

Seven years ago today, the City of Seattle proclaimed May 31, 2017 as Lawrence M Kreisman Day.

Today, May 31, 2024, I am thrilled to announce that Larry has been selected as Historic Seattle's 2024 Preservation Champion.

Who is Larry Kreisman?

Larry is a Seattle architecture and design historian. For nearly 50 years, he has played an integral role in protecting, celebrating, and honoring historic architecture throughout Seattle. Without Larry's dedication and effort, the city would be a much different place.

From the moment he enrolled in the University of Washington's Master of Architecture program in 1976, Larry has made a lasting and meaningful impact on preserving the built environment. Beginning with his work for Seattle's Office of Urban Conservation conducting neighborhood inventories and preparing landmarks nominations, Larry has helped to shape an ethic and a vocabulary for historic preservation in Seattle.

From 1989 to 2012, he was a regular contributor of Northwest Living and historic preservation cover articles to the Pacific Magazine section of the Seattle Times. He served an extended term on the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board.

During his notable career, he researched, wrote, and edited eleven books, including *The Arts and Crafts Movement in the Pacific Northwest*, *Made to Last: Historic Preservation in Seattle and King County*, and *Tradition and Change on Seattle's First Hill: Propriety, Profanity, Pills, and Preservation*.

Larry initiated and directed the Seattle Architectural Foundation's walking tour program from 1990 to 2003. With Dennis Andersen and Mary Kae McCullough, he researched and curated "Blueprints," the 1994 Centennial exhibit at MOHAI for the American Institute of Architects in Seattle and Washington State. It was reinstalled in Rainier Square. Also, at MOHAI in 2009, he and co-author Glenn Mason saw the opening of "The Arts and Crafts Movement in the Pacific Northwest" based on their 2007 publication.

As Historic Seattle's Program Director for 20 years (1997-2017), Larry curated and offered an impressive schedule of events, lectures, workshops, and tours. He connected thousands of people to preservation and Historic Seattle's mission of saving meaningful places to foster lively communities.