



**METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF  
NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY**

Sunnyside in Sevier Park  
3000 Granny White Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204  
615.862.7970

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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**Cover: Early 20th-century postcard of Belmont College, from the MHC Collection**  
Completed in August 1853 for Joseph and Adelia Acklen, Belle Monte was one of the most elaborate estates in pre-civil war America. Today, Belmont Mansion shares a special relationship with Belmont University, the “descendant” of Belmont College for Young Women, which opened on the former estate in 1890. Learn more: [www.belmontmansion.com](http://www.belmontmansion.com).



**42nd Annual Preservation Awards  
Metropolitan Historical Commission**

## 42nd Annual Preservation Awards

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

4:30 p.m.

Nashville Public Library

### WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

W. Tim Walker

Executive Director, Metropolitan Historical Commission

Jim Forkum

Chair, Metropolitan Historical Commission

Mayor Megan Barry

Metropolitan Government of Nashville & Davidson County

### AWARDS PRESENTATION

#### ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

#### COMMISSIONERS' AWARD

#### FLETCH COKE AWARD

### CLOSING REMARKS

Jennifer Harrman

President, Historic Nashville, Inc.

### RECEPTION

Waller

Nashville City Center

511 Union Street, Suite 2700

### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



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BACON & CAVIAR  
GOURMET CATERING & BBQ

## JUDGES

**Menié Bell** serves as a commissioner on the Metropolitan Historical Commission and Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission. She obtained her B.A. in Interior Design from O'More College of Design. She is a partner in the Joel Solomon Company and 1221 Partners. In the mid 1990's, they collaborated with Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency (MDHA) in the redevelopment and revitalization of the 12South commercial corridor. The partnership renovated several historic buildings, including those located at the corner of Linden & 12th, Elmwood & 12th and Paris & 12th. They continue to own and manage commercial properties in 12South. She holds memberships with Historic Nashville Inc. and the Nashville Civic Design Center.

**Nick Dryden** is a third-generation architect and is the founding principal and design lead of DAAD—Dryden Architecture and Design—an award-winning architecture and interior design studio based in Nashville. Established in 2001, DAAD is made up of 12 architects and interior designers dedicated to making meaningful human places that mindfully engage local resources and operate simultaneously as habitat and create a lasting memory of place. Maintaining the history of Nashville's fabric is an important component of DAAD's work. Nick's work has been focused on preserving the community of neighborhoods in Nashville. Projects focus on a diverse range of building types including historic preservation, urban infill new construction and adaptive reuse. Currently DAAD is the design architect for projects including the historic Noel Place Hotel in downtown Nashville, Master Architect for the historic May Hosiery Mill, and the historic Merritt Mansion. Look for DAAD projects throughout Nashville's many great neighborhoods.

**Blythe Semmer** is Senior Program Analyst at the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, an independent federal agency with a mission focus on preservation policy and the review process required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Her role includes improving federal preservation planning through the development of policy, guidance and educational outreach to State Historic Preservation Offices, Indian tribes, local governments, industry, and other preservation stakeholders. Prior to joining the ACHP in 2006, she was Preservation Planner for the Metropolitan Historical Commission. Blythe was a design committee member for the Plan of Nashville and served on the board of the Tennessee Preservation Trust. She holds an M.A. in Public History from Middle Tennessee State University and is a doctoral candidate in Urban and Regional Planning and Design at the University of Maryland.

## MIKE SLATE & KATHY B. LAUDER FLETCH COKE AWARD

A Nashville native, Mike Slate attended Metro public schools and holds degrees from Lipscomb University, Harding School of Theology, and Peabody College. Kathy Lauder lived in nine states and raised two sons before settling in Nashville. She taught high school English for 30 years, then worked at the Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA) from 2003 until her retirement in 2013. Concerned by Nashville's lack of a publication dedicated to "saving and conveying the local historical knowledge of its citizens," Mike founded the *Nashville Historical Newsletter* (NHN) in January 1997 as "medium for historical sharing." Kathy joined the NHN staff as editor in 2002, shortly after the NHN's transition from printed to online publication. After many requests for the collection in book form, Mike and Kathy published *The Confederate Twenty-Dollar Irony and Other Essays from the Nashville Historical Newsletter*, a compilation of selected essays, in 2004. *From Knickers to Body Stockings and Other Essays from the Nashville Historical Newsletter* followed in 2006. Today, the NHN lives online. The website hosts over 100 essays on Nashville history as well as many other resources, including a list of Nashville-related articles published in the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* (1942-2006) and helpful bibliographies for books about Nashville and Middle Tennessee History.

Every now and then, one can spot Mike in WNPT's *Memories of Downtown Nashville*, but many may also know Mike as an instrumental advocate for Buchanan's Station, who helped lead the charge with the Friends of Buchanan's Station Cemetery. The Friends group formed in 2012 to raise awareness of the site and provide needed funding for its protection, preservation, and ongoing maintenance. After a kick-off event commemorating the 220th Anniversary of the Battle of Buchanan's Station in September 2012, the group raised more than \$10,000 in donations to construct a metal fence around the cemetery to mark and protect the site. Members have also organized clean up days and raised funds for repairs and an archaeological assessment of the site. The group's efforts also led to Pinnacle Business Products donating the 1.46-acre property to Metro Government in 2015. Metro Council designated the site a Historic Landmark in August 2015, and Metro Parks now manages the property, which is located on a proposed future expansion of the Mill Creek Greenway system.

As part of her work with TSLA, Kathy completed the research and writing for the award-winning online exhibit "'This Honorable Body': African American Legislators in 19th Century Tennessee," and was featured in the resulting WNPT documentary *First Black Statesmen: Tennessee's Self-Made Men*. She also appeared in the television series, *Who Do You Think You Are*, providing historical information for the program featuring Vanessa Williams. While serving on the board of the Nashville City Cemetery Association, Kathy edited and contributed to the organization's newsletter *Monuments and Milestones*. She is currently engaged in a project to locate and restore the missing names of people buried in Mt. Ararat and Greenwood cemeteries, and she publishes a short biography on one of those individuals every week on the Greenwood Project Facebook page. Additionally, she is a published poet and frequent contributor to *The Tennessee Conservationist*.

## NOMINATIONS

### Residential

1612 Forrest Avenue  
1227 McGavock Pike  
1401 Paris Avenue  
1609 Long Avenue  
209 Gentry Avenue  
2807 Oakland Avenue  
*Historic John Bell Birthplace/Home*  
1324 Barnes Road  
2121 W Linden Avenue  
*Pennington Residence*  
2809 Hillside Drive  
*Lopez-Boggs Home*  
2805 Belmont Boulevard  
*Hyde-Stephens House*  
3111 Hydes Ferry Road  
305 Kent Road  
1507 Linden Avenue  
1709 Beechwood Avenue  
*Morgan-Bloch Residence*  
1807 Blair Boulevard  
2800 Oakland Avenue  
*Truxton Place*  
4410 Truxton Place

### Commercial

*Belcourt Theatre*  
2102 Belcourt Avenue  
*YoungLife Nashville*  
1515 16th Avenue South  
*Historic Fire Hall for Engine Co. 18*  
1220 Gallatin Avenue

### Infill

198 Manchester Avenue  
213 Gentry Avenue  
211 Gentry Avenue  
207 Gentry Avenue  
*Gentry Cottages*  
207-225 Gentry Avenue  
*Gramercy Germantown*  
Monroe Street & 7th Avenue North  
1525 Fatherland Street  
1727 & 1729 4th Avenue North  
910.5 Jackson Street  
*The Lillian Trio:*  
1113, 1115, and 1201 Lillian Street  
1010 Granada Court  
1012 Granada Court  
1300 A&B Monetta Avenue  
1315 Greenland Avenue  
1405 Elmwood Avenue  
1429 Roberts Avenue  
1516 Hayden Drive  
1610 Riverside Drive  
1605 Forrest Avenue

### Monuments & Memorials

Shane Cemetery  
Michael Gleaves Cemetery

### Industrial/Engineering

*Omohundro Water Treatment Plant*  
1400 Pumping Station Road

## **JAMES H. FYKE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

James H. “Jim” Fyke grew up in Old Hickory and graduated from DuPont High School before earning a B.A. in Business Management from George Peabody College. A star athlete, he began his career with the parks department as its first full-time Sports Supervisor, coordinating sports leagues and more from 1964 to 1970. He then became Superintendent of Administration and Special Services from 1970 to 1978. In 1978 Jim was named Director of the Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation, a position he held until 2003 when he moved to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation under Governor Phil Bredesen, first as deputy commissioner over state parks, then as Commissioner. After retiring from TDEC in 2011, Jim returned to service with Metro Government, joining the administration of Mayor Karl Dean to guide special projects.

Jim’s major accomplishments during his tenure as director include stewardship of Metro Nashville’s 100 parks, 91 playgrounds, and 24 community centers, formation of the first county-wide Parks and Greenways Master Plan, and acquisition of numerous acres of land for various parks projects, including the single largest donation of land from the Al Beaman family. Additionally, he negotiated the land exchange between Metro Parks and Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) that led to the opening of the Centennial Sportsplex in February 1990.

Jim has been recognized regionally and nationally for his parks and recreation work. Less well known are the many historic preservation projects with which he has been involved and the ways in which he supported the Historical Commission (MHC). Metro’s Parks Department is responsible for some of the city’s most significant historic properties, and all require care and treatment above and beyond a parks department’s typical scope. From this challenge a partnership grew between Parks and the MHC. During Jim’s tenure, the departments worked together on the rehabilitation of Two Rivers Mansion for events use and the Croft House as a part of the Nashville Zoo; creating a plan for Fort Negley and beginning its stabilization; caring for and protecting the Nashville City Cemetery; preserving and developing a master plan for the Warner Parks; finding a use for Sunnyside in Sevier Park; and, the biggest project of all, the rehabilitation of the Parthenon.

All of these projects presented challenges that required creativity and collaboration; none were “normal” government projects. Through it all, Jim, Parks’ and MHC staff made decisions together. The friendship between the two departments came from Jim’s respect for the MHC’s work, beginning with Parks providing office space and support for the MHC’s first executive director. We are forever grateful to our friend, Jim Fyke.

## **BELMONT MANSION ASSOCIATION COMMISSIONERS’ AWARD**

The Belmont Mansion Association is the non-profit organization in charge of repairing, restoring, researching, and furnishing Belmont Mansion. Although the mansion has always served as a focal point for the series of academic institutions that have operated on the property since 1890, maintenance of the site has not always held top priority. Concerned by the increasing deterioration of the mansion, in 1971 Dr. Albert W. Wardin, Jr., a history professor at Belmont College, advocated for listing the Belmont Mansion in the National Register of Historic Places. The following year a group of professors and students from the college formed the Historic Belmont Association with the mission of renovating and furnishing the mansion. The college students formed a Student Auxiliary in 1973, with Dr. Wardin serving as one of the first faculty advisors. The auxiliary provided support for “Christmas at Belmont,” a program which started in 1974 and continues today, as well as guide service and restoration work. In July 1976, the mansion was first opened to the public on a limited basis with Mark Brown, then the student auxiliary president, conducting the first visitors through a small number of rooms. The association hired its first full-time director in 1981, and in 1986, Mark Brown returned to Belmont Mansion as director.

The Belmont Mansion Association is one of the pioneers of historic preservation in the Nashville community. Since its organization, Belmont Mansion Association has taken on the challenges of collecting and maintaining all interior furnishings, restoring the mansion, and interpreting the mansion, Adelia Acklen and her family, and life in the 19th century to the general public. It has grown from an organization with no budget and an incomplete endowment, to the steward of an award-winning historic house museum and beloved event venue. The group raises awareness and funds through memberships, tours, donations, venue rentals, and various events, including the annual “Christmas at Belmont” and the Tennessee Decorative Arts Symposium, a standout program in the southeast.

For any notable historic house museum, research, restoration, and education projects are constant endeavors, and the mansion continues to make great strides. Ongoing restoration of the house continues to lead to new findings through targeted research (and happenstance) as well as discoveries revealed through the restoration process. Every new discovery moves the mansion one step forward in accurately interpreting the historic house, its furnishings, artwork, and statuary in the Victorian era. Additionally, partnership with Belmont University, which made an agreement long ago to assist with exterior restorations of the building, has also helped to maintain and interpret the Belmont estate, including the recent restoration of 14 garden statues.