Celebrate Houston’s History!

It has been a busy year at The Heritage Society! With the help of our generous foundation partners and loyal supporters like you, we are confident we will reach our goal of $25,000 for our End of Calendar Year Appeal. If Houston’s culture and history are important to you, now is your chance to give to The Heritage Society.

Here are highlights of the past 6 months:

- The Heritage Society held a Candlelight Experience the night of the Mayor’s Celebration and Tree Lighting again this year on the brightly lit Bagby Street Corridor.

- Evening of Heritage, our yearly dinner that focuses on a piece of Houston’s history, was held at Tony’s Restaurant. Our Master of Ceremonies, Robert Sakowitz, introduced Mark Bermann, whose family created Houston’s first fine dining establishment, Maxim’s, in the 1940s, and Donna Vallone, who is the owner of Tony’s which took up where Maxim’s ended in Greenway Plaza. The evening was a sell-out!

- Black History Month was celebrated with special tours of the three historic house sites located in Sam Houston Park which UNESCO designated as part of its “Slave Route Project” and these houses tell the stories of Slavery, Emancipation, and Reconstruction.
  - For the third year, The Heritage Society held Valentine’s Day Express Weddings and married 43 couples in Sam Houston Park thanks to a collaboration with Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth and her staff.
  - School Tours have increased, and large school groups are coming back in full force. Specialty tours have also been created – Black History Tours and Women’s History Tours.

- The Annual Gala, Love Street Light Circus Feel Good Machine, honored artist David Adickes who created the original Love Street psychedelic music club at Allen’s Landing in 1967. The event was a great success and was chaired by Jillian Jopling and Peter McGillivray with Honorary Chairs, C. C. and Duke Ensell. The 1960s attire was quite a spectacle!
  - With the help of our generous Annual Fund Donors, The Heritage Society will end its fiscal year on May 31st with a budget surplus for the third year! Annual giving and well-attended events, along with a focus on reducing overhead expenses enable this surplus.

We hope you will continue to support the museum and keep Houston’s history alive for future generations. Let’s finish this fiscal year with renewed hope and ambition to continue making THS a go-to destination for families, schools, and tourists when exploring Houston. To donate, simply fill out the enclosed card and mail in the envelope provided or go to our website, heritagesociety.org/membership-join.

Working together, we will continue to do what we have always done – preserve, promote, and celebrate Houston’s amazing history!

Alison Ayres Bell, Executive Director
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