



Newsletter

February 2024

Make A Leap Day Donation!

Join Us! Leap Day Fundraiser

THE PEPCO BUILDING

FEBRUARY 29TH | 999 E STREET NW | 6:30-9:00PM | Ticket: \$135



HORS D'OEUVRES | OPEN BAR | NETWORKING
WWW.DCPRESERVATION.ORG

Thursday, February 29, 2024
6:30 - 9:00 PM

The DC Preservation League invites you to attend its Leap Day Fundraiser at the historic Pepco Building at 999 E Street, NW!

Enjoy mingling with supporters of historic preservation from across the region with hors d'oeuvres and an open bar. Brief remarks will be made by DCPL's Executive Director, Rebecca Miller.

999 E Street NW was constructed in 1931 as the headquarters of the Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco). The nine-story, limestone-clad, steel-frame office building was designed by accomplished D.C. architect Waddy B. Wood (1869-1944). Wood adopted a restrained and elegant blend of Neoclassical and Art Deco styles often seen in Federal buildings of this era.

Wood's use of this style implies not just Pepco's corporate success but also its social responsibility as a public utility. The building was extensively renovated in 2019, preserving its historic façade and restoring many historic interior details.

The historic Pepco Building is located near the Archives, Gallery Place, and Metro Center Metro stations.

Business Attire

Purchase Tickets

Become a Sponsor

2024 Grant Application Open Through March 4, 2024



The [2024 grant application](#) is open through March 4, 2024. The [Preservation Initiatives Grant Program](#) provides matching grants to individuals and nonprofit organizations for preservation planning, research, outreach/education, and bricks and mortar projects related to historic and cultural sites. These grants are intended to help stimulate public discussion, introduce the public to preservation concepts and techniques, make technical expertise accessible, and encourage partnerships. The program is administered by the DC Preservation League. The program is supported by two separate funding sources and is focused on specific areas of the District: [Brightwood Car Barn \(Ward 4\)](#) and [Virginia Avenue Tunnel \(Area of Potential Effects in Southeast Washington\)](#).

If you have any questions, please contact [Zachary Burt, DCPL's Community Outreach and Grants Manager](#), at zach@dcpreservation.org.

2024 Grant Information and Application

Frederick Douglass National Historic Site Tour

Saturday, February 17th, 2:00 - 3:00 PM EDT
In-Person | 1411 W Street SE



Image of Cedar Hill, taken by Carol Highsmith. Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress.

This February, DCPL invites its members on a tour of the Frederick Douglass House, a [National Historic Site](#) located in Southeast DC. The tour will be led by the National Park Service. Attendees will be able to enter the home to see its interior, which has been carefully restored to its 1895 appearance. Attendees will also have the option to walk the grounds, explore the visitor center, and view a 19-minute film about Frederick Douglass. Make sure to grab your ticket today!

This program is for DCPL members only. Suggested donation of \$10.00 with donations available through Venmo (@DCPresLeague) or online. Please register online to reserve your spot!

Register Here

The Last Supper Sculpture: History & Viewing

Saturday, February 24th, 2:30 - 3:30 PM EDT
In-Person | 3423 Holmead Place NW



Image of the bas relief sculpted by Akili Ron Anderson. Photo courtesy of Joe Graf.

During a building renovation in 2019, a 20-foot-wide bas relief of Akili Ron Anderson's reinterpretation of Leonardo Da Vinci's The Last Supper was discovered. Since its discovery, the [Studio Acting Conservatory](#) (the new owner of the space) made efforts

to relocate the Last Supper to the Smithsonian Institute’s National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). Although multiple constraints prevented the move, NMAAHC repaired and restored the sculpture, in addition to creating a 3-D rendering and accessioning it into their collection. Join DCPL and the Studio Acting Conservatory on Saturday, February 24th at 2:30 PM for this rare behind-the-scenes look at this unique sculpture, for a private Q & A with the artist himself, [Akili Ron Anderson](#).

This program is free and open to the public. Suggested donation of \$10.00, with donations available through Venmo (@DCPresLeague) or online. Please register online to participate.

Register Here

New DC Historic Sites Tour

M Street High School: Where Trailblazers Thrived



Photo of the former M Street High School in 1986, when the building was added to the National Register of Historic Places. Photo taken by Patricia Fisher for National Register documentation.

DC Preservation League has collaborated with [Perry School Community Services Center](#) on a tour that highlights the history of M Street High School, the historic landmark at 128 M Street NW where the Perry Center is located. This tour is part of the [M Street Project](#), an initiative of the Perry Center.

This tour explores the rich history of M Street High School and how the school’s administration, faculty, and students shaped DC’s political, social, and cultural landscape. The school operated out of the red brick building between 1891 and 1916, before relocating to the newly constructed Dunbar High School.

On this journey through DC, explore connections to the school’s trailblazers, including Carter G. Woodson, Nannie Helen Burroughs, Charles Hamilton Houston, Anna Julia Cooper, Hilyard Robinson, Mary Church Terrell, Robert Terrell, and Iona Rollins Whipper. M Street High School inspired ideas that challenged societal norms and shaped discourse on equality and justice. Today, the Perry Center carries on the school’s legacy, ensuring that the spirit of excellence fostered by M Street High School thrives and continues into the future.

Take The Digital Tour!

M Street Project

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