“ONE OF THE MOST CRUCIAL KINDS OF INTERVENTION IS IN ADVOCACY.” The words of New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof resonate regardless of geography or cause. At Historic Seattle, advocacy is one of our founding tenets and a major part of our day-to-day actions. This is thanks to you, our dedicated supporters.

Last year, you gave more than $20,000 to our spring advocacy campaign based on our promise.

We told you that we would not back down in the face of legal adversity; we would further our support of grassroots groups; and we would push for protection of places that matter around our city.

Here’s what we accomplished over the past year:

• Continued the years-long effort over whether the City’s Landmarks Preservation Ordinance (LPO) applies to UW properties, with the Nuclear Reactor Building (NRB) as the poster child
• Convened a coalition of community groups and neighborhood activists to identify challenges and opportunities for street-level preservation throughout Seattle, and
• Connected hundreds of diverse citizens to topical preservation issues through our InterUrban programs.

We will further advance these efforts this year, knowing that we have your continuing generous support.

At February’s KeyArena HeartBomb, more than 30 people gathered with homemade valentines to show love for this 1962 modernist icon. The City recently issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the structure, which included a tear-down option. We are monitoring the RFP process and proposals for its redevelopment, as well as Artifacts Consulting’s landmark nomination. Upon submission to the Landmarks Preservation Board, we will fully back its designation.

In June, the NRB lawsuit will bypass the Court of Appeals and instead go before the Washington State Supreme Court. Historic Seattle, Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, and Docomomo WEWA have joined in the appeal. Our attorney, David Bricklin, notes, “This is a rarely used process. Presumably, the Court of Appeals decided that the issue—whether the UW has to comply with the city’s historic preservation ordinance—was of great public import and existing precedent uncertain; that whatever they might decide, a further appeal to the [State] Supreme Court was likely; and, therefore, it would be more efficient for the Supreme Court to decide it in the first instance.”

You can also look forward to upcoming InterUrban events that will connect you and others to the importance of advocacy and citizen engagement.

Intervene we must, and intervene we will, on behalf of places that matter. Thank you for making this possible.

Our spring advocacy goal is to raise $25,000, so please remember us on May 10th for GiveBIG.

Advocacy in Images:
(Header) Belltown’s Mama’s Mexican Kitchen Building. Historic Seattle advocated for the building’s successful landmark designation early this year. Credit: Genna Martin, Seattle PI
(Clockwise from top) Historic Seattle Advocacy Coordinator Brooke Best captures ideas at a coalition-building event. Imagining possibilities at InterUrban Project Belltown. Credit: Sticks & Stones Photography HeartBomb at KeyArena. Credit: Washington Trust for Historic Preservation

Follow us:
Landmark Your Legacy

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN LANDMARK YOUR LEGACY with Historic Seattle? By becoming a part of our Cornerstone Society, you’ll receive member benefits, including tour discounts, and access to a special donor luncheon. Your foresight can also ensure the protection of your real estate, underwrite educational programming, build a legal defense fund for advocacy, endow support for a Historic Seattle property of your choice, and more. To learn more, contact Executive Director Kji Kelly at kjik@historicseattle.org.

Save the Date!

HISTORIC SEATTLE’S 9TH ANNUAL PRESERVATION AWARDS BENEFIT will be held on Tuesday, September 19 at Washington Hall. Enjoy dinner, drinks, and celebrating preservation successes, in support of our mission. Contact naomiw@historicseattle.org to reserve your spot!

Coming Soon to The Dearborn House

IN JUNE, HISTORIC SEATTLE WILL INSTALL A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY – the first in the 98101 zip code! A design competition earlier this year yielded this beautiful example of our work to preserve historic architecture, thanks to Rick Sever of Residential Construction. This community resource is just one way of the many ways we are shaping a livable city.

Preservation in Pictures:
(Top right) Then and now, Historic Seattle’s landmarked Good Shepherd Center.
(Left) The 8th Annual Preservation Awards Benefit at Washington Hall. Credit: Sticks & Stones Photography

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

April 22  Tour | Dunn Gardens -- SOLD OUT!
April 29  Lecture | Exploring 19th Century British Architecture & Design
May 3  Tour | Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society
May 7  Tour | Who’s Watching You -- SOLD OUT!
May 31  Concert | Northern Life Tower -- SOLD OUT!
In Celebration of Historic Seattle Program Director Larry Kreisman’s 70th birthday
June 2  Tour | Nucor Steel -- SOLD OUT!
June 10  Tour | Olson Farm
June 13  Tour | First Hill
July 10  Members Meeting | Firland Sanatorium
July 15  Tour | Everett Public Library’s Northwest Room

With many programs selling out, be sure to register now for those you wish to join!