



SARASOTA ALLIANCE
FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation Seeks Nominations for its 2026 Sarasota County Heritage Awards

The Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation (SAHP) announces nominations are now open for the 2026 Sarasota County Heritage Awards. Both organizations seek to recognize individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the preservation and understanding of Sarasota County's prehistoric, historic, and historical resources.

This year's eligible recipients will represent achievements across a more diverse areas of expertise, architecture, historic preservation, collections management, archaeological conservancy, student scholars, organizational and individual achievement, architects, designers, builders and trades/craftsmen.

Besides honoring those who have devoted themselves to maintaining the integrity of our region's remaining architectural, archaeological, and historical assets, and educating the public about their importance, the Heritage Awards aim to raise the level of public support for governmental and citizen-based efforts to preserve our common past so future generations may learn from it.

All nomination materials must be submitted by December 1, 2025. Award recipients will be notified on or before December 14, 2025. The Awards Ceremony will be held on the evening of Thursday, April 30, 2026. More details to come.

The application and form are both attached here and available online at preservesrq.org/Nominate.

The 2026 Award Categories are:

Gregory A. and Eleana Najmy Hall Adaptive Use and Historic Preservation Awards: Recognizes the best historic preservation projects in Sarasota County. Nominations are judged for their success in the rehabilitation, restoration, or adaptive use of a historic building in Sarasota County as well as the impact of the project on the community. Projects must have been completed within the last five years of the submission deadline and been completed in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's standards for historical rehabilitations.

Lillian Burns Individual Achievement: Conferred upon an individual who has made profound contributions to the history and preservation movement in Sarasota County. Contributions may include scholarly research and publication, education, museology, history and preservation organizational leadership, and public advocacy. Nominations that document sustained excellence and high achievement will be most impressive.

Archaeological Conservancy: Recognizes outstanding efforts to preserve and document prehistoric sites and/or effective advocacy of archaeological conservation.

Historical Research: Awarded for outstanding contributions through research and publication to increase knowledge of Sarasota County's past.

Organizational Achievement: Presented to a Sarasota County historical or preservation organization for outstanding success in historical preservation, historical education, and/or support of historical research. The committee welcomes nominations of organizations that have completed projects with a significant impact on preserving and understanding Sarasota County's history.

Historical Collections Preservation: Recognizes outstanding work in preserving, describing, and providing public access to historical collections located within Sarasota County. The award will be given to individuals or organizations that demonstrate the use of best practices in archival management.

Student Scholar: Promotes and recognizes excellence in student contributions to the field of history, archaeology, or preservation. Contributions should focus on Sarasota County history and can be in the form of a research paper, exhibit, website, or documentary.

Builders/Developers: Recognizes builders and developers who have demonstrated a strong commitment to incorporating historic preservation into their projects, balancing growth with respect for Sarasota County's historic assets.

Architects/Designers: Honors architects and designers whose work has made significant contributions to preserving Sarasota's pre-historic or historic environment, demonstrating excellence in design and sensitivity to historic context.

Skilled Trades & Craftsmen: Celebrates individuals and teams whose specialized skills in traditional trades and craftsmanship have played a pivotal role in the preservation or restoration of Sarasota County's historic resources. This category recognizes artisans such as carpenters, masons, plasterers, ironworkers, stained glass restorers, and other craftsmen whose dedication to quality workmanship has ensured that historic structures are authentically restored, maintained, and passed on to future generations.

About Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation

The Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation (SAHP) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to "Preserve and Enhance our Historic Places." SAHP was incorporated in 1985 in an attempt to save architect Dwight Baum's El Verbona Hotel in downtown Sarasota. The Alliance, a membership-driven organization, is comprised of more than 700 residents, business owners, visitors, artists, architects, engineers, historians, builders, archaeologists, Realtors, planners, designers, and writers working together to preserve and encourage others to preserve — not only the remaining significant landmarks — but also the contributing structures that define Sarasota County.

For more information, visit www.PreserveSRQ.org.



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2026 SARASOTA COUNTY HERITAGE AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

Please select the category that applies to you nominee:

Historic Structure Preservation
Historic Structure Adaptive Reuse
Individual Achievement
Historical Research
Archeological Conservancy
Organizational Achievement
Historic Collections Preservation
Student Scholar
Builders/Developers
Architect/Designer
Trades/Craftsmen

Name of Nominee:

First Name Last Name

Phone Number

Please enter a valid phone number.

Email

example@example.com

Address

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

Name of Nominator:

First Name
City

Last Name

State / Province

Phone Number

Postal / Zip Code

Please enter a valid phone number.

Email

example@example.com

Address

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

State / Province

Postal / Zip Code

See Instructions on Next Page:

Nominators must provide:

Please Explain Why Your Nominee Deserves an Award: *

500 Words Maximum0/500

- **This application form may be completed online and submitted with back-up materials**
- **A maximum 500-word rationale of why the nominee deserves the award (see next page)**
- **The nominee's resume/biography (please include all web links if applicable)**
- **Two letters of support**
- **No less than two images which depict the nominee and project. Images Must be Digital for Publication.**

If using your phone for photos, be sure that your settings are for the largest photo. You can leave it at 72 dpi. At that setting photo should be extremely large (42" x 56" as an example - every photo will be different). Submitting your photos like this allows scaling down at a higher res.

- Please do not edit your photos. Every phone has different settings for photos, please adjust yours.
- Submit photos in .jpg or .png format

Any Questions - Reach out to us at sahp.mailbox@gmail.com