



# DOORS OPEN BUFFALO

Presented by:  **Ciminelli**  
REAL ESTATE CORPORATION

## 2024 EVENT REPORT



**SEPTEMBER 28**

**34 DOWNTOWN  
LOCATIONS**



**5,369**

**REGISTERED**



**15,875**

**SITE VISITS**



**244**

**VOLUNTEERS**



Explore Buffalo's signature annual event, Doors Open Buffalo, inspires greater appreciation for Buffalo's unique history and architecture through a day of free public access to several landmarks and historic sites.

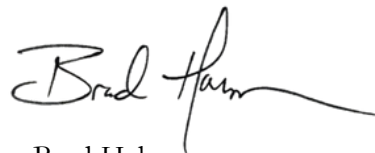
## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Doors Open Buffalo has become a truly special event on our city's calendar. It is a day that many look forward to as a unique opportunity to explore the extraordinary architecture, history, and culture of our city. Each year, we welcome returning visitors alongside many who are first time Doors Open explorers. Buffalo has so much incredible architecture to celebrate, and we are thrilled to see thousands of people come each year to be part of Doors Open Buffalo.

Doors Open Buffalo 2024 was the fifth Doors Open event hosted by Explore Buffalo, and each year we strive to make Doors Open even better than the year before. With the leadership support of **Ciminelli Real Estate** as our Presenting Sponsor, we increased the visibility of Doors Open Buffalo across our community. Doors Open Buffalo is one building block that helps increase the vibrancy of downtown Buffalo, and we were excited to see 52% of this year's Doors Open visitors were experiencing Doors Open and Explore Buffalo for the first time - and that 83% of visitors said Doors Open made them more likely to visit downtown again soon.

We couldn't do Doors Open Buffalo without the support of our entire community: the management and ownership of this year's 34 participating buildings, our sponsors, our planning committee, the volunteer building coordinators at every location, hundreds of volunteers, and many community partners. Each year we work with community partners to make Doors Open Buffalo as inclusive and accessible as possible for our entire community: this year, we added the Quiet Hour for the first time; expanded the Family Friendly Trail thanks to support from **C-SAAHN**; and worked to welcome Buffalo's international community with support from the Golden Goldman Philanthropic Fund. I'm especially grateful to the Explore Buffalo staff and planning committee who have been hard at work planning and preparing for Doors Open since January 2024.

**Thank you for supporting Doors Open Buffalo 2024, and I look forward to seeing you at Doors Open Buffalo 2025!**



Brad Hahn  
*Executive Director*

### Social media comments:

"...I'm glad I am not the only one who shares that sentiment as there were tons of people also taking advantage of the 'Open Doors' in the city. It was such an awesome treat to be allowed access to these typically restricted buildings. Thank you to all the organizers, volunteers, and to Explore Buffalo!..Even after living here for the better part of the last 38 years, I find myself falling more and more in love with this area every day. From the grand architecture, the deep-rooted history, breathtaking nature, and the people, this place is pretty special..."

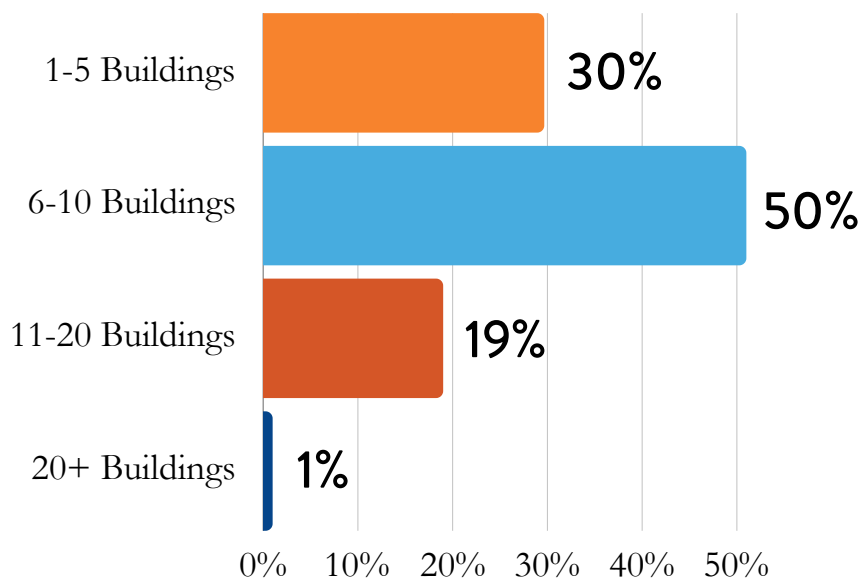
"Best event of the year. Always look forward to it"

"Awesome event! My 8 year old granddaughter loved it and had so many wonderful experiences!"

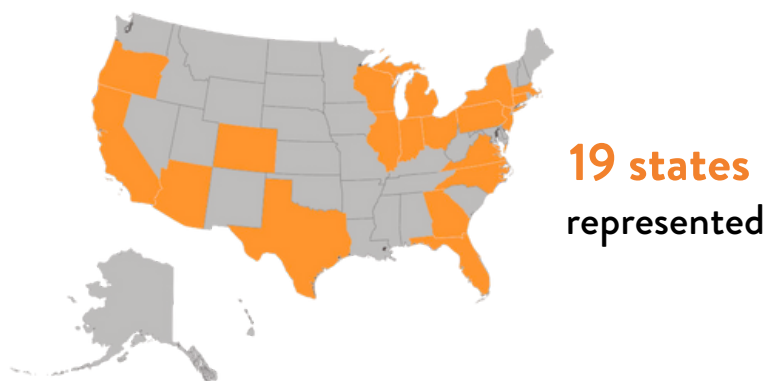
"We had a great day walking around and admiring the beautiful architecture in our city. We're looking forward to next year!"

# EVENT SURVEY RESULTS:

## Buildings Visited:



## VISITOR DATA:



## Top Zip Codes Represented:

14221	14075	14086
14224	14150	14216

## Survey Feedback:

“Very organized and easy to navigate. Volunteers were friendly and helpful.”

“I think the event was very good and also introduced me to several places that I had not been familiar with. Thank you!!”

“Loved the family friendly stops and activities. We planned to spend 1-2 hours max and had so much fun that by the time we looked at the time it had been 3.5hrs!!”

“It is a wonderful, well organized event. Can not think of one thing to improve it.”

“As a seasoned and veteran EB pass member, it seems like a lot of folks come out to explore their city (maybe for the first time) and that is great! It's great to see them out and about...and the EB volunteers are fantastic as always!”

“The event is extremely well organized. I'm very surprised that an organization can take the initiative and carry out a successful event on such a big scale.”

“It was nice to see more places to eat and drink. The brochure we picked up was very well done and easy to follow.”

“I can't believe how great a job the group did. All volunteers. Amazing.”

“YOU ARE SO AWESOME!!!! Keep up your energetic and enthusiastic work and stay safe!!!”

“We felt the day was very well organized, great signage, received last minute changes, which was very helpful and every volunteer was awesome!”

“I love this event. It is a great opportunity to see places in Buffalo that you couldn't see otherwise.”



**9,134 (4.3 miles)**

average number of steps taken by each visitor



**56% of visitors**

visited a Downtown restaurant or café



**\$19**

average spending Downtown per person



**\$47,000**

estimated total spending by visitors throughout the event



**79% of visitors**

felt Doors Open positively effected how they perceive Buffalo



**83% of visitors**

are more likely to visit downtown Buffalo again in the near future



**54% of visitors**

are more likely to take an Explore Buffalo tour in the near future

## TOP BUILDINGS VISITED:





# QUIET HOUR:

Quiet Hour was a new addition to Doors Open Buffalo 2024. The event had a designated Quiet Hour from 9 am - 10 am (the hour before the event began) for visitors with sensory needs. Four downtown locations were open during Quiet Hour: 50 Fountain Plaza, the Central Library, M&T's Gold Dome Branch at Fountain Plaza, and WNY Book Arts Center.

**101**  
**QUIET HOUR**  
**REGISTRANTS**



# FAMILY -FRIENDLY TRAIL:

**359**  
**KIDS**  
**REGISTERED**



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

With the support of the **Golden Goldman Philanthropic Fund**, Explore Buffalo worked with **Journey's End Refugee Services** to share the Doors Open Buffalo event with Buffalo's international community. Journey's End translated Doors Open Buffalo flyers into seven different languages and offered to provide interpreters during the event upon request.

## Doors Open Buffalo flyers were translated into:

Arabic

Bengali

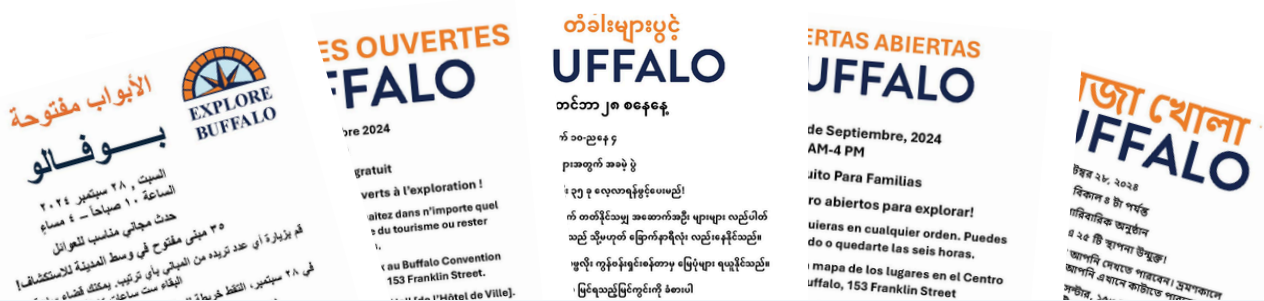
Burmese

Farsi

French

Spanish

Ukrainian





# 2024 PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS

- 500 Pearl (Ellicott Development)
- Alleyway Theater
- Big Ditch Brewing Company
- The Brisbane Building (Hunt Real Estate)
- Buffalo City Hall
- Buffalo Convention Center (Doors Open Hub)
- Buffalo Harbor Museum
- Buffalo Presidential Center
- Buffalo School of Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management
- The Central Library
- Ciminelli Real Estate Corporate HQ (50 Fountain Plaza)
- Ellicott Square Building (Ellicott Development)
- Five Points Framing
- Guaranty Building (Hodgson Russ LLP)
- Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center
- Hotel at the Lafayette
- Lafayette Court Building (Ciminelli Real Estate)
- M&T Bank's Goldome Branch at Fountain Plaza
- The Marin Building (Priam Enterprises, LLC)
- Market Arcade (Preservation Buffalo Niagara)
- Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor Headquarters
- Michigan Street Baptist Church
- Nash House Museum
- One M&T Plaza
- Road Less Traveled Theater
- Seneca One
- The Sinclair
- Starlight Studio
- St. Anthony of Padua Church
- St. Paul's Cathedral
- Statler Buffalo
- Trinity Episcopal Church
- WUFO Black Radio Collective
- Western New York Book Arts Center



# 2024 EVENT TEAM & SUPPORTERS

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS: **244**

## PLANNING COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Colucci & Patrick Kaler, 2024 Doors Open Buffalo Event Chairs

Megan Benzinger, Bonnie Blatner, Suzanne Ernst, Laura Fitzgerald, Brad Hahn, Duncan Hemink, Trish Kenyon, Gerri Kozlowski, Scott Nourse, MacKenzie Tierney

## EXPLORE BUFFALO STAFF

Brad Hahn, Executive Director

Suzanne Ernst Program Director

Susan Reeder, Development Coordinator

Megan Benzinger, Marketing & Communications Coordinator

Lori DeMaria, School Tour Coordinator/ Program Assistant

Sabrina Wroblewski, Marketing & Administration

Kate Ronan, Administration

## 2024 EVENT SPONSORS:

Presenting Sponsor:



The Margaret L.  
Wendt Foundation

GOLDEN GOLDMAN  
PHILANTHROPIC FUND



Family Trail Sponsor:



Media Sponsors:



THE BUFFALO NEWS

Additional Support:



Council on  
the Arts

