We look forward to seeing you at the Broderick Tower!

In addition to the Annual Benefit, MHPN is working on other events for the Fall:

November 7: Walking Tour of Downtown Wayne, with reception to follow
December (date TBD): Jazz Night at Cliff Bell’s, Detroit
Keep an eye out for more details!
MHPN/NTHP Welcomes Jennifer Reinhardt as New Preservation Specialist in Detroit

Jennifer Reinhardt joins the MHPN team with a background in urban planning, archaeology, community development, and preservation. She hails from the Windy City with experience advocating for diverse stakeholders through groups like Habitat for Humanity, New Voice Strategies, Build It! Bronzeville, and the Chicago Cultural Alliance. Jennifer is excited to call Michigan home, and even more excited to continue building partnerships, increasing youth leadership, and expanding the reach of MHPN into new communities.

**What brings you to Detroit?**
I would say opportunity and curiosity. I was immediately drawn to this position because of the link between historic preservation and community development. Being part of a statewide and national network of professionals and enthusiasts really excites me, as well as having a direct connection to people in the local community. I admire Detroit, I believe in Detroit, and I am happy to be here!

**What do you hope to accomplish with your time in Detroit?**
I hope to build upon the incredible groundwork laid out by Emilie Evans and continue to find new ways to increase diversity and youth engagement, improve the accessibility of data and information, build new partnerships with organizations across the city, and raise the visibility of MHPN as a ‘go-to’ resource. I hope to seek out the accidental preservationists amongst the community through workshops, seminars, or walk-throughs and demonstrate that preservation includes more than just saving the famous buildings. Preservation can be recognized in all forms, as long as we have a relationship with the spaces we desire to preserve.

My ultimate goal is to see the type of ‘deep-dive’ MHPN is doing in Jefferson-Chalmers spread to other neighborhoods in Detroit (and beyond!) where preservation becomes not an afterthought but part of the driving force and momentum behind community-led projects. As more and more communities in Detroit create block clubs or neighborhood associations, I would love if each group had a resident historian and preservation was paramount to any quality of life plan moving forward!

**As a preservationist, how do you reach out to people who are not familiar with what preservation is and what it can do for a community?**
I was recently asked how to challenge the perception that “preservation is a brioche bun, when people really need wheat bread.” I think that we as preservationists need to address the fact that barriers exist and come up with ways to create a variety of access points to reach different audiences.

There will be some who appreciate the sheer beauty of majestic downtown skyscrapers, some who are intrigued by the community history of a bank-turned-bar-turned-Chinese restaurant, and some who look at a house on their street and would rather see it restored than demolished.

I think all of these interpretations are part of what it means to be a preservationist, and we need to ask ourselves how to broaden the dialogue and create meaningful interpretations of place that inspire people in nontraditional ways. To do so, I think that we need to show up at community meetings where preservation isn’t on the agenda, to become a recognizable face in community affairs and maintain the relevance of preservation in everyday life.

I know that Detroit has a huge building stock and dwindling population; how can historic preservation help address this issue?
Like in many cities undergoing rightsizing, we have to be realistic that we cannot save every building. However, we must continue to advocate for strategic demolition that considers the historic fabric and built environment of the neighborhood as a whole, not just block-by-block.

Economic incentives and environmental benefits are tools that preservation can bring to the table, but being proactive and engaging community stakeholders is key to determine which structures are considered most significant and which parcels are already targeted for future use in other neighborhood plans or potential developments.

Going back to your previous question, I believe that this intersection is where historic preservation can have the most impact in shaping the direction, look, and feel of a community as well as offering a gateway to recruit new preservationists.

**What is the most exciting thing you’ve found in Detroit?**
The timing! We have a new planning director who is a preservationist, major redevelopments planned for historic Fort Wayne and Brush Park, and launch of the Partnership for Building Reuse – Detroit (a project of the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Preservation Green Lab), to name but a few…

Having such a spotlight on historic preservation is exhilarating, but we will still need to periodically take a step back and ensure that decisions aren’t happening in silos and community members are empowered to sustain projects and recommendations over a long period of time.

*Interview by Savannah Raus-Wuth.*
State Historic Preservation Office News

Meet Debra and Joelle

You probably met them at the MHPN conference and other events, but we want to be sure you know Debra Ball Johnson and Joelle Letts who joined the SHPO in September 2014, following the departure of Kelly Larson and Denise Sachau.

Debra Ball Johnson, AIA, joins the SHPO team as a historic architect and the design specialist for the Michigan Main Street program. In graduate school at the University of Michigan, Debra specialized in historic preservation, and she has worked in professional practice as a licensed architect. Debra was active in the Main Street Fairmont (West Virginia) program. She taught architecture classes in Fairmont State College’s pre-professional architectural degree program as an associate professor of architecture with tenure. While there, she researched and published An Ornament to the City: Historic Architecture in Downtown Fairmont, West Virginia, a book covering 150 historic buildings in the downtown. A native of Brighton, Michigan, she now resides in Northville with her family.

Joelle Letts is the new grants manager/budget analyst at the SHPO, where she administers the office’s Historic Preservation Fund grant from the National Park Service, reporting on the SHPO’s compliance with federal requirements. The fun part of her job is working directly with communities and visiting lighthouses as she administers grants funding historic preservation planning and rehabilitation, including Certified Local Government Grants and Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program. Joelle also manages the SHPO’s budget. She has a Bachelor of Arts from Michigan State University, James Madison College in Social Relations and Policy. Prior to SHPO she worked for the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs developing armory budgets and managing the administration of the Armory Rental Program. Joelle is a native of Michigan and enjoys cycling and vacationing throughout the state with her husband David.

Meet MSHDA’s New Leaders

This spring the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, the SHPO’s parent organization, welcomed two new leaders.

Kevin Elsenheimer, Executive Director

Kevin Elsenheimer was named executive director of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), effective April 26, 2015. He is the former chief deputy director of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and director of the Michigan Workers’ Compensation Agency. As chief deputy director, Elsenheimer oversaw the Michigan Administrative Hearing System, Michigan Liquor Control Commission, Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs, Office of Regulatory Reinvention and Freedom of Information Act responses. Prior to serving in the Snyder administration, he served as minority leader in the Michigan House of Representatives, and retired in 2010 as state representative for the 105th District as a result of term limits.

An attorney, Kevin is a former assistant prosecutor and owner of a law firm that represented municipalities throughout Michigan. He attended Michigan State University and Northwestern Michigan College, receiving a law degree from Wayne State University Law School.

Brian Mills, Chief Operating Officer

Brian Mills is the chief operating officer of MSHDA. He is responsible for directing the activities of all MSHDA programs and staff. Brian directs the formulation and implementation of the department’s mission, policies, strategic plans, directives and organizational structure for the Authority and acts on the executive director’s behalf in his absence. Brian previously worked in the legislature for nearly 20 years, serving as the Policy Director and managing a staff of 17 policy advisors for both Speakers Jase Bolger and Kevin Cotter. Prior to that, Mills was chief of staff for then state senator John Moolenaar and served in similar roles for term-limited members of the Michigan House of Representatives. Brian is a graduate of Central Michigan University. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, with a concentration in Public Administration and a Business Management minor.
SHPO Grants Awarded in 2015

In 2015 the SHPO awarded $842,000 in preservation grants to communities and nonprofit organizations.

Michigan Heritage Restoration Program
Thanks to the creation of a grant program in the Michigan Economic Development Corporation’s 2015 budget, the SHPO had a new program to administer at MEDC’s request. Through the Michigan Heritage Restoration Program, the SHPO awarded $600,000 to seven nonprofit neighborhood associations. The recipient organizations and their projects are:

- **Friends of Mary Sheldon Ismon House, $120,000** for the interior rehabilitation of the second and third floors of the Mary Sheldon Ismon House. The house is located in the Superior Street Commercial Historic District in Albion, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

- **Model T Automotive Complex Inc., $60,000** for exterior masonry rehabilitation on the west elevation and penthouses of Detroit’s Ford Piquette Avenue Plant, one of 35 National Historic Landmarks in Michigan.

- **Indian Village Historical Collections, $102,600** for the rehabilitation and installation of 57 historic City of Detroit streetlights in the Indian Village neighborhood, a National Register of Historic Places-listed historic district.

- **Dexter Area Historical Society, $75,000** for exterior rehabilitation and painting of the National Register of Historic Places-listed Gordon Hall.

- **Franklin Historical Society, $119,400** for rehabilitation of the stone foundation of the locally designated Broughton House.

- **Friends of Ironwood Carnegie Library, $60,000** for exterior masonry rehabilitation at the National Register of Historic Places-listed Ironwood Carnegie Library.

- **Vine Neighborhood Association, $63,000** for store front and interior retail space rehabilitation of the Central Corners building in Kalamazoo’s Vine Street Historic District. The district is locally designated and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Certified Local Government Grants
The SHPO awarded $117,000 in grants to three Certified Local Governments for 2015. The grant awards include:

- **City of Detroit, $24,000** to hire a qualified contractor to provide plans and specifications detailing the reopening of the pass-through between the Belle Isle Aquarium and Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory.

- **City of Detroit, $33,000** to rehabilitate the Scarab Club roof and skylight, tear off the existing flat membrane roof system to the structural deck, replace damaged/rotten deck, and install new flashing.

- **City of Menominee, $27,000** to remove the brick and replace with the formed metal cornice on the south facing façade of the Menominee Opera House.

- **City of Saline, $33,000** for a qualified consultant to prepare a Condition Assessment Report for all 13 structures on the historic Rentschler Farm and to provide plans and specifications for structural and foundation rehabilitation of the Salvage Barn.

Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program
Since 2000 the SHPO has awarded more than $1.5 million in grants toward the preservation of lighthouses. In 2015 the SHPO announced the following:

- **Charlevoix Historical Society, $12,700** for the Charlevoix South Pier Lighthouse. The society will hire a contractor to repaint exterior red surfaces of the Charlevoix South Pier Lighthouse with red marine-grade paint.

- **Crisp Point Lighthouse Historical Society, $30,000** for Crisp Point Lighthouse near Newberry in Luce County. The project includes hiring a contractor to remove paint from the exterior, replace roof flashing, mortar, and brick, and repaint the exterior of the Crisp Point Lighthouse.

- **Peninsula Township, $44,732** for the Mission Point Lighthouse near Traverse City. The township will rehabilitate the stone and brick foundations of the Tower/Keeper’s Dwelling and relocate...continued on page 7
Michigan Modern at Palm Springs Modernism Week

Palm Springs Modernism Week featured *Michigan Modern Monday* on February 16, 2015, a full day devoted to Michigan's modern design heritage. This was the first day of this type in the 10-year history of the event that draws thousands of modernism devotees to Palm Springs, California. State Historic Preservation Officer Brian Conway and Preservation Planner (and Michigan Modern project manager) Amy Arnold provided an overview of Michigan's contributions to modernism and a look at the Michigan-California modern connections. Other sessions included: “Threads: Herman Miller Stories” by Herman Miller’s graphic designer Steve Frykholm and writer Clark Malcolm; “Meet George Nelson” by John Berry former VP of Corporate Communications at Herman Miller; “Where Today Meets Tomorrow: General Motors Technical Center” by Susan Skarsgard, Global Design Manager for General Motors; “Charles and Ray Eames: The Cranbrook Years” by Eames Demetrios, Director of the Eames Office; and the film the *Radiant Sun: Designer Ruth Adler Schnee*. The room was filled to capacity for each session resulting in more than 1,800 people learning about Michigan Modern over the course of the day. The response was very enthusiastic. As a result of the day, SHPO is now working with a major publisher on two Michigan Modern books. Overall, Modernism Week 2015 drew a record crowd of more than 60,000 people, providing an excellent platform for Michigan's Modern story.

Upcoming Events

The SHPO is either participating in or hosting the following events.

August 11, 2015
*Department of Human Services Annual Weatherization Conference*, Comfort Inn & Suites, Mount Pleasant

September 2, 2015, 6:30 pm
*Genesee County Small Cities/Villages Meeting*, Spring Meadows Country Club, 1129 Ripley Road, Linden

September 11, 2015, 10:00 am
*State Historic Preservation Review Board Meeting*, MSHDA Board Room, 735 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing

October 8-11, 2015
*Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival*, Sanctuary Inn, Alpena, and select Lake Huron lighthouses will be open for tours

October 10, 2015, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
*Michigan Archaeology Day*, Michigan Historical Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing

June 5-8, 2016
*Legacy Cities Conference*, McGregor Memorial Conference Center, Wayne State University, Detroit

Crisp Point Lighthouse (courtesy of SHPO).

the storage building to its original position east of the Keeper’s Dwelling.

- **Delta County Historical Society Foundation, $14,000** for Sand Point Lighthouse in Escanaba, Delta County. The project includes hiring a contractor to paint the exterior of the Sand Point Lighthouse including all masonry, metal and wooden surfaces.

- **Michigan Maritime Museum, $22,000** for the South Haven Pier Light. The project includes rehabilitation of the South Haven Light Keepers Dwelling roof and flashing as well as the replacement of the porch roof framing, deck, and ceiling.

**UPCOMING GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES**

- MLAP Grants: November 20, 2015
- CLG Grants: December 18, 2015

...continued from page 6
MHPN Honors Ten Awardees at Annual Conference

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network’s (MHPN) annual preservation awards ceremony was held May 15, 2015 at the Griswold Communications Center on the campus of Northwood University. Ten awards were presented in six categories.

Lifetime Achievement Awards

Charles K. Hyde, Royal Oak. For over forty years, Charles K. Hyde has been documenting the history of Michigan, educating its citizens, and advocating for Michigan’s historic places. He is familiar to many in the state for his scholarly yet entertaining histories of Great Lakes lighthouses and the state’s automotive history.

Dawn F. Schumann, Douglas. Dawn F. Schumann has devoted her life to preservation advocacy and community activism on behalf of historic resources. She has a lifelong love for the Saugatuck-Douglas area, and is a fierce advocate for preserving and interpreting its history.

Thomas F. Trombley, Saginaw. Thomas F. Trombley’s passion for historical detail has made him one of the state’s most well-respected historians and a perfect advocate for the history of his hometown of Saginaw, where he has spent his thirty-five year career researching and promoting the city’s historic resources.

Building Awards

The Bay City City Hall, Bay City. Following a devastating fire in 2010, the Richardsonian Romanesque City Hall underwent a targeted interior and exterior restoration, including the clay tile roof and grand Commission Chambers, returning this monumental building to the people of Bay City.

Chittenden Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing. A meticulous restoration of the long-vacant former home of the University’s dairy and forestry programs created new space for the graduate programs that preserves the spatial quality and historic features of this charming building.

Knapp’s Centre, Lansing. For many years the heart of Lansing’s downtown shopping district, the former Knapp’s Department Store was transformed into mixed-use retail, office and residential space, all while restoring the glory of its distinctive Streamline Moderne façade.

The 2015 Community Award was presented to The City of Muskegon, the Baker College Interior Design Program (Historic Preservation Class), Nakkia Grissom, Greenridge Realty, Inc., Kay Pittman, REALTOR and the Michigan Coastal Credit Union for the rehabilitation of 1500 Leahy. Thanks to the vision, collaboration, and sheer persistence of this team, the Streamline Moderne residence in Muskegon was saved from demolition, restored, and is now giving new life to a local family.

The 2015 Preservation Gem Award honors the Westminster Presbyterian Church Roof and Steeple Restoration, in Grand Rapids. The restored steeple and roof of the church symbolizes the steadfastness of the congregation’s stewardship and the painstaking craftsmanship of the restoration team.

The 2015 Tax Credit Award was presented to the David Whitney Building in Detroit. The rehabilitation of the David Whitney Building created much needed residential space downtown and has had a positive visual and economic effect on the surrounding area, demonstrating the far-reaching impact of historic tax credit projects.

For pictures of the winners, a list of previous winners, and more information about the Annual MHPN Awards program, go to our website at http://www.mhpn.org/?page_id=150.

State Historic Preservation Office News, continued...

Community Outreach Update

PlacePlans Community Projects

SHPO Outreach and CLG Coordinator Jessica Flores, fellow MSHDA colleagues, and partners at the Michigan Municipal League, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and other state agencies have been working with communities to develop PlacePlans. PlacePlans promotes a comprehensive understanding of a community’s place-based assets, and provides the tools and strategies to best leverage them. The PlacePlans process is customized to each project and community, but each involves an intensive community engagement strategy, including a public visioning session, several public meetings to provide specific input and feedback, and direct work with key community stakeholders along the way. PlacePlans projects will positively impact each community’s ability to leverage their place-based assets as economic drivers, and will provide lessons large and small for communities across Michigan. The team is currently working in: Benton Harbor, Boyne City, Monroe, Niles, Traverse City, and Saginaw.

New Certified Local Governments

The SHPO and NPS certified six new CLGs during 2015. These communities have committed to preserving their historic resources through survey, the establishment of a preservation ordinance and historic district commission, and the creation of local historic districts.

City of Escanaba
Village of Franklin
City of Manistee
City of Northville
 Township of Northville
City of Owosso
Track Three: “Applied Skills” taps those who participate in the MHPN’s Historic Resource Council and focus on the traditional trades, crafts, and hands-on techniques that make preservation possible. Ideas might include:

- Presenting inspirational case studies of buildings saved from demolition, adaptively reused, and returned to inventive new uses.
- Considering new methods and technologies for gathering information, evaluating historic resources, and restoring their character.
- Showcasing the people doing hands-on work with historic resources, both trade professionals and those working on their own properties.

Track Four: “Tours” presents tours developed by the host community to showcase the conference theme and inspire participants. Abstracts are not called for this track, but your ideas are welcomed and will be shared with the planning group.

Attention Partners: Our statewide partners are an integral part of the educational offerings of the annual conference. While we do not plan to provide a dedicated partners track this year, we invite you to submit your theme-related proposals for consideration along with our regular abstracts, either as single sessions or as half-day block programming. Accepted sessions will be identified in the conference brochure with special Partner labeling; MHPN may consider adding a Partner track if the planning group deems there are sufficient sessions to warrant a separate track. Partners may include but are not limited to: MSHDA’s State Historic Preservation Office, State Archaeologist, and Michigan Main Street Program; the Michigan Barn Preservation Network; those conserving cultural landscapes; members of the Michigan Archaeological Society and the Conference on Michigan Archaeology; and members of other allied groups such as the organization for the Documentation and Conservation of Buildings, Sites and Neighborhoods of the Modern Movement (DOCOMOMO), The Society of Architectural Historians (SAH), and The Association for Preservation Technology (APT).

Abstract Submission: An abstract must include the following six parts. Prepare and submit them via e-mail as a Word document. No scanned or PDF documents please.

Please note if your submission is a Partner session.

- Title: Provide a title that will capture the audience’s attention.
- Summary: In 300 words or less, describe the session. This summary allows the selection committee to understand what you propose to achieve. The MHPN endorses the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and, if appropriate to your topic, asks that you describe your adherence to them in this summary.
- Learning Objectives: Provide at least four (4) brief learning objectives fulfilled by your proposed session. These help secure continuing education credits from the American Institute of Architects, American Institute of Certified Planners, etc.
- Topic Statement: The Topic Statement of 50 words or less becomes the description in the conference brochure – if your abstract is selected – meant to engage the conference’s attendees.
- Speaker’s Contact Information: For each speaker, provide:
  - Name as it would appear in the conference brochure
  - Any suffixes to the name – i.e. Ph.D., AIA, Esq., CPA, etc.
  - Title
  - Affiliation
  - Mailing address
  - Phone
  - E-mail
  - Confirmation that each speaker is available Thursday and Friday, May 12-13, 2016.
  - For a panel, who is best to contact with any questions.
- Biography: 150 words or less for each speaker, covering such things as education, relevant experience, role in a project, etc.

Deadline: Abstracts are due on or before Sunday, September 13, 2015, by midnight, to Ruth Mills (ruthmills@gmail.com), conference leader; she will acknowledge its arrival by return e-mail. Ruth, or another member of the planning group, will respond to e-mailed questions you might have as you prepare your abstract. Sample Abstracts are available on request.

Acceptance/Decline and MHPN Terms of Participation: The selection committee will notify selected speakers on or before Sunday, October 4, 2015, by midnight. Declines will also be acknowledged and the abstracts archived.

If a speaker is selected, the MHPN hosts them on the day he or she speaks, including registration fee, food and beverages, and evening activities. The MHPN offers much-reduced registration fees for any additional conference days.

In return, the speaker agrees to present during the designated time slot without compensation, reimbursement for travel or overnight costs, or an honorarium.

Speaker Recognition: Although speakers are not remunerated, their names and affiliations are included in a well-recognized conference brochure with a distribution of over 10,000 copies in Michigan, in the Midwest, and around the country; their participation is noted on preservation-related websites, social media sites, and in e-blasts; and they are featured at a conference with 375-400 participants.

Thank you for submitting your abstract for a great session!
Michigan Historic Preservation Network

313 E. Grand River Ave.
Lansing, Michigan 48906
517.371.8080

To join MHPN, get more information about our organization and its activities, and to see a list of upcoming events, please go to our website at

www.MHPN.org

For Individuals and Households:

____ $45 Basic Membership
____ $25 Student (enclose copy of student ID)
____ $25 Senior (age 60 and older)

Add an optional extra gift to your membership:

____ $50 Sustaining
____ $100 Patron
____ $250 Sponsor
____ $500 Benefactor

For other entities:

____ $80 Organization/Institution/Government
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____ $150 Historic District Commission or Committee (up to 10 members)

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