



# MICHIGAN HISTORIC PRESERVATION NETWORK

November 2024 Newsletter

*MHPN supports the sustainability and economic viability of Michigan's historic places through advocacy, education, and direct action.*

## 30TH ANNUAL MHPN FALL BENEFIT RECAP

Members and friends have gathered for thirty years to spend an enjoyable fall evening at a significant venue and raise funds for the MHPN. Most often we are in noteworthy Detroit buildings. However, we often leave Southeast Michigan to enjoy other venues, and, this year, we were at the historic Adrian Armory. This is the first time the MHPN has brought an event to this visually-stunning southern Michigan town.

Founded in 1826 and serving as Lenawee County's seat of government since 1838, the city's rich history is reflected in the Downtown Adrian Historic Commercial District and the Dennis-State Streets Historic Residential District, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Built in 1924 at the downtown's west end, the Armory is a striking, Tudor-style building of tan brick, limestone trim, and half-timbering with an especially imposing arched entrance framed by turrets and battlement.

The Benefit's schedule was full! Beforehand, a dozen guests took a walking tour through Adrian's historic districts led by local historian, Peter Barr. The event started in the Armory's Drill Hall with a strolling dinner and a chance to place bids on silent auction items. Guests were seated for the program that included remarks from MHPN Executive Director Brenda Rigdon and Board President Melissa Milton-Pung. Mary Murray, who, with her husband Mark, purchased and restored the Armory, spoke of its growth into an incubator for start-ups and as a sought-after meeting and event space for Lenawee County. The night continued with a live auction conducted by Barnaby Pung, followed by the presentation of MHPN Lifetime Achievement Awards to Steve Bohnet, Bob Donohue, and Lorri Sipes, all Michigan preservationists with careers spanning decades. The evening concluded with coffee and dessert. Coffee and dessert finished the evening.

Thank you to all our guests for attending this year's Fall Benefit, and a special shout-out to our sponsors! We can't wait to see you again next year!





# Thank You

## TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS

### \$2,500 or More

Bay View Handworks, Michigan  
 The Christman Company Historic Preservation Group - Lansing, Detroit, Grand Rapids  
 Kidorf Preservation Consulting, Detroit



Kidorf Preservation Consulting

### \$1,000 - \$2,499

Elisabeth Knibbe, Pinckney  
 Janet L. Kreger, Ann Arbor  
 Quinn Evans, Ann Arbor  
 RAM Construction Services, Livonia



Elisabeth Knibbe



Janet L. Kreger



### \$500 - \$999

Adrian Armory Events Center, Adrian  
 Grunwell Cashero - Building Restoration, Detroit  
 Integrity Building Group, Detroit  
 Saarinen (Michigan) Chapter of the SAH, Michigan



INTEGRITY BUILDING GROUP



Saarinen (Michigan) Chapter SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

### \$250 - \$499

Architecture + design Inc., Battle Creek  
 Peter Basso Associates/Illuminart, Troy  
 CASS Sheet Metal, Detroit  
 Hamilton Anderson Associates, Detroit  
 Rod Kreger and Betsy LaVier, Satellite Beach, FL  
 MC Bartending, Adrian  
 McIntosh Poris Architects, Birmingham  
 Mercantile Community Partners, Grand Rapids  
 Past Perfect, Inc., Grand Rapids  
 Purkis Cemetery Preservation, Charlotte  
 Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., Bingham Farms



Rod Kreger & Betsy LaVier



### Up to \$249

Devan Anderson, Detroit; Larry Dishaw, Flat Rock; Nancy Finegood, Berkley;  
 Michael J. Hambacher, Williamston; Ruth E. Mills, Ypsilanti

*This list is current to October 1, 2024. Every effort is made to ensure all sponsors are included. If there are omissions or errors, we sincerely apologize. Corrections are made on event signage and in the 2024 Annual Report.*

## REGISTRATION FOR MHPN'S 45TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OPENS FEBRUARY 2025



Morning in Downtown Sault Ste. Marie – CREDIT Janet Kreger

**Conference theme:** “Bringing Stories to Light”

**Dates:** Thursday, May 15 – Saturday, May 17, 2025

**Location:** Lake Superior State University, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

**Benefits:** Continuing Education Credits, networking, learning new things, visiting a beautiful location in Michigan’s upper peninsula!

**Just Added:** Thursday Evening Sunset Cruise through the Locks!

We hope to see you in the spring! For more about the conference, visit our website at:  
[www.mhpn.org/conference](http://www.mhpn.org/conference).

Thank you to our conference underwriters!



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## HELP SUPPORT HB 5430

Here’s what you need to know:

HB 5430 is a game-changer for Michigan’s 25% Historic Tax Credit. This bill proposes increasing the annual credit cap from \$5 million to \$100 million, aligning it with the actual demand across the state. The enhancements in this bill will make these credits more useful for both income-producing and residential rehabilitation projects, benefiting metro areas, cities, small towns, villages, and even rural and shoreline areas.

Visit our [mhpn.org/state](http://mhpn.org/state) for more information, to find your state representatives and senators, and to read sample letters and resolutions to help get you started.

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## Upcoming Webinar

**What:** Introduction to the Certified Local Government Program

**Where:** Online using your phone or computer

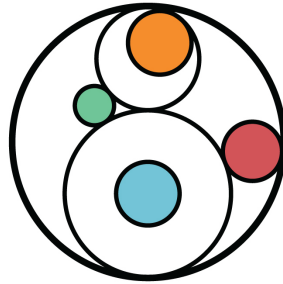
**When:** Thursday, November 14, 1 p.m.

MHPN's monthly webinars are free and open to everyone. Registration is open! Click on the link below to register.

[Workshops – Michigan Historic Preservation Network \(mhpn.org\)](http://mhpn.org)

Did you miss a webinar or wish to review it again or share it? Past webinar recordings are available on the MHPN's YouTube Channel! [Workshop Recordings – Michigan Historic Preservation Network \(mhpn.org\)](http://mhpn.org)  
Do you have a great webinar idea you'd like to explore with us? Contact [info@mhpn.org](mailto:info@mhpn.org).

The MHPN's Webinar Series is supported in part by the Michigan Arts & Culture Council.



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### **MEET KEVIN LEE, SHPO'S NEW HISTORICAL ARCHITECT**

I grew up in South Korea, surrounded by the beauty of old palaces, temples, and forts. This sparked a lifelong fascination with art and history. Little did I know that this passion would lead me to the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office!

I recently joined the office as a Historical Architect. With a degree in architecture from Lawrence Tech, I'm eager to apply my skills to review historic building projects and tax credit applications. My background in digital design will bring a fresh perspective to the evaluation process, ensuring the preservation of Michigan's rich architectural heritage.

Outside of work, I enjoy capturing life's little moments through photography and videography, especially those shared with my family. I've also recently discovered the thrill of mountain biking and love exploring the outdoors. I look forward to meeting everyone and working together. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Welcome, Kevin!



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