



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 29, 2020
Contact: Bridge Rauch, Field Services Coordinator
Phone: 716-852-3300
Email: brauch@pbnsaves.org

PRESERVATION BUFFALO NIAGARA LAUNCHES SECOND YEAR OF TRADITIONAL BUILDING TRADES PROGRAM

Training the Next Generation of Tradespeople

Buffalo, NY – January 29, 2020: Preservation Buffalo Niagara (PBN) will be holding its second year of Traditional Building Trades Program with a Window Repair and Rehabilitation training course to start on March 17, 2020 and be followed by a Preservation Masonry course scheduled for the fall.

“Western New York is blessed with a treasure trove of historic architecture and as we have expanded interest in preservation, we have found that the supply of trained craftspeople has not caught up with demand,” said PBN Executive Director Jessie Fisher. “We are very excited to continue this training program and incubate the next generation of tradespeople.”

PBN’s Traditional Building Trades Program is designed to address this critical need for craftspeople and is suitable for contractors, students, and professionals, as well as anyone interested in enhancing their training in the rehabilitation of historic properties. The program started in 2019 with a course in window repair and rehabilitation. All eight students of the inaugural course successfully completed the course, with several graduates already working in the field or in the process of developing their own firms.

The Window Repair and Rehabilitation course will be held from March 17, 2020 to May 12, 2020. Participants will gain hands-on field work experience twice a week and learn all aspects of window rehabilitation including the repair of wood sashes, glazing, and weights, and gain an understanding of historic fenestration systems as well as the basics of historic preservation.

This program is offered in conjunction with the New York State Division for Historic Preservation (SHPO) and taught by Steve Swiat of Northwood Historic Restoration. With over twenty years of experience, Swiat has been one of the leaders of the historic window restoration community in Western New York. His restoration work ranges from individual homes to national historic landmarks both locally and throughout the northeast.

“When properly rehabbed, retaining historic windows makes much more financial and environmental sense than replacing them,” said Swiat. “I am excited to work with PBN and the New York State Historic Preservation Office to pass this knowledge onto the next generation of craftspeople.”

Participants should have basic construction skills and be looking to expand their knowledge in specific preservation-related trades and crafts. The cost of the windows course is \$750 before February 24 and \$775 between February 24 and March 1. All course materials will be included. Because these courses are designed to be extremely hands-on, enrollment is strictly limited and early registration is highly recommended.

Additional information as well as enrollment applications can be found online at www.pbnsaves.org/TBT. If you have questions or would like to learn more about available scholarship assistance, please contact Bridge Rauch at 716-852-3300 or brauch@pbnsaves.org. The Traditional Trades Program is made possible by the generous support of the First Niagara Foundation.

Preservation Buffalo Niagara identifies, protects, and promotes our unique architecture and historic legacy, and connects people to the places they love in Western New York.

###

617 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14203 • Phone: (716) 852-3300
www.preservationbuffaloniagara.org • info@pbnsaves.org