

CHARLOTTE MUSEUM OF HISTORY BRINGS BACK THE QUEEN CITY'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

*Awards recognize renovation and construction projects that preserve and protect
our rich architectural history*

CHARLOTTE, N.C., May 6, 2019 – The Charlotte Museum of History will revive Charlotte's Historic Preservation Awards to celebrate the preservation of our community's historic built environment. The nonprofit Historic Charlotte previously hosted the awards, before it merged with The Charlotte Museum of History in 2016.

"In a city that does not always value old buildings and homes, the Historic Preservation Awards recognize renovation and building projects in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County that exemplify the best of preservation and historic neighborhood integration and that enhance our rich architectural heritage," said Adria Focht, president & CEO of The Charlotte Museum of History. "By shining a light on successful preservation projects that enrich our communities, we hope the awards will encourage more people and companies to save our historic built environment."

The last Historic Preservation Awards were handed out by Historic Charlotte in 2014. Past awards recognized projects including the Thomas-Funderburk House, Carnegie Library on the Johnson C. Smith University campus, the historic Charlotte City Hall and the Wilmore Neighborhood Association, which won an Excellence in Preservation award recognizing its work to protect, promote and document Charlotte's history.

"Now is the time to revive these awards for the region," Focht said. "Despite all the historic markers pointing to buildings we've lost, we still have buildings worth saving in Charlotte. Mecklenburg County had 106 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places at the start of 2018. Many other older buildings without historic designation remain, and they can represent our collective history and give our city soul."



A panel of local architects and preservationists will select award winners in five categories.

Winners will be honored at a special event on Thursday, August 22, from 6-8 p.m. at The Charlotte Museum of History. Author Tom Mayes will be the evening's emcee and featured speaker. Mayes is vice president and senior counsel for the National Trust for Historic Preservation and author of "Why Old Places Matter: How Historic Places Affect Our Identity and Well-Being." He has lectured widely on historic house museums, preservation public policy and historic preservation. Tickets and sponsorship information are at charlottemuseum.org/preservation.

How to Nominate a Project

All project nominations are due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, June 30. Nominated projects must have been completed within the last five years and must be located in Mecklenburg County. Preservation nominations must exemplify aspects of effective preservation, historic renovation and effective neighborhood planning. Infill project nominations must exemplify sensitive integration within a historic environment and effective planning. Submission information is at charlottemuseum.org/preservation.

There are five award categories:

1. **Preservation (Residential)** – Restoration of a *historic* residential structure
2. **Preservation (Commercial)** – Restoration of a *historic* commercial structure
3. **Historic Neighborhood Infill (Residential)** – *New* residential building that integrates sensitively with its historic environment
4. **Historic Neighborhood Infill (Commercial)** – *New* commercial building that integrates sensitively with its historic environment
5. **Excellence in Preservation** – A person, group, or project (not covered in the previous categories) that preserves the cultural or built heritage of a neighborhood or community. Acceptable nominations include, but are not limited to: local governments, neighborhood associations, clubs, nonprofit organizations, or individuals.



About The Charlotte Museum of History

The Charlotte Museum of History engages a broad audience in the history of the Charlotte region through the stories of its people, places and events to promote dialogue and historical perspective. The museum is the steward of the Hezekiah Alexander House (ca. 1774) and home site, a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the oldest home in Mecklenburg County. To learn more, visit charlottemuseum.org and follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

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