



*50<sup>th</sup> Annual*

METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**PRESERVATION AWARDS**



Designed by the architecture firm Asmus and Clark and completed in 1925, the Classical Revival-style building was constructed for the Nashville Scottish Rite. The Free and Accepted Masons purchased the building in 1937. The four-story building is notable for the Greek Ionic engaged columns along the west side of the building and the Ionic pilasters on the south side.

# *Program*

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

4:30 p.m.

The Grand Lodge of Tennessee  
Free and Accepted Masons

## **WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

Laura Rost

Vice Chair, Metropolitan Historical Commission

Caroline Eller

Executive Director, Metropolitan Historical Commission

Mayor Freddie O'Connell

Metropolitan Government of Nashville & Davidson County

## **ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION AWARDS**

### **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Zada Law

### **FLETCH COKE AWARD**

Phil Claiborne

### **COMMISSIONERS' AWARD**

Jefferson Street Historical Society

### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Nashville Historical Foundation  
Preserve Nashville

Reception to Follow



## *Nominations*

### **Residential**

1228 6th Avenue North  
2112 19th Avenue South  
1710 Beechwood Avenue  
2600 Belmont Boulevard  
1102 Caruthers Avenue  
2306 Golf Club Lane  
1070 Granbery Park Drive  
2101 Grantland Avenue  
1006 Halcyon Avenue  
1717 Linden Avenue  
2104 Natchez Trace  
1110 Russell Street  
4500 Shys Hill Road

### **Educational / Institutional**

Belle Vue I Cabin  
694 Colice Jeanne Road  
  
The Parthenon Tunnel  
2500 West End Avenue  
  
Two Rivers Mansion  
3130 McGavock Pike

### **Religious**

Christ Church Cathedral  
900 Broadway  
  
Hopewell Missionary  
Baptist Church  
908 Monroe Street

### **Commercial**

Berger Building  
164 Rosa L. Parks Boulevard  
  
Darkhorse Theater  
4610 Charlotte Avenue  
  
Ernest Tubb Record Shop  
417 Broadway  
  
1600 Woodland Street

### **Infill**

1706 Beechwood Avenue  
1004 Halcyon Avenue  
280 Harding Place

## *Achievement Award*

**Zada Law** is an archaeologist and preservation leader whose work has significantly advanced the understanding and protection of Nashville's historical and archaeological resources. As Director of the Fullerton Laboratory for Spatial Studies at Middle Tennessee State University, she specializes in Geographic Information Science, applying geospatial analysis, mapping, and archaeological research to cultural resource management.

Law has been a driving force in the preservation and interpretation of the Nashville City Cemetery, where her research in archaeology, geophysics, and spatial analysis has guided ongoing stewardship of one of the city's most important historical landscapes. She has helped shape the Nashville City Cemetery Association into a leading advocate for the site and was instrumental in establishing and organizing its annual Memorial Day Dash, which has become a key public engagement event. Her work also extends to Fort Negley and other sites across Davidson County, including a current effort to document historic stone walls. Through research, public engagement, and community collaboration, Law continues to strengthen awareness and appreciation of Nashville's archaeology and history.

## *Fletcher Coke Award*

**Phil Claiborne** has been a dedicated advocate for the preservation of Nashville's historical sites, particularly in the Donelson-Hermitage area. A longtime educator, National Guard veteran, and former Metro Council member, Claiborne founded Friends of Two Rivers Mansion in 2010 to support the protection, restoration, and interpretation of one of the city's most significant historical properties. Under his leadership, the organization expanded its mission to include the Buchanan-Harding (1802) House and the historic Stone Hall and Eversong site, evolving into the Friends of Two Rivers and strengthening stewardship of these important resources.

During his two terms on the Metro Council from 2007 to 2015, Claiborne was a consistent supporter of historic preservation, advocating for the protection of cultural resources and investment in historical sites across Davidson County. Friends of Two Rivers received the Commissioners' Award in 2016, reflecting the impact of their work. Claiborne continues to serve in an emeritus role and remains an active supporter of preservation efforts across the city, including long-standing advocacy for the Metropolitan Historical Commission. In addition to his preservation work, he is also an artist, creating pieces that document historical places throughout the region and further contribute to the appreciation of local history.

## *Commissioners' Award*

**The Jefferson Street Historical Society** was founded by Monchiere' Holmes-Jones and a group of Historic Jefferson Street business leaders and community members. The group is dedicated to preserving and promoting one of Nashville's most culturally significant corridors. The organization works to amplify the history of Jefferson Street, long known for its vibrant Black-owned businesses, music heritage, and strong sense of community, while supporting its continued revitalization.

Through initiatives focused on beautification, safety, and cultural interpretation, the group has advanced efforts to enhance the public realm and strengthen connections to the area's past. Ongoing projects include streetscape improvements, development of self-guided walking tours, and advocacy for recognition as an arts and cultural district. Central to their mission is the preservation of historical landmarks, signage, and murals that reflect Jefferson Street's legacy. By combining preservation with economic and cultural development, the Jefferson Street Historical Society has created a model for community-led stewardship that ensures the history of Jefferson Street remains visible, valued, and actively shared.

## *Judges*

**Mina Johnson**, a native of Tokyo, Japan, is a civic leader whose work has focused on balancing growth with the preservation of Nashville's historical character. Elected in 2015 as the first female immigrant to serve on the Metro Council, she advanced initiatives related to homelessness, gender equality, environmental stewardship, and thoughtful city planning, while also supporting efforts to protect historical resources. Following her term, Johnson continued her public service through appointments to the Planning Commission and the Metro Historic Zoning Commission, where she contributed to the protection of Nashville's architectural heritage. She currently serves on the Board of Zoning Appeals, Sister Cities of Nashville, Abe's Garden Community, and the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition Tennessee Advisory Committee, and remains an active advocate for preserving the history and character of the city's neighborhoods.

**Sydney Schoof** is a Senior Architectural Historian at Richard Grubb & Associates, where she works on a range of preservation projects across the country. She holds both a Bachelor's degree in Historic Preservation and History of Art and Architecture and a Master's degree in Historic Preservation from Roger Williams University in Rhode Island. Her work spans 14 states and includes projects related to federal environmental compliance, cultural resource surveys, and nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. Based in Nashville since 2016, Schoof has contributed to numerous preservation efforts in the region and has presented her work at multiple conferences of the Southeast Society of Architectural Historians. Her experience reflects a strong commitment to research, documentation, and the thoughtful evaluation of historical resources.

**Jonny Wagenman** is a Nashville-based real estate professional, Managing Partner at Mission Development, and affiliate broker with Mission Real Estate, where he works on a range of mixed-use, infill, and adaptive reuse projects throughout Middle Tennessee. Since 2016, his work has frequently engaged with historic contexts and required coordination with the Metro Historic Zoning Commission, reflecting a strong commitment to thoughtful development that respects Nashville's historical fabric. Wagenman brings both professional and hands-on experience in preservation, including the renovation of early twentieth-century homes and context-sensitive infill in historic districts. He currently serves as Treasurer of Preserve Nashville, supporting advocacy and education efforts across the city. A resident of East Nashville, he lives in a 1926 bungalow with his family, reflecting his personal investment in the preservation of Nashville's historic neighborhoods.

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Davidson County Historian, Ex Officio

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**PRESERVE  
NASHVILLE**  
PROTECT THE PAST. SHAPE THE FUTURE.



**NASHVILLE**  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



**METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
SUNNYSIDE IN SEVIER PARK  
1113 KIRKWOOD AVENUE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37204  
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