



52ND ANNUAL DINNER & AWARDS PROGRAM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022

BROWN PALACE HOTEL

COCKTAIL HOUR – 5PM DINNER & AWARDS PROGRAM – 7PM

HISTORIC DENVER'S 52ND ANNUAL DINNER & AWARDS PROGRAM on October 13, 2022 at The Brown Palace honors individuals and projects that anchor our city's culture and provide for a vibrant future. Dennis Humphries will be honored with the Keystone Award for lifetime achievement in historic preservation; Dr. Renee Cousins King will receive the Ann Love Award, which honors those who embody the spirit of one of Historic Denver's founders, former Colorado First Lady Ann Love; and Polly Baca will be honored with the Molly Brown Award, created to honor a woman who demonstrates Margaret Brown's commitment to community. Community Preservation Awards will be given to Denver Art Museum, Colburn Hotel, Emily Griffith Opportunity School/Slate Hotel, and Pancratia Hall. Our newest award, the Remix Award, bestowed for a project that successfully blends a historic building with a new development, goes to Benzina Italian restaurant for the clever preservation and adaptive reuse of a mid-century modern muffler shop on East Colfax.

As of press time, some tickets were still available. Reserve yours today, while they last!

KEYSTONE AWARD

This Historic Denver Award was created to honor people who have made significant contributions over their lifetime to historic preservation in Denver.

Dennis Humphries



Architect Dennis Humphries "sort of fell into preservation by accident." Humphries, who co-founded Humphries Poli Architects in 1994 (it merged with the international design firm RATIO in 2019), had a number of clients who didn't initially understand the value and potential for development in older buildings.

Humphries first developed a love for architecture while growing up in the Midwest. Over the span of his 40-year career, he's become a regionally recognized architect. Locally, he has guided the rehabilitation of such city landmarks as the dome on the Colorado State Capitol and the Streamline Moderne-style American Woodmen Life Building, where Humphries Poli had their offices for many years. Humphries was also instrumental in the renovation of the McNichols Building in the Civic Center Historic District.

He "believes a public building must represent a community, not simply exist within it," so it's no surprise that Humphries has been the principal author for more than 125 public library commissions, more than any other architect in Colorado!

In addition to serving the community through purposeful design, he's served as the longtime chair of the Denver Landmark Commission; founded the Denver Architecture Foundation, where he started Doors Open Denver; was Vice President of Denver's Civic Center Conservancy; and served on Historic Denver's Board of Trustees for six years, including serving as the Vice Chair of the Capital Campaign. Humphries is currently serving on the State Historical Fund Advisory Board and also continues to work professionally as Consulting Principal at RATIO, where he has trained many young architects in the principles of preservation work.

ANN LOVE AWARD

The Ann Love Award was established to honor individuals who may not consider themselves traditional preservationists but have shown initiative, creativity, and commitment in preserving the history, culture and architecture of Denver. The award is named for former Colorado First Lady Ann Love, a founder of Historic Denver.

Dr. Renee Cousins King



Family and community roots run deep for Dr. Renee Cousins King, a retired pediatrician with continued connection to Denver's Five Points neighborhood. Many buildings along Welton Street bear the Cousins family name, including Charles R. Cousins Plaza, located outside the Blair-Caldwell African-American Research Library, and the Alta Cousins Terrace apartment building.

Dr. Cousins King's grandfather, Charles L. Cousins, moved to Denver in 1909 and, along with his wife, Alta, began building both existing buildings and erecting new structures throughout Denver's "Harlem of the West." Though his son and Dr. Cousins King's father, Charles R. Cousins, developed his own career as a successful real estate magnate and Black entrepreneur, Dr. Cousins King initially followed a different path and went into medicine. Dr. Cousins King attended medical school at the Mayo Clinic, followed by a two-year residency at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore before eventually returning to Denver.

Upon his death in 2009, her father bequeathed nearly a dozen properties to Dr. Cousins King, including the Arcade building (now home to Rosenberg's Bagels). In 2011, Dr. Cousins King oversaw a complete restoration of the Alta Cousins Terrace at 26th & Welton. The 1905 Classical Revival-style building was named for her grandmother after Charles R. Cousins purchased it in 1924.

Not only is Dr. Cousins King an owner of historic properties, but also an ardent supporter of historic places. This support includes substantial contributions toward renovation projects at the Black American West Museum, which is located in the former home of a pioneering physician and important community figure: Dr. Justina Ford, Colorado's first licensed African-American woman doctor.



MOLLY BROWN AWARD

The Molly Brown Award was created to honor women who live in Margaret “Molly” Brown’s spirit today by devoting many years to civic life in all its forms, actively engaging themselves in politics, philanthropy, arts and cultural endeavors and historic preservation.

POLLY BACA



Though they were the descendants of Hispaño colonists who first came to the Americas in the 1600s, one of Polly Baca’s earliest memories is her family being asked to sit at the back or the side of the church on Sundays. Former State Senator Baca was born on a farm in Weld County, grew up in Northern Colorado, and discovered her love of leadership and politics while attending Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Owing to those early memories of segregation, she has made it

a mission throughout her life to change how people treat Mexican-Americans, Latinos, and other Hispanic peoples.

Following graduation, Baca went on to work for Bobby Kennedy during his presidential campaign and was there the night he was assassinated. She worked with and marched alongside Cesar Chavez and attended the 1963 March on Washington with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She worked as a public information officer for President Lyndon Johnson, as the regional coordinator for President Jimmy Carter’s failed 1980 re-election campaign, and as both Special Assistant for Consumer Affairs and Director of the United States Office of Consumer Affairs under President Bill Clinton.

Baca was the first Latina elected to the Colorado State House and Colorado State Senate. She founded the Latin American Research and Service Agency (LARASA) in 1964 “to lead and influence change to improve the quality of life for Latinos through advocacy, capacity building, and education.” Baca recently participated in *Girls on the Run*, a documentary about women of color running for office, part of which was filmed at the Molly Brown House Museum. She currently runs her own consulting firm, advising on such issues as diversity, government relations, leadership and political campaigns.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AWARDS

The Community Preservation Awards are given annually to a handful of projects, institutions and individuals that have made an exceptional contribution to the preservation of Denver’s heritage. These projects exemplify high quality restoration, the careful consideration of the city’s historic fabric and a commitment to community. The winners of these awards are essential to Historic Denver’s mission and the organization takes great pride in recognizing those who assist us in enhancing Denver’s built environment.

DENVER ART MUSEUM MARTIN BUILDING PROJECT

100 W. 14TH AVE PKWY.



In preparation for the 50th birthday of the iconic building designed in 1971 by Gio Ponti, the Denver Art Museum (DAM) undertook a multi-year restoration. When it reopened in 2021, the structure known to some as the Ponti Building and officially as the North Building, was renamed the Lanny & Sharon Martin Building in honor of the donors who provided the first \$25 million toward renovation efforts. The Martin Building’s

restoration included careful treatment of the more than 1 million glass tiles that cover the building and give its unique sheen. The DAM received special permission from Corning to use the file of their patented design to produce 17,000 new tiles to replace any tiles that had fallen off the building over the years. The building is Ponti’s only North American work and is located in the Civic Center Historic District.

COLBURN HOTEL



980 GRANT ST.

The Colburn Hotel is perhaps most famous for its association with Jack Kerouac. It was designed by William Bowman and opened as a residential hotel in 1928. The building has been low-income housing — particularly serving those that had experienced homelessness — for decades. In 2018, after Gorman Associates bought the building, they continued that commitment and invested in major infrastructure upgrades to ensure the building remained viable and livable. They nominated the

building to the National Register of Historic Places and used historic preservation tax credits to help finance the rehabilitation. Work was completed in 2020 and residents were not displaced during construction.

THE SLATE DENVER, TAPESTRY COLLECTION BY HILTON™ AT EMILY’S ALLEY

1250 WELTON ST.



The 140,000-square-foot Emily Griffith Opportunity School (also known as the Emily Griffith Technical College) has been transformed into The Slate Hotel. Mortenson and 4240 Architecture worked as the design-build team for Stonebridge Companies as they redeveloped the historic site into a mixed-use property. The school, which operated at 1250 Welton St. between 1926 and 2015, was designated a Denver Landmark in

2016 as a result of Historic Denver’s advocacy, which enabled the project to access Historic Preservation Tax Credits. In addition to the 250-key hotel, the project also reuses buildings on the Glenarm side of the block for retail and office spaces, supporting about 37,500 square feet of mixed-use space.

PANCRATIA HALL LOFTS

3144 W. FRANCES WALSH PL.



Once a vacant classroom and dormitory building at the Loretto Heights campus in southwest Denver, Pancratia Hall Lofts is an excellent example of adaptive reuse conversion. The Pancratia Hall building, originally completed in 1930, now provides 74 affordable family apartment units. Units range from studios to 4-bedrooms to serve households earning up to 80% area-median income (AMI). The building, which is on the National Register of Historic Places and is now a

Denver Landmark, utilized Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, in combination with State and Federal Historic Tax Credits, and soft funding from the City of Denver, State of Colorado, DHA, CHFA, and Westside Investment Partners. The building’s design combines historic preservation with full modernization, preserving all the key architectural details while prioritizing residents and making it state of the art, sustainable, and energy efficient.

REMIX AWARD WINNER

BENZINA

4839 E COLFAX AVE.



A former muffler and brake repair shop, owner Brad Anderson spent three years transforming the auto-oriented, three-bay building into a restaurant. Benzina, which means gasoline in Italian, is situated along the edge of the Park Hill neighborhood. Anderson reused the protruding triangular awning of the mid-century building to create a unique al fresco dining space. The garage bays open to merge the indoors and outdoors along a section of East Colfax that is walkable, community-oriented,

and home to a large swath of small businesses. 🌿