



THE DEPOT FOUNDATION

— in support of arts and culture —

— in support of arts & culture —

ENJOY THE MAGIC. SUPPORT THE SPIRIT.



Fall 2013

expressions



Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra: Family Days at the Depot



St. Louis County Historical Society: Artifact Display Case Improvement Project

This issue of Expressions highlights the community leaders who provide and enrich the arts and culture in our area. Without passionate individuals to blaze the way, we would have so much less to experience, learn and enjoy.

The Depot Foundation celebrates the achievements of the recipients of six Arts and Culture Awards each year. Please mark your calendars for this wonderful annual event: The *Fourteenth Annual Arts and Culture Awards* ceremony will be held during the *Circle of Friends Celebration* at the St. Louis County Heritage and Arts Center (the Depot) on Wednesday, October 23rd.

The Circle of Friends Celebration

Art, history, culture, and the people who make it possible.

Recipients of the 2013 Arts and Culture Awards are:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ■ Dan and Cathy Mundt
<i>Lifetime Achievement Award</i> | ■ Ken Buehler
<i>Community Enrichment Award</i> |
| ■ Anne Labovitz
<i>Artist Award</i> | ■ Don Ness
<i>Initiative Award</i> |
| ■ David Salmela
<i>Lifetime Artist Award</i> | ■ Dan Hartman
<i>Historic Preservation and Interpretation Award</i> |

Join in celebrating their well-deserved recognition at our community treasure, the Historic Union Depot.

We extend an invitation to you and all community members who share our commitment to arts, culture and history.

Call 279-9913 today to make your reservation (\$30 person).



Melinda Machones, Chair
Development Committee

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Consider a Bequest to The Depot Foundation

Many of you who read this Expressions are valued contributors to the Depot Foundation. You may be interested to know that your annual gift can be continued, forever, through a relatively modest bequest. As an example, in order to continue an annual contribution of \$300 into perpetuity, a bequest to the Foundation of \$7,500, through your will or trust, will make this happen. This scenario assumes a 4% annual growth in the Foundation's endowment.

We often say that a gift to the Depot Foundation is "The Gift that Keeps on Giving". With this arrangement, your gift will indeed keep on giving through a legacy of support to the Depot Foundation.

Since 1979, The Depot Foundation has granted over 3 million dollars to the Historic Union Depot, and the arts, cultural and historic organizations who call it home. By providing a legacy of support, you can help ensure that the Depot Foundation will be able to continue its mission for years to come.

For more information on making your support of the Depot Foundation last forever, please contact the Foundation office at 218.279.9913.

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CIRCLE *of* FRIENDS

2013 ARTS *and* CULTURE AWARDS
C E L E B R A T I O N

St. Louis County Heritage and Arts Center

October 23, 2013 - 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Arts and Culture Awards Committee

Jean Olson, *Chair*

Ken Bloom

Linda Boben

Dennis Lamkin

Dick Fischer, *Ex-officio*



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**2013 Arts and Culture
Lifetime Achievement Award
Dan and Cathy Mundt**

An admirer calls Dan and Cathy Mundt “two of the most kind-hearted and generous humanitarians I know.” The Mundts believe in giving back to the community that has given them so much. Their dedicated funds through the Community Foundation support a scholarship fund, Late Bloomers, and contribute to multiple area organizations. Active in their church, Dan is the founder of the Northern Bible Society. The Mundts were early sponsors of shows at the Duluth Playhouse and continue to sponsor shows. In addition to sponsoring shows, Dan and Cathy give away their “sponsor night” tickets to those who couldn’t afford to come.



**2013 Arts and Culture
Artist Award
Anne Labovitz**

Duluth native Anne Labovitz has had a distinguished career for 25 years. She has international and gallery representation, including a show at the Duluth Art Institute featuring work by Anne and her grandmother. Her recent exhibit at the Tweed Museum featured her densely layered portraits combining drawing with multicolored painted surfaces with woodblock printed overlays. Her passion for art also and the human spirit motivates her to teach art education workshops for art enthusiasts of all ages.



**2013 Arts and Culture
Lifetime Artist Award
David Salmela**

David Salmela has earned national respect and honors for his contemporary architecture which “reflects the culture of place.” In honoring him with a 2008 AIA Gold Medal, his peers said, “Salmela’s work is distinctively Minnesotan, and he has done so many projects that are so good.” He has been recognized for small and large projects such as the National AIA Award winning Brandenburg studio in Ely and the Jackson Meadow Development in Marine on St. Croix. Salmela’s design work has recently evolved to include public projects such as the UMD Bagley Classroom Building as well as outdoor furniture for LOLL Design.



**2013 Arts and Culture
Community Enrichment Award
Ken Buehler**

Ken Buehler has enriched our community by his dedication to the Historic Union Depot for over 15 years. Ken is a walking encyclopedia of railroad history. Under his leadership, the North Shore Scenic Railroad has nearly doubled the number of riders and helps to provide the funding to stabilize the Lake Superior Railroad Museum. The Railroad Museum is recognized as one of the best in the country. Ken is an expert networker, and a great motivator of staff and volunteers.



**2013 Arts and Culture
Initiative Award
Don Ness**

Don Ness is a supporter of many Duluth arts and culture initiatives, especially original live music. He was one of the founders of the Music and Arts Collective (The MAC) which served as a venue for all-ages concerts in 2002 and 2003 and was the Homegrown Music Festival director in 2006 and 2007. Under Don's leadership, Homegrown went from a 3 day festival to an 8 day festival. As Mayor, he has consistently supported the arts and the Depot. He has promoted the arts through a number of local initiatives, including the North x North promotion, the Duluth Public Arts Commission, and the restoration of the Norshor Theater.



**2013 Arts and Culture
Historic Preservation and Interpretation Award
Dan Hartman**

Dan Hartman was part of the team that developed Veterans Memorial Hall and the Amatuzio Research Center, programs of the St. Louis County Historical Society. His passion and love for local history has engaged and inspired the next generation of historians through his work with the Intern Exhibit Program at the Depot. Dan's skills have helped promote the Northland History Coalition, providing networking opportunities for regional history professionals.

Annual Giving - Thank you, Donors!

The Depot Foundation appreciates every gift, no matter the size. Your contributions – undesignated, designated, restricted, immediate or deferred – are vital to the preservation and presentation of art, culture, and the history of our region. Your gifts provide for the artists and audiences of today as well as for the cultural enrichment of future generations. The Depot Foundation gratefully acknowledges all donors who gave between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013.

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Up to \$100

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\$100,000 or more

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The Depot Foundation recognizes cumulative giving by membership circle. Donors are awarded the distinction of Circle Membership as follows:

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Thank you!

Notice: The Annual meeting of the Corporation will be held at 8 p.m.
in the Duluth Playhouse Theatre, immediately preceding the Arts and Culture Awards presentation.

The Depot Foundation Facilities Committee Strikes Again, by Tom Whittaker:

The Depot Foundation Facilities Committee, chaired by yours truly, and populated by representatives from the building manager, Oneida; the Historic Union Depot corporation; the exhibiting PMOs, The Lake Superior RR Museum, the SLC Historical Society, and the Duluth Playhouse; and 5 Depot Foundation board members; is responsible for building improvements that will attract visitors, and/or enhance their experience when they do visit. The committee's early accomplishments included:

- The colorful banners on the west side of the Playhouse
- The pennants in the parking lot
- The stunning graphic on the Playhouse office window
- The wonderful mural in the rotunda, and other improvements to that space.
- The beautiful visitor reception desk
- A new sound system for the Great Hall
- Donor recognition plaques and video for the Immigrants Room.
- Preparations for reopening the front doors to the Great Hall

The Foundation recently concluded that it is not feasible to reopen the front doors at this time, so the committee has tackled other projects:

- Replacing the Michigan Street "monument" signs with new signs from Glyphics and Advanced Design which mirror the Great Hall entrance décor.
- Replacing 17 high priority interior way-finding signs with modern, but historically sensitive, new signs created by Glyphics and Let the Whole World Know.
- Contracting with Advanced Design to replace or add 70 new ADA compliant interior signs.

Projects in the works include:

- In place of reopening the Great Hall front doors, enhancing and improving the existing Michigan Street entrance, and the Mezzanine entrance to the Underground and the new DAI Gift Shop. Proposals from local architects for conceptual designs are under review.
- Replacing the banners on the outside of the Playhouse with permanent lighted signage that can be clearly seen from the freeway.
- Decorative lighting of the building exterior

And when we finish all of that, we will look for something else to attract visitors, and/or make their visits more memorable. Like the improvements noted above, these improvements will be designed and built by local artists and craftsmen.



The Depot's new sign



Minnesota Ballet: Dance Day at the Depot



The Underground: The Dating Game



Duluth Art Institute: Water Works Exhibition and Series



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130 W. Superior Street
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Duluth, MN 55802-1805



Lake Superior Railroad Museum: Children's Exhibit Area in NP Baggage/Gallery car #255



Arrowhead Chorale:
Elizabethan Dinner

Mission: The Depot Foundation is dedicated to preserving the Historic Union Depot as a vibrant and welcoming forum for the arts, culture and history through managing and growing a permanent endowment.

Depot Foundation offices:

The office space is made possible by a generous gift from the U.S. Bank Corporation and U.S. Bank Foundation.
We gratefully acknowledge their continuing support.

Thank you Sponsors!

We are most grateful to the following businesses and individuals whose generous in-kind and financial support makes Depot Foundation events possible, including the *Circle of Friends Celebration* and the *Arts and Culture Awards*:
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