

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2019 8:10 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Public Park trees in Milw

From: Barbara Aho [<mailto:barbaho77@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 3:53 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Public Park trees in Milw







Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2019 8:11 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: The Marcus Center Garden Grove

-----Original Message-----

From: Barbara R. Barrow [<mailto:brbarrow@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 8:21 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: The Marcus Center Garden Grove

It is alarming to many of us in Milwaukee that the Marcus Center plan should consider destroying trees rather than restoring a wonderful space that is really a work of art. Instead of eliminating the Chestnut trees a refurbishment should be considered, including better management and replacement of 'bad' trees, adding accessibility features, and upgrading the grove as a whole. It might also be better economically without undergoing such a drastic change. Please add my voice to those in opposition to the plan.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Barrow
(414) 581-3313

Sent from my iPadMini

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2019 8:11 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Marcus Center Garden Grove

-----Original Message-----

From: Caroline Barrow [mailto:ccrbee@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 6:11 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Marcus Center Garden Grove

Please do not cut the trees or change the garden grove. It's important for Milwaukee for it to remain. It's history is important to be kept in this era of tear down and rebuild.

I'm sad to have missed the meeting today at 3pm.

Sincerely,
Caroline Barrow
414-218-8789

Shoot for the moon, even if you miss, you'll land among the stars 🌙 ✨ ✨

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 2:02 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: grove of trees at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

From: Stephanie Bartz [<mailto:heybartzie88@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 1:47 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Cc: mpa@milwaukeepreservation.org
Subject: Re: grove of trees at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

In addition to my first email, the grove and MPAC meets the following criteria required in the ordinance:

- Its exemplification of the development of the cultural, economic, social or historic heritage of the City of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin or of the United States.
- Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen.
- Its identification as the work of an artist, architect, craftsman or master builder whose individual works have influenced the development of the city.
- Its unique location as a singular physical characteristic which represents an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community or the city.

Thanks for your time,
Stephanie Bartz
Milwaukee County resident



Stephanie Bartz
Photographer & Location Scout, Stephanie Bartz Photography
414 640 7976
<https://www.sbartzphotography.com/> | <http://www.sbartzlocations.com/>



Create your own email signature

On Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 1:03 PM Stephanie Bartz <heybartzie88@gmail.com> wrote:

Good afternoon,

I'm a Milwaukee county resident that is upset and bothered by the plans or idea to do away with the Grove of Trees at the MPAC.

That is a gem in our city to use on warm days, and overall for the beauty & calm that only nature can bring us in our busy days.

PLEASE restore the grove of trees.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Bartz
1508 Underwood Ave.
Wauwatosa, WI 53213



Stephanie Bartz

Photographer & Location Scout, Stephanie Bartz Photography

414 640 7976

<https://www.sbartzphotography.com/> | <http://www.sbartzlocations.com/>



Create your own email signature

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 8:02 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: I support the grove at the Marcus Center

From: Michael Bingaman [<mailto:bingaman@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 9:24 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Cc: mpa@milwaukeepreservation.org
Subject: I support the grove at the Marcus Center

Greetings. I have the good fortune to spend a lot of my time in the South Garden of the Art Institute of Chicago, another masterpiece deigned by Dan Kiley. I know it as a respite from the city and a shady sunken place to escape the heat and noise of the city. I would love to visit Milwaukee and compare the design of one of my favorite places in the world with not but one but two landscapes in near proximity, one from early in his career at the Marcus Center and one from late at the Milwaukee Art Museum. Unfortunately I have learned that there are plans to demolish the designed landscape at the Marcus Center in favor of yet another lawn. I urge you to reconsider.

Thanks,
Mike Bingaman

Elmer, Linda

From: Jennifer Bjorson <jenniferbjorson@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2019 9:25 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: i support saving trees

I support saving the trees
Jennifer Bjorson

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 2:31 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: PAC

From: John Bowers [<mailto:jbcpottery@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 1:19 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: PAC

Save the trees at the PAC.
John Bowers
jbcpottery@gmail.com

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 8:24 AM
To: Elmer, Linda; Hatala, Carlen
Subject: FW: Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

From: Laurel Brooks [<mailto:vivirenlacocina@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 6:59 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

Members of the Historic Preservation Committee,

I ask you to vote to approve the historic status designation for the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.

This iconic building is a wonderful example of Brutalist architecture. While the Brutalist name is easily misconstrued, the practical ethos combined with aesthetic vision and aspiration inherent in this style appeals to and expresses the character of Milwaukee citizens. Careful fiscal management has allowed the city, over decades, to reward its citizens' hard work with institutions and amenities that have inspired a love of place expressed throughout the neighborhoods that we call home. I believe the Marcus Center represents a contribution from our progressive past upon which today's enthusiasm for city development is built.

Please protect the Marcus Center and lovely grove of trees that shares its space. Outside the aesthetically utilitarian exterior of the Marcus Center, those trees provide a grace note available to passers-by to rest and contemplate the city, and a suggestion of the pleasures the Marcus Center will offer them in its wide corridors and beautifully proportioned performance spaces. The grove itself suggests an Altman painting alive amidst the bustle of downtown Milwaukee...no small accomplishment.

Please preserve this site in its entirety. I hope to one day have grandchildren with whom I can share this treasure.

Thank you for your careful consideration.

--

Best,

Laurel Brooks
1220 E Locust St #307
Milwaukee WI
(920)883-5906

Elmer, Linda

From: Kathy Brumder <kathybrumder@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 1:24 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: In support for the historic preservation of the Horse Chestnut Tree Grove

Dear Historic Preservation Commission

I support a historic designation for the Marcus Performing Arts Center and its grounds. My support is in an effort to preserve the Dan Kiley Horse Chestnut Tree Grove which is a wonderful urban public space.

Kathleen T. Brumder
2841 N. Lake Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Elmer, Linda

From: Diane Buck <pdxdiane@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 10:05 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Chestnut grove PAC□

Dear Linda,

I am a long time supporter of the arts in Milwaukee and concerned about the plan to remove the chestnut grove and replace it with grass for another performing venue.

The article I read stated it would cost only \$750,000 to remove the grove. That money would be better spent trimming the trees, installing ADA ramps, and installing a few benches for people to have a place to rest and enjoy the downtown.

I am not even going into the fact Milwaukee would lose a wonderful example of the landscape architect, Dan Kiley.

Sincerely,
Diane Buck
3559 N. Summit Avenue
Milwaukee, 53211

Elmer, Linda

From: T Buck <imtuck@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2019 1:32 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Dan Kileys Landscape

It is with horror I write you and beg you to see that we keep and embrace this landscape! OMG, there is so little like this downtown.

Theresa Buck
Milwaukee
\$6047 condo property taxed.

Elmer, Linda

From: Lori Caterini <lcaterini@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2019 10:57 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Support Letter for Historic Designation of Marcus Center

February 3, 2019

TO: City of Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission

Zeidler Municipal Building
841 N. Broadway, Room B-1
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to express appreciation for Dan Kiley's horse chestnut grove at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. I believe that granting historic designation of this site will raise awareness of its significance and power.

I became aware of Dan Kiley's grove by chance after attending a Shakespeare in the Park performance two years ago at Peck Pavilion. After the play, my friends and I made our way to this grove and spent some time there. I knew nothing about the grove or who designed the space until much later. Enfolded within a forest in Downtown Milwaukee, I felt the hush of nature and the peacefulness of a church. The grove felt enchanted. Spending time there was my most vivid memory of the evening.

I urge everyone involved with making decisions about this site to consider Dan Kiley's grove an artistic treasure. Preserving Dan Kiley's grove would not conflict with the Marcus Center's goals to reach diverse audiences, highlight many artistic forms and increase revenue. As a registered art therapist and installation artist, I feel that people continuously connect to the world through all their senses. Landscape architecture is especially relevant and valuable as an art form because of its accessibility for all, including those just happening to pass by a space as magical as this grove.

I hope Dan Kiley's grove will continue to be a gift to us all.

Lori Caterini
3859 North Humboldt Blvd., #6
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Elmer, Linda

From: Hatala, Carlen
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 10:43 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Marcus Center trees

Please add to file

From: Kelly Centofanti [<mailto:klc@centofantilaw.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 6:48 AM
To: Hatala, Carlen
Subject: Marcus Center trees

I sincerely hope the Horse Chestnut trees can be saved. As a nature lover, I hate the thought of killing those lovely mature trees. They are good for the environment. They are an oasis in a city. It will be many years before the new trees will be as helpful to the environment as these larger, more mature ones.

Trees take time to grow. Don't throw away these trees.

Thank you,

Kelly

Kelly L. Centofanti
Centofanti Law, S.C.
1035 W. Glen Oaks Lane, Suite 101
Mequon, WI 53092
Telephone: 262-241-1900
Fax: 262-241-1910
klc@centofantilaw.com
www.centofantilaw.com

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2019 12:59 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

-----Original Message-----

From: Caralyn Court [<mailto:caralyncourt2@gmail.com>]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2019 9:28 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

I urge the Commission to grant historic status for the subject venue and preserve the Dan Kiley grove.

Thank you.

Caralyn Court
Caralyncourt2@gmail.com

Sent from my iPad

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 2:31 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Dan Kiley trees

From: Jeanne [<mailto:jdzonaverde@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 1:26 PM

To: Historic Preservation Commission

Subject: Dan Kiley trees

Please save the landscape design by Dan Kiley. Trees have long lives and are cooling, restful, beautiful, while absorbing pollution, housing creatures and I have enjoyed many hours with my children sitting under these trees. Our landscape is increasingly urbanized and built up. Tree-filled public space is so needed.

With hope that we can continue to enjoy and NOT destroy this beauty,

Jeanne DeSimone Sieger
Franklin, Wisconsin



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Elmer, Linda

From: Jeanne <jdzonaverde@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 5:16 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Dan Kiley landscape at Performing Arts Center

Please protect the Performing Arts Center's unique architectural landscape design by Dan Kiley. Long lived trees are cooling, restful, beautiful, house creatures, while absorbing pollution and returning oxygen. These horse chestnut trees can live for up to 300 years, many generations forward and they live best in groups. I have enjoyed many hours with my children sitting under the density of these trees at outdoor performances, protected from the hot noonday sun. Milwaukee's landscape is increasingly urbanized and built up. Tree-filled public space is so needed, essential really, as the climate heats up. This historic artwork is satisfying and is ours to enjoy.

With hope that we can continue to enjoy and NOT destroy this living beauty,

Jeanne DeSimone Sieger
Franklin, Wisconsin
Tree City



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 2:31 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Chestnut Grove at the PAC

From: Susan Eaton [<mailto:susant.eaton@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 2:12 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Chestnut Grove at the PAC

Please save the chestnut grove at the Marcus Center PAC. It's an opportunity to preserve a beautiful area that is open to everyone who lives or visits our city and our state.

This grove is an absolute treasure, wonderfully reminiscent of the Tuileries Gardens in Paris. Empty or full of people, this park offers a lovely break from the hustle and bustle of a crowded urban area. The chestnut trees are splendid at all times of the year. Locust trees will never provide the sense of calm and quiet of these majestic chestnuts.

Change can be great, but not at the expense of a bucolic park in the middle of an otherwise busy city. There must be a way to make this work for all of us.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Eaton

Elmer, Linda

From: Caressa Givens <caressagivens@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 9:22 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Re: UPDATED VERSION Dan Kiley Chestnut Grove

Hello,

I am messaging to express my deep concern over the potential loss of the Dan Kiley chestnut grove.

I recognize that this issue is not cut and dry but we must look for a solution that keeps the grove maintained.

This is one of the most beautiful places in downtown. American cities should treasure these gifts from renounced creatives. It would be a great loss when Milwaukee is hitting a renaissance with a new Complete Streets policy, green policy and an street car.

Please reconsider.

Thank you!

On Mon, Apr 1, 2019 at 9:12 AM Elmer, Linda <elmer@milwaukee.gov> wrote:

I will add your e-mail to the file.

I have attached information on today's meeting relating to this issue (both the building and the trees are scheduled for the same time).

From: Caressa Givens [<mailto:caressagivens@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 9:10 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Dan Kiley Chestnut Grove

Hello,

I am messaging to express my deep concern over the potential loss of the Dan Kiley chestnut grove.

I recognize that this issue is not cut and dry but we must look for a solution that keeps the grove maintained.

This is one of the most beautiful places in downtown. American cities should treasure these gifts from renounced creatives. It would be a such a great loss when Milwaukee is hitting a renaissance with a new Complete Streets policy a green policy a street car.

Please reconsider.

Thank you!

Caressa Givens

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Elmer, Linda

From: Grace Graves <hmsgraves@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2019 11:02 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Marcus Center

I am very supportive of Historic Preservation designation for the Marcus Center and gardens

Grace Grave
1610 N. Prospect Avenue #905
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
414 289-9710
Sent from my iPad

Elmer, Linda

From: Hatala, Carlen
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 12:08 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Marcus Center

Did a copy of this get to you?

-----Original Message-----

From: Grace Graves [<mailto:hmsgraves@aol.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 12:01 PM
To: Hatala, Carlen
Subject: Marcus Center

I continue my support for Historic designation for the Marcus Center. The grove of trees needs to be preserved.

Grace Graves

Elmer, Linda

From: Nella Groysman <ntg79@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 2:52 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Save Dan Kileys Modernist Landscape

Please stop the destruction of this wonderful Milwaukee landmark. All Milwaukee residents love it and want to save it.

It makes absolutely no sense to do anything with that space other than maybe make sure it stays in good shape for years to come.

Best Regards,
Nella Groysman
414-467-7691

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 10:59 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Please preserve

From: Kathy Hanlon Sampon [<mailto:sampon2@wi.rr.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 10:38 AM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Please preserve



K. Hanlon Sampon
Sent from my iPhone

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 8:02 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Support for Grove of Trees at Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

From: Kate Heiber-Cobb [<mailto:kateheibercoobb@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 4:22 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Support for Grove of Trees at Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

Please. I support Dan Kiley's seminal grove of trees at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. Trees have been scientifically proven to de-stress people, clean air, hold water, help in the creation of rain, and on and on. This is way too powerful of a resource to just have it disappear.

Thank you,
Kate Heiber-Cobb

Elmer, Linda

From: Bauman, Robert
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2019 1:43 PM
To: Dana Hoffman
Cc: Elmer, Linda; Lemmer, Jodi
Subject: RE: Change the plan and keep the trees

Thanks. We will make your comments part of the record.

From: Dana Hoffman [<mailto:danamariehoffman@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2019 12:33 PM
To: Bauman, Robert
Subject: Change the plan and keep the trees

Alderman Bauman.

Perhaps the plan to cut down the chestnut grove at the Marcus Center can be rethought.

For one thing, the grove is a beautiful, peaceful spot. Unique in downtown. The proposed lawn is none of that.

For another, it's the work of Dan Kiley, who is regarded as one of the most important landscape architects of the twentieth century.

Milwaukee has worked so hard to change its image, with things like the Calatrava and sculpture along Wisconsin Avenue. Destroying the grove seems like a step backward.

It's good to see that the Marcus Center has been granted temporary historic status. I hope this can be made permanent.

Thanks for your consideration.

Howard Hoffman

Elmer, Linda

From: Debra Holton <debka25@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 8:21 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Cc: Kovac, Nik
Subject: Save the trees

I am writing to acknowledge my support of saving the Dan Kiley Grove.

Best Regards,

Debra Holton

Sent from my iPad

Elmer, Linda

From: Ellen Irion <3005kenwood@live.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2019 10:34 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Cc: Kovac, Nik
Subject: Dan Kiley Chestnut Grove at the Marcus Center of the Performing Arts

I want to add my strong support of the designation of historic status to Dan Kiley's Chestnut Grove located at the the Performing Arts campus. Great cities have as a common element great public spaces. To remove Dan Kiley's design impoverishes the city generally and this part of the city specifically.

Respectfully,

Ellen Irion
3005 E. Kenwood
Milwaukee

WBCS MISSION AND FUNDING

WBCS, Inc. was founded in 1998 as an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Its mission is to support early-stage breast cancer and prostate cancer research at The Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center.

Since its founding, WBCS has donated over \$6.8 million to MCW's Cancer Center for promising research and to endow the WBCS Professor of Breast Cancer Research and the WBCS Professor of Prostate Cancer Research. Promising breast cancer research and prostate cancer research by past WBCS grant recipients has led to over \$76 million in additional competitive extramural research grants to MCW.

Your participation in our WBCS events ensures continuing WBCS support of the MCW's Cancer Center research efforts.

7.

Lee, Chris

From: Bauman, Robert
Sent: Friday, April 05, 2019 9:56 AM
To: Lee, Chris
Subject: FW: Nobel Peace Prize Laureate - Dr. Wangari Maathai

This involves the PAC.

From: Karanja, Bernadette
Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2019 4:25 PM
To: Bauman, Robert
Cc: Lemmer, Jodi
Subject: Nobel Peace Prize Laureate - Dr. Wangari Maathai

Dear Ald. Bauman,

Thank you for our brief conversation this afternoon. Click on link below for the biography of our 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. A fellow beloved Kenyan and fellow Kikuyu. Prof. Wangari Maathai is no longer with us. She along with my daughter are my inspiration for preservation of the trees at the PAC.

<https://www.greenbeltmovement.org/wangari-maathai>

Respectfully,

Bernadette Karanja, B.Ed, MBA
Workforce Development Coordinator
Common Council-City Clerk's Office
City of Milwaukee
Room 205, City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI. 53202
Office: (414) 286-3552
Cell: (414) 588-8549
www.directconnectmke.com
www.milwaukee.gov/cityclerk



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WANGARI MAATHAI

"We cannot tire or give up. We owe it to the present and future generations of all species to rise up and walk!"



Biography

Wangari Maathai was the founder of the Green Belt Movement and the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. She authored four books: *The Green Belt Movement: Unbowed: A Memoir*, *The Challenge for Africa: and Replenishing the Earth* (</wangari-maathai/books>). As well as having been featured in a number of books, she and the Green Belt Movement were the subject of a documentary film, *Taking Root: the Vision of Wangari Maathai* ([taking-root-documentary](/taking-root-documentary)) (Marlboro Productions, 2008).

Wangari Muta Maathai was born in Nyeri, a rural area of Kenya (Africa), in 1940. She obtained a degree in Biological Sciences from Mount St. Scholastica College in Atchison, Kansas (1964), a Master of Science degree from the University of Pittsburgh (1966), and pursued doctoral studies in Germany and the University of Nairobi, before obtaining a Ph.D. (1971) from the University of Nairobi, where she also taught veterinary anatomy. The first woman in East and Central Africa to earn a doctorate degree, Professor Maathai became chair of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy and an associate professor in 1976 and 1977 respectively. In both cases, she was the first woman to attain those positions in the region.

Professor Maathai was active in the National Council of Women of Kenya (1976–1987) and was its chairman (1981–1987). In 1976, while she was serving in the National Council of Women, Professor Maathai introduced the idea of community-based tree planting. She continued to develop this idea into a broad-based grassroots organisation, the Green Belt Movement (GBM), whose main focus is poverty reduction and environmental conservation through tree planting.

Professor Maathai was [internationally acknowledged](#) for her struggle for democracy, human rights, and environmental conservation, and [served on the board](#) of many organisations. She addressed the UN on a number of occasions and spoke on behalf of women at special sessions of the General Assembly during the five-year review of the Earth Summit. She served on the Commission for Global Governance and the Commission on the Future.

Professor Maathai represented the Tetu constituency in Kenya's parliament (2002–2007), and served as Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources in Kenya's ninth parliament (2003–2007). In 2005, she was appointed Goodwill Ambassador to the Congo Basin Forest Ecosystem by the eleven Heads of State in the Congo region. The following year, 2006, she founded the [Nobel Women's Initiative](http://nobelwomensinitiative.org/) (<http://nobelwomensinitiative.org/>) with her sister laureates Jody Williams, Shirin Ebadi, Rigoberta Menchú Tum, Betty Williams, and Mairead Corrigan. In 2007, Professor Maathai was invited to be co-chair of the [Congo Basin Fund](http://www.cbf-fund.org/) (<http://www.cbf-fund.org/>), an initiative by the British and the Norwegian governments to help protect the Congo forests.

WANGARI MAATHAI

[Biography \(/wangari-maathai/biography\)](/wangari-maathai/biography)[The Nobel Peace Prize \(/wangari-maathai/the-nobel-peace-prize\)](/wangari-maathai/the-nobel-peace-prize)[Key Speeches & Articles \(/wangari-maathai/key-speeches-and-articles\)](/wangari-maathai/key-speeches-and-articles)[Books \(/wangari-maathai/books\)](/wangari-maathai/books)[Taking Root Documentary \(/wangari-maathai/taking-root-documentary\)](/wangari-maathai/taking-root-documentary)[Wangari Maathai Institute \(/wangari-maathai/wangari-maathai-institute\)](/wangari-maathai/wangari-maathai-institute)[The Wangari Maathai Foundation \(/node/814\)](/node/814)[Condolences from World Leaders and Friends \(/node/307\)](/node/307)

eNewsletter

Professor Maathai a [UN Messenger of Peace](http://www.un.org/sg/mop/formermops.shtml) (http://www.un.org/sg/mop/formermops.shtml) in December 2009, with a focus on the environment and climate change. In 2010 she was appointed to the Millennium Development Goals Advocacy Group: a panel of political leaders, business people and activists established with the aim to galvanise worldwide support for the achievement of the [Millennium Development Goals \(MDGs\)](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/) (http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/). Also in 2010, Professor Maathai became a trustee of the [Karura Forest Environmental Education Trust](http://www.kenyaforestservice.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=153:formation-of-karura-forest-environmental-education-trust-k-fee-underway&catid=223:hict&Itemid=98) (http://www.kenyaforestservice.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=153:formation-of-karura-forest-environmental-education-trust-k-fee-underway&catid=223:hict&Itemid=98), established to safeguard the public land for whose protection she had fought for almost twenty years. That same year, in partnership with the University of Nairobi, she founded the [Wangari Maathai Institute for Peace and Environmental Studies](http://wmi.uonbi.ac.ke/) (http://wmi.uonbi.ac.ke/) (WMI). The WMI will bring together academic research—e.g. in land use, forestry, agriculture, resource-based conflicts, and peace studies—with the Green Belt Movement approach and members of the organisation.

Professor Maathai died on 25 September 2011 at the age of 71 after a battle with ovarian cancer. Memorial ceremonies were held in Kenya, New York, San Francisco, and London.

- Click [here](#) for a list of awards, achievements, and professional affiliations.
- Click [here \(key-speeches-and-articles\)](#) to read some of Professor Maathai's key speeches and articles.
- Click [here \(/wangari-maathai/key-speeches-and-articles/challenge-of-AIDS\)](#) for Professor Maathai's statement on the AIDS crisis in Africa.

Awards, Achievements, and Professional Affiliations

PERSONAL

Date of Birth: April 1, 1940
 Deceased: September 25, 2011
 Place of Birth: Nyeri, Kenya
 Nationality: Kenyan
 Family: Three children (Waweru, Wanjira, and Muta) and two grandchildren (Ruth Wangari and Elsa Wanjiru)

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Anatomy, University of Nairobi (1971)
 M.S., Biological Sciences, University of Pittsburgh, USA (1966)
 B.S., Biology, Mount St. Scholastica College, USA (1964)

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Founder and Coordinator, [the Green Belt Movement \(/who-we-are\)](#) (1977–2002)
 Chair of the Board, the Green Belt Movement (2002–2011)
[UN Messenger of Peace](http://www.un.org/sg/mop/wangari_maathai.shtml) (http://www.un.org/sg/mop/wangari_maathai.shtml) (2009–2011)
 Co-Chair, [Congo Basin Forest Fund](http://www.cbf-fund.org/index.php) (http://www.cbf-fund.org/index.php) (2007–2011)
 Goodwill Ambassador, Congo Basin Forest Initiative (2005–2011)
 Presiding Officer, [Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union \(ECOSOC\)](http://www.africa-union.org/ECOSOC/home.htm) (http://www.africa-union.org/ECOSOC/home.htm) (2005–2007)
 Founding Chair, the Green Belt Movement International (2005)
 Assistant Minister, [Environment](http://www.environment.go.ke/) (http://www.environment.go.ke/), Republic of Kenya (2003–2005)
 Member of Parliament, Tetu Constituency, Republic of Kenya (2002–2007)
 Founding member, [GROOTS International](http://www.groots.org/) (http://www.groots.org/) (1985)
 Director, [Kenya Red Cross](http://www.kenyaredcross.org/) (http://www.kenyaredcross.org/) (1973–1980)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Dorothy McCluskey Visiting Fellow for Conservation, Yale University, USA (2002)
 Montgomery Fellow, Dartmouth College, USA (2001)
 Endowed Chair in Gender & Women's Studies named "Fuller-Maathai," Connecticut College (2000)
 Associate Professor, Department of Veterinary Anatomy, University of Nairobi (1977)
 Chair, Department of Veterinary Anatomy, University of Nairobi (1976)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Board Member, [Prince Albert of Monaco Foundation](http://princealbertfoundation.org/) (http://princealbertfoundation.org/), Monaco
 Board Member, [the Oslo Award](http://www.businessforpeace.no/) (http://www.businessforpeace.no/), Norway

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Board Member, [the Chirac Foundation](http://www.fondationchirac.eu/en/) (<http://www.fondationchirac.eu/en/>), France
 Board Member, [Discovery Channel's Planet Green](http://planetgreen.discovery.com/) (<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/>), USA
 Board Member, [the Congo Basin Forest Fund](http://www.cbf-fund.org/) (<http://www.cbf-fund.org/>), Tunisia
 Board Member, [the Global Crop Diversity Trust](http://www.croptrust.org/) (<http://www.croptrust.org/>), Norway
 Jury Member, [Goldman Environmental Prize](http://www.goldmanprize.org/) (<http://www.goldmanprize.org/>), USA
 Paul Harris Fellow, [Rotary International](http://www.rotary.org/) (<http://www.rotary.org/>), USA
 Advisory Board, [Clinton Global Initiative](http://www.clintonglobalinitiative.org/) (<http://www.clintonglobalinitiative.org/>), USA
 Fellow 2004, Yale McCluskey Fellowship, USA
 Member, Yale Leadership Council, USA
 Member, UN Commission on Global Governance, USA
 Member, Advisory Board, [Democracy Coalition Project](http://www.demcoalition.org/2005_html/home.html) (http://www.demcoalition.org/2005_html/home.html), USA
 Member, Earth Charter Commission, USA
 Selection Committee, [Sasakawa Environmental Prize](http://www.unep.org/sasakawa/) (<http://www.unep.org/sasakawa/>), [United Nations Environment Programme](http://www.unep.org/) (<http://www.unep.org/>), Kenya
 Board Member, [World Learning USA](http://www.worldlearning.org/) (<http://www.worldlearning.org/>)
 Board Member, [Green Cross International](http://gci.ch/) (<http://gci.ch/>)
 Board Member, the WorldWIDE Network of Women in Environmental Work, USA

HONORARY DEGREES

Honorary Doctorate Degree, Kwansai Gakuin University, Japan (2010)
 Doctor of Humane Letters, Meredith College, USA (2009)
 Doctor of Science, Egerton University, Kenya (2007)
 Doctor of Public Service Honoris Causa, University of Pittsburgh, USA (2006)
 Doctor of Humane Letters, Connecticut College, USA (2006)
 Doctor of Science, Morehouse College, USA (2006)
 Doctor of Science, Ochanomizu University, Japan (2005)
 Doctor of Science, Willamette University, USA (2005)
 Doctor of Science, University of Nairobi, Kenya (2005)
 Doctor of Science, Soka University, Japan (2004)
 Doctor of Science, Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan (2004)
 Doctor of Law, Yale University, USA (2004)
 Doctor of Agriculture, University of Norway (1997)
 Doctor of Science, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, USA (1994)
 Doctor of Law, Williams College, USA (1990)

AWARDS

2010: [Earth Hall of Fame](http://www.pref.kyoto.jp/en/1264665552641.html) (<http://www.pref.kyoto.jp/en/1264665552641.html>), Kyoto (Japan)
 2009: Humanity 4 Water Award for Outstanding Commitment 2 Action
 2009: The Order of the Rising Sun, Japan
 2009: Judge, [2009 Geotourism Challenge](http://www.changemakers.com/geotourismchallenge) (<http://www.changemakers.com/geotourismchallenge>), National Geographic, USA
 2009: NAACP Chairman's Award (http://www.naacpimageawards.net/40/chairman_new.php), USA
 2008: Dignitas Humana Award (<http://www.csbsju.edu/SJU-Archives/SJUHistory/SJUAwards/SJUDignitasHumanaAward.htm>), St John's School of Theology, USA
 2008: [Cinema Verite](http://www.cinema-verite.org/EN/) (<http://www.cinema-verite.org/EN/>), Honorary President, France
 2008: Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) (<http://www.architecture.com/Home.aspx>), Honorary Fellowship (<http://www.architecture.com/awards/ribahonoraryfellowships/honoraryfellowships2008.aspx>), UK
 2007: The Nelson Mandela Award for Health & Human Rights, South Africa
 2007: The Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding, India
 2007: Cross of the Order of St Benedict, Benedictine College, Kansas, USA
 2007: [World Citizenship Award](http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/about/About/awards/citizenship) (<http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/about/About/awards/citizenship>), [World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts](http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/home) (<http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/home>)
 2006: The Indira Gandhi International Award for Peace, Disarmament & Development, India
 2006: Premio Defensa Medio Ambiente, Club Internacional De Prensa, Spain
 2006: 6th in 100 Greatest Eco-Heroes of All Time, The Environment Agency, UK
 2006: [Medal for Distinguished Achievement](http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/home) (<http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/home>), University of Pennsylvania, USA
 2006: Woman of Achievement Award from the American Biographical Institute Inc., USA
 2006: The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, Milele (Lifetime) Achievement Award
 2006: [Legion D'Honneur](http://www.legiondhonneur.fr/) (<http://www.legiondhonneur.fr/>), Government of France
 2006: [The IAIA Global Environment Award](http://www.iaia.org/iaia-awards.aspx) (<http://www.iaia.org/iaia-awards.aspx>), [International Association for Impact Assessment](http://www.iaia.org/) (<http://www.iaia.org/>), Norway
 2006: [Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund Award](http://disney.go.com/disneyhand/environmentality/dwcf/) (<http://disney.go.com/disneyhand/environmentality/dwcf/>), USA
 2006: [World Citizenship Award](http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/news/562) (<http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/news/562>)

- 2005: One of the 100 Most Influential People in the World: Time magazine, USA
- 2005: One of the 100 Most Powerful Women in the World: Forbes magazine, USA
- 2004: Nobel Peace Prize (<http://www.nobel.no/>), the Norwegian Nobel Committee, Norway
- 2004: Sophie Prize (http://www.sofieprisen.no/Prize_Winners/2004/index.html), the Sophie Foundation (<http://www.sofieprisen.no/>), Norway
- 2004: Elder of the Golden Heart, Republic of Kenya
- 2004: Petra Kelly Environment Prize (<http://www.boell.de/foundation/awards/about-us-3979.html>), Heinrich Boell Foundation (<http://www.boell.or.ke/>), Germany
- 2004: J. Sterling Morton Award (<http://www.arborday.org/programs/awards/about.cfm>), Arbor Day Foundation (<http://www.arborday.org/>), USA
- 2004: Conservation Scientist Award, Center for Environmental Research and Conservation (<http://www.cerc.columbia.edu/>), Columbia University, USA
- 2003: Elder of the Burning Spear, Republic of Kenya
- 2003: WANGO Environment Award (<http://www.wango.org/awards.aspx?section=winners2003>), World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (<http://www.wango.org/>), USA
- 2002: Outstanding Vision and Commitment Award, Bridges to Community (<http://www.bridgestocommunity.org/>), USA
- 2001: Excellence Award, Kenyan Community Abroad (<http://www.kenyansabroad.org/>), USA
- 2001: The Juliet Hollister Award, Temple of Understanding (<http://www.templeofunderstanding.org/>), USA
- 1997: One of 100 in the World Who've Made a Difference in the Environment: Earth Times, USA
- 1995: International Women's Hall of Fame, International Women's Forum Leadership Foundation, USA
- 1994: The Order of the Golden Ark Award, the Netherlands
- 1993: The Jane Addams Leadership Award, Jane Addams Conference, USA
- 1993: The Edinburgh Medal, Medical Research Council, Scotland
- 1991: The Hunger Project's Africa Prize for Leadership (<http://www.thp.org/>), United Nations, USA
- 1991: Global 500 Hall of Fame: United Nations Environment Programme (<http://www.unep.org/>), USA
- 1991: The Goldman Environmental Prize (<http://www.goldmanprize.org/node/126>), the Goldman Foundation, USA
- 1990: The Offeramus Medal, Benedictine College, USA
- 1989: Women of the World Award (<http://www.womenaid.org/events/wow/presented.htm>), WomenAid, UK
- 1988: The Windstar Award for the Environment, Windstar Foundation (<http://www.wstar.org/>), USA
- 1986: Better World Society Award, USA
- 1984: Right Livelihood Award (<http://www.rightlivelihood.org/>), Sweden
- 1983: Woman of the Year Award

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SITE MAP

- [Home \(/\)](#)
- [Who We Are \(/who-we-are\)](#)
- [What We Do \(/what-we-do\)](#)
- [News and Events \(/news-and-events\)](#)
- [Get Involved \(/get-involved\)](#)
- [Who We Are \(/who-we-are\)](#)
- [What We Do \(/what-we-do\)](#)
- [Wangari Maathai \(/wangari-maathai\)](#)
- [News & Events \(/news-and-events\)](#)
- [Tree Planting Initiative \(/node/851\)](#)
- [Get Involved \(/get-involved\)](#)
- [Support our work \(/get-involved/support-our-work\)](#)

POPULAR PAGES

- [GBM Blog \(/news-and-events/blog\)](#)
- [Jobs & Internships \(/get-involved/jobs-and-internships\)](#)
- [Support Our Work \(/get-involved/support-our-work\)](#)
- [Blog \(/blog\)](#)
- [Events \(/events\)](#)
- [Contact Us \(/contact-us\)](#)

[The Wangari Maathai House - a legacy project \(/node/714\)](#)

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[Jobs, Internships & Volunteering \(/get-involved/jobs-and-internships\)](#)

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Elmer, Linda

From: Peter Klett <peter.klett77@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 6:43 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Regarding The Dan Kiley Grove

This email should be received as a declaration of my support for the sustained designation of the Dan Kiley Marcus Center grove.

Please do not destroy this cherished public art work!

Sincerely,

Peter K

Elmer, Linda

From: Michael Koch <claudiamike@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 9:38 AM
To: Elmer, Linda; Coggs, Milele; Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: preserve and revitalize Kiley Grove

Dear Alderwoman Coggs

I am writing to let you know that my family and I support the designation of the Kiley Grove next to the PAC as historic.

Michael Koch
1815 N. 2nd Street

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2019 8:11 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Kiley Grove at Marcus Center for Performing Arts

From: CharBee [<mailto:beevangelist@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 4:25 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Kiley Grove at Marcus Center for Performing Arts

I am unable to attend today's hearing but wanted to express a concern in favor of preserving the grove. I don't think there is much appreciation for the deeper purpose of the flora of the grove and its importance in an ecology of Milwaukee. Chestnut trees are not native, but then so is little else throughout the city. But a grove of monofloral bloom, regardless of origin, is important to urban pollinators. Chestnut honey is rich in nutrition for more than 50 different bees and even more insect pollinators. A grove of this size while seemingly unimportant to the performing arts board, is very important insect pollinators providing specific nectar and pollen during the bloom of the tree's big white flower clusters. I keep bees throughout the city and know of the chestnut bloom. What is sometimes overlooked is the volume of forage when talking about trees. Not only is it their acre footprint but their height actually increases footprint by a factor of 4. Blooms go throughout the canopy increasing the importance and relevance of it staying.

In addition, the greenspace proposed in place of the grove is neither forage nor healthy for urban pollinators. We have no need for more chemically sterilized grass space particularly as it means losing 4 acres of useful forage.

Thank you

Charles Koenen
Executive Director
BeeVangelists, Inc.

631 N 19th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233
414-617-7773

Elmer, Linda

From: Missy Levit <missylevit@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2019 5:44 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Grove of Horse Chestnut Trees next to Marcus PAC

Dear Ms. Elmer,

I am contacting you to because I support Permanent Historic Designation of the Kiley-designed grove of chestnut trees.

The healthy trees should be cared for by an arborist and allowed to thrive. The several permitted to be removed due to their poor condition should be replaced by chestnut trees according to Kiley's plan.

Milwaukee is fortunate to have this "pocket park," which is the envy of many other cities. It offers respite among many high buildings and busy city streets. It adds character and charm to the area. Maintaining the Grove for the thousands of visitors who will be in Milwaukee next year for the Democratic Convention will be a strong addition to the beauty and charm of our Downtown.

The Green Tree Garden Club contributed to the purchase of the trees. As a member of that Club, I am disappointed that the new plans may remove the trees. Our Club raised the money from charitable donations to provide for the the trees. As I am sure you can appreciate, raising money for a public place is difficult.

Please support the preservation of this beautiful and historic grove of trees.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Missy Levit

Telephone: 262-240-1988 Mobile: 414-467-6897

Mary Webster Levit Suite 1800 250 East Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53202 NOTE: Only mailing address above. Do not use Mequon residential address for mail please.

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2019 8:11 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Save the Marcus Center garden

-----Original Message-----

From: Catharine Malloy [<mailto:catharinemalloy@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 9:47 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Save the Marcus Center garden

I support strongly the endeavor to save the original, historic garden. Horse chestnut trees?
A treasure we are grateful for right here in Milwaukee, and whose inspiration we revere.
Treasure what is beautiful in our midst. This is part of our history.

Sincerely,

Catharine Malloy

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Bauman, Robert](#)
To: [Lee, Chris](#)
Subject: FW: The Grove
Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 2:28:10 PM

For the PAC file.

From: Melissa Muller [mailto:melissajmuller@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 1:46 PM
To: Bauman, Robert; Perez, Jose; Coggs, Milele; Stamper II, Russell; Rainey, Khalif
Subject: The Grove

Public space is just that, PUBLIC space. Please keep the dialogue in the process. I support the grove and what it means to the community and those who need free access to it.

--

Melissa Muller

design melissajmuller.com
fine art treeoflifeearthworks.com

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 8:02 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Preserve the Kiley chestnut grove

-----Original Message-----

From: Lianne Nelson Brandon [<mailto:liannbrandongmail@icloud.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 7:07 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Preserve the Kiley chestnut grove

As an avid consumer and supporter of the arts, I urge you to preserve the Kiley chestnut grove. As a fellow steward of this planet I urge you to protect the Kiley chestnut grove. As a strong believer that architecture and city planning are both economic assets and what gives a city its soul, I urge you to protect the Kiley chestnut grove.

If the Marcus Center wants to use the space more creatively, they can do so without destroying this iconic and historic space.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Lianne Nelson Brandon

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 11:15 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Green+ Shade = Compromise

-----Original Message-----

From: Barb Paulini [<mailto:barb@studiopaulini.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 11:10 AM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Green+ Shade = Compromise

We've got to embrace the responsibility of caring for public art and its intentions... no matter how much money is thrown at a space. I'm certain another design could be considered.

Sent from my iPhone

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 8:46 AM
To: Elmer, Linda; Hatala, Carlen
Subject: FW: The Show Must Go On...!!!

-----Original Message-----

From: Barbara Paulini [<mailto:barb@studiopaulini.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 4:54 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission; mpa@milwaukeepreservation.org
Subject: The Show Must Go On...!!!

... and that includes the beautiful installation by Dan Kiley...

To dismiss the value that the space holds for humans and birds,
the cool climate and the shade during hot summer days... the sound
of the gravel and its transformative affect on us - PLEASE keep
it just as it is... there is space enough elsewhere - its a treasure.

Kindly, Barb

Elmer, Linda

From: Kathy Paulsen <kpaulsen@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:26 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Historic Preservation

To whom it may concern:

I favor the Historic Preservation of the Chestnut Grove at the Marcus Center.

Katherine Paulsen

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:52 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Grove of trees by Marcus Performing Center for the Arts

From: Paige Prillaman [<mailto:paigeprillaman@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 11:24 AM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Grove of trees by Marcus Performing Center for the Arts

Please do everything you can to preserve the grove of trees. I understand that designating the Marcus Center as a historic building would accomplish this. We have very few large, beautiful old trees downtown and it would be a shame to lose these.

Paige Prillaman
1139 East Meinecke
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Elmer, Linda

From: Harriet M Purtell <hmpurt1@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 3:08 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Chestnut Trees

I strongly support giving the Chestnut Trees at the PAC historical preservation. With the proper care and the addition of a more user friendly ground cover the grove would provide a much needed respite for city turmoil.

It would take another 50 years to recreate there ambiance. This planting is unique in our city and provides much needed out door space after our long winters.

Sincerely,
Harriet Purtell
414-352-4148

Elmer, Linda

From: Patricia & Allen Rieselbach <ariesel11@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:36 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Save the Trees

The Chestnut Tree Grove at the Marcus Center provides a unique space in the downtown. Occupants of nearby office buildings can enjoy a noon break with serenity. This experience is a result of a design which must be preserved.

Very truly yours, Allen Rieselbach

Elmer, Linda

From: Patricia & Allen Rieselbach <ariesel11@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:31 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION DESIGNATION OF THE MARCUS CENTER & GROUNDS

I am strongly in favor of assigning Historic Preservation Designation to The Marcus Performing Arts Center and the Horse Chestnut Tree Grove designed by Dan Kiley, world-renowned landscape artist. To destroy a living cultural monument would be a tragedy.

Sincerely, Patricia Rieselbach
Millwaukee Resident

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 1:11 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: for the Marcus Center file today

-----Original Message-----

From: James Rowen [mailto:jer45y@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 1:05 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: for the Marcus Center file today

I am unable to attend today's hearing, but for the record kindly accept this link of opinion along with my support for the Center's proposed historic preservation designation status. Thank you. James Rowen. 3107 N. Hackett Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211.

<https://thepoliticalenvironment.blogspot.com/2019/04/downtown-grove-art-center-footprint-on.html>

The Political Environment

A forum, news and archive begun in February, 2007 about politics and the environment in Wisconsin. And elsewhere.

Monday, April 1, 2019

Downtown grove, arts center footprint on key City agenda Monday

You may remember that the Marcus Center for The Performing Arts downtown wants to alter its plaza and remove a grove of chestnut trees installed there decades ago. Preservationists say that would be big mistake and are moving in City Hall to stop it.



The City of Milwaukee's Historic Preservation Commission takes up a move today at 3:00 p.m. in Room 301-B in City Hall where commissioners could move forward a legally-binding status to the Center which would prevent the removal of the trees.

Here is [a link to the meeting location and agenda](#), and for those wanting more information, the item's complete public file, #181570:

"Resolution relating to the Permanent Historic Designation of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts at 929 North Water Street in the 4th Ald. District"

One blog post about the issues is [here](#), and also a strong, updated reflection on the entire matter by Mary Louise Schumacher who [initially sounded the alarm](#) about the plan when she was the Journal Sentinel's arts and architecture expert and has again raised the level of discussion with a more recent post, [here](#):

This is *public space*. Let's not forget who owns the Marcus Center. The art center's officials are stewards of a resource that belongs to our community. While the art center conscientiously surveyed its patrons about what they wanted and needed from the arts center, it also appears they were blindsided by the public backlash that they are obliged, as public servants, to consider. Again, I offer these thoughts as a means to address the confusion that's been stirred up by recent discussion, and I recommend my original column to you, which presents my broader argument. I plan to be present for Monday's public hearing. This is our last opportunity to show up and support the proposal filed by landscape architect Jennifer Current and architect Mark Debrauske. The historic designation would, in turn, provide some protections for the site. If you cannot be present, you can send a letter to the commission: hpc@milwaukee.gov.

Frankly, I can't envision the designation being tabled or denied, nor can I imagine the full Council not approving an historic preservation status for the complex.

Why would Milwaukee show itself to tens of thousands of new visitors, opinion-makers and the world media during the 2020 Democratic National Convention while having enabled the degradation some of the most cherished tree-lined public space in the downtown?

Posted by James Rowen at 12:45 PM _

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 10:58 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Preserve the Dan Kiley landscape at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

From: Lucy Saunders [<mailto:lucysaunders@mac.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 10:39 AM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Preserve the Dan Kiley landscape at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

RE: Dan Kiley Grove

I am writing in support of preserving the grove of chestnut trees planted at the Marcus Center.

The benefits of these trees - which still have several decades of life ahead of them - include:
Cooling of the urban heat island effect
Verdant shade without the irrigation required by grassy lawns
Particulate pollution cleaning of the air
Protection for birds migrating near Lake Michigan

The area is worth preserving for its design contribution to the practice of landscape architecture.

Thank you for your service and for the chance to offer comment.

Lucy Saunders
author, DINNER IN THE BEER GARDEN
lucysaunders@mac.com
800-760-5998
FAX 877-790-3930

Elmer, Linda

From: Meagan Schultz <meaganbschultz@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 12:44 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: I support the trees!

Hello,
Just a quick note to extend my support for saving the trees in the Dan Kiley Grove.
Thank you!
Meagan

Elmer, Linda

From: Paula Schulze <paulajschulze@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2019 2:14 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Marcus Center Historic Designation

Hello,

I would like to voice my support for giving historic designation status to the Marcus Center. Such a move would help prevent the hasty destruction of the Dan Kiley chestnut grove.

I work downtown and appreciate the contribution that the grove makes to the downtown environment. I hope that community support for the historic designation will lead the Marcus Center to reevaluate its plans to transform the site.

Paula Schulze
Shorewood, WI

Elmer, Linda

From: Sarah Schramm <schrammsarahs@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 8:46 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Dan Kiley Tree Grove

I am writing because I cannot attend the meeting today. I wanted to express what a huge loss this would be to not only me but also this city to get rid of the Dan Kiley tree grove. Over the years I have enjoyed thinking of this grove as an oasis. It's beauty, peacefulness and quiet is rare in the heart of downtown. We deserve to have places like this in our city that allow us to sit, breathe, take in nature.

Thank You,

Sarah Schramm

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 10:58 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Kiley grove

From: Barbara Dembski Schwartz [<mailto:dembskischwartz@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 9:42 AM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Kiley grove

Please do not cut down the Kiley Grove. It is a work of art in and of itself, and if property maintained, would be better recognized for the treasure it is. Every person I know supports its continuation.

Barbara Schwartz
Fox Point

--

Barbara Dembski Schwartz

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 1:11 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Dan Kiley Grove

From: Steven Shea [mailto:cashelguy_59@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 12:34 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Dan Kiley Grove

Dear Committee

Please save the Dan Kiley grove from destruction. It is a Milwaukee jewel designed by a world class landscape architect.

Sincerely,
Steven Shea

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 8:20 AM
To: Elmer, Linda; Hatala, Carlen; mjarosz@uwm.edu; ann@pieperproperties.com; mclendenen-acosta@kahlerslater.com; msbiz@att.net; Bauman, Robert; Sally Peltz
Subject: FW: Historic Designation of the Marcus Center

From: Rebecca Silber [<mailto:rebecca@rebeccasilberdesign.com>]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2019 11:27 AM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Historic Designation of the Marcus Center

Good morning,

I unfortunately cannot attend tomorrow's meeting, but I strongly support the temporary historic designation of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts at 929 N. Water Street and I strongly support saving the chestnut trees designed as part of Kiley's landscape architecture plan for that site.

I am a graphic designer residing here in Milwaukee with a degree in art history, as well as graphic design. I feel strongly that preservation should almost always be questioned, and closely examined in the face of proposals for destruction. History is important, preserving history is important (look at Europe!). And the the chestnut grove is a beautiful oasis in the middle of downtown Milwaukee.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Silber

Rebecca Silber Design
rebecca@rebeccasilberdesign.com
414-453-4202
rebeccasilberdesign.com

Elmer, Linda

From: Lillian Sizemore <lillsizemore@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2019 3:59 PM
To: Elmer, Linda; Historic Preservation Commission
Cc: Hamilton, Ashanti; Johnson, Cavalier; Kovac, Nik; Bauman, Robert; Dodd, Nikiya; Coggs, Milele; Rainey, Khalif; Donovan, Robert; Lewis, Chantia; Murphy, Michael (Alderman); Borkowski, Mark; Perez, Jose; Witkowski, Terry; Zielinski, Tony; Stamper II, Russell
Subject: Save Kiley Grove | Support for Historic Designation

I support the historic designation of Milwaukee's Kiley Grove.

Public debate is important, and so is our cultural history. We are a young country, trained to seek 'efficient', 'productive', 'cost-effective' solutions. We are still learning the value of our own cultural, economic, social and historic heritage. The offerings of visionaries from another era can help us develop a rich tolerance for the movement of time and expression in the built environment.

Milwaukee's mid-20th century development must be considered worthy of preservation: Milwaukee played a critical role in the rise of American modernism and was a leader in the Midwest. **Modern design symbolized the future and expressed the optimism of the era.** Kiley's landscape designs are renowned around the world. We owe it to our current and future citizens to protect examples of this period of urban development, and to care for what we already have. This is a sustainable and respectful path for our future.

A thoughtful accounting of what it would take to restore the grove is appropriate. We can take a cue from European cities that have cultivated public gardens for centuries, replacing plant material and managing along the way to provide soulful urban spaces to citizens and tourists alike. What a respite to find an "old growth forest" in the midst of a booming city! It literally gives us oxygen.

I support the historic designation of Kiley Grove.
Thank you for the opportunity to comment as a resident of Wisconsin.
#savethegrove

Respectfully,
Lillian Sizemore
3813 Tulane Ave.
Madison, WI 53715
lillsizemore@gmail.com
415-793-0079

LILLIAN SIZEMORE

Elmer, Linda

From: J. Urdan <1jurdan@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2019 12:19 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Granting Historic Preservation Status to the Marcus Center For the Performing Arts.

Dear Linda Elmer-

I am emailing you to ask that you grant Historic Preservation status to the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts and its grounds. I am a WI resident, I live downtown and enjoy greatly the horse chestnut tree grove...and the building that holds many memories for me...in the very heart of downtown. What a great advantage we have. The newspapers and TV carry stories of cities wanting to bring trees and green to their downtowns. We have this wonderful building designed by Harry Weese, and the marvelous horse chestnut tree grove designed site-specifically by the legendary Dan Kiley.

Please protect our great City's great Assets. Thank you- Joan Urdan/ 923 E. Kilbourn Ave/ Milwaukee WI 53202 Sent from my iPad

Elmer, Linda

From: Stephanie Van Alyea <sfvaquirk@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2019 9:51 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Cc: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Support FOR the historic designation of the Dan Wiley landscape and the Harry Weese Building.
Attachments: Appl for Temporary.pdf; Attachments 1.pdf

Dear Commission,

I support the historic designation of the Dan Wiley landscape and the Harry Weese Building. The city of Milwaukee is so fortunate to have examples of this architecture and landscape architecture. It is important to maintain and preserve them for generations to come.

They represent a time period when the community came together in admiration of modern design and represent the era in which they were created.

They have become beloved and important public monuments for Milwaukee. Recognizable for design relevance and what they stand for. Together they speak proudly for public admiration of art and performing art. Their survival matters. Please designate these important cultural monuments as historic and preserve them for the enjoyment of generations to come.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Van Alyea

Application and article by Mary Louise Schumacher for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel attached below

Elmer, Linda

From: Stephanie Van Alyea <sfvaquirk@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2019 10:19 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Cc: Kovac, Nik
Subject: 'I support this designation'.

Dear HPC,

I support the designation.

Destroying Dan Kiley's important work is like tearing down the Calatrava MAM museum, crumpling up Leonardo DaVinci's Mona Lisa or bulldozing Frederick Law Olmstead's Lake and Central Parks.

The Chestnut Grove is a work of art designed to be a public space by Dan Kiley an important landscape artist.

Destroying it is part of a private war on public spaces created by deceased important artists.

Please save Dan Kiley's important modern public garden.

When the Marcus Corporation learned that this was an important piece of art I was very surprised they didn't cancel their plans, instead they have increased their determination to destroy it.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Van Alyea

Latest article by Mary Louise Schumacher analyzing Marcus Center issues.

<https://tclf.org/debate-over-kiley-grove-marcus-center-about-design-not-trees>

Elmer, Linda

From: Janice Vogt <janice.vogt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 2:30 PM
To: Elmer, Linda; Kovac, Nik; Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Kiley Grove at the Marcus Center

Good Afternoon Ms. Elmer, Alderman Kovac, and members of the HPC,

My name is Janice Vogt and I am a resident of the Cambridge Woods neighborhood on Milwaukee's East Side. I am writing you both today as I am no longer able to attend the HPC meeting in person this afternoon.

I am strongly in favor of Kiley Grove being designated a historic site. The grove is a rare gem: a spacious public space downtown with ample seating and beautiful chestnut trees that provide the finest shade downtown during the summer months.

As a Milwaukee resident, a local artist, and community leader, what is happening with the grove is disappointing. There is an underutilized public space, and instead of reaching out to the community to encourage use and programming and work on a long term strategy, we are allowing the adjacent business to "take over" the grove - completely removing the public from its own space!

I hope that the HPC approves the request to designate the grove a historic site. I would be more than happy to support and help organize efforts to activate the grove, such as providing cultural summer programming through my youth music organization, FREESPACE. There are other steps we can take to increase the parks visibility as well, such as having the grove marked green for park on Google Maps.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing the results of today's hearing.

Best,
Janice

--

Janice Vogt

Graphic Designer / Illustrator

e janice.vogt@gmail.com
t +1/414.721.6310

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2019 8:10 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Trees

From: Ellen C Warren [<mailto:ecdragonfly13@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 2:43 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Trees

As a Milwaukee resident of many years I implore you to keep the downtown parcel of trees. They are not replaceable.

Thank you,
Ellen C. Warren
414 562 1830

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 12:13 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: FW: Trees at the Marcus Center

From: jwilberg@wi.rr.com [mailto:jwilberg@wi.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 11:22 AM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Cc: 'mpa@milwaukeepreservation.org'
Subject: Trees at the Marcus Center

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to urge that you act to preserve the grove of trees at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. The grove is a majestic, thoughtful, engaging space that is unique in downtown Milwaukee. It would be a travesty to replace these trees, to cut them down, so that somehow people would find the area more inviting to sit or picnic or whatever else people do on plain grass.

The trees offer shade and refuge at the same time they inspire a sense of peace and an appreciation of nature. I hope you protect this grove and other beautiful and old places in our town. We need our history to keep us rooted in our community.

Sincerely,

Jan Wilberg

Janice Wilberg, Ph.D. Founder, Time of the Month Club, Inc.
2018 Milwaukee Business Journal Woman of Influence

Elmer, Linda

From: mo zell <mo_zell@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 2:19 PM
To: Elmer, Linda; Kovac, Nik; Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: dan kiley landscape

I am writing in support of the Dan Kiley landscape. I spent an afternoon there with my 5 year old daughter a couple of months ago and recorded her experience of the landscape. Here it is without edits:

I like that you can play hide and seek and tag. I like if you're skinny that you can go under the benches. You can run across the space when you play hide and seek and tag. You can jump up on the benches and then jump up some more. You can spin around and do a performance on the benches. You can jump on the ground and then jump back up on the benches. You can pick up sticks and take them home and glue them. And you can make a snowman with the rocks. And you can have a Leaf fight. I know you can be funny and do performances on the stage up there. And you can have a picnic. Please don't take them down.

Best,
Mo Zell

Elmer, Linda

From: Historic Preservation Commission
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2019 8:20 AM
To: Elmer, Linda; Hatala, Carlen
Cc: mjarosz@uwm.edu; ann@pieperproperties.com; mclendenen-acosta@kahlerslater.com; msbiz@att.net; Bauman, Robert; Sally Peltz
Subject: FW: Kiley's Grove -support designation.

From: Debra Zins [<mailto:drzins@att.net>]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2019 3:14 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Kiley's Grove -support designation.

One more MKE resident writing in support of designation of Kiley's Grove, at Tues.'s HPC meeting.

Debra R. Zins
Milwaukee, WI
53202

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android