



Newsletter

August 2025

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Farewell to Shae Corey, DCPL's Programs Manager



Photo by Justin Bray.

The DC Preservation League bids a fond farewell to Shae Corey, who has worked at DCPL for the past four years — first as a graduate fellow and then as Programs Manager. Shae is departing to start a PhD program in American History at George Mason University. Shae has helped make DCPL's programming and events a success, and her positive attitude, energy, and knowledge will be missed. However, we at DCPL are so excited for her as she starts this next chapter in her professional career. Below is an excerpt from Shae's farewell letter, [which can be read in full at LinkedIn](#):

One of my biggest accomplishments in this role [as DCPL's Programs Manager] was the launch of DC's first Legacy Business Program. I conducted extensive research, drafted and published multiple reports, and interviewed business owners about their experiences operating establishments in DC. I developed a new passion for the subject, and was able to gain traction with different nonprofits across the city. I am still holding out hope that the program will attract funding in the future and will be able to financially support DC's amazing small businesses.

DCPL also gave me the flexibility to continue practicing oral history, and I was able to conduct a large project on a unique church group in the Adams Morgan neighborhood of DC. Ultimately, all of the research and history work I was doing drove me to reconsider a lifelong dream of mine: getting my PhD. I am happy to say that in a few weeks, I will be working towards my doctorate in 20th century American History full-time at George Mason University. I will be studying religious history in DC and analyzing the impact of monastic lifestyles on the city's development.

Of course, this is an incredibly bittersweet transition. If you follow me on LinkedIn, I am always raving about my job and how much I love my work. Getting paid to tour gorgeous buildings and give walking tours about funky history topics? Dream gig. Of course, I could only leave such a dream for an even bigger dream. During my three years at the DC Preservation League, I have grown both as an individual and as a practitioner. Working in a small office with only four full-time staff, my coworkers and I grew incredibly close, and I can truly say that they make my life so much better! I know with certainty that they will remain key fixtures in my life as I enter this new stage of my career.

My perspective on history and my passion for DC's built landscape have both been shaped by my work at DCPL. I am thankful for all of the staff and the members at DCPL who have supported me, counseled me, and helped me grow throughout these past four years. As I transition out of my role, I am comforted by the fact that I am not leaving the city I love, or the people that have guided my career — I'm simply working in a different office.

Best of luck, Shae!

Questions and inquiries that would have been directed at Shae can now be sent to Kelli Knox, kelli@dcpreservation.org.

Landmarks Update

Marist College (Marist Hall, The Catholic University of America)



Photo of Marist Hall, The Catholic University of America, 2022. Photo by John DeFerrari.

On July 24, 2025, the Historic Preservation Review Board designated Marist College, now known as Marist Hall and located on the campus of The Catholic University of America, as a historic landmark listed in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites. This nomination was submitted by the DC Preservation League in November 2022.

Marist College was designed in the Romanesque Revival style by Lemuel W. Norris and completed in 1900. Along with Holy Cross College (now known as O’Boyle Hall, 1899), Marist College was one of the first purpose-built seminaries to affiliate with The Catholic University of America. It embodied the goals and aspirations of the Society of Mary — to enhance Catholic education in partnership with the university, which was founded in 1887. Many Catholic institutions were established near the campus, giving Brookland the nickname of “Little Rome.”

Enrollment at Marist College grew steadily until the early 1960s, but a sharp decline the following decade left much of the building vacant. The neighboring Catholic University, however, was growing rapidly and needed space. Thus, in 1975, the Marists and Catholic University agreed to a trade. Marist College would be transferred to the university and become Marist Hall in exchange for nearby real estate. Marist Hall became an integral academic building at the university, thanks to its location and legacy as a meeting place for students and faculty. Until the mid-2010s, Marist Hall housed large classrooms and around 70-80 faculty offices.

[Read More
Here](#)

Understanding Historic Interior Designations



Dining Room, Barney Studio House, ca. 1980. Photo from National Register Nomination Form.

Did you miss the recent webinar on *Understanding Historic Interior Designations*? If so, you can now watch the webinar on YouTube! In this webinar, DCPL’s Community Outreach and Grants Manager Zachary Burt presents the basics of historic interior designations and provides an overview of the 22 historic landmarks in DC with protected interior spaces. You can also read more about each landmark by clicking on the virtual tour at DC Historic Sites.

[Understanding Historic Interior Designations
Webinar](#)

[Virtual Tour at DC Historic
Sites](#)

Upcoming Webinar and Walking Tour with the DC Preservation League and the Art Deco Society of Washington



The Nixon-Mounsey House (1950), designated as a historic landmark in 2022. Photo by Justin Scalera, Historic American Buildings Survey.

This year marks the centennial of the 1925 Paris International Exposition of Modern Decorative and Industrial Arts that introduced Art Deco to the world. To help us recognize its significance, the DC Preservation League and the [Art Deco Society of Washington](#) are partnering once again to bring you two fun and educational events: a webinar and a walking tour. Both events will be led by ADSW President Steve Knight.

Steve Knight has served as President of the Art Deco Society since 2016. He is a practicing architect and Principal with David M. Schwarz Architects here in Washington. Steve enjoys collecting Art Deco antiques, and lecturing on the era’s design and architecture. He has organized and conducted a number of walking tours on behalf of ADSW over the years.

Webinar: Discovering Deco DC
Tuesday, September 9th | 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Virtual via Zoom | Free

Art Deco can be found throughout Washington in a variety of building types, including apartments, commercial and federal buildings, as well as theaters, transportation facilities, and more. Steve’s well-illustrated talk will cover the origins and character defining features of Art Deco, one of the most comprehensive and preeminent aesthetics of the 20th century that touched everything from product design, graphic design, sculpture, film, fashion, home furnishings, and of course architecture. Steve will also highlight a handful of Art Deco preservation successes on which both ADSW and DCPL worked together.

This webinar is free and open to the public, but you must register in advance.

[Register Here](#)

Walking Tour: Art Deco in Downtown DC
Sunday, September 14th | 12:00 PM to 1:15 PM
In-Person | \$10 for DCPL/ADSW Members, \$20 for Non-Members

The walking tour will highlight the architecture and decorative art of some of downtown Washington’s Art Deco treasures. The tour will cover approximately one mile and last about one hour. The tour will not end at the same place that it starts. Please wear comfortable walking shoes.

Where: Downtown DC, near Metro Center (specific meeting instructions will be sent in advance to all registrants)

This walking tour is \$10 for DCPL and ADSW members, and \$20 for non-members. If you are an ADSW member interested in registering, please email Kelli Knox at kelli@dcpreservation.org.

[Register Here](#)

Historic Preservation 101: Panel Discussion

Wednesday, September 17th | 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
In-Person | Cleveland Park Library
3310 Connecticut Avenue NW



This panel, hosted by the [Cleveland Park Historical Society](#) and the DC Preservation League, offers an accessible introduction to the history of historic preservation and designation in our city. Experts will explore how the city’s built environment has evolved, explain the design review process, and discuss how zoning issues shape neighborhoods.

Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of how preservation policies balance protecting architectural heritage with guiding future development.

Panelists:

- Zachary Burt, Community Outreach and Grants Manager, DC Preservation League
- Maxine Brown-Roberts, Development Review Specialist, DC Office of Planning
- Todd Jones, Historic Preservation Specialist, DC Office of Planning
- Sarah Vonesh, Director of Preservation Planning and Senior Project Manager, EHT Traceries

This event is free and open to the public, but you must register in advance.

Register Here

Crab Feast 11

Saturday, September 27th | 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Washington Canoe Club
3700 Water Street NW



Join the DC Preservation League and the [Capital Pride Alliance](#) for their annual Crab Feast at the historic [Washington Canoe Club](#), one of DC’s most picturesque locations on the banks of the beautiful Potomac River.

This event takes place entirely outdoors, with canoes and paddle boards available for adventures on the water.

Date & Time: Saturday, September 27th, 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm (Rain Date: October 11th)

Tickets: \$85 for ages 13+; \$25 for kids 12 and under. Includes: all-you-can eat crabs, shrimp, corn on the cob, hot dogs, and ice cream + beer, wine, soda, and water available. Limited seating available: Get your tickets now!

Cancellations/Refunds: Requests for refunds will only be considered more than 5 days prior to the event, and transaction fees will be subtracted from the refund total. Cancellations 5 days or less from the event will not be refunded, but the ticket cost can be converted to a tax-deductible donation. If you have any questions, please email Kelli Knox, kelli@dcpreservation.org.

Register Here

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DC Preservation League | 1328 Florida Avenue NW 2nd Floor | Washington, DC 20009 US

