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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**The Landmark Society Presents “The Art of Preservation”**

*Celebration at the Memorial Art Gallery Features Art, Music and Dance*

ROCHESTER, NY November 11, 2014 -- Celebrate with The Landmark Society of Western New York at a special event on Sunday, November 23 from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester. The “The Art of Preservation” promises to be a festive evening of live creative expression in art, music, and dance. Entertainment will feature music by local musicians Jon Seiger and the All-Stars, fine art artist Jacquie Germanow and a few special guest appearances.

“This event is a true celebration of everyone in our community who works to promote community revitalization and historic preservation,” said Wayne Goodman, Executive Director, The Landmark Society of Western New York.

The evening will start with an abbreviated annual meeting before moving into full party mode. Guests will also be able to tour all exhibits in the gallery. A cash bar will also be available and sure to be a highlight is the annual silent auction. Title Sponsors are First Niagara and Tel-Tru Manufacturing Company & G-S Plastic Optics.

A special addition to the evening will be the one-night-only exhibit of a select number of watercolor paintings from the John Wenrich collection that haven’t been shown in over 25 years. One piece will be available for purchase in the silent auction. (see sidebar at end of release).

The Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester’s civic art museum, is located at 500 University Avenue. This Italian Renaissance style building was founded in 1913 by Emily Sibley Watson, daughter of industrialist Hiram Sibley. Watson donated the building in memory of her architect son James G. Averall. In 1986 the building added a third addition including 12,000 square foot entrance pavilion and enclosed skylit structure garden designed by renowned Rochester architect Frank Grosso.

Other sponsors include: Bergmann Associates, Cannon Heyman & Weiss, LLP, Connolly Printing, Constellation Brands, Edgemere Development, Inc., EFP Rotenberg, LLP,



Feldman Heating & Cooling, Home Leasing, Lee and Staffan Lundback, Mark IV Enterprises, North American Breweries, Pike Stained Glass Studios, Rochester Colonial Manufacturing, R. Jon Schick Architect, Toshiba Business Solutions, UBS and Craig J. Zicari & Anne C. Coon

Tickets are on sale at [www.landmarksociety.org](http://www.landmarksociety.org). Cost for Landmark Society Members is \$30 per person and non-member price is \$40 per person. For more information: [www.LandmarkSociety.org](http://www.LandmarkSociety.org) or 585-546-7029 x11.

Sidebar

### **Wenrich Paintings on Display at Landmark Society Event**

The Landmark Society Jubilee event at the Memorial Art Gallery will feature a collection of watercolor paintings of Rochester resident John C. Wenrich (1894-1970). The son of a locomotive engineer, Wenrich was fascinated with trains and created a series of watercolor paintings of Steam Engines. This collection is now owned by the Landmark Society of Western New York.

Wenrich was an acclaimed artist. After finishing high school, he worked for an architectural firm in Maryland before enrolling at the Rochester Athenaeum and Mechanics Institute (now known as Rochester Institute of Technology) where he studied drawing and design. Wenrich also spent a year at the Art Students League in New York City and studied for five months at the University of Toulouse in France, following two years of service in the U.S. Army during World War I.

Back in Rochester he worked as an architectural illustrator at Gordon and Kaelber and continued in this position until 1931, when he became an architectural renderer for the design team of Rockefeller Center in New York City. Later Wenrich worked for the New York World's Fair Board of Design and served as an architectural illustrator for both the 1939 and 1964 New York World's Fairs. Wenrich returned to his alma mater several times as an architectural rendering, free-hand drawing, and composition instructor at RAMI. Then, in 1947 he joined the faculty as a part-time instructor.

Throughout his lifetime, Wenrich received several awards and recognitions. He earned the Burdette Long Awards for Architectural Rendering in both 1932 and 1944 and took first prize in the Devoe Travel America National Poster Competition in 1940. He was elected as a fellow in the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences and was a member of the American Watercolor Society, the Art and Print Clubs of Rochester, and two architectural societies.



Wenrich and his wife were very active supporters of The Landmark Society. The John Wenrich Memorial Library and Preservation Information Center at the Hoyt Potter House named for him and was financed by a memorial fund set-up in his name. The library includes books, maps and historic resources and is open to the public by appointment.