

Immediate press release

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Headline: Leland's Old Art Building –Securing Its Future

Section: Entertainment/Arts & Culture

The Old Art Building in Leland once again belongs to the community for the first time since 1939. The Leelanau Community Cultural Center (LCCC) recently purchased the Old Art Building from Michigan State University, thanks to immense support from many community members.

Numerous people stepped forward to offer support, starting with a lead gift from the Edmund F. and Virginia B. Ball Foundation. At a pivotal moment, Daniel and Anna Oginsky, owners of Main Street Gallery in Leland, offered a challenge grant that excited many and spurred a rush of additional donors. The Oginsky's granted LCCC \$50,000 for finding 100 new donors before the end of 2020. Over 200 new donors responded and helped to take the total contribution number to 420.

In 1939 the building was donated to MSU by its original owner and builder, Allie Mae Best. MSU held their summer art school there for 50 years, but in 1989 that program ended, so the building sat empty. In 1992, urged by community supporters, Leland Township leased the building from MSU. The LCCC board was formed to protect and revitalize the historic landmark. Now the LCCC proudly owns the building. There will be a "ribbon cutting" celebration on the front lawn at 4pm on Wednesday, January 6.

The campaign remains open until January 15 for those who still want to contribute to the endowment, which provides maintenance support for the almost 100-year-old community center.

For additional information, call the Old Art Building at 231.256.2131.

Attached Photo of the Old Art Building, courtesy of Becky Ross