



New Year's Greetings, Everyone!

We write once again to offer you a look at all we accomplished this past year plus a glimpse at what 2025 has in store for the Art Deco Society of Washington.

Trans-Lux Journal

Our bi-annual journal should have landed in member's in-boxes and mailboxes last month. We hope you like its new look, and we thank ADSW member David Otieno for his new role as designer and publisher. We also thank the many fine writers and photographers who have provided great reading and pictures for us.

Preservation

This year saw a lot of hard work writing, testifying, and collaborating with other organizations on preservation cases in DC, Montgomery County, and Alexandria. Patience and perseverance are must-have traits for preservation advocacy, and our thanks go to Preservation Chair Debbie Chalfie for her continued efforts here. The year saw the successful landmark designation of the Farmers Banking and Trust Building in Rockville, and continued improvements to the adaptive reuse plans for the Tastee Diner in Silver Spring. We are also happy to report that we along with the DC Preservation League will be filing a landmark designation for the interiors of the former Greyhound Bus Station at 1100 New York Avenue in early January.

Robert Llewellyn Wright House

Jim Linz continues to take the lead putting together a book on this house designed by Frank Lloyd Wright-in the late 1950s for his son in Bethesda. Jim has been working with co-author Stephen Reiss and members of the Wright family on the book, and we hope to have it published in early 2025. We also hope to resume tours of the house hosted by current resident and FL Wright grandson Tom Wright, which proved very popular when we first offered them.

Fellowship Committee

Lou, Isabelle, and ADSW President Steve Knight have been busy since this past spring forming our first-ever fellowship offering to support the scholarly efforts of graduate and post-graduate students in architecture and art history with an interest in the Art Deco era. We hope to have good news and an awardee to share with you by spring 2025.

Film and Fashion Clubs

Thanks to Kay Brenner and Christine Hall for their efforts co-chairing the Fashion Club. Christine has been doing a great job with posts to the [Fashion Club Facebook Page](#). Karen Burditt and David Lefever continue to co-chair the Film Club, primarily through collaborations with AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center and also through Karen's posts on the [ADSW Film Club Facebook Page](#). We encourage you to follow both pages if you aren't already.

Programs & Events

We have had a full year of programs, with well over a dozen unique in-person and virtual event offerings. Thanks to the organizers, speakers, hosts, and co-presenters who helped us maintain an active calendar throughout the year. We look forward to a full year of events for 2025 too. We will kick it off with a busy January, including our sold-out annual holiday party at the Kennedy Warren, a Film Club destination trip to the Weinberg Theater in Frederick, and a fourth offering of Geoff Shearer's antique radio open house. We have much more in the works for the rest of the year, but if you have an idea for a program, please share it with Acting Programs Chair [Steve Knight](#).

Governance & Operations

Thanks go to Isabelle Yerger and Debbie Chalfie for their efforts to update our by-laws and corporate standing in the various jurisdictions in which we are active. While rarely a topic of discussion, up-to-date by-laws reflective of our organization's mission guide our behavior and keep us on task, and above-board in all that we do. Lou Simchowitz and David Lefever continue to do a great job managing our finances, memberships, and sponsorships. And thanks again to Isabelle for all she does behind the scenes to manage our website and social media.

2025: A Year to Celebrate Art Deco!

While we have already touched on some of what you'll see from ADSW in 2025, this year is a special one for Art Deco enthusiasts: it marks the centennial of the famous event in Paris that quickly solidified this wide-reaching movement in design, the International Exposition of Modern Decorative and Industrial Arts. We are working on some fun and interesting programming ideas to help us celebrate this important anniversary throughout the year on a global scale—stay tuned!

Our Buildings Inventory

One initiative we hope to undertake this year is further work on the buildings inventory section of the website. While we currently have a good selection of buildings represented, we can and should show a lot more. We had great success building the initial list a few years ago with help from ADSW volunteers, and we hope to put out another call for help soon. In the meantime, feel free to [let us know](#) if you are interested.

ADSW Leadership Addition

We are excited to share some great news: Catherine Bocskor has agreed to serve as ADSW Secretary! We continue to function as an all-volunteer organization, and we think you will agree that ADSW punches well above its weight with all that we do. Catherine's involvement will provide much needed assistance and new energy to ADSW, and we look forward to her joining the board in the New Year.

International Coalition of Art Deco Societies (ICADS)

ICADS is the parent organization representing over three dozen member and affiliate Art Deco organizations around the world. ADSW President Steve Knight continues to serve on the ICADS Board as Secretary. ICADS is an active organization working to help the leadership of member societies learn from and collaborate with one another to help their organizations be more successful. ICADS maintains [a great website](#) with several resources to help you learn more about our sister societies found across the US and around the world.

We Need More Volunteers!

Our all-volunteer Board and Club leaders continue to plan and manage everything we do. **We would love more help!** If you, or anyone you know, has a skill for writing, an interest in

preservation advocacy, or an event idea to share, please feel free to reach out to us. [Contact us](#) to discuss opportunities further.

Your Membership & Contributions Matter

And here's a New Year's Challenge for each of you: If you are not an ADSW Member, please become one! And if you already are, please respond quickly to your renewal notice if you've received one recently. You can also join or renew [here](#). In addition to supporting our mission to **preserve, educate, and celebrate** this unique period of architecture, arts and culture, membership entitles you to discounts for our programs, admission to members-only events, and receipt of our printed journal, *Trans-Lux*.

We hope you will agree 2024 was a very full year for us. We hope to see you in 2025!

Wishing you all the best for the New Year,

Steve Knight, President

Jim Linz, President Emeritus

Isabelle Puleo-Yerger, Vice President, General Counsel & Website/Social Media Manager

Lou Simchowicz, Treasurer

Catherine Bocskor, Secretary

Linda Lyons, Board Member At-Large

Debbie Chalfie, Preservation Chair

David Lefever, Chair for Outreach & Development

Wishing you good times, good cheer
and a memorable new year.

