Join Preservation Austin for our 56th Annual Preservation Merit Awards Celebration at the Driskill Hotel! Featured speaker Paul Gunther, Executive Director of the Gracie Mansion Conservancy and veteran of the New York arts and design world, will be followed by the presentation of awards to this year’s outstanding Preservation Merit Awards recipients.

This juried program celebrates the hard work and visionary approaches of those preserving Austin’s unique architectural, cultural, and environmental heritage. This year’s nine recipients are among the best preservation projects from the past two years; it is an eclectic group, representing the many ways that Austinites have come together to breathe life into the places that we love. Congratulations to all those who made these incredible projects possible!

We are delighted to welcome Mr. Gunther, who joined the Gracie Mansion Conservancy in 2015 after 35 years in the public and private sectors. He has written for professional publications on topics including preservation, architecture, landscape design, land use, and art history, often through a sociopolitical lens. He served as president of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art for ten years, and is the former Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Director of Development at the New York Historical Society; Director of Development and American Liaison at the American Center in Paris; and the Director of Development and Public Affairs at the Municipal Art Society of New York. Mr. Gunther will bring his incisive perspective to the intersection of, and conflicts between, economic development and historic preservation as American cities plunge into the 21st century.

Tickets are available at preservationaustin.org/events. Space is limited so please purchase by Friday, October 21.

Paul Gunther, Executive Director of New York City’s Gracie Mansion Conservancy

Fall 2016  Volume 20 No. 4

56th Annual Preservation
Merit Awards Celebration

Friday, October 28, 2016
Check-In Begins at 11am
Program Runs from 11:30 to 1:30pm
Driskill Hotel, 604 Brazos Street
$100 per guest; Ticket Sales End October 21 at Noon

Continued on page 3
**Austin Foundation for Architecture**

**Supports New Historic Austin Tours**

The Austin Foundation for Architecture (AFA) has awarded Preservation Austin a $2,400 grant to expand our *Historic Austin Tours* series! This funding will support the development of three new self-guided tours through the Otocast app, featuring the Red River Cultural District, the heart of Austin’s live music scene; the postwar history of the Allandale, Brentwood, and Crestview neighborhoods, featured in this year’s Homes Tour; and MCM Austin, in partnership with Mid Tex Mod.

The AFA “promotes awareness of the built environment through its advocacy of the people and programs that contribute to a high standard of living in Central Texas.” This is the third, and largest, grant its Board of Directors has awarded Preservation Austin in support of our *Historic Austin Tours*. This unique series educates our community about Austin’s diverse culture and past by providing free, engaging, easy-to-use content not available anywhere else. We’re so grateful to the AFA for making this possible yet again. ★

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Dealey & David Herndon  Patricia Winston & Bill Head
Meta Butler Hunt  Eva & Marvin Womack

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500 CHICON
500 Chicon Street,
East Cesar Chavez Neighborhood
★ Texas Society of Architects,
Preservation Award for Sustainability

When the Gulf Refining Company completed its new distributing station at Chicon and 5th Streets in 1923, this bustling intersection along the Houston and Texas Central rail lines was home to an oil mill, two cotton gins, and an H&TC round house. Today only the Gulf building at 500 Chicon remains, a reminder of East Austin’s industrial past at a time when development is rapidly reshaping this part of the city.

Graphic design firm FD2S purchased the brick and reinforced concrete warehouse in 1999 and oversaw the building’s transformation into modern office space, which Preservation Austin (then the Heritage Society of Austin) honored with 2002 Preservation Merit Award. Texas Society of Architects (TSA), the statewide component of the American Institute of Architects, acquired the building for its headquarters nine years later. Despite the earlier renovation, 500 Chicon still suffered from a leaky roof and leaky windows. The open interior’s double-height atrium and exposed brick walls made the space difficult to heat and cool either consistently or efficiently.

TSA enlisted Earl Swisher, AIA of the Lawrence Group and Flynn Construction for a second renovation to enhance thermal performance while preserving the building’s historic character. Construction commenced in December 2015 and was completed in May 2016. A new metal roof with improved insulation reflects sunlight and heat. Steel-framed windows have been preserved and repaired as necessary, and custom-designed interior storm windows insulate each window opening, none of which was identical to the next. A new air-conditioning system balances climate control in multiple zones throughout the building for efficiency and comfort. A new metal canopy shades expansive windows along the building’s south façade, providing a traditional solution to protecting the building from the glaring Texas sun.

The project demonstrates TSA’s commitment to stewarding 500 Chicon well into the 21st century through sustainable upgrades. It is excellent example of how minimal, but impactful, interventions can dramatically tighten the building envelop without destroying historic character.

Continued on page 4

HIGHLAND AVENUE BUNGALOW
606 Highland Avenue, Old West Austin Neighborhood
★ Nick and Kathleen Deaver,
Preservation Award for Contemporary Addition to an Historic Building

Architect Nick Deaver and wife Kathleen purchased this classic Austin bungalow in the West Line National Historic District in 1999. The home, built in 1918, had fallen on hard times: asbestos shingles covered its clapboard siding; thin, inappropriate replacement columns struggled to support its sagging gabled porch; the foundation was in need of replacement.

Nick designed, and together they embarked, on a 15-year rehabilitation and addition project which nearly tripled the home’s square footage to strike a stunning balance between old and new. The project uncovered the original siding and removed layers of carpet and vinyl from original longleaf pine floors. Extensive research and analysis facilitated the restoration of Craftsman style porch

Continued on page 4

500 Chicon, Photo by Kevin Halliburton, AIA
Highland Avenue Bungalow, Photo by Whit Preston, www.whitpreston.com
supports and interior woodwork. A “modern plinth” of steel and concrete punctuated by expanses of full-height glass replaced the failing foundation and partial basement. This addition emerges from the sloping site to house Nick’s design studio and a new rental unit, and supports an elegant louvered porch off the main floor’s kitchen. These contemporary elements are virtually hidden from the street, respecting the home’s original scale as well as the historic streetscape along Highland Avenue.

Completed in 2014, the Highland Avenue Bungalow fully embraces both the historic and the contemporary and is an outstanding example of how the two can stand in harmony. It is neither a city landmark nor a contributing building to a local historic district, yet the Deavers pursued a design strategy that would easily comply with design standards for both. The project demonstrates how, instead of stifling creativity, good preservation practices often lead to more interesting and complex design solutions. The home was featured on AIA Austin’s 2013 Homes Tour as well as Preservation Austin’s 2015 Historic Homes Tour. We are thrilled to heap on this additional honor and to hold up the Highland Avenue Bungalow as a standard for such projects citywide.

NEILL-COCHRAN HOUSE MUSEUM
2310 San Gabriel Street, West Campus Neighborhood
★ National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in Texas, Preservation Award for Restoration

Master builder Abner Cook completed the house that would later become the Neill-Cochran House Museum (NCHM) in 1856. Originally set in a pastoral, 18 acre-setting outside the fledgling state capitol, it now stands in the booming West Campus neighborhood just blocks from the University of Texas. It is a City of Austin Landmark, a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Along with the Governor’s Mansion (1856) and Woodlawn (1853), it forms the core of Cook’s Greek Revival style legacy.

The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in Texas (NSCDA-TX) purchased the property in 1958 and opened it to the public in 1962. By the turn of the 21st century the neighborhood’s increasing density, along with stress caused by both drought and heavy rains, had taken its toll on the antebellum building. This prompted the first phase its restoration in 2008, which included substantial foundation reinforcement.

The NSCDA-TX Board raised an additional $380,000 to begin phase two in 2014. Given their limited funds, John Volz of VOH Architects narrowed the project’s scope to focus on restoring the house’s major wood features, including its 26-foot-tall Doric portico, suffering from wood rot; damaged windows in need of glazing and new mullions; and historic blinds which were deteriorating in storage.

Contractor Joe Pinnelli, along with project manager Mike Austin and NCHM Executive Director Rowena Dasch, oversaw the work. Careful management brought the project in under-budget, allowing the team to tackle additional repairs including restoring walkways and entrance steps; water remediation and foundation issues around the 1856 dependency building; and new exterior lighting, particularly on the main façade.

Completed in December 2015, the restoration has returned the NCHM to its c. 1900 appearance. It is a testament to what dedication and collaboration can accomplish despite small budgets and the overwhelming challenge of maintaining buildings of this era. Preservation Austin honored the NSCDA-TX with one of our inaugural Preservation Merit Awards in 1960; we are excited to do so once again for their ongoing commitment to this, one of Austin’s architectural treasures.
The City of Austin launched a series of major infrastructural improvements between 1929 and 1931, including paving roads, building sewers and bridges, and constructing present-day landmarks such as Buford Tower downtown and Barton Springs Pool as we now know it. Contractor J. R. Blackmore was hired to build two new electric substations, one at 7th Street and Chicon in East Austin (now home to Planned Parenthood) and one on Grooms Street in the North University Neighborhood.

Completed in 1930, the North Austin Electric Substation remained in operation until 2005. The community successfully sought its rededication as Sparky Pocket Park, featuring an award-winning Grotto Wall by artist Berthold Haas four years later. The site’s tiny brick, Art Deco machinery building, however, remained vacant despite its landmark status.

In 2013 the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) initiated a public engagement process to explore rehabilitation options, and brought on Hatch, Ulland + Owen Architects to develop a feasibility study and design for the same. Completed in 2016, their efforts transformed the 850-square-foot substation into 21st-century community space for the neighborhood. The project restored the building’s historic features, including inframed steel windows, and new design elements which better connect the space to the surrounding park and enhance its flexibility. A large accordion door system inserted into the building’s east wall, and shaded by a steel and wood canopy, provides natural light and indoor-outdoor functionality. The space boasts a new bathroom and kitchenette.

The April ribbon cutting brought together PARD, the North University Neighborhood Association, and Hatch, Ulland + Owen, along with Major Steve Adler and Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo, to celebrate the more than ten years of collaborative efforts which brought this new urban park to fruition. As stated in the award nomination, “This project serves as a strong testament to the role that planning, preservation advocacy, persistence and innovation play in creating excellent civic spaces through the adaptive use of historic buildings.” We couldn’t put it better ourselves.

ARNO NOWOTNY BUILDING
709 E. Martin Luther King, Jr., University of Texas “Little Campus”

The state legislature established the Texas Asylum for the Blind in 1856 at the present-day intersection of E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and I-35. Abner Cook designed its first building, a two-story Italianate limestone and brick structure, completed the following year.

Additional classrooms and dormitories had filled in the campus by 1917 when the

Continued on page 6
school moved to its current location at 45th Street and Lamar. The University of Texas purchased the property in the 1920s but planned to raze the "Little Campus" for Frank Erwin Center parking in the 1970s. This stirred outcry among the university community and prompted preservation of the 1857 building along with Hargis Hall, though the rest was demolished.

The 1857 building underwent a substantial restoration in 1984 and was rededicated in honor of longtime dean Arno Nowotny. The project reconstructed its south-facing entrance porch, east and west wings, and primary roof structure with distinctive cupola in an attempt to return the building to its original state.

Thirty years later, however, an exterior conditions assessment by ARCHITEXAS principal Susan Frocheur found the restoration had utilized low-quality materials and inappropriate detailing, problems compounded by deferred maintenance. Comparisons with historic photographs showed that wood replacement elements, many executed in plywood, had been dimensioned poorly and were incongruous with the Italianate style, including balustrades, porch supports, and window sashes. ARCHITEXAS' restoration, completed in March 2016, righted these earlier errors. The project replaced all previously-reconstructed architectural elements with properly-dimensioned, period-appropriate ones in Douglas Fir, and replaced porch decking with long-lasting Accoya. Turned balusters, delicate window sashes, and molded paneling grace the building once more. Low-maintenance terne-coated copper matches the original.

These subtle but crucial changes demonstrate the impact historic detailing has on the composition of the whole. The jury commends the University of Texas for reinvesting in Arno Nowotny Building, for correcting past mistakes and ensuring that this National Register-listed treasure has the durable materials it needs to last another 150 years.

**DR. DONALD AND MARJORIE POHL HOUSE**

*3902 Balcones Drive, Highland Park West/Balcones Neighborhood*

★ Trisha and Douglas Shepard, Preservation Award for Rehabilitation

Architect Roland Gommel Roessner, FAIA was a towering figure of the local mid-century design world. His award-winning regionalist approach adapted modernist principles to Central Texas, emphasizing native materials, open spaces, and site-specific designs. Roessner's residential works are among Austin's finest and his decades-long teaching career at the University of Texas School of Architecture influenced generations of designers.

Dr. Donald and Marjorie Poht commissioned Roessner to design their family home in 1955. Perched on a rocky hill high above Balcones Drive and surrounded by old-growth live oaks, the flat-roofed house featured extensive woodwork, stone feature walls, and full-height windows. The Argentinian magazine Nuestra Arquitectura published the project in 1957.

Trisha and Douglas Shepard purchased the home from the Pohls' children in 2013 after a long search. Trisha, an interior designer, spent the next three years on its painstaking rehab. A structural engineer tackled foundation issues by lifting and leveling the slab. Contractors removed asbestos flooring, installed all-new electrical wiring, and tucked a new HVAC system into shallow attic space. Wooden siding was painted and replaced where necessary and the east-facing balcony reconstructed. Heavy paint was stripped from the eaves and stained to match newly re-conditioned fir ceilings and exposed beams inside.

*Continued on page 7*
The kitchen’s St. Charles metal cabinets were refinished by an auto body shop and reinstalled to accommodate a dishwasher and new sink. Stone walls were cleaned and the original fireplace hood restored. Fir woodwork, including door and window frames and oversized closets, was restored or rebuilt throughout. Contemporary features such as remodeled bathrooms, custom built-ins, and lava stone floors emphasize natural materials and simple lines compatible with the midcentury aesthetic. Domed, opaque skylights were replaced to enhance natural light and a new entrance opens the house to the neighborhood.

This stunning project led modernism-focused preservation nonprofit Mid Tex Mod to sponsor the Pohl House’s submission for this year’s awards. Preservation Austin is proud to honor the Shepards’ incredible efforts preserving this mid-century modern masterpiece.

**Cemetery Master Plan + Oakwood Annex Ladies Restroom**

**Recipient: City of Austin Parks & Recreation Department**

★ Special Recognition for Outstanding Planning + Preservation of Cultural Landscape

The Cemetery Master Plan, a gargantuan 542-page document completed with consultants AmaTerra Environmental, McDoux Preservation, and John Milner Associates, is the culmination of an outstanding planning and public engagement effort by PARD. After years of deferred maintenance and dwindling community investment – issues faced by urban cemeteries nationwide – the plan seeks to reactivate and reconnect these important cultural green spaces to the city. It is only the third such master plan of its kind, yet surpasses its predecessors in scope to put Austin at the forefront of cemetery preservation planning nationwide.

Managed by PARD Preservation Planner Kim McKnight, the document outlines strategies for the rehabilitation, maintenance, and interpretation of Oakwood (est. 1839), Plummer’s (est. circa 1898), Oakwood Annex (est. 1914), Austin Memorial Park (est. 1927) and Evergreen (est. 1928) cemeteries. It includes cemetery histories, assesses the condition of natural and built resources, prioritizes needs, and recommends treatment plans. PARD’s exhaustive public engagement process used traditional and digital strategies to seek input from diverse constituencies. This included five public meetings, stakeholder interviews, signage, monthly print newsletters, a dedicated website with weekly updates, media outreach, and regular e-blasts. The two-year effort was completed in September 2015.

The 2014 restoration of the Ladies Restroom in Oakwood Annex demonstrates how, with long-term vision in focus, PARD is committed to making the plan’s goals a reality. Designed by Hugo Kuehne circa 1920, this tiny Craftsman style building had been stripped of key features and suffered from gaping holes in its roof. A vulture nest constituted the most action it had seen in years. Armed with an $11,044 Certified Local Government grant from the Texas Historical Commission, a $4,412 grant from the nonprofit Save Austin’s Cemeteries, and more than $50,000 in city funding, PARD worked with the Lawrence Group to bring the building back to life. The roof was deconstructed and rebuilt. Historically-appropriate wood shingles replaced asphalt ones. The project utilized period photographs to carefully replicate wooden brackets, rafters, windows, and doors.

PARD continues to be a leading steward of Austin’s cultural and environmental heritage. We look forward to further implementation of the plan, and to celebrating the revitalization of our city’s cemeteries, in the years to come.
SAVE MUNY  
★ Special Recognition for Outstanding Public Service: Lions Municipal Golf Course National Register Listing

On July 7, 2016 Lions Municipal Golf Course was listed in the National Register of Historic Places for national significance as the South’s first public golf course to desegregate. This achievement represents years of grassroots efforts by Save Muny, the leading advocate for preserving this important urban green space.

Established in 1924, Muny’s 141 acres in West Austin are lush with heritage oaks and historic resources including a 1930 Colonial Revival style clubhouse. While African Americans had labored to build the eighteen-hole course, and later caddied there, they were barred from golfing themselves. This changed in 1950 when, just months after the Supreme Court’s Sweatt v. Painter decision chipped away at the “separate but equal” doctrine, two young African Americans (one just nine-years-old) walked onto Muny and began playing. After an initial flurry at City Hall, Major Taylor Glass declined to arrest the boys which led to the desegregation of Muny’s course, if not its facilities, in the Jim Crow era.

Save Muny has overcome significant challenges to bring this landmark moment to light, first with a historical marker in 2009 and later by performing exhaustive research to nominate the course to the National Register. The nomination, written by Ken Tiemann and Charles Page with support by historian Bob Ozer and neighborhood activist Mary Arnnold, among others, required hundreds of hours of preparation. It garnered unanimous support from Austin’s City Council, along with numerous scholars, Congressman Lloyd Doggett, Congressional Black Caucus Chairman G. K. Butterfield, and the United States Golf Association. Congressman James E. Clyburn, former Congressional Black Caucus Chair, stated that “The action of African American citizens in Austin, Texas and the City Council in desegregating the course at such an early date is notable and recognition by the National Register should mark a teachable experience for the nation in our country’s civil rights history.”

Preservation Austin commends Save Muny’s passion and dedication for placing Lions Municipal Golf Course in its proper national context. Listing in the National Register does not protect Muny against redevelopment but is a major feat, and a major step forward for the site’s preservation.

JILL & STEPHEN WILKINSON  
★ Special Recognition for Outstanding Public Service: Neighborhood Preservation in Aldridge Place and Heritage Neighborhoods

Jill and Stephen Wilkinson’s ongoing preservation efforts in Aldridge Place and Heritage demonstrate the power that vision and investment have to stabilize historic neighborhoods.

408 W. 32nd Street in Aldridge Place, rehabbed by Jill and Stephen Wilkinson; photo by Jay Farrell, AIA
Stealth dorms, built to squeeze multiple students into new or repurposed buildings in spite of single-family zoning requirements, pose an increasing threat to these communities because of their proximity to the University of Texas. The Wilkinsons have systematically purchased and transformed threatened homes to combat this trend, to prevent stealth dorms from taking hold and turn the tide of development toward preservation.

The couple’s first project stands across from their own Aldridge Place home. The stately two-story house, built in 1923, had fallen on hard times and was in the process of being converted into a stealth dorm. Alarmed, the Wilkinsons did what they could and stepped in, purchasing the house and hiring architect Jay Farrell, AIA to design its rehabilitation back into a single family home in 2010. They then set their sights on the adjacent Heritage Neighborhood, made even more susceptible to redevelopment by the less-cohesive nature of its historic streetscapes. In 2014 they purchased and rehabbed a large Colonial Revival built in 1907, giving it a new foundation, HVAC and electrical systems, new finishes, and new insulation. Next came rehabs of two smaller cottages at the corner of Rio Grande and West 30th Street, one a 1903 Cumberland style “workers house” and the other a Craftsman style bungalow. Farrell once again oversaw the project, ranging from a total renovation of the former to the replacement of the foundation, roof and finishes for the latter. Three more projects in Heritage are currently underway.

The Wilkinsons aren’t your typical “developers.” They invest in these houses because they care about these neighborhoods, not because they’re out to make a profit. By stepping in to rehab problem properties, they’re preventing teardowns and stealth dorms while also making a statement about the value and potential of Austin’s historic neighborhoods. We are fortunate to have preservationists with their leadership and passion in our midst.

Preservation Austin extends our deepest thanks to this year’s Preservation Merit Awards Jurors Melissa Barry, Vice President of Planning for the Downtown Austin Alliance; Rebecca Borchers, former Executive Director of the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission; Rebekah Dobrasko, Historic Preservation Specialist for the Texas Department of Transportation; Richard Ryan, Architect Emeritus; and Lauren Vienne, Operations & Grants Manager for the Texas Historical Foundation. Their time, talents, and judgment were essential to this process.
City Council Candidates’ Forum
Tuesday, October 11
6pm to 8pm
Preservation Austin (500 Chicon, 78702 - Texas Society of Architects Building)

As the 2016 City Council campaigns move toward Election Day on November 8, our Preservation Committee is hosting a meet and greet forum for our membership and supporters to better understand candidates’ positions on issues that affect our historic built environment. Each candidate will offer their brief position statement, after which attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and delve further into the issues.

Preservation Austin has also distributed a questionnaire to all City Council candidates pertaining to their views on historic preservation and the role preservation plays in Austin’s future. We will be posting these to our blog for the community’s review prior to the forum, so stay tuned!

**Meet & Greet**

Thank you to our Preservation Austin Business Ambassadors!

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema
Clayton Bullock, Moreland Properties
MacRostie Historic Advisors LLC

Norwood Tower, LP
O’Connell Architecture
Tiffany Peters, Moreland Properties

Preservation Austin thanks the Heritage Title Company and Driskill Hotel for their dedicated support of our Preservation Merit Awards Program and for underwriting our 2015 awards luncheon.
It is a great honor to serve as President of the Board of Directors for Preservation Austin – a second time. I first joined the board in 2005 and became President two years later. Although the name of the organization has changed since then, the mission and vision have not. The challenges facing our community are even more pressing today because of the city’s phenomenal growth. However, here at Preservation Austin, we firmly believe that historic preservation and appropriate new development can coexist.

Over the next year we will continue to broaden and build our constituency base, and to promote the merits of preservation and its essential role in the special and unique story of Austin. We will work hard on the issues that impact preservation: neighborhood stabilization through local historic district designation, additional funding for the city’s historic preservation program, continuation of the citywide historic resource survey, and continuation of programs to encourage investment in historic properties.

I must thank Alyson McGee, our Immediate Past President, for her strong leadership. Many of the projects and programs that she helped to advocate for have come to fruition including the much-anticipated East Side Historic Resource Survey. Alyson also spent countless hours meeting with newly-elected City Council members on the importance and impact of preservation, vitally important work as Austin transitioned from an at-large Council.

I would like to personally thank our outgoing Board members, including Paula Aaronson, Shelly Hemingson, Tim League, Andrea McWilliams, Tom Stacy, and Bratten Thomason. All dedicated years of service to this organization, serving on our committees and fundraising to support our mission. We appreciate the time and energy that they have given to Preservation Austin.

I’m looking forward to working with new board members Tara Dudley, PhD., Hardy Heck Moore; Eileen Gill of the Gill Agency; Lori Martin, formerly of the Paramount Theatre; Dewitt Peart, President & CEO of Downtown Austin Alliance; Michael Strutt, PhD., Texas Parks and Wildlife; and Matt Swinney, owner of Fashion Austin. We are fortunate to have them on our side.

Preservation Austin is dedicated to promoting Austin’s diverse cultural heritage through the preservation of historic places and the Board is already working to assure a productive upcoming year. With their dedication and our members’ support, I look forward to this term with great confidence in our future successes of “Saving the Good Stuff.”

Sincerely,

John Donisi,
President

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Preservation Austin’s Planned Giving program helps to create a secure financial future which allows us to focus more time and attention on preserving our shared heritage and less on fundraising obligations. Visit www.preservationaustin.org/get-involved/planned-giving/

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Preservation Austin

to stay up to date on the latest preservation issues and events in our community!
Preservation Grants Offered by PA

Preservation Austin is excited to announce the launch of our new grants program. Small matching grants of up to $5,000 are now available in three categories: Education, Bricks and Mortar, and Planning/Historic Resource Survey/Local Historic Designation. Nonprofit organizations, neighborhood organizations, public entities, and owners of individual or proposed landmarks may apply. Grants will be offered once a quarter. This new program gets to the heart of our mission to promote Austin's diverse cultural heritage through the preservation of historic places. By providing small but impactful funding to important projects citywide, Preservation Austin can affect real change in the preservation and interpretation of the historic places that mean the most to our community. We look forward to helping fellow preservationists make their plans and dreams a reality!

Preservation Austin has funded two projects during our inaugural grant cycle this summer. The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association received matching funds for the installation of twenty-five street-sign toppers to demarcate the Hyde Park Local Historic District between 38th, 45th, Duval, and Guadalupe Streets. Six Square: Austin's Black Cultural District received a matching grant for The Homecoming, an upcoming symposium on African American Cemeteries to be held at Huston-Tillotson University.

Details, along with the grant application, can be found at our website at preservationaustin.org/programs.
The Education Committee continues to grow and be very productive! We welcome new participation and new ideas anytime, so let us know if you’d like to join us!

First, a shout-out to everyone who helped make our “Greening Your Vintage Home” event on July 12th such a great success. We celebrated the Calcasieu Cottages, a tiny-house-movement ahead of its time for the middle class of the early 20th century. Nearly thirty of these cottages still stand in Austin and we showcased a quartet under restoration that will provide multi-generational live-work space for an extended family. Special thanks to the following for making the event a sell-out success: sponsors CleanTag, Murray Legge Architecture, Pilgrim Building Company, and Amity Worrel & Co.; homeowner Kyle Hawley and family; Stephanie Phillips of the Texas State Preservation Board; event hosts Angela Reed and Ian Reddy; and Preservation Austin Programs Coordinator Lindsey Derrington.

Check out these new small-group works in progress. If you want to roll up your sleeves and help, please let us know!

- **Three new “Historic Austin Tours:**” Researching and developing content for three new tours through the Otocast app, including those for Allandale/Brentwood/Crestwood building on research conducted for PA’s successful 2016 Homes Tour; Mid-Century Modern Austin in partnership with Mid Tex Mod; and Red River Cultural District building on an oral history project conducted with high school students from the Vandegrift High School FFA.

- **Online Advocacy Tools:** Growing our capacity to engage and mobilize citizens to speak up in support of preservation issues in Austin, including how to navigate the City of Austin’s preservation process for historic designation of individual landmarks and/or neighborhoods, how to speak up at public meetings, general protocols for communicating with decision makers, and more.

- **“Tourist in your own City:**” Developing online and/or print walking guides for Austin neighborhoods, starting with South Congress, Hyde Park, and Cherrywood. These will feature the history of prominent landmarks as well as local businesses that occupy historic buildings.

- **Demolition Blog:** Monitoring monthly demolition permit applications for historic buildings and posting to PA’s blog and Facebook page in advance of Historic Landmark Commission meetings to ensure citizens have the opportunity to weigh in on cases of concern.

- **Ambassador Program:** Developing outreach program and messaging for PA volunteers to represent the organization at community events, realtor meetings, neighborhood or business meetings, etc., to share more about Preservation Austin and its work.

- **Homeowner’s Guides and Best Practices Tool Kits:** Developing online guides on how to research your historic home, how to landmark your home, etc.

And we’re already thinking ahead to ideas for our next summer’s History Hunt (for budding young preservationists) and Greening Your Vintage Home – hard to top this year’s successes!

Join us the third Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at the Preservation Austin office and get involved! If you are inspired to work with an enthusiastic team of volunteers, help out at special events, and grow the resources we have to share our passion for “Saving the Good Stuff,” the Education Committee is for you.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann S. Graham,
Chair, Education Committee
Preservation Austin, Board of Directors
HERITAGE QUIZ

July 2016 – Onion Creek Lodge, 706 North Bluff Drive
The Onion Creek Lodge began in the 1850s, when Masonic Brothers south of Austin got together to replace a community school. The Masons discussed the issue of attending meetings in Austin six miles to the north, and petitioned for their own lodge in 1858. The current Onion Creek Lodge building opened for meetings in 1861. Stone was quarried in Oak Hill, and the Lodge shared their new building with the Pleasant Hill School. Onion Creek Lodge built additions in 1908, 1954, and 1961 around the historic 1860s building. The Onion Creek Masonic Lodge #220 A.F. & A.M. continues to meet in the building to this day.
★ Winner: JJ Janczak

September 2016 – Mathews Elementary School, 906 West Lynn Street
Mathews Elementary School welcomed 190 students for the first time for the new school year in 1916. Mathews was part of an expansion of Austin Public Schools, including the construction of Clarksville School for African American students. The school is named after Dr. William John Mathews, one of the founders of the Austin School Board. Austin architect Dennis Walsh designed the school, and likely used Elgin-Butler brick in its construction. The school has been expanded several times, but the front facade remains the same. On September 23, 2016, Mathews Elementary School will be celebrating its 100th birthday!
★ Winners: Casey Gallagher and Sarah Marshall

Why I Became Preservation Austin’s First Sustaining Member

I was thrilled when I heard Preservation Austin was launching a Sustaining Membership program…but I didn’t know I would be the first one to sign up! Having the option to make a monthly gift allows me to make a larger impact with my giving throughout the year, which is important to me. I love knowing I am helping Preservation Austin “Save the Good Stuff” AND am super proud to sport my new tote bag around town! I have visited most of the iconic landmarks featured and plan to check the others off my list soon. The tote is a great conversation starter and a fun way to share more about Preservation Austin’s mission. I hope you will join me as a Sustaining Member and encourage your friends and family to as well! Together, we will help Preservation Austin make sure that as Austin continues to grow and change, our local heritage and history are not only protected, but shared and enjoyed!

Join Sarah by upgrading your membership today! Sustaining Memberships are an easy and convenient way for you to support Preservation Austin by giving $10, $25, or $50 every month. Members receive all General Benefits plus one of our new Preservation Austin shopping totes featuring beloved Austin landmarks!
For details go to: preservationaustin.org/get-involved

by Sarah Burleson, Education Committee

Education Committee member Sarah Burleson wows bystanders with her exclusive Sustaining Member tote featuring Austin landmarks.
Many Thanks to

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## PA CALENDAR OF EVENTS • 2016

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| **OCT 11** | City Council Candidates Forum  
Preservation Austin (500 Chicon, 78702), 6pm-8pm.  
Gear up for Election Day by learning candidates’ views on historic preservation and the role it should play in Austin’s future. See page 10 for details. Free. |
| **OCT 20** | Historic Austin Happy Hour at the Continental  
Continental Club (1315 South Congress, 78704),  
Time TBD. Our happy hour series celebrating historic watering holes continues! Join us for drinks and to learn more about this legendary music venue, opened in 1955.  
| **OCT 28** | 56th Annual Preservation Merit Awards Celebration  
Driskill Hotel (604 Brazos, 78701), 11:30am-1:30pm.  
Annual awards luncheon celebrating our 2016 Preservation Merit Award winners with featured speaker Paul Gunther, veteran of the New York arts and design world. Check-in starts at 11am, see Page 1 for details. $100 per ticket. |
| **DEC 3** | Local Historic District Workshop  
Preservation Austin (500 Chicon, 78702), 9am-12pm.  
This workshop will give citizens and neighborhoods the tools they need to understand and navigate the City of Austin’s local historic district process.  
Additional details TBA. |

★ Visit [www.preservationaustin.org](http://www.preservationaustin.org) for details and tickets today!