

Established in 1994, this award was named in honor of former First Lady Lucybeth Rampton, a founding member of Utah Heritage Foundation and lifelong advocate for preserving Utah's architectural heritage. The Lucybeth Rampton Award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated a lifetime commitment to historic preservation and whose vision and activities have significantly contributed to the preservation movement. It is the highest honor bestowed by the foundation. Dr. Douglas D. Alder is most deserving of this recognition.

Dr. Alder is the voice of preservation in southern Utah. His vision, leadership, and influence have been critical in the success of numerous preservation projects and in raising community awareness of the value of heritage.

Dr. Alder moved to St. George in 1986 to serve as president of Dixie College after teaching European History for 23 years at Utah State University. His respected position as a college president made him an effective preservation advocate able to open doors and build partnerships in the St. George community. His boundless energy, optimism, and willingness to take action inspire others to join him in preserving local heritage.

Dr. Alder became president of the Washington County Historical Society in 1996. During his two-year term, the membership and influence of the organization grew dramatically. At the same time, Dr. Alder created and organized "St. George Live." This ongoing program of first person historical re-enactments at ten historic sites draws on the talents of over 175 volunteers to share the history of St. George with visitors and school children everyday each summer. Dr. Alder also researched and wrote, along with Dr. Karl Brooks, the official Washington County history for Utah's Centennial.

Dr. Alder was a founding member of the Grafton Heritage Partnership. His political expertise helped bring state and federal funds to the successful effort to preserve Grafton and its surrounding environment. He has also served on various preservation-oriented committees in St. George, including the Pioneer Center for the Arts Steering Committee and the Downtown Redevelopment Advisory Board.

Dr. Alder sees -- and loves -- history as a whole. His activities as a preservationist, a local historian, and a history professor have helped create a climate supportive of preserving local heritage southern Utah. His gentle but firm ability to get things done has made Dr. Alder an invaluable asset to Utah's preservation movement.