



# THE HERITAGE

## "Something Old, Something New" The 2015 Capital Campaign

### Something of the Old

The Mansion located at 11 West Mount Vernon Place was built by Samuel George in 1853, the then new suburb of Mount Vernon on property purchased from John Eager Howard. It was a haven for Baltimore's newly-rich as a place to escape the city's congestion. The property lays directly across from the site of the Washington Monument (completed in 1829) which further enhanced its value. In 1872, it was a wedding gift to Robert & Mary Frick Garrett from Robert's father, John Work Garrett who was the President of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. He guided the railroad during the tumultuous years of the Civil War and served as an adviser to President Lincoln. Robert succeeded his father as president of the B & O Railroad. Seven years after Robert's death in 1896, Mary Frick Garrett married her second husband, Dr. Henry Barton Jacobs. The home continued as the epicenter of Baltimore Society. The Mansion is an architectural treasure epitomizing Baltimore's 19th century Golden Age grandeur and elegance.

Over time since its 1872 purchase, the Mansion became four adjacent, #11, #13, #9 & #7 townhouses into one. During the 32 years of renovations, Mary Garrett

was principally responsible for each project. She asserted many definite ideas about designs and details. In particular she insisted on arches and columns, space for her Belgian Tapestries, a carved wooded vestibule, Tiffany windows, and a Courtyard. It is significant as the only building that combines the work of two of America's most distinguished architects: Stanford White and John Russell Pope. During this phase of construction, many important artisans and artists of the day provided details that embellished the magnificent space. Taken from Wikipedia, some of the artists and artisans included the famous Herter Brothers of New York, furniture and interior wood design specialists, responsible for the carved vestibule panels, decorative work, and



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## Why it matters... The Fire Ball

The Fire Ball is the largest fundraiser for the Endowment Fund. As you may know, 100% of the money raised is used to support the Mansion's continued improvement and maintenance. Last year's proceeds for this architectural treasure were utilized to refurbish the Library and restore the gold leaf on the staircase railings in the Marble Hall. This black-tie affair is in keeping with Mrs. Garrett's style of entertaining with fine food & wine, and music for dancing. Mrs. Garrett's "gold-plated dinner service and gold Venetian glasses" are long gone. No "footmen nor butlers" greet guests either (Dehler 14 & 15). Yet, the Fire Ball is always a majestic event.



Dehler, Katharine B. *Our Heritage*. Baltimore: The Engineering Society of Baltimore, 1993. ■



THE  
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www.garrettjacobsmanion.org

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*"Heritage" is distributed to members and friends of The Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment on a quarterly basis.*

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund is to preserve and restore the Mansion as a National Historic Landmark and to share the history, architectural and civic legacy of the Mansion for the benefit and education of the public.

Another Success...  
Crush

The eighth annual "Crush" wine tasting event was held Friday November 7th. The Crush, a fundraising event benefits the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund. This year over 200 attendees filled the historic rooms and helped raise over **\$25,000**. The theme of the night was "A Perfect Pairing." For only \$85, guests enjoyed pairing gourmet foods with their fine-wine counterparts. In addition, Laurie Forster, "The Wine Coach" and host of "The Sipping Point" on WBAL, lead two classes on "Weird Science—Food and Wine Reactions" for those guests interested in learning more about



"The Wine Coach," Laurie Foster (center)

pairings of food and wines. Stay tuned for the 2015 Crush.

Thank you to Kelsey Windas', who contributed this article, and to Bob Leach the Crush's chair. ■

The Mansion is the Place to be...  
Calendar of Events

Friday, February 15, 2:00 p.m.



Silent Movie  
*The Student Prince*

Price, both of whom performed at The Metropolitan Opera House in New York. Assigned Seating \$25/\$35/\$45/\$65

Tickets can be purchased online at [BaltimoreConcertOpera.com](http://BaltimoreConcertOpera.com) or by calling 443.445.0226.

Friday, February 27  
6:30 p.m. cash bar  
7:30 p.m. downbeat

Sunday, March 1  
2:00 p.m. cash bar  
3:00 p.m. downbeat

Sunday, April 12, 2:00 p.m.



Silent Movie  
*La Boheme*

Sunday, May 17, 2:00 p.m.



Baltimore Concert  
Opera presents  
*This Little Light  
of Mine*



Organ Concert  
with Michael Britt

In honor of Black History Month, this opera is an inventive one-woman musical tribute, featuring soprano Adrienne Danrich, honoring the ground-breaking careers of two African-American opera legends: Marian Anderson and Leontyne

Tickets for all movies and organ concerts are \$8 Adults and \$4 Children Ages 11 & Under to the General Public. Members of The Engineers Club & Friends of the Mansion Admitted Free Tickets Available at the Door. ■

## 2015 Capital Campaign

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staircase that rises from the vestibule. Louis Comfort Tiffany provided large stained glass windows and the skylight at the top of the stairs. Gilded Age artist, Thomas Dewey created large frescos on canvas for the Ballroom. Mrs. Garrett employed Fred Steinmetz as her full-time interior decorator and furniture upholster. Later in this article, you'll know why all this matters.

Following Dr. Jacob's death in 1939, the Mansion had a few owners, the last of which was the City of Baltimore when it was left vacant, deteriorating, and near demolition. In 1962, the Engineering Society of Baltimore purchased the Mansion from the City for \$155,000 with the proviso that the Society would preserve and restore it. As promised, it is preserved as the best representation of Mount Vernon's Historic District, a National Historic Landmark, and an anchor of the West Park. According to the 2015 Capital Campaign report, since the creation of the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund (GJMEF) in 1992, over \$8 million dollars have been raised and spent on improvements and preservation. Funding sources include Club members, supporters of historic preservation, Baltimore companies, private and public grants, and fundraisers.

To date, **\$5,454,375** from ESB financing, two previous capital campaigns, and ongoing fundraising efforts have provided the capital to implement an updated version of the Master Plan by Kann & Associates and revised by SMP Architects and Johnson Berman in 2004. Since 2006, these major projects included the Courtyard, Drawing Room, Ballroom, and Library Restorations. The Tiffany Dome and Protective Enclosure were restored and refurbished. Handicapped exterior and interior lifts were added. There were minor; however, important projects to total eight major and minor in all.

### Something of the New Projects.

The new projects to be completed and funded total **\$5,500,000**. They are Marble Hall & Heritage Room Restorations, and

Ballroom Restoration Phase IV. New construction is planned for an Elevator & ADA Restrooms Additions and a Wine Room (lower Courtyard area). The Main Roof will be replaced and tuck pointing of Existing Masonry and Wood Window Restoration. The Trustees, some of whom are historic architects, historians, and engineers take an active role in commissioning the renowned preservationists and craftsmen. That same standard of excellence in every restoration / preservation project remains as in Mrs. Garrett's attention to detail. For instance, the Ballroom's wall paneling of French Walnut was refinished, repaired, and gold leafed along with the ceiling's original



paint colors, murals, and decorative finishes by Thomas Moore Company. Henry Johnson of Johnson Berman had the walls reupholstered in a fabric similar to the original made in Lyon, France. The stage curtain encasement was reproduced in the same fabric and complemented by a rich burgundy velvet theatrical curtain. The interiors were returned to the historic environment that was designed to delight one of the wealthiest families of its time.



Each year the Board of Trustees takes an active part in assuring the mission is fulfilled with hands-on planning and execution of the annual lecture series, three major fundraisers, the concert series for performing arts groups and educational outreach programs. All of these activities attract people from the city and around the state.

### The Old and New Together

The Mansion's majestic look has never changed. What is not seen and lacking in Mrs. Garrett's years in the Mansion are the substantial upgrades to the heating, ventilating and air-conditioning (HVAC) electrical, fire protection, and plumbing systems throughout the Mansion. These systems, like the fire protection systems, help to maintain the historic appearance. The majority of these "behind-the-walls" upgrades were accomplished with material donations from various ESB member firms and Friends of the Mansion as well as donations and in-kind services that make the Mansion safer and more comfortable with modern amenities.

### What You Can Do

Make a pledge. If you have a connection with the Mansion, Endowment Fund, the Engineers Club, the ESB's associate societies, a Friend of the Mansion, as a past donor, or attended one of the many functions, you recognize the importance of the Endowment's mission. Aside from the historic preservation, making the structure a welcoming and functional space is paramount to its continued success. Pledges can be made over five years. A donor may use a credit card. Donations are tax deductible. The majority of donors have give multiple times. Donor recognition is cumulative. New construction does require significant capital in a short period of time. For more detailed information, visit the website <http://www.garrettjacobs mansion.org>.

Sources: Capital Campaign for 2015 and past issues of *The Heritage*. ■



# The Fireball at the Mansion Saturday, February 21, 2015

Please join us for the 2015 Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund's annual Fire Ball. This winter we'll drive away the winter frost with an elegant evening of sampling fine foods and decadent drinks while dancing to live music in the opulent setting of this historic mansion.

**Contact Jessica Sounder at 410-579-8100  
or email [jsounder@leachwallace.com](mailto:jsounder@leachwallace.com)  
for sponsorship & ticket information.**

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Your support can help the trustees in their on-going effort to restore and preserve this landmark property, listed in the National Register as part of the Mount Vernon Place Historic District and documented in the Library of Congress as part of the Historic American Buildings Survey.

Benefits include a subscription to the Heritage Quarterly and advance notice of public events at the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion.

Complete this coupon and mail check to:  
The Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund, Inc.  
11 West Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore, MD 21201  
410-539-6914

(GJMEF) a charitable 501(c)(3) organization.

## Become a "Friend" and Make a Contribution Your Help is Needed to Help Preserve the Mansion

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- \$500 and above **Tiffany Friend**
- \$250 - \$499 **Tapestry Friend**
- \$100 - \$249 **Jacobs Friend**
- Up to \$100 **Garrett Friend**

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please visit [www.garrettjacobs mansion.org](http://www.garrettjacobs mansion.org) for complete membership benefits and description.