

FIRST RECIPIENTS OF HERITAGE FUND ANNOUNCED

In November last year, Art Deco Trust launched The Robert McGregor Heritage Fund, as part of a joint initiative with Napier City Council. The purpose of this fund is to enable the Trust and Council to provide financial assistance to owners of heritage buildings and in doing so, continue to support the preservation and restoration of this critical element of the Napier story.

Two of Napier's beautiful Art Deco buildings have become the first recipients of the Robert McGregor Heritage Fund in support of a spruce up of their facades.

The Market Reserve Building is one of our most prominent heritage buildings and spans an entire block surrounded by Tennyson St, Hastings St, Emmerson St and Market St. Representative, Justine Walker from the body corp says "on behalf of the owners of the Criterion and Market Reserve buildings, I would like to applaud the Art Deco Heritage Committee in realising the value of these properties and the costs that go into preserving them. We are extremely privileged to have received a grant from the committee to help with some of the costs that were involved in our recent restoration and painting project".

The second recipient is the Hilderbrandts building, a 1933 Louis Hay design which is a favourite on the regular walking tours of the city because of its interesting facade.

Shane Gorst General Manager of Art Deco Trust said "After launching the fund in November of last year, we have been thrilled with the level of engagement we have seen with our building owners, developers, Napier City Council and the community at large. The ability to take the proceeds from our commercial operations and re-invest them back into heritage projects strengthens our commitment to preserving, restoring and repurposing that heritage. This is what makes us and will keep us amongst the top heritage destinations in the world"

As a result of feedback received during the first funding round, Art Deco Trust is announcing an additional funding round this year to happen in June with the final one open in September. Applications for the second funding round are open now and are due by the 1st of June. This can be submitted via our website www.artdeconapier.com

The fund is named after Robert McGregor (1940-2015). Robert was a founding member of Art Deco Trust, the Trust's first President and its first Executive Director (from 1992, when the Trust became a professional organisation). He was a passionate advocate for Napier, Hawke's Bay and our unique art deco architecture and heritage.

The fund started with a significant financial contribution from Art Deco Trust and the Napier City Council and has been further boosted by private donations exceeding \$10,000. The fund is administered by a working group of knowledgeable heritage professionals and enthusiasts who will make recommendations to a committee of Council and Trust representatives. Fleur Lincoln, Strategic Planning Lead, Napier City Council says "Napier City Council are delighted to partner with the Art Deco Trust in this initiative and congratulates those who received funding in the first round of this new fund. The great work these owners have completed on their buildings is a credit to the city, and shows how much we really value our heritage"

100% of all donations committed to the fund and distributed back into the community, further support from the public will ensure this fund continues to grow and have even more of an impact into the future.

If you wish to make a donation to the Robert McGregor Heritage Fund, please go to our website www.artdeconapier.com and follow the links to the Heritage Fund section.

Ends.

For further information please contact Vicky Rope on 021545159 or vicky@artdeconapier.com