



STEEPLE SQUARE NEWS

FALL 2019

Board President Update: Two Major Milestones



John Schmidt, Steeple Square Board President and Chief Financial Officer, A.Y. McDonald Mfg. Co.

It is my pleasure to report on two significant milestones Steeple Square has achieved on our journey to revitalize the former St. Mary's campus and serve the community as a collaborative hub in the Washington and North End neighborhoods.

In late 2018, we completed the restoration of the 225-foot steeple, encompassing 100+ feet of new copper. This monumental project, which gained national attention,

included complete metal restoration, repair of the aging clocks, masonry and stained-glass windows. The steeple itself required more than 25,000 pounds of copper to create hundreds of flat-lock panels. This copper will last another 100+ years. Restoration crews had to make constant modifications to match the historic nature of the building. A key part of the restoration also included hiring and training community members that were under-employed and unemployed to complete the stained-glass window restoration. The Telegraph Herald created a time-lapse video of the restoration which can be viewed on YouTube here: [youtube.com/watch?v=mlDMkk_Em5Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mlDMkk_Em5Y)



In March, the Steeple Square board of directors, committee members, volunteers, and community leaders and members celebrated the restoration of the steeple with an inspiring steeple lighting and bell ringing ceremony.

On behalf of the board of directors, I'd like to thank the generous donors and grantors who made this seemingly impossible steeple restoration a reality.

In August of 2019, the Marita Theisen Childcare Center officially opened at the former rectory on the campus of Steeple Square. This much-anticipated and critically-needed daycare center was celebrated at an August 20 ribbon cutting ceremony and open house.

A home-like setting in a convenient downtown location, the childcare center has capacity for around 70 children and accepts ages 6 weeks through Pre-K.

We sincerely thank the Theisen Family and other donors
continued on page 2





Two Major Milestones

continued from page 1

and grantors for their generosity in making the childcare center dream come true.

Both milestone construction projects were managed by Gronen, and we thank them and their subcontractors for the magnificent restoration work.

On a final note, the plaza centered within the campus is currently undergoing construction, but significant work has been completed to this date that has been very impressive. Check out the beautiful additions thanks to Eikamp Arts.



**MARITA THEISEN
CHILDCARE CENTER**
STEEPLE SQUARE

**NOW OPEN AND
ACCEPTING ENROLLMENT!**

- Located centrally on the Steeple Square campus – perfect for downtown residents and employers
- Beautifully renovated facility with home-like charm
- Small class sizes
- Fostering of growth and development for every child
- Daily standards-based educational activities for all ages
- Gross motor and STEAM rooms
- Designed for convenience and safety with off street drop off/pick up area

The comfort of home combined with the security and dependability of a childcare center – the Marita Theisen Childcare Center is the perfect first step on your child’s educational journey!

Contact us today for tours and enrollment forms
EMAIL childcare@steeplesquare.com CALL 563.587.8830
steeplesquare.com/childcare

Childcare Partnerships with GDDC and NICC

Steeple Square is proud to partner with Greater Dubuque Development Corporation and Northeast Iowa Community College’s *Opportunity Dubuque* program to provide childcare for individuals earning job certificates through the program. The educational component and childcare are at no charge to participants, thanks to *Opportunity Dubuque*, creating a pathway to success for unemployed or under-employed community members. Participants also receive free childcare for up to a year after completing the program. This effort meets an urgent need and builds a strong local workforce.



For Steeple Square development updates, visit our website: steeplesquare.com/news or follow us on Facebook: [@steeplesquare](https://www.facebook.com/steeplesquare)

Former Church Hall Renamed Honkamp Hall

In honor of one of the organization's founding board members and visionaries, the main community event center space will now be known as Honkamp Hall. This was announced during a private ceremony in May by the Steeple Square board of directors and the Honkamp family.

The late Arnie Honkamp was integral in developing a vision for the former St. Mary's Church campus. At the ceremony, Joyce Honkamp shared, "Arnie would be immensely pleased and quite humble about it. It came at a good time in his life to do this with his retirement. His time with the project was so short, but I'm sure he would have jumped in full barrel. He was a Dubuquer to the core and anything that would enhance Dubuque, he was all for it and there for it."

Surrounded by Bavarian stained-glass windows and many of the former church's architectural features still in place, Honkamp Hall is the upper level of the former St. Mary's Church. In the past five years, this space has hosted hundreds of events including weddings, receptions, family celebrations, business meetings, arts and cultural events, and vocational and educational training.

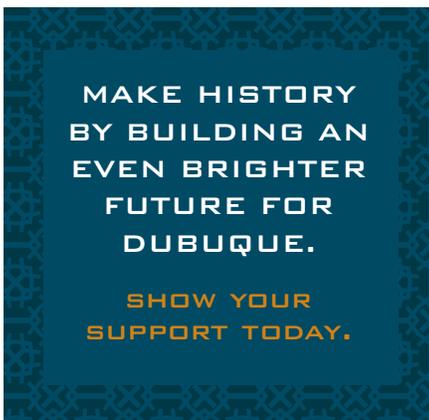


Steeple Square Receives Copper Architecture Award

In May, Steeple Square was one of 15 unique and creative buildings from the United States and Canada that earned a spot among the 2019 North American Copper in Architecture (NACIA) award-winners for its extraordinary use of copper. This restoration was designed by Jeffrey Morton Architects and led by Gronen Restoration. Gronen contracted Durable Restoration, of Columbus, Ohio, who installed more than 25,000 pounds of copper across the exterior envelope of Steeple Square. For the more decorative pieces of copper, Durable Restoration relied on Chicago Metal Supply

to fabricate vented dormers, layered dormers, gable ends, finials and gold leafing.

Because of the variety of copper pieces, restoration crews had to make constant modifications to match the historic nature of the building. Through the efforts of Durable Restoration and Gronen, the history and beauty of the former St. Mary's Church will last for generations to come. A full press release is available at: durable restoration.com/news-posts/steeple-square-receives-copper-architecture-award/



Public Campaign Launched

In June, Steeple Square officially launched the public phase of its "People for the Steeple" fundraising campaign as we close in on our goal of \$13.1 million, with the community campaign contributing \$500,000 to that goal. At this time, Steeple Square invites the community to join the public phase of the "People for the Steeple" Campaign by donating:

ONLINE: steeple-square.com/donate

CALL: 563.580.8227

MAIL: Checks payable to Steeple Square, PO Box 3188, Dubuque, Iowa 52004-3188

Your generosity is greatly appreciated as we complete the restoration of this magnificent campus!

HONKAMP HALL & CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

In the past few months, we were honored to be the extraordinary space for:

- Dubuque Dream Center Awards Ceremony
- Big Grove Annual Planning Meeting
- Women's March
- NAACP MLK Awards Ceremony
- Camp Albrecht Acres Fundraiser
- Kemem Celebrations for the Marshallese Community
- Progressive Dinners
- Dubuque Make a Difference Day
- Toilet Paper Pyramid Drive
- Pop Up Food Market
- Flea Market
- Organ Showcase
- Family Safety Night
- Main Street Dubuque Cocktail Hour
- Sierra Club Lunch
- 4th Annual Steeple Square Community Fest
- Window Restoration Expo and Workshop in partnership with Heritage Works Dubuque
- Bluff Strokes Paint Out
- Telegraph Herald Tri-State Wedding Extravaganza
- Night of Grief & Mystery Concert - Dubuque

Plus several:

- Wedding Ceremonies & Receptions
- Corporate Holiday Parties, Receptions and Meetings
- Cocktail Receptions and Social Hours with Guest Bartenders
- Wakes, Funerals, Funeral Dinners and Celebrations of Life
- Birthday and Family Celebrations
- Political/Civic Leader Tours

CONTACT US

To inquire about renting Steeple Square for your next event – including weddings, receptions, celebrations, business meetings, end-of-life services, concerts, art shows, and more – contact:

Melanie Bressler,
Campus Manager

call: 563.235.3584

email: events@steeple-square.com

or visit us online:

steeple-square.com/rent



Pop-up Food Market



Wake Service & Dinner



Steeple Square is a unique and historic space to host events of all types. We have had nothing but great experiences working with their professional and friendly staff. This central location is perfect for a small and intimate corporate gathering or a larger group setting.

Hannah Beck, Dubuque Bank & Trust



Former St. Mary's classroom

Reunion for Former Students & Parishioners

Steeple Square is hosting a reunion for all students, parishioners and friends of the former St. Mary's campus.

Join us on Saturday, November 9, 2019, from 1 - 4 p.m. in Honkamp Hall of the Steeple Square Community Event Center. Reunite with old friends and enjoy light snacks while walking through a timeline of St. Mary's history. Tour campus renovations and enjoy a brief presentation at 2 p.m. We'll also be taking updated class photos of alumni.

Please RSVP by contacting Melanie at 563.235.3584 or events@steeple-square.com. More info can be found on our Facebook Event: facebook.com/events/2382735478477751.



Don't miss out on all of the great news and events at Steeple Square! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and bookmark our website at steeple-square.com.

Steeple Square Receives Second Jeffris Family Foundation Grant

Steeple Square is pleased to announce that the organization was awarded a Jeffris Family Foundation capital campaign challenge grant. This is the second grant awarded by the Jeffris Family Foundation to Steeple Square since 2016, and it will support continued restoration of the Steeple Square Community Event Center, including Honkamp Hall.

“On behalf of the Steeple Square team, it is an honor to receive this challenge grant for a second time from a such a distinct foundation,” said John Schmidt, Steeple Square board president. “We believe it is a testament to not only to Steeple Square’s high-quality restoration, but to the vision of revitalization in our Washington and North End Neighborhoods.

Schmidt noted that the Steeple Square project has leveraged more than half of its funding through grant and tax credits – primarily state and federal historic tax credits.

The \$221,231 grant requires Steeple Square to raise a one for two match. Schmidt said that the board has been identifying match funding and is eager to move forward to satisfy the challenge grant. Steeple Square met the previous challenge grant match well ahead of schedule.

Thomas Jeffris, president of the Jeffris Family Foundation, said they’ve been following the project with great interest. “It’s been a pleasure dealing again with the professional, dedicated people at Steeple Square.”

The project will include continued restoration of stained glass windows, addition of restrooms in the lower level of the community event center, and restoration of the entry way of Honkamp Hall. Steeple Square will again work with partners including Four Mounds Foundation, NICC and Heritage Works to restore the stained glass windows

with vocational trainees and individuals disconnected from the world of work. Building restoration is led by Gronen in Dubuque.

Schmidt noted that building a relationship with the Jeffris Family Foundation was an early catalyst for project and fundraising planning. The team forged a relationship with the foundation in 2013, and Jeffris’ strong interest in the project spurred the group on necessary planning and feasibility work for both operations and historic rehabilitation.

Founded in 1979 and based in Janesville, Wis., The Jeffris Family Foundation is dedicated to preserving regionally and nationally important historic buildings and decorative arts projects for future generations. The Jeffris Capital Campaign Challenge Grant supports the development of important historic preservation projects throughout the Midwest, including Iowa.

UPCOMING OPEN HOUSES AT STEEPLE SQUARE

NOVEMBER 10 - 10 A.M. TO NOON
DECEMBER 8 - 10 A.M. TO NOON

Come and learn about the building and future plans for the campus, and see the space to plan for your upcoming event! Come anytime during these hours – no RSVP needed.

GRANTS & AWARDS

- Dubuque Racing Association (DRA)
- Sinsinawa Dominican Ministry Grant
- The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors
- Historical Resource Development Program through Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
- City of Dubuque Arts & Culture Special Project Grant
- McDonough Foundation
- Schoen Family Foundation

Steeple Restoration Video Wins Advertising Award

Steeple Square’s video highlighting the phenomenal restoration project won a Gold Addy Award from the American Advertising Federation (AAF) of Dubuque. The video highlights this phenomenal, unique and challenging restoration. Thank you to Happee Smith Productions and board member, Nicole Gantz, for the in-kind donation of the video. You can watch it here:



youtu.be/J2TnehewBJw

Steeple Square's New Faces

Welcome new board members!

- Carol Gebhart, Opening Doors
- Tim Hodge, Hodge Company
- Chris Kolle, Diamond Jo Casino

Welcome to the Marita Theisen Childcare Center!

- Angela Schrodt, Childcare Director



DCSD's School-to-Work Program Participation

Steeple Square participated in the Dubuque Community School District's School-To-Work program. This program allows students with special needs to gain valuable work experience from various organizations throughout town in order to build their resumes and ready himself or herself for the workforce. For one hour each week, we hosted three Hempstead High School students and two coaches who assisted with various tasks in Honkamp Hall, such as vacuuming, dusting and event set up and tear down. Now with the semester ending, we say goodbye, but we will welcome a new set of students in the fall to participate in this fantastic learning opportunity at Steeple Square.



Days of Caring Gratitude

During the annual Days of Caring volunteer day, Steeple Square hosted a team from the Q Casino who worked hard to continue to beautify and organize our campus. A huge thank you to the Q Casino team – we are very grateful for your time and effort!



The dedication of many community members make our efforts possible.
For a full list of team and committee members, visit steeplesquare.com/about.