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The Peale, 1 of 10 Maryland Historical Trust's 48th Annual Preservation Award Recipients
Following 20-Year Vacancy, Five-Year, \$5.5M Renovation of Oldest Purpose-Built Museum is Recognized

Baltimore, MD, (May 9, 2023)—On **Wednesday, May 10**, at **2:30 PM**, The Peale will receive one of ten **2023 Maryland Historical Trust Preservation Awards** via an online celebration. This prestigious series of awards recognize outstanding achievements in the preservation and rehabilitation of historic buildings throughout the State of Maryland. This year, The Peale will receive the **Excellence in Institutional Rehabilitation Award**. To attend, RSVP [here](#).

The Peale, located at 225 Holliday Street in the heart of Baltimore City, is the oldest purpose-built museum in the nation. After closing its doors in 1997, the building remained vacant until 2017, Peale Board of Directors—led by James D. Dilts—embarked on a \$5.5 million dollar capital campaign to restore the interior and exterior of this national treasure.

Founded in 1814 by artist and gaslight innovator Rembrandt Peale, the building has undergone an extensive rehabilitation effort to restore it to its original grandeur. The multi-million-dollar restoration modernized the 209-year-old edifice to meet the needs of contemporary audiences while maintaining its historic integrity.

“The Peale Museum building has been saved and given a new purpose thanks to the dedication and generosity of more than 700 supporters over the past two decades,” said **Dr. Nancy Proctor, founding director and chief strategy officer**. “The Peale’s and its service to Baltimore continued collaboration and diversity of its communities.”

The **Maryland Preservation Award for Excellence in Institutional Rehabilitation** is presented to individuals and organizations that have demonstrated exceptional efforts to preserve and rehabilitate historic buildings in Maryland by the [Maryland Historical Trust](#), a state agency dedicated to preserving Maryland's rich cultural heritage. The awardees are honored for outstanding education, restoration and revitalization projects, as well as organizational and individual leadership.

Since 1975, the Maryland Historical Trust has honored the outstanding preservation efforts of more than 280 individuals and projects throughout the state.

In recognition of [Preservation Month](#), the Maryland Historical Trust will present the [10 awards](#), acknowledging noteworthy accomplishments in the preservation field throughout the month of May and early June.

This Excellence in Institutional Rehabilitation award highlights the tireless efforts and relentless dedication of The Peale's team and the support of the Baltimore community in guaranteeing that the landmark remains a beautiful and pertinent cultural museum in the City of Baltimore.

For more information on The Peale and its award-winning rehabilitation efforts, please visit <http://www.thepeale.org/>. To learn more about the Maryland Preservation Awards sponsored by the Maryland Historic Trust, please visit <https://mht.maryland.gov/awards.shtml>

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About The Peale

Based in the oldest purpose-built museum building in the Western Hemisphere, The Peale is Baltimore's community museum. Once Baltimore's first city hall and the first public school for Black students in Maryland, the national treasure underwent a complete renovation after a 20-year vacancy. Together with creators and storytellers of all kinds, The Peale is actively redefining the role of museums in society. It now serves as a space for storytellers, griots, performers, artists, architects, historians, students, educators, and culture-keepers to share authentic Baltimore stories.

The Peale is located at 225 Holliday Street and is open to the public Thursday and Friday from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM and Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Learn more about The Peale by visiting <https://www.ThePeale.org/>.