

FOR RELEASE:

December 18, 2024

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Grants Awarded to Preservation Projects Across Washington

Washington Trust for Historic Preservation Announces 2025 Valerie Sivinski Fund Grant Awards

SEATTLE - Each year the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation provides grants through the Valerie Sivinski Fund to organizations and community groups engaged in historic preservation across the state. Founded in 1976, the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is a nonprofit organization with a mission to promote sustainable and economically viable communities through historic preservation. The Valerie Sivinski Fund grant program embodies the mission of the Washington Trust by supporting preservation projects where they really happen: at the local level.

Named in memory of Valerie Sivinski, a beloved former board member of the Washington Trust who served as president in the early 1990s, the Fund was established in 1997 with the first grants awarded in 1998. Since its establishment, the Fund has awarded around \$250,000 in cash grants and building assessment services to more than 200 projects across the state to local organizations and historic preservation advocates.

Recipients of the 2025 Valerie Sivinski Fund grant awards were publicly announced on December 17, 2024, at the Washington Trust's annual Sivinski Holiday Benefit, held at the Stimson-Green Mansion, their landmark headquarters. All proceeds from the benefit go to support the grant program. The 2025 grants were awarded to the following nine organizations in amounts ranging from \$1,150 to \$3,000, with a total of \$20,000 awarded:

- **Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation (APIAHiP):** In support of developing educational resources about the Bellingham Riots of 1907 and the significance of Bellingham's Arch of Healing and Reconciliation.
- **Clark County Historical Museum:** In support of conducting a preservation needs assessment for the 1908 McLoughlin Heights Church of God building, home to one of the first African American congregations in Vancouver.

- **Ferry County Historical Society:** In support of conducting vital preservation work on the historic J. W. & Elizabeth Slagle House and Barn in Republic.
- **Fort Walla Walla Museum:** In support of creating new exhibit signs for a pavilion housing the 1878 Blue Mountain Locomotive.
- **Olympia Historical Society and Bigelow House Museum:** In support of installing UV film on the windows of the historic Bigelow House to protect interiors and collections.
- **Power House Theatre Walla Walla:** In support of developing interpretive resources celebrating the history of the Power House Theatre building (the 1890 Electric Light Works Building).
- **Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society:** In support of purchasing materials to make its signature collection of 55,000 maritime photos properly stored and accessible to the public.
- **Steilacoom Historical Museum Association:** In support of conducting a preservation assessment of the structure and siding of the 1860s Wagon Shop.
- **Waterville Historic Preservation Commission:** In support of replacing damaged and lost National Register plaques on buildings in the Downtown Waterville Historic District.

To see or download images of the award-winning projects, please visit the Washington Trust's website: <http://preservewa.org/sivinski>

About the Washington Trust:

The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is a statewide, tax exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1976 to safeguard Washington's historic places through advocacy, education, collaboration, and stewardship. For additional information regarding the 2025 grant recipients or for information on contributing to the Valerie Sivinski Fund visit www.preservewa.org or call 206-624-9449.

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