



LAURA ANN RAU
HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD
presented by
Columbus Historical Preservation Trust, Inc.

The Laura Ann Rau Historic Preservation Award recognizes recent historical preservation, rehabilitation or restoration involving a structure in the City of Columbus, Texas, or in the vicinity of Columbus. It is awarded to a group or individual, who has either restored a structure or contributed, on multiple occasions, to historical preservation activities in the Columbus area.

The Laura Ann Rau Historic Preservation Award is named in honor of a woman who has worked tirelessly to preserve and maintain historic structures in Columbus. Her preservationist activities epitomize the impact that one person can have on the historical preservation of a local community, and how that local historical preservation improves historical preservation in Texas at large. Her preservationist activities include the leadership roles in many historical boards including: Texas Historical Foundation for several years, the Colorado County Historical Commission, the Colorado County Historical Survey Committee, and President and Executive Director of the Columbus Historical Preservation Trust. In Colorado County she has personally funded and directed the preservation and restoration of the 1858 Dilue Rose Harris house (open to the public), the 1872 William G. Hunt house, the relocation and restoration of the 1863 Mewes-Gant House, the 1852 Dr. Thomas W. Harris building (the only remaining pre-Civil War commercial building in Columbus), and the circa 1860 Prairie Street House. She was also involved with the restoration and preservation of the 1869 Tate- Senftenberg -Brandon House (open to the public), the 1870s Keith Traylor House, the circa 1860 Buescher Cottage, the circa 1860 Capt. Richard Cook House, and the 1836 Alley log cabin (open to the public and home of her great-great-grandmother Nancy Millar Alley). She has served as Chairman for the final restoration of the Grand Hall of the 1886 Stafford Opera House and the advisory committee for the restoration of the Colorado County Court House. In addition she has also been involved with obtaining many of the Texas State Historical markers in Colorado County.

Projects – Consideration will be given to those projects that conform to the Department of Interiors Standards for Preservation and Guidelines for Preserving Historic Buildings. In addition, the contribution of the structure to enhancing the historic character of Columbus and vicinity, to promoting tourism in the area, and in making Columbus a more desirable

community in which to live and work will be considered. Projects that include exterior work visible to the public will be given preference.

Individuals – Individuals, who have coordinated preservation projects, publicly encouraged others to engage in historic preservation activities and have created increased awareness of historic preservation through, writing, photography, art or other forms of public education, will be considered.

The recipient of the award will be determined by an Award Committee designated by and under the auspices of the Columbus Historic Preservation Trust, Inc. Members of the Award Committee may include individuals with specialized knowledge who are not members of CHPT or the CHPT board. A majority of the Award Committee members will be residents of Colorado County.

A cash honorarium of \$500 will be given to the winner of the award. The honorarium will be funded by the Wade Family Foundation. Members of the Board of Directors of the Columbus Historic Preservation Trust, Inc. and of the Award Committee may be eligible to receive the award but not the cash honorarium.

Applications for the award may be submitted by any interested party. For projects, the application should include a description of the historical nature of the structure, any historic documents and photographs used as a guideline for the project, and any architectural plans indicating the historical preservation aspects of the project. Before and after photographs of the project are strongly desired. It is understood that the documentation for many projects may not be complete. The absence of some documentation will not preclude a project from being selected for the award. For individuals the application should include specific examples of activities the individual has engaged in, including but not limited to, photographs of projects, copies of newspaper or other articles related to historic preservation, and general biographical information that supports the nomination.

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NOMINATION FORM FOR PROJECT OR PERSON

Section A must be completed for all submissions. Sections B and C must be completed for Project nominations, and Section D must be completed for a nomination of a Person without a specific Project.

A. Nominator Information

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

B. Project Information

Project Name _____

Project Address _____

C. Suggested Award Recipient* for Project in B above (attach additional pages if needed)

Organization/
Individual _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

D. Person's Information (when no specific project is specified)

Person's Name _____

Person's Address _____

*Note: Nominations of public agencies should clearly demonstrate how the reason(s) for nomination is distinguished from those projects or activities that would normally fall within the agency's mandate to execute. Nominations of firms or companies shall clearly demonstrate involvement beyond contractual scope.

Submit nominations by mail, hand delivery, or email, to:

Columbus Historical Preservation Trust, Inc.

PO Box 816 • 425 Spring Street

Columbus, TX 78934

Email: LAR.PreservationAward@gmail.com

NOMINATION CHECKLIST

All materials must be received or postmarked by the submission due date and may be submitted as hard copy or by email. A complete nomination packet must include:

A completed **Nomination Form**

A **Summary Statement** (150-300 words) giving a brief description of the nomination; some of the following could be included

- The history and significance of the historical resources involved in the project;
- The project's impact on or benefit to the community;
- The conditions and challenges posed by the project;

Supporting Documentation may be of any length and may include;

- For building projects: Photographs, plans, and other documentation sufficient to illustrate the property before and after the nominated activity. High resolution digital images submitted by email are acceptable. Digital photos should be in TIF or JPEG. All printed images should be on photographic paper. Photographs will not be returned. Copies of plans or documentation can be submitted; original documents are not required.
- Letters of support, if any, which are especially encouraged for nominations of individuals, organizations, or agencies.
- For interpretive/educational projects: A copy of the material, such as a book, brochure, DVD/CD, website links, or photographs of exhibits or activities.
- Copies of other materials, such as news clippings or other commendations that support the case for noteworthiness of the project or activity, if any.