



Silver Bay YMCA awarded a Preserve New York Grant

This grant will fund a facility condition assessment of Fisher Gymnasium

Contacts:

Talia Perrea, Communications Specialist, Silver Bay YMCA

tperrea@silverbay.org

Katy Peace, Director of Communications, Preservation League of NYS

kpeace@preservenys.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[\(Fisher Gym Photos\)](#)

SILVER BAY, NY, 08/01/23 — Silver Bay YMCA is one of this year's [Preserve New York](#) (PNY) grantees. Their **grant of \$11,200 will fund a facility condition assessment of the historic Fisher Gymnasium**. The Preservation League of NYS and their program partners at the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) are thrilled to help fund this important work.

"We are very thankful for this grant," said **Silver Bay YMCA CEO Peter Doliber**. "It will help us preserve Fisher Gymnasium, an important historical structure on Lake George."

The Fisher Gymnasium at Silver Bay on Lake George was constructed in 1917 and is an excellent example of Adirondack Style architecture. Built to house two gymnasiums, a lounge with a massive fireplace and locker rooms, the building was beautifully designed to accommodate the Summer Training Institute but was not insulated for use in the non-summer months. Silver Bay is planning to renovate the Fisher Gymnasium for year-round use as a community wellness center for area residents and visitors — part of a larger \$1 million HUD-funded project. This grant from the Preservation League will ensure a thorough conditions assessment, completed by consultant Elise Johnson-Schmidt, Architect, PC, will help guide this capital work moving forward.

Silver Bay YMCA is a steward to 62 buildings, 32 of which are contributing properties in the National Register-listed Silver Bay Historic District. Preservation is a key component of the organization's overall mission, and recommendations from the conditions assessment would allow the work to maintain the historic integrity while making the building more functional for current needs.

At its 2023 meeting, an independent grant panel selected **19 applicants in 17 counties to receive support totaling \$279,936**. Each grant supports important arts and cultural initiatives, as well as economic development related to our state's arts and cultural heritage. Many of these grants will lead to historic district designation or expansion, telling the stories of communities throughout the state and allowing property owners to take advantage of the New York State and Federal Historic Tax Credits. With the announcement of the 2023 awards, support provided by Preserve New York since its launch in 1993 totals more than \$3.7 million to 529 projects statewide.

The Preserve New York program is a regrant partnership between the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) and the Preservation League, made possible with the support of the Office of the

Governor and the New York State Legislature. The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation has generously provided additional funds to support nonprofit projects in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

Since 1993, Preserve New York has been providing funds to municipalities and nonprofit organizations that need technical, professional assistance to guide a variety of preservation projects. The building condition reports, cultural landscape reports, and cultural resource surveys funded through this program lead to positive outcomes across New York's 62 counties.

2023 PNY Grant Recipients:

Albany County: Shaker Heritage Society, \$20,000 | **Cattaraugus County:** Leon Historical Society, \$6,720 | **Chautauqua County:** Patterson Library, \$16,000 | **Essex County:** Fort Ticonderoga Association, \$18,800 | **Franklin County:** Harrietstown, \$13,600 | **Green County:** Hudson-Athens Lighthouse Preservation Society, \$20,008 | **Livingston County:** Village on Nunda, \$12,980 | **Madison County:** Oneida Community Mansion House, \$18,940 | **Monroe County:** Connected Communities / Beechwood Neighborhood Coalition, \$20,000 | **Nassau County:** Long Beach Historical & Preservation Society, \$7,876 | **New York County:** Historic Districts Council, \$16,000 | **Orange County:** The Fullerton, \$12,000 | **Otsego County:** Otsego Land Trust, \$14,780 | **Suffolk County:** The Center for Environmental Education and Discovery, \$10,632; Wainscott Heritage Project, \$14,400 | **Ulster County:** The Center for Photography at Woodstock, \$14,000; Village of New Paltz, \$14,000 | **Warren County:** Silver Bay YMCA, \$11,200 | **Westchester County:** Historic Hudson Valley, \$18,000

"The breadth of these projects across our state will safeguard the rich and diverse history of New York for generations to come," said **Mara Manus, Executive Director of NYSCA**. "We applaud the Preservation League of New York State for this critical preservation program. From all of us at NYSCA, a hearty congratulations to the grantees and our gratitude for the essential work you do."

"This year's Preserve New York grant cycle was one of the most competitive in the program's history," said **Jay DiLorenzo, President of the Preservation League of NYS**. "The 19 projects funded truly rose to the top and represent a great cross-section of historic resources found across the state. From a Shaker Washhouse upstate to the Little Caribbean neighborhood in Brooklyn, each project helps tell the story of New York's rich history."

About the Preservation League of New York State

Since its founding in 1974, the Preservation League has built a reputation for action and effectiveness. Our goal has been to preserve our historic buildings, districts, and landscapes and to build a better New York, one community at a time. The Preservation League of New York State invests in people and projects that champion the essential role of preservation in community revitalization, sustainable economic growth and the protection of our historic buildings and landscapes. We lead advocacy, economic development, and education programs across the state.

Connect with us at preservenys.org, facebook.com/preservenys, twitter.com/preservenys, and instagram.com/preservenys, and youtube.com/c/PreservationLeague.

About Silver Bay YMCA

Our MISSION: To foster relationships, strengthen communities and nurture spirit, mind, and body for all.

Our IMPACT: Because of Silver Bay YMCA, connections between people and family are stronger. People are more connected, respectful, and caring. They have the confidence to develop to their full potential and to positively impact the communities in which they work and live. As a result, communities are more dynamic, inclusive, and diverse. As stewards of Lake George, we inspire people to be stewards of the environment while they are visiting our magnificent campus and in their home communities. <https://silverbay.org/>

###