The History Center’s trustees and employees view the awards as a way to honor those who are making history, engaging with local history, interpreting local history, and/or whose work resonates with our mission statement.

Awardees
Louise Bement
Dr. Sean Eversley Bradwell
Ithaca Aviation Heritage Foundation
Diana Riesman
Stuart W. Stein
3RD ANNUAL
Celebrating History Awards Gala

CELEBRATION PROGRAM
• Mingling with refreshments and music
• Welcome, Rod Howe, Executive Director
• Celebrating History Awards
• Closing Remarks
• Visiting

*Special prize drawing to receive a History Basket!

AWARDEES 2018

Louise Bement, Town of Lansing, N.Y. Historian
Local History Expert Guide and Chief Researcher Award

Louise Bement earned her Bachelors Degree in Secondary Ed. from Mansfield State Teachers College in 1954. She received her Masters of Science in Education from Elmira College in 1972. Retiring from teaching fourth grade at Lansing, she has since kept busy being Lansing Town Historian (1981) and President of the Lansing Historical Association (1989). While teaching fourth grade she helped her students write four books on Lansing History - Portland Point, International Salt, Cayuga Lake, and The Rock Salt Mine. She considers herself an Ambassador for the Town of Lansing. The History Center has benefited immensely through our relationship with Louise.

Dr. Sean Eversley Bradwell, Director of Programs & Outreach at Ithaca College and Tompkins County Heritage Ambassador
Making Local History Real and Impactful Award

Sean Eversley Bradwell has used The History Center (THC) in Tompkins County as a patron, supporter, researcher and collaborator. He has stated that The History Center has provided him the opportunity to connect local history conversations to real places and locations and that this has been impactful to students. His relationship with THC began over 20 years ago while bringing groups of students as part of his history courses while teaching at the Lehman Alternative Community School, and has continued through his dissertation research, writing, programming, and active student engagement. In 2017, he became a Tompkins County Heritage Ambassador.
Ithaca Aviation Heritage Foundation
Meticulous Team Work Award

Ithaca Aviation Heritage Foundation ("IAHF") is comprised of a dedicated group of volunteers who came together for the purpose of bringing a Thomas-Morse Scout back home to Ithaca, where the Scout was originally built during World War I. Following the celebration of Tommy’s centennial flight on September 22nd, 2018, Tommy will be installed in its permanent home in the new Tompkins Center for History and Culture in the heart of Ithaca, scheduled to open in January, 2019. Tommy will be the highlight of the Center’s exhibit space. We applaud the dedication and commitment of this team.

Diana Riesman, Executive Director and Co-Founder, Wharton Studio Museum Tireless Advocate for Ithaca’s Silent Film Era Award

Through exhibits and events such as Silent Movie Month (every October since 2012) and Silent Movie Under the Stars (which will celebrate its 8th year this year) and leading efforts to develop the historic Wharton Studio building in Stewart Park into the Wharton Studio Museum and Park Visitor Center, Riesman has worked to highlight, preserve and celebrate Ithaca’s role in early American film making. Riesman is a founding member and now serves as Chair of the Friends of Stewart Park, a local nonprofit organization committed to the revitalization of Stewart Park, Ithaca’s main lakefront park where the former Wharton Studio building is located. The silent film history is a fascinating part of our local history.

Stuart W. Stein, Founder of Tompkins County Heritage Tourism.
Tompkins County Heritage Tourism Visionary

The National Trust defines Heritage Tourism as “traveling to experience the places and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present. It includes historic, cultural and natural resources.” Stuart W. Stein was an innovative leader, an inspiring teacher, an idealistic planner, an engaged and ethical public servant, and a beloved family member and friend who passed away in June 2014. Among the many ways he contributed to the local and regional community, Stuart W. Stein played the leading role in laying the foundation for Tompkins County heritage tourism. He would be thrilled by the emerging Tompkins Center for History and Culture.
Rod Howe, Executive Director of The History Center in Tompkins County welcomes guests to the Third Annual Celebrating History Awards Gala.
Award recipients (pictured left to right) Diana Reisman, Don Funke, Sandra Stein, Sean Eversley Bradwell and Louise Bement.
Diana Reisman, Executive Director and Co-Founder, Wharton Studio Museum, *Tireless Advocate for Ithaca’s Silent Film Era* Award recipient (pictured left) and Adam Klausner.
Louise Bement, Town of Lansing, N.Y. Historian Local History Expert Guide and Chief Researcher Award recipient.

Ron Ostman, History Center Trustee (pictured left) and Louise Bement.

Louise Bement receiving flowers from members of the Red Hat Society.
Don Funke, President of Ithaca Aviation Heritage Foundation and William Thibault, son of Dr. William N. Thibault.

Dr. William N. Thibault generously donated the Tommy plane to the foundation.
Eric Acree, History Center Trustee (pictured left) and Dr. Sean Eversley Bradwell, Director of Programs & Outreach at Ithaca College and Tompkins County Heritage Ambassador, *Making Local History Real and Impactful Award* recipient.
Rod Howe, Executive Director of The History Center in Tompkins County, presents the Tompkins County Heritage Tourism award to Stewart W. Stein’s family. Sandra Stein, Jenny Stein and Rachel Stein in honor of the late Stewart W. Stein.
Music by the Briane Earle Trio.

One of the leading clarinet/sax players in CNY, Brian Earle on clarinet.

Dave Davies on bass.

Alex Specker on guitar.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Tomkins Trust Company

Founded in 1836, Tompkins Trust Company is a full-service, locally managed community bank with 13 branches serving the Tompkins County area, Auburn, Cortland and Syracuse in Central New York. Today, Tompkins Trust Company honors the mission they began more than 180 years ago - to provide long-term value and earn the trust of the clients and community they serve.

Food & Beverage- Serendipity

Serendipity Catering and Bar is a full-service catering company based in Ithaca, NY. For 15 years, they have been providing clients with an extensive selection of menus and services. They pride themselves on sourcing many of their ingredients locally and regionally, along with producing maple, garlic, and herbs on their Farm.

Music- “Brian Earle Trio"

One of the leading clarinet/sax players in CNY, Brian has been a professional musician since 1967. At this event Brian will be joined by Alex Specker on guitar and Dave Davies on bass.

In honor of The History Center’s Trustee Jim Johnson for his “Gala” idea.

Pam Silverstein and Rod Howe sponsors of the “Brian Earle Trio.”

FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF ITHACA & ITS HISTORY

The current building of the First Unitarian Society of Ithaca was erected after the original church was destroyed by a fire in 1893. William H. Miller, the renowned Ithaca architect, donated his design services in memory of his mother. Originally, the new church was to have a pyramidal roof, but a tall steeple was erected instead so that students could not miss seeing it.

THE HISTORY CENTER IN TOMPKINS COUNTY

Mission

“The History Center in Tompkins County helps people use the tools of history to understand the past, gain perspective on the present, and play an informed role in shaping the future.”

THE HISTORY CENTER TRUSTEES

Eric Acree
Elizabeth (Liz) Bodner
Kimery Cornish
Shannon David

David Furber
David Gersh
Jim Johnson
Paul Karakantas

Bob Kibbee
Adam Klausner
Cindy Kramer
Ronald E. Ostman

Karen Pastorello
Nina Piccoli
Gwen Seaquist
Kati Flynn Torello

401 E. State Street / E. MLK Street • Suite 100 • Ithaca, NY 14850 Phone: (607) 273-8284
Hours: Tues., Thurs., Sat. • 11AM - 5PM (or by appointment)
& First Friday of Every Month • 5PM - 8PM

SPONSORED BY: