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Michigan Historic Preservation Network

2025 Preservation Awards

Nomination Deadline: Monday, February 10, 2025

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network is now accepting applications for our 2025 Annual Preservation Awards honoring outstanding achievements in preserving the historical, architectural, and cultural heritage of Michigan. The awards will be presented the evening of Friday, May 16, 2025, during the Annual Preservation Conference in Sault Ste. Marie.

Award applications are due by **11:59 pm on Monday, February 10, 2025.**

**AWARD CATEGORIES**

**Building:** Projects that have outstandingly restored, rehabilitated, or adaptively reused a residential, commercial, or institutional structure. Must have been completed within the last three years.

**Tax Credit:** Restoration, rehabilitation, or adaptive reuse projects that highlight qualified use of federal and/or state tax credit programs. Must have been completed within the last three years.

**Cultural Landscape:** Projects that have restored, rehabilitated, or adaptively reused an existing historic landscape or preserved a landscape of historical or cultural significance. Must have been completed within the last three years.

**Preservation Gem:** Restoration or rehabilitation of an element of a building, or of a structure or object that does not include a comprehensive building or landscape rehabilitation. Examples may include a front porch, theater marquee or similar building element, or an object such as a sculpture, etc. Must have been completed within the last three years.

**Citizen:** Presented 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:** Presented to a community or community group that has engaged in a comprehensive plan for historic preservation related projects. Examples might include a historical society, neighborhood association, or a coalition of organizations.

**Government/Institution:** Presented 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.

**NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Form**. Completed nomination form. Please verify all information (names, dates, spelling, etc.) with the owner and/or project team members if you are submitting a third-party nomination.

**Description**. A minimum 500-word, maximum 1500-word narrative describing the project or the achievement for which the person or organization is being nominated. The narrative should tell a story and present the case for why the nominee is worthy of an award: what is outstanding or unusual about the nominee or the work, and how the nominee has advanced historic preservation in the community.

* If nominating a project (Building, Tax Credit, Cultural Landscape, Gem), briefly relate the history of the resource including historic names, size, age, style, history of use, pre-project condition, and importance to the community. Describe the scope of the project and its final results. Pertinent information includes the project goals, nature of the work, treatment of historic fabric, challenges overcome or innovative techniques used, how the project met the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, efforts to incorporate sustainable practices, and the impact of the project on the building users or community. List any grants or tax incentives that helped make the nominated project possible. **TAX CREDIT AWARD APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE INFORMATION ON FINANCING**.
* If nominating a person or group (Citizen, Community, Government/Institution), describe the nominee's contributions to historic preservation in Michigan. Briefly relate the background of the person or entity and describe the activities for which they are being nominated. Address the impact the nominee's accomplishments have had on the surrounding community.

**Additional Project Contributors.** At the end of the description, please provide names and full contact information (phone, email and mailing address) of architects, contractors, artisans, and other professionals involved with nominated projects and indicate their contribution to the project.

**Supporting Documentation (optional).** You may submit up to ten (10) additional documents such as letters of support, articles, brochures, etc.

**Photographs**. Provide a minimum of 15 high resolution digital images. Submit individual image files in JPG format, at least 300 dpi. DO NOT submit images in a Word document, PowerPoint or PDF file. Please provide a list of images with short captions and credits for each image submitted. Good quality images are critical both for the Awards Jury to accurately judge the project and for the presentation if the nominee is given an award.

* If nominating a project, b**oth** before and after images are required. Historical images are **strongly** recommended. Include overall views (taken from the same orientation if possible) of both exterior and representative interior spaces as well as interior and exterior details of significant features. Well-lit subjects and a range of views both close-up and far away are extremely helpful.
* If nominating a person or group, provide photographs demonstrating their work and achievements and any relevant projects. For the Citizen Award, include at least one high quality head shot.

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.

**JUDGING CRITERIA**

The award nominations are evaluated by the Awards Jury, made up of members of the current Michigan Historic Preservation Network Board of Directors and emeriti Board Members. The Awards Jury will evaluate the nominations for the degree to which the project or nominee has:

1. Made a positive impact on historic preservation in their/its community or the State as a whole
2. Affected other communities, projects or individuals
3. Been deemed a success locally and/or statewide
4. 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>).

The jury will evaluate each nomination on its individual merit. The jury reserves the right to make multiple awards, or no award, in each category; to reassign an award to a different category if it deems that category is more appropriate to the achievement; and to nominate projects it deems worthy of awards.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Nominators and award recipients will be notified in mid March. The MHPN will send notification letters to the owner/entity and the nominator for successful nominations but only the nominator if the nomination is unsuccessful.

All are welcome to attend the ceremony on May 16, 2025, which will be part of the MHPN's Annual Preservation Conference to be held in Sault Ste. Marie. The MHPN typically provides two complimentary tickets per award; additional tickets for the ceremony may be purchased a la carte through the conference registration website.

The MHPN provides one complimentary plaque per award. Because historic preservation projects are by their nature collaborative, MHPN presents project awards (Building, Tax Credit, Cultural Landscape, Preservation Gem) to the project rather than any individual entity (developer, architect, etc.). Award plaques will only include the name of the project, but project partners will be recognized at the awards ceremony and in media where appropriate. The opportunity to purchase additional plaques will be offered to awardees and project partners as part of the notification process. It is the responsibility of the project representatives and partners to coordinate who will receive the complimentary plaque and to order additional plaques if desired.

For questions or further information regarding the nomination procedure, please contact the Awards committee chair, Ruth Mills, at [ruthmills@gmail.com](mailto:ruthmills@gmail.com) or by phone at 810-335-1609.

**NOMINATION FORM**

**Nominations should be submitted via the link at** [**https://www.mhpn.org/historic-preservation-awards/**](https://www.mhpn.org/historic-preservation-awards/)**. DO NOT email or otherwise send electronic or paper copies of submission materials.**

**\*Required Information**

**Award Category**

Please Select One\*

Building  Tax Credit  Cultural Landscape  Preservation Gem

Citizen  Community  Government/institution

**Nominee**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full Name of Project, Individual, or Organization being nominated \*  Enter text here. | |
| Location (For Projects provide project address; for Individuals/Organizations note location of community)\*  Enter text here. | |
| Official Contact Person (e.g. building owner, organization representative)\*  Enter text here. | |
| Official Contact Person Address\*  Enter text here. | |
| Phone\*  Enter text here. | Email\*  Enter text here. |

**Reference Contact** (Person other than the nominator who may be contacted for additional information)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name\*  Enter text here. | |
| Organization, if applicable  Enter text here. | |
| Address\*  Enter text here. | |
| Phone\*  Enter text here. | Email\*  Enter text here. |

**Submitted By**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name\*  Enter text here. | |
| Organization, if applicable  Enter text here. | |
| Address\*  Enter text here. | |
| Phone\*  Enter text here. | Email\*  Enter text here. |

**Description\***

Please upload a minimum 500-word, maximum 1500-word narrative in Word format describing the project, or the achievement for which the person or organization is being nominated. DO NOT submit in PDF.

For projects, include a list with names and **full contact information** (phone, email and mailing address) of architects, contractors, artisans, and other professionals involved with nominated projects and indicate their contribution to the project.

**Photographs\***

Please upload a minimum of 15 high resolution digital images in JPG format, at least 300 dpi. DO NOT submit photographs in Word, PDF, or PowerPoint. Include a list of images with short captions and credits for each image submitted.

**Photography Licensing and Permissions\***

By submitting images for inclusion in the Michigan Historic Preservation Network Preservation Awards, you (i) represent and warrant that you have the legal right to do so and that your submission does not include material that is libelous, infringes any copyright or other right of any third party, or is otherwise illegal; and (ii) agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Michigan Historic Preservation Network from and against any and all claims, damages, costs, expenses, losses or other liabilities resulting from any breach of clause (i). By checking this box, I agree to the use of images as stated below.

Photography Uses:

Michigan Historic Preservation Network publications including newsletters and the Historic Resource Directory; MHPN website, including Preservation Awards page and any blog posts on winners; social media use to promote Preservation Award winners; and submission from MHPN to media regarding announcement of winners.

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Michigan Historic Preservation Network

2025 Preservation Awards

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**Building, Tax Credit, Cultural Landscape, Preservation Gem**

Completed submission form including category for which you are applying

Narrative of work performed detailing how the project meets the award criteria

For Tax Credit Award, information on project financing.

List of project partners with full contact information

Minimum of 15 Photographs (300 dpi or above JPEGs)

Before and after photographs

Interior and exterior photographs

Historical images highly recommended

List of photographs with brief captions and credits

Optional: Supporting documentation including letters of support, articles, brochures, etc. (no more than 10 items)

**Citizen, Community, Government/Institution**

Completed submission form including category for which you are applying

Narrative of work performed detailing how the nominee (individual, group, or entity) meets the award criteria

List of project partners with full contact information (If applicable)

Minimum of 15 Photographs (300 dpi or above JPEGs)

Images that illustrate the nominee's contributions and examples of the work and/or accomplishments highlighted in the narrative

Good quality head shot of Citizen award nominee

List of photographs with brief captions and credits

Optional: Supporting documentation including letters of support, articles, brochures, etc. (no more than 10 items)