

Preservation News

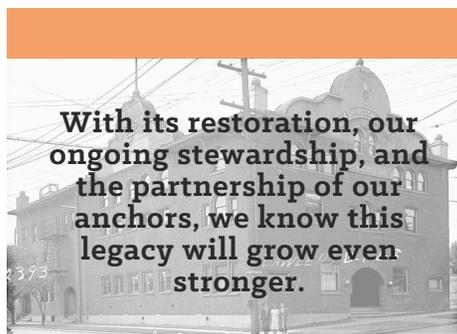
The Newsletter of Historic Seattle

The Path to Preserving Washington Hall

AFTER 7 YEARS, AND A CAMPAIGN TOTALING NEARLY \$10M, WE ARE THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THE COMPLETION OF WASHINGTON HALL'S RESTORATION. With a celebration in early June, followed by an immersive theatre experience recreating the first documented jazz performance in the state held there 98 years prior, the building has reopened to the community for enjoyment as an arts, culture, and gathering space.

The Hall will now be operated and managed by our nonprofit anchor partners: 206 Zulu, a coalition that engages youth, low-income people, and people of color in social change through innovative programs involving hip hop music, arts, and culture; Hidmo, a network that nurtures community and elevates the visibility of independent art, music, media, and culture; and Voices Rising, an intergenerational showcase of LGBTQ performers of color that provides mentorship for local up-and-coming artists.

As King Khazm, the executive director of 206 Zulu says, "{The Hall} has been through a lot of different transitions, but it has always been a community hub."



2009 Historic Seattle saves Washington Hall from possible demolition.



2010 The first phase of work begins.



2012 The second phase starts.



2013 The Hall serves as a job training site for veterans interested in restoration trades.



2014 Relatives of Seattle's jazz patriarch Oscar Holden host a benefit concert.



2015 The Hall closes to the public for the third and fourth phases.



2016 Washington Hall officially reopens to the community, with a reception and open house!



Photo Credits: Header, Sticks and Stones Photography.
Timeline photo credits (from left): Marissa Natkin,
Eugenia Woo, Yi-Hsun (William) Chao, Sticks & Stones
Photography and Tim Rice Photography

Letter from Executive Director Kji Kelly

WE ARE ALL AWARE of the inherent challenges of saving buildings in Seattle; however, because you are on our team, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. Your incredible resolve, allegiance, and support was showcased as we re-opened Washington Hall and celebrated seven years of hard work and nearly \$10M in support from the community.

You continued to motivate me during our recent campaign to support our 2016 advocacy efforts. We set out with a goal of raising \$12,000 to fund this work, which includes joining legal actions, promoting awareness, encouraging citizen activism, and supporting grassroots groups. As I watched your generous show of support through GiveBIG and our spring appeal, you inspired my family and me to provide matching funds. Just as you demonstrated at Washington Hall, you responded to the call and far exceeded expectations, raising more than \$25,000!

I believe that advocacy is a vital part of our mission, one that carries our work well beyond the walls of our preserved properties. Advocacy allows us to serve as a resource for neighborhood groups, provide technical assistance for landmarking, and enable concerned citizens to help protect neighborhood character.

This collaborative approach empowers all people who care about preservation to do what they can to save places that matter.

This work is never quick nor easy, but we know it is critical to protecting Seattle's unique character for the benefit of the community. Rather than remain silent and allow pieces of Seattle history to be easily discarded, we continue to fight for the preservation of buildings that make our city special. That's why we are tenacious in our efforts to defend the City's Landmarks Preservation Ordinance on the University of Washington campus as we appeal the ruling that paved the way for the University's recent demolition of the Nuclear Reactor Building (NRB).

Follow us:   
Historicseattle.org | (206) 622-6952

We believe in the importance of the existing Preservation Ordinance to protect buildings, deemed beautiful or otherwise, that have incredible social and cultural histories like the NRB.

Historic Seattle is your ally, your advocate, passionately fighting to save the places that matter to us all.

Thank you for your support and commitment as we work together to shape a city that values and protects its collective history.

Below: Created for SaveTheReactor.org by Alex O. Baker

Below: Kji Kelly accepts AIA's Allied Organization award on behalf of Historic Seattle. Photo by Trevor Dykstra

Preservation in Action

HISTORIC SEATTLE IS PLEASED to be awarded a \$4,000 grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation from the Johanna Favrot Fund, which will be used to produce display panels telling the story of Washington Hall and to create a video about preservation in action.

"Organizations like Historic Seattle help to ensure that communities and towns all across America retain their unique sense of place," said Stephanie Meeks, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

"We are honored to provide this grant and to help preserve our shared national heritage."



IT'S BRUTAL.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

September 24 Digging Deeper: Analyze your Built Environment

October 13 8th Annual Preservation Awards, now a Historic Seattle Benefit at Washington Hall!

Space is limited; for advance purchase, sponsorships, or more details, please contact: naomiw@historicseattle.org

We're Honored



ON JUNE 4, AIA SEATTLE presented us with its Allied Organization Award, which celebrates extraordinary leadership in the built environment, during its annual benefit dinner at the Palace Ballroom.

We are grateful to be recognized for our work to preserve places that matter in our city, and share this award with all the volunteers, staff, and supporters who have helped build our organization over the past 42 years.