

Lafayette Park 50

Why LP50?

Lafayette Park 50 (or LP50) will honor the remarkable collaborative efforts of the developers, designers (including internationally renowned architect Mies van der Rohe), public officials, and residents of the historically, socially, and architecturally significant neighborhood of Lafayette Park Detroit. LP50 was founded to: celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ground-breaking of Lafayette Park (October 16, 1956); pay homage to the “Black Bottom” neighborhood that came before it; remind residents of the beauty, diversity, and stability of our community; and serve as a catalyst for envisioning our future.

Who is LP50?

LP50 is a volunteer, community-based organization serving the 5,000 some residents of the National Register Historic District and vicinity. In April 2006, community members from a dozen residential groups - including The Pavilion, Mies van der Rohe Townhouses, 1300 Lafayette East, Lafayette Towers, Cherboneau, Chateaufort, Parc Lafayette, Leland Lofts, Orleans East, et al - founded LP50 to plan and implement the 50th anniversary celebration.

LP50 Planning Boundaries are: Gratiot Avenue to the North; Dequindre Cut/ St. Aubin to the east; Chrysler Freeway Service Drive to the west; and East Larned to the south (see map).

LP50 has established five Sub-Committees and each is focusing on different initiatives that support this year's celebration and on-going community activities. The Chairs of the Sub-Committees comprise the LP50 Steering Committee, listed at right.

What will LP50 Do?

LP50 is planning a variety of projects that celebrate the spirit and anniversary of our founding, including two Fall 2006 events:

- **September 16:** Community Awareness Day + Reunion Picnic;
- **October 16:** Groundbreaking Re-Enactment Ceremony/ Civic Dialogue+Design Symposium /Film Festival

On-going LP50 Initiatives:

Historic home tours, archive project with WP Reuther Archives, a traveling exhibit, a video documentary and oral history project, a community exchange center and merchandise sales, public art and landscape advocacy initiatives. LP50 initiatives are designed to be broad and inclusive, and geared to all age groups – all events will feature activities for children, youth, and adults.

Partnership Opportunities

We are actively pursuing partnerships with organizations and individuals that share our passion and mission. LP50 has established a fiduciary relationship with Preservation Wayne for **501 (c) 3 non-profit tax status**. We believe such LP50 partnerships will be of mutual benefit:

- LP50 has a community-building mission. We are celebrating both the diversity and design of our neighborhood.
- LP50 will reach a diverse constituency. We anticipate that the planned celebration will attract the largest gathering of historic district residents in Detroit, as well as past residents, community groups, churches, schools, city and state officials, local and national preservation representatives, and businesses.
- LP50 will afford joint promotion opportunities through publications, tours, and events. Crain's has chosen LP50 as an historic residential neighborhood participant in their fall “House Party” event. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has offered support and an article in *Preservation* magazine.

LP50



Steering Committee

Constance Bodurow
Coordinator

Cathie Baldwin
Ed Baldwin

**Events & Entertainment
Co-Chairs**

Joanne Givens
Sarah A. Ligon

**PR & Fundraising
Co-Chairs**

Deborah Goldstein
Janese Chapman

**History
Co-Chairs**

Carol Weisfeld
Constance Bodurow

**Legacy
Co-Chairs**

Kevin Johnson
Tim Thayer

**Video & Documentation
Co-Chairs**

To make a tax deductible donation:
313.577.3559

Lafayette Park 50 Detroit **Diversity by Design** **1956-2006**

PO BOX 43097, Detroit, Michigan 48243-0097 Fundraising & Parcel Deliveries: 1941 Orleans, On-site Office, Detroit, Michigan 48207
Telephone: 313.259.4692 or 313.506.5272 Fax: 313.259.7117 www.neighborhoodlink.com/detroit/lp50