Western Reserve Historical Society Honored with Building the Circle Award from University Circle, Inc.

WRHS recognized for the Transformation Project, which improved the East Boulevard location of the History Center in University Circle

CLEVELAND, OH – On November 21, 2013, University Circle Inc. (UCI) hosted its 2013 Annual Meeting at the Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland. The event drew over 200 attendees and featured keynote speaker Peter Kageyama, author of For the Love of Cities. Kageyama is also a Case Western Reserve University graduate.

During the event, UCI presented the Western Reserve Historical Society with a 2013 Building the Circle Award for Phase I of the History Center Transformation Project, completed in January 2013. The new features of the Transformation Project include the Crawford Auto Aviation Wing, Reinberger Gallery, a new museum store, increased accessibility, new restrooms, and a new HVAC system.

The Crawford Auto Aviation Wing also features two exciting exhibitions: Setting the World in Motion and REVolution, both of which include historic automobiles and transportation artifacts from the WRHS Crawford Auto Aviation Collection. The wing also features a new Glass Pavilion built to house the historic Euclid Beach Park Grand Carousel in late 2014. The Glass Pavilion now stands on the corner of East 108th Street and East Boulevard as a magnificent new anchor for the WRHS’s History Center in University Circle and a breathtaking new focal point in the Circle.

Interim CEO, Kelly Falcone-Hall, accepted the award on behalf of WRHS. “Receiving University Circle’s Building the Circle Award is a high honor for the Western Reserve Historical Society,” said Falcone-Hall. “We are quite proud of our footprint in University Circle, and look forward to the ongoing transformation of the site and guest experience here. The future in and around the Circle is bright, and the Western Reserve Historical Society will continue to do its part to contribute to the vibrancy and vitality of this great arts, cultural and educational district.”

Other University Circle institutions honored with the award were Maximum Accessible Housing of Ohio’s Cotman Vistas, the Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland’s expansion, Cleveland Institute of Art’s ArtBox Project, Courtyard by Marriot, University East Courtyard, Cleveland Botanical Garden’s walkway improvements to Wade Oval, and Cleveland Sight Center’s Empowerment Park.

At the Annual Meeting, UCI presented the the 12th Annual Joseph D. Pigott University Circle Leadership Award to Thomas F. Zenty III of University Hospitals, Rev. Dr. Robert J. Campell of the Church of the Covenant, and Joseph A. Calabrese of the Greater Cleveland Regional
Transit Authority. This award was established in 2001 to honor Mr. Pigott's exceptional career and to honor those who further his vision for University Circle.

The 2013 Circle Visionary Award was given to Phillip A. Ranney and William B. La Place of the Kent H. Smith Charitable Trust. The Circle Visionary Award, given for only the second time since its inception, honor these two men for their leadership of UCI over the past decade, and their dedication to helping the organization craft a strategic plan.

About University Circle Inc.
University Circle Inc. is the development, service, and advocacy organization responsible for the growth of University Circle as a premier urban district and world-class center of innovation in healthcare, education, and arts & culture.

About the Western Reserve Historical Society
The Western Reserve Historical Society History Center is located in Cleveland’s University Circle at 10825 East Boulevard. Museum hours are Tuesday - Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday, Noon to 5 pm. Admission is $10/adult and $5/child age 3-12. Western Reserve Historical Society members and children two years and under are admitted free of charge. Group rates are available. The History Center is handicap accessible, and includes an elevator to various levels of the museum.

Founded in 1867, Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS) is Northeast Ohio's premier storyteller based on its vast collection of the tangible history of Northeast Ohio—such as: automobiles, airplanes, archives, books, carousel horses, ceramics, decorative arts, diaries, furniture, gardens, garments, genealogical resources, historic buildings, letters, maps, paintings, photographs, shoes, toys, uniforms, and weapons. It is one of the oldest and largest nonprofit regional historical societies in the nation. It presents the lives and activities of 19th-Century settlers through historic Hale Farm & Village in Bath, Ohio, and it presents the glitter and industry of the Gilded Age through the history of Cleveland's millionaires and entrepreneurs. WRHS offers a wealth of resources to research your family heritage at the History Center in University Circle, Cleveland. For more information on the Western Reserve Historical Society, 10825 East Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44106 visit: www.wrhs.org or contact Jane M. Mason, Vice President of Communications and Marketing jmason@wrhs.org 216-721-5722, x 1501

WRHS is supported in part by the residents of Cuyahoga county through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture. Sponsorships, bequests, grants, admissions, and other funding are used by WRHS to preserve and enrich the region’s artistic and cultural heritage. If you are interested in a funding opportunity for the Western Reserve Historical Society, please contact Amy Shorey, Vice President of Development, ashorey@wrhs.org.

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