

NEWS RELEASE

STAN HYWET ANNOUNCES MAJOR RESTORATION EFFORT COINCIDING WITH 100TH ANNIVERSARY

2nd Century Campaign and Celebration Set Stage for Landmark's Next 100 Years

February 5, 2015 – Akron, Ohio – This year, Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens turns 100. The nation's sixth largest historic home open to the public, and one of Northeast Ohio's most iconic treasures, the 70-acre estate is aging gracefully and requiring important restoration in preparation for a second century. The community is coming together to help ensure this one-of-a-kind landmark, home of Goodyear co-founder F.A. Seiberling, remains a prominent and indelible reflection of Akron's history, pride and traditions for the next 100 years and beyond.

Stan Hywet is located at 714 North Portage Path, Akron, Ohio.

The timing is not coincidental. Throughout 2015, Stan Hywet is celebrating a once-in-a-century milestone under the theme, **2nd Century in Bloom**. An important focus of this event is also something that will make it more lasting — the public launch of a \$6 million restoration and sustainability **2nd Century Campaign for Stan Hywet**.

In announcing the campaign, Honorary Chair Cynthia Knight, said “our collective commitment to safeguarding this singular cultural icon will ensure our community retains the stature and appeal inherent to a National Historic Landmark and America's 6th largest historic home. It will also confirm our profound desire to sustain Akron's history, legacy and opportunity as a compelling home for future generations to make their own.”

Built between 1912 and 1915, Stan Hywet has stood a remarkable test of time. It is not surprising that 100 years later, materials, objects and buildings are showing their age and potentially compromising the historic integrity of the priceless artifacts within the Manor House and on the grounds.

Among the restoration projects to be funded in this capital campaign are the Historic Stone Perimeter Wall, Leaded Glass Windows, Tea Houses & Hidden Aspect, and the first phase of an interior room-by-room restoration of the Manor House.

In addition, by building upon Stan Hywet's endowment through the campaign, funds will be consistently available to address the ongoing capital restoration and preservation requirements of this iconic Estate.

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Restoration begins this spring. Thanks to a significant grant from the state of Ohio (one of the earliest commitments received) work will begin on restoring the Historic Perimeter Stone Wall. “Planning for the wall began late last year, and there is probably no one in this community who doesn’t look forward to seeing the work under way,” said Knight. “We are pleased to report that it’s coming very soon.”

To date, approximately seventy percent of the campaign goal has been raised during its quiet phase, through major donations. The effort was put on solid footing in late 2013 with a \$1 million transformational gift -- the single largest commitment ever received by Stan Hywet from an individual donor.

In 2014, additional lead gifts of \$500,000 each from The J.M. Smucker Company and the Mary S. and David C. Corbin Foundation continued the momentum along with a collective \$2.1 million from the State of Ohio, foundations, corporations and individual friends of Stan Hywet.

Seven well-known and highly respected Stan Hywet friends and community leaders have set the tone for success through their leadership of four divisions. They are:

- **Brian Cherkala**, Senior Trust Officer and SVP for Key Private Bank and **Stephen L. Strayer**, Senior Vice President and Market Director at PNC, and a former Stan Hywet Chairman of the Board (Foundations Division)
- **F. William Steere**, Chairman and CEO of Steere Enterprises and a former Stan Hywet Chairman of the Board (Corporate Division)
- **Jan Wojno**, Stan Hywet Board Member and **Mike Wojno**, Founder and Owner of Wojno Development, LLC, and CEO of Gables Management, Inc. (Individual Leadership Gifts Division)
- **Harriet Dana Chapman**, Global Knowledge Manager at KPMG and Great-granddaughter of F.A. Seiberling, and **Deborah Selden**, Stan Hywet Board Member and long-standing Volunteer (Friends & Family Division)

“The 100th anniversary **2nd Century in Bloom** celebration together with the **2nd Century Campaign for Stan Hywet** presents an important opportunity to advance our mission – *to preserve and share our historic estate and serve as a resource for educational, cultural and recreational enrichment* – in ways that are not only impactful, but also visible to the entire community,” says Bill Steere. “We invite and welcome the support of everyone who would like to be part of Stan Hywet’s remarkable legacy through this work.”

The effort is part of an important conversation that has just begun. The campaign is continuing throughout 2015, concurrently with a roster of special anniversary events, exhibits and activities. Under the season banner **2nd Century in Bloom**, “we honor the past, while looking toward a bright and vibrant future inspired in no small measure by the work of the **2nd Century Campaign for Stan Hywet**,” says Knight.

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