SHAKER HEIGHTS

A Closer Look
Welcome!

It is my great pleasure to introduce you to Shaker Heights, the beautiful city I have called home for 35 years and which I now proudly serve as Mayor.

Take a few minutes to tour Shaker on the following pages and I think you’ll understand why it enjoys a national reputation for excellence. Exceptional, architecturally significant homes that consistently achieve top appreciation rates, combined with lovely lakes and parks, outstanding schools, fine city services, community-minded residents, a business-friendly environment, and an ideal location create a quality of life second to none.

Shaker Heights is a community with a rich heritage. I invite you to explore its many treasures and discover the reasons why Shaker could be a wonderful place for you to call home!

Earl M. Leiken
Mayor, The City of Shaker Heights
“I was still an architecture student when I saw Shaker for the first time. I knew then, I wanted to live here. Every street has its own personality and architectural style. After 20 years, I am still discovering Shaker’s homes.”
The details will charm you. Leaded glass windows and elaborate stone facades...steep roofs and ornamented chimneys...Tudor timbering and French dormers...pillar doorways and copper downspouts...

Shaker’s architectural richness is a feast for the eye. From the modest to the mansion, homes of English, French and Colonial influence, designed by Cleveland’s premier architects, testify to the inspired vision of “Shaker Village” developers Oris P. and Mantis J. Van Sweringen.

But the architectural beauty is not confined to homes – Shaker’s civic buildings and schools, churches and libraries also boast splendid design and detailing that make Shaker Heights a living legacy to architectural excellence. And the legacy will endure: three-quarters of the City has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and forty-four properties have earned Local Landmark status.

The ongoing quest to preserve, protect and perpetuate Shaker’s architectural integrity is whole-heartedly supported by City leaders and homeowners alike, who maintain the very highest of standards in home preservation, renovation and maintenance.
The miles of sidewalks will invite you. They lead from house to house and corner to corner, along quiet roads and tree-lined streets to shops, libraries, restaurants, playgrounds, parklands, ball fields and rapid transit stops.

They connect places and they connect people. They provide a place for old and new neighbors to stop for a chat. Backpack-toting youngsters walk them to and from school. They are a safe place for parents to push babies in strollers and playmates to ride their bikes. At night, streetlamps light the way for evening strolls.

Feeling connected is part of Shaker’s small-town charm. So are summertime block parties, the Memorial Day parade and fireworks on the Fourth of July. People new to the area are amazed at the warm welcome they receive from their neighbors, schools and community. Starting over in a new place can be hard, but in Shaker, everyone tries to make the transition easier. Living in Shaker means knowing your neighbors and feeling that you are home.

“Shaker has the kind of neighborhoods where you know everyone and their dogs, with people at every stage of life.”

CAROLYN GARVIN, Recipient
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Human Relations
Carolyn Garvin is a lifelong neighborhood advocate and community volunteer. She has served in many leadership roles in the schools, her neighborhood and the City. Carolyn’s life is a tribute to the spirit of Shaker Heights.
In the summer, we walk to the Farmers Market at Shaker Square; sometimes I walk to work, a lovely way to start the day.”

SARAH DAVIS, Shaker High School graduate and teacher, with husband Richard Price and daughter Madeline
The warmth will welcome you. Those who choose Shaker Heights share something far greater than the desire for a beautiful house or a short commute: they share a deep commitment to providing a special quality of life for their families.

They demand excellence in city services, schools and libraries, and lend their wealth of education and expertise to help maintain that excellence. They take great pride in the appearance of their homes, neighborhoods and public spaces, and support efforts to keep Shaker a community that honors its heritage while pioneering change.

For Shaker’s accomplished residents, dedication and the desire to make a difference extend beyond the City’s limits. Shaker is home to an impressive number of Cleveland’s leaders in business, the arts, finance, medicine, law, the media, philanthropy and education. Residents are actively involved in Greater Cleveland’s cultural affairs and serve on the boards of major institutions. In Shaker, you’re in good company.

“What makes Shaker so special is the people who live here. Shaker’s residents are well educated and have a broad range of interests. They roll up their sleeves and work to make things better. Shaker attracts wonderful people.”

LINDA LALLEY, Past President, Shaker League of Women Voters
JAMES THOMPSON,
Community Activist
A Lieutenant Colonel in the Army for 33 years, James Thompson and his wife raised five children in Shaker. He was a tireless volunteer in the schools and as president of his neighborhood association.

CHRISTIANA JIA, chemist
LIWEI HUANG, business consultant with daughters Karissa and Elizabeth, and mother Wenhua Wang
The sense of community will embrace you. Shaker succeeds where few places do in capturing old-fashioned neighborliness among residents of every age, culture, race and profession. Whether you enjoy walking scenic trails near The Nature Center with friends, coaching youth sports, volunteering in the schools, serving on civic committees, discussing literature at book groups, sizing up stocks with your investment club, performing in a community theater or band or contributing opinions and ideas at public meetings, there’s a spirit of camaraderie that lets you know you’re home.

In a town of twenty-seven thousand, you can’t know everyone, but you know you’d probably like to. And you know that you will be living among people who share your pride in being part of what makes Shaker so special.
"We love to take walks after dinner. So many houses have incredible gardens and I always look forward to what they’re doing each summer.”

DRS. CHARLES and SHERYL MODLIN, enjoying dinner with children Charles, III (Trey), Hannah, Sarah and Meredith

TRINA BOURNE, Principal harp Cleveland Orchestra
The tranquility of Shaker will soothe you. Picturesque lakes, four in all, are nestled within the neighborhoods. They complement well-tended playgrounds and open green spaces to provide a respite from the fast pace of today’s world.

Mature trees line the streets, providing beauty, shade and a canopy of green. Hundreds more are planted each year on neighborhood tree lawns.

“We love being outdoors in Shaker.

The parks and lakes are so beautiful and so accessible. We also enjoy living close to the private schools that our children attend... Shaker is a great place to live.”

DR. LINDA BRADLEY, Obstetrics & Gynecology, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation
DR. RON ADAMS, Internal Medicine, Kaiser Permanente
with Christopher and Kathleen
public grounds and median strips. Shaker residents protect their natural resources and actively support a regional Nature Center identified as a National Environmental Education Landmark. Their deep appreciation for natural beauty is further evident in the exquisite landscaping, lush gardens and manicured lawns that enhance their homes. You will agree that Shaker is a beautiful place to walk, run, bike or play.
The array of housing options will amaze you. Stunning single family homes, from the cozy and charming to the grand and breathtaking, share the same quality of craftsmanship as the two-family homes that blend so gracefully into the neighborhoods.

Shaker’s approximately 1,000 two-family homes offer many of the advantages of living in a house without the commitment of buying. Enjoy ample living space, a yard and garage, and live in a wonderful neighborhood setting, complete with sidewalks and friendly neighbors! What’s more, many two-family suites feature architectural details such as vaulted ceilings, wood-burning fireplaces, hardwood floors and leaded glass windows.

KEVIN AND SANDRA MADISON, both Architects with Robert P. Madison International, Inc., find the wide range of architectural styles and floor plans in Shaker to be truly unique in the marketplace. Kevin Madison, Citizen Member, City Planning Commission Sandra Madison, Chair, Architectural Board of Review

“**When our children left home, we were ready to try something new. We wanted to live in a neighborhood and be a short walk from shops, restaurants, and the rapid transit. The Shaker Glen condominiums are perfect.**”

DIANE HARTT, Community Relations Coordinator, Hospice of the Western Reserve DAVID HARTT, President, D.B. Harrrt, Inc., Planning and Development Consultants; Citizen member, City Planning Commission.
“There are special things about Shaker not easily replicated elsewhere. We have great public schools, a sense of neighborhood, and uniquely integrated, diverse life experiences. Shaker Heights is an easy place to get involved and engaged.”

ROBYN MINTER SMYERS, Shaker High graduate, community activist, Partner at Thompson Hine, with daughters Charlotte and Shannon
Just as impressive are Shaker’s stately apartment buildings. Many feature wood-burning fireplaces, hardwood floors, rooftop gardens, beautifully manicured grounds, clubrooms and other luxuries, which ensure comfortable and pleasurable living. Most are ideally located along the rapid transit line.

Working closely with landlords, the City grants Certified Shaker status to rental properties that meet the highest quality standards. Pictures, descriptions and contact information for these properties are available on the City’s website.

Shaker also offers state of the art condominium living. Find everything from grand, historically significant buildings with soaring two-story windows and crown moldings, to new cluster homes, townhouses and lofts, all with superior quality construction and exquisite exteriors. Many boast special amenities such as first floor master suites and optional elevators. Whether you choose to rent or buy, there’s a home and style of living to suit you.
“It was a lifelong dream of ours to live here. Every house in Shaker is unique, and ours is everything we wanted. Even when I registered the girls for kindergarten, I felt so proud.”

DR. SUMITA KHATRI, Associate Director, Asthma Program, MetroHealth; Asst. Professor Case Western Reserve University; Citizen member, Human Relations Commission.

DR. JAI KHATRI, Cardiovascular Medicine Associates, Southwest General Hospital with children Leela, Sonali, Seema, Samir, and parents Jay and Pam.
“I was thrilled to get a job with Shaker because it’s absolutely the best place to be a teacher. The kids are so strong in so many different areas and the schools have a great curriculum. I definitely had a leg up on my contemporaries when I went off to college.”

SARAH DAVIS, Shaker High graduate and teacher
The educational opportunities will impress you. The Shaker Heights schools are phasing in an International Baccalaureate (IB) program. A rigorous curriculum with a global perspective, IB connects traditional disciplines and adds a global focus. It supports 21st century skills and positive behaviors, emphasizes community service, hands-on projects and inquiry-based learning. IB provides enrichment for students grades K-8 and includes an elective diploma program at the high school level. It complements a system already providing a sound preparation for higher education, the world of work and citizenship in a global society.

With a wide array of electives, foreign exchanges with schools in four nations, and the largest selection of college-level Advanced Placement courses in the area, Shaker offers intellectual challenges to accommodate every student’s interests and ambitions.

As we say in Shaker Heights: A community is known by the schools it keeps.

- Shaker Heights High School is consistently among Ohio’s top schools, public and private, in the number of National Merit and National Achievement Scholars it produces.
- The fine and performing arts flourish in the Shaker Heights schools, earning award after award for both individual artists and groups – including national designation as a Grammy Signature School for excellence in music.
- Superlative co-curricular programs – ranging from academic clubs to community service organizations to interscholastic sports – are designed to complement, rather than compete with, academic work.

For more information about the Shaker Heights schools, visit www.shaker.org.
The convenience will convince you. When you live in Shaker, the world is at your doorstep. Live here and you are just minutes from the sophisticated shops and restaurants of Shaker Square, the educational, medical and cultural treasures of University Circle...a few miles from downtown Cleveland’s Public Square...an easy drive to Lake Erie beaches...and within easy reach of the area’s highways.

And only in Shaker do you have two rapid transit lines to speed you to Cleveland’s Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, The Great Lakes Science Center, Progressive Field, Quicken Loans Arena, the Browns Stadium and Cleveland Hopkins International Airport.

When Shaker is your home, a trip to the market becomes time for a catch-up chat with neighbors and friends. Restaurants and shops are perfectly situated — many within easy walking distance. Local merchants are often neighbors themselves, or independent business owners with deep roots in the community.

“I loved growing up in Shaker so much that when it was time to buy my first house, I convinced my husband this was the place to be. Shaker is a special place with affordable, beautiful homes, and wonderful schools. Plus I can work right in my house.”

JEN SKIRBALL AMATO and DAN AMATO, Artists
“The new housing and shopping center improvements just two blocks away stand to increase the value of our property... it’s in my best interest to move into the new space. The long-term position we’re taking is that we’re going to be here forever.”

RON LLOYD, Owner
RDL Architects
Shop and dine in the nearby Larchmere Arts and Antiques District and enjoy a neighborhood steeped in old-fashioned charm. Built in the 1920s, it is lush with one-of-a-kind restaurants and stores brimming with the unusual and hard to find.

One of the nation’s first planned cities, Shaker has developed a strategic plan to take it into the future...a plan which is already attracting a new and exciting mix of retail and housing. It is also home to many resident-entrepreneurs who establish Shaker as a base of operations for at-home businesses or to open offices in nearby commercial buildings within easy walking distance. Shaker is a wonderful place...to live, work and enjoy life.

More good things to know about Shaker Heights:

**Size:** 6.5 square miles  
**Population:** 27,000  
**Founded:** 1912, as Shaker Village; incorporated in 1935

"After searching extensively on the east and west sides of Cleveland, I bought a new town home in Shaker Heights. I enjoy modern amenities while living in a beautiful, historic community **convenient to work**, near the museums, parks, lakes, theaters, sports venues, and all that Cleveland has to offer."

TOM ZENTY, President and CEO, University Hospitals Health System
Shaker Heights is within close proximity to the following Greater Cleveland areas of interest:

**Shaker Square**
- Restaurants/Bistros
- Movie Theatre
- Rapid Transit Station

**Coventry**
- Shops
- Art Galleries
- Restaurants

**Lakefront**
- Browns Stadium
- Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum
- Great Lakes Science Center

**University Circle Area**
- Art, Natural History, and Historical Museums
- Music and Art Institutes
- Case Western Reserve University
- University Hospitals

**Downtown Cleveland**
- Public Square
- Playhouse Square
- East 4th Street District
- Warehouse District
- Progressive Field and Quicken Loans Arena

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Recreation:
Indoor ice rink at Thornton Park
1 outdoor, 2 indoor swimming pools
18 tennis courts
Multipurpose playing fields
17 playgrounds and parks, including historic
  Horseshoe Lake Park with natural play areas,
  playground, treehouse, and picnic shelters
Paved multipurpose paths
Year-round leisure-time classes

Additional Amenities:
Community Colonnade
The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes
Play and Learn Center
Rapid Transit access
Shaker Family Center
Shaker Historical Museum
Shaker Lakes

Schools:
Shaker Heights Public Schools
Three independent schools
One parochial school
12+ nursery and preschool programs

Libraries:
Shaker Heights Public Library and
Bertram Woods Branch

Shop in Shaker
at any of these locations:
Fairmount Circle
Larchmere Arts & Antiques District
Shaker Plaza
Shaker Town Center
Van Aken Plaza
Warrensville/Almar shops

For more information or a complimentary tour of Shaker Heights, call 216.491.1332 or e-mail us at communications@shakeraline.com.

Visit us at shakeraline.com/about