



Network News

Michigan Historic Preservation Network

December 2018

24th Annual Fall Benefit a Success!

Over 110 guests joined MHPN at the amazing Detroit Masonic Temple for the 24th Annual Fall Benefit on September 29, 2018.

The evening included special 90-minute pre-event tours for the adventurous and shorter tours during the evening's festivities. Fantastic food, excellent company, exciting live and silent auctions...what more could you ask for? Oh, and two very deserving individuals received awards: John Gallagher was awarded a 2018 MHPN Citizen Award and former MHPN Board President, Kristine Kidorf, was awarded a Lifetime Achievement award! Congratulations to John and Kristine, and all our auction winners! *

We had such a great time at the MHPN event on Saturday! The tour was incredible, and I enjoyed chatting with some of your members and learning about preservation challenges in Michigan. - All good wishes, Jeff Murdock.

Thank you - ...The venue was wonderful for the presentation and the awards were well deserved.... Please pass my congratulations to the planning team on a job very well done! - Cheryl Early.

Sponsors for the event included:

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John Gallagher recipient of the MHPN Citizen Award for "His preservation advocacy in Detroit and Michigan as a journalist and author."



Kristine Kidorf recipient of the MHPN Lifetime Achievement Award for "Her advancement of the MHPN and the field of historic preservation in Detroit and Michigan."

24th Annual Fall Benefit a Success! (continued)



Guests enjoying the benefit (left), Mike Kirk and Bethany Berdes auctioneers extraordinaire (center), and detail of stair balustrade in the Detroit Masonic Temple (all Fall Benefit photos courtesy of Elizabeth Palmer Jarvis)

MHPN Welcomes Melissa Arrowsmith as New Preservation Specialist in Detroit



*Melissa Arrowsmith,
new MHPN Preservation
Specialist for Detroit*

A Michigan native and Detroit resident, Melissa Arrowsmith joined the MHPN Staff as the Detroit Preservation Specialist this past June. After receiving a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from Wayne State University and a Bachelor's Degree in Historic Preservation from University of Mary Washington in Virginia, Melissa has watched Detroit evolve over the past five years. She sees Detroit in a unique situation where preservation could have a large impact in non-traditional ways that differ from preservation perspectives found elsewhere.

With a background in urban planning and historic preservation, Melissa looks forward to using this knowledge to strengthen community engagement through historic preservation.

What brought you to Detroit?

In addition to family, there are possibilities and a uniqueness that are not found anywhere else. There is also an atmosphere of community and collaboration that is motivated by a 'ground up' philosophy. Through MHPN and its programs like the Living Trades Academy and the Vacant Not Blighted Tour, preservation practice becomes more accessible.

How do you see preservation impacting Detroit and the surrounding areas in the next 5-10 years?

Watching the large impact that Downtown and Midtown's revival has had, it will be interesting to see preservation at work on a larger scale, not necessarily in size, but in reach while making it more accessible to the community directly through many smaller initiatives that are more widespread in contrast to single large scale efforts.

As a preservationist, how do you engage people who are not familiar with what preservation is and what it can do for a community?

The best way to connect with the community is to ask about a special place in the neighborhood that evokes a special connection and then ask the question "Why?" Importance of personal stories is critical to providing that connection between place and storytelling in order to make preservation more accessible.

What is the most exciting thing you've found in Detroit?

Living not too far from the Boston Edison Historic District, something can be learned from the overlay of urban planning, historic preservation, and community engagement where preservation can be used as a tool to create an equitable and accessible environment. Other topics of interest include the vision and management of historic commercial corridor development with its vacant lots as well as the preservation philosophy of shrinking cities and its remaining density. assist in a systems upgrade project within a fully operational federal courthouse; a historic structure listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Chelsea previously earned a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from Lawrence Technological University. *

MHPN announces Executive Director's Retirement

September 10, 2018

After 17 years as Executive Director, MHPN's Nancy Finegood will retire in March of 2019. Through Nancy's leadership MHPN has grown and evolved into an organization known not just in Michigan, but in communities across the country for having both excellent and innovative programming and partnerships. We are sad to see her go.

Nancy joined MHPN in 2002 as its second ever Executive Director. Since that time, she has spearheaded several initiatives now fundamental to the organization's programming, grown the staff to a team of 8 talented preservation advocates, and positioned MHPN as leader in our field.

I won't catalog all of Nancy's notable accomplishments here, as there are too many to recount in one email. But I will share a few that have had, and will continue to have a lasting impact and on the preservation community.

Nancy has been instrumental in the development of MHPN's partnership in historic tax credits for rehabilitation projects, a program that helps ensure historic rehabilitation projects are financially feasible. With funds raised from this program MHPN has seeded and manages a revolving loan fund that supports historic rehabilitation projects statewide.

Nancy also positioned MHPN to embark on its own property redevelopment projects. We first renovated a historic comfort station in Lansing's Old Town district for MHPN's headquarters. And in 2016, we renovated a home in Detroit's Jefferson-Chalmers neighborhood as part of a multi-year partnership with community residents and leaders to incorporate preservation practices into community development.



Nancy Finegood, at the the graduation ceremony of the 2018 Living Trades Academy Graduation

Just this year, MHPN launched the Living Trades Academy, the outcome of a vision Nancy had for an intensive historic building trades program for unemployed and underemployed workers. This year's 10 week pilot took place in Detroit's North End neighborhood. The program comes on the heels of many years of practical preservation workshops and window restoration intensives around the state, as well as trades training programs in Detroit Public Schools that Nancy and the MHPN staff have led.

Finally, Nancy has led numerous successful advocacy campaigns for historic properties at the federal and state level, including last year's fight to keep Michigan's Local Historic District act in tact, and our current support of the Michigan Historic Preservation Tax Credit, which would reinstate the low-cost, high-return program that assisted owners of Michigan's historic properties from 1999 – 2011.

These are big examples of what will become Nancy's legacy at MHPN, but they hardly scratch the surface of her impact here. The organization has benefited in countless ways from having such a strong leader for so many years. Nancy has been a joy to work with and a mentor to many. We wish her all the best in her retirement.

We also look forward to what change and growth our next Executive Director will bring. For more information about the position or to apply, please see the job posting here. ✨

Best,
Denise McGeen
President, MHPN Board of Directors

Tax Credit Push



It's lame duck or never – please contact the governor!

Legislation to reinstate the Michigan historic preservation tax credit is waiting action in the full House. Any legislation that does not pass

in lame-duck following the November elections must be reintroduced next year. This means that despite sailing through the Senate 36-2 with broad bipartisan support and passing out of House committee, we would have to start all over from square one.

It is imperative that we convince Gov. Rick Snyder to change his position on the historic tax credit and convince him to restore this vital economic tool for developers and homeowners alike, making historic preservation more attainable today and preserving our cultural heritage for future generations. That is why we are asking for your help by contacting him today.

E-mail the governor at governorsoffice@michigan.gov, call him at 517-335-7858 or send a letter to Governor Rick Snyder, P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909.

If you're unsure what to write, go to MIImpact.com or MHPN.org for sample letters to create your own!

Tell your representative that you support bringing back the historic tax credit!

Most representatives update their government websites with their office hours. Unsure who your rep is? Find him or her [here](#).

Want to do even more? Tell your City Council and mayor to pass a resolution in support of the tax credit!

Communities all over Michigan have passed resolutions supporting the tax credit, but we still need more to show the vast statewide support for this legislation.

You can help us by asking your local leaders to pass a city resolution in support of the historic preservation tax credit. It's also easy! Either download a sample resolution from MIImpact.com or include this [link](#) in your e-mail to your local representatives! To see a list of municipalities that have passed resolutions in support of the tax credit, click [here](#).

The more we show our representatives that the communities they represent want this legislation, the more likely SB469 will pass! ✨

Vacant Not Blighted Tour Detroit



MHPN takes to the Streets for its first Vacant Not Blighted Tour in Detroit (photos courtesy of Carrie Pitzer Photography)

Living Trades Academy Retrospective



In February 2018, Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN) launched a paid, ten-week, hands-on building trades program that was open to residents of Detroit, Highland Park and Hamtramck. Known as the Living Trades Academy, the professionally-led program taught nine students methods to repair and maintain their own homes; mentor others in their neighborhood; acquire valuable entry level skills for employment in the preservation field; and acquire business and entrepreneurship skills. The program was completed in April and now, six months later, the MHPN Communication Committee caught up with one of the participants who shared reflections on his experience.

Jason Lindy had heard about the program when it was first announced back in 2016. Excited for the opportunity to learn valuable preservation skills, he immediately reached out to MHPN’s executive director, Nancy Finegood. Lindy was able to enter the program in 2018 and found it an exceptionally positive experience. Lindy said he and the rest of the team were impressed

by the experienced instructors who were passionate about the preservation trades. He and his classmates recognized that the trades were more than just preserving an individual building, their skills were “preserving a legacy.”

Since the program, Lindy says he still keeps in-touch and works with a lot of his fellow trainees. He has worked with some of them on four separate preservation jobs and says they are working together to get more larger projects.

In all, Lindy said he “loved” the experience. He appreciated that MHPN did a “great job” in finding a community project whose property owner greatly appreciated the work. He enjoyed working alongside community members, learning the trades and networking with neighbors. Because of the training, Lindy says he and the rest of the group are more prepared to restore and maintain their own homes, and other old buildings. ✨



*Living Trades Academy
(photos courtesy of Janet Kreger).*

Loss of an MHPN Founding Member is Mourned by the Preservation Community

By Janet Kreger

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network has learned that Louisa Pieper died on Wednesday, August 15, at the age of 80. As a Founding Member of the MHPN, Louisa was extraordinarily important to our organization, not just in its early years but throughout its lifetime.

Many remember when the statewide non-profits were being established around the country in support of each state's preservation efforts. We got our organization started in Michigan in 1981, with Louisa being one of the founding members. In its earliest years, the MHPN could easily have faltered as so many well-intentioned non-profits always have. But Louisa was already a senior practitioner of preservation in the state along with some others from communities that were the earliest to use Michigan's Local Historic Districts Act, PA 169 of 1970. She and the other founders could see that unless there was a forum in which local preservationists could speak with one voice, we would not be able to advance the preservation movement in Michigan. She recognized there was power in numbers. This has proven to be true. Now, 38 years later, the MHPN is a well-established organization nurtured by hundreds of leaders – both volunteer leaders and able staff – who have helped the MHPN do remarkable work and be acknowledged as a respected voice in protecting historic resources. Louisa was always proud of the MHPN and we extend our gratitude to her.

For those of you who did not know Louisa, or didn't know her well, find the link for the text from the Lifetime Achievement Award she received from the MHPN in 2010. Also take a moment and read the MILive/Ann Arbor News piece that came out this past weekend. It notes Louisa's involvement in the MHPN and so much more. *



*Louisa Pieper receiving the Lifetime Achievement award in 2010
(photo courtesy of Amanda Davis Photography)*

MHPN 2019 Conference

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network announces its
39th Annual Statewide
Preservation Conference
“Toolkits and Wheelhouses”
May 16-18, 2019, Holland, Michigan
Headquartered at the Haworth Center at Hope College

A Planned Gift is a Gift to the Future

We ask you to consider designating the Michigan Historic Preservation Network as one of the beneficiaries in your will, living trust, retirement plan, or other account. A gift to the future, your planned gift assures that the MHPN will continue to protect our state's cultural resources and keep them a vital part of our lives...just as you have done during your lifetime.

If you've already included the MHPN in your estate plan, please let us know. If you're thinking of doing so, we would be pleased to send you “Making a Charitable Bequest to the MHPN” to share with your advisor. Contact Janet Kreger, MHPN Fund Development Committee, at 734-222-9310 or kregerj1981@att.net.

Your information is treated with confidentiality.*



Michigan Historic Preservation Network

313 César E. Chávez Avenue
Lansing, Michigan 48906
517.371.8080

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*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
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- \$25 Senior (age 60 and older)

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- \$80 Organization/ Institution/
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MHPN, 313 César E. Chávez Avenue, Lansing MI 48906 517-371-8080 fax 517-371-9090 info@mhpn.org



Michigan Historic Preservation Network 2019 Preservation Awards

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network is now accepting nominations for the 2019 Preservation Awards. The Awards Program will be held during the MHPN Annual Michigan Preservation Conference in Holland, May 17, 2019.

Submission deadline: 5 PM, **Wednesday, February 13, 2019.**

You are invited to submit nominations for awards in the following categories:

- Building Award** Awarded to an outstanding building preservation project completed within the past three years. The project may be restoration or rehabilitation, must include exterior rehabilitation work and may also involve interior work.
- Tax Credit Project Award** Awarded to an outstanding building preservation project completed within the past three years that included qualified use of federal and/or state tax credit programs. The project may be restoration or rehabilitation, must include exterior rehabilitation work and may also involve interior work.
- Cultural Landscape Award** Awarded to an outstanding cultural landscape preservation project completed in the last three years. Cultural landscapes can include a wide range of places ranging from gardens, parks, heritage areas or corridors, scenic byways and thousand-acre rural landscapes, to quaint homesteads and front yards. The nominated project should be a restoration of an existing historic landscape or the preservation of a landscape of historical or cultural significance.
- Preservation Gem Award** Awarded to an outstanding preservation project completed within the last three years that includes restoration or rehabilitation of an element of a building, or of a structure or an object: for example, a front porch, major window rehabilitation, single interior room, commercial facade, theater marquee or similar building element, or of a structure or object, or other project that does not include a complete building or landscape rehabilitation.
- Citizen Award** Awarded to an outstanding individual who, through personal effort and/or involvement in historic preservation projects, has made a significant contribution to the preservation of Michigan's heritage.
- Community Award** Awarded to a community; e.g. neighborhood association, business preservation group, historical society, etc., that has engaged in a comprehensive plan for historic preservation related projects.
- Government/
Institution Award** Awarded to agencies, municipalities and/or institutions who by their actions have accomplished significant positive changes in the historic preservation climate and activity in the State of Michigan.

JUDGING CRITERIA

These awards are evaluated by the Awards Committee, made up of members of the current Michigan Historic Preservation Network Board of Directors and emeriti Board Members, which will review the nominations for the degree to which the project, or the citizen's, community's, or institution's contribution, has:

- 1) adhered to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, where applicable (the Standards are available at <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm>); and
- 2) made a positive impact on historic preservation in their/its community or the State as a whole; and
- 3) affected other communities, projects or individuals; and
- 4) been deemed a success locally and/or statewide.

The jury will evaluate each nomination on its individual merit. In the case of rehabilitation of existing structures, awards will be given for **outstanding** examples in which the integrity of the historic structures is retained or restored and in which alterations or additions are appropriate and the historic context is respected. The jury reserves the right to make multiple awards, or no award, in each category, and to nominate projects it deems worthy of awards.



Michigan Historic Preservation Network 2019 Preservation Awards

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Please read the judging criteria, above, and follow the directions below carefully. The jury reserves the right to reject any and all submissions that do not adhere to the following requirements.

All award submissions **must be in digital format**. **DO NOT** send paper copies of submission materials. If you are submitting nominations in multiple categories, please submit a separate nomination and supporting documentation for **each** nomination. Nominations may be submitted on a flash drive or CD/DVD sent to the MHPN office at the address below. Multiple nominations may be submitted in separate folders on the same drive/disk. Submissions may also be in the form of a link to an online file sharing site (such as Dropbox); however, submitters assume the risk if the files are unable to be downloaded or if access to the file sharing system is unavailable (see submission instructions below).

Required Documentation for all Submissions

Nominee Data and Contact Information

Building, Tax Credit, Cultural Landscape, or Preservation Gem Award

Note: Because historic preservation projects are by their nature collaborative, MHPN presents these awards to the **project**, not to any individual entity (developer, architect, etc.). Award plaques will include the name of the project only, but project partners will be recognized at the awards ceremony and in media where appropriate.

Please provide the following information in MS Word format:

1. The award category for which the project is being nominated.
2. The official name of the building, landscape or project (e.g. "Borden Creamery Building" or "Michigan Theatre Cupola Restoration"), and its address/location.
3. Contact information (name, address, phone, email) of the building or resource owner. Project partners such as architect, contractors, etc. are encouraged to submit nominations, but MHPN must have contact information for the building or resource owner.
4. The person submitting the nomination, including full contact information (name, organization, address, phone, email).
5. Names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of two reference contacts who may be contacted for additional information.
6. Contact persons, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses for **major** project partners including, where applicable, owner, developer, architect(s), general contractor, specialty contractors or consultants, and/or others who contributed to the success of the project. Project partners will be recognized at the ceremony and will be given the opportunity to purchase additional plaques, if the nomination is successful.

Citizen, Community, or Government/Institution Award

Please provide the following information in MS Word format:

1. The award category in which the person or organization is being nominated.
2. The name of the person or organization being nominated
3. The project or achievement for which the person or organization is being nominated (e.g. "Implementing a Preservation Plan" or "Her Preservation Activism in Ann Arbor, Michigan"). The phrase should be no more than 10-12 words in length.
4. The name of the community or communities in which the project or achievement took place.
5. Contact information (address, phone, email) for the person or organization being nominated. For an organization, this should include the name of an official contact person who will be notified in the event the organization is selected for an award.
6. The person or organization submitting the nomination, including full contact information (organization, address, phone, email). A submission by an organization should include the name of an official contact person.
7. Names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of two reference contacts who may be called for additional information.



Michigan Historic Preservation Network 2019 Preservation Awards

Nomination Narrative, Photographs, and Supporting Documentation

1. A **minimum** 500 word, **maximum** 1500 word narrative describing the project, or the achievement for which the person or organization is being nominated, in Word format. See specific category requirements for narrative below.
2. A **minimum** of 12-15 good quality (300 dpi) photographs in TIFF or JPEG format. **Photographs must be submitted as individual TIFF or JPEG files.** See specific category requirements below.
3. A maximum of ten supporting documents may be submitted to support the nomination narrative, but **may not replace** the narrative. Supporting documents may include letters of support, news articles, brochures, etc.

Specific Category Requirements

Building, Tax Credit, Cultural Landscape, or Preservation Gem Award: The narrative should include the building or landscape size, age, style and history of use, the building/landscape owner and tenants, the work done, financing (information on financing is **required** for Tax Credit Award nominations), local or state assistance received, and any other special design considerations. **Describe how the project met the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.** Photographs **MUST** show both before and after conditions; historic images are **strongly** encouraged.

Citizen Award: The narrative should note organizations of which the nominee is a member, tenure or leadership positions held, and a list of accomplishments in historic preservation that were directly attributable to the nominee. Supporting documentation such as media articles or support letters are very helpful in this category. Photographs should include a closeup (head and shoulders) shot of the nominee and other relevant images related to the person's achievements.

Community Award: The narrative should include the goals of the community or association, etc. and how these goals were accomplished. Supporting documentation may include listings of public hearings or other informational meetings held, lists of publications distributed with copies attached, and before and after photographs of community rehabilitation projects, as applicable.

Government/Institution Award: The narrative should include detailed documentation showing the government or institution's accomplishments and/or involvement in historic preservation-related activities, including photographs of relevant projects.

OPTIONAL: If desired, applicants may, **in addition**, submit a single PDF file that includes the nomination data, narrative, and photographs. However, this PDF **does not replace** the submission requirements to provide all data/narrative in Word format, and all photos as individual files in either TIFF or JPEG format.

If you are unsure of what category your nomination might fall under, or if you have any other questions regarding the nomination procedure, please contact the Awards committee chair, Ruth Mills, at ruthmills@gmail.com.

Supporting materials/media are not returnable. Submission of photographs and all other material authorizes the Michigan Historic Preservation Network to use them for judging and award presentation, and to publish such material in the course of its activities.

Submission

Delivered submissions: Mail/deliver to **Michigan Historic Preservation Network, 313 César E. Chávez Avenue, Lansing, MI 48906.** If you wish to check that your submission was received on time, please contact the MHPN office directly at 517-371-8080.

Electronic submissions: Please send link and download instructions to ruthmills@gmail.com. **DO NOT EMAIL SUBMISSION MATERIALS DIRECTLY TO THIS ADDRESS.** Ms. Mills will confirm download of the documents as soon as possible.

Deadline

Nominations are due by 5 PM, **Wednesday, February 13, 2019.**

Incomplete or late nominations may not be considered. Nominations that are not chosen may be resubmitted in the following year.