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Imre Halasz Trust makes significant gift to the BSA Foundation

The [BSA Foundation](#) (Foundation) is pleased to announce that it has received a significant donation from the [Imre Halasz Trust](#), which was established by the late Imre Halasz to support architects, the study of architecture, urban design, and the interaction and intersection of them with the public. The mission of the Imre Halasz Trust is well-aligned with the Foundation's commitment to engaging the public in appreciating design excellence and helping solve our communities' challenges through design.

In 2017, the Foundation announced three strategic goals: ensuring access to design education for every child in Boston; providing access to design resources for every neighborhood in Boston; effecting changes in policies that result in socially and environmentally excellent design for everyone in Greater Boston.

"Gifts of this magnitude can bring the Foundation's work to a new level of civic impact by increasing our capacity to provide direct service to individuals and communities throughout Greater Boston," said 2017 Foundation chair, Laura Wernick FAIA. *"We're grateful for the generosity and vision of the Imre Halasz Trust."*

Mr. Halasz, a world-renowned architect, urban planner and Professor Emeritus in the Department of Architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), died on July 3, 2003. While at MIT, he established an architectural office in Boston with his brother Anthony, working nationally and internationally on a variety of award-winning architectural and urban design projects. Concurrent with his teaching and practice, he was also involved with projects related to scholarly research in architecture and urban planning and design, and other areas of interest including architectural history, landscape architecture, fine art, art history, furniture and industrial design, philosophy, and literature.

Born and educated in Budapest, he studied at the College of Fine and Applied Art and the Technical University. Upon completion of postgraduate work at the Academie des Beaux-Arts in Paris and the University of Leiden in Holland, Halasz taught architecture at the Polytechnic University of Budapest until 1956. He came to the United States in 1957, joining the faculty of the School of Architecture and Planning at MIT, where he taught for over forty years. He also taught and advised in Chile, Peru, and Brazil and was a visiting professor at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design from 1966-68. Upon retirement from his position as a full-time professor at MIT, he continued as a senior lecturer until his death.

In 2002 the Hungarian Art Museum of Budapest and the Hungarian Foundation for the Advancement of Architecture published a comprehensive book on the works of Anthony and Imre Halasz Architects, Inc., highlighting the brothers' design accomplishments. *The Hungarian Monograph Series* acknowledges the achievements of notable expatriate Hungarian architects.

In 2000, Halasz, a longtime member of the Boston Society of Architects/AIA, the American Institute of Architects, and the Architectural Association in London, was awarded a Golden Diploma from the Technical University of Budapest, and in 2002 was elected a Fellow of the College of the American Institute of Architects. MIT annually awards a prize in Mr. Halasz's name for the most outstanding Master of Architecture thesis.

The Imre Halasz Trust has offered financial support for working architects to advance their professional interests through scholarly research and related projects. The MIT Museum, with support from the Imre Halasz Trust, has established a permanent collection of professional, academic and personal files, drawings, slides, and photographs archiving Mr. Halasz's works and provides public access via the Institute's on-line collections database at:

<https://webmuseum.mit.edu/results.php?module=objects&type=browse&id=9&term=Imre+Halasz+Collection&page=1>

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About the BSA Foundation

The mission of the BSA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity, is to build a better Boston by engaging communities, inspiring vision, and provoking positive change. The Foundation's vision is that by 2030 Boston is a model of a resilient, equitable, and architecturally vibrant city and region. Foundation activities seek to enhance public understanding of the built environment and the processes that shape it, and empower citizens to be active advocates for change in their built environments. The BSA Foundation was established by Boston Society of Architects/AIA in 1971 as the public service sister organization to the BSA. Since 2015 the BSA Foundation has served over 85,000 people. For more information, visit architects.org/foundation.