FOUNDATION

SPRING 2019 NEWS

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DINNER DANCE
Polly Earl Award

On January 9th, the Polly Earl Award honored Kim and Todd Michael Glaser’s 1937 Art Moderne style residence designed by architect Belford Shoumate. Named for the Foundation’s late Executive Director Polly Earl, the award recognizes excellence in the rehabilitation of smaller-scale, landmarked properties. Such houses are integral to the character of their neighborhoods and the charm of Palm Beach’s built environment.

According to the Landmark Designation report, the home’s original avant-garde design, intended to resemble a ship, was said to have raised quite a few eyebrows when it was constructed in 1937 on North Lake Way in the quiet “north end” of Palm Beach.

With its curvilinear walls, porthole windows, and multiple decks, the building is a rare and exemplary Art Moderne work in Palm Beach. The building was Belford Shoumate’s first commission in Palm Beach after his arrival from Miami Beach where he worked for the firm of Shoeppl & Southwell.

As Miami Beach natives, the Glasers’ appreciation for the Art Moderne style is apparent in the high level of architectural integrity preserved by the project. Executive Director Amanda Skier explained, “With historic buildings, the greatest preservation successes occur when the right buyers invest in a property they understand and appreciate for what it is.”
The Elizabeth L. and John H. Schuler Award

On April 13th, the Elizabeth L. and John H. Schuler Award, honoring new architecture that is built in keeping with the traditional architectural styles of Palm Beach, was awarded to Jim Held and Ken Karakul. The homeowners were previously recognized with the 2009 Ballinger Award for the restoration of Addison Mizner’s El Castillo.

Daniel Kahan, a partner in Smith & Moore Architects, was the lead architect for the project: “In designing this house, we wanted to be quite clear and deliberate about the process, working within a style we dubbed classical modernism, and finding our inspiration in many of the wonderful European examples from the 30’s and 40’s that were on the forefront of this modernist movement, as well as in beautiful examples of classical composition.”

“In Palm Beach, the homeowners and architect looked for inspiration to Maurice Fatio’s The Reef, which won a gold medal in 1937 at the Paris Exposition for its Art Moderne design,” noted Executive Director Amanda Skier during the presentation.

In addition to its historical reference to early modern design, Skier lauded the project’s seamless integration of solar panels on the roof of the building: “Given the timeliness of our Water Rising Series this season, presenting the Schuler Award to the first home in Palm Beach to rely almost entirely on solar energy illustrates that the transition to renewable energy can be made without sacrificing lifestyle.”

The project was the second design by Kahan and Smith & Moore to be recognized for this award. The gardens were designed by landscape architect Mario Nievera of Nievera Williams Landscape Architecture. Penelope Irwin, referencing Karakul’s decorator mother Ruth Karakul, created the interiors by incorporating and adding to an existing collection of eclectic pieces. Davis General Contracting executed the plans and high level of craftsmanship.

Photos by Nickolas Sargent, Sargent Photography, courtesy Smith and Moore Architects
2019 Dinner Dance

On March 1st, magnificent trees shaded each corner of The Breakers’ Venetian Ballroom at the Preservation Foundation’s 37th Annual Dinner Dance. Mrs. Talbott Maxey and Mrs. Pauline Pitt served as Chairmen. The talented Breakers Design Studio executed the evening’s theme, The Tree of Life.

While standing on the dance floor in front of the bandstand, Mrs. Pauline Pitt remarked, “Behind me is the photo of a magnificent 200-year-old Buttonwood tree. It was the inspiration for this evening’s décor - The Tree of Life. This tree was previously located on the old Phipps property when the present owners donated it to us for our beautification project at Bradley Park. The tree was transported by barge to its new location where it stands today in its full glory for all to enjoy.”

Mrs. Talbott Maxey announced a special gift created by the event’s Corporate Benefactor David Yurman: “The beautiful Tree of Life necklaces that Evan Yurman designed and I underwrote in honor of our theme tonight are my gift to you to show how much I appreciate you and your support of the Foundation.”

In addition to the large trees gracing each corner of the ballroom, exuberant arrangements of leafy branches at each table contributed to a feeling of dining al fresco. Custom tablecloths and embroidered limited edition Stubbs & Wootton pockets inspired by a nineteenth-century French wood block-printed fabric added to the evening’s theme.

All proceeds from the dinner dance benefit the Foundation’s education programs and advocacy efforts.
Lesly S. Smith Landscape Award

On April 4th, the Preservation Foundation presented the Lesly S. Smith Landscape Award for excellence in landscape design to Leigh and John Middleton. Preserving the unique scenic quality of Palm Beach is central to the Foundation’s mission and this award acknowledges how landscapes positively impact our experience of the built environment.

Designed by Jorge Sanchez and Brian Vertesch of SMI Landscape Architecture, Inc., the gardens are located at a unique site within the town. Executive Director Amanda Skier explained, “Occupying one of the highest points in Palm Beach and featuring a 22’ change in elevation from the road to the beach, SMI Landscape Architecture’s design for the Middleton residence maximizes both the natural elevation and scenic vista of the site through elegant design solutions. Terraced gardens in the front of the property create a transition from the street and build visual interest that culminates in an unobstructed view of the coastline from the back lawn.”

In the lower garden, a pair of gazebos flanking the pool evoke traditional orchid slat houses while cleverly concealing mechanical equipment. These architectural elements allow for more garden space by incorporating necessary equipment into the landscape design.
Membership Benefits and Recognition

Membership entitles supporters of the Preservation Foundation to the following:

- Admission to lecture series, exhibitions, workshops, and receptions.
- Invitation to Schuler Award Presentation and Luncheon.
- Invitation to Smith Landscape Award Presentation and Luncheon.
- Admission to Annual Walking Tour.
- Use of Foundation archives and library resources by appointment.
- Subscriptions to the Season Profile and Foundation News.

$250 DONOR Membership benefits.

$500 PATRON (Family) Membership benefits along with invitations to the Ballinger Award Luncheon and Dinner Dance.

$1,000 SPONSOR Patron benefits along with use of Foundation property for select private events (facility fees apply) and Palm Beach house consultation.

$2,500 GUARDIAN Sponsor benefits along with archival research and writing assistance.

$5,000 PRESERVATIONIST Guardian benefits along with invitation to the Preservationist Dinner.

$10,000 DIRECTOR Preservationist benefits along with Foundation sponsored use of Rosenthal Lecture Room.

$25,000 FOUNDER Director benefits along with a Foundation sponsored private event.

The Foundation is grateful for the continued support of its members during the 2018 - 2019 season.

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Image by Capehart Photography

Approximately 1/3 of the Foundation’s annual operating budget is made possible through the support of our members. Please return the enclosed form to renew your membership for the 2019-2020 40th Anniversary season.

Contributions and gifts to special projects are much appreciated and recognized separately.

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For the 2019-2020 season, the Preservation Foundation will be commemorating two anniversaries. In November, the 25th anniversary of Pan’s Garden will inspire and remind the community of the mission of the garden: to invest in protecting and celebrating Florida’s indigenous plants and the wildlife they support.

Throughout the season, the Preservation Foundation will be celebrating its 40th anniversary with special events and programming that encompasses the past, present, and future of the organization. The Foundation is proud to foster partnerships with local and national organizations that further the impact of our mission and honor four decades of advocacy and education.

Join or renew your membership today to participate in this special 2019-2020 Season.

First Dinner Dance Chairwoman Sue Whitmore, Founder and First Chairman Earl E.T. Smith, The Honorable Lesly S. Smith, Alice Willard, and First President Le Baron Willard at the inaugural Dinner Dance in 1982.