



SAVING THE SULLIVAN

Finishing Touches CHALLENGE

Thanks to an extraordinary gift from Lou Reese, a longtime and passionate supporter of public art in Licking County, contributions to the Finishing Touches Challenge will be **MATCHED DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR UP TO \$1 MILLION** until **November 1, 2025**. This exceptional generosity will help put the finishing touches on the restoration of the Louis Sullivan Building of Newark and wrap up the project's capital campaign.

Philanthropist Louella H. Reese has made many incredible and indelible marks on the lives of others in Licking County.

Her devotion to education, recreation and public art is apparent everywhere you look across the community she loves. Her deep appreciation for the arts and cultural assets was inspired during a school field trip to the then-new Granville Post Office when she took in its striking and moving mural, portraying people coming together to create a community. It was also the largest painting that she had ever seen.

Now we're down to the last details: restoration of the complex and colorful murals and application of gold leaf in the first floor's welcome center. This work is being undertaken by artisans from Conrad Schmitt Studios, an architectural arts studio located in New Berlin, Wisconsin that was founded in 1889 and specializes in restoration services for significant buildings.

It is fitting that Lou's gift will help bring back some of the most important murals of Louis Sullivan's storied career for generations of people to experience and enjoy. The stenciled walls and ceiling will be restored with great care—including new plaster substrate, careful cleaning and conservation of the existing mural panels, and replication of missing elements.

The Licking County Foundation is deeply grateful to Lou Reese for offering this exceptional challenge to bring people together as the project heads into the final months of transforming our community's vacant architectural treasure into our community's vibrant tourism center and Explore Licking County's new home.

A grand opening is planned for late August 2025.

For more than a decade, a team of dedicated volunteers and preservation professionals have partnered to restore this historic building in a way that will benefit the area. We are immensely grateful to each and every supporter for contributing to this exciting restoration and reimagination project all along the way.

We hope that you will join us in bringing it all together and make a contribution to the Finishing Touches Challenge.



Donate online
thelcfoundation.org

Donate by check

Make payable to the "Finishing Touches Challenge"
Mail to Licking County Foundation
PO Box 4212, Newark, OH 43058-4212

Questions? Contact Connie Hawk:
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