

## IDA LEE WILLIS MEMORIAL AWARDS WINNERS

### 2026 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

**Thomas “Tommy” Collier Hines | South Union Shaker Village**

### Preservation Project Awards:

The Belknap School (Louisville) | *Wilkinson Builders*  
Locals Food Hub & Pizza Pub (Louisville) | *Terry and Stephen Zink*  
Mustard Seed Hill (Millersburg) | *Community Ventures*  
The Prestant (Newport) | *Dean and Shane Gosney*

### Service to Preservation:

Sam Burgess, Carrollton, KY

Douglas Naselroad, Winchester, KY

### Grassroots Preservation:

Roy Bell, Rev. Joe Marshall, & Ryan Irving | Little Mount Colored Cemetery, Spencer County  
The Columbia Art House | The Columbia Theater, Paducah, KY

### 2025 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

**Meme Runyon | Harrods Creek, KY**

### Preservation Project Awards:

109 Main Street, Cadiz | *Todd and Melissa Wallace*  
The Kirby House, Harrodsburg | *Bruce Wade*  
The Crawford House, Perryville | *Dr. R. Ted Steinbock*  
WigWam Village No. 2., Cave City | *Megan and Keith Stone*  
Morris Dry Goods Building, Glasgow | *Zatt Properties LLC, Smith & Darnell Families of Barren County, KY*

### Service to Preservation:

D. Scott Clark, Newport, KY  
Dixie Hibbs, Bardstown, KY

### Grassroots Preservation:

United Way of the Bluegrass for the Marksburg Family WayPoint Center at the historic Palmer Pharmacy | Lexington, KY

### 2024 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

**Bill Weyland | Louisville, KY**

### Preservation Project Awards:

Belle Louise Historic Guest House | Cary and Melinda Winchester  
Rockdale | Donald Wenzel and Ron Darnell  
Sower Building | John and Phyllis Sower  
St. Joseph Catholic Church | Bowling Green, KY

### Service to Preservation:

Covington Academy of Heritage Trades | City of Covington and Enzweiler Building Institute  
Harold Edwards | Perryville, KY  
Bell Theater | City of Pineville and Main Street Pineville

Grassroots Preservation: Friends of Hunteertown Community Interpretive Park | Woodford County, KY

**2023 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award** **Helen Williams Dedman, Harrodsburg**

Preservation Project Awards: First Presbyterian Church of Paducah  
Mark and Diane Garrison, Charles Furr House, South Frankfort

Service to Preservation: Ruth Wade Cox Brunings (posthumously awarded)  
Chris Black of Paducah, Kentucky

Grassroots Preservation: Susan Dyer and The Friends of the Holt Home, Inc

**2020 - 2022 | Awards were not given due to Covid-19 Pandemic**

**2019 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award** **Mrs. Milly Ann Stewart, Frankfort**

Preservation Project Awards: The Shoppes at Blue Gables, Shelbyville  
Castle and Key, Woodford County  
The Ole Opera House, Guthrie

Service to Preservation: Gov. Matthew G. Bevin, representing the Commonwealth of Kentucky,  
Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet, and Kentucky Division of  
Historic Properties  
Herb Fink, Louisville  
Michael and Catherine McElwain, Newport

Grassroots Preservation: Historic Beaver Dam Deposit Bank  
Dinah Bird-Westerfield for Baker-Bird Winery, Augusta

**2018 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award** **Kentucky Supreme Court Justice Bill Cunningham, Kuttawa**

Preservation Project Awards: Fayette County Courthouse, Lexington, Historic Courthouse LLLP  
Hotel Covington, Salyers Group  
George W. Robson Jr. House, Bellevue, Taylor and Sasha Voss

Service to Preservation: Wayna Adams, Heritage Program Manager for Daniel Boone National  
Forest  
Mark Gumbert for Paint Lick  
Patrick Kennedy of Owenton, for commitment to teaching and  
preserving traditional preservation trades

Grassroots Preservation: Caneyville Purple Flash Community Center

New Castle Grand United Order of Odd Fellows Washington  
Lodge No. 1513 Preservation Consortium

**2017 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Linda Bruckheimer, Bloomfield and Los Angeles, CA**

Preservation Project Awards:

Hellman Creative Center, Center for Great Neighborhoods, Covington  
Paducah Coca-Cola Bottling Plant, Ed and Meagan Musselman  
Rabbit Hash General Store, Rabbit Hash Historical Society  
Robneel Building, Paris, Darrell & Debbie Poynter and Chris Poynter

Service to Preservation:

Eric and Ellen Gregory of Midway  
Martin Luther King and William Wells Brown Neighborhood  
Associations for "Gathering Our History: An East End Preservation  
Project" University of Kentucky Historic Preservation Symposium

Grassroots Preservation:

Dr. Andy Paul Keaton of Red Bush, Lloyd Hamilton Mott House  
Mt. Washington Youth Chamber of Preservationists (Youth COPs), "A  
Milestone at the Crossroads"

**2016 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Steve Wilson and Laura Lee Brown, Goshen**

Preservation Project Awards:

The 1857 Boutique Hotel, Paducah, Paul Gourieux and Jorge Martinez  
Ouerbacker Mansion, Louisville, Oracle Design  
Potter's Castle, Bowling Green, Steve and Patsy Morgenthaler

Service to Preservation:

Jack Jouett Archaeology Project, Versailles  
Gudrun Allen and Jennifer Tijou for Pleasanton Goods, Paris  
Scot Walters, Frankfort, retired Kentucky Heritage Council  
Site Development Program manager  
Bernie and Susan Hunstad, Danville, Third Street Methodist Church

Grassroots Preservation:

Shirl Marks, Stamping Ground, for Stonetown Haven  
Scott Madon, Mayor of Pineville

**2015 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**K. Norman Berry, Louisville**

Preservation Project Awards:

Fulton Conway Building, Louisville  
V.A. Kaltenbrun Building, Frankfort  
Shotgun Row, Covington

Service to Preservation:

Friends of Eastern Cemetery, Louisville  
Living Archaeology Weekend Steering Committee  
James and Maxine Cass, for Camp Wildcat Civil  
War Battlefield in Laurel County

Grassroots Preservation:

Meridzo Center Ministries for Lamp House Coffee, Lynch  
Snivley Chapel Restoration Project, Pike County

**2014 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Dr. David Pollack and Dr. Gwynn Henderson**

Preservation Project Awards:

Botherum, Lexington  
Clarkson House, Vine Grove

First Presbyterian Church, Georgetown  
Wolf Pen Branch Mill Farm Mill Restoration, Jefferson County

Service to Preservation: Hotel Metropolitan Museum, Paducah  
Marian Development Group, Louisville  
Liberty Hall – National Society of the Colonial Dames of  
America in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Frankfort

Grassroots Partner Award: Jenkins School Apartments – Old Jenkins School  
Renovation Committee and AU Associates Inc.

**2013 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**  
Preservation Project Awards:

**Stephen L. Collins, Shelbyville**  
The Cox Building, Maysville  
Rockcastle River Historic Truss Bridge  
Sadieville Rosenwald School

Service to Preservation: Nancy Adams, Pine Mountain Settlement School  
Keith Nagle, Discover Downtown Middlesboro  
Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation, DeTours Committee

Grassroots Preservation: Obie Fardo, Frank Hussung, Billie Newman and Charlie Pyles, for  
rehabilitation of Bethel Church and Cemetery in Pendleton County  
Friends of Sherman Tavern, Dry Ridge

**2012 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Richard T. Jett, Louisville**

Preservation Project Awards: 120, 225 and 227 South Main Street, Harrodsburg  
Thomas Edison School Apartments, Covington  
Whiskey Row Lofts: Trademart Building and  
Hamilton Brothers Warehouse, Louisville

Service to Preservation: The Cropper Family, South Portsmouth  
Alberta Moynahan, Danville, assistant director of the  
McDowell House Museum  
“Historic Preservation: Saving Place” video, produced by  
historic preservation staff of the cities of Bellevue and  
Covington

**2011 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Robert M. “Bob” Polsgrove, Frankfort**

Preservation Project Awards: Eastside Revitalization Project, Covington  
Louisville Water Company Pump Station 1 and owner Louisville  
Water Company  
West-Metcalf House, Mill Springs Battlefield, Wayne County,  
and the Mill Springs Battlefield Association

Service to Preservation: Landmark Association of Bowling Green and Warren County  
Lynda Closson, Stanford

Donna Horn-Taylor, Laurel County; and Julie Nelson Harris, editor, Tara Kaprowy and Nita Johnson, reporters, London *Sentinel Echo*

**2010 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Clyde Reynolds Carpenter, Lexington**

Preservation Project Awards:

Bishop Flaget Log House, Nelson County  
The Grand Theatre, Frankfort  
Pearce-Wheeler Farm, Hart County

Service to Preservation:

Charles Cash, Louisville  
Donald Clare, Rabbit Hash  
Susan Dyer, Breckinridge County

**2009 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Ann Early Sutherland of Louisville**

Preservation Project Awards:

Standard Oil Filling Station, Bowling Green  
W.E. Pullen Building, Georgetown  
Johnson Creek Covered Bridge, Robertson County St.  
Cecelia Senior Apartments, Louisville

Service to Preservation:

Rebecca W. (Becky) Shipp of Frankfort  
Preserve Lexington and the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, Tom Eblen and Beverly Fortune  
Billy Hertz and Tom Schnepf of Louisville

**2008 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**David H. Hall, Bardstown**

Preservation Project Awards:

Old State National Bank, Frankfort  
*Let's Paint the Town!*, Princeton First  
Baptist Church, Covington  
United States Marine Hospital, Portland

Service to Preservation:

United States Representative Ben Chandler  
Division of Historic Preservation, Lexington- Fayette  
Urban County Government  
Appalshop, Whitesburg

**2007 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**David L. Morgan, Washington, D. C.**

Preservation Project Awards:

Henry Clay Hotel, Louisville  
Bourbon County Courthouse Dome, Paris  
Howard-Hardy House, Louisville

Service to Preservation:

Yvonne Giles, Lexington  
Historic Bardstown Commission Representative  
Arnold Simpson, Covington

**2006 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Dr. Doris Y. Wilkinson, Lexington**

Preservation Project Awards:

James A. Sullivan Slave Quarters, Georgetown  
St. Joseph Catholic Church, Winchester  
The Otto M. Budig Theatre at the Carnegie Visual and  
Performing Arts Center, Covington  
John Dale House, Shelby County

Service to Preservation:

Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation, Lexington  
BRIDGES Team (Building Renewed Interest in Downtown Greensburg  
through Excellence and Service, Green County)

**2005 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Larry Groves Meadows, Powell County**

Preservation Project Awards:

Coal Miner's Memorial Theater, Benham  
Cemetery Chapel, Frankfort Odd  
Fellows Hall, Covington

Service to Preservation:

Miles Clay Miller, Paris  
James Harrod Trust, Mercer County  
The Courier-Journal, Louisville

**2004 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Nancy Shropshire Blazer, Ashland & Georgetown**

Preservation Project Awards:

State & 13th Restoration Project in Bowling Green  
Lemon Hill Mansion in Lexington  
Old Heywood School in Louisville

Service to Preservation:

Winnifred Ann Virtue Meeker, Lexington  
Gilbert Haydon, Shelbyville  
Emily Clark, Danville

**2003 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Helen Fisher Frye, Danville**

Preservation Project Awards:

118 North Third Street, Danville  
Louisville Glassworks Lofts  
Pine Mountain Settlement School, Harlan County

Service to Preservation:

Mayor Dodd Dixon, Winchester  
David H. Hall, Bardstown  
Murray Main Street Program

**2002 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Richard S. DeCamp, Lexington**

Preservation Project Awards:

The house at Cambus Kenneth Farm, Boyle County  
River Heritage Museum, Paducah  
St. Stephen Catholic Church, Lyon County

Service to Preservation: Cecil R. Ison, Winchester  
Ralph G. Anderson, Mercer County  
Judge William Neal Cassity, Jessamine County  
Frank Mosko, Paducah

**2001 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Barbara P. Hulette, Lexington**

Preservation Projects Awards: Cadiz City Hall  
Combs Center, Centre College, Danville  
Springfield Graded School, Washington County

Service to Preservation: Tommy Hines, South Union  
Mimi Sweets Runyon, Louisville  
Lucille Brooks, Franklin

**2000 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Sally Willis Meigs, Louisville**

Preservation Projects Awards: Otto E. Eitel House, Louisville  
Jack Quinn's Irish Ale House, Covington  
White House at Camp Nelson, Jessamine County

Service to Preservation: Sharon Poat, Paducah  
Heart of Danville for Publication: *Danville and Boyle County in the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky: An Architectural History*

Special Award: Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

**1999 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Edith S. Bingham, Louisville**

Preservation Project Awards: Stanford Depot  
Market House Theatre Stage Two Project Midway School  
Bourbon Stockyards Exchange Building, Louisville  
Several Bloomfield Buildings: Olde Bloomfield Meeting Hall; Nettie Jarvis Antiques; the Wells Building; the Brown Building

Service to Preservation: John S. Perkins, Bowling Green  
George W. Grider, Danville

**1998 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**James Thomas, President and CEO, Shakertown at Pleasant Hill**

Preservation Project Awards: Marcardin Inn Bed & Breakfast, Shelbyville  
Jacobs Hall, Danville  
Old C&O Passenger Depot, Morehead Maysville High School

Service to Preservation: Mary S. Northington, Covington  
Carrie Stivers, Bardstown  
Larry B. Whitaker, McLean County Judge-Executive  
Jean W. Calvert, Maysville

**1997 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award Mrs. Betsy K. Venters, Pikeville**

Preservation Project Awards: Labrot & Graham Distillery / Brown Forman Corporation, Woodford County  
Bavarian Brewery, Covington  
Wolf Wile Building / Gray Construction Co., Lexington  
Munfordville City Hall

Service to Preservation: Martha Cull, Louisville Presbyterian Church of Danville

**1996 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award Mrs. Dorothy H. Crutcher, Lexington**

Preservation Project Awards: The Highlands, Henry County, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fowler  
Maincross Project, Mt. Sterling  
Farmers National Bank, Danville

Service to Preservation: Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation, Primary Heritage Education Curriculum  
Alan E. Hoeweler, Kentucky Civil War Historic Sites

Special Award: Susan Jackson Keig

**1995 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award Mrs. Cecil Dulin Wallace, Boyle County**

Preservation Project Awards: St. Patrick's School, Louisville, T. Dade Luckett and Associates, Architects  
Cathedral of the Assumption, Louisville, Heritage Cathedral Foundation  
Benham School, Benham, School House Inn, Inc.

Service to Preservation: Theodore Harris, Covington  
Phil Weissenberger, Midway  
Edith S. Bingham, Louisville  
Harold, Marilyn and Dwight Koger, Barthell

Special Awards: Secretary Crit Luallen, Tourism Cabinet  
Sec. Sherry K. Jelsma, Education, Arts & Humanities Cabinet Secretary  
Don Kelly, Transportation Cabinet  
Ann Trimble, Department of Local Government

**1994 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award Ann S. Hassett, Louisville**

Preservation Project Awards: Trigg County Circuit Court Room, Cadiz  
Cullen Thomas Cabin & Southern Academy School, Trigg County  
Historical Society, Cadiz

McClure-Barbee House, Danville Crescent  
Hill Library, Louisville

Service to Preservation:

Christopher J. Black, Paducah  
Willa Relford Gentry, Lexington  
Barbara P. Hulette, Lexington  
Lost Lexington Exhibit, Lexington, Bettie Kerr and Patrick Lucas

**1993 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Mark Scarce, Shelbyville**

Preservation Project Awards:

Ft. Thomas Mess Hall & Military Commons, Ft. Thomas  
Farnsley-Mormen House, Jefferson County  
Eight historic structures in Lower Town Neighborhood, Paducah (Howard  
& Louise Randle)

Service to Preservation:

Charles (Chuck) Niquette, Lexington  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Montgomery, Louisville  
Mill Springs Battlefield Association, Wayne County

Special award:

**1992 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Mrs. Emerin Reeves** for Kentucky Heritage Council's office project  
**Susan Hinkle and Sally Hinkle of Paris**

Preservation Project Awards:

Harrison-Hite Building in Russellville  
The Harland Sanders Cafe in Corbin  
Kentucky Theatre in Lexington

Service to Preservation:

Thomas W. Bullitt and Kay E. Bullitt, Louisville  
Franklin Fitzpatrick of Prestonsburg  
Thomas J. Wiethorn, Mayor of Bellevue

**1991 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Betty W. Morris**

Preservation Project Awards:

Clark County Fiscal Court, Post Office, Winchester  
Versailles-Woodford County Economic Development Authority,  
Woodford Hotel, Versailles  
David L. Bohannon & Michael A. Eaves, Stouffer Building, Richmond

Service to Preservation:

Leslee Frances Keys, Jefferson County  
Charles and Esther Johnson, Covington Clifton Neighborhood  
Association, Louisville

**1990 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

**Mary Louise Duke**

Preservation Project Awards:

2642-50 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville  
The Forester Center, Louisville  
Manhattan on Main, Lexington

Service to Preservation:

John F. Caldwell, Boone County  
Nathalie Taft Andrews, Portland  
Micky McElwain, Newport John W. Hall, Henderson

**1989 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

Preservation Project Awards:

**Patrick Alexander Snadon**

Justice Thomas Todd House, Frankfort  
Adsmore Museum, Princeton  
Nazareth Village II, Nelson County

Service to Preservation:

Ann Early Sutherland, Bardstown  
Frances Dale Cottongim, Shelbyville  
Covington's Housing Development Department

**1988 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

Preservation Project Award:

**Frank G. Rankin Jr.**

Hannaford, Newport Hawkins-Kirby House, Warsaw

Service to Preservation:

Louisville Community Design Center  
William M. Noland, Harrodsburg

**1987 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

Preservation Project Awards:

**Helen Edwards Abell**

Stockdale, Shelby County  
City of Hopkinsville

Service to Preservation:

Columbia Gas of KY & Mr. and Mrs. Clarence LeBus  
Malcolm Kilduff, Beattyville

**1986 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

Preservation Project Award:

**Robert B. Vice**

Bodley-Bullock House, Lexington

Service to Preservation:

City Council of Shelbyville

**1985 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

Preservation Project Awards:

**Donald W. Webb**

The Paramount Theatre, Ashland  
The Brown Hotel, Louisville  
Bourgard College of Music & Art, Louisville

Service to Preservation:

K. Norman Berry & Associates, Louisville  
Frances Keightley, Harrodsburg  
Betty Mitchell Gorin, Campbellsville

**1984 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**

Preservation Projects Awards:

**Senator Walter "Dee" Huddleston**

Winchester Downtown Lighting Committee  
Parahart Corp. and Potter & Cox Architects, Louisville

Service to Preservation: Stephen Foster Drama Association, Bardstown  
Historic Homes Foundation, Louisville

**1983 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award Louise Combs**

Preservation Project Awards: Phyllis George Brown and Save the Mansion, Inc.  
Dept. of Transportation, Whitehaven Welcome Center  
Neighborhood Development Corporation, Louisville

Service to Preservation: Mrs. Sherrill Jeffers, Hopkinsville  
Mrs. Elizabeth Duncan, Monticello  
Mr. Jack Paxton, Paducah

**1982 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award Mrs. Lawrence Brewer**

Preservation Project Awards: Roger Davis, Seelbach Hotel  
William Crumbaugh, Frankfort  
Stella Welsh, Greensburg

Service to Preservation: Mary Spears VanMeter, Paris  
Philip Terzian, Lexington  
Herald William Black, Paducah

**1981 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award Edna Talbot Whitley**

Commercial Award: Third National Bank of Ashland  
Organization Award: Mansion Hills Neighborhood Association, Newport  
Professional Award: Charles E. Parrish  
Youth Award: Taylor County Junior Historical  
Society Public Service Award: William Barrow Floyd  
Media Award: Richard Zuercher, State Journal

**1980 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award James Lowry Cogar**

Commercial Award: Mark J. Searce  
Commercial Award for a Historical Publication: Liberty National Bank & Trust, Louisville  
Organization Award: Kentucky Mansion Preservation Foundation  
Professional Award: Richard S. DeCamp  
Youth Award: Arlington School Chapter of the Kentucky Junior Historical  
Society Public Service Award: Joseph H. Conley  
Media Award: Lowell Hobby, Caldwell County Times

**1979 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award Earl D. Wallace**

Public Service Award: Judge Mitch McConnell  
Media Award: Bettye Lee Mastin

Youth Award:	Kentucky Junior Historical Society
Organizational Award:	Mason County Historical Society
Commercial Award:	Cornelius E. Hubbuch