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For Immediate Release

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TEMPE PRESERVATION GROUPS UNITE TO LAUNCH FUNDRAISING DRIVE FOR HISTORIC BUILDING

On Saturday, April 18, the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation in association with the City of Tempe's Historic Preservation Commission will hold a fundraiser to help restore the Eisendrath House, a North Tempe historic property on the east side of Papago Park.

The event, "*Saving the Eisendrath*" will be held at Tempe Mission Palms Hotel from 6 to 8 p.m. and will feature as guest speaker, Tempe Mayor Hugh Hallman along with renowned economic preservationist and author, Donovan Rypkema as the keynote speaker.

"This event is an extension of a campaign Tempe preservation groups started in 2006 to rehabilitate one of the finest old adobe homes in the Southwest," says Tempe Historic Preservation Commission Chair, Bob Gasser. "The Eisendrath House was built on a hill overlooking Tempe in 1930 when nothing was out there. For decades this magnificent house quietly endured, and in recent years, has deteriorated as Tempe grew up around it. We want to help resurrect this classic example of Pueblo Revival architecture for future generations to enjoy."

The Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation is a private non-profit entity created in 2005 to raise funds and create public awareness of

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Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation
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Tempe's historic at risk structures. The Tempe Preservation Commission is a publicly appointed citizen's group which oversees, registers and advocates for Tempe's historic buildings. Both groups work in tandem to educate the public and preserve Tempe's heritage.

"We are calling our campaign "*Saving the Eisendrath*" says Woody Wilson, Chairman of the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation. "We have been working with the City of Tempe and the Tempe Historic Preservation Commission, and much has been accomplished since 2006, but we still have a long way to go. This event will begin to create the momentum we need to complete the project."

The Eisendrath House will be the cornerstone of the proposed Carl Hayden Campus for Sustainability on the Tempe side of Papago Park, which will include the Sandra Day O'Connor House on the South end, and the Arizona Historical Society Museum in the middle. When the rehabilitation process is completed, the Eisendrath House will provide offices for the City of Tempe's Water Conservation Department. It will also be open to the public as a meeting and special events facility. There are also tentative plans to build a small, intimate outdoor concert venue on the property.

"It will be a beautiful building filled with historical significance for both Tempe and the Valley," Wilson adds. "Five years from now people will be standing in front of the Eisendrath House and know how beautiful this house was when it was built more than 80 years ago."

Reservations for the April 18 event can be made by calling 480.947.3194. Tickets are \$75, which includes an hors d'oeuvres buffet and no-host bar. Visa and Mastercard are accepted. The event is open to the public.

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Eisendrath Information

Eisendrath House

Local architect/master builder Robert Evans designed and built the house of adobe walls and wood vigas in 1930. Rose Eisendrath, the wealthy widow of a Chicago glove manufacturer, commissioned the house, after Valley resorts refused her accommodation due to her Jewish background. The City of Tempe acquired this property in 2003.

Restoration will allow the Eisendrath House to serve the public, not only as a reminder of Tempe's past, but as a touchstone for its future as a sustainable, diverse community. The restored house will honor Carl Hayden, Tempe native, Maricopa County Sheriff, State Legislator, and Arizona's longest-serving U.S. Congressman and Senator.

The Carl Hayden Center for Sustainability

The restored Eisendrath House will offer much-needed classroom and meeting space in a unique setting convenient to Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe and Arizona State University. Civic, educational and neighborhood organizations will be able to hold meetings, classes and other special events at the facility. Functions and features may include:

- Interactive exhibits on water conservation.
- Displays featuring the life of Rose Eisendrath, career of architect/builder Robert Evans and other aspects of the history and restoration of the home and site.
- Offices for the City of Tempe's Water Conservation Program. Citizens and visitors will be able to obtain information on water conservation and other sustainable practices.
- Additional office and program space for sustainable-minded organizations.
- A large meeting/class room with ADA-accessible restrooms and a catering kitchen, as well as a smaller conference room, the east-facing terrace and the semi-enclosed courtyard.
- The remainder of the site will be maintained in its indigenous Sonoran Desert state, with trails connecting a nature walk, picnic grotto, and the Tempe Womans Club Park/xeriscape demonstration garden.