

WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# 150 YEARS

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**CLEVELAND  
HISTORY  
CENTER**

of the WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**For Immediate Release**

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***100 Year Club Celebrates  
Northeast Ohio's Rich Corporate History & Entrepreneurial Spirit  
Annual Awards Dinner & Recognition Presented by KeyBank***

CLEVELAND, OH (November 2017) – Cleveland and Northeast Ohio are recognized leaders in cultivation of the entrepreneurial spirit, innovation and support of business startups, having been on the cutting edge for over 200 years of history. We will celebrate entrepreneurship past, present and future by recognizing business longevity at the annual dinner of the 100 Year Club of the Western Reserve December 4, 2017 from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm, presented by KeyBank. The featured keynote speaker this year is “serial entrepreneur,” Jeff Hoffman.

Jeff Hoffman is an entrepreneur, proven CEO, and worldwide motivational speaker. In his career, he has been the founder of multiple startups and part of a number of well-known companies, including Priceline.com, uBid.com, CTI, ColorJar, and more. He has been CEO of both public and private companies, and served as a senior executive in many capacities. He supports entrepreneurs and small businesses worldwide. In addition, he has served the White House, State Department, United Nations, and similar organizations internationally on economic growth initiatives and entrepreneurship programs. Jeff speaks internationally as keynote on topics of innovation, entrepreneurship, and business leadership.

The 100 Year Club of the Western Reserve was created in 1953 to honor an elite group of our region's corporations and institutions which have been in continuous existence for a century or more. The 100 Year Club includes over 200 members. The annual celebration recognizes the longstanding entrepreneurial and philanthropic spirit embodied in these Northeast Ohio organizations. “WRHS is the region's storyteller and the first stop for history in Northeast Ohio,” says Kelly Falcone-Hall, WRHS President & CEO. “We are especially excited to be a part of those organizations celebrating this year with our own 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We are proud to celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit and share the centennial celebrations with these innovative organizations and their contributions to the community.”

Celebrating its Sesquicentennial Anniversary, WRHS will join the following 2017 Inductees:

**Celebrating 100 Years**  
Bellefaire JCB  
Buckeye Business Products  
Cleveland Metroparks  
Construction Employers Association  
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company  
Parker Hannifin Corporation  
Tap Packaging Solutions  
Thumm's Bike & Clock Shop  
The Timken Company

**Celebrating 150 Years**  
Western Reserve Historical Society

Cocktails, induction ceremony, and dinner will take place at the **Cleveland History Center in University Circle on Monday, December 4, 2017 beginning at 5:30PM and ending promptly by 9:00PM**. This well attended event provides an opportunity to network with representatives of major companies, organizations and entrepreneurs and is open to anyone who wishes to celebrate the history of Northeast Ohio entrepreneurship. Event chair is Cindy Bruml, member of the WRHS Board of Directors. Tickets to the evening are \$150 per person and include open bar, dinner, and complimentary valet parking. Tickets can be purchased online or by phone, (216) 721-5722 x1404. Expected attendance is 300-350 people. Please visit the WRHS website at [www.wrhs.org](http://www.wrhs.org) for more information about evening sponsors and a complete listing of all the 100 Year Club members.

**Proceeds from the event benefit WRHS's Youth Entrepreneurship Education Program (YEE).** More than 10,000 students participate in the YEE program which reaches over 90 percent of Cleveland Metropolitan School District schools and serves every 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade student. These students learn the benefits of an entrepreneurial mindset: innovation, creativity, problem solving and sense of self. Step into the Cleveland History Center on any given school day and find students investigating the characteristics of successful entrepreneurs by examining advertisements, letters, photographs, and articles pulled from the WRHS archives and museum collection. YEE is made possible by a lead gift from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation.

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***About the Western Reserve Historical Society and Cleveland History Center** Founded in 1867 as an historic branch of the Cleveland Library Association on Public Square in downtown Cleveland, the Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS) has been here to preserve and provide access to the stories of Northeast Ohio and beyond – stories of the people, the artifacts and the archives that are the evidence of our collective past.*

*Operating six sites throughout Northeast Ohio, WRHS presents exhibitions, programs and experiences that tell the story of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio through items, documents and artifacts from a variety of collections at its headquarters, the Cleveland History Center in University Circle. Through the use of its vast and varied collections in the areas of family history, community history, entrepreneurship, and technological innovation, the Cleveland History Center provides the public with a much-needed sense of place in today's mobile society, and a base for learning about invention and ingenuity that can be transferred into modern economic expansion.*

*One admission to the Cleveland History Center includes access to Cleveland Starts Here® sponsored by the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation, two historic mansions, both on the National Register of Historic Places, the Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum (with support from The Frederick C. and Kathleen S. Crawford Fund of the Cleveland Foundation), Chisholm Halle Costume Wing, Research Library, Kidzibits Playzone, Community History Galleries, and two rides on the Euclid Beach Park Grand Carousel.*

*WRHS is a Smithsonian Affiliate ([www.affiliations.si.edu](http://www.affiliations.si.edu)) a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums, educational, and cultural organizations to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. 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. Charity Navigator, the nation's most-used independent evaluator of charities and nonprofits, has given WRHS a top four-star rating. For more information, visit us at 10825 East Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44106, at [www.wrhs.org](http://www.wrhs.org) or on social media @clestartshere.*

