

# Preservation News

## The Newsletter of Historic Seattle

### Bringing Preservation Home

ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE AND INSPIRING RESULTS OF SUCCESSFUL PRESERVATION is the powerful effect it has on fostering healthy communities.

**Our buildings, for example, provide below-market rate offices, community gathering spaces, and affordable residential housing, serving a wide variety of local residents like KEXP DJ Riz Rollins.**



“Riz” is currently a resident at our Victorian Row property. About 10 years ago, Riz conducted a long, fruitless hunt for housing for himself and his partner Rob, who was then a nursing school student. The couple didn’t initially know that they could qualify for affordable housing, until learning of Victorian Row.

Since moving in, Riz and Rob have found that living at Victorian Row, in close proximity to the public transportation on

which they both rely, is “a great fortune.” They value living in what they describe as the true heart of the city, a neighborhood with a mélange of people, of all incomes and backgrounds.

**While the history of our properties is often remarkable, the stories of the people they benefit show the commonality of the need for accessible spaces to live, work, and play.**

The community of residents at Victorian Row is neighborly, even exchanging holiday gifts like homemade banana bread.

“Through a partnership with Bellwether Housing, Historic Seattle’s restored historic properties contribute 48 units of affordable housing across the city, from artist studios in Wallingford at the Good Shepherd Center, to three-bedroom dwellings suitable for families in the International District. We intend to continue using preservation as a tool to bring quality housing opportunities within reach of more people,” says David McClain, Asset and Property Manager at Historic Seattle.

At age 62, Riz is concerned about the future of affordable housing in Seattle.

**He says, “Living here mitigates that worry. It gives me stability and hope. It is a stable home as I do my writing and my life’s work as an artist. Because of where I live, I can dream about other possibilities.”**

*Pictured left: DJ Riz Rollins and his husband Rob, at home at Victorian Row. Image courtesy of Mr. Rollins*

*Pictured right: The Arctic Club’s iconic Terra Cotta walruses. Image courtesy of Mary Rendlett*

### Committed to the Cause

**THIS YEAR, WE WELCOME NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS** Mike Powe and David Yeaworth to Historic Seattle’s Council. We would also like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank retiring members James Fearn, Marcia Wagoner, and Michael Herschensohn for the combined 65 years contributed to our council. The expertise, guidance, and support each of these council members contributed is deeply appreciated.

We look forward to working with our new council members, and to continuing to engage our former council members in new capacities.

### Cheers to 100 years!



**THROUGHOUT 2017, ON THE FIRST THURSDAY** of each month, the Polar Bar at the Arctic Club is hosting a celebration of its centennial featuring live entertainment and a rotating signature historic cocktail. From each purchase of these drinks, Historic Seattle receives \$1.

**Go show your support for preservation and enjoy the festivities.**

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## Letter from Executive Director Kji Kelly

AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR, I WANT TO **THANK YOU** for all you helped us do in 2016. It was a challenging year for historic preservation, but because of our generous supporters we were able to achieve so much.

You helped us reopen Washington Hall to the community, in partnership with our anchors, invest in legal actions with far-reaching impact, and host dozens of informative and interesting programs that drew a broad audience.

As we move into 2017, we are confident that we have a strong base of support with which to protect places that matter around our region. This was our most successful fundraising year to date, from corporate sponsorships of programming to unrestricted support to our largest ever Preservation Awards.

**Because of our incredible base of longstanding supporters, I look forward to another year of success.**

In 2017, we have many exciting projects planned (and already underway)! Through support from 4Culture, we will launch a



Preservation Learning Lab series that shares skills of preservation with the general public. We will also work with King County and the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation to establish a revolving action fund which will enable us to protect historic resources around the county.

On the advocacy front, we will continue to fight for places that matter, including continuing to hold owners and developers to preservation standards, providing grassroots support for community groups, and pushing for preservation

wins like the St. Edward Seminary project and the landmark designation of places like Mama's Mexican Kitchen and the Franklin Apartments.

Finally, in the coming year, we have an exciting line-up of education programs designed to expand our reach into the larger community.

**Fundamentally, preservation is not only about buildings, but also about the people who fight each day and give their energy, voices, and dollars to save and protect a city that we all cherish.**

I hope to see you at many of our events and to talk with you more about the importance of this work. Thank you for making it all possible and for helping us to do even more this year to protect places that matter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Kji Kelly'.

*Kji speaking at our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Preservation Awards Benefit at Washington Hall in October 2016.  
Photo by Sticks & Stones Photography*

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

THANK YOU TO THESE GENEROUS SPONSORS OF OUR 2017 PROGRAMS!

### UNDERWRITING PARTNERS

Bassetti Architects | Hunters Capital

### SUSTAINING PARTNERS

Marvin Anderson Architects | Bennett Properties | Lydig

### PRESENTING PARTNERS

BuildingWork | Harjo | Heritage Bank | Integra Realty Resources Seattle  
National Trust Insurance Services | Pacifica Law Group | Ron Wright Associates/Architects  
SHKS | Sellen | Swenson Say Fagét | Tonkin Architecture | Watson McDonnell

February 12	Lecture   Shot on Location: Architectural Landmarks on Film
February 15	Tour   Living Computer Museum + Lab
February 22	Tour   Museum of Flight Restoration Center & Reserve Collection
March 1	Tour   Local Fire and Police Collections Preserved
March 6	Lecture   Looking Back, Moving Forward: Cornish College of the Arts
March 16	Digging Deeper   Folio: the Seattle Athenaeum
March 25	Lecture   Iconic Vision: John Parkinson, Architect of Seattle and LA
April 8	Tour   Behind the Garden Wall: Good Shepherd Center Garden
April 10	Members Meeting   Golden Gardens Bathhouse