

***Give today to restore historic Kilmer Mansion!***

December 2021

Dear <first name>,

When you walk through the gorgeous, welcoming entrance of Kilmer Mansion, you can sense the balance of past and present. Feel the tranquility that comes with being surrounded by the aura of yesteryear. And experience the joy of taking in the unmatched beauty of old world craftsmanship. The embellished plaster work. Decoratively painted ceilings. Gleaming marble fireplaces.

**Kilmer Mansion is an architectural masterpiece. A landmark. An irreplaceable piece of our history.**

And it needs your help if it is to grace our community for another 123 years. To continue to stand tall in its West Side neighborhood. At the gateway to downtown Binghamton.

**Please, make your gift today of <Ask 1>, <Ask 2>, <Ask 3>, or even more... Because without you, the critical work needed cannot be done!**

The main structure of the Mansion is safe and sound (thank goodness!). But the same can't be said of the porches and terraces. The deterioration of these once stunning structures threatens the entire Mansion.

These outdoor spaces used to be alive with celebrations. Dancing. Music. Joy. Now they are closed off. Unusable. And disintegrating more and more with every passing season.

The time is now -- your generous support and caring can stop Kilmer Mansion's porches and terraces from continuing to crumble. From disintegrating until they fall down completely. And cause damage to the interior of the Mansion.

**Your kind donation of <Ask 1>, <Ask 2>, <Ask 3>, or even more, will make all the difference!**

The Mansion is not only a piece of our history. It is as alive today as it was in the Kilmers' time.

It is a vibrant venue for performances and special events. Our Summer Concert Series saw the Mansion garden filled with happy people enjoying exciting music from local bands. And as the weather turns cold, the music will play on. There will be a Music in the Kilmer Mansion chamber concert. A performance by musicians from the Binghamton Philharmonic. And a concert featuring four female-fronted local bands performing original music.

Since July, delighted guests have explored a wide array of local artwork during First Friday Art Walks, and as part of the Broome Art Trail. First Friday events are ongoing and not to be missed.

Tours and other engaging experiences continue to bring to life stories of the Kilmer family. And their many domestic, factory, stable, and newspaper workers. The people who made their opulent lifestyle possible.

Your kind donation today will keep art, music, and history alive at Kilmer Mansion!

**The Mansion needs you now more than ever.** Our construction contract requires that the restoration work be completed by the end of 2023. It will take another \$325,000 to make that work a reality. And that amount will rise if there aren't enough funds to get the work done on time.

Critical repairs must be completed before there is even more catastrophic damage. And before costs rise even higher!

**So please, send your gift today of <Ask 1>, <Ask 2>, <Ask 3>, or even more!**

Because when you look out the graceful curved windows of the grand parlor, you see the gaping hole where the north terrace deck collapsed. And you can't walk through the French doors that frame the Italian marble fireplace to enjoy the east porch. Or walk down the tile-covered steps of the south terrace to relish the beautiful gardens.

**With every dollar you give, you are rebuilding the porches, stone by stone. You are restoring the collapsed terrace. You are bringing back beauty. And keeping the Mansion safe for everyone to enjoy.**

Our neighborhoods have lost too many special places through neglect and demolition. As these places disappear, pieces of our history and identity are destroyed along with them.

Who can we rely on to make sure that the irreplaceable Kilmer Mansion is not the next to disappear? To make sure that it continues to grow instead, as a lively venue for performances and special events?

**Who is irreplaceable when it comes to the Mansion's future?**

***You are.***

<first name>, **your donation of <Ask 1>, <Ask 2>, <Ask 3>, or even more** will bring us closer to the day when, together, we can restore the entire Mansion to its former glory. We care too much to let history crumble. Your donation will keep history strong in our community!

The irreplaceable Kilmer Mansion is woven into the very fabric of our community.

As a National Historic Place, Kilmer Mansion transcends its identity as a house in a neighborhood. It's a national treasure. And it benefits the entire community by contributing to its beauty and improving its quality of life. The Mansion is a unique example of late 19th century architectural styles. And it's no idle claim to suggest that it's irreplaceable.

But the Mansion is also more than a building. It's a most special place where people come to connect with days gone by. Where they come together to

bask in a present filled with laughter and music and learning and joy. Where a bright future can unfold for generations to come.

And your gift is key to that future. You, too, are irreplaceable.

Now is the time to rebuild the porches and terraces. To protect the lovely silhouette of this landmark. To keep the entire Mansion safe.

***If you believe that Kilmer Mansion is an irreplaceable historic treasure. A vital venue for music, art, and learning. Please, make your most generous gift today!***

Grab a pen, write out your check, and send it back today, along with the enclosed form, in the envelope provided.

Or you can make your gift online right now at  
<https://donorswhocare.org/jonas-kilmer-mansion-fund/>

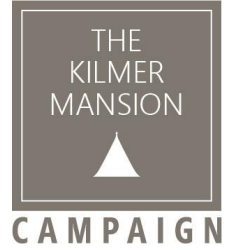
Have questions or want to chat a bit before making your donation? Call me anytime at (607)725-6172.

Thank you for caring about your community. And for saving history by ensuring the future of the irreplaceable Kilmer Mansion!

Warmly,

Lisa Blackwell  
Chair, Campaign for the Restoration and Preservation of Kilmer Mansion

**P.S. During this season of joy and generosity, please make your most generous gift of <ask 1>, <ask 2>, <ask 3>, or even more no later than December 31st. Because it's your kind donation that will save the irreplaceable Kilmer Mansion for generations to come!**



**Yes, I will make my gift today because every dollar donated will help save the irreplaceable Kilmer Mansion for generations to come!**

I'm giving a gift of:

- \_\_\_\_\_ **<ask 1>**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **<ask 2>**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **<ask 3>**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **My choice**

*Please make checks payable to the Community Foundation for South Central New York and note Kilmer Mansion Fund in the memo.*

- Please recognize this gift as given by \_\_\_\_\_
- Please keep this gift anonymous

**This gift is in honor/memory (please circle one) of:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send an acknowledgement of this tribute gift to:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(<First Name> <Last Name>)