

Thank you

FOR MAKING TONIGHT A SUCCESS!

We advocate for Michigan's historic places to contribute to our economic vitality, sense of place, and connection to the past.



MICHIGAN HISTORIC PRESERVATION NETWORK

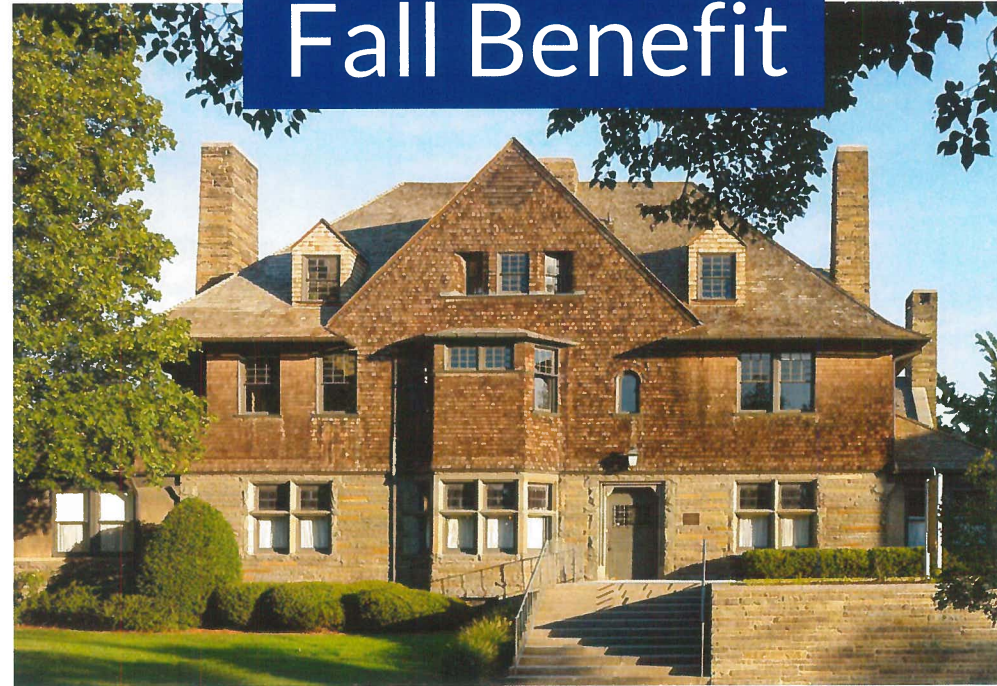
The Michigan Historic Preservation Network announces its
38th Annual Statewide
Preservation Conference

“PROACTIVE PRESERVATION”

MAY 17–19, 2018 | EAST LANSING, MI

HEADQUARTERED AT THE
HANNAH COMMUNITY CENTER

23RD ANNUAL
Fall Benefit



MICHIGAN HISTORIC PRESERVATION NETWORK

313 E. Grand River Ave.
Lansing, MI 48906
517.371.8080

Check out our website at mhpn.org!
Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

**CHARLES LANG FREER HOUSE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017

5:30 – 9:00 p.m.

THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS

Charles Lang Freer House
Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute
Wayne State University

Hecker-Tierney House
Alumni Relations
Wayne State University



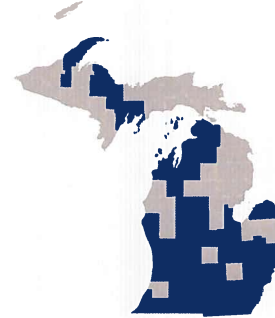
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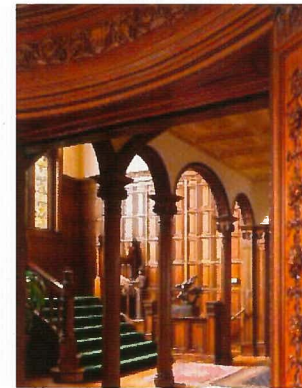
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46 COUNTIES: AUG '16 - JULY '17



Allegan, Alpena, Antrim, Baraga, Barry, Bay, Benzie, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Delta, Dickinson, Eaton, Emmet, Genesee, Grand Traverse, Huron, Ingham, Ionia, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kalkaska, Keweenaw, Kent, Lapeer, Leelanau, Lenawee, Macomb, Marquette, Mason, Mecosta, Monroe, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oakland, Ottawa, Saginaw, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Tuscola, Van Buren, Washtenaw, and Wayne

VISIT THE HECKER-TIERNEY HOUSE THIS EVENING TOO



Colonel Frank J. Hecker House

Our Fall Benefit guests have the opportunity to tour the first floor of the splendid Hecker-Tierney House. Colonel Frank J. Hecker (1846-1927), a Civil War veteran born in Freedom, Michigan, was the close friend and business partner of Charles Freer. Hecker and Freer purchased adjacent properties on the outskirts of Detroit for their homes. Freer assisted his friend in choosing New York-based architect, Louis Kamper who designed his stone-sheathed, Chateausque-style residence constructed 1888-1891. After Hecker's death, the home was a boarding house until 1947 when the Smiley Brothers Music Company purchased it. The law firm of Charfoos & Christensen P.C. was the next owner. In 1991-1992, the firm undertook its complete restoration, working with the Ann Arbor-based office of Quinn Evans Architects. Its sale to Wayne State University in 2015 has assured the building's continued stewardship. Now the Tierney Alumni House, its lavish interior welcomes alumni and friends who visit this Woodward Avenue gem.

OUR FIELD STAFF

Thank you for your support of our field staff this evening!

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN) has a long and successful record of working with communities throughout the state, supporting their efforts as they seek to understand historic preservation and how it can improve the quality of life for residents.

MHPN currently has field staff in Greater Michigan (Amanda Reintjes), Southeast Michigan (formerly Ellen Thackery), and in the city of Detroit (Jennifer Reinhardt). They annually travel thousands of miles to Michigan counties across the state, respond to hundreds of inquiries and requests, participate in and facilitate community meetings, conduct educational sessions, and provide expert public testimony.

Through their partnerships and work with local organizations, MHPN's field staff help to impact communities throughout the state based on individual community priorities. Scores of Michigan communities have received essential preservation assistance. Between August 2016 and July 2017, more than half of Michigan's counties received support, and we always seek opportunities to expand our reach.

In the city of Detroit, MHPN continues to provide guidance on blight elimination and neighborhood revitalization, enhance education about historic preservation and its role in community development, and proactively offer capacity-building services to local preservation-minded groups.

To maintain the field staff's work in the future, their jobs need to be funded from additional sources. If you value these services provided for MICHIGAN, please make a gift this evening to allow them to continue providing their good work in the field — and to help us expand our preservation field services.



Amanda Reintjes



Ellen Thackery



Jennifer Reinhardt

ABOUT THE MHPN'S ANNUAL FALL BENEFIT

Members and friends of the MHPN have gathered for over 20 years to spend an enjoyable fall evening at a significant historic venue and to raise funds for the organization. Most often, we are in Detroit at buildings such as the Fisher, Grand Army of the Republic, or Guardian. This year has brought us to Detroit's historic Ferry Street.

WE'RE AT A UNIQUE VENUE

Charles Lang Freer (1854–1919) moved to Detroit in 1880 where, with his friend, neighbor, and business partner, Col. Frank J. Hecker, he established the Michigan Peninsular Car Company that eventually merged 13 railroad car companies into American Car and Foundry. Beginning in 1887, Freer began amassing a spectacular collection of Asian art, including paintings, sculpture, prints, and ceramics from the Middle East, Indian, Korea, China, and Japan, as well as contemporary American art with a particular emphasis on works by James Abbott McNeill Whistler. He was a leader in the Detroit arts and business communities.

Designed by the noted Philadelphia architect, Wilson Eyre and built in 1892, the house was enlarged to accommodate Freer's growing art collections with additions in 1906, 1910, and 1913. Working with Eyre and artists such as Thomas and Maria Oakey Dewing and Dwight W. Tryon, Freer made his home a setting for his art. A special feature was James Abbott McNeill Whistler's famous Peacock Room, originally commissioned by a London patron in 1876. Freer's art collections remained in the house until his death in 1919 when they, as well as the Peacock Room, were bequeathed to the Smithsonian Institution where he had also underwritten construction of the Freer Gallery of Art on the National Mall.

Now owned by Wayne State University, the house has been the headquarters of the Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute since 1920, significant for 20th century women's history related to pioneers in research and training in the field of child development. The institute has stewarded the structure so that today we can still recognize that Freer was a thoughtful patron who created a home distinctly different from the mansions of other industrialists of his time. Although the decorative finishes have been lost through the years and changes have been made to accommodate institutional use, the home's strong design, and the reproduction of some of its works of art allow the visitor to visualize its restrained grandeur.



Top: Advocacy in Belding



Right: Education in Farmington Hills



Far Right: Community engagement in Fox Creek Park, Detroit

MICHIGAN HISTORIC PRESERVATION NETWORK

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Other volunteers and staff helping this evening:

Darren Brim, Matt Coleman, Michael Coleman,
David Cusack, Chuck Demske, Ann Gail, Molly
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Pung, Jennifer Reinhardt, Amanda Reintjes,
Joel Riley, John Risk, Vivek Saluja, Rebecca
Savage, Cyndi Scheidel, Xiaohan Bao Smith,
Stacy Tchorzynski, Ellen Thackery, and a special
thanks to our auctioneer, Terry O'Connor.

EVENING AGENDA

5:30 p.m.	Fall Benefit begins
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Self-guided walking tours of the Hecker-Tierney House, first floor
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	Enjoy food, beverages, silent auction, and marketplace; tour the Freer House
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Live auction, followed by a brief program and award presentations
8:00 - 8:15 p.m.	Final silent auction bids
8:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Dessert and coffee served. Auction check-out
9:00 p.m.	Fall Benefit ends

TONIGHT'S AWARDS

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network is pleased to present two special awards this evening. How appropriate the recipients should be recognized at the Charles Lang Freer House where both have played significant roles.



Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient, Dr. Thomas W. Brunk

Courtesy of the Charles Lang Freer House

The Lifetime Achievement Award is presented by consensus of the Network's senior leadership. Recipients have worked throughout their careers to promote historic preservation in the state of Michigan. This evening, the MHPN presents a Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Thomas W. Brunk, of Detroit. Dr. Brunk is a recognized expert on Detroit's cultural history with an unparalleled breadth and depth of expertise on the city's history, architecture, art, crafts, and social and intellectual life. Through forty years of meticulous research and a steady outpouring of books, articles, essays, and exhibition catalogues, he has demonstrated his role as Detroit's foremost chronicler of subjects such as Pewabic Pottery, the Scarab Club, and the Masonic Temple, among others. Dr. Brunk's most significant contribution, however, has been to raise awareness of the Charles Lang Freer House and guide its preservation since the 1970s. He is the Freer Scholar and, with Phebe Goldstein, a founding member of the Freer House Board of Directors. Dr. Brunk authored, *The Charles L. Freer Residence: The Original Freer Gallery of Art*, published in 1999 and still the only text written on this key Detroit figure. His years of research have been seminal in assuring greater appreciation for the Freer House and its preservation.



Citizen Award Recipient, John Douglas Peters

Courtesy of Sandi Combs

John Douglas Peters, of Belleville, is being honored with a 2017 MHPN Citizen Award. The Citizen Award is reserved for an outstanding individual who, through personal effort and involvement in historic preservation projects has made a significant contribution to the preservation of Michigan's heritage. Mr. Peters is best known in Michigan's preservation community for championing the restoration of the Colonel Frank J. Hecker Mansion on Woodward Avenue. A retired Detroit legal scholar and litigator, Mr. Peters also is recognized for his many volunteer and leadership roles within Detroit's cultural community including the early guidance he offered Preservation Wayne, now Preservation Detroit, the volunteer hours he has devoted to the Conservation Department of the Detroit Institute of Art, and the restoration and maintenance assistance he has offered the Scarab Club. Significantly, Mr. Peters has played a key role in the preservation of the Freer House since the early 1990s, after his law firm, Charfoos and Christensen PC, purchased the Hecker House next door. He is a long-time member of the Freer House Board of Directors, a donor, and one who has guided many projects that have preserved and enhanced the house, including the installation of the current garden project.