



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media/Photo Inquiries:

Jeannette Shupp

jeannette@restoreoregon.org

(503) 381-1288

**Restore Oregon Announces Winners of the
2022 DeMuro Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation**

Award-winning projects demonstrate restored and reused historic places spur economic growth, cultural revitalization, and sustainable development that helps reduce Oregon's carbon footprint

PORTLAND, OR--September 12, 2022--Restore Oregon has selected eleven historic projects across Oregon to receive a [2022 DeMuro Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation](#), the state's highest honor for the preservation, reuse, and revitalization of architectural and cultural sites.

This year's winners join more than 100 projects that have been recognized with [DeMuro Awards since 2013](#). Winning projects are selected by a jury of top professionals in the fields of architecture, engineering, planning, and historic preservation. "This year's DeMuro-award winning projects serve as inspiration for solving real-world challenges in communities throughout our state," said Nicole Possert, Restore Oregon's Executive Director. "Our jury from across Oregon selected the 2022 award recipients based on each project's positive impact upon its community, the ways in which each project might inspire others to save historic places, and the degree to which each project aligned with Restore Oregon's mission to preserve, reuse, and pass forward the historic places that reflect Oregon's diverse cultural heritage and make our communities inclusive, vibrant, and sustainable."

The reuse of existing buildings and materials is an effective way to curb carbon emissions and reuse projects typically save between 50 and 75 percent of the embodied carbon emissions compared to constructing a new building. Existing buildings are not only full of history, craftsmanship, and charm, but are also sustainable. "The DeMuro Awards helps Oregonians understand that preservation isn't a relic of the past with little relevance to modern life, but rather an important tool for building a future our region's cultural heritage is documented and shared in vibrant and inclusive ways, and where preservation is accepted as a

valuable tool in helping to solve challenges such as insufficient affordable housing, stalled economic development, and negative impacts from climate change.” said Possert.

Selected for extraordinary design, craftsmanship, creative problem-solving, and community impact, the 2022 DeMuro Award-winning projects are:



**Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall Sign, Marquees, and Theater
1928, Portland**

Built in 1928 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall serves as one of Portland’s iconic buildings for locals and tourists alike. Unfortunately, its iconic Portland sign and the marquees were in

need of restoration, along with an interior rehabilitation that included modernizing the historic building with a sophisticated, digital sound system. Historic theaters often face the misconception that an old building is unable to keep up with modern times and is, therefore, no longer viable. The Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall rehabilitation is an excellent example of proof that it is possible for a historic theater to remain relevant by embracing new technologies in a manner that does not compromise the beauty and integrity.



**Domaine Serene Wine Lounge Bend
1917, Bend**

Originally built in 1917 as one of the largest commercial buildings in Bend, the Spheir Building was viewed as “upscale and urban” at the time. Today it has been restored to its original beauty to house the Domaine Serene Wine Lounge Bend. Looking back at its upscale roots, the

project highlights the building's historic elements, employs outstanding craftsmanship, and pays careful attention to reusing materials—saving a 100 year-old building for the next generation.



Loyal Legion, (Bank of Beaverton Building)

1923, Beaverton

Built in 1923 and listed as a contributing structure to Beaverton's National Register Historic District, the Bank of Beaverton building sits in the heart of the city's commercial district. Its reuse not only breathes new life into one of Beaverton's

historic sites, it celebrates an architectural gem and embodies a significant period in Beaverton's development as a city. Since 2017, the city has proactively worked to create Restaurant Row in Downtown and Loyal Legion now serves as one successful mainstay alongside 40 restaurants. As part of this strategy, the Beaverton Urban Redevelopment Agency (BURA) purchased the building and re-sold it to Henry Point Development, who engaged Chef's Table Group to bring Loyal Legion to this now-revived space. Over the course of its renovation, the project used grant funds provided by the city's Storefront and Tenant Improvement grant programs. This project exemplifies the successful re-use of Oregon's commercial districts and main streets.



Mildred Hall

1916, Portland

Originally built as a church in 1916, Mildred Hall was known as the Norwegian Danish Congregational Church. Preserving the historic elements, while modernizing the building in an appropriate and thoughtful manner, the owners vision and hard work made a significant impact to neighborhood preservation. Mildred Hall is

an example of how rehabilitation and reuse is one of the "greenest" ways to build. Now serving as an event space, Mildred Hall welcomes the local community and will be a part of this neighborhood for many more years.



Oregon Square Redevelopment 1948/9, Portland

Oregon Square Redevelopment took two buildings, located within the Central City Plan District and the Lloyd District, and made one cohesive super block development, known as Oregon Square. Built in the late 1940s as office space, the buildings sat vacant for over a decade as they required drastic renovations to be relevant in today's office market. The revitalization process prepared the plaza for a larger vision; an approved design review for a new canopy and extension of the farmers market, concerts, and rest/relaxation areas, shifting the neighborhood's future towards cultural revitalization and sustainable development. The Oregon Square Redevelopment is a prime example of revitalizing a historic building through compatible designed additions that compliment and amplify a building's history.



PAE Living Building 2021, Portland

The five-story, 58,000-square foot mixed-use PAE Living Building is located in the Skidmore/Old Town National Historic Landmark District. It is the first developer-led and largest commercial urban Living Building in the world. A newly-constructed building contributing to the revitalization of this historic district, it pays homage to the story of Portland: aspirational, progressive, and yet deeply rooted in Pacific Northwest history. Designed to last for 500 years, the approach marries the look and feel of a historic neighborhood with the highest possible energy performance and sustainability standards.



**Phoenix Pharmacy
1922, Portland**

Built by pharmacist John Leach in 1922, the Phoenix Pharmacy sat boarded up and unmaintained for decades. As an iconic local landmark, the community watched and hoped for a solution that wasn't demolition. In 2018 the property was purchased with the single goal of rescuing the Phoenix Pharmacy building from demise, restoring its past prominence and

updating it to current standards while keeping its historical integrity. In May of 2022, exactly 100 years and 1 month to when John Leach initially opened the Phoenix Pharmacy, the newly restored doors were swung open once again, much to the delight of the public. This project shows the tenacity of a small team, led by years of sweat and hard work by the new owner, to realize a community vision as another prominent anchor in the re-birth of the Foster-Powell neighborhood.



**CD Putnam's Ready Wear
1911, La Grande**

Constructed in 1911 for Stephen Gardinier and his wife Madlin, the CD Putnam's Ready Wear Building in La Grande's Historic District provided a complement to the building next door, the Orpheum Theater. The C.D. Putnam's Ready Wear Building has been an integral part of downtown La Grande for many years. This diamond in the rough is now polished and shines as brightly as it did in the early 1900s. The owners leveraged several grants, including an Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant to help push the project through to completion. This

project shows the spirit and tenacity of smaller communities bringing preservation as a solution to their main street revitalization.



Steeplejack Brewing 1909, Portland

The historic First Universalist Church of Good Tiding's building cornerstone was laid by U.S. President William Howard Taft on October 3, 1909. With a 100-year plus history, the structure has undergone various uses and transformations, but has remained a community center point and gathering space. The adaptive re-use and restoration preserved much of the church's original architecture, including the high-arching hammer trusses that reach 20 feet off the

ground. The new owners found the church for sale and were one of just two bids, the other came from a developer who planned to demolish the church. They saw a once-in-a-lifetime chance to save one of Portland's most architecturally and artistically significant churches. And, they most certainly did just that, it now serves as a full-service craft brewery, bar, restaurant, and coffee house for Portland's local Steeplejack Brewing.



The Annex @ Aurora Mills 2022, Aurora

Like many historic districts nationwide, the Aurora Colony Historic District struggles with the ramifications of demographic and economic changes while trying to preserve its history and sense of place. The Annex at Aurora Mills demonstrates how compatible and sustainable infill development can actually enhance and preserve the integrity

of a Historic District and spur investment. The project is the first new commercial building in the historic district in 45 years. It is leading the path towards the revitalization, diversification, and growth of Aurora's economy. Since this project began, two additional infill projects are now in the planning process. The Annex is a wonderful example of how sensitive new construction in a rural, historic town can spur the local economy.



UofO Gerlinger Alumni Lounge Rehabilitation 1921, Eugene

Gerlinger Hall is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Women's Memorial Quadrangle building group on the University of Oregon campus. The building is significant to the UO campus because of its craftsmanship

in the Georgian architectural style and its association with important university figures, Irene Gerlinger and Ellis Lawrence. Gerlinger was the first woman Regent, avid fundraiser and advocate who campaigned for the building since 1915. Lawrence was the first dean of the architecture school and university architect. The Alumni Lounge is a premier space for special events and recognized as one of the most significant historic interior spaces on campus. This meticulous restoration project ensures that it continues to serve as such for many years to come.

[Download high-resolution photos of the DeMuro Award-winning projects.](#)

[Celebrate the DeMuro Awards at the Restoration Celebration](#)

November 4 | *The Show Bar at Washington High School, Portland* | 4 - 7pm

Oregon's preservation industry will celebrate the DeMuro Awards at the [Restoration Celebration](#). Restore Oregon will host the annual party and fundraiser at one of Art DeMuro's most-loved projects, the re-use of historic Washington High School. The celebration will kick off with a happy hour reception from 4 - 5:30pm, followed by the DeMuro Awards program at 5:30 pm. [Tickets on sale now](#)

More About the DeMuro Awards

Since 2013, the annual DeMuro Awards program has honored the people and places that preserve our state's heritage and historic spaces. Award recipients serve as outstanding and inspiring examples of historic preservation in Oregon. The DeMuro Award promotes historic preservation and reuse in Oregon and honors the legacy of our friend and Board member, Art DeMuro, whose career embodied vision, persistence, creativity, excellence, and sound

economics. Visit restoreoregon.org or follow @restoreoregon on your favorite social media platform to learn more about Restore Oregon and the DeMuro Awards.

About Restore Oregon

Founded in 1977, Restore Oregon, works on the front lines and behind the scenes to preserve, reuse and pass forward the historic places and spaces that reflect Oregon's diverse cultural heritage and make our communities inclusive, vibrant, liveable and sustainable. As a statewide, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Restore Oregon represents thousands of community activists, home owners, preservation-minded investors, and supporters and users of historic places across Oregon. We advocate for effective preservation policies and incentives, deliver preservation-focused education programs, and directly intervene to save endangered places.

END

###