

Saint Paul to Celebrate and Honor Projects During National Preservation Month

Twelve Annual Preservation Awards to be given out May 13

St. Paul, MN □ The Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) and the Saint Paul Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) announce twelve honorees for this year's 18th Annual Heritage Preservation Awards Program. The preservation awards, to be given out at an awards ceremony May 13, recognize projects, individuals and organizations that enhance and celebrate Saint Paul's history and promote preservation values and compatible design for a more livable city.

This year's awards represent the diversity of preservation-related work taking place in Saint Paul. Cultural heritage has its place among the creative 'bricks and mortar' projects as one organization will be honored this year for establishing a tradition only 26 years old. The Riverview Economic Development Association will be recognized for their commitment to strengthen the Hispanic/Latino culture and identity on Saint Paul's West Side through the Cinco de Mayo Festival, one of the largest in the nation. The Czech and Slovak Sokol of Minnesota, housed on West Seventh Street will be honored for their 125 year tradition of education and conservation of the CSPA Hall and their culture. The building is the oldest theatre and national hall in the state and longest-serving Czech/Slovak Hall in the United States.

This year's 2nd annual Stewardship Award goes to homeowners, John Stensing and Gary Sipes who with their team of consultants and craftspeople stabilized the foundation of the Olaf Lee House, which was built over a former lake bed and by 2006 the foundation had dropped by more than a foot! This committed team proved that the most important activities in saving our landmarks are not always visible.

Habitat for Humanity is being honored for demonstrating how quality affordable housing can be created by rehabilitating some of the City's oldest homes in neighborhoods rich with history and character but also suffering from vacancies and mortgage foreclosures.

The 2008 Preservation Awards will be presented Tuesday, May 13 at 7 p.m., with a social hour starting at 6 p.m., at the Saint Paul City Hall. The event is open to the public and participants should RSVP to Judith Van Dyne, AIA MN, at (612) 338-6763. There is a suggested donation fee of \$5.

A complete list of the award winners follows within award categories. Restored buildings, as opposed to rehabilitated buildings, must accurately depict the character of a property at a particular period of time. Rehabilitation and adaptive reuse projects showcase how historic preservation and modern necessities can work together.

John Yust

**Professional individual who has made an excellent
contribution to heritage preservation and metal work design in Saint Paul**

Olaf Lee House

955 Jessie Street

Stewardship Award

John Stensing & Gary Sipes

Historic Saint Paul

City Venture Corporation

Cinco de Mayo Festival

Cultural Heritage Award

Riverview Economic Development Association (REDA)

SteppingStone Theatre

873 Portland Avenue

Community Organization Award

SteppingStone Theatre

Duan Corporation

Flannery Construction

**Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota
Community Education Award
Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota**

**West Seventh/Fort Road Neighborhood Homes
Vote of Confidence Award
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity**

**Fort Snelling Porches and Roofs
Restoration/Reconstruction Award
Minnesota Historical Society
Collaborative Design Group, Inc.
L.S. Black Constructors, Inc.**

**Legacy Rose Store and Flats Building
1581 Selby Avenue
Restoration/Rehabilitation Award
CCI Properties
Ben's Saad Restoration**

**Jacob Heck House
613 North Street
Restoration/Rehabilitation Award
Kim & Rene Lerma
Historic Saint Paul**

**Lighter-Young Double House
322-324 Summit Avenue
Restoration/Rehabilitation Award
Mohr Constructions Company
JLG Architects**

**Payne Avenue State Bank
965 Payne Avenue
Adaptive Reuse Award
East Side Neighborhood Development Company
Neighborhood Development Center
Collaborative Design Group, Inc.
Thor Construction, Inc.**

**Padgett Art Studio
274 Goodrich Avenue
New Construction within an historic neighborhood
Michael & Deborah Padgett
Yust Architectural Services, Limited
Buck Brothers Construction**