

2014 SHPO Award Speeches

CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: JOHNSON MENINICK

The Award for Career Achievement recognizes the outstanding contribution of an individual over a long span of time to the general practice of historic preservation. The recipients have been involved to a significant degree in activities large and small that have helped protect and/or secured public attention on National Register or National Register-eligible properties. Recipients may include those whose commitment to preservation is either professional or avocational. This year, there are three presentations made in this category. The first award for outstanding Career Achievement in Historic Preservation is made to Johnson Meninick.

Johnson is a member of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation. He is the great grandson of Chief Meninick, one of the 14 signers of the Yakama Treaty of 1855. Johnson is also past Tribal Council Chairman, past Tribal Council Vice Chair, and Tribal Associate Judge, among the many other positions he has held. Currently he is the manager of the tribe's Cultural Resource Program and is a recognized ceremonial leader, respected Elder and is an inductee into the Ellensburg Rodeo Hall of Fame.

Johnson's life and career exemplify his commitment to the Yakama Nation's cultural heritage, Washington's deep archaeological and cultural heritage, and Native American rights.

Johnson has been instrumental in the creation and articulation of tribal cultural perspectives along the Columbia and Snake Rivers as part of the Federal Columbia River Power System Cultural Resources Program that has been working with multiple federal agencies and tribal governments since the early 1960s.

He has played a key role in the formation of the essential federal laws protecting archaeological sites, Native American burials, religious freedom, and Native American Treaty rights along with environmental and endangered species protection.

Johnson is also the voice and presence of the award winning anti-vandalism video produced by TVW. Johnson's work and efforts at protecting these sacred sites has been viewed on YouTube by persons from across the globe.

Now, it is with a profound sense of honor and recognition that I ask Johnson to please come up and accept this Award.

NATOA AWARD PRESENTATION TO JOHNSON MENINICK

At this time, we also want to take a few minutes to present Johnson with an award made in 2013 from the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors, or NATOA. Each year, this association presents its Government Programming Awards that recognize excellence in broadcast, cable, multimedia and electronic programming produced by government agencies. Categories covered by the award include community events, documentaries, public affairs, and public service announcements, among others. The Government Programming Awards recognizes excellence in public sector electronic programming produced by agencies from across the nation. Last fall, the association made an award to the public service announcement “She Who Watches.” This PSA was produced by DAHP together with TVW and features Johnson on location. At this time, let’s see if we can bring up the video...

CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: LYNN LARSON

The second award recipient in the Career Achievement category is Lynn Larson of Gig Harbor. She is recognized today for building a successful private cultural resource practice, her insistence on the highest of standards, and a deep commitment to protecting cultural resources.

Lynn is a professional archaeologist and consultant currently operating a successful cultural resources consulting business: Larson Anthropological/Archaeological Services, or LAAS. The cultural resources management division of the same business closed its doors in 2006 after over 15 years of exemplary and high quality work that became the standard for other firms in the field. As one of the few women-owned businesses in Washington, her business model included building strong relationships with the Tribes and treating all projects as deserving of the same care and professionalism regardless of size or location.

As the person in charge of directing the company, Lynn was responsible for some of the state's most iconic archaeological projects. Notable among these was King County Metro's West Point Wastewater Treatment Plant in Seattle's Discovery Park. From 1991 to 1995 LAAS conducted archaeological testing and data-recovery at a large pre-contact site in the middle of this huge and complex project. Upon completion of the data recovery work, LAAS had gathered information on over 4,000 years of climatic and cultural change previously unknown in the state's archaeological record. During the course of the project Lynn and her crew of archaeologists waded through a mire of politics and impatient construction workers. As a construction foreman used to say to her: "Just between you and me and the deep blue sea, your crew has to be out of here by the end of the week." Lynn would smile politely and then carry on with the challenging excavation of the site that provided valuable data regarding earthquakes, tsunamis and cultural adaptations to those phenomena. Without her commitment to preservation of the discovered resources, this data would not be available to us today.

During the Port Angeles Graving Dock project a few years ago, Lynn again worked amidst an overwhelming tide of politics and public debate. In this situation, her task was to carefully excavate a 2,700 year old pre-contact village with the assistance of the local Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, all in advance of the fast-tracked project to construct pontoons for the SR 520 floating bridge replacement. This project marked the largest archaeological and tribal collaboration in the state. Although the work was complex and difficult, Lynn never lost her commitment to science and archaeological resources. Because of this, the public now has an abundance of data and over 80,000 artifacts, some of which have not been noted in the state's archaeological records previously.

Lynn has played a key role in portraying how cultural resources management can integrate and enhance historic preservation and academic archaeology. This award is presented to her for her unwavering dedication and care for the state's irreplaceable cultural resources. Lynn, please step forward to receive your award.

CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: JENNIFER MEISNER

The third recipient in this category is Jennifer Meisner of Seattle. Like our other award recipients in this category, Jennifer is recognized today for her life-long passion for historic preservation work and her effectiveness in leading the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation for seven years.

Jennifer joined the Washington Trust as Executive Director in 2006 after working 11 years at the City of Seattle's Historic Preservation Office. There, she honed her preservation skills by managing the agency's design review process and linking preservation with the City's community and economic development programs.

At the Trust, Jennifer expanded the organization's capacity to more effectively deliver its mission: to save the places that matter to all Washingtonians and to promote active, vital communities through historic preservation.

Jennifer led the Trust in building solid partnerships with countless preservation organizations, agencies and groups. Working closely with the State Historic Preservation Officer, the state Main Street program was rescued from extinction by proposed state budget cuts. Now working in partnership with the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, the revitalization of historic downtowns districts has broadened the Trust's responsibilities by managing the State Main Street program on behalf of DAHP.

Under Jennifer's leadership, the Trust is now actively engaging students and teachers in preservation through the Youth Heritage Project. Approaching its third year, this vital program challenges the notion that history is boring and irrelevant by exposing Washington youth to the state's fascinating and diverse range of cultural and historic properties.

Recognition of Jennifer's leadership also must include her hard work to bring financial stability to the Trust. Keeping a private non-profit historic preservation organization afloat is a tough challenge even in the best of economic times. When Jennifer started as

Executive Director in 2006, Trust operations were running on fumes. Plus, looming large was the ongoing capital needs of its historic Stimson-Green Mansion headquarters. She believes one of her proudest achievements as Director was bringing stability to the Mansion's management and placing its ongoing preservation on a financially sustainable path.

As Washington Trust Director, Jennifer presided over an organization that significantly matured during her tenure. Membership has increased, budgets stabilized, and programs implemented by skilled and motivated staff. As a result, Jennifer has put the Trust on a trajectory from which the entire preservation community continues to benefit.

As Trust Board President David Straus recently stated: "Trust programs have become the very visible evidence of Jennifer's deftness in historic preservation advocacy. The less visible evidence is registered in her intelligence, poise and respect that transcends difficult and contentious situations." While Jennifer left the Trust to devote more time to her family, she remains active with its programs, teaching at UW, and maintaining her private consulting work. Jennifer, please step forward to accept your award.

CEMETERY PRESERVATION CATEGORY: THE CHEHALIS TRIBE

We now turn to awards for outstanding achievement in historic cemetery preservation. Awards given in this category recognize individuals and organizations who have made an extraordinary commitment to the recognition and protection of cemeteries and burial sites. In this category, two awards will be presented in 2014.

The first award for cemetery preservation goes to the Chehalis Tribe. The award is given to recognize and honor their annual cemetery clean-up program plus their work to document the four tribal cemeteries located within the boundaries of the Chehalis reservation.

The care of cemeteries by the Chehalis has long been a part of tribal traditions, whether by families at their own family cemetery or at the larger tribal cemetery. In recent decades, cemetery care and maintenance has taken on a more coordinated approach, such as designating a cemetery chairman. Over the years this position was held by tribal leaders such as Percy Youckton, who served in that role during the 1980s.

In May of each year for the past several years, the Tribe has scheduled a clean-up event for all their cemeteries. The main goal of this annual event is to honor the tribe's ancestors and bring together tribal members of all ages to work as one, passing down memories from one generation to another. It is also a time for Elders to remember the ones who passed on as well for younger members to learn about their family heritage. A blessing is said before heading out to the cemeteries. Once there, the work parties mow the grass, trim back vegetation and clean and repair headstones.

After completing work, time is set aside to prepare and enjoy a meal to mark and celebrate the occasion. This is also a time for more sharing of memories. In the last few years, employees have also participated in clean-up activities. In 2008, one person reported: "After the all-day clean-up, everyone left reminded of our ancestors and the importance of taking care of the cemetery."

Building on the success of the annual clean-up, in 2010 the Tribe's Cultural, Heritage and Language Program began work to document all the cemeteries. Their approach to this

effort was to focus on one particular cemetery and then host a dinner for all the family members with ancestors in that cemetery. Discussion at the dinners would include trying to identify unknown or unmarked graves and thoroughly document other grave sites.

This outstanding cemetery preservation effort has not only spruced up these sacred sites, but has also invigorated knowledge, pride and preservation of Chehalis culture. More importantly, the annual cemetery clean-ups have brought tribal youth closer together to their families and ancestors. At this time, it gives me great pleasure to present this award for Cemetery Preservation to the Chehalis Tribe to acknowledge their tradition of care for their cemeteries.

CEMETERY PRESERVATION CATEGORY: RICHARD WATTS

The second award in the Cemetery Preservation category goes to Richard, or Dick Watts of the Roslyn Cemetery Commission for his work and dedication on behalf of the Roslyn cemeteries. The care, maintenance and long-term preservation of any single cemetery is a constant challenge. But for the community of Roslyn one must multiple that effort by 26. For those of you who have visited Roslyn and its famous cemetery, you know what I'm talking about. But for those of you who are not familiar, this extraordinary place covers 19 acres with 26 separate historic cemeteries, most started in the late 1800s by local ethnic and civic lodges to provide for the burial of their members.

After the discovery of coal in the 1880s, miners and their families came to the Upper Kittitas Valley from many countries including Italy, Poland, Croatia, Lithuania, Serbia, Hungary, Scotland, England and Germany. Later African-American miners were brought to Roslyn from southern states by the coal companies. By the 1930s the coal industry entered a long decline with the last mine closing in 1963. When the Roslyn Historic District was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978, the cemeteries were included in the district recognizing their unique character and close link to the community and its rich ethnic heritage.

Dick's association with the cemeteries began about 15 years ago when he began assisting his father-in-law who worked to maintain his own father's grave in the Slovak Cemetery. After his father-in-law's passing in 2004, Dick assumed full responsibility. Within a few years, he expanded his attention to the other cemeteries, working to mow lawns and clear debris.

In 2008, the Town of Roslyn established the local Cemetery Commission with which Dick was immediately involved. As commission president, he has become the point person in assuring that each of the 26 cemeteries is well-cared for. To do this, he spent countless hours organizing volunteers and work parties.

In the nomination written for this award, the author states that: “Dick has an astounding capacity to bring people together, raise funds and generally ensure the maintenance of the Roslyn cemeteries.” As cemetery sexton Brandi Taklo says, “Dick is a get-it done kind of guy. He is amazing at pulling together volunteers for cemetery projects. He can work with any organization to get things done.”

At this time, it gives me great pleasure to present this award to Richard Watts for his service and dedication to preservation of the Roslyn cemeteries. Please step forward to receive your award.

MEDIA CATEGORY: SKAGIT COUNTY BARN TOUR

The next award is given in the Media Category. Awards made in this category honor outstanding efforts in which cultural and historic resources are portrayed in the media in an innovative, accurate, and appropriate manner. This year, the award in the Media category goes to the Skagit County Historical Society for creating the Heritage Barns of Skagit County Tour.

Developed as a driving tour of designated historic barns in Skagit County, this past year the Historical Society joined with County government to create a user-friendly and visually appealing brochure and website. Together, these products highlight the Skagit Valley's rich agricultural history and collection of historic barns. The illustrated brochure utilized existing Washington Heritage Barn Register data to link the user to in-depth data about each barn. Information shared includes a brief history of each barn with its date of construction, building style, and a thumbnail photograph. QR codes are affixed allowing those with mobile devices to access the information from anywhere.

The idea for such a brochure was formulated by Jeanne Youngquist, Skagit County Auditor and tireless promoter of the beautiful Skagit Valley. She knew that Skagit County holds claim to having the largest number of barns listed in the Washington Heritage Barn Register with 58 now registered. Jeanne also envisioned the tour idea as a way to link local pride in Skagit's rich agricultural heritage with the growing cultural tourism industry.

To carry out the idea, Jeanne sought assistance from the Skagit County Historical Museum staff including Executive Director Mark Iverson and fundraising and publicity coordinator Jo Wolfe. Funding came courtesy of county Hotel-Motel Tax revenues. Skagit County's Geographic Information Services staff contributed in-kind support for the graphics, mapping, and application of QR codes for each barn.

Initially, 5,000 copies of the driving tour brochures were printed and released, just in time for Tulip festival last year. Strong demand for the brochure rapidly plowed through that supply leaving the Historical Society with the job of updating the tour and printing more

copies. To complement the hard copy brochures, the Society also developed a web-based driving tour that locates barns across the county.

Jeanne, Mark & Jo are honored today for using print and electronic media to honor Skagit County's proud agricultural past, encourage its preservation, and use this heritage to promote tourism. This project is an excellent illustration of how the State's successful Heritage Barn Register program can be utilized to realize other preservation related goals such as economic development, farm preservation, and support for local businesses. So, Jeanne, Mark, and Jo, please step forward and receive your award.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNING CATEGORY: CITY OF TACOMA

Now we move to our award for Outstanding Achievement in Historic Preservation Planning. This award acknowledges achievement by individuals or organizations for their efforts in laying the groundwork for the long-term preservation of important historic resources. Recipients in this category have established and maintained effective protective mechanisms such as preservation plans, programs, or processes. This year, I am proud to recognize and honor the City of Tacoma for their code amendment “Preventing Neglect of Historic Properties.”

Demolition by neglect occurs when an owner, lets a building deteriorate until it becomes a structural hazard and then asserts the building's advanced state of deterioration as a reason to justify its demolition. It is an issue that affects not only the individual buildings that are deteriorating, but also entire neighborhoods, both commercial and residential, starting a cycle of decay and disinvestment. It is one of the toughest of the many issues that face historic preservationists.

On September 17, 2013, the Tacoma City Council took a step towards greater protection of its historic buildings when it adopted the “Preventing Neglect of Historic Properties” ordinance. This ordinance amended the Tacoma Municipal Code with a new chapter that recognizes the value of the City’s iconic historic and cultural assets and state that their maintenance, protection, use and enhancement are important to the City and its citizens. The “Preventing Neglect of Historic Properties” ordinance is designed to prevent demolition by neglect of historic properties within Tacoma by defining neglect as a public nuisance. The code now states, “Neglect of a historic property as defined by this chapter is a detriment to the health, safety, and welfare of the public...”

The “Preventing Neglect of Historic Properties” ordinance takes a much more proactive stance in seeking to protect historic properties within the City of Tacoma. Plus, it will hopefully prevent the future demolition of significant resources within the City. The ordinance also includes a provision which establishes an Emergency Preservation fund of

\$250,000 to address potential abatement actions. Also innovative, the ordinance places controls on the future construction on properties where designated properties have been demolished. Those provisions include a 5 year period where a replacement structure cannot be larger than what existed and must match the visual, aesthetic, architectural and material character of the demolished building. Plus, no surface parking lots will be allowed.

We applaud Tacoma's bold move forward with this ordinance in Washington state, and hope that more communities will follow their example. At this time, I invite welcome Reuben McKnight, City of Tacoma Historic Preservation Officer, to come up and accept this award on behalf of the City of Tacoma.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT CATEGORY: CITY OF ELLENSBURG

We now turn to awards for special achievement in historic preservation. Awards given in this category recognize individuals, organizations, programs, or special efforts that do not quite fit into the other award categories but have made a significant impact toward the preservation of cultural or historic properties. In 2014, one award in this category will be presented to the City of Ellensburg. The award recognizes the City's to purchase a key historic building for long-term preservation.

Many historic downtown advocates have to deal with property owners who defer maintenance or take inappropriate actions on their buildings. The problem in Ellensburg went way beyond this: A 2 story, 30,000 square foot building at a key intersection in the Downtown Historic District with vacant storefronts, broken windows, offensive signs, and a difficult owner. Even worse, this symbol of decay was located just across the street from the Rotary Pavilion, a popular downtown gathering spot for events, as well as downtown's iconic and beautifully preserved Davidson Block.

Beginning in September of 2011, several individuals in local leadership positions began to meet and discuss potential projects to enhance the image and appearance of downtown Ellensburg. The group included City Manager Ted Barkley; then-Mayor Bruce Tabb; Milton Johnson, President of the local business development authority; Jim Armstrong and Ron Cridlebaugh (cry-del-baw) of the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce; Marilyn Levine, Provost at Central Washington University; and Carolyn Honeycutt, Director of the Ellensburg Downtown Association. Though these people had never before worked together on a project, they were all quick to agree that the appearance, location, and ownership of the Geddis Building posed a significant challenge to downtown's renaissance.

To tackle the problem, the group, which became known as the "Downtowners", settled on a strategy that proposed the City purchase the property; perform basic maintenance and clean-up; and then re-sell the building to a historic preservation-minded owner.

Negotiations with the owner began in May 2012. From the start, negotiations did not go well. Weekly meetings were held for months with no progress as both sides remained far apart on the selling price. Finally, in late November 2012, as the national “fiscal cliff” loomed large as well as a potential capital gains tax increase, Mayor Tabb asked that one more offer of \$1.2 million be presented. Tears of joy were shed by the Downtowners when the group learned that this last and final offer had been accepted. Much has taken place since then including a general clean-up of the property; energy and infrastructure upgrades completed; and a preservation architect has evaluated the structure. Plus, all of the 2nd floor apartments have been leased and tenants secured for most of the first floor retail spaces.

This award recognizes the bold step taken by the City of Ellensburg in purchasing the Geddis Building. It sends a clear message to the community of the value of historic preservation as an essential tool to foster a vibrant, thriving downtown and surrounding region. At this time, I invite Former Mayor, now City Council-Member Bruce Tabb to please step forward and accept this award on behalf of the City of Ellensburg.

STEWARDSHIP CATEGORY: THE *ADVENTURESS*

The next award category is “Stewardship.” Award recipients in the Stewardship category recognize persons and organizations that have made a long and distinguished commitment to preserve a historic place. In this category, one nominee stood a yardarm tall amongst the rest in 2014. That, of course, means the Port Townsend-based organization named Sound Experience Aboard the Schooner *Adventuress*.

Sound Experience is a private non-profit organization with a mission to “educate, inspire, and empower an inclusive community to make a difference for the future of our marine environment.” To help fulfill their mission, Sound Experience understands that by preserving and sailing this historic vessel, they are also teaching an important lesson about environmental protection. As a result, the organization has played a leadership role in assuring that the 101-year old National Historic Landmark schooner *Adventuress* advances this mission as a training vessel and marine laboratory. The benefit is that more than 5,000 people, mostly youth, come aboard the schooner each year learning to raise sails, take the helm, and navigate the sea the way it was done a century ago.

Despite being expertly crafted and well-maintained and like all vessels that have charted thousands of miles, the sea-worthiness of the ship deteriorated over time. By 2005, Sound Experience had reached a critical decision point. It was decided that the best interest of the vessel was a total stem to stern overhaul. Failure to do so could mean loss of active Coast Guard certification.

After drafting a condition assessment for the ship, the ambitious multi-phase *Adventuress* Centennial Restoration Project was launched after the sailing season of 2009. The goal of the restoration was to be true to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for preserving historic vessels. Each phase had to be carefully planned so that the ship could be launched back into service the following spring so that Sound Experience could continue its mission of maritime education.

After five seasons under restoration led by Port Townsend's Boat Haven and with assistance from the nearby Northwest School of Wooden Boatbuilding, the *Adventuress* was successfully sailed for her centennial in 2013. In all, the restoration effort took five years and over \$1.2 million to complete. Extensive gifts of in-kind contributions, materials, expertise, and vendor discounts ensured that the restoration project was completed on-time, and on-budget.

The goal of the board of directors of Sound Experience was to restore *Adventuress* so that she may sail another 100 years. As Executive Director, Catherine Collins states: "The value of a historic vessel to the community and the world can't be measured. She gives back more than what we invest in her." As a result of their passion and on-going efforts, it is clear the schooner has smooth sailing for years to come. At this time, it gives me great pleasure to present the award for Stewardship to Sound Experience Aboard the Schooner *Adventuress*. I invite Catherine to step forward and receive your award.

REHABILITATION CATEGORY: SEATTLE CITY LIGHT FOR ROSS LODGE

We now turn to awards in the Historic Rehabilitation Category. Awards in this category recognize projects resulting in exemplary rehabilitation of historic buildings or structures. Award-winning projects must demonstrate that completed work meets, if not exceeds, the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Of note is that this award is named in fond memory of Valerie Sivinski, a talented Tacoma architect, dedicated preservation advocate, and good friend.

SHPO Award winning rehabilitation projects come in all shapes and sizes. Our co-winner this year for the Valerie Sivinski Award for Outstanding Rehabilitation is the Ross Lodge in Diablo. In 1991, as a result of a new federally required operating license, Seattle City Light embarked on a comprehensive preservation planning and maintenance program for its massive Skagit Hydroelectric Project. In the years since then, Seattle City Light has worked hard to gain an understanding of historic preservation principles and tools; gained sensitivity for both its built and archaeological historic resources; trained staff, and developed partnerships with other stakeholder organizations and agencies. This growth process came to shed new light on the historic resources that were known to exist, but were underused, vacant, or suffering neglect. It also led to the hiring of a full time historic preservation specialist in 2011 who has successfully shepherded several historic preservation projects and has been a strong voice for historic preservation within the agency.

Located in City Light's company town of Diablo, the Rustic-style Ross Lodge was originally constructed in 1938 as a dormitory for single workers and a caretaker's residence with common dining and living areas. As time wore on, the building was abandoned and suffered from decades of deferred maintenance. But like all good historic rehabilitation stories, the Ross Lodge was resurrected when City Light was looking for a meeting space. The Ross Lodge was a perfect fit for this organizational need and City Light recognized the lodge's historic significance by completing its adaptive reuse in 2013. The result is the elegant, functional and historically significant structure we honor today.

The rehabilitation of Ross Lodge consists of many historic materials being retained. The original wrought iron historic chandeliers were rewired and re-used as were interior wood paneling and flooring. Where new material was needed it was made to match the existing. Original rustic architectural elements such as the stone fireplace and chimney, scalloped vertical gable end siding, and single hung wood windows were all retained. A picnic shelter was constructed where a portion of the original dormitory building had been demolished many years ago; it employs compatible design elements that give an appropriate but understated nod to the Lodge's historic character.

The use of the Ross Lodge as a conference center creates an opportunity to further Seattle City Light's goal of raising public awareness of the history of the company towns of Newhalem and Diablo, and indeed, the entire Skagit Project. At this time, please join me in congratulating Seattle City Light for receiving the 2014 Valerie Sivinski Award for Outstanding Rehabilitation.

REHABILITATION CATEGORY: SDOT FOR KING STREET STATION

The second award recipient of the Valerie Sivinski Award is the City of Seattle Department of Transportation for rehabilitation of King Street Station. A physical beacon of both sustainability and historic preservation, King Street Station has recently undergone a rehabilitation that has extended its life for many decades to come. It also embodies the edict that the greenest building is the one that already exists. And for four million passengers arriving in Seattle each year, it marks an awesome gateway to the city.

One thing is certain: King Street Station is one of the premiere historic rehabilitation projects ever completed in Washington State. It has recently received national recognition, bringing home a 2014 American Institute of Architects Honor Award for Architecture – a distinction that is more often than not awarded to new construction projects. The project has also received the Historic Seattle Beth Chave Historic Preservation Award for Best Restoration. And today, I am pleased to say that it has now been bestowed with SHPO Award honors.

The King Street Station rehab was a massive, complex undertaking. City of Seattle Department of Transportation project managers provided excellent leadership to pull together an impressive ensemble of public and private organizations. Project leaders were joined by a host of architects, engineers, archaeologists, historic preservation consultants, craftsmen and contractors to complete the two year construction project. SDOT also pulled together the necessary project funding by blending commitments from the State Department of Transportation, Federal Transportation Enhancement funds, Washington State Heritage Capital Project Funds, and a varied portfolio of other financial supporters including the South Downtown Foundation and King County 4Culture.

Built in 1906, King Street Station's 12 story clock tower was modeled after the Campanile (Camp-ahn-EE-lay) di San Marco in Venice. Today, it has been seismically retrofitted to withstand the worst of seismic events. The lobby features beautifully restored plaster details with a high gloss finish, carrera marble panels, and terrazzo flooring. But what you don't see is what happened behind the walls and under the

ground: For bracing, millions of dollars-worth of steel was completely concealed behind those walls. Plus, a field of geothermal wells was installed under the north plaza to make King Street Station a paramount example of historic preservation and sustainability.

King Street Station has achieved LEED Platinum status, the highest possible certification for sustainable construction. Its energy efficiency thus rivals any newly constructed building, and the rehabilitation has restored many of its original sustainable features, such as natural day-lighting and fresh air ventilation through original operable wood windows.

Today we celebrate the renaissance of King Street Station as a classic example of what historic preservation can and should be: place-maker, economic generator, civic builder, and story teller. Please join me in congratulating the Seattle Department of Transportation and its team on receiving the 2014 Valerie Sivinski Award for Outstanding Rehabilitation.