

Moderator

Today's moderator **Maralee Beck** has just been elected Chair of the Beverly Hills Cultural Heritage Commission. Due to her vast knowledge of local history, interest in many local preservation programs, and active participation in several local non-profit programs, she has been serving as a member of the Inaugural CHC Commission since 2012. She is also currently on the Board of Governors of the Los Angeles County Department of Arboreta & Botanic Gardens(2012-present), within LA Co. Parks & Recreation. Ms. Beck has long been dedicating her time to public service. She has been the President of the Beverly Hills Education Foundation (2000-2001), the President of Virginia Robinson Gardens (2005-2007), Blue Ribbon Children's Festival Chair (2009), and board member of the Council of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles (2008-2012;2014-present).

She has recently been Project Manager and Editor of the new book on the history of the Virginia Robinson Gardens, Beverly Hills' First Estate: The House and Gardens of Virginia & Harry Robinson, published on the occasion of the Centennial of the Virginia Robinson Gardens. This book is now a source of perpetual fundraising for the organization. She is being honored by the VRG with the Spirit of Beverly Hills Award this September.

Ms. Beck holds a bachelor's degree cum laude from Stanford University and a master's degree from Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University (Allen-Heath Fellowship). She is also an award-winning reporter from her 20+ years as a broadcast journalist.

Speakers

William Burg is a State Historian for the California Office of Historic Preservation. He was born in Skokie, Illinois, and grew up in Sacramento's suburbs, attending Humboldt State University and eventually earning an MA from Sacramento State University's Public History program. Mr. Burg has authored five books about Sacramento history. As President of the Sacramento Old City Association, he advocates for the protection of Sacramento's irreplaceable historic resources.

State Historian I

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Teresa Grimes is a Principal Architectural Historian at GPA Consulting. She has over 25 years of experience in the field of historic preservation in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. Teresa is widely recognized as an expert in the identification and evaluation of historic resources having successfully prepared numerous context statements and dozens of landmark and historic district applications for a wide variety of property types. Her current projects include a Multiple Property

Documentation Form for Latinos in 20th Century California and a federal rehabilitation tax credit application for the Rosslyn Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles.

Prior to joining GPA, Teresa was the Senior Architectural Historian at Christopher A. Joseph & Associates where she specialized in preparing environmental review documents involving historic resources. Earlier in her career, she was the Preservation Officer of the Los Angeles Conservancy, a Research Assistant at the Getty Conservation Institute, and a Project Manager at Historic Resources Group. Teresa has a B.A. in Political Science (1986) and a M.A. in Architecture from UCLA (1992).

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Jan Ostashay has over 20 years of experience managing and conducting multi-disciplinary historic preservation projects and programs nationwide. As principal of Ostashay & Associates Consulting she currently provides preservation planning support to a number of local government agencies in the southern California area. Her historic preservation experience also includes conducting a variety of historic resources surveys and evaluations; completing HABS/HAER documentation; authoring numerous CEQA, NEPA, and Section 106 technical reports related to historic resources; reviewing projects for compliance with the SOI Standards; and preparing various preservation planning documents. Prior to establishing her own firm, Ms. Ostashay was the Historic Preservation Officer for the City of Long Beach and the Director of Cultural Resources Management at PCR Services, an environmental planning firm located in Santa Monica.

Principal

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Tour Leaders

Christy Johnson McAvoy, Founding Principal of Historic Resources Group, has been at the forefront of historic preservation since the late 1970s. Her command of the regulatory and incentive environments for historic resources combined with expertise in urban and social history enabled HRG to successfully develop creative and integrated approaches to a wide variety of preservation efforts including the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of historic buildings, historic resource identification, preservation planning, environmental review, community outreach, and heritage education.

Ms. McAvoy meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications in History and Architectural History and consults with real estate developers, architects, public agencies and non-profit organizations to help them meet their preservation-related planning, educational and economic needs. Recent

projects include SurveyLA, a multi-year historic resource survey and educational effort of the City of Los Angeles Planning Department; the Annenberg Community Beach House at 415 PCH; the Downtown Women's Center; Hollywood studios; the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts ("The Wallis"); the Forum; CBS Columbia Square; Los Angeles Union Station Master Plan; University of Southern California; and Scripps College. Her work has received recognition from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the American Institute of Architects, the California Preservation Foundation, the Cultural Heritage Commission of the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Conservancy; the Los Angeles City Historical Society, the Governor of California; the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce; and the Hollywood Arts Council

Throughout her career, Ms. McAvoy has been highly involved in national, state and local historic preservation organizations. She served on the Board of Advisors of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and on the Board of the National Center for Preservation Training and Technology. She is a past president of both the Los Angeles Conservancy and the California Preservation Foundation and a co-founder of Hollywood Heritage.

Ms. McAvoy holds a Bachelor of Arts in American Social and Cultural History from the University of California, Santa Barbara; and a Master of Arts in Humanities/Architectural History from California State University, Dominguez Hills. She regularly speaks at conferences and workshops, including those for the National Trust, the American Planning Association, the California Preservation Foundation, and the Urban Land Institute. For over a decade, she served as Adjunct Professor in the USC School of Architecture, in addition to helping found its program in historic preservation.

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Zoltan Pali, FAIA, Founder and Design Principal, SPF:a is the creative energy and tireless driving force behind the firm's award-winning design, and his signature is on every single project that bears the company name. A native of Los Angeles, California, Mr. Pali began his architectural career in 1978, and founded SPF:a seventeen years later, in 1995. His background includes a degree in Design from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), and a depth of experience in the construction industry. Mr. Pali's combination of award-winning design proficiency and his rigorous standards for technical accuracy in construction documentation constitute the foundation of SPF:a's methodology and approach to every project.

Prior to founding SPF:architects, Mr. Pali worked for Vito Cetta Architects (VCA), Solberg & Lowe Architects, and as a sole practitioner collaborated with case study maestro and protégé of Craig Ellwood, Jerrold E. Lomax, FAIA. His early projects included multi-family housing structures, mixed use facilities, and challenging landmark projects, such as the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel renovation, the Santa Monica

Museum of Flying and the award-winning DC-3 Restaurant. Early collaborative projects with Jerrold E. Lomax, FAIA included the 2,000 car Cedars-Sinai Parking Structure, the award-winning Benjamin Residence [GA-Houses 64], and an award-winning flagship retail store for Virgin Entertainment in Orlando, Florida.

In 1990, Mr. Pali joined up with partner Judit Méda Fekete, and five years later formed what is now SPF:a. The firm sets out to create a unique design footprint, incorporating the best in creativity, technology and resourcefulness. Within the first few years of its inception, SPF:a was selected as part of Los Angeles' "New Blood 101", and received the Architecture Magazine Progressive Architecture Citation Award. Under Mr. Pali's stewardship, SPF:a was selected to sit on the judging panel for Architecture Magazine's Home of the Year design awards in 2005, has won dozens of design awards, citations, and publications of its work over the years, and has received national AIA honors for design excellence. Among his many designs, Pali's most decorated projects include the Oshry Residence, Somis Hay Barn, Flagship Virgin Megastore, Cotner Building, Central California Museum of History, Pantages Theater Restoration, Wildwood School, and the Brosmith Residence.

Mr. Pali has also touched numerous landmarks on the Los Angeles horizon. His combined passion for progressive design and his respect for historic buildings has earned SPF:a a role on the Greek Theater Renovation & Expansion, the Getty Villa Museum renovation and the Historic Restoration of the Hollywood Pantages Theater.

Pali has served as a visiting critic and at California State Polytechnic University at Pomona School of Architecture, the UCLA School of Architecture and the USC School of Architecture. He has guest lectured at the UCLA School of Architecture, the New York Architectural League, and the LA Urban Forum on topics ranging from general architecture to mixed-use building design.

His personal contribution to the surrounding community includes pro bono design services and fundraising events for the Shakespeare Festival Los Angeles (a creative literacy program for underserved youth of Los Angeles) and Artstorm (an artpark concept designed to provide graffiti artists with a legal and positive outlet for practicing their design talents).

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