

The Ruthmere Record

THE RUTHMERE FOUNDATION, INC. • 302 E. BEARDSLEY AVENUE • ELKHART, INDIANA 46514

SPRING/SUMMER 2017

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Callista Wert

DRIVE-IN FRIDAYS AT RUTHMERE!

BY WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cool Rides. Hot Sounds. Drive-In Fridays at Ruthmere presented by the Center for Hospice Care is about to roll into town and rock Elkhart in a new way!

Come enjoy the Ruthmere grounds the last Friday of the months June - September, from 6-8:30pm for a summer garden party. Cruise in with your own classic ride, or just come to check out some of the most beautiful cars you'll ever see anywhere in this family-friendly environment. Chill out to a sampling of the hottest summer tunes of the Midwest. From the high energy of Jesse Ray and the Carolina Catfish to regional blues powerhouse Dos Hermanos Band, the soulful sweet sounds of the Nashon Halloway Band, and the national headliner The Legal Immigrants, there's something for everyone at Drive-In Fridays.



While you're groovin' to the music and admiring the autos, enjoy a cold beverage (beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages served) and scrumptious snacks created and served by That Guys Gourmet Ribs and The Pretzel Wagon. Gates open to the public at 5:30, lawn chairs and blankets welcome; but please, no coolers or carry-in food/beverages. Admission will be \$5 per person or \$10 for a family of 3-5 persons. A \$15 personal season pass for all four dates is available to Ruthmere members only. Guests who arrive in their classic cars will have a "2-free-per-car" admission and are encouraged to begin parking at 4:30pm. Pre-registration of drive-in classics preferred, with a limit of 44 drive-in cars per date.

Displayed on Ruthmere's front lawn will be premium award winning show cars such as a 1938 Packard 1st Place Winner at the 2016 Pebble Beach World's Concours d'Elegance, and a 1951 "Doc Hudson" Pixar *Cars* movie classic.

LaVine Restorations, Inc. will be on site most dates to provide information on classic car restoration and answer questions; and, of course, Ruthmere's garage will be open, and its three 100-year-old classics will be on full display. Check our web site to see a preview of cars, musical performers, and also to sign up to register your ride in the show.

Don't miss out on one of the most talked about events for the summer of 2017!

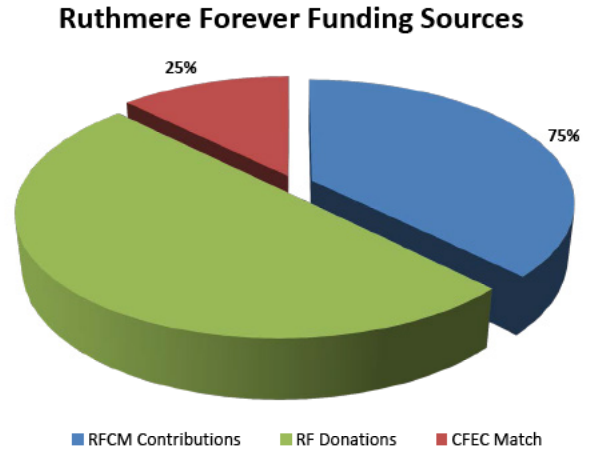
Ruthmere Record Editor - Carolyn Bonanno

WHAT IS RUTHMERE FOREVER?

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- **THE DILEMMA: HOW TO BUILD ENDOWMENT WHILE MEETING OPERATIONAL NEEDS.**
Every organization, Ruthmere included, wants to be sustainable for the FUTURE, but at the same time requires support to fulfill their mission NOW. Successfully achieving both goals simultaneously is a daunting challenge.
- **RUTHMERE FOREVER PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**
Ruthmere has developed a creative solution to this dilemma. The Ruthmere Forever Program consists of **Ruthmere Forever Donors**, **Ruthmere Forever Challenge Match Contributors** and the **Community Foundation of Elkhart County (CFEC)**.
- **Ruthmere Forever Donors** can either a person or an organization who wants to support Ruthmere and see the **IMPACT** of their donation doubled with a minimum donation of \$100.
- **Ruthmere Forever Challenge Match Contributors** are a group of individuals and organizations who champion Ruthmere's mission by committing a minimum of \$5,000 per year of matching support into the Ruthmere Forever Program.
- **The CFEC** matches donations to Ruthmere Forever endowed funds by 25% up to an annual maximum of \$25,000 per endowed fund. Ruthmere will establish additional Ruthmere Forever endowed funds as this program grows.
- **HOW IT WORKS IN TWO SENTENCES**
 1. Ruthmere Forever Donors make their donations payable to the CFEC toward a Ruthmere Forever endowed fund, thereby earning an immediate 25% match from the CFEC into that same fund. The Ruthmere Forever endowed funds grow to produce sustainability.
 2. Ruthmere Forever donations are matched 75% by Ruthmere Forever Challenge Match Contributors whose matching support goes FIRST to current necessary Ruthmere Campus operations, and any surplus at the end of the year goes into the Ruthmere Forever endowed funds.

THAT'S IT!
THE IMPACT OF PUBLIC SUPPORT IS DOUBLED.
RUTHMERE'S ENDOWED FUNDS GROW.
GENERAL OPERATION NEEDS ARE MET.
DILEMMA SOLVED!



We hope you will consider participation as either a Ruthmere Forever Donor or Ruthmere Forever Challenge Match Contributor as you plan your charitable giving for 2017. Please note that Ruthmere Forever will replace the traditional Ruthmere Annual Fund solicitation.

ROBERT BEARDSLEY ANNUAL PIANO PRIZE

By ROBERT B. BEARDSLEY, RUTHMERE FOUNDING DIRECTOR

Ruthmere will soon host a new competition of classical piano music - to be known as the Robert Beardsley Annual Piano Prize - and will utilize Ruthmere's 9-foot Steinway Concert Grand Piano (1955) in the Game Room. This piano originally was the favorite "loner" piano from Steinert & Sons Steinway Dealers in Boston to Arthur Rubenstein when he was on tour in New England.

The winner of the competition will be awarded a \$1,000 prize, and his or her name will be inscribed on a plaque adjacent to a handsome glass-encased antique Sterling trophy cup-with-cover. The cup is 22 inches high, weighs over 75 ounces and was made in London in 1907, one year before construction of Ruthmere began.

Judging criteria and terms of application are being developed. All recital-qualified players will be considered. While players of 19th century Romantic and earlier Baroque period piano literature are preferred, gifted improvisationalists are welcome to apply. Applicants are encouraged to make submissions for consideration either online or by a CD if on-site auditioning is not convenient. The number of competing contestants will be limited to ten.

In honor of and in appreciation for the brilliant recitals he has performed at Ruthmere over many years, Nicolas Roth has been named the 2017 recipient of this award. He will accept this prize and perform at Ruthmere on November 24, 2017.



WELCOME TO YOUR RUTHMERE!

By MARK DODDINGTON, MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Another Ruthmere season is rapidly approaching, and 2017 is going to be an exciting year. The first thing you will notice is our new mobile-friendly website which allows you to renew your membership, sign up for concerts and special events, monitor your Ruthmere donations, all from the comfort of your home. Simply log on to Ruthmere's website, www.Ruthmere.org, and follow the prompts to set up your easy access. Of course, as Membership Coordinator, I'll be glad to help if needed.

You may now choose to pay your membership dues in monthly or semi-annual installments instead of an annual lump sum. All general membership level fees are now divisible by twelve, making your monthly payments easy to manage. We have created a new Student membership for only \$30 a year. If you know any students of art, architecture, history, or interior design, a Student membership makes Ruthmere one of the most affordable classrooms in which they will ever set foot!

Business members at a variety of levels are quickly taking advantage of the benefits of Ruthmere membership through networking and supporting Ruthmere's entrepreneurial youth programs and more. Ruthmere Lodging partners are bringing new visitors every day.

There's never been a better time to become a Ruthmere member. It's easier than ever, and the benefits are practically tailor-made to your needs. Don't forget gift memberships, too. We look forward to seeing you often in 2017 and for many years to come.

The adage "there's strength in numbers" is true. The more we expand our circle of Ruthmere members, the stronger and better our museum will become. We say "our museum" because Ruthmere belongs to all of us.

ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL!

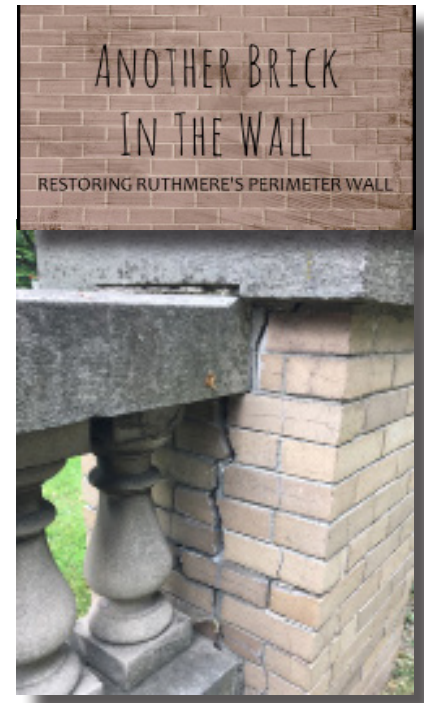
By CALLISTA WERT, SITE MANAGER/GRANT WRITER

The perimeter wall surrounding Ruthmere Museum is in a state of disrepair and needs work done to restore it to its optimal condition. The total cost of this restoration is \$34,000. Restoration processes include re-laying loose brick, tuck pointing loose mortar, cleaning moss- and lichen-encrusted surfaces, stabilizing and resetting loose balusters, and repairing and replacing damaged missing ironwork.

Ruthmere has already acquired half the necessary funds through a challenge grant from the Community Foundation of Elkhart County, but we still need matching funds of \$17,000 to complete the project. We are accepting donations from the public that will be funneled directly to the wall restoration projects. If you would like to be part of this funding effort, please call or visit our website for more information.

While visiting our website you will see a new one-minute video that we produced in-house to capture public attention. Please share this video and help us spread the word.

Donations of \$50 or more toward the perimeter wall project provides entrance to our annual Adopt A Pom Party on August 10th.



TEN YEARS OF "QUILT GARDENS ALONG THE HERITAGE TRAIL"

By CARLA RILEY, CAMPUS COORDINATOR

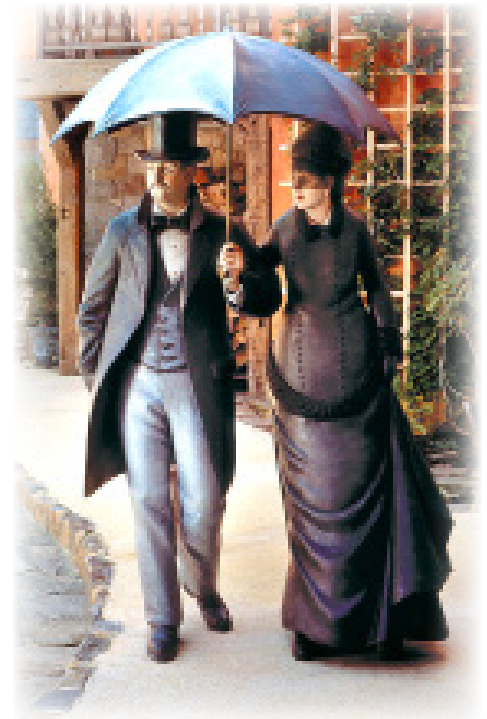
The Elkhart County Quilt Gardens began in 2007 and throughout the years have given the community some remarkable floral designs. This year, as a special treat to celebrate ten years, quilt garden sites will display 57 Seward Johnson bronze sculptures, thanks to the Elkhart County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Seward Johnson has sculpted more than 450 life-size bronze statues, which depict real people engaging in ordinary everyday activities. This exhibit will be the largest assembly of Johnson's work to date.

Ruthmere Campus will exhibit two of Seward Johnson's sculptures, one at Ruthmere, and one at Havilah Beardsley House. The pattern for this year's quilt garden at Ruthmere was inspired by Mary Beardsley's sampler, which can be found inside of the Havilah Beardsley House. Be sure to stop by in late May to take in the magnificent garden and statues!

Minatures of Seward Johnson's "La Promenade" and "Dance at Bougival" will be available for sale in the Ruthmere Campus gift shops while supplies last.



*2017 Ruthmere's Quilt Garden Pattern
"Elkhart Founder Homestead"*



*Seward Johnson Bronze Sculpture
"La Promenade"*

TIME TRAVELERS SUMMER PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

By CAROLYN BONANNO & JOY OLSEN, SUMMER PROGRAM COORDINATORS

Ruthmere offers the new Time Travelers Summer Program for Children the week of June 26th - June 30th where children will put on their time travelers hats and imagine what it was like to be a kid growing up a hundred years ago! Children will explore Ruthmere Museum's story through hands-on activities, arts & crafts, mystery games and FUN!

Monday, June 26th – Friday, June 30th
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Ruthmere Museum Grounds

Registration is LIMITED! Sign-up early! Registration ends May 31st!
\$85 per child for Ruthmere members
\$100 per child for non-members
\$10 discount for additional registrants from one family.

Register online at www.ruthmere.org or call 574-264-0330 ext. 101



FIRST-EVER CREEK HOUSE GARAGE SALE

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Looking for unique treasures? Your search ends at the first-ever Creek House Garage Sale on May 3 (Ruthmere members only) and May 4 - 5 (general public), 8am - 4pm each day at 920 Grove St., Elkhart. Bring your pickup and van; we've got good stuff to sell. Our storage space is bursting at the seams and everything must go! Cash and all major credit cards accepted on site.

We have been fortunate to receive some wonderful donations over the past four years. Some of these items were donated for the purpose that we re-sell them to realize the financial support that will come from their sale, while other items have been culled from our collections due to duplication or upgrades in the quality of our collections. Regardless, ALL PROCEEDS of the Creek House Garage Sale will go toward the care, support and building of our museum collections. Ruthmere Staff and Board members are not allowed to purchase items at this sale in compliance with the AAM Code of Museum Ethics.

Come find your treasure at Creek House Center on the first Wednesday-Friday in May and help support Ruthmere's ever-improving museum collections-the heart of Ruthmere-which we share every day through our museum tours!

Ruthmere's mission is to inspire the imagination and promote excellence in fine arts, architecture, and historic preservation, and to advocate life-long learning and the entrepreneurial spirit.

OWN THE RUTHMERE LIFESTYLE!

Would you like to support Ruthmere by owning (sponsoring) a program/event either personally or through your business? Opportunities available for both full and partial sponsorships. Great sponsor perks!

Call Executive Director Bill Firstenberger
574-264-0330 ext. 105



**Drive-In Fridays
Lead Sponsor**



\$10,000

Drive-In Fridays T-shirt



Logo Sponsors

\$100 Each - Limit 12

Gallery Talks
by
Garber's Interior
Design



\$1,000

SOLD

Special Exhibit



Can I Have Your Autograph?

\$1,000

SOLD

2017
Holiday Decorations
& Tours (30 days)

"White Christmas"
(Military)

\$10,000

PENDING

Free Family
Sundays!

3,000+ Free Community Tours
8 Dates

\$10,000

WHAT A DEAL!

2017 Fall Concert
Series &
Beardsley Piano
Competition

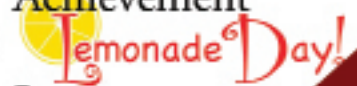
\$5,000

NEW LISTING



Elkhart Junior
Achievement

\$10,000 &
Elkhart Business Legacy
Hall of Fame
Traveling Exhibit



SOLD

Secret Door Games Electric Brew

Coffee on the Piazza

13 dates of Saturday Morning
Fun & Games!

\$3,000 

REDUCED

Historic Greenhouse

Flower Gardens &
Master Gardener Workshops



\$2,000

PARTNERS WANTED

Milburn Rides on Mother's Day & Father's Day



\$1,000

NEW LISTING

Field Trip Assistance

Pre-K to High School



PARTNERS WANTED

Adopt A Pom

Summer Garden Party
Wall Restoration Project



\$2,000

LEAD OPEN

Fishoff Soireé at Ruthmere May 12th



\$1,000

PENDING

2017 *Ruthmere Record*



\$3,000

NEW LISTING

Patriotic Program Series & Blue Star Museums Summer Tours



\$1,500

NEW LISTING

Restoration of Ruthmere Auto Collection & Garage



\$20,000

NEW LISTING

Fan Souvenir Hand-Outs



\$1,000

PENDING

LOUIS COMFORT TIFFANY LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEMBERS

\$10,000

Arthur J. Decio

\$5,000

Raymond & Teri Stout
Douglas & Sharon Beardsley

\$2,500

Robert Beardsley
Connie Fulmer
George & Kathy Freese
Robert & Mary Pat Deputy
Patty Brotherson



\$2,500

Jack & Karen Cittadine
Scott & Kim Welch
Dorinda Miles Smith
Douglas & Barbara Grant
Scott & Kim Welch

\$1,000

Edward & Mary Jo Beardsley
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Ronald & Jacqueline Wonso

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE
RUTHMERE FOUNDATION!**

**IF AN UPDATE IS
REQUIRED, PLEASE CALL
574-264-0330 EXT. 107**

LOCAL COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Indiana Landmarks
Community Foundation of Elkhart County
Elkhart County Convention and Visitors Bureau
Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce
Elkhart County Museum Association
Christiana Creek Coalition
Elkhart Comic Con
Elkhart City Parks Department
City of Elkhart
Elkhart County Historical Museum
Elkhart Public Library
The Lerner Theatre
Wellfield Bontanic Gardens
Habitat for Humanity of Elkhart County, Inc.

Boy & Girls Club of Elkhart County
Junior Achievement of Elkhart County
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Elkhart County
First Presbyterian Church of Elkhart
WVPE
WNIT
Kil Architecture & Planning
Himco Waste-Away
The Electric Brew
Young Professionals of Elkhart
The History Museum of South Bend
Pillars of Elkhart
Secret Door Games
Michiana Calligraphy Guild

RUTHMERE BUSINESS MEMBERS

Business Membership Levels

Business Members at all levels are encouraged to use their business membership to show clients and guests the best of Elkhart. Business Members may enjoy an array of benefits that can be tailored to meet their needs which includes the privilege of hosting special events. All Business Members are encouraged to attend and network at EOQ Cocktail events.

Chairman's Club Members

Chairman's Club Members are the highest level of Business Members at \$5,000 annually and allows them access to Ruthmere facilities for private special events.

**Center for Hospice Care
Rim Institute**

Corporate Members

Corporate Members provide \$500 for sustaining support to Ruthmere, the Havilah Beardsley House and Creek House Center. Corporate Members are eligible to sponsor a Ruthmere program.

**American Home Improvement
Old National Bank
Premiere Signs
Gibson
RSM**

**Elkhart County Junior Achievement
1st Source Bank
Menno Travel Service
Chemical Bank
Gerber's Interior Design**

President's Club Members

President's Club Members supporters contribute \$1,000 annually showing community leadership in their generosity.

Firefly Trust

Business Honor Roll

Business Honor Roll Members contribute \$250 to Ruthmere's mission, and identify themselves as community leaders who care about art, culture and historic preservation.

**Elkhart County Board of Realtors
The Homespun Country Inn
The Scottish Inn
Country Victorian Bed & Breakfast
Advanced Security Systems**

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT & RUTHMERE PARTNERSHIP

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2016 Elkhart County Junior Achievement and Lemonade Day launched the new annual recognition event, the Elkhart County Business Legacy Awards. More than a single annual event, this initiative is expanding into a 3-year traveling exhibit coordinated by Ruthmere with the eventual goal of building of a permanent Elkhart County Business Legacy Hall of Fame. The exhibit features the stories of annual award winners alongside the community legends behind the awards. The Havilah Beardsley House will serve as the home host site for the exhibit when it is not traveling throughout the county. If your organization would like to book this banner exhibit (all 11 banners, or a partial exhibit of specific banners), please call Outreach Curator Victoria Johnston at 574-264-0330 ext. 116.

A GIFT OF A LIFETIME

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We recently received an unexpected and wonderful legacy gift of \$15,000 from the estate of the late Ruth Eraybar. Ruth gave generously of her time and talents as a skilled Ruthmere docent guiding public tours, and everyone at the museum was saddened to learn of her passing on June 12, 2015. However, we had no idea of the depth of her appreciation for Ruthmere which was evidenced in her making such a tremendous end-of-life gift. Ruthmere will be forever grateful, and will never forget the service and generosity of Ruth Eraybar.

KEEP HISTORY ALIVE!

By VICTORIA JOHNSTON, OUTREACH CURATOR

Volunteers play an essential role in the museum by inspiring and engaging every visitor who walks through the front door. We are always looking for new volunteers to join our team and we invite you to explore the opportunities below:

Ruthmere Campus Docent

As a docent you will interact with visitors of all ages. Both young and old can discover and learn local history during the tours of both Havilah Beardsley House and Ruthmere Museum. Docents help inspire inquiring minds.

Ruthmere Gardener

Do you enjoy gardening or wish to take it up as a hobby? Then consider helping our Campus Coordinator plant flowers in the gardens and tend to Ruthmere's grounds. We can always use the extra helping hands!

If you are interested in becoming a **docent or gardener**, email vjohnston@ruthmere.org or call 574-264-0330 ext. 116. Help to keep history alive in our community by volunteering at Ruthmere Campus today!



Romance at the Mansion!



About Brides

I would like to invite you to consider Ruthmere Campus for your special day. Your story can begin at one of the most historic locations in Elkhart County. Either elegant or rustic, we can help you fulfill your dreams.

Ruthmere is a "one of kind" location for your "once in a lifetime" event.

My goal is to make your wedding day a memory that will never fade!

Please contact me at (574) 264-0330 ext. 103 to set a time to talk and visit our facilities.

I hope to hear from you soon!

Joy!
Joy Olsen,
Wedding Coordinator
olsen@ruthmere.org

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Ruthmere

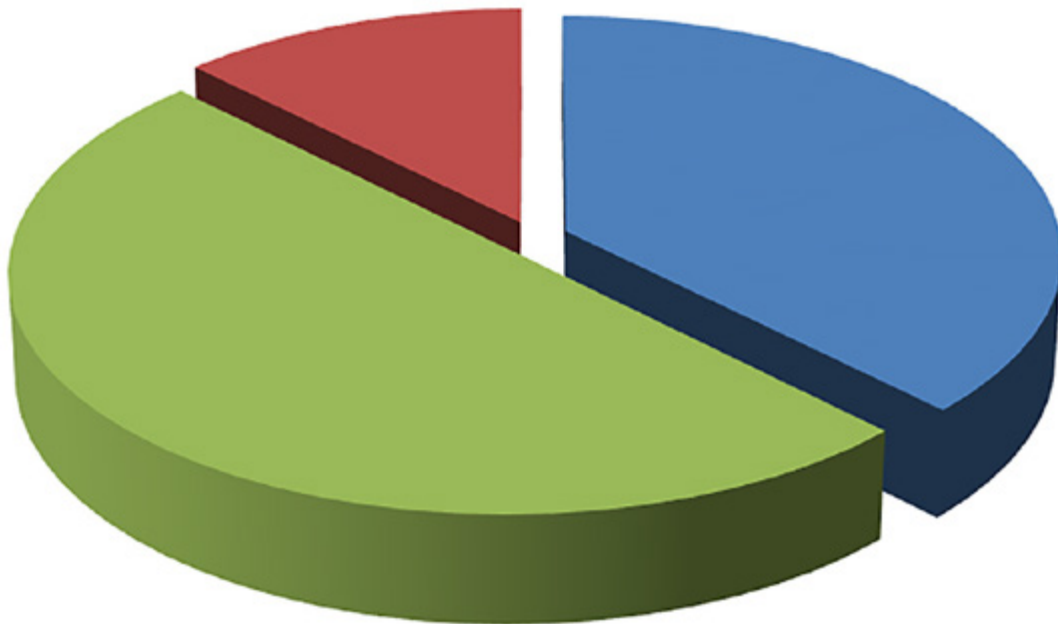
An Experience in History, Art & Architecture

THE RUTHMERE FOUNDATION, INC.
302 EAST BEARDSLEY AVENUE
ELKHART, INDIANA 46514
574.264.0330
WWW.RUTHMERE.ORG

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RUTHMERE IS SUPPORTED BY ITS MEMBERSHIP, PRIVATE DONATIONS, PLANNED GIFTS AND LEGACIES.

What Is Ruthmere Forever?



(See Page 2)