



NEWS RELEASE

2nd Century Campaign for Stan Hywet Exceeds \$6 Million Goal

Restoration Work is Well Under Way

April 8, 2016, Akron Ohio – Stan Hywet successfully completed its capital campaign, the 2nd Century Campaign for Stan Hywet at the end of 2015, raising more than \$6 million to provide additional funds for the endowment and to restore many features on the Estate. The capital campaign raised \$2 million for the endowment, and more than \$4 million to restore many areas of the 100-year-old Estate. Restoration work in 2016 is now well under way and in some cases, is already nearing completion under the direction of Mark Gilles, Director of Historic Restoration and Julie Frey, Director of Museum Services and Curator. The scope and complexity of some projects means that work will be in progress for up to five years. Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens is located at 714 North Portage Path in Akron, Ohio.

Currently under restoration are the **Perimeter Stone Wall**; the **Tea Houses and Hidden Aspect**; the **Leaded and Stained Glass Windows** in the Manor House, Carriage House and Gate Lodge, and sixteen **Manor House Rooms**. Thanks to a lead gift from the state of Ohio, Zach Goebelt of C.O.I. Stonework and his team used the ancient authentic dry stone method to complete more than 80% of the 2,300 linear-foot **Historic Perimeter Stone Wall** before winter set in last year. The C.O.I. team is back at work and by this summer, the wall will once again help define the Estate as it did in the early 20th century.

The second phase of window restoration takes this year, with 101 Leaded and Stained Glass Windows and door panels being restored by Whitney Stained Glass Studio of Cleveland, Ohio. This company is removing, cleaning, repairing (or restoring), and replacing the windows and doors, one or two rooms at a time.

The **Tea Houses and Hidden Aspect** present a unique challenge because of their potentially precarious position situated on the cliff side above the Lagoons. A geological study identified the scope of the deterioration — work that was completed and documented with the help of Kent State University Geological Engineering department Abdul Shakoor and Mitchell Weber of Gannett Fleming Geological

Engineering division. A restoration plan has now been drafted and work will soon begin to stabilize the cliff face and Aspect.

The rooms to be restored in the Manor House in 2016 include the Great Hall, Library, Tower Landing, Solarium, West Porch, Music Room, Round Room, Billiard Room, F.A.'s Office, Breakfast Room, Reception Room and Linenfold Hallway, Virginia's Bedroom and Girls Dressing Room, 2nd Floor North Hallway and Guest Wing hallways, and Mrs. Seiberling's Dressing Room. Significant research of these areas is being complete before any work begins. Then the furniture, furnishings and artifacts are being restored in stages by the Intermuseum Conservation Association (ICA) in Cleveland or other specialized conservators. In some cases, fabrics are being woven using the original archival patterns and new paint colors are being formulated to replicate the original.

The **Endowment**, which is critical to Stan Hywet's long-term sustainability, also received a \$2 million boost through the 2nd Century Campaign. Over time, these additional funds will deliver as much as \$100,000 annually to support the extensive and ongoing maintenance and repairs of the Estate

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