PRESS RELEASE

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Barn of the Year Committee

Michigan Barn Preservation Network

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**MICHIGAN BARN PRESERVATION NETWORK**

**Request for Submissions for 2025 Barn of the Year**

The Michigan Barn Preservation Network (MBPN) is requesting submissions for their 2025 Michigan Barn of the Year Awards, which are presented annually to honor barn owners who have made the extra effort to maintain or restore historic barns.

This is the 29th year the Network has presented “Barn of the Year” Awards. Over that time period, 110 barns from across Michigan have been recognized for their unique qualities and/or preservation efforts.

The Barn of the Year Program annually honors existing Michigan barns that support the ongoing mission to preserve our agricultural heritage exemplified by its barns. Nominated barns must be in-use, either for continued agricultural use or adapted for other uses. Barns must retain their overall appearance-both in their interior and exterior barn characteristics. Nominations are open to the public, reviewed and determined by MBPN Awards Committee members.

The categories in which awards are presented are for barns or farmsteads in use for:

* Continuing Agricultural Use
	+ Family/Private, Non-Profit or Commercial
* Adapted to Other Uses
	+ Family/Private, Non-Profit or Commercial

Barns will be judged for (1) completeness of information presented in the application, (2) sensitivity and integrity of repairs or modifications, (3) visual appeal, (4) creativity, (5) thoroughness of work and (6) effort expended to repair and maintain.

Four items are required for the submission:

* A completed one-page application form
* A written narrative of the barn’s history and restoration efforts
* Photographs
* A completed Michigan Barn & Farmstead Inventory

Applications may be reviewed and printed from our website mibarn.net. Completed applications must be postmarked or emailed by January 31, 2025.

For photos and stories of barns previously recognized as Barn of the Year, visit our website mibarn.net.

**The Michigan Barn Preservation Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, appreciation, preservation and rehabilitation of Michigan barns, farmsteads and rural communities.**