Farnsworth House Renamed Edith Farnsworth House

PLANO, ILL. — In celebration of the 70th anniversary, Farnsworth House, a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will be renamed the Edith Farnsworth House. This official renaming acknowledges the significant role of Dr. Edith Farnsworth (1901-1975) in the creation of the iconic structure, emphasizing her partnership in the house’s design and recognition of her many accomplishments as a research physiologist, post-graduate regulator, classical violinist and patron of art and design.

For decades, the Farnsworth House, a symbol of architectural innovation, has been characterized by the achievement of two people: Ludwig Mies van der Rohe (1886-1967) and Edith Farnsworth, who was responsible for the design and construction of the house. Their collaboration resulted in a building that was not only a masterpiece of modernist architecture but also a unique expression of human居住.

From 1938 to 1950, Mies and Edith Farnsworth worked together on the design and construction of the house. Mies van der Rohe’s innovative thinking, particularly his use of structural grids and transparency, were instrumental in the creation of the Farnsworth House. This groundbreaking design philosophy and the use of advanced materials and techniques revolutionized the field of architecture.

Edith Farnsworth’s lasting influence in artistic innovation introduced her to Mies’s talent and led her to commission him to design the first modernist building constructed on American soil. Thanks to her foresight, the architectural innovation was later transformed into a functional work of art that was the first in the world to be constructed with the use of new materials and techniques.

The Farnsworth House is a testament to the impact of Edith Farnsworth’s contributions to the field of architecture. As an architectural marvel, the Farnsworth House helped establish Mies van der Rohe as one of the most influential architects of the 20th century. Edith Farnsworth’s legacy is celebrated today through the renaming of the house in her honor.

Historic New England Awards Six Community Preservation Grants

BOSTON — Each year, Historic New England awards the Herbert and Louise Whitney Fund Community Preservation Grant to small-bureaucratic historic preservation organizations in each New England state. The award, funded in honor of Herbert and Louise Whitney, recognizes their contributions and supports the preservation of historically significant sites.

The 2023 recipients include the following organizations:

- **Norwich Historical Society, Norwich, Conn.**
- **Burr Museum, Washington, Conn.**
- **Greenfield Historical Society, Greenfield, Mass.**
- **Bennington Museum, Bennington, Vt.**
- **Shelburne Museum, Shelburne, Vt.**
- **Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, Mass.**

The awards are in honor of the contributions of Herbert and Louise Whitney to the preservation of historic sites in New England. The grant recipients are selected based on the significance and importance of their work in preserving and promoting the state’s cultural heritage.

The grants support a variety of projects, including the renovation of historic buildings, the creation of educational programs, and the collection of historical materials. These projects not only preserve the architectural and cultural heritage of the region but also contribute to the economic development of the communities.

Colonial Williamsburg, William & Mary Announce Brax School Future Location

WILLIAMSBURG, VA. — What is likely the oldest extant building in the northern hemisphere used for the purpose of educating enslaved and free Black children is relocating to Colonial Williamsburg’s historic campus. The Breath of Life School, a project of the Breath of Life Foundation and Colonial Williamsburg, is moving to the school’s original site on the historic campus and will be housed in the Brax School, which was once a dormitory for the school.

The Brax School was built in 1920 and is one of the oldest surviving African American educational institutions in the United States. The school was established to provide education to African American students in the era of segregation. The relocation of the school will allow for a new educational program to be developed, focusing on the history and legacy of African American education.

The move of the Brax School will also provide opportunities for the preservation and interpretation of the school’s history, allowing visitors to learn about the contributions of African American educators and the struggles faced by students in the era of segregation. The relocation is part of a larger initiative by Colonial Williamsburg to preserve and share the history of African American education in the United States.