



THE WHITE HOUSE
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Statement by The White House Historical Association on October 27, 2025

(Washington, D.C.) – Saturday night, October 25, *The Wall Street Journal* posted an online story by Annie Linskey, Will Parker, and John Dawsey titled “How Trump Barreled Through D.C.’s Bureaucracy to Get His White House Ballroom.” That story contained four factual or misleading statements about the White House Historical Association. We contacted the reporters and gave them the accurate information and expressed our great concern about the inaccuracies. Here are the four inaccuracies and our position in response:

1. *The Wall Street Journal* stated that the White House Historical Association has participated in weekly meetings with the president in the Oval Office about the design and construction of the ballroom. This is not accurate. *The Wall Street Journal* has corrected this error.
2. *The Wall Street Journal* reported that since January, the president has contributed \$50 million to the Association. That is not true; however, we are most grateful to the President for the generous contribution of a portion of his salary, totaling \$66,000 since January, to the work of the Association. *The Wall Street Journal* has corrected that error.
3. *The Wall Street Journal* misquoted the Association’s mission as saying it is to “protect, preserve, and provide public access” to the Executive Mansion, seemingly implying we preserve the physical building itself. That is the role of the General Services Administration, the National Park Service, and the Committee for the Preservation of the White House.

The Wall Street Journal omitted very important words in our mission statement. The correct mission statement, which is available to see on our website, is: “The White House Historical Association is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1961 by First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy with a mission to protect, preserve, and provide public access to the rich history of America’s Executive Mansion.” It is that history that we are very proud to have protected, preserved, and provided access to through our care for the White House Collection, and our educational work of programs, publications, and *The People’s House: A White House Experience*. We also advocate for historic access to the White House through public tours and events.

4. *The Wall Street Journal* cites an unnamed source that the Association “didn’t want to speak out because they were concerned about criticizing Trump.” The Association denies that assertion, having put out two statements in the past week on the Association’s perspective on the White House project, and stands ready to continue to fulfill its mission to protect and preserve the rich history of the White House in the days ahead.

The White House Historical Association has respectfully requested that *The Wall Street Journal* make corrections to their reporting on the above elements if they have not already done so.