



TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

—Established in 1954—

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New Award in Historic Preservation Announced

AUSTIN, Texas— THF announces Texas Historical Foundation Michael C. Duda Preservation Awards, honoring excellence in Historic Preservation in the state with a top prize of \$100,000.

The Texas Historical Foundation (THF) is pleased to announce the first-ever Texas Historical Foundation Michael C. Duda Preservation Awards, to be presented in April of 2024 in Dallas. Monetary awards will be provided for excellence in historic preservation to organizations making significant contributions to the physical or architectural history of Texas through a historic preservation project, with a top prize of \$100,000. The second and third-highest scoring projects will receive prizes of \$30,000 and \$20,000, respectively.

These awards honor the memory of THF Board of Director member Michael C. Duda, who passed away in 2019. Michael was born in Dallas and moved between southern California, Chicago, and Dallas finishing high school at Jesuit College Preparatory School in Dallas. He went on to the University of Notre Dame, receiving a degree in architecture. Afterwards, he moved to California, but quickly returned to Texas to attend SMU and earned an MBA in marketing and real estate. He went on to apply his passion for architecture in his work for his family's company specializing in real estate development and investments, and in his contributions to the Texas Historical Foundation as a board member.

Michael had a great love for Texas and always considered it home, specifically Dallas. Having traveled much of the world and lived in many states and countries, he honestly felt there was nowhere he would rather live than Texas. In his application to join the THF Board of Directors, he wrote "Everything I love is here, be it the music, food, or atmosphere... I hope I will never take for granted the variety of experiences Texas offers and if given the opportunity I would be glad to help preserve everything that has made this state the best in the nation." The Foundation is honored to offer these awards in the spirit of service that is synonymous with his legacy.

Eligible nominees are 501(c)(3) organizations, agencies or departments of the State of Texas, or political subdivisions of the state, such as a town, city, or county. The organization must have made significant or long-term contributions to preserving the history and built environment of Texas through an ongoing preservation-related project.

The historic preservation project for which the nomination is being submitted must meet several requirements, including:

- a. Having a historic designation on the local, state, or national level and relate to preserving the historic structure(s).
- b. Following high standards for historic preservation, including the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.
- c. Having added to the knowledge of Texas history.
- d. Having shown significant progress towards completion of the project including preservation planning or past rehabilitation/restoration efforts.

More information on the awards, including eligibility requirements and the application process can be found on the Texas Historical Foundation website at texashistoricalfoundation.org/duda-award. Nomination applications will be available starting June 1, and will be accepted until August 1, 2023.

Since 1954, the Texas Historical Foundation has funded preservation and education projects throughout the state and helped promote the cultural legacy of Texas. Among the group's efforts is an active grants program, supporting hundreds of projects promoting Texas' rich, diverse cultural heritage. For more information on the Duda Preservation Awards and other historic conservation endeavors supported by the Foundation, visit texashistoricalfoundation.org.

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