

MUSIC HALL Marks

2016
Winter
Issue



SPMH - President's Message

As President, it is an honor to be connected to Music Hall which has always been a venerable Cincinnati icon and a symbol of the creativity in our community.

I want to start by thanking the Board for their support. You could not ask for a better or more committed team. Together we strenuously endeavor to live SPMH's mission – preserving, promoting, improving and providing education about this building that we love.

This is an exciting time to be in the Over-the-Rhine. The refurbishment of Music Hall offers an opportunity for renewal and revitalization that will further solidify our area by Washington Park as one of the country's premier musical and performing art centers.

SPMH is playing an important role in the renovation of Music

Hall. Our organization has been blessed with substantial funds from the late Patricia and Ralph Corbett and SPMH is especially proud to assist with the restoration of Corbett Tower.

We are working closely with the Music Hall Revitalization Company, with the Music Hall resident companies and with the Cincinnati Arts Association.

SPMH continues to thrive during the refurbishment period.

We are developing our marketing, outreach and educational programs to keep the spirit of Music Hall alive in our community. In closing, I want to thank all of our members whose personal efforts and financial contributions allow us to carry out our mission. Your support of our organization is much needed and sincerely appreciated.

- Peter Koenig



Peter E. Koenig

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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.

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Society for the Preservation of Music Hall

www.spmhcincinnati.org.

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

-ThankYou!



SPMH Board:(seated) Thea Tjepkema, Ken Jones, Karen McKim, Marcella Hsiung, Phillip Long, Megan Hall; (standing) Paul Muller, Ed Rider, Kathy Janson, Mark Weadick, Lisa Allison, Don Siekmann, Peter Koenig, Andrew Bowen, Meredith Downton, John Ryan, Joanne Grueter, Ken Kreider; (absent) Melissa Goddy, Tricia Johnson, Bethany Vondran

Meet New SPMH Board Members

SPMH takes pleasure in introducing two new Board members. Their talents and expertise will, no doubt enhance the Organization's strengths in meeting challenges and embracing opportunities for the good of Music Hall.

Phillip C. Long was born in Tucson, raised near Tulsa, and earned a B.A. from Tulane University in 1965. An army veteran with experience in Vietnam, he used his business acumen at J.P. Morgan and Company and his art history studies at the Metropolitan Museum of Art before moving to Cincinnati where he assumed positions at Fifth Third Bank (1974-1994) including Senior Vice President, Trust Officer, Corporate Secretary, Private Banking, Charitable Giving, and others.

Phillip became Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Taft Museum of Art (1994-2007) and is currently Director Emeritus. Currently he holds positions on Boards of

the Mercantile Library, The Cincinnati Museum Center and the Convalescent Hospital for Children. He has held board positions with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (1981 to 1987), Cincinnati Music Hall Association (1981-1992), Art Academy (1980 to 1994), Contemporary Arts Center (1974-1984), Cincinnati Country Day (1991-1998), Cincinnati Park Board (1998-2003), Spring Grove Cemetery (2000-2015), Cincinnati Arts Association (1992-2009) and (2010-2016), and other organizations.

His tireless fundraising and other efforts have positively impacted the future of art and culture in this community. Phillip and his wife Whitney have three children

and two grandchildren.

Wm. John Ryan is a long-time resident of the Greater Cincinnati area and a 1981 graduate of Miami University. He has 25 years of experience as a financial



John Ryan and Phillip Long

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advisor and as an executive in institutional sales and investment banking. He is a wealth Management Specialist and Raymond James Trust Specialist serving as complex manager for Raymond James Cincinnati/ Northern Kentucky

Active in serving his community, John is on the board and executive finance committee of the Taft Museum of Art and Freestore-Foodbank Foundation, on the in-

vestment committee of ArtsWave, on the board of the Downtown Council Inc. and on the development committee of the Lindner Center of Hope. He previously served on the boards of the Mercantile Library, CET-TV, the Cincinnati Museum Center-Children's Museum, and the Children's Home of Northern Kentucky. John and his wife Patrice have three children.

2016 SPMH Annual Meeting



Peter Koenig, Otto Budig & Steve Leeper

The SPMH Annual Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 13th at the University Club. A cocktail/hors d'oeuvres reception with music provided by pianist, Don Hurd delighted the capacity crowd.

President Peter Koenig, called the meeting to order. Noting the

recent passing of former SPMH Board President Norma Petersen as well as members Barbara Boyd and Joel Ebersole, he called for a moment of silent remembrance.

Drawing attention to the popular Wurlitzer Concert Series, Peter introduced Don Siekmann, under whose direction the program flour-

ished. As Chair of the Nominating Committee, Don took the microphone thanking retiring Directors, Barbara Harshman; Ramon Rodriguez; Rosemary Schlachter and Sue Sommer. He welcomed new Directors Phillip C. Long and John Ryan. Don stated that all current Officers have been elected to serve another year.

Andrew Bowen and Thea Tjepkema took turns detailing the successes of the Music Hall tour program. While the building is closed for renovation, emphasis is placed on outdoor walking tours, “Beyond the Bricks”, and the development of outreach programs under Director of Tours Ramona Toussaint. The current goal is to keep Music Hall in the minds of the public until the grand reopening in October 2017.

Ed Rider, Chair of the Facilities Funding Committee, took the microphone to speak about the committee which has taken responsibility for historic artifact removal, storage or disposition. He

also spoke about the restoration of the historic 1878 organ screen panels. As Chair, Ed has worked with the Committee in negotiating the terms of the \$3 million SPMH Pledge Agreement with The Music Hall Revitalization Company. The pledge is earmarked for the restoration of Corbett Tower. The Facilities Funding Committee has arranged a \$50,000 SPMH grant, as well as a \$50,000 challenge grant, to CET for the production of a documentary about the Music Hall renovation.

President Koenig introduced the evening’s guest speakers, Stephen G. Leeper, President and CEO of 3CDC and Otto Budig, Jr., President of the Music Hall Revitalization Company. Mr. Leeper gave a slide presentation illustrating proposed plans for a refurbished, ‘de-cluttered’ Music Hall. In response to a question from an audience member concerning parking, Mr. Leeper indicated that the goal is to more effectively use the Washington Park Garage. He also stated



Peter Koenig

Steve Leeper

Otto Budig, Jr.



Don Hurd



Jim Stapleton & Amy Stier

that a valet system and a shuttle system are in the plans. An additional 60 parking spaces will be available south of the new Shakespeare Theatre. The Music Hall back entrance will be eliminated and the Central Parkway Bridge

will come down

Mr. Leeper handed the microphone to Mr. Budig. "There is no Legacy more important than Music Hall" he stated "and SPMH has stepped up to the plate." Voicing concern about the exterior restora-



Ken Kreider, Don Hurd & Ron Wehmeier



Mary Coyne



Valerie Newell, Don & Linda Siekmann



Kathy & Scott Santangelo



Peter Koenig & Yvette Simpson



Lucy Koenig & Chris Pinelo

tion he noted that \$4 million is needed to finish the job properly. He remarked that 3 years ago he urged patience and said that it is now hard to quantify how much work has been done. He referred to Nelson Mandela’s “Long Walk”

ending his speech with “I am honored to be on this long walk with you.”

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

- Kathy Janson



Annual Meeting Enjoying the Buffet

Norma Petersen

“A Life Well Lived is the most Exquisite Work of Art”

– Erwin McManus.

Although Norma Petersen died on September 9th she so positively influenced the lives of

countless individuals and countless organizations that her remarkable ‘Work of Art’ lives on. Among the original members who organized SPMH, Norma prepared its Code of Regulations and its 501(c3) filings. She was the fourth and longest serving President of SPMH (2002-2010). In 2010

Karen McKim so eloquently spoke of Norma that her quote is repeated in tribute:

“She works tirelessly, and she is available for meetings literally morning, noon and night. Ask her for a 7:30 a.m. meeting—no problem. The same for any hour: and no day of the week is sacrosanct. She’ll meet with you on Saturday, Sunday, whatever. I’ve never seen anything like her! Norma really hasn’t a selfish bone in her body.

She is so personally generous, although when it comes to her non-profit organizations, she’s very

tight-fisted with their money. She likes to get as much donated as possible for them—she’s a shrewd businesswoman. She has been with School for the Creative and Performing Arts since its beginnings in the early ‘70s. She is very loyal to her passions and SCPA, CSO and Music Hall are among her pas-

sions. She is motherly and gracious. She celebrates the contributions of others, while she denigrates her own. I am impressed by her commitment to communicating: she wants to keep everyone informed. She pushes ex officio participation by all the arts tenants of Music Hall, for example. Norma knows literally everyone by name. That’s a talent I envy!”

- Karen McKim



Norma Petersen (courtesy Cincinnati Enquirer)

www.spmhcincinnati.org

TOURS: “State” of the Program

At the time of writing this program summary review we are more than two-thirds of the way through the Beyond the Bricks Outreach campaign, designed to bring to life the part of SPMH’s mission to educate the public about Music Hall. The program was conceived because of the building renovation, in hopes of keeping Music Hall in the public eye, and finds its place in the resurgence of energy and interest in modern-day OTR neighborhood. Program accomplishments include:

1. Created four new tour program products
2. Increased number of tour guides and quality of training. (Half of guides are Certified Tourism Ambassadors with the Regional Tourism Network, Cinti USA)
3. Secured a company sponsor for the outdoor building tour – Symphony Hotel donated \$3,300 to purchase an outdoor voice amplification system to improve the guest experience
4. Developed community connections to businesses, in tourism and other local tour programs

I. THE STRATEGY - Going Beyond: Tours and Speakers and Schools

Building an identifiable, brand to which the community can relate, was one of the first priorities for

outreach. The Beyond the Bricks logo was created with volunteer input and the design skills of our partner, Cincinnati Arts Association. It is the intention that outreach efforts will bring greater awareness and support to SPMH, CAA and Music Hall’s resident companies. Next was to determine what outreach in the community looked like; a three prong approach was created:

1. Beyond the Bricks: Outdoor Building Tour of Music Hall
 - Keeps the public engaged and interested in the building itself
 - Develops return visitors
 - Builds partnerships with local OTR businesses
 - Diversifies audience (for example family fun)
 - Deepens and strengthens the Music Hall story
2. Beyond the Bricks: Speaker Series
 - Brings Music Hall to your workplace, conference, civic group or nursing home on a variety of related topics. Examples include:
 - A Ladies’ Legacy: The Women Who Mattered
 - Music Hall in Pictures: A Virtual Tour
 - My O My: The Organs of Music Hall
 - Music Hall 360: Architecture of Music Hall
3. Beyond the Bricks: In-school

Program

- Designed to address Common Core standards, this entertaining, hands-on, Music Hall curriculum helps children learn as they fall in love with the building before stepping one foot in it

II. VOLUNTEERS

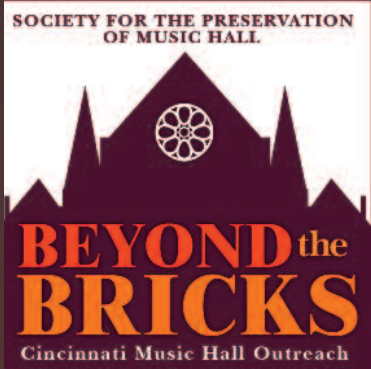
It cannot be overstated that the importance of volunteer engagement with consistent, high-level contributions are the most essential elements to this program's success as volunteers provide the passion and commitment that sustain the program. In addition, their preparedness to represent SPMH with courtesy, professionalism, knowledge and warmth is our only deliverable that matters when they are serving as the "face" of the organization to all visitors.

Retention of volunteers remains high since volunteers are engaged and committed to SPMH, Music Hall, and the program's vision for further growth and development. Regular team meetings, on-going training and development, celebration of successes, project/content development committees, and regular communications like progress reports and other information affecting Music Hall and the program, have ensured volunteers are

informed and optimistic about the program's future.

A major improvement in capacity, efficiency and consumer experience is the adoption of a ticketing system through Cincinnati Arts Association box office. Also, the addition of a private, volunteer email account allows turn-key access and control for volunteers regarding tour guests.

– Ramona Toussaint



Beyond the Bricks
New Speaker Series Comes to You!

While Cincinnati Music Hall undergoes renovation, a Society for the Preservation of Music Hall tour guide can bring this National Historic Landmark to you.

The Beyond the Bricks Speaker Series are exciting talks centered on the 140 year history of this Cincinnati icon.

Bring intriguing stories about Music Hall's past, present & future to your classroom, group meetings or functions.

For information contact Ramona Toussaint
musichalltour@spmhcincinnati.org
513-744-3293

Volunteers Make It Happen

Those who give their time to educate the public about the history of Music Hall are among the most dedicated, passionate, and enthusiastic people I have ever met. They research, plan, and entertain, representing Music Hall and SPMH with outstanding professionalism. The program's accomplishments are the result of their efforts. I recently spoke to three guides, Judy Martin, Harry Kegley and Steve Carlson to discover what gets them excited about SPMH Music Hall "Beyond the Bricks" Outreach Program.

(Judy Martin, a former violist with the CSO, has a unique viewpoint from her position on the stage; Harry Kegley is a retired teacher, who loves to spark curiosity in others and Steve Carlson describes himself as a good salesman who loves to tell a great story. Music Hall has a trove of great stories.)

You are not historians, so why do you volunteer for a National Historic Landmark?

JM: When I was with the CSO, I sometimes did behind the scenes peeks; I loved seeing people light up when their interest is piqued by some new information or insight.

HK: I volunteer because it expresses my passion for the arts and Music Hall. I want to share it with people.

SC: My high school Junior and Senior proms were in the ballroom and my graduation was on the Music Hall stage. I attended POPS concert for years. Once you learn the history you think, "This is cool". I feel it is really important to give something back - and it's a story worth telling.

What do you like the most?

JM: I would say, having people share our interest and delight in the stories that make Music Hall come to life. They bring different things and you learn from them. Fellow volunteers are interesting and enjoyable people.

HK: I completely agree-the people. My fellow guides have a wide range of interests and professions. They are dedicated and appreciative of each other and work well as a group. You meet people from all over the world on tours too, like China, Croatia and all over the US.

SC: In the past, I came to events. I appreciated it, but knowing the history has deepened my appreciation. I would also add that when you give, you get; you get something back from the people on the tours.

This is such a historic time. What is that like?

JM: Well, it makes me appreciate the 140 years of vision, dedication, and labor that went into

creating our magnificent MH and seeing it through its various updates, remodeling, and renovations.

SC: So true, I suppose when they renovated Music Hall in 1896 or 1969 they thought – that is it. But technology today will allow this place to be a crown jewel of Cincinnati for the next 100 years, I am sure. The photos of change since 1878 are incredible. There's just so much positive happening here.

HK: I feel the same way as Judy and Steve. I just know I am going to be in awe when I give that first tour.

What do you see for the future of the program?

JM: The future is just "Wow"! I am looking forward to showing people all the changes. It is going to be fun!

HK: This is the beginning of a new era. The program exploded into an exciting and vibrant endeavor; one which makes me proud to be a part of.

SC: Under the current support and leadership we have been able to tell a better story. We started out as random group without formal structure. Then we sat down together; it's pretty exciting.

–Ramona Toussaint



(front row) Ron Hoffman, Barbara Gomes, Gayley Hautzenroeder, Judy Martin, Harry Kegley, Ramona Toussaint; (back row) Steve Carlson, Thea Tjepkema, Fred Warren, Carol Kruze, SusanWestrick, Cliff Goosmann

Music Hall Flashback











Tragedy and Comedy

For several decades, thousands of patrons have passed the South Hall sculptures. 'Tragedy and Comedy', gifts of Dr. William C. Wachs, in memory of Maestro Thomas Schippers, were originally installed in the historic National Theater on Sycamore between 3rd and 4th Streets. The National, built by John Bates in 1837, was considered a marvel of architecture. For over 25 years it gave Cincinnati distinction in the theater world alongside New York and Boston. In addition to national and international actors and actresses in tragedy and comedy, there were many distinguished lyric artists. Jennie Lind made her Cincinnati debut performance at

the National. In 1884, the building was sold, eventually converted to



Tragedy



Comedy

a tobacco warehouse and was demolished in 1940. As the sculptures are not original to Music Hall, they are now considered surplus artifacts to be relegated to another venue.



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

Visit the SPMH Website
www.spmhcincinnati.org

*Wishing You the Joys
of the Season*



*And Many Blessings
in the New Year!*

Unrestored 1878 Music Hall Organ Screen Panel 'Winter' carved by Sarah "Sallie" Bigler Ehrman, student of Ben Pitman, the School of Design

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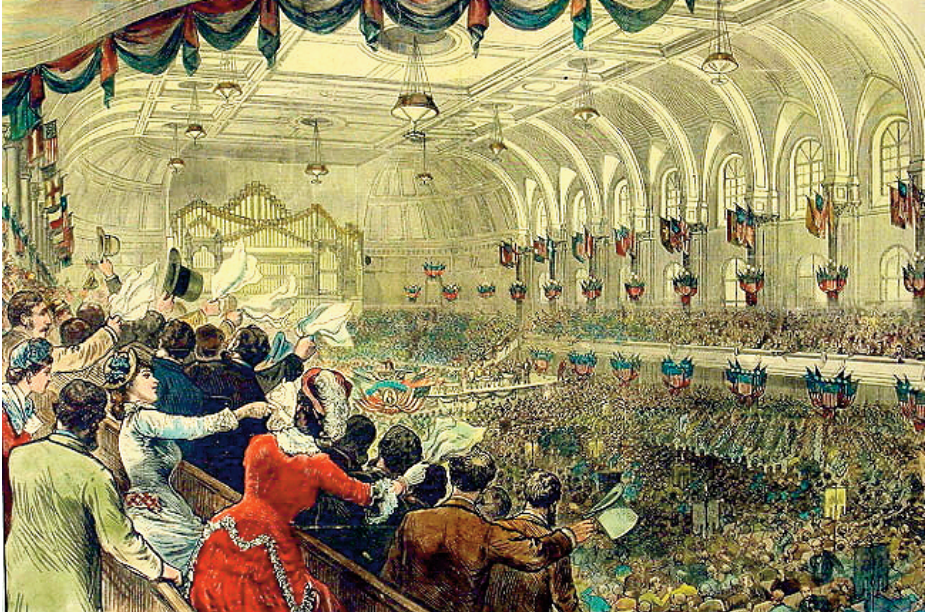
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