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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Renovation of Shaker Heights High School's Large Auditorium
Earns Ohio Historical Society Award

The Shaker Heights City Schools, Shaker Schools Foundation, and City Architecture will receive a 2008 Ohio Historic Preservation Office award for the renovation and restoration of the large auditorium at Shaker Heights High School. The award will be presented on November 1, 2008, in Columbus.

The Shaker Schools Foundation collaborated with the Shaker Heights City School District by raising \$1.2 million to support the \$2.4-million capital improvements project. Hubbell & Benes, prominent Cleveland architects who also were responsible for the Cleveland Museum of Art and West Side Market, designed Shaker Heights High School. City Architecture oversaw this restoration project, which marked the first major renovation of the large auditorium since the High School opened in 1931. Work began in June 2007 and was completed in January 2008. The large auditorium has been returned to its former beauty and features state-of-the-art theatrical lighting and sound systems for the benefit of all of Shaker's students and the larger community.

Ohio Historic Preservation Office awards have been presented annually since 1983, on the basis of nominations from throughout the state. Preservation Merit Awards recognize efforts to preserve Ohio's history, architecture, or culture and are bestowed for restoring, rehabilitating, or otherwise preserving an important building or site.

The Shaker Heights City School District, established in 1912, is one of the most highly respected school systems in the nation. Serving approximately 5,600 students of diverse backgrounds, Shaker is known for its academic programs, fine and performing arts, and high rate of acceptance into the nation's top colleges. Shaker regularly leads the state of Ohio in the number of students named Semifinalists or Commended Students in the National Merit and National Achievement Scholarship Programs.

The Shaker Schools Foundation was established in November 1981 by community leaders who believed that Shaker parents, graduates, and residents would make contributions to support extra programs and enrichment opportunities for students and faculty. It was the first foundation in the State of Ohio created expressly to support a public school district. The Shaker Schools Foundation also raised \$400,000 to pay for a complete renovation of the High School's small auditorium, which reopened in 2003.

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