

## The Heritage Association Donation Form

The Heritage Association of Hillsdale, Michigan (THA), was founded in March 2016 by Heather Tritchka, Constance (Connie) Sexton, and Dedra Birzer, for the purpose of forming an organizational structure which facilitates the creation of visual art to reflect the historical, cultural, and natural heritage of Hillsdale County. Tritchka, who holds a B.S. degree from Hillsdale College, MA in Philosophy from Biola, CA., and works as a professional artist, had long dreamed of sculpting a statue of Winona. Winona was the Potawatomi daughter of Chief Baw Beese, a figure that combines local legend with significant accounts of early Hillsdale County history. Heather brought together Dr. Dedra McDonald Birzer, who holds a doctorate in Comparative Women's History and the history of the American West, with Connie Sexton, Sexton's involvement with several local organizations provided experience in organization, fundraising, bookkeeping, and leadership. From the beginning, these women realized that they wanted to form an organization that would live on past their Winona Statue Project, one that would continue to enlighten residents and visitors of Hillsdale County about the area's rich heritage through beautiful works of visual art. This desire to educate through heritage art is indeed the mission of The Heritage Association of Hillsdale, Michigan.

"Studio42" is the association's home, located at 42 Union St., Hillsdale, MI. This space is generously donated by Carly and Marty Hubbard, owners of 42 Union St. THA has successfully accomplished their 2016 Winona project, a life size bronze statue of the "Princess" of Hillsdale: Winona, resides at Mrs. Stock's Park, Hillsdale, MI. The organization's 2018/2019 Black Bear project completed in June 2019 placed a bronze statue of a Mama Bear and her two cubs at the Baw Beese Lake Walking Trail, Hillsdale, MI. Coming in September of 2020, the City of Hillsdale will get a scenic upgrade to its downtown wedge, a 10' by 40' mural with the words "Welcome to Historic Hillsdale". The Heritage Association's current mural project will be painted on the upper side of Moore Insurance and above Hillsdale Jewelers in Downtown Hillsdale. A future project slated for 2021/2022 is to place a bronze statue of painted turtles on the Baw Beese Walking Trail, this will be the association's second bronze statue in a series of indigenous species of Hillsdale County. THA is a nonprofit organization comprised of dedicated members who support the Mission, Vision, Values and Goals of the organization

### Want to become a "Friend" of the Heritage Association?

Join Today! Mail to The Heritage Association PO Box 168, Hillsdale, MI 49242

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Platinum</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	_____
<b>Gold</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	_____
<b>Silver</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>	_____
<b>Bronze</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	_____



For more information and to see updates on project status, go to:

<http://www.theheritageassociation.org>

or

Facebook: The Heritage Association of Hillsdale County, MI.