

# Preservation Gala 2006

The rain came down but did not dampen our festive mood on Saturday, June 24th when Preservation New Jersey hosted the 2006 Preservation Gala at The Prallsville Mills in Stockton. Title sponsorship generously contributed by PNC Bank, along with Lead sponsorship from Schtiller & Plevy helped make the elegant fundraising event possible.



(above) The crowd mingled inside of the mill for the cocktail reception while bidding on silent auction items.

(right) The band played in the mill during the cocktail reception.



(clockwise l to r)  
The front entrance to the mill showing the Grist Mill on the left and the grain silo on the right; original mill machinery on display in the mill building; a bridge over the canal behind the mill.



The evening began with cocktails and the annual silent auction. Guests explored the three floors of the Mill while bidding on the auction items that were displayed on the first floor.



(above) PNJ president Megan Thomas with 2006 Sarah P. Fiske Awardee Curtis Bashaw.

(above middle and right) PNJ Gala Chair and board member Orlando Esposito (left) and Stockton Mayor Gregg Rackin (right) welcomes the crowd.

(right) Ron Emrich, PNJ executive director thanks gala attendees.

(bottom right) The Roadhouse Ensemble played throughout the evening.



Supporters and friends of historic preservation then crossed the drive to meet and mingle, and enjoy an elegant buffet dinner in the tent on the lawn, seated at tables decorated with pewter vases full of spring flowers in bright colors of yellow and periwinkle blue. The Roadhouse Ensemble played through the evening with a selection of music that varied from jazz to classic rock.

Preservation NJ's President, Megan Thomas, and Gala Chair and PNJ board member Orlando Esposito presented the annual Sarah P. Fiske Award to former Casino

Reinvestment Development Authority executive director Curtis Bashaw, in recognition of his commitment to historic preservation in the State of New Jersey, in particular for his work as Executive Director of the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority and for promoting heritage tourism. Curtis led CDRA to embrace preservation of historic public buildings as critical to Atlantic City's economic revitalization. Preservation New Jersey salutes his leadership, vision, and passion for the preservation of New Jersey's rich cultural and architectural heritage.



The outpouring of sponsorships, donations, and spirited bidding during the silent and live auctions helped make the evening a success. Unique auction items included dinner for two at Vice Versa and tickets including a



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*(left)* Guests mingled in the tent where a buffet dinner was served and the Roadhouse Ensemble played for the remainder of the evening.

*(above)* Volunteers like Steve Schlosser and Janice Armstrong helped to make the event possible.

*(above right)* Jamie Fox, PNJ board member Greta Kiernan and Mark Matzen enjoy the evening.

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backstage tour to “Sweeney Todd” in NYC; a weeklong getaway at Malcolm House on the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico; a Retro Escape package in Wildwood for two, and a “Paranormal Evening” with Ken Roginski and the Preternatural Research Society, who are featured on the Learning Channel’s Dead Tenants show. Proceeds from the event support Preservation NJ’s ongoing education and outreach efforts.

We gratefully acknowledge all our 2006 supporters, with a special thanks to Robert Hartman, Newark, for his graphic design services; Marc Coleman and Douglas Scott, for the evening’s photos; Harrie C. Copeland, IV, auctioneer; The Roadhouse Ensemble, music; Merri-Makers Catering; Shirley S. Mersky for use of her painting, *A Visit to the Mill*; The Stockton Fire Company for graciously providing space for parking, and The Delaware River Mill Society for use of their beautiful site.