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HISTORIC MILWAUKEE, INC.

DECEMBER 2016

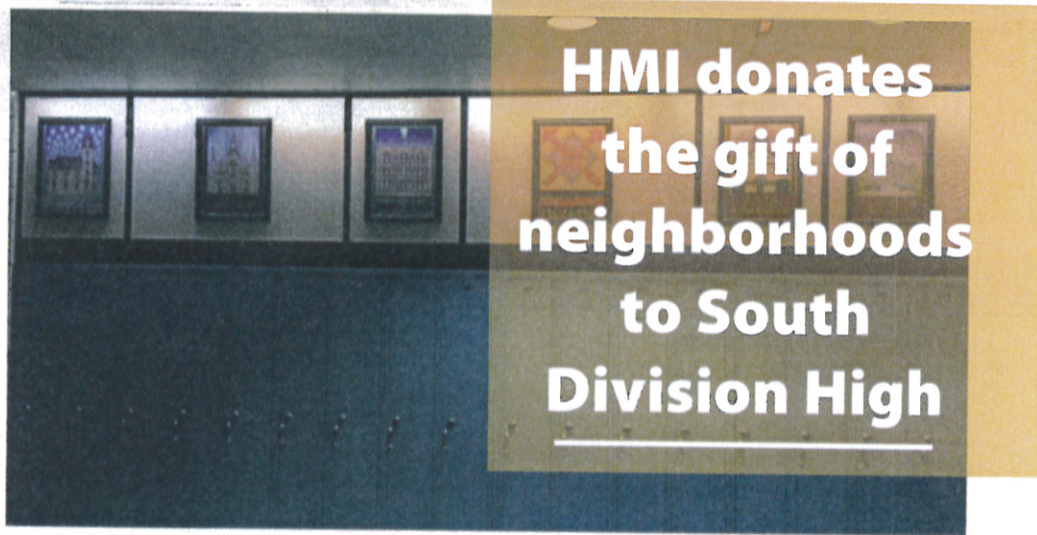
Help us meet our fundraising goal

Historic Milwaukee, Inc. has raised more than \$85,000 from members and friends to help open and operate our new office and store at 235 E. Michigan St. Thanks to your generosity, that brings us so close to our goal of \$100,000. Have you made a gift yet?

Gifts of \$1,000 and more will be recognized on a plaque in the new office. To date, 18 HMI friends and members have made a gift or pledge of \$1,000 or more toward the campaign. Gifts of all amounts are welcome. We also have received generous in-kind support from building owner and advisory board member Josh Jeffers.

Our new office includes an expanded merchandise area, with local history books, gifts made by Milwaukee artists and neighborhood posters, magnets and totes. Increasing merchandise revenue will ensure HMI's financial stability. Even with a record 1,100 members, membership income accounts for only 12 percent of the annual budget. 

Please use the donation form and envelope inside to make a gift to HMI today.



The newly decorated walls of South Division High School; photo credit: Robert Lang

BY BOBBY TANZILO
Managing Editor onmilwaukee.com

Thanks to a donation from Historic Milwaukee Inc., students walking the halls on the third floor at Milwaukee Public Schools' South Division High School now can take a *mini-tour of Milwaukee neighborhoods*.

Early last month, Robert Lang, social studies department chair at South, wrote to HMI director Stacy Swadish, asking for a set of the 15x22-inch neighborhood posters that have become so beloved in Milwaukee to be displayed in the school's 9th Grade Academy area. "We have wonderful artwork and displays in most areas of the first and second floors," Lang wrote. "I'd love to be able to decorate the hallways (of the third floor) in a way that celebrates the culture and diversity of the neighborhoods of Milwaukee." Lang also told Swadish that he always encourages students to attend HMI's annual Doors Open Milwaukee event, which allows visitors inside a wide range of historic and interesting buildings and sites all across the city.

Swadish was quick to honor the request, donating a complete set of 39 posters to the school.

"I can't tell you just how much of a difference the posters have made for our building in the short time period they have been displayed," Lang says. "It is no secret that Milwaukee has faced some challenging events over

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Skywaukee

SATURDAYS AT 1:00 PM — OCTOBER 22, 2016–MAY 6, 2017



photo credit: Grace Fuhr



SKYWAUKEE INFORMATION

Skywaukee is Historic Milwaukee, Inc.'s winter walking tour. Explore the history of the streets of Milwaukee while remaining indoors! An HMI tour guide will lead you through Milwaukee's skywalk system while giving you the architectural and cultural history of many significant Milwaukee landmarks.

Stay warm and have fun!

Tour meets in the street level lobby of the Plankinton Building at 161 W. Wisconsin Avenue.

HMI Members: Free
Non-Members: \$10
Ages 7-17: \$2
Ages 6 & under: Free

Book online at
www.historicmilwaukee.org

GIFT OF NEIGHBORHOODS

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the past few years. With the protests in Sherman Park this past summer and some of the crime that impacts our city, I felt that our students needed a reminder of just how great the City of Milwaukee is. Despite some of the challenges, our city offers a level of diversity that often goes unnoticed. Our neighborhoods have rich histories and each offer their unique story of Milwaukee history and culture.”

Lang adds, “The posters that Historic Milwaukee Incorporated donated last month are now a daily reminder for our students that Milwaukee is a city that is truly great. Each neighborhood—from Sherman Park to Bay View—offers a unique culture and community. It is this sense of community that we hope to instill in our students. We want them to be proud of where they come from. We want them to feel like they belong. We want them to realize that they are a part of the community and play a role in not only keeping it safe, but also are responsible for improving it for future generations.

“As my ninth grade students walk down the freshmen hallway at our school, they look up and see a celebration of Milwaukee. Just in the past two days I've heard countless students pause as they are walking past a certain poster. They'll look to the person next to them and say, 'That's my neighborhood.' This often then transitions into a short conversation between friends regarding what makes their neighborhood great.”

The posters were originally designed and printed by the City of Milwaukee in the 1980s and last year, the Common Council voted unanimously to turn over the unsold inventory of the posters to HMI so that they could be sold and given as donations to schools and nonprofits around the city.

Additionally, HMI tapped artist Jan Kotowicz to design posters for 11 more neighborhoods to coincide with the publication of John Gurda's latest book, “Milwaukee: City of Neighborhoods,” published by HMI.

“I love the fact that these neighborhood posters have been installed in the 9th Grade Academy floor,” Swadish says. “The posters celebrate the neighborhoods of Milwaukee's students – from the Historic South Side to Sherman Park to the Upper East Side.”

The posters are available for \$10 each at historicmilwaukee.org and at the new HMI store and office, 235 E. Michigan St., which also stocks note cards, tote bags and magnets with the images.

Once the posters arrived, Lang set to getting them all framed and displayed in the school. “If we hope to improve our neighborhoods, one of the easiest ways to do that is to take pride in who we are and where we came from,” says Lang. “The posters donated from Historic Milwaukee Incorporated do just that.” 