## Operative Plasterers' & Cement Masons' International Association Local 262

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Union Trustee
Patrick Finley
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Daniel J. Allen, President Historic Districts Council 232 East 11th Street New York, NY 10003

Operative Plasterers' & Cement Masons' International Association, Local 262 New York City has approximately 400 plasterers who live and cover many different aspects of the plastering trade within the Five Boroughs of New York City and Long Island. Our members are entrenched within the plastering trade and love our trade as much as the greatest city in the world. The plastering trade is hard but honest. Our trade requires our members to have a combination of finesse and patience, and in return our members receive a respectable middle-class wage, health benefits for the member and member's family, and a retirement that will let our members retire with dignity at the end of their plastering career. We feel very passionate and protective over our trade that has been so good to us. Plasterers' Local 262 resolutely opposes any attempt to override New York City's established "landmark" protection and the "historic districts" that have been evidently successful in the preservation of our rich architecture of New York City.

As the oldest Building and Construction Trades Union in the United States, the Operative Plasterers' & Cement Masons' International Association's roots go back to 1864, during the American Civil War, when an organization known as the National Plasterers' Union or the National Plasterers' Organization began to unify the various local craft unions that represented workers within our trade. As new products and new techniques continually arise, our members in many cases, will resort to the plastering techniques and materials that have been reliable and constant for hundreds of years now. This is the same theory we need in preservation, generally speaking. Our great International, as well as Plasterers' Local 262, are committed to the preservation of landmarks, to the knowhow and materials that were used from the inception of this great architecture.

Plasterers' Local 262 strongly opposes any attempt to weaken New York City's Landmark Law and Historical Districts.

We do want more, and when it becomes more, we shall still want more. And we shall never cease to demand more until we have received the results of our labor. Samuel Gompers

Sincerely, Michael Hubler

International Vice President

OP&CMIA

Plasterers' Local 262

Business Manager/Trustee