



40th Anniversary Gala

Friday, April 28, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Join our Board of Directors, distinguished special guests, volunteers and staff for an evening of cocktails and dinner to toast four decades of rescue, restoration, and new discoveries at Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest and celebrate the work of Poplar Forest's Director of Architectural Restoration, Travis McDonald, who will retire in June after leading the state-of-the-art restoration efforts since 1989. The evening will feature a guest speaker, an auction, cocktails, dinner, and live music.

Our History

Designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior, and nearly lost to development, the nonprofit Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest was formed in December 1983 by a group of local citizens to lead the rescue of Thomas Jefferson's endangered retreat. They sought to preserve Poplar Forest for the cultural and educational benefit of the public—now and for future generations. Thanks to a long-term and dedicated effort to acquire all available portions of the original plantation (beyond the 50 acres available with the house at the time of the rescue), the Corporation's current landholdings total 617 acres, significantly expanding the site.

Poplar Forest was opened to the public for the first time in 1986, in its pre-restoration state. In the first years, funds were raised to stabilize the historic features, keep the landmark open regularly, complete payment on the first land purchases, begin the state-of-the-art restoration, and start developing Poplar Forest's tremendous educational potential.

Thanks to the support of hundreds of donors, and the dedicated efforts of our staff, volunteers and Board of Directors, Jefferson's design for his intimate octagonal retreat and surrounding ornamental landscape is nearly fully restored. Extensive and ongoing excavations by professional archaeologists have revealed the locations of quarter sites inhabited by Poplar Forest's enslaved residents, landscape features including ornamental planting areas, and original road traces. The first phase of ornamental landscape restoration along the north side of the retreat house, generously supported by the Garden Club of Virginia, was completed in fall 2021. In spring 2023, the interior restoration will be complete, marking the culmination of 34 years of research, restoration and reconstruction using period tools and methods. The National Trust for Historic Preservation recognized the meticulous research and restoration efforts with its highest award, and the site has been nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The restoration is widely regarded in the professional preservation community as one of the most important projects in the country, with efforts underway to generate greater national awareness. A new entrance road and accompanying trail network opened in summer 2022 are helping to increase visibility and improve access, while providing a sought after community amenity.

Despite our many accomplishments, we have only just begun to tap our tremendous potential to fulfill our mission to preserve, inspire and tell the emerging story of Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest, and to achieve our vision of a restored Poplar Forest that ignites curiosity, understanding, and engagement. We look forward to our future as a thriving and engaging site where all who visit can make valuable connections with the past.

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Sponsorship Opportunities

\$10,000 Presenting Sponsor*

Company logo or name recognized on all the following:

- Press releases and media alerts
- Promotional emails, print material, and onsite signage
- Event program
- Verbal thank you at the gala
- Poplar Forest newsletter, *Notes on the State of Poplar Forest*
- Gala event webpage with a hyperlink to your website
- Poplar Forest e-newsletter

Additional Benefits

- Two tables (16 guests) at the gala
- Four VIP cocktail guest tickets

*deadline for commitment is March 1, 2023

\$5,000 Platinum Level Sponsor

Company logo or name recognized on all the following:

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- Event program
- Verbal thank you at the gala
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- Gala event webpage with a hyperlink to your website
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Additional Benefits

- One table (8 guests) at the gala
- Two VIP cocktail guest tickets

\$2,500 Gold Level Sponsor

Company logo or name recognized on all the following:

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- Promotional emails, print material, and onsite signage
- Event program
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Additional Benefits

- Four tickets to the gala
- Two VIP cocktail guest tickets

\$1,250 Silver Level Sponsor

Company logo or name recognized on all the following:

- Press releases and media alerts
- Promotional emails, print material, and onsite signage
- Event program
- Verbal thank you at the gala
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Additional Benefits

- Two tickets to the gala
- Two VIP cocktail guest tickets



THOMAS JEFFERSON'S

Poplar Forest

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Sponsorship Levels

- \$10,000 **Presenting Sponsor**
- \$ 5,000 **Platinum Level Sponsor**
- \$ 2,500 **Gold Level Sponsor**
- \$ 1,250 **Silver Level Sponsor**

Contact Information:

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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How would you like your name or company name to appear in printed materials?

Payment Instructions:

Poplar Forest Federal EIN # 54-1258296

Pay by Check:

Payable to The Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest

Pay by Credit Card:

Credit Card # _____ Expiration date ____/____ CVV _____

Amount _____ Name of cardholder _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please return completed form and gift by Friday, March 31, 2023.

Renée Rose Flowers, Director of Development

P.O. Box 419, Forest, VA 24551

Phone: (434) 534-8129

Email: renee@poplarforest.org

All sponsorship donations are tax-deductible, less the value of goods received in return (i.e. tickets to the event). Any underwriting not needed to cover event expenses will be applied by the Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest towards general program support.