



Florida Trust for Historic Preservation  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Florida Trust for Historic Preservation Announces 2017 Historic Preservation Awards at the Florida Preservation Conference**

**St. Petersburg, May 19, 2017** – The Florida Trust for Historic Preservation announces its 2017 Preservation Awards during the 39<sup>th</sup> annual Preservation Conference, *Preservation Reinvented for Art & Enterprise*.

Nominations were made by the public with award recipients selected by a seven-member jury. Preservationists and projects from around the state were awarded in nine categories: Restoration/Rehabilitation, Adaptive Use, Infill Design, Green Buildings, Archaeology, Historic Landscape, Preservation Education/Media, Organizational Achievement, Master Craftsman and Individual Distinguished Service. Additionally, the Board of Trustees granted its two major awards—The Carl Weinhardt Award and the Evelyn Fortune Bartlett Award.

The complete list of awards winners and a brief description of each follows.

**RESTORATION / REHABILITATION CATEGORY**

**Outstanding Achievement: Hotel Ponce de Leon, St. Augustine**

The Hotel Ponce de Leon was substantially completed in May of 1887, opened in January 1888, and considered at the time the most magnificent resort in the world. Following an 80-year reign, the building closed in 1967, a Gilded Age relic. In 1968, the former hotel became the centerpiece of the newly-founded Flagler College and began a new chapter, growing and developing in tandem with the national historic preservation movement. In preparation for St. Augustine's 450th anniversary and the Spanish royal visit in 2015, the Ponce witnessed exterior restoration and conservation. This included hand cleaning the coquina concrete walls and brick details, recasting ornamental terra





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cotta and repairing windows and doors. The elaborately-adorned, curved dining hall wings resplendent with their Tiffany stained glass windows set in a carved wood framework was painstakingly repaired and rebuilt.

### **Outstanding Achievement: George Adderley House, Key West**

The George Adderley House is a rare example of early 20th century masonry vernacular architecture in the Florida Keys outside of Key West. The building's tabby-like walls and hip roof are more the typical of the architecture of the Bahamas, George Adderley's birthplace and childhood home. The house is significant for its Bahamian characteristics, which are unusual in the middle keys, and as an example of how black Bahamian immigrants adapted to Key Vaca's isolated environment."



In 1992, the Florida Keys Land and Sea Trust began a restoration of the George Adderley House at the Crane Point Hammock, often called Adderley Town. His house is the only remaining Adderley Town Structure. Previous repairs dating to the 1950s and 1960s were removed, which took the exterior walls down to their unfinished state. These were then built back, taking care to protect original fabric, including preservation of intact conch shells. The lime plaster finishes were installed to match the photographic evidence of similar Bahamian tabby structures, as well as on site physical evidence. The end result is an accurate restoration of this valuable, rare, vernacular tabby structure.

### **Outstanding Achievement: Miami Dade County Courthouse Restoration, Miami Dade**

Constructed in 1928 and placed on the National Register of Historical Places in 1989, the historic Dade County Courthouse underwent a \$20 million facade and plaza restoration from 2013 to 2016. The restoration program began in 2007 with a comprehensive survey of the building, which led to various restoration schemes, project budgeting and a final restoration design.

The final restoration included replacement of over 7,000 terra cotta units, installation of new structural supports for the cladding, repair to the replica replacement windows, cleaning and repairs to the historic plaza, roof replacement and new exterior building lighting. The restoration of the exterior of the Courthouse exemplifies how modern techniques and old world hand craftsmanship came together to restore one of Miami's true iconic structures. The resulting project has





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beautifully restored the exterior of this building and also started the revitalization at the west end of Flagler Street in downtown Miami.

### **Meritorious Achievement: Government House Rehabilitation, St. Augustine**

In 2011, the University of Florida Historic St. Augustine Inc. started a multi-phased rehabilitation of Government House, a 1935 U.S. Post Office and Customs House with a long history tracing its roots to 1598 as the site of headquarters for the Spanish Governor of Florida. With partial funding from the Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, State of Florida, the project was completed over five years at a cost approaching six million dollars.



The project preserved the building, restored many historical elements, became code compliant, and modernized its infrastructure while creating flexible spaces for academic and public education uses. The building was repaired and preserved to a state befitting its location in the National Historic Landmark St. Augustine Town Plan Historic District, with all work completed while the building remained open and occupied. The building is visited by 250 people/day plus millions more who walk past its prominent location.

### **Meritorious Achievement: Casa Marius, Palm Beach**

This landmark Palm Beach house designed by Maurice Fatio in 1928 for a New York banker was purchased in 2013 by Mr. and Mrs. Marion Antonini to be used as a year round residence. Smith Architectural Group renovated the house with landscaping by Nievera Williams Landscape Architecture. Susan Zises Green Interior Design and Decoration created the interiors and Wildes Builders was the contractor. The renovation included all new impact rated windows and doors and the structural reinforcement required for the new units. A new electrical system, generator, elevator, plumbing fixtures, roof and exterior decorative lighting were added.



A completely new kitchen of enameled metal and polished nickel with integrated appliances was fabricated in Florence Italy and assembled on site. The landscaping included a herringbone brick and coquina stone driveway, a lowered exterior site wall, the addition of a privacy berm, a new



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pool and fountains in the courtyard and completely new landscaping with a lush lawn at the courtyard.

### **Honorable Mention: Keys Energy Services' Service Building, Key West**

This renovation returned the midcentury modern aesthetic of the KEYS' Service Building to its 1950s appearance and details. The project blends the renovated historic façade with a modernized interior that better serves the needs of a 21st century utility, while respecting the historic spatial relationships and circulation patterns of the historic building.



This effort has made a major impact in Key West. A building that was once underappreciated is now the crown jewel of the historic Key West Bight area. Much to the Utility Board's credit, their decision to proceed with this rehabilitation in lieu of demolition and new construction has brought attention to the existence and importance of Mid-century Modern Architecture within Key West's historic district. The success of this project has facilitated a conversation within the community about the importance of saving these structures as significant to interpreting the historic development of Key West.

### **ADAPTIVE USE CATEGORY**

### **Outstanding Achievement: Historic Hampton House, Miami Dade**

When Gurri Matute's team started design restoration efforts in 2007, the building was in complete disrepair after having been neglected and abandoned for 20 years. The Hampton House was once an illustrious motel and vacation spot for affluent African-American families visiting Miami during the 1950's and 1960's civil rights era. The motel was frequented by Muhammad Ali, as well as prominent African American activists, such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X, who would gather at the Hampton House and hold meetings.

Using historic photographs and other media, oral histories and original artifacts from the site, the team restored the building to its original glory. The concept and design approach was to revive the motel's "spirit" and restore the architectural features and critical spaces essential to the life and soul of the motel and re-establish the Hampton House as a community cultural center for the Miami-Brownsville community.



HISTORIC LOBBY



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### **Outstanding Achievement: Tampa Federal Courthouse as Le Meridian Hotel, Tampa**

After 15 years of vacancy, the 1904 Historic Federal Courthouse has been preserved and transformed by Tampa Hotel Partners, LLC into Le Meridian Tampa. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places and designated as a City of Tampa Historic Landmark, this stunning Greek Revival building had served as a customs house, postal station and Federal Courthouse until the late 1980s. Rehabilitation included the preservation and restoration of original corridors and decorative interior architectural features, thoughtful placement of 130 new guestrooms and careful



threading of new HVAC, plumbing and electrical service to accommodate the adaptive use as a boutique hotel. A \$30 million project, Le Meridian Tampa is an exemplary rehabilitation, completed in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The project was approved to receive the Federal Historic Tax Credit.

### **Honorable Mention: Oesterreicher-McCormick Cabin, Palm Valley**

Built in 1873 on Twenty Mile in Palm Valley, the Oesterreicher-McCormick Cabin is one of the area's oldest examples of Florida Cracker architecture. Under threat of destruction to make way for a development, the Cabin was identified by the Beaches Museum & History Park not only for its historic significance, but for its potential as a support building within the History Park.



The cabin was donated to the Museum and a very successful capital campaign to provide for restoration ensued. Great care was taken to preserve as much of the craftsmanship and original features of the cabin as possible while bringing it up to modern-day building codes and requirements. Opened to visitors in November, 2016, the cabin has proved to be not only an ADA compliant gathering area, but also a fascinating glimpse into pioneer life in Florida for visitors, school groups and the community.



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## **GREEN BUILDINGS CATEORY**

### **Outstanding Achievement: Call-Collins House at the Grove, Tallahassee**

The success of this project was made possible by a team effort through the Florida Department of State Division of Historical Resources, including the Florida Department of Management Services, MLD Architects and Allstate Construction. This project was recognized for restoring the house built in 1839 by utilizing state of the art preservation and restoration best practices to both preserve and restore historic materials, and incorporate sustainable design for accessibility and a modern infrastructure system.



The project is seeking LEED certification in several categories while promoting the concept that sustainability of an historic site begins with its ability to engage its community. The Call-Collins House is not only significant for its long-standing association with the political history of Florida but also because of its past and future legacy of a commitment to serve, teach, inspire and support both current and future generations to come. The mansion also served as the unofficial executive residence and Florida Governor's Mansion during LeRoy Collins' tenure as governor from 1955 to 1957.

## **ARCHAEOLOGY CATEGORY**

### **Meritorious Achievement: St. Augustine--America's Enduring Colony, St. Augustine**

St. Augustine exhibits a rich history of colonial development. This is especially evident in the archaeological record such as artifacts, soil deposits and features buried over centuries of occupation and urbanization. Until now there have only been scant and temporary exhibitions illustrating the city's evolution, which also provides free and public access to this information. Last year the city worked with grant funds from the Division of Historical Resources to design a permanent exhibit in the St. Augustine Visitor Information Center. Subsequently the city funded the installation, which was completed in December 2016. Much of the information provided in this exhibit was obtained through the city's 30-year municipal archaeological program and therefore an important public resource.





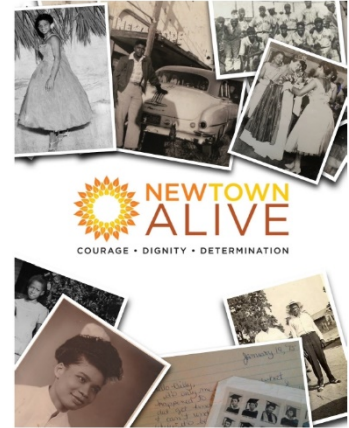
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## **PRESERVATION EDUCATION / MEDIA CATEGORY**

### **Outstanding Achievement: Newtown Conservation Historic District, Sarasota**

Throughout the country, communities are rediscovering the benefit of showcasing and leveraging local history. Over an eighteen month period, the Newtown Conservation Historic District team, with the support of a City of Sarasota appointed task force team, has identified historic treasures of the African American community known as Newtown. More than 200 source documents about the African American community and 150 historic structures were used to establish conservation zones and potential historic districts.

Over 40 oral history interviews support the information found in documents, archival photographs and recordings. Established as Newtown Alive, the Newton team promoted the study by publishing report findings and placing 15 interpretive historical markers throughout the community. The project meets economic development priorities through promotion of heritage tourism and historic site visitation, and is expected to increase the number of people coming into the area resulting in increased financial prosperity, revitalization and growth.



### **Meritorious Achievement: Tidally United Summit Video Series**

Historical resources in Florida are in danger from impacts of climate change including increased storm surge and sea level rise. As of 2013, the State of Florida roughly estimated 16,015 historical resources to be impacted by a one-meter rise in sea level with numbers reaching 34,786 given a two-meter rise scenario. Of these, 2,908 are archaeological sites (or 3,985 in the two-meter scenario).

Additionally, 630 historic cemeteries are estimated to be at risk from storm surge. More information is needed to identify and manage these threats on cultural resources, and more awareness of the issue is needed to increase public engagement and funding of studies towards Florida's sites at risk. As a result, the Florida Public Archaeology Network's Northeast Regional Center, hosted by Flagler College, helped organize and facilitate the inaugural Tidally United: Cultural Resources Shoreline Monitoring and Public Engagement Summit on August 5-6, 2016 in St. Augustine.





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### **Honorable Mention: *Hotel Ponce de Leon—The Rise, Fall and Rebirth of Flagler’s Gilded Age Palace***

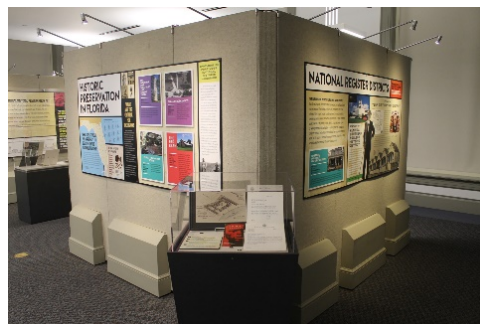
In 1966 the National Historic Preservation Act was adopted, and in 1968, Flagler College was founded, in part, as a means to ensure preservation of the Hotel Ponce de Leon in St. Augustine. The development of a national preservation framework operated in tandem with restoration, rehabilitation and conservation efforts for one of Florida’s most iconic landmarks. Hotel Ponce de Leon is the first work to present the building’s complete history and details its transformation into the heart of Flagler College.

Leslee Keys, who assisted in the restoration, recounts the complicated construction of the hotel—the first major structure to be built entirely of poured concrete—and the efforts to preserve it and restore it to its former glory. The methods used at Flagler College have been recognized as best practices in historic preservation and decorative arts conservation, and today the campus is one of Florida’s most visited heritage tourism destinations.



### **Honorable Mention: Irreplaceable Heritage, Tallahassee**

Historic preservation and interpretation are key components of the Florida Historic Capitol Museum’s mission to educate the public and welcome visitors to one of Florida’s most iconic preservation projects. The passage of the National Historic Preservation Act led to the creation and implementation of federal and statewide programs that, along with outstanding public support statewide, enabled the building to be saved from total demolition and restored in the 1970s to its 1902 state. To commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Historic Preservation Act, the Museum curated Irreplaceable Heritage: Florida and the Preservation Act at 50. This special exhibition and programming series outlined the history and impact of the Act in Florida; highlighted the diversity of Florida’s special places, people, and stories; and engaged thousands of visitors of all ages with experiential learning opportunities including the colorful and family-friendly “Historic Preservation Office” with building, design, research, and restoration and rehabilitation activities.



### **Honorable Mention: St. Augustine Heritage Markers, St. Augustine**

St. Augustine’s historic landscape reveals its significant heritage through its authentic Spanish Colonial buildings and buildings individually listed in the National Register. Estimates report there are over 6 million visitors to St. Augustine annually and interpreting the authenticity of structures that contribute to this landscape is an important component of a heritage tourism program. During 2016, historic markers were placed on select Colonial buildings and buildings





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individually listed in the National Register. Some buildings meeting these criteria had existing markers denoting the name and build date of the structure and most had no identification at all.

Because of design requirements in the historic district, infill development is required to characterize Spanish or British Colonial architecture making it difficult for some visitors to distinguish genuine historic buildings from modern construction and the markers help make that possible, which also speaks to how the City strives to preserve the overall continuity of the historic landscape.



## **ORGANIZATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT CATEGORY**

### **Outstanding Achievement: Hillsborough County Economic Development Department**

Initiated in 2012, the Hillsborough County Historic Preservation Challenge Grant Program promotes the preservation of historic commercial and special/mixed-use buildings, archeological sites, and heritage tourism in Hillsborough County (both incorporated and unincorporated areas).

Many of the building awards are to seal the building envelope (weatherization and energy efficiency) and to achieve an adaptive reuse. Available grant funds are awarded competitively on a minimum 1:1 matching basis with at least 50 percent of the match being an applicant's cash or in-kind. The maximum award is \$250,000 per applicant, per project in the County budget year. Nonprofits and private individuals and entities are eligible. The Citizens Review Committee has reviewed over 80 applications for over \$5.7 million in awards and helped groups like the Tampa Bay History Center, Ybor City Chamber of Commerce, Temple Terrace Preservation Society and more. The current approved annual budget is \$1 million.



### **Meritorious Achievement: Cape San Blas Lighthouse & Keeper's Quarters, Cape San Blas**

The Cape San Blas Lighthouse was built more than 130 years ago. It was designed to guide vessels around the shoals running out from the Cape using the sole beacon that could be seen for up to 10 miles offshore. The structure survived attacks by Union Troops in 1862 and many blows from storms, winds and high surf throughout the years. The lighthouse closed temporarily in 2012 and in 2014 began its relocation and restoration.



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Placed on the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation's Endangered Site list in 2013, the Cape San Blas Lighthouse has received broad based community support. While the relocation of the structures has provided a safe and secure environment, MLD Architects has continued to provide architectural services to make further improvements to these historical pieces. The city of Port St. Joe has invested resources in order to preserve this piece of maritime history for generations to come.



### **Meritorious Achievement: Key West Woman's Club-Hellings House Museum, Key West**

Located in the heart of Old Town Key West, the Key West Woman's Club is a local landmark. The building is well constructed and striking. The brick mansion is a significant component of the district, as it is one of the few residential structures in Key West that is not of wood construction. The structure compliments the communities more prominent structures such as the Custom House and Old City Hall.



The red brick structure was once home to Captain Martin and Eleanor Hellings, today serves as home to the Key West Woman's Club. Eleanor was the 6th child of 9 born to William and Euphemia Curry, one of the foremost merchants of Key West and Florida's first millionaire. Eleanor married Captain Martin Hellings in 1881. Captain Hellings held a position with Western Union that brought him to Key West as underwater cable operations manager for International Ocean Telegraph Inc. Captain Martin Hellings' telegraphy work held a key role during the Spanish American War and the sinking of the USS Maine.

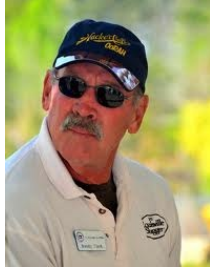
Members of the Key West Woman's Club have worked diligently over the past four years to address severe emergency structural issues affecting the building. Through their efforts, they have saved this structure from potential condemnation. Most importantly, in addition to addressing these structural problems they have enhanced the interior of the building for the both the enjoyment of the public by creating the Hellings House Museum (first floor) in 2012 and redesigned existing unused space on the second floor to create two luxury rental apartments assuring economic self-sufficiency allowing for better maintenance for this historic building.



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**MASTER CRAFTSMAN AWARD**

**Mr. Randy Clark**  
**Geneva, Florida**



**INDIVIDUAL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

**Mr. Lonnie Mann**  
**Tallahassee, Florida**



**CARL WEINHARDT AWARD**

**Dr. Dorothy Fields, Ph.D.**  
**Miami, Florida**



**EVELYN FORTUNE BARTLETT AWARD**

**Ms. Jodi Michelle Rubin**  
**Orlando, Florida**





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**About the Florida Trust**

The Florida Trust for Historic Preservation is the state's non-profit dedicated to protecting Florida's extraordinary heritage and history. Founded in 1978, the Florida Trust has collaborated to save irreplaceable Florida treasures like the Historic Florida Capitol and is a statewide partner of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Learn more at [www.FloridaTrust.org](http://www.FloridaTrust.org) and follow on Twitter: @FloridaTrustHP.