Each year the National Trust for Historic Preservation celebrates the best of preservation by presenting Richard H. Driehaus National Preservation Awards to individuals, nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and corporations whose contributions demonstrate outstanding achievements in historic preservation. The National Trust and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) jointly recognize organizations and agencies for their success in advancing the goals of historic preservation while providing affordable housing and/or expanded economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income families and individuals. One recipient is chosen for the HUD Secretary’s Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation.

Riverside Plaza
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Photo courtesy of Sherman Associates
CRITERIA FOR AWARD

Nominated projects or activities will be judged for the success they have achieved in preserving, rehabilitating, restoring, and interpreting our architectural and cultural heritage. The evaluation criteria include the following:

1. What is the impact of the nominee’s project on the community?
2. What are the quality and degree of difficulty of the nominee’s project or efforts?
3. How is the nominee’s project unusual or pioneering?
4. Describe how it is an example for others.
5. Does the nominated project or activity provide for the adaptive use of historic structures and districts for affordable housing and/or economic development opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents?
6. Is the project or activity in an area that is part of a locally developed, overall community revitalization effort or part of a community revitalization plan?
7. Describe the financial structure and any creative elements, including all sources of funding.
8. What is the project’s income range target, if any?
9. How does the project contribute to a more sustainable environment?

Although HUD funding or other participation in nominated projects is not required, the nomination should clearly state what role, if any, HUD played in the nominated project or activity.

A jury of preservation professionals and HUD representatives is invited each year to review the nominations for the National Trust/HUD Secretary’s Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation and recommend a winner.

To review descriptions of previous award-winning projects, go to www.huduser.org. Projects are listed under Secretary’s Awards.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

The nomination form must be completed and submitted electronically through the National Trust for Preservation website at www.preservationnation.org/awards. All nominations are due by March 3, 2014. Each nomination must include the following:

- A completed nomination form.
- $30 nomination fee.
- A concise description (750 words or less) of the project, agency, individual, or organization that is being nominated.

The description should address the evaluation criteria identified above. Include start and completion dates. Those who made a significant contribution to the success of the program or project should be listed as co-nominees. If the nominated project involves a site or district, explain its historical significance, the challenges overcome, unique strategies and activities carried out, especially those related to sustainability and “green” construction, and the impact of these activities on the community.

- Fifteen (15) jpeg digital images at a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. Most images should be in a horizontal format.
- All images must be labeled and include a credit line for publication. Images should be in focus with proper exposure. Project images should demonstrate before-and-after results, show interior site shots taken from a variety of angles, and include overall exterior shots. Significant architectural detail should be identified with closeup shots. Images should include people and activity around the site, including a shot of the project in the context of the greater community.
- Up to five supporting brochures or news clippings.
- Up to three letters of recommendation that demonstrate community support. A list of any awards received may also be included.
  - Any project, agency, individual, or organization involved in historic preservation is eligible to receive the National Trust/HUD Secretary’s Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation.
  - Nominated projects must have been completed within the past three years.
  - Nominations submitted in previous years that were not selected to receive an award may be revised, expanded, and resubmitted.
  - Nominations may be made without the knowledge of the nominee.
  - Self-nominations will be accepted.
  - Nominations for posthumous awards will not be accepted.
  - National Trust advisors, staff, and trustees and HUD staff are not eligible for a HUD Award for individual achievement during the period of their active service and for three years thereafter. Properties owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation will not be considered, nor will individuals or groups of individuals be considered for their work related to National Trust properties.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Nominations must conform to the procedures outlined in this announcement to be considered for a National Trust/HUD Secretary’s Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation.

Complete submissions must be uploaded by the March 3, 2014 deadline to be considered.

Unless the nominator indicates otherwise on the nomination form, all nominations not selected to receive a HUD Secretary’s Award will be considered in the judging for the National Trust’s National Preservation Honor Awards.

The recipient of the National Trust/HUD Secretary’s Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation will be notified no later than August 1, 2014. In the case of all other entrants, the nominator will be notified. Award announcements and presentations will be made at a special ceremony during the National Preservation Conference on Friday, November 14, 2014, in Indianapolis, Indiana.