The NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project Receives a 2019 Excellence in Historic Preservation Award

*This award from the Preservation League of NYS recognizes the best in the field of historic preservation*

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**NYC LGBT INFO**

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**(**[**images**](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ykhwbn8wi9q4tx0/AADCTEawSfrb3RWv-xVou3CEa?dl=0)**)**

**New York, NY, 04/04/19 —** The **NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project** has been named one of this year’s Excellence in Historic Preservation award winners. Along with seven other honorees, this organization represents a shining example of historic preservation done well. The League’s statewide awards program has been honoring notable achievements in retaining, promoting, and reusing New York State’s irreplaceable architectural heritage since 1984.

**The awards ceremony will take place on Wednesday, May 9, at the historic New York Yacht Club, 37 West 44th Street, New York, NY.**

**More information about the event can found at preservenys.org/2019awards**

The NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project (www.nyclgbtsites.org) is a pioneering cultural heritage initiative and educational resource that is comprehensively identifying sites connected to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history and culture in New York City. Launched in 2015 by preservation professionals, the project makes an invisible history visible by identifying extant historic LGBT locations. The project was catalyzed by funding from the National Park Service Underrepresented Community Grant Program, administered in collaboration with the New York State Historic Preservation Office, to increase diversity on the National Register of Historic Places. Based on its research, the project nominates LGBT sites to the National Register of Historic Places, curates walking tours, presents lectures, engages the community through events, and develops educational opportunities. In December 2018, they received the New York State Historic Preservation Award.

“It is wonderful to see what the NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project has been able to do to shine a light on underrepresented communities within the preservation community,” said **Preservation League President Jay DiLorenzo**. “The model that they are setting is sure to inspire similar groups within New York State and around the country.”

This organization serves as a local, state, and regional example of expanding National Register designation to include sites relating to underrepresented history. They have truly set a new standard for cultural sites and underrepresented communities. The Preservation League team is so pleased that this effort will receive statewide recognition.

Funding sources for this project included a 2014 and 2016 Underrepresented Community Grant from the National Park Service and a 2019 New York State Council on the Arts

Architecture + Design Independent Project Grant.

The NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project team includes Co-Directors **Andrew S. Dolkart**, **Ken Lustbader**, **Jay Shockley**, and Project Manager **Amanda Davis**.

2019 Awardees:

* **Graycliff Estate - Isabelle Martin House** | Derby, Erie County
* **Eastman Gardens** | Rochester, Monroe County
* **NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project** | NYC
* **Knickerbocker Club: Centennial Renewal** | New York City
* **RUPCO East End Apartments of Historic Newburgh** | Newburgh, Orange County
* **Walton & Willett Stone Store - Cahill Landing** | Oswego, Oswego County
* **The News Apartments** | Troy, Rensselaer County
* **Neumann House designed by Marcel Breuer** | Croton-on-Hudson, Westchester County

As the Preservation League honors excellence in historic preservation, they will also look toward preservation’s future with the inaugural **Zabar Family Scholarship**. Following the Excellence award presentation, three current students will receive a scholarship of $1,000 each in support of their studies in historic preservation. They are **Tabitha O’Connell** (SUNY’s University at Buffalo), **Camille Sasena** (Pratt Institute), and **Ryan Zeek** (Columbia University).

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**About the Preservation League of New York State**

Since its founding in 1974, the Preservation League has built a reputation for action and effectiveness. Our goal has been to preserve our historic buildings, districts and landscapes and to build a better New York, one community at a time. The Preservation League of New York State invests in people and projects that champion the essential role of preservation in community revitalization, sustainable economic growth and the protection of our historic buildings and landscapes. We lead advocacy, economic development and education programs across the state.

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