



2026 Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards LEADERSHIP (PEOPLE OR PROJECTS)

Let's celebrate the people working to save special and historic places in Pennsylvania!

(This is the form for the Preservation Leadership Award. Find the Construction Award form at preservationpa.org)

DEADLINE May 4, 2026; Awards will be presented on September 16, 2026

Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards are an annual celebration of excellence that began in 1979. Preservation Pennsylvania is the Commonwealth's only membership-based, private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving Pennsylvania's historic places through creative partnerships, targeted educational and advocacy programs, and advisory assistance. We help people save the places they love.

Leadership Awards make a difference for historic places as well as for the community. We've listed some examples below for inspiration.

Award Categories

Adaptability/Sustainability - Innovative approaches in planning for the effects of climate change. Examples might include a municipal study for stormwater management or mitigating the effects of flooding in a historic district; use of innovative technologies or materials in retrofitting a historic building or creatively overcoming obstacles in the rehab of a challenging building.

Communication - Exceptional quality in research initiatives, preservation/heritage publications, outstanding educational campaigns, social media outreach or media coverage of preservation/heritage efforts or issues.

Community Involvement - Community preservation/heritage issues or projects ranging from a grassroots advocacy project to commemoration of a place/person or event.

Education - Innovative preservation/heritage educational programs or curricula.

Emergency Response – In recognition of quick action to repair and/or preserve a historic resource after a threat or catastrophic event. such as fire, flooding, or tornados.

Grassroots Advocacy – Innovative examples of assistance that helped communities protect and preserve the historic places that matter to them.

Local Government – Local Government - For exceptional government support and/or involvement in preservation/heritage issues, programs, or projects.

Preservation Planning - Demonstrate the best planning and development practices to promote historic preservation, whether grassroots development or large-scale multi-jurisdictional.

Public Impact - Excellence in using a historic building as a catalyst to enrich a community. Includes examples of small business or adaptive reuse.

Stewardship - Exceptional stewardship efforts by an individual or group on behalf of a significant historic resource. (Ongoing standard maintenance does not rise to award level.)

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Nominations must be submitted as digital documents (PDFs and JPG/PNG image files). Email your nomination form and supporting images (jpgs or pngs) to preservationpennsylvania@gmail.com (or email with a link to the materials on Google Drive, DropBox or WeTransfer) — Deadline May 4, 2026

Tell us the story of your nominee or project and what makes them exceptional and deserving of recognition.

A complete nomination will include the following

- Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards Nomination Contact information (see last page)
- 250-300 word summary of the project's achievements, community impact or innovations. Tell us the story of what this project is and why it is worthy of an award.
- Two-page MAXIMUM narrative summarizing the project (Please try to cover why this project/place is important, who was involved, what were the challenges faced, what were the lessons learned, how has it made a difference?)
- No more than 14 hi-res digital photographs (PNG, JPGs only – *NO PDFs, no text over the image. Please don't paste images in a word doc unless you also provide them as image file attachments*) One page photo key with titles and credits is helpful.
- \$25 nomination fee (ONE nomination FREE for members of Preservation Pennsylvania.) Payment link is on the Award page of our website. If you are a member or become a member, please send an email to info@preservationpa.org for your unique link.

Photography Requirements

- Photographs should be high quality (1MB minimum, no more than 4MB per photograph).
- No more than 14 photographs may be submitted. At least 3 images should contain people or activity or show the project in use. Historic photographs are also encouraged.
- Please do not overlay text on to photos or paste images into a Word document (unless that's your photo key and you are also providing photographs as individual image files). Additional information such as captions and credits should be provided in a photo key page.
- Please ensure you have rights to submitted photographs and you grant Preservation Pennsylvania permission to use.

Additional Requirements

- All nomination materials become the property of Preservation Pennsylvania and will not be returned.
- Preservation Pennsylvania retains the right to exhibit and/or publish the nomination materials, including photographs, in furthering preservation and educational goals.

Evaluation and Selection

- Leadership Award nominations are evaluated by a committee of peers in the fields of cultural resources, architecture, archaeology, and historic preservation.
- Based on their knowledge and experience, the committee may consider projects not formally nominated.
- Honor Awards (F. Otto Hass Award, Henry A. Jordan Award and the Chairman's Award) are evaluated and selected by the Executive Committee of Preservation Pennsylvania. Suggestions are welcome.

Notification

All nominees will be notified regardless of the decision. The award event will take place September 16, 2026 in York, Pennsylvania.

Questions?

Contact Mindy Crawford mcrawford@preservationpa.org

All nominations must be received by 11:59 pm on May 4, 2026
Email nomination and accompanying materials (or a link) to
preservationpennsylvania@gmail.com