

HPHT's Nicole Possert Now Restore Oregon's Director of Development

A long-time HPHT leader has been recruited by Oregon's statewide historic preservation nonprofit, Restore Oregon, to serve as their Director of Development. Nicole Possert served on the board of HPHT from 1996-2014, serving as the Trust's longest-serving president (7 years) as well as several years as both Vice President and Secretary. She and her husband, Michael, contributed substantially to the organization until moving to Oregon for his work at the stop-motion animation feature film company Laika Entertainment.

Following is the official announcement, reprinted from Restore Oregon:

Restore Oregon is starting the year off with the appointment of Nicole Possert as our new Development Director. She will replace Sarah Heath who recently became Executive Director at Astoria Historic District Association.

Nicole has an impressive background in both fundraising and strategic marketing. Nicole comes to Restore Oregon with over 25 years of experience in fundraising, strategic planning and project management. Nicole has been a consultant and key innovator for public agencies, nonprofits and private clients from well-established organizations like the National Audubon Society as well as start-up nonprofits like Friends of Griffith Park. Her professional and

volunteer experiences accentuates her core values of transforming place-based projects that are historic, cultural or environmental in nature which also have a positive impact on improving the livability and sustainability of communities.

Her development work has touched in all areas of fundraising from major gifts to membership to planned giving. She was part of a small team that successfully raised over \$10 million in a capital campaign to construct the Audubon Center at Debs Park, one of the first

Platinum-certified LEED projects in the nation.

Nicole has received numerous awards and recognition for her wide-ranging preservation work from a whimsical Mid-Century playground hand made by an artist to a 1896 rail road bridge, the longest and oldest remaining in the City of Los Angeles. She was recognized for her community revitalization and livability work by the

California State Senate as a Woman of the Year.

Her passion for historic places blossomed while living in Los Angeles where she lived and spent many years preserving and bringing back a 1905 Craftsman with her husband before moving to Oregon. Nicole grew up in Michigan and holds a bachelor's degree in business from Central Michigan University.



Photo: Martha Benedict

Letter to HPHT from Antonio Castillo

It seems like just yesterday that it was my honor to be elected President of the Board of Directors of the Highland Park Heritage Trust. Fast forward five years and I continue to proudly serve on the Board and play a role in our community.

When I first learned about the Heritage Trust, I was a student at Franklin High School taking architectural classes. It was then that I began to appreciate the importance and character of our neighborhoods and soon realized the role our buildings and spaces play in our lives. The physical environment is only one part of what makes a community thrive; equally important are the people that inhabit and interact with the buildings and spaces. The day-to-day lives, past and present, of our families and neighbors are what continues to add to our story and defines our heritage.

Northeast Los Angeles has over 12 percent of all the historic-cultural monuments in the city – that's over 142 monuments, including over 50 in Highland Park alone. Highland Park-Garvanza is the largest HPOZ with over 4,000 properties and the first district to include commercial buildings.

As the community continues to change over time, the Heritage Trust is committed to advocate for an appropriate balance that accepts the need for housing and economic development in our neighborhoods, while maintaining its rich historic, cultural and diverse character.

On January 29th, the Board met for its annual planning retreat at the lovely Judson Home on Thorne Street, which is the home of Board members JJ Jackman and Eric Magallon. At the retreat, the Board elected its new officers and discussed the goals and initiatives for 2017. This year we welcome our new Heritage Trust President, Louisa Van Leer. I am very excited and confident that Louisa's continued leadership will be a driving force for the Heritage Trust. Two of our more recent Board members, Rebecca Schiffman and Jamie Tijerina have stepped up to become our new Vice Presidents. As we get ready to celebrate our 35th anniversary, I am encouraged to continue my advocacy work while engaging both our Board and membership in the work ahead.

Antonio Castillo

Board Member



2017 Officers

President: **Louisa Van Leer**
Vice President: **Rebecca Schiffman**
Vice President: **Jamie Tijerina**
Secretary: **JJ Jackson**
Treasurer: **Charly Kemp**
Membership Chair:
Anne Marie Wozniak

Board of Directors

Antonio Castillo
Steve Crouch
Carmela Gomes
Charles Fisher
Eric Magallon
John Nese
Robert Spira
Jonathan Silberman

Our Cornerstone is the official newsletter of the Highland Park Heritage Trust, a non-profit community organization.

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Mail to:

HPHT

P.O. Box 50894

Los Angeles, CA 90050-0894

HPHT message line: (323) 908-4127

www.hpht.org

Find us on FACEBOOK

Advertisement Policy:

Advertisements will be accepted for this publication from advertisers who are in keeping with the intention and goals of this organization. Contact Charly Kemp for submission info and rates.

Do you have a historic home or preservation story you want to publicize? Please contribute articles, photos and anecdotes to HPHT. Email to info@hpht.org.

"Like" us on our Facebook fan page "Highland Park Heritage Trust"



2017 Initiatives to Strengthen and Support the Ongoing HPHT Mission and Goals: A Call to Action

Carmela Gomes, Editor

Sometimes, at HPHT meetings we hear “what the board is doing” and it almost sounds like the work is done. As you read through the initiatives please know that this is a “*Call to Action*” to get on board and be active.

Following are the initiatives chosen to emphasize building on both the results we reported on in the Fall 2016 edition of *Our Cornerstone* and new initiatives to support the Trust’s work in 2017.

35th Anniversary of the Heritage Trust

We will celebrate with an end-of-the year Celebration that will feature festivities, fundraising, exhibits from the HPHT Archives and a newly designed T-shirt.

Committee chair is *jj Jackman*.

HPHT Archives Project

Collaborate with Occidental College Special Collections librarians and HPHT member Dr. Jeremiah Axelrod of the Institute for the Study of Los Angeles-Occidental to complete the archiving of 35 years of Highland Park Heritage Trust Activism. Committee chair is *Eric Magallon*.

Advocacy for NELA Cultural Resources

Continue our advocacy on behalf of the Southwest Museum, Casa de Adobe and the Lummis Home.

Committee chair is *Carmela Gomes*.

NELA Newspaper Archives

In cooperation with Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society and Occidental College Library Special Collections continue fund raising to support the ongoing work of

gathering, scanning and digitizing Northeast Los Angeles newspapers. Committee chair is *Antonio Castillo*.

Education and Outreach

Launch a new, regular walking tour to explore the historic architecture on North Figueroa Street / Route 66. Continue our bi-monthly Public Programming and our regular Sycamore Grove Walking Tour and explore other such activities. Committee chair is *Louisa Van Leer*.

Supporting initiatives are:

Activism

Continue to actively protect our historic resources with Historic Cultural Monument nominations as well as institute proactive letter-writing campaigns for significant preservation issues. Committee chair is *Rebecca Schiffman*.

Membership and Marketing

Institute a vigorous social media program to support our ongoing efforts to grow our Heritage Trust membership and provide HPHT visibility in the Arroyo Communities. Committee chair is *Jamie Tijerina*.

WE (members and board) have work to do! Get involved! What ignites your passion and love for our community? To become a member of one of the committees please contact info@hpht.org or phone (323) 908-4127 and leave a message. The committee chair for the activity in which you would like to be involved will contact you. Thank you.

TELES



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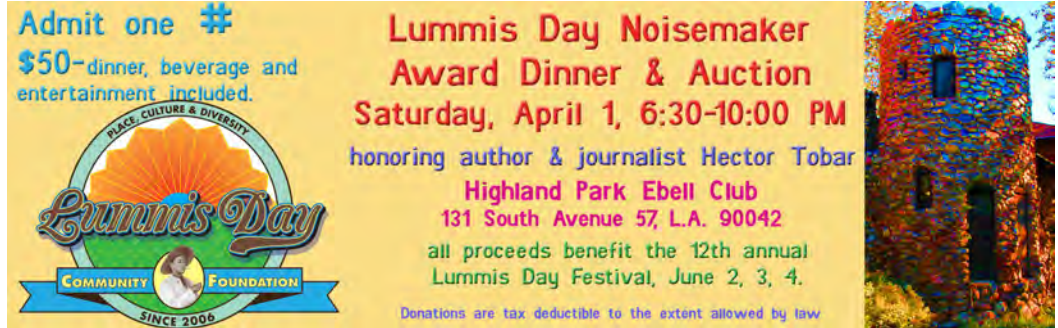
**Lummis Day to Present 2017 "Noisemaker Award"
to Author and Journalist Hector Tobar
at Annual Benefit and Award Dinner
Saturday, April 1, at the Highland Park Ebell Club**

Hector Tobar, the award-winning journalist and best-selling author whose distinguished body of work has often sought and found common ground between North American and Latino cultures will be the 2017 Lummis Day "Noisemaker Award" honoree. The "Noisemaker Award," is named for the famous entertainments hosted by Charles Lummis for writers, artists and dignitaries at his Northeast L.A. home.

The award will be presented at the Lummis Day Community Foundation's annual fundraiser dinner on Saturday, April 1, 6:30 pm-10:00 pm at the Highland Park Ebell Club, 131 South Avenue 57 in Highland Park.

The April 1 fundraiser will feature a buffet dinner provided by many of Northeast L.A.'s favorite restaurants, beer, wine and soft drinks. A silent auction will offer the chance to bid on art, books, vintage wines

and rare collectibles at bargain prices. Event tickets are available on the Lummis Day website, www.LummisDay.org, at Galco's Old World Grocery on York Blvd, at Las Cazuelas in Highland Park and Antigua Espresso and Roasters in Cypress Park. Tickets are \$50 per person. Dinner, beer, wine and soft drinks are included with



Admit one #
\$50-dinner, beverage and entertainment included.

Lummis Day
PLACE, CULTURE & DIVERSITY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
SINCE 2006

Lummis Day Noisemaker Award Dinner & Auction
Saturday, April 1, 6:30-10:00 PM
honoring author & journalist Hector Tobar
Highland Park Ebell Club
131 South Avenue 57, L.A. 90042
all proceeds benefit the 12th annual Lummis Day Festival, June 2, 3, 4.
Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law

admission. All proceeds from the event support the Lummis Day Festival, the only arts festival that represents all of Northeast L.A.

For more event information, call 323-646-8331 or email lummisdayweb@gmail.com.

Highland Park Heritage Trust—Membership Registration/Renewal

You may join or renew online at www.hpht.org or by sending your tax deductible check to:
Highland Park Heritage Trust • Attn: Membership • PO Box 50894 • Los Angeles CA 90050-0894

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor (\$51 to \$150) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> My employer or my spouse's employer matches gifts to non-profits. HPHT is a 501c3 Non-Profit Corporation, Tax ID #95-4034485 |
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I am interested in working on the following activities:

- Walking Tours: Docent Reception Archiving Awards Ceremony Mailing Assistance
 Oral History Email Fund Raising Marketing & Publicity Restoration Workshops
 Cornerstone Articles School & Education Programs Membership Events

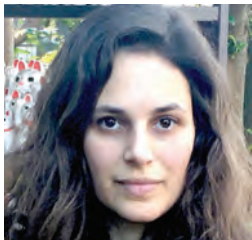
Meet Your 2016 Highland Park Heritage Trust Executive Board

Louisa Van Leer (President) has an active practice in historic preservation architecture based in Highland Park. In 2011 Louisa created "Stair Street Ghosts," a historical tour of Mt. Angelus celebrating Cora Pond Pope, an early Highland Park developer, suffragist and abolitionist, and soon after joined the HPHT Board. Since then,



reopening the Southwest Museum and Casa de Adobe has been the center of her advocacy work via preservation design proposals for the museum, walking and biking tours and a kid's art and Arroyo history installation at the Lummi Home featured on KCET. Louisa, her filmmaker husband, their 6 year-old boy and a cat live in Highland Park.

Rebecca Schiffman (Vice President) is a musician and designer originally from New York City. Her third album of original songs came out on Fayetteenam Records in 2016. She is also a trained wax carver and designs jewelry based on architectural ornament. She lives with her husband and many pets in Highland Park.



Jamie Tijerina, BSc, MBA (Vice President) is a professional with unique and diverse experience in academic flow cytometry, higher education and the arts. She currently works at Caltech as a Scientific Researcher, is the Digital Communications Liaison and Director-at-Large for the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council and is on the Board of Directors for a local music organization. Jamie grew up in Highland Park.



Charly Kemp (Treasurer) is a married father of three, and passionate cyclist interested in preservation of LA neighborhood communities and specifically historic Highland Park. He became a member of HPHT in 2003 and has served as Treasurer for nearly a decade. Charly is a resident of Highland Park.



JJ Jackman (Secretary) is a native of North Carolina relocated to Los Angeles in 1998 and served as the Admissions Director for the American Film Institute and the Southern California Institute of Architecture. He currently works for an association management firm located in West LA. JJ has worked with many small Los Angeles theaters, as a stage manager, writer and actor. He is the creator of Thorne Street Parlour, a play-reading salon, held in his historic home that he and his husband, Eric Magallon, purchased in 2010 and restored in 2014.



Anne Marie Wozniak (Membership) has served as President of the HPHT several times and has been in charge of membership for over a decade. A native Californian, born in Pasadena, she has worked with preservation issues for over 35 years, taking charge of several of the early Highland Park Heritage Trust walking tours. She and her husband, Charlie Fisher, have lived in the same historic Highland Park house since 1982.



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Save the Date for MOTA 2017!

Mark your calendars for Museums of the Arroyo Day 2017 – Sunday, May 21. From noon – 5 pm (last museum entrance at 4pm), you can explore the MOTA museums for free with free shuttles connecting them all.
<http://www.mota.dreamhosters.com>

SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

6:30 to 8:00 pm

Audubon Center at Debs Park

4700 Griffin Avenue • Los Angeles 90031

Lummis Day Community Foundation in cooperation with the Institute for the Study of Los Angeles-Occidental, Audubon at Debs Park and Highland Park Heritage Trust will present “The Arroyo Seco at the Time of Charles Lummis,” a lecture by Tim Brick, managing director of the Arroyo Seco Foundation <http://www.brickonline.com/publicservice.htm>

The Arroyo Seco Foundation (ASF) was founded by Charles Lummis more than one hundred years ago to preserve and promote the Arroyo Seco one of Southern California’s greatest natural treasures. After a lapse of many decades, the Arroyo Seco Foundation was revived in 1989 to continue that vision. <http://www.arroyoseco.org/about.htm>

Doors open at 6:00 PM. Light refreshments will be served. Audubon volunteers will have a special activity for children between the ages of 4 and 10.

For further information info@hpht.org (323) 908-4127 or (323) 221-2255

History Walk and Happy Hour in Partnership with Highland Park Heritage Trust

**Special Walking Tour Event on
Wednesday, May 10, 2017 • 3-5 pm**

HPHT is delighted to partner with the California Preservation Foundation (CPF) Conference being held in Pasadena this year.

We will be offering our new North Figueroa Street Walking Tour that debuted at “Fig Jam” last year. The tour will start at Future Studio and end at the Highland Bowl for Happy Hour.

Please contact us at if you would like help host the conference attendees at this event. (323) 908-4127 or info@hpht.org

For more information and to purchase walking tour tickets please see CPF’s website: <http://californiapreservation.org/education/conference/>



HPHT Holiday Noise

On Sunday, December 11, 2016, 128 members and community people attended the HPHT Holiday Noise at the Lummis Home and Garden and pledged to continue to be concerned and available for other events for the maintenance, preservation and use of the property. Dr. Jeremiah Axelrod, director of the Institute for the Study of Los Angeles-Occidental College, brought the community up to date on the challenge of completing the funding for Occidental to take over the historic monument. We even had a student art exhibit in the “East Wing Gallery” as we named the former bedroom for the evening.

Two representatives from the Mayor’s office, Amanda Mejia and Mike Fong, made sure they talked with as many partygoers as possible so they could report back. CDI sent our friend Sylvia Robledo from the N. Figueroa Street

office and supplied cases of water. Representatives from both ASNC and HHPNC mingled with the crowd as they nibbled on the refreshments the two neighborhood councils had provided for the festivities.

Prior to the event, Dennis Harbach’s son and a friend, Kevin Harbach and Bryan Houser, both professional photographers, took aerial photos from a drone. Lummis biographer, Mark Thompson, followed up a previous blog post about the event <http://www.charleslummis.com/2016/12/01/el-alisal-holiday-noise/> with a review and posting using some of the photos. <http://www.charleslummis.com/2016/12/16/drone-captures-birds-eye-views-of-lummis-house/>

The Highland Park Heritage Trust committee on Activism is considering how to incorporate the Lummis Home in our campaign.



Above photos by Susan Harbach

Bottom: Drone photo by Kevin Harbach & Bryan Houser

EVENTS & MEETINGS

2nd Monday, Monthly HPHT Board and Program Meetings, 7 to 8:30 pm · Ebell Club, 131 S. Avenue 57, Highland Park, www.hpht.org or (323) 908-4127, March 13, April 10 *Program TBA*, May 8

Saturday, April 22, Bi-monthly Walking Tour, 10 am to 12:30 pm · Sycamore Grove Highland Park area, register at <http://hpht.org/walking-tour.php> for 2017 Tour Dates or (323) 908-4127, \$5 HPHT members, \$10 non-members

2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, 6:00 pm · Highland Park/Garvanza HPOZ, Arroyo Seco Library Community Room, 6145 N. Figueroa St., Highland Park

Wednesday, March 29, 6:30 to 8:00 pm (doors open at 6:00 pm) · Tim Brick lecture, "The Arroyo Seco at the Time of Charles Lummis," at Audubon Center at Debs Park, 4700 Griffin Avenue, Los Angeles, 90031. Light Refreshments. Info@hpht.org or (323) 908-4127

Saturday, April 1 · 12th Annual Lummis Day Benefit and Award Dinner, at the Highland Park Ebell Club, 131 S. Avenue 57, Highland Park, 90042, www.LummisDay.org

Wednesday, May 10, 3 to 5 pm · North Figueroa Historic District Walking Tour, led by HPHT docents, (323) 908-4127 or info@hpht.org For tickets <http://californiapreservation.org/education/conference/>

Sunday, May 21, noon to 5 pm · Museums of the Arroyo Day, last museum entrance at 4 pm, <http://www.mota.dreamhosters.com>



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Address Correction Requested

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