

HERITAGE OHIO

2025 Annual Impact Report



DOWNTOWN ASSESSMENT RESOURCE TEAM



In 2025, we completed **4 DOWNTOWN ASSESSMENT RESOURCE TEAM (DART) REPORTS** for Barnesville, McConnelsville, Munroe Falls, & Wapakoneta.

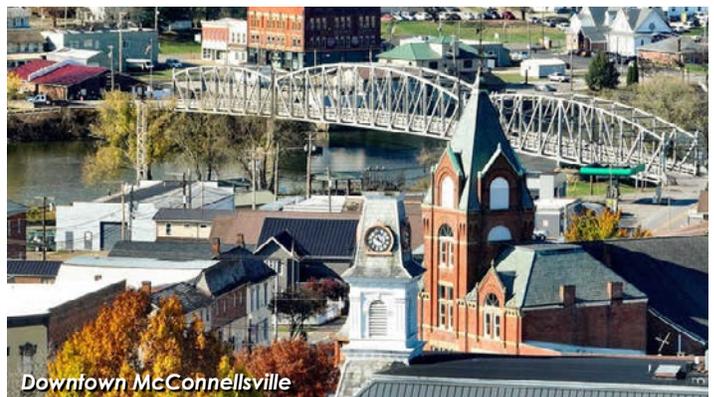
Resource team visits and their reports give communities a clear direction on how to start undertaking and developing a sustainable downtown revitalization plan. Using the Main Street Approach™ as a guiding principle, the plans are custom tailored to every community's needs. Once the report is presented to the community, they can start day one to implement the strategy outlined in the report. All DART participating communities start off as Aspiring Main Street members to provide them with the support they need to become successful in their downtown revitalization missions.



DART visit community engagement meeting, Canton



Munroe Falls



Downtown McConnelsville



Downtown Barnesville



Downtown Wapakoneta

THROUGH DECEMBER 11, 2025 WE'VE HAD:

 **3,163** Ohioans attend our programs, events, and trainings.

 **154** We had over 154 cumulative communities have been represented at our other events, trainings, and webinars.

 **1,233** The webinars and film shorts we produce have reached 1,233 views on YouTube.

 **836** We've directly reached 836 businesses through in person training.

 **82** We had over 82 communities represented at our annual conference in Canton.

Ohio Main Street Program

AFFILIATE MAIN STREET



AFFILIATE MAIN STREET COMMUNITIES

Using the Main Street Approach™, these communities have utilized their downtowns unique assets: historic buildings, small businesses, and the hard work of hundreds of citizens to revitalize their downtowns into thriving regional destinations.

To become an Affiliate Main Street community, each of these communities met criteria centered on the Four Point Approach as well as passed a rigorous annual progress visit to ensure standards of the Ohio Main Street Program are being upheld for our ambassadors around the state.

In 2025, we welcomed Marion as Ohio's newest Affiliate Main Street.

19 AFFILIATE MAIN STREET COMMUNITIES received National Accreditation following their progress visits.

ASPIRING MAIN STREETS



ASPIRING MAIN STREET COMMUNITIES

Aspiring communities are using the Main Street Approach™ to revitalize their historic downtowns. Many of these communities join the Aspiring program after completing their DART assessments

and are working toward becoming Affiliate Main Street communities.

New Aspiring Main Street Communities: Barnesville, McConnelsville, Munroe Falls, Wapakoneta.

OHIO MAIN STREET AND AFFILIATE COMMUNITIES

AFFILIATE MAIN STREETS

- Coshocton
- Delaware
- Kent
- Lorain
- Marietta
- Marion
- Medina
- Middletown
- Millersburg
- Painesville
- Piqua
- Ravenna
- Tiffin
- Tipp City
- Troy
- Van Wert
- Vermilion

- Wadsworth
- Wellington
- Westerville
- Wooster

ASPIRING MAIN STREETS

- Alliance
- Ashland
- Barberton
- Barnesville

- Canton
- Cedarville
- Circleville
- Cortland
- Elyria
- Franklin
- Fremont
- Grafton
- Greenfield
- Greenville
- Kenton
- Marysville
- McConnelsville
- Munroe Falls
- Newark
- Newcomerstown
- Ottawa
- Urbana
- Waverly
- Wapakoneta



2025 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT

(\$30 per person)

\$22,260,360



NET NEW FULL TIME JOBS

147



NET NEW PARTTIME JOBS 254

254



NET NEW BUSINESSES

50



PRIVATE REHAB INVESTMENT

\$34,842,592



PUBLIC INVESTMENT

\$78,398,833



DOWNTOWN VACANCY RATE

14.67%



AVERAGE RENT PER SQ FT

\$11.51

BUILDING COMMUNITY



SPECIAL EVENT ATTENDANCE

74,012



EVENTS HOSTED IN 2025

776



FAÇADE IMPROVEMENTS

92



BUILDING REHAB PROJECTS

111



DOWNTOWN HOUSING UNITS

2,840



NEW HOUSING UNITS

387



VOLUNTEER HOURS DONATED

57,539



VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS

\$1,865,414



OHIO MAIN STREET PROGRAM 2025 COMMUNITY PROFILE

Affiliate Programs **21**, 2024 - 2025

Aspiring Program **24**, 2024 - 2025

2025 Population

470,880 AFFILIATE PROGRAMS

3.7% increase

23,544 average population

424,934 ASPIRING PROGRAMS

0.3% increase

17,706 average population

TOTAL PROGRAMS

POPULATION 895,814

7.53% of the State population

2025 Median Family Income

\$65,640 AFFILIATE PROGRAMS

4.8% increase

\$53,906 ASPIRING PROGRAMS

4.2% increase

2025 Median Home Value

\$250,734 AFFILIATE PROGRAMS

14.3% increase

\$185,600 ASPIRING PROGRAMS

6.32% increase

Heritage Ohio, Inc.



7,001 FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS



2,204 INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS



1,346 LINKEDIN FOLLOWERS



75,000 WEBSITE VISITS

USDA RURAL COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

In partnership with Downtown Redevelopment Services, Heritage Ohio applied for and received a \$45,000 USDA Rural Communities Grant to produce real estate development and downtown housing studies for Marion, Urbana, and Tiffin. Over the summer of 2026, Heritage Ohio and Downtown Redevelopment Services staff will spend 3 days in each community conducting stakeholder meetings,

elected official interviews, business engagement interviews, and walking tours of the target district to gather information on upper floor or building conversions to create housing. At the end of the workshops, Downtown Redevelopment Services will produce a printed report with specific actionable items for the creation of downtown housing and property redevelopment.

SAVE OHIO'S TREASURES

Save Ohio's Treasures (SOT) is Heritage Ohio's revolving loan initiative, funded with generous support from the Turner Foundation and the 1772 Foundation. SOT is generally focused on providing funding for bricks and mortar repairs at threatened historic commercial or mixed-use properties in historic downtowns across Ohio.

To date, SOT has been used for two properties in Ravenna, including the historic Riddle Block #9, and a smaller, two story mixed use building on Main Street.

Both projects included repairs to exterior windows and storefront systems. Work funded with SOT should be done in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Historic Preservation.



PAUL BRUHN HISTORIC REVITALIZATION GRANTS



The Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant Program is a competitive grant program made available through the National Park Service. One of few grant programs providing critical brick & mortar funding for historic buildings in rural communities, SHPO and Heritage Ohio have secured two separate rounds of funding.

In round one, Bruhn dollars went toward downtown buildings in the Ohio Main Street communities of Coshocton, Painesville, Ravenna, and Van Wert, chosen competitively. In round two, Bruhn dollars funded building improvements in Ohio Main Street of Cambridge, Marietta, Middletown, and Millersburg, located in



Appalachia Ohio. Projects have funded improvements to historic buildings, including the reconditioning of historic windows, roof replacement, the installation of an elevator to improve accessibility, repairs to deteriorated masonry, and to reactivate formerly empty spaces.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AROUND OHIO

Heritage Ohio believes strongly in providing training and technical assistance to Ohioans across the state, and those technical assistance efforts can take many forms. From site visits providing observations to a building owner, advocating on a community's behalf to save a downtown landmark, or simply hunting down a source for mortar supplies, we offer professional guidance and education to ensure that historic properties across the State are being preserved in the correct manner.

In 2025, staff visited Lima to meet with local developers and their downtown organization to offer our suggestions on a possible future for the grand, downtown Memorial Hall. We also worked with concerned students and alumni of Kenyon College to try and save the 1856 Sunset Cottage, the original home of the English Department. In total, Heritage Ohio provided 154 technical assistance touches, through phone calls, emails, and site visits.

SECTION 106 MITIGATION – ACROSS OHIO

Heritage Ohio serves as a Consulting Party in the Section 106 process to advocate for solutions that help to further historic preservation efforts in Ohio. Section 106 refers to the section of the seminal 1966 National Historic Preservation Act. It provided a forum for public participation when federal funds or permits are needed to complete a project, and that project has the potential of destroying historic resources. Our participation in a Section 106 process in areas such as northcentral Ohio, East Liverpool, and the Columbus neighborhood of Franklinton have brought about mitigation

resolutions that have spurred increased investment in its historic buildings.

While Section 106 in and of itself does not have the power to reverse demolition decisions, the mitigation outcomes can provide a "silver lining" and build preservation momentum. Heritage Ohio has focused on the value of mitigating Adverse Effect outcomes with trainings and workshops that empower people to take their preservation efforts to the next level.



Sunset Cottage, Kenyon College, Gambier



Allen County Memorial Hall, Lima

HISTORIC PRESERVATION EASEMENTS

In 2025, Heritage Ohio received an easement donation on the historic Baldwin-Buss House, an 1825 Greek Revival building constructed by Lemuel Porter. Located adjacent to Hudson's iconic Village Green, the historic house currently serves as offices for the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation, otherwise known as Peg's Foundation. The foundation is active in philanthropic efforts targeted to improving behavioral health, education, and arts initiatives. The donation represents the 17th easement that has been given to Heritage Ohio, entrusting us to ensure that each building's historic character will be preserved and stewarded, far into the future. As part of our responsibility for receiving an easement, we regularly inspect each property to insure the stipulations of the easement agreement are being followed, and we review construction proposals to insure they conform to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Heritage Ohio now holds historic preservation easements in Akron, Columbus, Findlay, Hamilton, Hudson, and Toledo.



2025 Government Relations & Advocacy

2025 was a tumultuous year historic preservation funding at the State and Federal levels. Heritage Ohio has an outstanding advocacy policy and team, and we were very active in helping reinstate the Federal Historic Preservation Fund, which supports SHPOs (State Historic Preservation Offices) and THPOs (Tribal Historic Preservation Offices), as well as many other important preservation initiatives. In addition, we worked hard in Ohio to save the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit from being eliminated in the State budget.

In March, Heritage Ohio representatives traveled to Washington, D.C. for one of the largest national preservation events of the year, National Historic Preservation Advocacy Week. Hosted by Preservation Action and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO), Advocacy Week brings together hundreds of people from across the country every year to advocate for sensible historic preservation programs, policies and funding.

Heritage Ohio and several representatives from Ohio Main Streets participated in Statehood Day, a celebration of Ohio's founding as the 17th state. While at the statehouse, they made legislative visits to several senators and representatives to share the successes and impact that Heritage Ohio and the Ohio Main Street Program are having across Ohio.

In June, several Heritage Ohio Board of Trustees members testified at the hearings to support House Bill 96, which reauthorized the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program. Key outcomes included the increased annual allocation by \$15 million, raising the program to \$75 million per year; the outdated vacancy rule was eliminated from the scoring criteria, opening the door for more strategic reuse projects; Governor DeWine issued a line-item veto to remove the sunset provision, securing the program's longevity; and increased the credit percentage for small communities with a population of under 300,000 to 35% of Qualified Rehabilitation Expenditures.



Throughout the year, we also encouraged members of Congress to join the Historic Preservation Caucus. Co-chaired by Rep. Mike Turner (R-OH) and Rep. Teresa Leger-Fernandez (D-NM), the Historic Preservation Caucus is bipartisan and brings together members of Congress who support historic preservation. In 2025, Ohio had 3 members of Congress in the Historic Preservation Caucus.

Every year, Heritage Ohio works with national partners at Preservation Action, NCSHPO, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and others to communicate several key legislative positions to our elected officials. In addition to these requests, the Ohio team develops materials to demonstrate the impact these federal programs have across the state.

Young Ohio Preservationists

Young Ohio Preservationists (YOP) was very active in 2025, gathering for tours, workshops, and more. One of their 2025 goals was to learn more about Historic Preservation trades. In spring, YOP hosted a two-part cemetery preservation series at Erie Street Cemetery in Cleveland, and Green Lawn Cemetery in Columbus. Dani Cohen, YOP member, wrote their Masters thesis on the history of Erie Street cemetery, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is one of the oldest and historically significant cemeteries in Cleveland. Dani discussed the establishment of the cemetery in 1826, preservation efforts throughout its history, and its significance as the resting place for Chief Thunderwater, whose Indigenous activism associated with the cemetery grounds significantly raised awareness of American Indian history and culture in Cleveland and the Western Reserve.

In Columbus, Krista Horrocks, with the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office, gave a presentation discussing the history and significance of Green Lawn Cemetery, also listed on the National Register of Historic Places, followed by a training session on historic cemetery preservation practices. Attendees were able to learn why cemetery preservation is important, best practices for preserving grave markers, and what products are safe to use considering the historic integrity of the markers. Following the presentation, the attendees were able to get hands-on experience cleaning the headstones in the Maurer family lot. This involved clearing off biological growth and using products to restore the marble stones.

In the continued efforts of providing technical and trades skills to young professionals in the Historic Preservation field, YOP "took over" Toledo in June. The weekend events welcomed young professionals from across the field to participate in a series of workshops, tours, and networking opportunities. With early Twentieth Century historic light fixtures provided by Erin Claussen, owner of the rehabilitated Hotel Royal, attendees worked with Gross Electric to receive hands on experience

in restoring a historic light fixture to take home. An expert tradesman from Gross Electric walked through the process with the group, instructing them on how to properly clean the fixtures, replace the sockets, rewire the light safely, and maintain historic integrity.

While in Toledo, Thomas Porter Architects lead the group on a walking tour in and out of current and past historic rehabilitation projects in Toledo's Warehouse District. Meeting with architects, owners, and developers, attendees learned about the history of the properties as they relate to Toledo's history in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries, how they changed over time, and how they are currently utilizing Rehabilitation Tax Credits to adaptively reuse the spaces.

The final day of Young Ohio Preservationist's Toledo Takeover included tours of two very significant buildings in Toledo. First, the group got an in-depth walking tour of the Collingwood Arts Center. On the front elevation of the Center sits the Gerber House, an architecturally stunning Second Empire house designed by Toledo Architect Joseph Morehouse in 1872. However, what makes the Collingwood Arts Center even more unique is the large addition, designed by E.O. Falls, that extends off the rear elevation of the Gerber House. This addition was constructed in 1905 when the Ursuline Sisters bought the Gerber House and transformed it into Mary Manse College. The addition mixes Gothic and Romanesque styles providing a perfect setting for the widespread claim as one of the most haunted places in Ohio.

Finally, the group ended their takeover at the renowned Libbey House. The Libbey House was the home of prominent businessman, Edward Drummond Libbey who revolutionized glass making and was pivotal in boosting Toledo's economy. This National Historic Landmark is now owned and operated by a non-profit public charity that dedicates themselves to preservation.



Conference Recap

Heritage Ohio held its annual conference in Downtown Canton, October 14-16, and welcomed over 350 preservation and revitalization professionals and fans for an amazing three days of learning, sharing, and partnering.

Canton was the perfect host community to dive deep into downtown revitalization, adaptive reuse, and historic tax credits, which was the focus of a day-long "How to Save your Downtown" developer showcase on Tuesday, October 14th. The Canton Palace Theatre graciously hosted the Historic Theater Summit, where attendees learned about funding, philanthropy, community engagement and economic development, programming, and restoration. Tuesday evening, we welcomed over 100 friends to the Historic Onesto Hotel & Event Center for the Legacy Circle reception. It was a stunning evening, made more special with live music from a local trio.

The conference kicked into high gear on Wednesday morning, with a rousing keynote address from Erin Barnes, President and CEO of Main Street America. Barnes shared the collective impact Main Streets across the country are making in their communities, government policies, and some important news about the national program and how it's making great strides in revitalizing local communities. Throughout the day, scores of sessions focused on a wide variety of topics, engaging attendees in meaningful conversations and reinforcing the economic impact potential of preservation and revitalization.

After sessions ended, attendees headed to our Vendor Reception to talk one-on-one with service and materials providers in architectural and downtown rehabilitation services across Ohio. The reception was followed by the exciting Annual Awards and Film Festival, where we announced over 15 award winners and premiered 6 film shorts about the work of Heritage Ohio. The awards ceremony included a very special memorial tribute to Senator Kirk Schuring, who passed in November 2024, and his work in revitalization and tax credit incentives legislation. Governor Mike DeWine received the Joyce Barrett Historic Preservation Hero award for his long-time support of the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit program.

Thursday featured sessions focused on historic home museums, museum partnerships, funding and financing, real estate development, and much more. The conference was a big success thanks to the support of our attendees, sponsors, and exhibitors.



Erin Barnes Delivering the Opening Plenary

2025 Film Festival

In 2022, Heritage Ohio piloted a short film festival in conjunction with our conference, showcasing the work we do in communities across Ohio. The film shorts are posted on our YouTube channel, and serve as educational tools to show the transformative power of preservation and the Main Street program.

This year, our film shorts highlighted the City of Kent and Main Street Kent for their decades long work in downtown revitalization and the Ohio Main Street Program. The Bowery Block and the Akron Civic Theater were showcased as outstanding examples of how the Federal and State Historic Preservation Tax Credits transforms communities. Historic neighborhoods and

their appreciation are a growing concern of Heritage Ohio, and we were thrilled to highlight the venerable German Village Society for their amazing work in preserving an excellent sense of place and preservation best practices. Canton was a great backdrop for the conference, and the host city film really showcased their downtown renaissance. Main Street Lorain hosted one of our Revitalization Workshops, and was featured for our extensive work in the training and professional development we provide for Ohio Main Street directors, staff, and volunteers. Finally, Dave Williams, Board Chair, and Matt Wiederhold, Executive Director, shared a bit about the past, present, and future of Heritage Ohio.

Webinars

23 webinars were presented in 2025 with topics delving into how building code impacts historic buildings, celebrating Ohio as part of America 250 and Ohio Goes to the Movies, recruiting tomorrow's leaders, and one man's personal journey to bring a piece of Cleveland's African-American

history to life through the artistic development of a mobile museum in a Greyhound bus. More than 500 people attended our webinars in 2025, and over 1,000 viewed the recordings on YouTube.

Revitalize Ohio Magazine

In 2025, *Revitalize Ohio* was recognized for its successes in preservation and revitalization education with the Public Education and Awareness Award from the state historic preservation office.

4 issues of *Revitalize Ohio* magazine were published in 2025, and featured 98 pages of educational and entertaining information. We saw many amazing stories from around the state in 2025, including several stories produced by Heritage Ohio interns, guest contributions on subjects like the Chitlin' Circuit, saving the history at the Fort Laurens State Memorial, and how to help recognize the contributions of Ohio's Revolutionary War veterans.



Heritage Ohio debuts new website

In 2024, Heritage Ohio received a generous grant from the George Gund Foundation to do a complete refresh and update on our aged website. Working with Eyedead Creative in Wadsworth, Ohio, we took the opportunity to

reorganize and simplify the design, add new features such as testimonials and short blog posts that will be populated over time, and include more images. Visit the new site at www.heritageohio.org.



Preservation Month Photo Contest

The 2025 edition of Heritage Ohio's Preservation Month Photo Contest featured some of the most creative compositions we've seen, focused on the theme of *Where Life Happens*. We asked entrants to submit images that conveyed how historic places have served their communities in the past, have come back into use, or are awaiting redevelopment. Voting for the winning image was very competitive, and Ben Morales emerged as the winner for his submission, Past Lives.

Ben's statement about his entry did well to tie the past to the present:

"Built in the early 1900s, this unique building at 1447 North Summit Street in Toledo, was first home to Hull Brothers Umbrella Manufacturing Company. By the 1920s, Hull Brothers had become one of 10 leading umbrella manufacturers in the country. The historic photo here shows some of the umbrella factory staff workers sitting on the front steps, overlooking the Maumee River.

Revitalization Trainings in 2025

Each quarter, Heritage Ohio hosts a hands-on workshop focused on community revitalization in one of Ohio's Main Street communities. Designed for Main Street directors, board members, and local champions alike, these sessions offer practical tools and fresh perspectives—whether you're just beginning your downtown revitalization journey or you're a seasoned leader who's been working tirelessly to strengthen your community.

The February 2025 training in Marion, spotlighted the collaborative efforts of Downtown Marion, Inc. and local partners. Attendees explored the balance of cooperation versus competition through a downtown business owner panel discussion. The second half of the training focused on successful recruitment strategies with Kathleen Norris of Urban Fast Forward.

In May, participants gathered in Van Wert, for a preservation-focused workshop featuring the expertise of Main Street America's Lisa Mullins Thompson. Topics included what historic preservation really means, how storefront design supports revitalization, and strategies for encouraging catalytic redevelopment. The workshop

also included a building tour and an insightful hands-on group exercise.

June's workshop, hosted at the Ariel Hotel in Lorain, focused on meaningful public engagement. Sessions explored how to involve residents in shaping their downtown, featured a young leaders panel highlighting community-driven change, and wrapped up with practical tips for managing social media, conflict, and online engagement.

The final revitalization training of the year took place in Wellington and dove deep into real estate development with Corey Leon, Senior Field Director with Grow America. Participants walked through pro formas, capitalization rates, lender underwriting, tax abatements, and rehabilitation tax credits—bringing it all together with real-world case studies to help demystify downtown development and investment.

Heritage Ohio's Quarterly Revitalization trainings are supported by the Ohio Department of Development and the Ohio Arts Council.

Historic Tax Credit Workshops

A large component of the work we do at Heritage Ohio is presenting educational programs, workshops, and technical assistance in communities across Ohio. In 2024, we expanded the Tax Credit Coffee program into a day-long Historic Tax Credit and Revitalization workshop program, produced in partnership with the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The workshop provides a full day, holistic look at historic preservation and financial incentives. The typical agenda opens with an overview of why historic preservation is important, and what it means to the identity of a community. Then, SHPO staff gives an introduction to the

National Register of Historic Places, the benefits of being a Certified Local Government (CLG), and the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit. ODOD staff gives an overview of the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit, followed by an open question and answer session. The workshops are an excellent opportunity for developers, property owners, municipalities, and citizens to get information and insights directly from the department and staff member with which and with whom they would be working. In 2025, we hosted one of the workshops in downtown Greenville. Co-sponsored by Darke and Auglaize Counties, over 50 stakeholders attended.





Dave Mertz, the retired director of Belmont College's (St. Clairsville) acclaimed Building Preservation/Restoration program, leads our PAW on-site assessments. As a lifelong preservationist, Dave brings literal decades of experience and insight into the evaluation of old and historic buildings, providing owners with actionable steps they can take to keep their buildings in good condition.

Preservation Assessment Workshop

Preservation Assessment Workshops (PAWs) have emerged as valuable educational tools for communities looking to address the practical challenges of historic preservation. In 2025, Heritage Ohio visited historic buildings in Ashland, Findlay, Greenfield, Kenton, Middletown, Salem, Tipp City, and Toledo, with each community seeking tailored guidance from preservation expert Dave Mertz, former professor at Belmont College.

Participants consistently noted the value of the practical, actionable nature of the workshops. "It clarified the importance of consistent maintenance," remarked one Salem attendee, who highlighted the usefulness of developing structured plans to manage historic assets. This feedback reflected broader sentiments from other communities, underscoring Heritage Ohio's role

in transforming theoretical preservation concepts into achievable community actions.

PAWs effectively bridge gaps between theoretical preservation and practical application, providing communities with direct access to expert knowledge. This educational approach empowers local officials, homeowners, and business owners to undertake informed preservation efforts, ultimately safeguarding the unique architectural heritage that defines their communities.

By offering both educational clarity and hands-on advice, Heritage Ohio's Preservation Assessment Workshops are shaping the future of historic preservation across Ohio, community by community.

Annual Awards



In 2025, Heritage Ohio **RECOGNIZED THE EXCELLENCE OF 13 INDIVIDUALS, PROJECTS, PLACES, AND ORGANIZATIONS AROUND THE STATE** for their contributions to historic preservation and community revitalization. Over 30 finalists joined us in Canton at the historic Canton Palace Theatre on October 15th to celebrate their achievements.

2025 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Best Main Street Committee Project Award

JUNIOR MAINSTREET PIQUA

Mainstreet Piqua

Best Main Street Committee Event Award

SCARE ON THE SQUARE

Main Street Wadsworth

Best Downtown Placemaking Award

CITY OF BOWLING GREEN DOWNTOWN HISTORICAL

MARKERS

Bowling Green

Best Residential Rehabilitation Award

THE JOSEPH & EMMA SMITH HOME

Kirtland

Best Commercial Rehabilitation Award (Small Community)

HISTORIC BEAR'S MILL

Greenville

Best Commercial Rehabilitation Award (Large Community)

DAYTON ARCADE

Dayton

Main Street Business of the Year Award

TIPPECANOE GAZETTE

Tipp City

Historic Theater of the Year Award

THE HOLLAND THEATRE

Bellefontaine

Main Street Volunteer of the Year

VICKIE WILKINS

Downtown Tiffin

Young Preservationist of the Year Award

CHRIS MOWEN

Toledo

Main Street Director of the Year Award

GEORGE SAM

Main Street Medina

Spirit of Main Street Award

LESLEY SICKLE

Main Street Kent

The Joyce Barrett Preservation Hero Award

GOVERNOR MIKE DEWINE



George Sam, Main Street Director of the Year, was surprised to see Main Street Medina board members and volunteers in the audience.

14th Annual Appalachia Heritage Luncheon

8 HONORED AT APPALACHIA HERITAGE LUNCHEON

ON DECEMBER 16TH, THE 14TH ANNUAL APPALACHIA HERITAGE LUNCHEON HONORED 8 INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE EMBODIED THE ESSENCE OF OHIO'S APPALACHIAN REGION AND CULTURE.

Honoree: Sam Miller, Development Director - Buckeye Hills Regional Council

County: Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry, & Washington

Sam Miller has dedicated her professional career to improving the Appalachian region in which she lives, works, and plays. Her work has been carried out through years of engagement with local leaders, nonprofits, and residents, ensuring community voices shape development efforts. Sam has overseen and supported projects funded through a braided mix of federal and state grants, local government contributions, and private partnerships. Her ability to align diverse funding streams has maximized impact and ensured no opportunity to benefit the region is overlooked.

Honoree: Belpre Farmers Castle Museum- Underground Railroad Exhibit

County: Washington

The Underground Railroad exhibit at the Belpre Farmers Castle Museum was conceived as a way to preserve and honor the stories of freedom seekers who passed through Washington County, Ohio, and the brave abolitionists who aided them. The exhibit has had a significant impact on both the local community and visitors from outside the county. It has become the most comprehensive Underground Railroad collection in Washington County, offering an accessible and educational experience for families, school groups, and heritage tourists.

Honoree: Old Burying Ground Restoration

County: Highland

Project conceived by John King and Scott Anderson from their interests in local history, preservation, community renewal, and honoring those who are buried in this cemetery. The work has been carried out them and other volunteers. They have beautified Greenfield's original cemetery, renewed interest in the community's history, and people who founded the community. Families seeking their own ancestors now have a resource map, and it lifts up the importance of maintaining other historic elements of the community.

Honoree: Pike Heritage Museum

County: Pike

The Pike Heritage Museum has been an active force for showcasing and highlighting Pike County's history and heritage, and they have made outstanding progress in a variety of creative and unique projects to protect the museum, originally an 1860 German Evangelical. The museum has been a valuable partner and collaborator in

multiple efforts in Pike County in recent years. The future of the Pike Heritage Museum is bright. The museum is now in its 43rd year, and is making strides in updating, preserving, and modernizing its content to better tell the story of Pike County and to provide a better experience for visitors to the museum.

Honoree: Steve Free Folk Music

County: Scioto

A lifelong resident of Appalachia with Shawnee and Cherokee roots, Steve Free and his music embody the enduring spirit of the Southern Ohio hills. Steve Free is a singer and songwriter who has worked independently for decades in Scioto County. His band has featured different members throughout the years, but one constant is his wife, Susan, with her enchanting harmonies and instrumental solos. Steve hosts remarkable educational entertainment programs for children which include sing-a-longs of catchy tunes and an introduction to Native American language, culture, and attire. He is an Ohio Arts Council and Midwest Arts Council "Ohio Artist On Tour."

Honoree: Hidden Hills Orchard

County: Washington

Hidden Hills Orchard is a high-density apple orchard with over 5,200 dwarf trees. The orchard property has been a farm since 1895. Originally a dairy farm and later hay fields, it was purchased from the Long family in 1998. Cider production began in 2004, and it has received first place awards in 2004, 2013, and 2016 in the Ohio Apples cider contest. Tom and Kathy Burch took over operations in 2011, expanding U-pick and adding more apple varieties. Tom and Kathy's son, Dan, and his wife, Katie, fell in love with the orchard and wanted a lifestyle that centered around getting to be together as a family. In March of 2021, they moved to the orchard and made it their full-time work.

Honoree: Ohio Hills Health Center (OHHC) Bradfield

County: Belmont

Ohio Hills Health Center (OHHC) has developed critical healthcare resources for vulnerable populations throughout the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA) district. OHHC's multiple centers provide region-wide access, and as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), they accept all patients, regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay. The Barnesville-based headquarters, serving the public at the historic Bradfield Building, continues to be a high-traffic location that also provides a prominent physical presence for the organization and the greater Barnesville community.

Honoree: Artist Colony of Zanesville

County: Muskingum

In 2004, bronze sculptor Alan Cottrill called a meeting with the Zanesville-Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Zanesville Downtown Association and the Muskingum County Community Foundation and suggested that it would be a good idea to start an artist colony in downtown Zanesville to broaden arts awareness, enrich student arts programs and help to revitalize the downtown area. Funding to start the Artist Colony was received by a grant from the Muskingum County Community Foundation, community and in-kind donations and the proceeds from an inaugural art auction. To this day the Artist Colony of Zanesville receives funding from events, private donors and local foundations.

Sam Jones Model Citizen Award Recipient: Joe Burrow

County: Athens

When Joe Burrow was selected as the 85th winner of the Heisman Memorial Trophy, in his acceptance speech, his mind and his words focused not just on football, but on people he knew who were underprivileged and underserved where he grew up in Appalachia.

With that night as a springboard, Joe and his parents, with business and community leaders from Ohio and Louisiana, founded the Joe Burrow Foundation. The primary focus is helping children with mental illness and those experiencing food insecurity as well as providing resources and support to the underprivileged and underserved in a variety of ways. The Joe Burrow Foundation promises to bring to these children the same passion, dedication and creative energy displayed by Joe on the football field. As Joe has repeatedly said, "Everyone has a responsibility to do good."

The Joe Burrow Foundation's Do Good Grants have funded over \$2 million to a variety of organizations in Ohio, Louisiana, and Kentucky that are dedicated to hunger relief and youth mental health. In the coming year, the Joe Burrow Foundation plans to build on its efforts by funding more innovative projects through Do Good Grants, launching new community kitchen initiatives, and expanding youth support programs, like Handle With Care, to reach additional communities.



Donations List

MORE THAN \$100,000 INVESTED

Ohio Department of Development

\$100,000 - \$50,000 INVESTED

\$49,999 - \$25,000 INVESTED

Anonymous
Ohio Arts Council
U.S. Department of Agriculture

\$24,999 - \$10,000 INVESTED

Certified Local Governments Program
GBX Group
The George Gund Foundation
National Park Service
Nord Family Foundation

\$9,999 - \$5,000 INVESTED

AEP Ohio
Coon Restoration
Ohio History Connection
Sandvick Architects
State Historic Preservation Office
Visit Canton

\$4,999 - \$1,000 INVESTED

Akron Civic Theatre
Joyce & Jim Barrett
CASTO
City of Kent
The Commercial & Savings Bank
The Community Foundation of Lorain County
Downtown Canton Partnership
Downtown Redevelopment Services
German Village Society
Gordon & Susan Goldie
Gossman Group
Grae-Con Construction Inc.
Homeport
JobsOhio
Graham Kalbli
Kent State University Hotel & Conference Center
Lepi Enterprises
Main Street Kent
Marietta Main Street
Marous Brothers Construction
New Republic Architecture
OHM Advisors
Osceola Foundation
Perspectus
Plante Moran
Schooley Caldwell
John Sieber
The Thomas & Mary Ann Hays Family Charitable Trust

\$999 - \$500 INVESTED

Blind Eye Restoration
Cat's Meow Village
Chad Arfons
City of Alliance
City of Bowling Green

City of Cambridge
City of Circleville
City of Coshocton
City of Defiance
City of Delaware
City of Hamilton
City of Hubbard
City of Lorain
City of Marietta
City of Medina
City of Middletown
City of Newark
City of Oberlin
City of Oxford
City of Painesville
City of Piqua
City of Ravenna
City of Reynoldsburg
City of Tiffin
City of Tipp City
City of Troy
City of Van Wert
City of Vermilion
City of Wadsworth
City of Waterville
City of Westerville
City of Wooster
City of Zanesville
Community Design Alliance
Conrad Schmitt Studios
CT Consultants
Designing Local
Michael Dingeldein
Barbara Dzur
Fred Ernest
Gunton Corp.
Jeff Hall
Sandra & Gary Hull
Beth Johnson
The Kleingers Group
Tim & Deb Koehl
Marvin
Merchant's Edge
W. Kevin Pape
Perfido Weiskopf Wagstaff + Goettel Architects
Quaker Window & Door
Select Window & Door
Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (SOPEC)
Thomas Porter Architects
U.S. Small Business Administration
Village of Lewisburg
Village of Milan
Village of Millersburg
Village of Wellington
Walker Consultants
Welty Construction
Thomas Yablonsky

\$499 - \$300 INVESTED

Ashtabula Downtown Development Association
Athens County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Athens County Land Bank

Better Kenmore Community Development Corp.
Cincinnati Preservation
Cleveland Restoration Society
Clinton County Port Authority
Kirby Date
Decorative Arts Center of Ohio
Destination Downtown Lancaster
Downtown Mantua Revitalization Corp.
Downtown Wapakoneta Partnership
Finance Fund
German Village Society
Historic Hamilton
Ironton aLive
Thomas Jorgensen
Lima Community Investment Corp.
Logan County Landmark Preservation
Mantua Restoration Society
Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
Nancy Rubenstein
James Schimmer
Mark Stechschulte
Troy Community Works
Youngstown CityScape

\$299 - \$100 INVESTED

Erin Barnes
Don Beard
William & Janet Bird
Amy Breinich
Richard & Yvonne Burry
Erin Claussen
Steve Coon
Kyle Craven
Tim Davis
Shawn Donegan
Juliana Fay
Lois Fisher
Donald Foster
Karrie Fritz
Bob Gribben
Rob Gribben
Donna Gross
John Grossmann
Donald Hange Jr.
Hardy Hartzell
Marsha Heinke
Robert Johnson
Graham Kalbli
Dr. Vicki King-Maple
Kroger Community Rewards
Robert Loversidge
Kate & Tom Matheny
Alex Metcalfe
Jeffrey Meyers
Kaylyn Millen
John Mitterholzer
John & Maureen Musson
Wendy Naylor
Peach's Grill
Robin Pfeiffer
Preservation Dayton
Zach Price
Yolita Rausche
Monica Snow

Eric Stachler
 Danielle Steinhauser
 Triad Architects Ltd.
 Michael Tomko
 Duane Van Dyke
 Eric & Jane Van Renterghem
 Diana Wellman
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 Megan Adornetto
 Janna Amole
 Matt Armstrong
 Madalyn Bailey
 Jeff Barber
 Nicholas Blantern
 Hayley Bricker
 Karl Brunjes
 William Brugnone
 Daniel Budish
 Robert Buerglener
 Mark Campbell
 Cherese Capadona
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 Jessica Chonat
 David Crowell
 Glenn R. & Bonnie Daniel
 Jan Devereaux
 Michael DiCenzo
 Chris Dobrozi
 Linda Donaldson
 Reagan Doppelt
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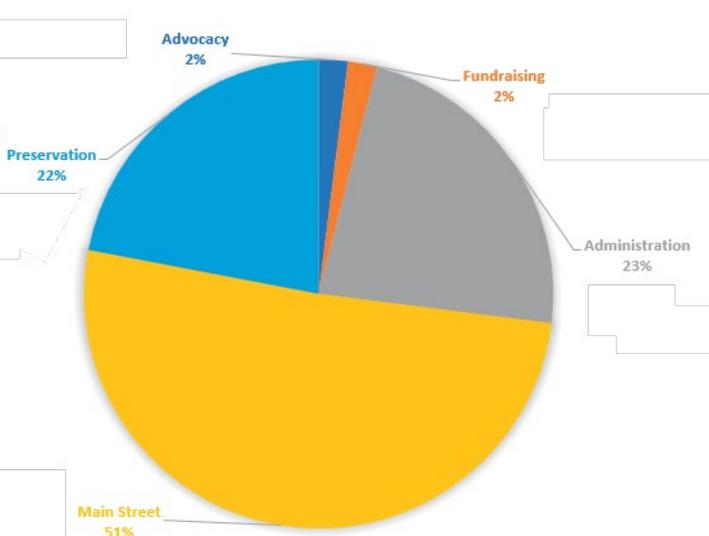
Robert Fay
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 Arne Goldman
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 Patricia Henahan
 Patricia Higgins
 David Hipp
 JoAnn Hucko
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 Andrew Verhoff
 Madeline Williams
 Elizabeth Wilson
 Jane Zachman
 Zanesville-Muskingum Chamber of
 Commerce
 Kristy Zentiska
 Justin Zink

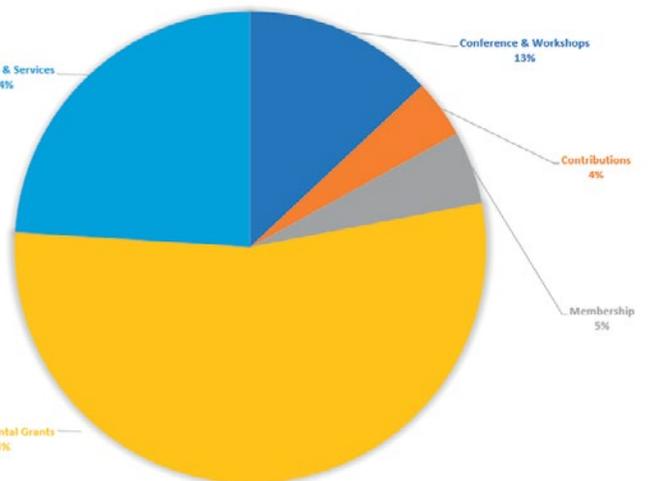
*** If we inadvertently left you off this list,
 please let us know so we can correct
 the error.

Financials

EXPENSES



REVENUE



Board and Staff

BOARD OF TRUSTEES LEADERSHIP

| | |
|------------|---|
| Chair | Dave Williams, Dayton, Cross Street Partners |
| Vice Chair | Jonathan Sandvick, Cleveland, Sandvick Architects |
| Treasurer | Eric Stachler, Versailles, Huntington Bank |
| Secretary | Erin Claussen, Whitehouse, Toledo Revival |



Heritage Ohio founding board member and long-time supporter, Jonathan Sandvick, was honored this year by the Cleveland Restoration Society with the Robert C. Gaede, FAIA, Lifetime Achievement Award for his significant contributions to Cleveland's architecture, his leadership in developing historic preservation tools, and his longtime service as a Trustee of the organization. Sandvick helped create the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit, and pioneered the use of preservation easements in Ohio.

BOARD MEMBERS

- Steve Coon, Canton, Coon Restoration
- Craig Gossman, Covington, Gossman Group
- Sandra Hull, Wooster, Main Street Wooster (retired)
- Brian Harr, Medina, The Commercial and Savings Bank
- Beth Johnson, Cincinnati, Cincinnati Preservation
- Graham Kalbli, Cincinnati, New Republic Architecture
- Dr. Vicki King-Maple, Cambridge, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA)
- John Mitterholzer, Lakewood, The Gund Foundation/Main Street America
- W. Kevin Pape, Cincinnati, Gray & Pape (retired)
- Lisa Patt-McDaniel, Dublin, Aspyr Workforce
- Duane Van Dyke, Westlake, VanDyke Architects
- Logan York, Cincinnati, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

EX-OFFICIO, VOTING

- Jeff Hall, Newark, Mayor of Newark
- Abby Marshall, Columbus, Young Ohio Preservationists
- Renee Fitzgerald-Palacio, Painesville, Ohio Main Street Advisory Committee (January – August)
- Jennifer Tinkler, Marietta, Ohio Main Street Advisory Committee (September - December)

EX OFFICIO, NON-VOTING

- Luke Stedke, Westerville, Ohio Department of Development
- Diana Welling, Westerville, State Historic Preservation Office

EMERITUS

- Thomas J. Yablonsky, Cleveland

STAFF

- Frances Jo Hamilton, Delaware, Director of Revitalization
- Devin Miles, Columbus, Director Of Operations
- Frank Quinn, Chillicothe, Director Of Preservation
- Lorna Swisher, Tipp City, Assistant Director Of Revitalization
- Matthew Wiederhold, Toledo, Executive Director



MISSION: As Ohio's official historic preservation and Main Street organization, Heritage Ohio fosters economic development and sustainability through preservation of historic buildings, revitalization of downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts, and promotion of cultural tourism.

ABOUT HERITAGE OHIO: Heritage Ohio began as Downtown Ohio, Inc., organized in 1989 as a statewide nonprofit corporation that encouraged the development, redevelopment, and improvement of downtowns and neighborhood commercial district areas throughout Ohio. Heritage Ohio works as a catalyst for downtown and neighborhood district development by gathering together revitalization organizations, conducting statewide seminars and conferences, and providing a network of members to share knowledge, common experiences and challenges concerning downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts. Heritage Ohio is dedicated to assisting self-motivated communities through technical assistance, training, and networking in all facets of downtown and commercial district development. Heritage Ohio advocates for revitalization and historic preservation issues at the state and federal levels.



HERITAGE
OHIO

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Columbus, OH 43211
P 614.258.6200
heritageohio.org

