

*MUSIC HALL Marks*

2014  
Winter  
Issue

# SPMH - President's Message

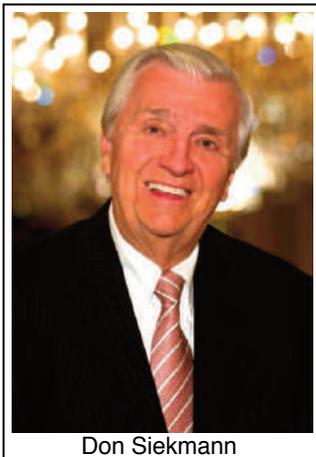
What a wonderful time of year! The beauty of autumn, leading into winter, opens a torrent of memories that often just seems to rain upon my head.

Changing leaf colors convert, irrevocably, into piles of fallen leaves to jump in and run through; and then, the biggie...the unforgettable smell of burning leaf piles (not anymore, of course).

How about memories of family Thanksgiving dinners? -- even if not "over the river and through the woods." Changing any of the foods served from year to year just doesn't happen. Traditions change very slowly...and memories often last forever. Next, we certainly can't stop the snows of winter with sledding, snowmen,

snowballs, and bonfires with hot dogs...you know, the "whole thing"!

Importantly, so many of us also enjoy unforgettable fall-winter memories right here at Music Hall. The early performances of the Cincinnati Ballet's "Nutcracker" with Mother Ginger and her skirt-full of "gumdrop" children dancers; or, any of Erich Kunzel's holiday shows with all those costumed "cloggers" will live with us forever.



Don Siekmann

I'm guessing that you have your own share of Music Hall memories, so, sit back, and enjoy them once again. Or, better yet, come back to Music Hall and create new memories. Since they are best when shared, bring someone with you to build new memo-

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ries that will last your lifetime. Enjoy the CSO Holiday show, the Mighty Wurlitzer concert, the Cincinnati Opera's 95th Anniversary Ball, or, Handel's *Messiah* with the May Festival Chorus.

Lastly, I have an important request! Join us in the Society for the Preservation of Music Hall, where

your support will help make it possible for future generations to create their own memories of our historic Icon.... Music Hall. It's easy; just use the enclosed envelope. Complete, and mail in. We will do the rest.

Hope to see you.....HERE!!  
- Don Siekmann

## SPMH MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of The Society for the Preservation of Music Hall is to preserve, promote, improve, and provide education about Music Hall, funding special projects in addition to Music Hall management's operational and maintenance obligations, and facilitating communications among Music Hall management, owner, and tenants, in order to perpetuate Music Hall as the premier cultural center of the Region, and as a National Historic Landmark of international significance.*

## SPMH BOARD of Directors 2015

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*William Henrich*

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*Ken Kreider*

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*Co-Founder*

### **Music Hall Liaison**

*Scott Santangelo*

## Annual Meeting 2014



Otto Budig, Jr., Don Siekmann and Murray Sinclair, Jr.

The SPMH Annual Meeting was held on Monday, September 8th in Music Hall's Corbett Auditorium.

A cocktail/hors d'oeuvres reception with music provided by pianist, Don Hurd and flutist, Joan Cavally delighted the capacity crowd.



Pianist Carol Walker, baritone Joseph Lattanzi, mezzo-soprano Adria Caffaro

Before the presentations began members had the opportunity to purchase tickets for "Happy Holidays with the Mighty Wurlitzer" (December 11), *Cincinnati Finds its Voice* DVD, and the SPMH Music Hall ornament. Restored and newly acquired panels from the 1878 Music Hall organ screen were on display.

Board President, Don Siek-



Pianist Don Hurd and Flutist Joan Cavally

mann, called the meeting to order. Drawing attention to the precepts of the Mission Statement, he returned again and again to the theme “Standing Tall for Music Hall,” emphasizing our commitment to the Music Hall Revitalization. He proceeded to highlight the activities

of our organization over the past year including growing our membership; conservation projects and other funding efforts; the distribution of *MUSIC HALL Marks* to 4,000 readers; the wealth of timely information on the website [SPMHcincinnati.org](http://SPMHcincinnati.org); the successful



Patrick Korb, Barbara Hahn, Barbara Gould and David Klingshirn



Ed Rider



Nancy Wagner, Ron Wehmeier and Patricia Wagner



Peter Koenig



Mike & Kathy Janson, Tony Lang & Marcella Hsiung



Andrew Bowen

Wurlitzer Concert Series; the expanded tour program.

Peter Koenig of the Nominating Committee took the podium, thanking retiring Directors, Adrienne Beudet Cowden, Jodi

Geiser, Eugene Saenger, Jr., John Senhauser, and Jim Tarbell. He welcomed new Directors, Megan Hall, Tricia Johnson, Kenneth Kreider, Paul Muller and Bethany Vondran. Peter stated that all current

Officers have been elected to serve another year.

Facilities Funding was addressed by Ed Rider. He reported that in the past year member contributions and the Corbett Endowment Fund have supported the preservation of the historic organ panels and the cleaning of the Reuben Springer statue. Additionally, SPMH has donated \$100,000 to the Music Hall Revitalization Company as an advance toward our total commitment.

Andrew Bowen shared details of an expanded tour program, with increased advertising, better docent visibility in red tour guide vests, and the planned hiring of a part-time on-site tours coordinator. Following this presentation, mezzo-soprano Adria Caffaro and baritone Joseph Lattanzi, accompanied by pianist Carol Walker entertained with a lively set-



Elizabeth Allaire and Barbara Harshman



Linda Siekmann and Karen McKim



Emma and Erin Horton



Andrew Bowen, Lisa Allison, Peter Koenig and Gene Saenger

lection including Irving Berlin's "Anything You Can Do".

President Siekmann then introduced the evening's guest speakers, Murray Sinclair, Jr., Chair of the Cultural Facilities Task Force and Otto Budig, Jr., President of the Music Hall Revitalization Co. Mr. Sinclair summarized the herculean work of the members of the Task Force (6,000 hours invested in a thoroughly vetted plan), voiced disappointment in the County Commissioners' decision to delete Music Hall from the November ballot, and underlined the extra support now required from the community. "The Task Force is in the process of developing Plan B" he said, "and private philanthropy is key in Plan B." He emphasized that the Task Force is committed to finding a solution for Music Hall. A new funding model, securing private donors, finalizing the relationship with the City and mobilizing lovers of Music Hall to support the effort are requirements of the solution. "We have a hill to climb and the hope is that by your next Annual Meeting there will be a definitive plan." "This is a jog not a sprint" he added.

Don again took the microphone reiterating "we will always be here for Music Hall." He recognized the great support of the Corbett Foundation and its Executive Director, Karen McKim. Referring to the work ahead he said "this is a puzzle we are trying to put together and there are many missing pieces." Encouraging members to

vote in support of the County's Museum Center sales tax (Issue 8) he affirmed that a loss in November would be very damaging to Music



Stacy Schmidt, Tammy Gentile and Jody Weithofer



Scott Santangelo and Mark Weadick



Steve Loftin, Don Siekmann and Van Ackerman

Hall. Without the approximately \$175 million from a successful passage of the levy for the Museum Center, both buildings would again require funding from the same limited sources.

With the words "I'll just take a moment of your time" Otto Budig noted that one year ago he was SPMH Annual Meeting guest speaker and he had hoped that both Music Hall and the Museum Center would receive help from the successful passage of the Hamilton County sales tax. He stated that the Music Hall Revitalization Company is committed to working with the Cultural Facilities Task Force

and Cincinnati Center City Development Corp. (3CDC) in formulating a plan for Music Hall. Otto said that Steve Leeper, President and CEO of 3CDC considers the Music Hall renovation to be his signature project. "The organizations are not looking to reduce the scope of the (\$123 million) renovation as part of the solution" and completing the renovations for patrons while maintaining acoustics of the Hall are paramount. "Timing though is becoming critical" he stressed. The \$40 million of private philanthropy, pledged largely on a handshake, must be secured. And the amount of that 'anticipated' \$40 million representing a contribution for Music Hall is unknown. "Donor intent must be recognized." And additional funding must be identified.

Don thanked the guest speakers and all attendees, formally ending the meeting.

- Kathy Janson



Holly Doan Spraul, Judy Prinz, Carmon DeLeone and Sue Doan



Ken Jones and Myra Greenberg



Marlene Johnson and Chris Neyer, Lee and Carol Cole



## Meet New Board Members



Ken Kreider, Bethany Vondran, Tricia Johnson, Megan Hall, Paul Muller

SPMH has a tradition of attracting talented members of our community to serve as Directors. It is with pleasure that the newest members of the Board are introduced.

### ***Kenneth P. Kreider***

Ken is a Partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp PLL. He practices in the areas of real estate financing, taxation, zoning and eminent domain, environmental issues, construction litigation, title insurance, among others. Ken was named a Fellow of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers and is certified as a specialist in Business, Commercial and Industrial Real Property Law by the Ohio State Bar Association. He is a licensed title insurance agent serv-

ing as Executive Vice President, Chairman of the Board, and Agent for Riverbend Commercial Title Agency, a wholly-owned subsidiary of KMK. Among his many involvements, Ken has been active with the Cincinnati, Ohio Historic Conservation Board from 1998 to 2013.

### ***Bethany A. Vondran***

Bethany has been an Account Manager with Cincinnati Public Radio WVXU, WGUC since 2013. In this capacity she creates radio marketing campaigns, writing winning copy to achieve clients' goals, while raising revenues for NPR Affiliate, WVXU and all-Classical station, WGUC. Additionally she assists clients in content creation and implementation of social media plans. Currently she is a pro-

fessor at Cincinnati State in the areas of professional selling, principles of advertising, sales and marketing. Bethany has a BFA from the University of Cincinnati, College Conservatory of Music in Electronics Media.

**Tricia M. Johnson**

Tricia is an Executive Director with Ernst and Young in the national tax practice. With over 20 years of experience, her public accounting career focus has been on health care and exempt organizations. Relevant areas of expertise include tax exemption and its maintenance, executive compensation structuring and related Form 990 reporting and IRS examinations. A CPA, she is a graduate of Miami University. Tricia is a frequent speaker on tax-exemption issues, including local and national events.

**Megan B. Hall**

With a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Political Science from the University of Tennessee in 2006 and a Juris Doctor from Salmon P. Chase College of Law in 2010, Megan is an associate attorney with the firm Kohnen & Patton LLP in Cincinnati. She practices

civil litigation in federal and state courts in Ohio and Kentucky, primarily in the areas of employment law and insurance defense. Megan has worked for GE Aviation in military systems operation and Colorado Catering Company in accounting and human resources. To her credit she has a published work *Abraham Lincoln and the Evolution of a Fee Simple Deed*, 36 N. Ky. L. Rev. 333

**Paul Muller**

A Principal with Muller Architects, Inc., established in 1986, Paul is also Executive Director of the Cincinnati Preservation Association. A registered architect in the states of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, he is widely recognized for design excellence. His body of work includes historic preservation projects, residential commissions, exhibition design for museums, theater renovations, medical facilities and university buildings. He has been a member of a select few participants in such prestigious exhibitions as the Paris Biennale, The Ecole des Beaux-Arts, the Cooper Hewitt Museum of Design, the Royal Institute of British Architects and the American Academy in Rome.



To learn more about MUSIC HALL,  
Past, Present and Future

Visit the SPMH Website

[www.spmhcincinnati.org](http://www.spmhcincinnati.org)

## Tour Program Coordinator Hired

Ramona Toussaint introduced herself at the October 13th SPMH Board meeting saying “there are two words to describe me, ‘overly enthusiastic!’” The nineteen candidates who applied for the position of Tour Program Coordinator were interviewed by SPMH/CAA staff. Three very well qualified individuals were interviewed a second time by the SPMH tour committee with Ramona being the candidate hired. Ramona’s background is in the fields of marketing, community engagement and development. Her current experience includes the positions of Director of Children’s Programs at the Art Academy, Board President and current Chair of the Development Committee of Community Shares of Greater Cincinnati and Board member and Chair of Friends of MUSE, Cincinnati’s Women’s Choir.

While the part-time position is primarily responsible for coordinating, organizing, advancing and providing dedicated support to the SPMH tour program, some of the individual duties include rewriting

the guide manual and designing training materials; supervising/scheduling volunteer guides and increasing the pool of qualified tour guides; coordinating tours with CAA/Music Hall staff and accommodating walk-in visitors when possible; creating/implementing marketing/outreach strategies such as theme-based tours, with social media and promotional materials; developing plans for promoting SPMH activities; maintaining mailing lists of SPMH members and volunteers and assisting with SPMH special events.

Don Siekmann stated that the goals of the Tour Program are the following: to promote the precepts of the SPMH Mission Statement; to increase the number of tours offered; to develop tours that are among the City’s best; to expand the number of SPMH members; and to generate revenue to offset some of the total cost of tours. In summarizing the goals, the responsibilities, and the qualifications required, Don said that Ramona Toussaint is “exactly the person we have been looking for.”



Ramona Toussaint

**To schedule a Tour call 744-3344 or  
rtoussaint@cincinnatiarts.org**

## Music Hall Projects Funded

Anyone who visits Music Hall's lobby is most certainly impressed with the transformation of the Reuben Springer statue. Free of years of grime, the Carrara marble is again white thanks to the efforts of conservator Betsy Geiser. SPMH may, at some future time, focus attention on restoring others of the historic portrait sculptures.

Two important works have recently been donated to the SPMH Organ Panels Conservation Project. In September, the Museum Center returned the 'Honeysuckle' an 8 foot horizontal William

Fry creation. The centerpiece was originally positioned over the console of the 1878 organ. It depicts a lovely array of honeysuckle branches and near life-like song birds. Much thanks to the Museum Center.

The Louis and Louise Dieterle Nippert Estate auction took place on September 27th and 28th. One of the items in the original catalogue was the top portion of another significant panel. Designed by Laura Fry and carved by her father, William, the 'Mozart' piece shows delicate work with detailed ivy leaves. This carving was a gift to Louise in the early 1970s when

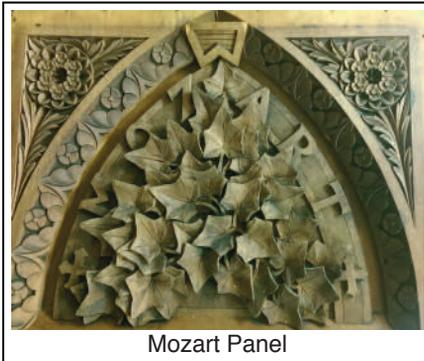
the organ screen was dismantled. Thanks to Carter Randolph and the Greenacres Foundation, the carving was removed from the auctioned items and gifted to SPMH. The back of the panel is carved with the inscription "Presented to the Cinti Organ by Mrs. A. Hinkle" with the WF signature of William Fry. The larger rectangular panel,

to which it was originally attached, is 'The Trumpet Vine', which had been displayed on Music Hall's north hall stairway wall.

SPMH continues the search for others of the numerous panels

from the famed organ screen. Professional work at Heller Conservation in Nashville is ongoing with intention of eventual permanent display in Corbett Tower. Donors and Music Hall personnel were recipients of these in the early 1970s and some have been regifted to family, friends, sold or auctioned off. If you have one in your possession, please consider contacting SPMH about making arrangements for a return to Music Hall.

With gratitude to SPMH members and the Corbett Endowment, SPMH continues our all important preservation and improvement efforts.



Mozart Panel

# 50 Years of Preservation

In honoring The Cincinnati Preservation Association's 50th Anniversary, the Cincinnati Museum Center has put together an exhibition "Celebrating 50 Years of Preservation Working Together Saving Places". Highlighting the evolution of the preservation movement from its early focus on individual buildings to its current role in reviving entire neighborhoods, the exhibit is replete with stories, building models, blueprints and Cincinnati artifacts. The exhibition, located in the Culture Gallery, opened on September 27th, closes April 5th and is free to the public.

SPMH is participating with a Music Hall informational wall display and with a unique exhibition entry, the newly restored 'Garden Panel'



Garden Panel

from the screen of Music Hall's 1878 Hook and Hastings organ. The panel is representative of the 19th century 'Cincinnati Art-Carved Furniture Movement' made famous by carvers Henry and William Fry, Ben Pitman and their students.

Recognizing that Cincinnati was losing historic sites and buildings at an alarming rate, a group of concerned citizens banded together 50 years ago to convince the populace to reconsider the rush to demolish in favor of efforts to preserve and restore that which is irreplaceable. Their efforts paid off in generating enthusiasm for and appreciation of greater Cincinnati heritage. Today, largely because of the efforts of such like-minded organizations as the Cincinnati Preservation Association, historic preservation has become a central part of city planning.

**Exhibit: Culture Gallery of Museum Center**

Through April 5th

Mon.—Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sun. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

The Society For  
The Preservation  
of Music Hall  
presents

*Happy  
Holidays*  
with the  
**MIGHTY WURLITZER**  
In cooperation with the Ohio Valley Chapter  
of the American Theatre Organ Society

**featuring:**  
Theatre-Organist Mark Herman  
The School for the Creative and Performing Arts Children's Choir  
Dancers of the Cincinnati Ballet Otto M. Budig Academy

**All Seats Now Reserved - \$25** (\$20 for seniors, students and groups of 10 or more)

**Tickets:** • [CincinnatiArts.org](http://CincinnatiArts.org) • **Arnoff Center / Music Hall Ticket office**  
• (513) 621 - Arts (2787) • **Group Discount (10+): (513) 977 - 4157**

**Thursday, December 11, 2014**  
**10:30 AM & 7:00 PM, Cincinnati Music Hall Ballroom**

## *Happy Holidays' Stars*

Come for the cheer as SPMH presents a dazzling show with the Mighty Wurlitzer in the 'Winter Wonderland' of Music Hall's Ballroom, Thursday, December 11th, 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.!

Mark Herman is one of America's busiest young theatre organists, performing over 30 concerts and silent film presentations each year across the U.S. and abroad. In July 2012, he was named the

American Theatre Organ Society's Organist of the Year and is the youngest person ever (born in 1987) to receive the prestigious honor. He studied theatre organ with John Ferguson of Indianapolis, recognized worldwide for his skills as a teacher. Mark's classical piano studies were with Christine Freeman of Fort Wayne, Indiana. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre Arts/Management

from DePaul University in Chicago. Mark currently resides in Los Angeles, where he is President and Tonal Director of the Los Angeles Organ Company, the Allen Organ dealer for the Greater Los Angeles Area. He is in demand as a voicing specialist and tonal consultant for Allen Organs. Herman returns to the Music Hall Ballroom where he was guest performing artist for the SPMH 'Happy Holidays' in December 2012.

Organ fans from around the world have

heard the Mighty Wurlitzer in our beloved Music Hall. The organ has quite a history. Built in 1927 for the famed Albee Theatre, it made its way to the Emery Theatre, was put into storage, and finally, was rebuilt and installed in the Music Hall Ballroom by Ron Wehmeier, of Ronald F. Wehmeier, Inc. Pipe Organ Services, for its November 2009 dedication. As part of the American Theatre Organ Society's annual convention held in Indianapolis in July 2014, Cincinnati was the destination for an 'Encore' series of events including a delightful afternoon at Music Hall, with Mark Herman at the keys of the Mighty Wurlitzer. Don Feely, in the most recent copy of the *Journal of the*

*American Theatre Society*, wrote that "the organ is aural perfection and the ballroom is stunning. This installation, in such a storied musical landmark, is a feather in the cap of Cincinnati—how fortunate we were to be able to experience it today!"

The School for Creative and Performing Arts, founded in 1973 is a world class public arts school where dedicated students prepare for a lifelong involvement in artistic and scholastic pursuits. The Vocal Program has sev-



SCPA Children's Choir

eral levels and choir groups including The Children's Choir for grades 4-7, directed by Laurie Wyant-Zenni.

Cincinnati Ballet Otto M. Budig Academy was founded in 1997 and has built a reputation as one of the finest programs in the nation. Taught by nationally and internationally recognized faculty, Cincinnati Ballet Academy offers a comprehensive dance education through three programs: Children's Division, Main Division and Adult Division as well as five different summer programs. The primary goal at Cincinnati Ballet Academy is to provide excellence in technical and artistic training and to inspire a love of dance.

## Music Hall Christmas 1914



“Hundreds of women, many carrying emaciated infants, crowded around the Citadel of the Salvation Army, on East Eighth Street, clamoring for tickets entitling them to baskets of provisions (a chicken, potatoes, bread, a can of peas, sausages, celery, pie, coffee, sugar, milk and a copy of the War Cry), and admission to Music Hall for their children on Christmas Eve. The crowd began to arrive at 8 a.m. and although upward of 1,200 tickets had been distributed by 4 p.m., a large assemblage waited beyond that hour to get their bits of pasteboard. The women had been notified by letter that their cases had been investigated and found worthy to call for their tickets. At the children’s party at Music Hall the visitors will be given candy and toys. Santa Clause is a little short of presents this year. Five hundred or more poor little boys and girls won’t get any toys if Cincinnatians don’t jump in and give the chubby old gentleman a lift. Brigadier Dunham of the Salvation Army, is asking for about 1,000 toys for the 500 children referred to. Persons having playthings that they have no further use for will confer a great

obligation on Santa Claus and Brigadier Dunham if they will leave them at the southeast corner at Seventh and Race streets, the army’s toy storeroom. No matter if the toy soldier has a broken leg or the woolly dog is minus an ear, bring them in. Brigadier Dunham will have the items repaired and they will look as good as new to some unfortunate tot on the morning of ‘the great day’. ‘Street pot’ collections fell off from the corresponding date last year due to the bad weather and the populace’s lack of money. Two Christmas trees will be at the Home of the Friendless on Friday (Christmas day) one for the tiny babies, which will of course be a little tree, and a large one for the mothers and other inmates of the Home.” So was reported by the Cincinnati Enquirer on December 22, 1914, the activities of the Salvation Army in preparation for Christmas.

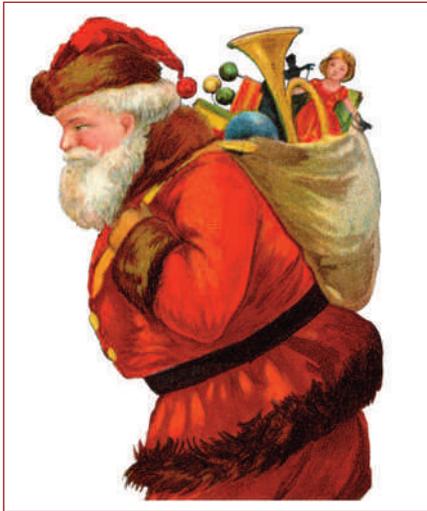
Arrangements were made for 4,000 of the city’s poorest children to attend the biggest party of its kind in the history of Cincinnati to be held at Music Hall on Thursday, December 24th. It was planned that the guests, all of whom had re-

served seats, with many sitting on their mother's lap, would be given toys cast off by the children of Cincinnati. But the number of offerings fell short until a large number of toys were delivered to the Salvation Army by the Cincinnati and Norwood schools late in the day of December 22nd. It was noted that the school children took special delight in mending their old toys and wrapping them to make the lives of the less fortunate brighter. Private sources also donated books and items of wearing apparel, all neatly wrapped, with designation as to age and gender appropriateness, and a greeting card for Christmas cheer. Wagon loads of the gifts made the trek from the central station at Seventh and Race to Music Hall but some of the gifts from outlying areas, nearly failed to reach the destination in time, due to the icy conditions of the streets.

Superintendent Condon of the public schools agreed to dismiss all students at noon on Christmas Eve so that the invited guests would have time to get to Music Hall. W. Kesley Schoepf donated funds for car tickets for those children not living within walking distance.

On the morning of December

23rd a 35 foot Christmas tree was hoisted up and installed on the Music Hall stage. So monstrous was the tree that many branches had to be cut off for it to fit on the huge stage. Wired with 375 electric lights, the tree was absolutely fire-proofed with a new chemical spray which had not yet made its appearance on the market. A company of ladies from various parts of the city undertook the task of decoration with hand-sewn items and bags of candies.



On Christmas Eve, the doors of the great Hall opened at 3 o'clock for the 4 o'clock start of the party. 4,000 boys and girls with their mothers excitedly took their seats.

While the audience waited for Santa to arrive from the rooftops, 4 year-old Eva Dunham, Brigadier Dunham's youngest daughter, found Santa resting in a box behind the curtains. Tugging at his sleeve, she told him she wanted a teddy bear, a kewpie, a baby buggy, a.... Efforts to coax Eva away failed to dissuade her. "Goin' to stay with Santy Claus all day" she announced. Then the curtains arose revealing the immense tree, brilliant with lights and the 4,000 presents piled around it. Never before had anyone in the audience

seen anything like it! Brigadier Dunham introduced Mayor Spiegel who told the children that one day they would be able to give presents to boys and girls who were poor also. "When the spirit of giving prevails more freely throughout the world there will be no more wars like the terrible one now going on in Europe" he said. Shortly thereafter, the musical entertainment began, the 'Brownie Drill', a Christmas pantomime, and the sleight-of-hand tricks performed by William Moore. All the while the crowd was becoming more and more restless. J.R. Slayten seized the sleigh bells and shaking them violently, pranced over the stage behind the wings, unseen, in imitation of reindeer. Suddenly Santa appeared and the children shrieked with glee! Colonel

James Allison played 'Santa' and what a grand Santa he was! He did, however, confide to a reporter that "I hope my whiskers don't fall off."

The tykes were then permitted to come to the stage to receive their gifts. Although many children were ill and could not attend, Santa did not forget them, distributing packages to mothers who came to accept their toys. One such mother, after telling Santa that her little girl was very sick at home with scarlet fever, was given the largest doll in the glorious mountain of gifts. Undoubtedly, this was one of the happiest days in the history of Music Hall.

(Courtesy of ProQuest Historical Newspapers Hamilton County Public Library))

## Available at the Bravo Shop



Rose Window Crystal Ornament



Rosette & Coffered Ceiling  
Rookwood Porcelain Ornament



Music Hall Crystal Ornament

## Perfect for Gifting or Keeping

## The Shining

*“Cleaning of Music Hall’s Chandelier Closeup and Rarely Seen”*

A task undertaken at least every other year is the cleaning and relamping of the Springer Auditorium Chandelier. Lowered to near floor level, the tedious work is accomplished, carefully, by a four-person crew headed by technical director Gary Kidney. On August 20th, he explained the involvement in great detail while wiping down each crystal with warm water and a soft cloth. Composed of 96 crystal cups, 204 hanging medallions, 252

crystal strands and 96 round flow-ers, the chandelier has a total of 7,464 crystals. At 21 feet in diameter, 16 feet tall and weighing 2 tons, it is the city’s largest light fixture. Work on the chandelier, the baskets and sconces on the walls takes all of 3 days. At that point the crew moves on to the five smaller chandeliers in the lobby and hallways.

Designed in 1967 by a local architectural firm headed by George



Lowered chandelier for maintenance and cleaning

19 *MUSIC HALL Marks*

F. Schatz, the baroque- style bronze and crystal chandelier was manufactured in Czechoslovakia, at a cost of \$87,000. Installed in

1969, the fixture is attached to a winch mechanism that is hooked securely into Music Hall's roof. The mechanism, at that time, cost



Close-up of signatures of the cleaning crew



Gary Kidney works on the chandelier as Kathy Janson watches with amazement.



Electrician Paul Stafford checks lighting connections

\$13,000. Mr. Kidney has been cleaning the chandelier for more than 20 years. He and the crew initial the inner part of the bronze fittings after each cleaning. Unseen by the average viewer from the seats far below (55 feet) the signatures are none the less a testimonial to the fine work of the crew and their 'craft'.

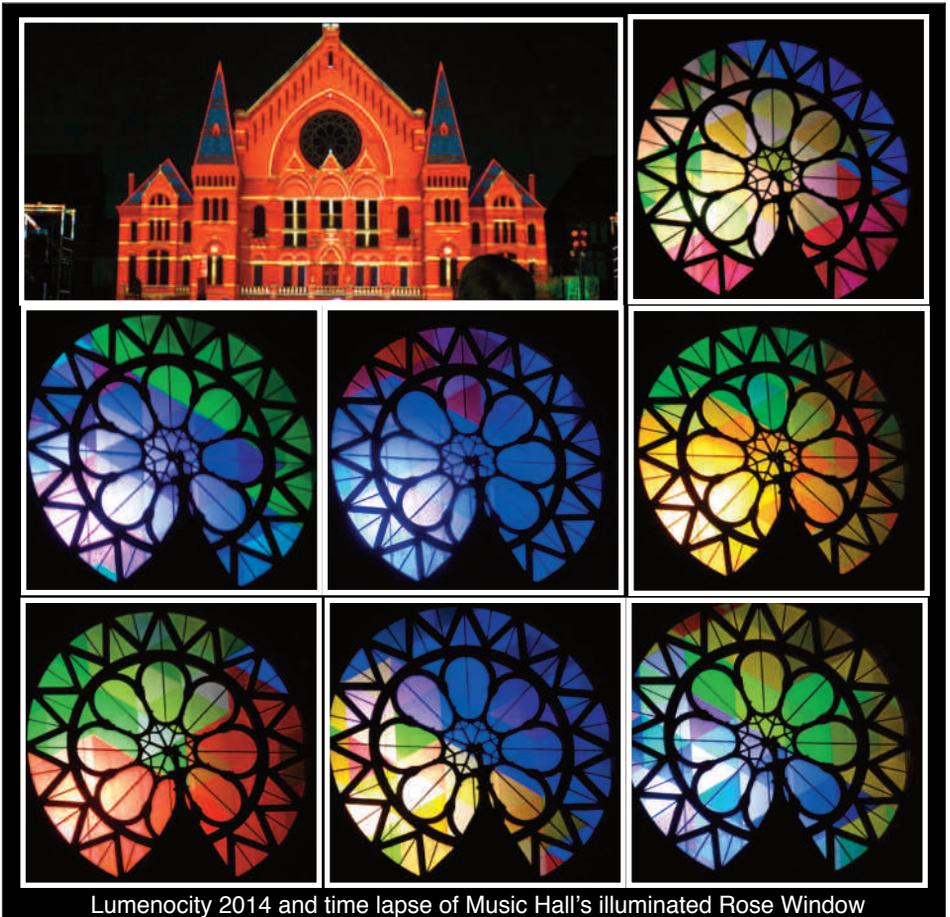


Crystal beads, flowers and medallions

## Summer Remembered

Lumenocity 2014 may be history, but what a stupendous success the three day light festival, and the vivid images are not soon forgotten! Subsequent to the event, the Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile, Jr. / US Bank Foundation paid for the illumination of the Music Hall Rose Window. The 30' diameter, eight-petaled, wood-traceried, Rose Window, framed by a huge Gothic arch, is the center-

piece of Music Hall. The illumination, on a timed mechanism, gave a 'kaleidoscope' effect of changing colors for several hours, beginning around 8:30 nightly. For a period of several months the window was ablaze and was quite striking! The spectacular Lumenocity 2014 with the additional extended illumination of the Music Hall Rose Window, made for a wonderful show and a summer to remember!



Lumenocity 2014 and time lapse of Music Hall's illuminated Rose Window

## Standing Tall for Music Hall

Few have the courage to show support for Music Hall in the way that a child did on the night of July 23rd. With the introduction “Hi, I’m really tiny and my name is Emma,” the eleven-year-old addressed three Hamilton County Commissioners at the Sharonville Convention Center public hearing. She proceeded to tell the reasons why Music Hall and the Museum Center are important to her and to her generation and she urged the Commissioners to put both institutions on the November ballot. Though ‘tiny’ she ‘stood tall for Music Hall.’

You too can “Stand Tall” for this magnificent building. If you are not now a member, join SPMH by mailing the enclosed envelope. Encourage a friend or two to join as well. Learn some fascinating history and keep on top of current activities of SPMH by visiting the website [www.spmhcincinnati.org](http://www.spmhcincinnati.org). Take a tour with your

group or family, there are many tours from which to choose and some are ‘themed’ or can be tailored to your specific interests. Why not consider becoming a tour guide? That is one of the best ways to learn a great deal of Music Hall history and a fun way to meet people from near and far! Contact

SPMH Program  
Tour Coordinator  
[Ramona Toussaint at  
rtoussaint@cincinnatiarts.com](mailto:rtoussaint@cincinnatiarts.com) or  
(513) 744-3344.

Attend functions at Music Hall, encourage your friends, introduce a child to the venue—‘Lollipops’ is not just fun for the little ones! Take time to explore before a performance. The art works and historical markers are well worth the time. Are you aware that in addition to Opera, May Festi-

val, Classical, Pops, Children’s, our ‘Mighty Wurlitzer’ and other concerts, there are Big Band Dances in the Ballroom (Glen Miller May 2014, Tommy Dorsey November 2014); shows such as the Cincin-



Emma Horton, ‘Standing Tall’

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nati Art and Antiques Festival (October 2014) and Design Build Cincy (November 2014); After Hours Bridal Show, featuring the latest in wedding trends (November 2014); Holiday Craft Show (November 2014); a number of touring performances; conferences; award ceremonies; etc.? Access the calendar at <http://local.cincinnati.com/calendar/calendar.asp> and in the Search by Keyword line type Music Hall. There you will find all the 'happenings'. Or go to [www.cincinnatiarts.org](http://www.cincinnatiarts.org).

Planning a big event, reunion, wedding, prom, graduation, business meeting, conference, fundraiser, perhaps a smaller intimate gathering, a club luncheon, a birthday, anniversary, other celebration, a book signing, exhibit? Consider the numerous possibilities of Music Hall. The Springer Auditorium, lobby, ballroom, Corbett Tower, Critics' Club are all available for rent and can accommodate groups of

all sizes. Helpful planning and event staff are available, with open catering, a full service liquor license, professional security and staff, adjacent parking facilities, everything you need for a memorable time. Contact Terri Kidney, Music Hall Rental Manager at [tkidney@cincinnatiarts.org](mailto:tkidney@cincinnatiarts.org) or (513) 744-3242.

Our one-of-a-kind Music Hall attracts people from all over the world. At the Heart of an exciting 'rebirthed' Over-the-Rhine, its history is our history. It is a source of pride and deserves our attention, our care, our participation and use. "Stand Tall for Music Hall!"



Public Hearing with Hamilton County Commissioners

## Society for the Preservation of Music Hall



[www.spmhcincinnati.org](http://www.spmhcincinnati.org).

**Renew your membership or join today  
by using the enclosed envelope.**

*-Thank You!*

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“I would maintain that Thanks  
are the highest form of thought,  
And that Gratitude is Happiness  
doubled by wonder.”

- G. K. Chesterton

With Thanks and Gratitude  
to our Members!



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## Erin Horton, Photographer

Most recently featured in the July 4th edition of the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Erin Horton's photograph 'Two Sisters' was a touching scene of two young girls experiencing the thrill of our Nation's most important celebration. Striving to capture the 'moment' her works nonetheless paint a story in emotive detail. "I love capturing the candid and unplanned," she states. "I've recently developed a renewed interest in local history. Combining these two is my next challenge. I'm always searching for the one perspective that makes a subject come alive."



Erin Horton

The cover, the Springer Auditorium Chandelier, is taken from an angle seldom viewed by visitors to Music Hall, as the gigantic masterpiece was photographed from a recumbent floor position during its cleaning in August. While photography is a passion, Horton is professionally trained in the Healthcare

Industry working most recently as a Certified EPIC Anesthesia Consultant for various hospitals throughout the country. She is active in the local community as a volunteer with the Cincinnati Children's Choir (in residence at CCM), among other causes. Erin resides in Fort Thomas, Kentucky with her husband and three young daughters.



'Two Sisters'

"The question is not what you look at,  
but what you see."

- Henry David Thoreau



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