



The League of Historic American Theatres
334 N. Charles Street, 2nd Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201-4301

TEL: 410-659-9533 TOLL FREE: 877-627-0833
FAX: 410-837-9664 E-MAIL: info@lhat.org
WEBSITE: www.lhat.org

Press Release

For More Information, Contact:

Fran Holden
League of Historic American Theatres
410-659-9533
info@lhat.org

For Immediate Release

THE LEAGUE OF HISTORIC AMERICAN THEATRES PRESENTS AWARDS TO THE MICHIGAN THEATER AND JOSEPH ROSENBERG

LOS ANGELES, CA (July 22, 2006) – **The League of Historic American Theatres (LHAT)**, celebrating excellence in the rescue, restoration, reuse, and sustainability of historic theatres, presented its **2006 Outstanding Historic Theatre Award** to the **Michigan Theater** of Ann Arbor, MI and **2006 Outstanding Individual Contribution Award** to **Joseph Rosenberg, PhD**, president of VIP Tours of New York, during its 30th Annual Conference & Theatre Tour in Los Angeles, CA.

The **2006 Award for Outstanding Historic Theatre** acknowledges the Michigan Theater’s distinction of accomplishment and impact through its programs and services and the quality of its physical restoration. Presenting the award to the Michigan Theater’s long-time director, Russ Collins, during the League’s annual awards banquet, Dulcie Gilmore, LHAT president, stated, “The Michigan Theater has promoted and encouraged participation and leadership in the preservation, restoration and reuse of historic American theatres, and inspires excellence in the field of historic theatres through its example.”

An independent jury, including Kim Chan, former vice president of programs, Association of Performing Arts Presenters; Gerri Combs, executive director of the Southern Arts Federation; and Stephen Johnson, AIA, a founding Principal of Pfeiffer Partners, one of the nation’s leading planning, architectural and interior design firms, selected the Michigan Theater for this award. “The Michigan Theater’s comprehensive submission received an exemplary rating in all review criteria,” said jury member Stephen Johnson. “A compelling example of blending history with contemporary programming, the Michigan Theater is an exemplary restored theatre, encouraging education in the arts and independent film, “ said Johnson, summarizing the jury’s assessment.

---more---

The League's *2006 Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution* acknowledges the significant accomplishments of **Joseph S. Rosenberg, Ph.D.** of New York, NY and his profound impact on so many of our nation's historic theatres. Dr. Rosenberg ("Joe" to his many friends in the historic theatre community) was in large part responsible for the landmark designations of 36 Broadway theatres, including the New Amsterdam on 42nd Street. As co-founder of "The Showpeople's Committee to Save Radio City Music Hall," Joe was responsible for the NYC landmark designation of Radio City Music Hall, an important safeguard that helped save it from demolition.

As co-founder and chairman of the New York City Historic Districts Council, Joe led efforts to secure NYC landmark designation for many of New York's 80+ Historic Districts. Additionally, Joe has been actively engaged in helping to save and provide protections for historic theatres, including the Geary Theatre in San Francisco following the 1989 earthquake and the largest remaining concentration of movie palaces in the country on Broadway in downtown Los Angeles. To LHAT members, Joe with his ever-present portable microphone has been a fixture at annual conferences for over two decades. A former League board member, Joe has helped plan many national conferences for both the League and the Theatre Historical Society of America. Joining League president, Dulcie Gilmore in presenting the award to Joe Rosenberg, John Bell, president and CEO of the Tampa Theatre remarked, "I can think of no other person who has made such a profound contribution to both the League of Historic American Theatres and to the movement of historic theatres in America in general."

Recognizing that historic theatres are preserved and sustained through the remarkable efforts and generosity of individuals, the League's **Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution** is designed to acknowledge such accomplishments in the field of historic theatres. The Award recognizes an individual's outstanding contribution to the preservation, restoration or management of historic theatres, while establishing recognizable standards of excellent behavior for others in the field to emulate.

About LHAT

Founded in 1976, The **League of Historic American Theatres (LHAT)** is an international, not-for-profit, membership association, promoting, developing and encouraging involvement, participation and leadership in the preservation, restoration and re-use of historic American Theatres. LHAT serves its members through educational programs, publications, specialized services and its Annual Conference and Theatre Tour. The League, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, is 100% supported by membership dues, revenues generated from its programs and services, and the generous support of individual donors, corporations, foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. **To request a conference program and additional information**, visit the LHAT web site at: www.lhat.org; or contact 410-659-9533.

###