



**HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL**

**LANDMARKS  
LION AWARD**

**Wednesday, November 15, 2023**

**MICHAEL DEVONSHIRE  
OUR SAGE AND NORTH STAR**

**WE HONOR YOU AND YOUR UNWAVERING  
COMMITMENT  
TO OUR PLANET'S ANTIQUITIES**



**WE ♥ YOU  
YOUR CBC FAMILY**

# LANDMARKS LION AWARD

## THE AWARD

Since 1990, the Landmarks Lion Award has honored those who have shown unusual devotion and aggressiveness in protecting New York City's historic buildings and neighborhoods.

## THE HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL

The Historic Districts Council is the citywide advocate for New York's historic neighborhoods. HDC works to ensure the preservation of significant neighborhoods, buildings and open spaces, uphold the integrity of the New York City Landmarks Law and further the preservation ethic. This mission is accomplished through ongoing programs offering hands-on assistance to more than 500 community and neighborhood-based groups and through direct advocacy, public-policy initiatives, publications, educational outreach and participation in community events.

Originally founded in 1970 as a coalition of individuals and community groups representing New York City's designated historic districts, HDC has since grown into the foremost citywide voice for historic preservation. Following its mandate of community-based preservation advocacy, HDC works continuously to broaden and educate the preservation constituency—from producing zoning and architectural surveys of unprotected historic neighborhoods, to meeting with government officials and decision makers, to creating educational programs on the techniques and strategies of neighborhood preservation.

The driving principle behind all of HDC's work is that the preservation and enhancement of New York's historic neighborhoods, buildings and public spaces are central to the continued success of the city. This goal does not seek to enshrine the past but to guide the future.

HDC is the only city-wide organization in New York which reviews every public proposal affecting historic buildings, totaling more than 300 projects annually. A staffed committee of preservationists and architects meets regularly to review proposals submitted to the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission and monitors meetings of the agency, testifying on specific projects when necessary. Additionally, HDC reviews planning proposals for their potential effects on historic properties and regularly participates as a preservation expert in community planning processes. HDC's weekly reports from the Landmarks Commission are regularly circulated to over 500 professionals and activists, as well as being posted online for the general public.

HDC's community outreach stretches through neighborhoods across the city. Locally based organizations from block associations to community boards benefit from HDC's strategic advice, technical expertise, organizational development and advocacy resources. One of HDC's most intensive programs, the Six to Celebrate, has forwarded preservation campaigns in all five boroughs and helped over 60 community groups and coalitions achieve their goals of neighborhood surveys, public education and landmark designation. Since its debut in 2011, the program has helped create over 14 New York City Historic Districts, 5 National Register Districts, over 50 sites individually designated or placed on the National Register of Historic Places, 22 neighborhood surveys, resulting in the documentation of thousands of buildings across the city and has leveraged over \$150,000 in private and public grants for community-driven projects. An illustrated guidebook with a self-guided walking tour is developed for each project area and available in print and electronic form.

HDC hosts an ambitious calendar of more than 50 public programs each year, aimed toward the general public and preservation practitioners. HDC's Annual Preservation Conference, now in its 28th year, is a daylong gathering of professionals, students and activists. HDC also offers two semesters of Preservation School every year, a four-part series of lectures which teaches people the fundamental skills of preservation activism, from how to properly photograph a building to understanding the basic principles of landmark designation to learning to read and assess architectural plans. For practicing professionals, HDC offers periodic professionally certified classes on topics such as façade inspection and building material conservation. Finally, as the best way to learn about a neighborhood is to visit it, HDC hosts walking tours of each Six to Celebrate neighborhood with additional tours of previous sites offered often. In total, over 1,500 people are served by HDC's educational and public programs annually.



# FRIENDS

*of the* UPPER EAST SIDE  
HISTORIC DISTRICTS

PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE  
HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL  
& LANDMARKS LION AWARD



*A FORCE INTO THE FUTURE*

# 2023 LANDMARKS LION PROGRAM



## **WELCOME**

John Bacon  
Frampton Tolbert

## **INTRODUCTION OF HONOREE**

Franny Eberhart  
Lloyd Zuckerberg  
Michael Hiller

## **AWARD ACCEPTANCE & PRESENTATION**

Michael Devonshire

## **CLOSING**

John Bacon

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## **MICHAEL DEVONSHIRE**

*for his unwavering  
commitment to  
preservation in our city*

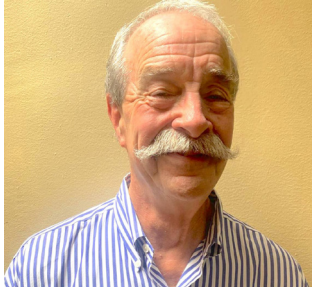


A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

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# HONORING MICHAEL DEVONSHIRE



Michael's long and illustrious career has spanned many significant roles, most notably as a New York City Landmarks Preservation Commissioner for more than a decade (2010-2023). Michael played an indispensable role at the Commission as a strong advocate for the City's landmarks and historic buildings, leading the way with his incredible technical expertise on building construction and materials that was often referenced and called upon by fellow commissioners. Michael is known for his unwavering commitment to the preservation ethic and his role as an independent thinker during his time on the Commission.

Michael is also being recognized for his other stellar work in the preservation field, including his longtime role as Director of Conservation at Jan Hird Pokorny Associates. With Michael's leadership, the firm undertook award-winning restoration work on such renowned landmarks as the Battery Maritime Building, Schermerhorn Row, Merchant's House Museum, and the Hunterfly Road Houses at Weeksville Heritage Center, contributing greatly to New York's built environment. In addition, he has served on the New York State Board for Historic Preservation, U.S. National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), and the Snug Harbor Cultural Center, among many others, as well as teaching for decades at the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE 2023  
LANDMARKS LION,  
MICHAEL  
DEVONSHIRE

FRANÇOISE ASTORG  
BOLLACK

# LETTER FROM HDC BOARD PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



November 2023

Dear Friends,

The Boards of Directors and Advisers and the staff of HDC are so pleased to welcome you as we celebrate our incredibly deserving Landmarks Lion, Michael Devonshire.

HDC has been extremely busy with initiatives encompassing all aspects of preserving the places that matter to communities in New York City. Therefore it is fitting that we honor someone this year who exemplifies being a true preservation warrior — a passionate advocate supporting the preservation of countless buildings, a restoration expert through his leadership at Jan Hird Pokorny Associates, and a dedicated public servant through his decade as a Landmarks Preservation Commissioner, all in the service of our irreplaceable historic communities.

Congratulations to  
Landmarks Lion,  
Michael Devonshire,  
a Great Commissioner

From Christabel Gough



PETER PENNOYER ARCHITECTS  
AND  
PPA CONSERVATION

*congratulate*

MICHAEL DEVONSHIRE  
HDC LANDMARKS LION 2023

Michael's fierce dedication and passion is something that HDC can use for inspiration in our work going forward over the next year, especially when it comes to impacting processes and decisions by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission in carrying out its mandate.

We've been at the forefront of concerted efforts to protect Buildings at Risk, designated landmarks threatened by demolition; we are part of a citywide coalition of organizations taking a critical eye to the Link 5G tower program to make sure it balances true digital equity and preservation of our historic neighborhoods; and we are co-launching a new campaign to improve LPC's stewardship of scenic landmarks.

But this does not mean we will stop our core initiatives. We continue the work of our Public Review Committee, which provides thoughtful testimony on every application to the LPC. The Six to Celebrate program (now in its 13th year!) fights for diverse communities in community preservation efforts from landmark designation efforts on Moshulu Parkway to a cultural resource survey of Little Caribbean.

We have much ahead of us, but tonight, we raise a glass and toast our Landmarks Lion, Michael Devonshire! We cannot do this in a vacuum but must work with colleague organizations, community groups, and you to fulfill our mission to protect New York's historic resources, both in designated historic districts and beyond.

Warm Regards,  
John Bacon and Frampton Tolbert



Cleaning Beaver Dam Marble, Wilmers Building restoration, Buffalo AKG Art Museum

# Honoring

2023 Landmarks Lion Winner

## Michael Devonshire

Director of Conservation  
Jan Hird Pokorny Associates, Inc.

## Thornton Tomasetti

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### Congratulations to Michael Devonshire

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Essex Works would like  
to congratulate Michael  
Devonshire on his many  
years of keeping  
NY Beautiful

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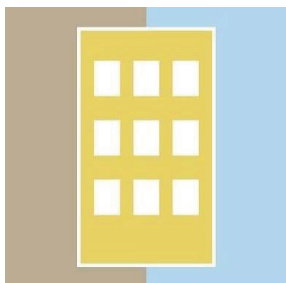


*salutes*

**MICHAEL DEVONSHIRE**

**HDC's 2023 Landmarks Lion  
Congratulations Mike!**





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Michael Devonshire

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Thank you Michael Devonshire for  
being an appropriately gutsy  
Landmarks Commissioner and a  
technically brilliant hands  
on preservationist

Roberta Brandes Gratz

Congratulations to  
Michael Devonshire from  
one of your numerous fans.

Penelope Bateau

# A Brighter Future, Together



Thank you for your support of the Historic Districts Council. Whether this is your first time attending a Historic Districts Council event, or you are a longtime Friend, you have helped us continue our mission as the citywide advocate for historic neighborhoods. Historic Districts Council has helped protect almost every one of the thousands of landmarks buildings and the over 150 officially designated historic districts across the City of New York.

Historic Districts Council is the only citywide organization in New York which reviews every public proposal affecting historic buildings and neighborhoods. We offer a full range of public programs, including walking tours, Preservation School, and our annual Conference. Our Six to Celebrate program has supported preservation campaigns in all five boroughs and has helped over 50 community groups and coalitions achieve their goals of neighborhood surveys, public education, and landmark designation. We could not do this work without you and there is so much more to do.

So today, we ask that you commit to the Historic Districts Council of tomorrow. We ask that you make a year-end gift to Historic Districts Council, or that you remember us in your estate or retirement plans. Future New Yorkers will thank you for it and so will we.

With each new connection made and person engaged, we are ensuring that New York's future will include its past. Your gift will ensure that New York's future includes a strong, healthy, and vibrant Historic Districts Council as well.

Please contact Development and Administration Manager Kaija Mendez-Bryan at (212) 614-9107 for further information you may also visit [hdc.org/donate](http://hdc.org/donate), or scan the code on the back cover.

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*Congratulations to Michael Devonshire,  
2023 Landmarks Lion Award Recipient!*



*Riverside Church (left)  
and 1 Union Square West  
(above), both currently under  
restoration by WBMA.*



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CONGRATULATIONS  
MICHAEL DEVONSHIRE!

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT  
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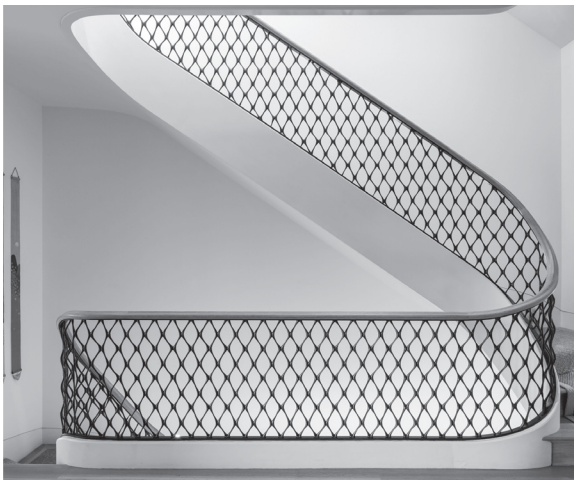
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We



you  
to congratulate  
Michael Devonshire!

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*Congratulations to  
Michael Devonshire  
as the 2023  
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DEVONSHIRE  
FOR ALL YOUR YEARS  
OF  
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and Jay Shockley



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Congratulations to the legendary Michael Devonshire, as he accepts his membership in the pantheon of New York City's preservation greats.

Thank you Michael, for your voice, your passion, and your continuing commitment to landmarks and historic districts throughout our amazing City.

**HILLER PC**

*Attorneys at Law*

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We Applaud

**MICHAEL  
DEVONSHIRE**

Landmark Lion!



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- Frank E. Sanchis III - 2022  
Darren Walker and the Ford Foundation - 2021  
50 Years of HDC - 2020  
Anne Van Ingen - 2019  
Boston Valley Terra Cotta; Friends of Terra Cotta;  
and Gladding, McBean - 2018  
Jeffrey Greene and EverGreene Architectural Arts - 2017  
Nancy Pearsall and Francis Morrone - 2016  
Pride of Lions- 2015  
Andrew Scott Dolkart - 2014  
Hugh & Tiziana Hardy - 2013  
Roberta Brandes Gratz - 2012  
Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel - 2011  
Robert A. M. Stern - 2010  
Rev. Dr. Thomas F. Pike -2009  
Walter Melvin - 2008  
Lisa Ackerman - 2007  
Robert Silman - 2006  
Barry Lewis - 2005  
Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners - 2004  
Kitty Carlisle Hart - 2003  
Kenneth K. Fisher - 2002  
Dorothy Miner - 2001  
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Dr. James Marston Fitch - 1998  
Kent Barwick - 1997  
Edward S. Kirkland - 1996  
Joan K. Davidson - 1995  
Arlene Simon - 1994  
Otis Pratt Pearsall - 1994  
Margot Gayle - 1993  
Jack Taylor - 1992  
Halina Rosenthal - 1991  
Christabel Gough - 1990

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HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL



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Our mission is to ensure the preservation of significant historic neighborhoods, buildings and public spaces in New York City, uphold the integrity of New York City’s Landmarks Law, and further the preservation ethic.

Please support the Historic Districts Council to help preserve New York’s history – and future.

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