



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Restore Oregon Announces Winners of the 2020 DeMuro Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation**

***Winning projects demonstrate how historic preservation can create affordable housing, incubate new businesses, and combat climate change through re-use***

PORTLAND, OR – September 9, 2020 – [Restore Oregon](#) honors eleven historic projects from across Oregon with a [2020 DeMuro Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation](#), the state's highest honor for the preservation, reuse, and revitalization of architectural and cultural sites. Launched in 2013, the DeMuro Awards program publicly recognizes the teams of architects, engineers, designers, contractors, developers, property owners, and community leaders committed to restoring and honoring Oregon's historic architecture and cultural heritage. The program is also intended to inspire others and share solutions to the challenges encountered.

Usually, Restore Oregon honors DeMuro Award-winning teams at the annual Restoration Celebration Gala. However this year with COVID-19 still spreading, Restore Oregon will virtually host the award-winners. Beginning September 15th, Restore Oregon will honor the 2020 DeMuro Award winners digitally through a bi-weekly video release on [restoreoregon.org](#) and social media channels [@restoreoregon](#), culminating in a huge virtual event, [The DeMuro Awards @Home](#), on October 22, 2020 at 5pm.

**Selected for extraordinary design, craftsmanship, creative problem-solving, and community impact, the 2020 DeMuro Award-winning projects are:**



### **50 Plaza Square (1928), St. Helens**

A charming Main Street commercial building that had been “remuddled” badly over the years was lovingly brought back to its authentic self, and launched its owner on a quest to preserve local heritage.

Photo credit: Jennifer Pugsley.



### **230 SW Ash (2019), Portland**

An outstanding example of compatible infill design in a National Landmark Historic District, this mixed-use project replaced a surface parking lot with 133 units of affordable and market rate housing. Its sensitive design complements the historic context and brings needed vitality to neighboring businesses.

Photo credit: Peter Eckert.



### **The Custom Blocks (1930s), Portland**

Spanning two city blocks in Portland's Central Eastside Industrial District, the former Custom Stamping factory complex was repurposed as creative, tech, and light industrial space with community-building in mind. Gravity-defying bowstring trusses and assorted heavy machinery were retained as part of this homage to Oregon's industrial heritage.

Photo credit: Peter Eckert.



### **Flaneur Wines/Madsen Grain Elevator (c. 1900), Carlton**

Obsolete agricultural buildings are among the most difficult to repurpose, causing much of Oregon's farming heritage to be lost. A Willamette Valley icon was saved by turning a consternating set of design constraints into a unique and inviting wine and hospitality destination.

Photo credit: Aaron Johanson



### **Fried-Durkheimer House (1st Morris Marks House) (1880), Portland**

This rare example of an Italianate Townhouse would have met the wrecking ball had not a devoted team of preservationists moved heaven and earth (literally) to save it. It took an act of City Council, numerous agencies, and a team of talented craftspeople to move and restore this gem top-to-bottom on its proud new site.

Photo credit: KLIK Concepts



### **Grant High School Modernization (1923), Portland**

This modernization included restoring historic architecture, removing problematic old additions, designing a compatible 3-story addition, reconfiguring interior spaces for modern education, and better connecting the grounds to the adjacent community park - all with equity and inclusion at the forefront of the process.

Photo credit: Benjamin Benschneider



### **SCP Redmond (1928), Redmond**

After suffering a prolonged decline, the most prominent building along Redmond's Main Street has come back to life as a boutique hotel, co-working, dining, and community meeting space. The project included careful rehab of the Georgian facade, addition of a rooftop lounge, and restoration of its dramatic lobby.

Photo credit: SCP Redmond



### **Hallock-McMillen Building (1857), Portland**

The façade of Portland's oldest standing commercial building has been restored precisely to its original design. The architectural team researched and documented the original façade, including fire shutters. The craftsmanship by the contractor, the masons, and millworkers was exceptional. The parts of the original façade that were cast iron were carved in wood molds and recast in iron. Hidden inside the façade is a massive reinforced concrete moment frame that meets stringent current seismic codes. The reinforced façade was tied to the neighboring building as structural support.

Photo credit: Keith Daily



### **KEX / Vivian Apartments (1912), Portland**

Despite intense development pressure to demolish and replace a run-down, streetcar-era apartment building, this development team believed the building's historic character held great value to the Portland community. Repurposed as a hostel-style hotel, the Icelandic gastropub hosts casual dining and a constant stream of musical acts.

Photo credit: Hennebery Eddy Architects



### **Redfox Commons (1944), Portland**

This adaptive reuse project transforms two former industrial structures into a light-filled campus for creative office tenants. The project inspires fresh thinking about how development can leverage underutilized structures and materials - and add value to cities by building something stunning from the places that embody our industrial heritage.

Photo credit: Lara Swimmer



### The Sutor - Wood House Renovation (1938), Portland

The owners of this acclaimed example of Northwest Modern architecture and landscape design set out to restore its glory. The first commissioned residence by renowned architect Pietro Belluschi was thoughtfully restored and updated by his son, architect Anthony Belluschi, while love and elbow grease (under the guidance of Takashi Fukuda) brought back the original landscape design by Florence Holmes Gerke. Photo credit: Sally Painter

Photography.

### **Join Restore Oregon to honor the teams moving Oregon's historic historic places forward.** The virtual event includes:

- Bi-weekly video release featuring each project: Beginning September 15, 2020 and continuing every Tuesday and Thursday through October 22nd
- DeMuro Awards @HOME Party: [Register](#) today for this free event.
- Sponsorships available: Email Nicole Possert, Director of Development, at [nicole@restoreoregon.org](mailto:nicole@restoreoregon.org)

The DeMuro Awards @HOME Party is free and open to the public; donations encouraged. [Register online](#) or call Restore Oregon at (503) 243-1923 for more information.

[\*\*Download high-resolution photos of the DeMuro Award-winning projects.\*\*](#)

Visit [restoreoregon.org](http://restoreoregon.org) or follow @restoreoregon to learn more about Restore Oregon or the DeMuro Awards.

### **About the DeMuro Awards**

Since 2013, the annual [DeMuro Preservation Awards](#) has honored the people and places that preserve our state's heritage and historic spaces. Award recipients serve as outstanding and inspiring examples of historic preservation in Oregon. The DeMuro Award promotes historic preservation and reuse in Oregon and honors the legacy of our friend and Board member, Art DeMuro, whose career embodied vision, persistence, creativity, excellence, and sound economics.

### **About Restore Oregon**

Founded in 1977, [Restore Oregon](#), works on the front lines and behind the scenes to preserve, protect, and pass forward the places that reflect our diverse heritage and enrich our future. As a state-wide, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Restore Oregon represents thousands of community activists, home owners, preservation-minded investors, and users of historic places

across Oregon. We advocate for effective preservation policies and incentives, deliver preservation-focused education programs, and directly intervene with endangered places.

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