

Alumni News

Standing Ovation for 2013 Alum



Heather Malarcik

Class of 2013 Leadership Alum Heather Malarcik received a standing ovation when honored as "Main Street Manager of the Year" during the Heritage Ohio Annual Conference in Cincinnati last month. Heather has been leading the Main Street Kent organization, a non-profit that focuses on the revitalization of downtown Kent, for nearly five years. The Heritage Ohio award recognizes outstanding contributions by downtown revitalization and preservation professionals.

An excerpt from her nomination reads, "Heather is certainly fortunate to have community-oriented business leaders and residents on her board, but she maximizes that benefit by leading her organization in such a professional and efficient manner. Because of how she inspires and motivates, Main Street Kent has an engaged and active board, which is exactly what Heritage Ohio calls one of the most important keys to success for any Main Street program. Heather's vision, enthusiasm, and love for Kent are demonstrated every day."

"This is the most rewarding position I have held in my career," said Malarcik. "I see the fruits of my labor every day as I look around downtown Kent and am able to help our small businesses thrive. We're making things happen at Main Street Kent and that's the key to sustaining and continuing the great work that has been done by so many people and organizations in this town. We have an excellent Board of Directors and volunteers on our committees. I couldn't do it without them. It's not really *me*; I'm just steering the boat! "

In addition to being a graduate of Leadership Portage County, Heather is a member of the Rotary Club of Kent, an "exhausted rooster" of the Kent Jaycees, and an active member of the Kent Community TimeBank. She has two teenage children and a fantastic husband, all who are supportive of her passion for her work. To learn more about Main Street Kent, or to find out what's happening downtown, please visit www.mainstreetkent.org