

News Release



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Diane Barclay
Phone No.: Diane.Barclay@parks.ca.gov
Email Address: (916) 445-7026

Office of Historic Preservation Presents Eleven Awards for Excellence in Historic Preservation

- WHO:** Office of Historic Preservation
- WHAT:** Presentation of the Governor's Historic Preservation Awards for excellence in historic preservation
- WHEN:** 1:00 to 4:00 pm on Thursday, November 21, 2013
- WHERE:** Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park (Ballroom)
800 N Street (8th and N Streets)
Sacramento, California 95814

This year, the Office of Historic Preservation, on behalf of Governor Brown, will present awards to two individuals, two organizations, and seven projects, from throughout California:

- **Alice Carey** began her career in the 1970s when she established the country's first all-female contracting company. A decade later, she established Carey & Company, Inc., one of the first woman-owned architectural practices specializing in historic preservation. Ms. Carey's projects included the Palace of Fine Arts, Oakland City Hall, Noe Valley Library, and San Francisco City Hall and other Civic Center buildings damaged by the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake. She was passionate about the cause of preservation, advocating for the continued use of historic resources, and serving on the board of numerous historical organizations. Alice Carey remained a respected and inspiring presence in the field of historic preservation right up to her death on July 27, 2013, at the age of 64.
- **Christy McAvoy** has made historic preservation the center of her volunteer and professional life for over three decades. From grass-roots advocacy in Los

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Angeles, to national policy initiatives including nine years as an Advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Ms. McAvoy's contributions to preservation extend statewide and beyond. Her award-winning projects include the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, Hangar One at LAX, The Egyptian Theater, and St. Andrews Bungalow Courts, also in Los Angeles. Ms. McAvoy helped develop the USC Summer Program in Historic Preservation, and the Graduate degree program in preservation at the USC School of Architecture. On the volunteer front, she helped the Los Angeles Downtown Women's Center adapt a 1927 shoe factory into sustainable housing for women on Los Angeles' Skid Row. Christy McAvoy's dedication to the work of historic preservation has earned her the lasting respect of colleagues, friends, and the public.

- **Tribal Historic Preservation Committee of the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria (UAIC)**, pioneered innovative methods of applying state and federal laws and programs to protect cultural resources. UAIC is a federally recognized tribe comprised of both Miwok and Southern Maidu (Nisenan) people whose tribal lands are within Placer County and whose ancestral territory encompasses five counties. The Tribal Historic Preservation Committee developed a Tribal Historic Preservation Plan emphasizing site protection and consultation with elders and spiritual leaders. The Committee organizes outreach programs, and hosts annual preservation summits on professional standards and intergovernmental consultation. The UAIC and its Tribal Historic Preservation Committee have established exemplary preservation efforts that will benefit present and future generations of Native communities.
- **The Whittier Conservancy** arose when a group of citizens organized to save the historic Uptown district of Whittier from incompatible development following the 1987 Whittier Narrows Earthquake. In the years since that first effort, the Conservancy has been a leading force in preservation, encouraging the formation of a Historic Resources Commission and the drafting of a Historic Resources Ordinance. The Conservancy helped to create Historic Districts, which preserved some of Whittier's most historic structures and homes. Expanding their efforts to the natural environment, the Conservancy was able to preserve the Whittier and Puente hills as the historic backdrop to the original Quaker settlement. Today, the Whittier Conservancy is valued by the community as a leader in preserving the region's cultural and natural heritage.
- **Chicano Park Murals Restoration Project (San Diego County)** preserved and enhanced 20 outdoor murals that are recognized at the national, state, and local levels as historical, cultural, and socio-political public art. The murals are painted on the pillars, abutments and approach ramps of the iconic San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge, giving life to the sterile structures that would otherwise dominate the park site. The 40 year old murals colorfully depict botanical elements, animal imagery, revolutionary struggles, and spiritual symbolism. The project brought together community members and the staff of CalTrans District 11 in a unique, collaborative preservation effort. Just as importantly, the project gave the original artists the opportunity to restore their work, and in some cases to finish work they

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started decades ago. The murals are once again a focus of community pride and spirit.

- **Kelly Cullen Community (San Francisco County)**, owned by the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation, is the successful outcome of an innovative adaptive reuse of San Francisco's 1910 landmark Central YMCA building. The scope of the rehabilitation included extensive exterior work, including repairs to original windows and reconstruction of the main entry and ground floor storefronts. The project also involved a substantial evolution of the interior, yet succeeded in retaining all of the highly significant spaces, and reflects in its new use the spirit of social focus of the original building. Kelly Cullen Community provides supportive housing units for formerly homeless individuals and a LEED Gold wellness clinic for homeless and Tenderloin residents. The rehabilitation project has retained the building's character and community role, ensuring that this historical resource will continue to convey the associations that tie it to San Francisco's past.
- **Twin Peaks Tavern Article 10 Landmark Designation (San Francisco County)** originated as a community-suggested site included in the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission's Work Program, June 2011. The groundbreaking report, undertaken by the San Francisco Planning Department, resulted in the designation of Twin Peaks Tavern as an officially recognized San Francisco Landmark significant for its contribution to modern LGBT society and culture. Twin Peaks Tavern has been in continual operation in the same location since MaryEllen Cunha and Margaret Ann "Peggy" Forster purchased it in 1972, making it one of the oldest gay bars in San Francisco. Significant public outreach was a cornerstone of the Twin Peaks project and included "History Happy Hours" where past and present patrons and owners could share stories of the tavern. The project engaged ordinary citizens in the practice of historic preservation, and fostered a greater appreciation for the LGBT community's place in the larger historic narrative of San Francisco.
- **Bancroft Rock House Rehabilitation Project (San Diego County)** was undertaken by the County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation to rehabilitate the 19th century house built by Hubert Howe Bancroft. The famous author completed his epic California history while residing in the house. The project encompassed more than the initial aim of preserving a historically important structure. The house sits upon the former site of the ancient Meti village of the Kumeyaay tribe. During the rehabilitation project, innovative building techniques and practices were developed that allowed work to go forward without disturbing any of the sacred, native soil. The Bancroft House now stands as a symbol of the local community's commitment to preserve and celebrate their diverse cultural heritage.
- **Ford Assembly Building (Contra Costa County)**, built in 1931 by architect Albert Kahn was part of Henry Ford's largest automotive plant west of the Mississippi. During World War II, the facility switched from automobiles to producing military vehicles assembled by "Rosie the Riveters." Orton Development working with the City of Richmond transformed the abandoned and

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earthquake damaged building into a “green” center for business and civic activities. They salvaged and restored the building’s overall historic structure and character, including the sawtooth roof, and the 35 foot high windows rimming the perimeter of the craneway. Today, the former auto plant is home to businesses, restaurants, NPS’ Rosie the Riveter Visitor Center, and the Craneway Pavilion with its light-filled space for music, dance, and other public performances. Situated on the shore of San Francisco Bay, the Ford Assembly Building is a treasured source of civic pride for the Richmond community.

- **Huntington Japanese Garden and House at the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens (Los Angeles County)** attained significance as a historic resource illustrating the adaptation, influence and exquisite beauty of Japanese culture in California. The Garden is comprised of a suite of garden traditions: the Stream-and-Pond, the Dry Garden, the Bonsai Courts, and the Tea Garden, making it a living link to several formative stages of Japanese garden styles in North America. The House is a cross-cultural masterwork, representing a hybrid of Japanese design and regional construction techniques of the early 20th century. The restoration project and its processes set a precedent for other historic Japanese structures outside of Japan, and ensured that the Huntington Japanese Garden and House will continue to be a source of learning and pleasure in the decades to come.
- **The Case Study House Program (Southern California, multiple counties)** commissioned by Arts and Architecture Magazine was one of the most significant efforts at designing and building experimental residential housing ever attempted in the United States. From 1945 to 1966, plans for 35 houses and one apartment were published and 25 built. Some of the leading architects of the Modern Movement were selected, including Richard Nutra, Craig Ellwood, Eero Saarinen, Julius R. Davidson, and Gregory Ain. They designed single-family residences incorporating the latest advances in construction, materials, furnishings, and landscape. The result was a series of bold, individualized architectural statements that profoundly impacted architectural design the world over. After an eleven year effort beginning in 2002, the Modern Committee of the Los Angeles Conservancy successfully nominated eleven of the surviving original homes to the National Register of Historic Places, heightening public awareness and appreciation for these important homes and their architects.

More information about the Governor’s Historic Preservation Awards program is available at www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/governorsawards.

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