

MLA E-Newsletter May 2010

Hello Everyone,

We are pleased to give you another e-news blast and we are encouraging you to attend the lighthouse conference discussed in news item 4 below. Please register ASAP as the conference is less than a month away.

Table of Contents:

1. \$14 Million in Save America's Treasures Grants Available Applications Due May 21
2. EPA Tightens New Lead Law
3. Deadlines for the 2010 grants from the National Trust for Historic Preservation are approaching on June 1st!
4. GREAT LAKES LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION CONFERENCE FAST APPROACHING

1. \$14 Million in Save America's Treasures Grants Available Applications Due May 21:

WASHINGTON - Applications for the National Park Service's Save America's Treasures (SAT) grants are due May 21, 2010, at 11:59 p.m. EST.

The SAT program awards competitive, matching grants to federal, state, local, and tribal government entities, and nonprofit organizations for preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant historic properties and collections. Applications and more information are available on the NPS website at <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures/index.htm>. "The Save America's Treasures program is one of the largest and most successful grant programs for the protection of our nation's endangered and irreplaceable cultural heritage," said National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis. "Since 1999, we have awarded over 1,000 grants totaling more than \$290 million to preserve significant artifacts, documents, and buildings in every state in the nation. These funds attracted another \$377 million to support preservation efforts - and created an estimated 16,000 jobs in local areas."

SAT is administered in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, and the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers.

SAT is one component of the National Park Service's historic preservation mission that extends beyond national parks into helping communities protect important local history. Last year, the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), of which SAT is a part, funded 98 projects to conserve bricks and mortar in 38 states, and granted \$46.5 million to state historic preservation offices and \$7 million to tribal historic preservation offices. Check out the HPF 2009 annual report online at <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg/index.htm> which highlights a number of success stories including:

. Galveston, Texas - a \$250,000 SAT grant helped repair the hurricane damaged home of the Galveston Arts Center and spurred more than \$1.5 million in private support and created 50 jobs

. Kalamazoo, Michigan - an NPS Certified Local Government grant to the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office helped the Michigan Historic Preservation Network and the City of Kalamazoo combat the loss of the city's historic architecture and train unemployed and underemployed contractors in the rehabilitation of historic wood windows.

Also in 2009, the National Park Service added 1,100 new listings to its National Register of Historic Places, added 55 Certified Local Governments as partners in the federal historic preservation program, documented 979 buildings and structures, and approved federal tax credits that leveraged nearly \$5 billion in private investment in historic preservation.

"Throughout the country," Jarvis said, "these programs are helping revitalize communities by promoting heritage tourism and helping turn under-utilized and often vacant historic buildings into revenue generators for local economies. We are honored to be invited into so many communities and proud to be a part of a solution that saves and shares our history."

For information about other National Park Service preservation, conservation, and recreation assistance programs available to communities, please visit <http://www.nps.gov/communities/index.htm>.

Contact Information

David Barna | 202-208-6843

2. EPA Tightens New Lead Law:

Source: http://www.paintsquare.com/news/article_news.cfm?id=3745&nl_versionid=443&trackid=7313172

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has tightened its brand-new lead-safe law by eliminating a loophole that had allowed residential contractors to opt out of the requirements with the homeowner's consent. The EPA's "Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting" (RRP) rule took effect on Thursday, April 22, after a two-year implementation period.

The rule requires lead-safe certification of contractors and renovation firms that disturb a specified amount of paint in pre-1978 homes, schools and day-care centers. Contractors must also provide owners and tenants of those facilities with an EPA lead hazard pamphlet.

The rule was implemented with the opt-out provision unresolved. The provision would have exempted a contractor from compliance if he or she notified the homeowner about the rule, and the homeowner then agreed to sign a waiver for the contractor. Critics, who include trade associations and retailers, said that eliminating the option would make an already-broad rule even broader, hitting even the smallest contractor with red tape and fees.

On Friday, April 23, however, the EPA announced that it was eliminating the provision; homeowners may not allow a contractor to opt out of full-scale compliance.

Thursday's implementation came two years after the rule received final approval and six weeks after a challenge by a dozen retailers and trade associations. The critics contended that contractors had not had sufficient time or training opportunities to prepare and that another federal program in the works would require similar training. Eliminating the opt-out angered critics further.

Seven states have adopted their own RRP programs in lieu of the federal program. They are Kansas, Rhode Island, Utah, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Iowa and North Carolina.

Contractors will have an opportunity to personally question EPA about the rule in a free webinar April 29 sponsored by PWC: Painting & Wallcovering Contractor Magazine. Mark Henshall of the EPA will present an overview of the rule and take questions from participants. Visit www.pwc-magazine.com/webinars to register. A second free webinar, to be held June 24, will focus on compliance and enforcement.

Note: Contractors and training providers working in Utah, Wisconsin, Iowa, North Carolina Mississippi, Kansas and Rhode Island must contact the state to find out more about its training and certification requirements. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/lead.

3. Deadlines for the 2010 grants from the National Trust for Historic Preservation are approaching on June 1st!:

We have the following matching grant programs available for projects in Michigan. Please note that these funds are for planning grants. The costs associated with actual "bricks and mortar" restoration of a structure would not be fundable. Applicants must be non-profit organizations or public agencies to qualify for our grants programs. Applicants for the Jeffris Heartland Fund are competing with a regional pool of applications, while competition for the Michigan Fund is limited to other projects within Michigan only.

If you are interested in applying for one of our grants, **now is the time to contact the Midwest Office or our statewide Partner, the Michigan Historic Preservation Network, to discuss your potential project and obtain assistance with the application process.** We strongly encourage applicants to work with one of our offices and submit drafts of applications for review and comment in advance of the deadline.

The Michigan Preservation Fund • Established through the leadership of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network and the National Trust Midwest Office, this fund enables preservationists to rescue historic resources in jeopardy and empowers local communities to plan and utilize their historic resources. Typical uses include professional services that can demonstrate the viability of the site, including architectural, engineering, feasibility, and fundraising studies. Grants can also be used for education and capacity building including workshops, publications, and design guidelines; and for preservation emergencies where emergency professional training is needed or interventions are required. The Fund can be used for planning grants only; the

costs associated with actual restoration of a structure would not be fundable. Grants will range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The Michigan Preservation Fund uses the Preservation Fund application form, eligibility requirements, and application deadlines of February 1, and June 1, and October 1. *The next application deadline is June 1, 2010.*

Jeffris Heartland Fund • Established by the Jeffris Family Foundation to support the development of important historic preservation projects in the states of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Ohio. The fund makes grants in the range of \$5,000 to \$50,000 for Historic Structure Reports and other advanced planning studies. Funds must be matched dollar-for-dollar with cash from sources unrelated to the National Trust and the Jeffris Family Foundation. Established 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations or government agencies in partnership with a 501(c)(3) organization are eligible to apply. Applicants must be able to demonstrate the viability of their project through the submittal of early planning studies, and must be ready for the preparation of a Historic Structure Report, or other advanced planning studies, leading toward a community-centered capital fund drive. Please see the *Jeffris Heartland Fund Criteria for Project Selection* for more details on eligibility requirements, available at www.preservationnation.org/about-us/regional-offices/midwest/. *The next application deadline is June 1, 2010.*

Feel free to contact the Michigan Historic Preservation Network or NTHP Program Officer, Genell Scheurell, if you have any questions or require additional information about our grants. They would be happy to discuss potential projects with you.

Michigan Historic Preservation Network

Phone: 517.371.8080

Email: info@mhpn.org

Genell Scheurell

Senior Program Officer, Midwest Office

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Phone: 312-939-5547, Ext. 37223

Email: genell_scheurell@nthp.org

4. GREAT LAKES LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION CONFERENCE FAST APPROACHING:

The Michigan Lighthouse Alliance Will Host a Lighthouse Restoration and Preservation Conference in Traverse City, MI, June 14-17, Where Government Officials Will Make Announcements of Newly Available Lighthouses.

Contact: Sally Frye

Telephone: 231-590-4004

e-mail: info@michiganlighthousealliance.org

The Michigan Lighthouse Alliance (MLA), an affiliation of Michigan lighthouse stewards and stakeholders, will be holding a Great Lakes Lighthouse Preservation Conference, June 14-17, 2010, in Traverse City, Michigan at the Great Lakes Maritime Academy. Conference sessions and panels will cover all aspects of owning, restoring, and preserving historic lighthouses. As this year marks the 10th anniversary of the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act, federal agencies plan to discuss new lighthouses that will become available for preservation at this event. The transfer process will be covered with panel discussions for new stewards.

Terry Pepper, Executive Director of the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association, says “with more lighthouses than any other state in the union, Michigan's love affair with lighthouses is immediately evident - and perhaps nowhere is this love demonstrated more than by those dedicated volunteer groups who step up to literally save these icons of our maritime heritage from being lost to weather, ice or just plain neglect.”

Sally Frye, Secretary/Treasurer of the MLA, notes that “the information to be presented and discussed in this conference will be invaluable to anybody involved in lighthouse preservation, considering ownership of a lighthouse, or anyone ready to take their interest in lighthouses to the next level.”

Buzz Hoerr, MLA President and head of the Harbor Beach Lighthouse Society, states: “This is an unmatched opportunity to meet with everyone connected with the lighthouse world, and not just those in Michigan. Since we have more lighthouses than any other state, this conference traditionally attracts participants and speakers from all over the US and Canada.”

Themes include hands on training sessions, museum focus groups, technical assistance, moisture control, selecting proper interior and exterior coatings, insuring Fresnel lenses, organizational development, and many more, including a full day trip to the South Manitou Island Lighthouse for classes, all included in the registration fee. For those interested in obtaining a lighthouse or those who are already involved in lighthouse preservation, this conference will be an educational must.

Speakers will represent a wide range of individuals, corporate, private business, federal and state agencies, local governments, and nonprofit organizations. The technical speaker program consists of major issues facing lighthouse organizations in their restoration and preservation efforts. Industry experts will also be giving their advice.

For more conference and hotel information and to register, please visit our web site at www.michiganlighthousealliance.org or call Sally Frye at 231-590-4004 or e-mail at info@michiganlighthousealliance.org. Space is limited, so please reserve the date and plan on attending now!

All of your comments are important to the success of the MLA. Your participation in the upcoming conference will help ensure the future success of Michigan's lighthouses. You may contact [Buzz Hoerr](#) or [Sally Frye](#) for any questions or comments on the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance. Thanks for all your help and continued support.

Buzz Hoerr,
President, MLA