

2023 GOVERNOR'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

Palm Springs Preservation Foundation



In operation for 26 years, the **Palm Springs Preservation Foundation (PSPF)** is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating and promoting public awareness about the importance of preserving the historical resources and architecture of Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley. The organization's board of directors is an unsalaried group of enthusiastic volunteers who devote much of their free time to accomplishing the PSPF mission.

PSPF has strenuously advocated for the historic designation of many endangered buildings. While these advocacy efforts have not always come to fruition, PSPF has had some notable successes including the Town & Country Center (1948, Paul R. Williams & A. Quincy Jones), Tahquitz Plaza I (1974, Kaptur-Lapham & Associates) and Tahquitz Plaza II (1977, Hugh M. Kaptur) (today known as "Kaptur Plaza"). PSPF has a long, successful record of designating and preserving architecturally important private homes as well as commercial buildings, historic districts, and local landmarks.

The breadth of PSPF's preservation mission is further enhanced through their educational programming, including an award-winning publishing program that brings recognition to various local building styles, local architects, architectural designers, and local master builders. As a co-founder of Modernism Week, PSPF

contributes to the twice-yearly event, sponsoring a free lecture series. PSPF's house tours of historically and architecturally significant residences further educates the public about the region's resources and the value and benefit of historic preservation. Other educational and outreach efforts include, among others, a grant program supporting preservation focused projects and architecturally themed research efforts; financial sponsorship of major Palm Springs Art Museum exhibitions, with periods of free public admission a stipulation of PSPF sponsorship; and the production of public service videos that advocate for historic preservation.

Since 2007, PSPF has offered free membership as a public benefit. This has allowed PSPF to expand its membership roster to about 3,000 individuals and families throughout the region and includes members from overseas. Expansion of the PSPF membership has greatly broadened the organization's educational reach, allowing PSPF to communicate and engage with an enthusiastic and supportive audience on behalf of historic preservation and the heritage of Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley.