

## Tyree Guyton's Heidelberg Project through the years

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Visitors check out the Heidelberg Project in Detroit on Aug. 14, 2016. Tyree Guyton is reportedly planning to dismantle his project over the next two years.

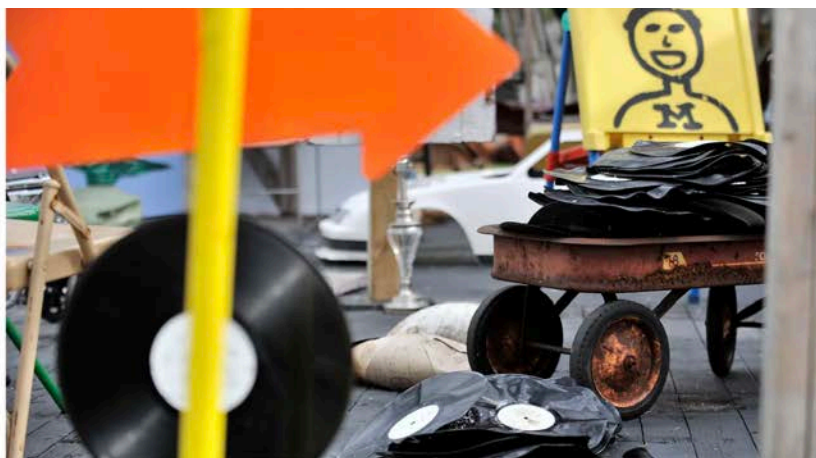
Robin Buckson, The Detroit News

# MARTOS GALLERY



Cassandra Dickerson of Memphis, Tenn. walks through the Heidelberg Project with, behind her, her granddaughter, Brittany Simmons, right, of Ann Arbor, and Aaron Baker, left, of Detroit.

[Robin Buckson, Detroit News](#)



Some of the melted records, presumably from one of the fires that took place, now part of the installation at the Heidelberg Project.

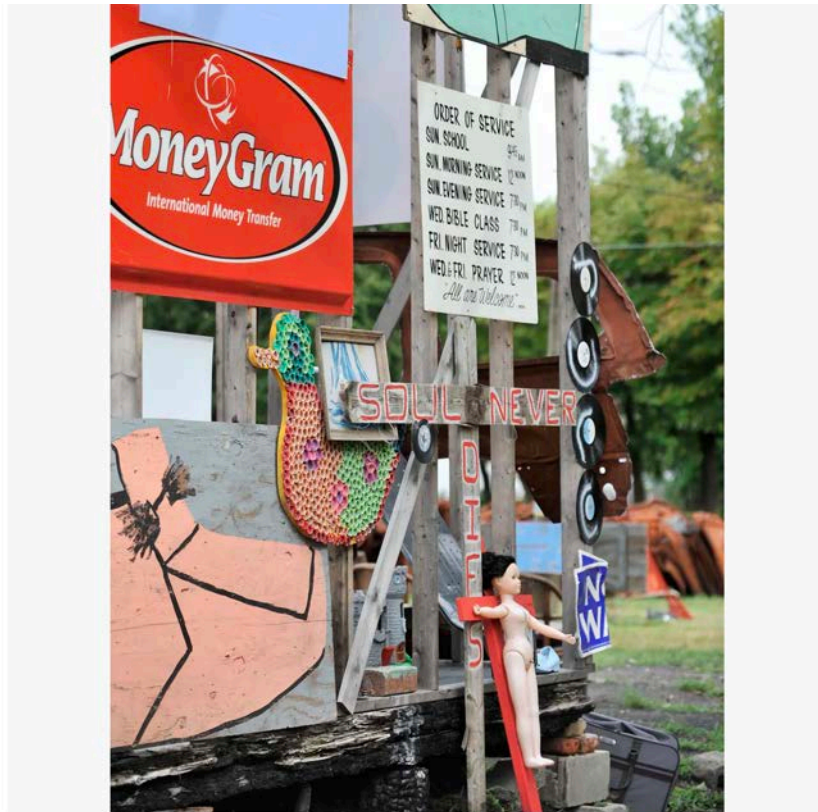
[Robin Buckson, Detroit News](#)



Steve and Diane Budaj of West Bloomfield take their own photo using the self timer on their camera during their first visit to the Heidelberg Project.

[Robin Buckson, The Detroit News](#)

# MARTOS GALLERY



Signs, dolls and records make up part of the installation at the Heidelberg Project.

Robin Buckson, Detroit News

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People walk through and look at the Heidelberg Project.

Robin Buckson, The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



Some of the many dolls, furniture and toys installed at the Heidelberg Project.

Robin Buckson, The Detroit News

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Part of the Heidelberg Project in Detroit.

Robin Buckson, The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



Visitors walk through the many installations at the Heidelberg Project.

Robin Buckson, The Detroit News

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A visitor walks through installations at the Heidelberg Project.

Robin Buckson, The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



Eight blighted Detroit houses that artist Tyree Guyton transformed into art pieces known as the Heidelberg Project have been ravaged by intentional fires, according to investigators, gaining worldwide media attention.

Elizabeth Conley, The Detroit News

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Tyree Guyton, 59, has been working on his neighborhood full of found object sculptures and paintings since 1986. He grew up on the main block of the project on Heidelberg Street and began making art with his grandfather, Sam Mackey, who also was an artist. Guyton, photographed Oct. 5, 2014, has been rebuilding after a string of arson fires destroyed much of his work.

Donna Terek / The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



A screen capture shows an arson suspect, far right, caught on video as the Taxi House is set on fire on Nov. 23, 2014. Arson officials admit they are not close to an arrest. If anything, the Heidelberg cases show how tough arson is to solve.

[Handout Image](#)



Tyree Guyton puts finishing touches on a piece from his Faces of God series. Guyton has painted faces on car hoods throughout his career, but these particular hoods are meaningful to him because they were stored inside one of the houses that burned in a string of 10 arson fires at the Heidelberg Project. The hoods are charred and rusted from the water used to douse the flames.

[Donna Terek / The Detroit News](#)

# MARTOS GALLERY



Guyton puts finishing touches on a piece from his "Faces of God" series.

Donna Terek / The Detroit News

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In a recent interview, Guyton said he began the Heidelberg Project in 1986 after an "epiphany from God." ... "I took the street, Heidelberg Street, and transformed it into something whimsical ... something magical," he said.

Donna Terek / The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



Tyree Guyton in front of the Heidelberg Project in 1988.

[The Detroit News Archives](#)



Guyton works with his grandfather, Sam Mackey, on Aug. 17, 1988. The two started affixing found objects to abandoned houses in 1986, giving birth to the Heidelberg Project.

[The Detroit News Archives](#)



Tyree Guyton looks at the demolition of his work on Oct. 24, 1991. Detroit Mayor Coleman Young, responding to neighborhood complaints, ordered three of his houses bulldozed.

[The Detroit News Archives](#)

# MARTOS GALLERY



Guyton stands on the rubble of three of the houses that were ordered bulldozed by Mayor Coleman Young, on Nov. 24, 1991.

The Detroit News Archives

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In 2002, Tyree Guyton works with a group of students from Ralph Bunche Elementary School on the sculpture "Doors of Opportunity" in the schoolyard at 2801 Ellery, Detroit. Guyton worked with the school's students for three months on the project from drawings to finished state.

Donna Terek / The Detroit News

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Guyton paints shoes at the Heidelberg Project in Detroit in June 2004.

David Guralnick, The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



Tyree Guyton working on the Heidelberg Project in Detroit in June 2006.

David Guralnic / The Detroit News

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Madison Guyton, 2, paints a polka dot on the sidewalk on Heidelberg Street. She is seen through the legs of Brittany Guyton, 9. Both girls are nieces of the artist and lived on Heidelberg Street in 2006, when this photo was taken.

Donna Terek / The Detroit News

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Working on the Heidelberg Project in Detroit in June 2006.

David Guralnick / The Detroit News

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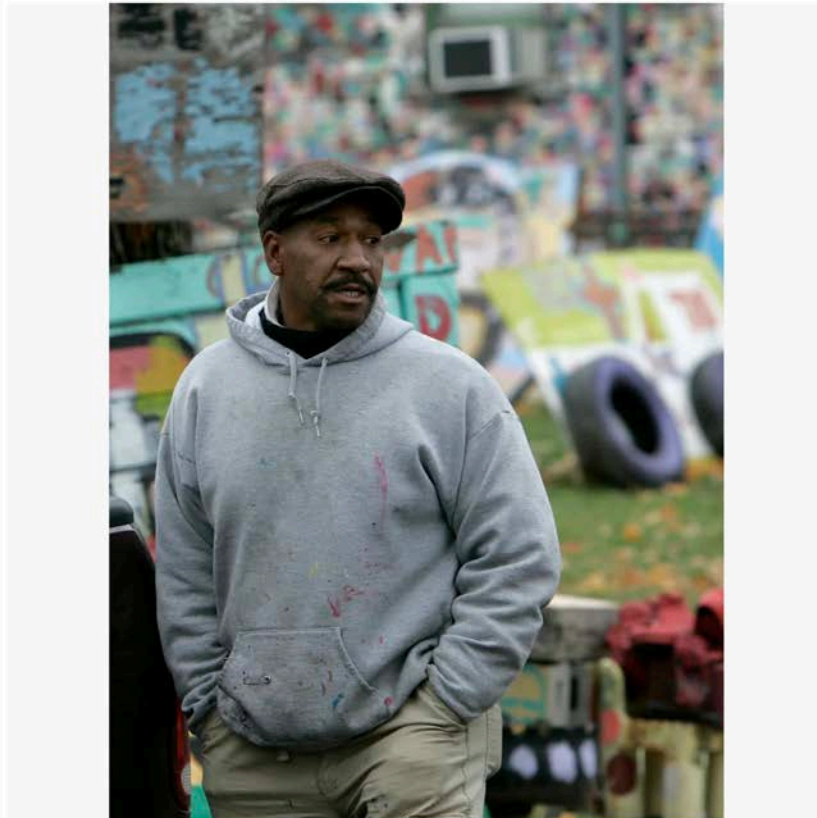
# MARTOS GALLERY



Guyton began turning Heidelberg, the street where he grew up, into a living art installation in 1988. "The End" is photographed here in 2006.

Donna Terek / The Detroit News

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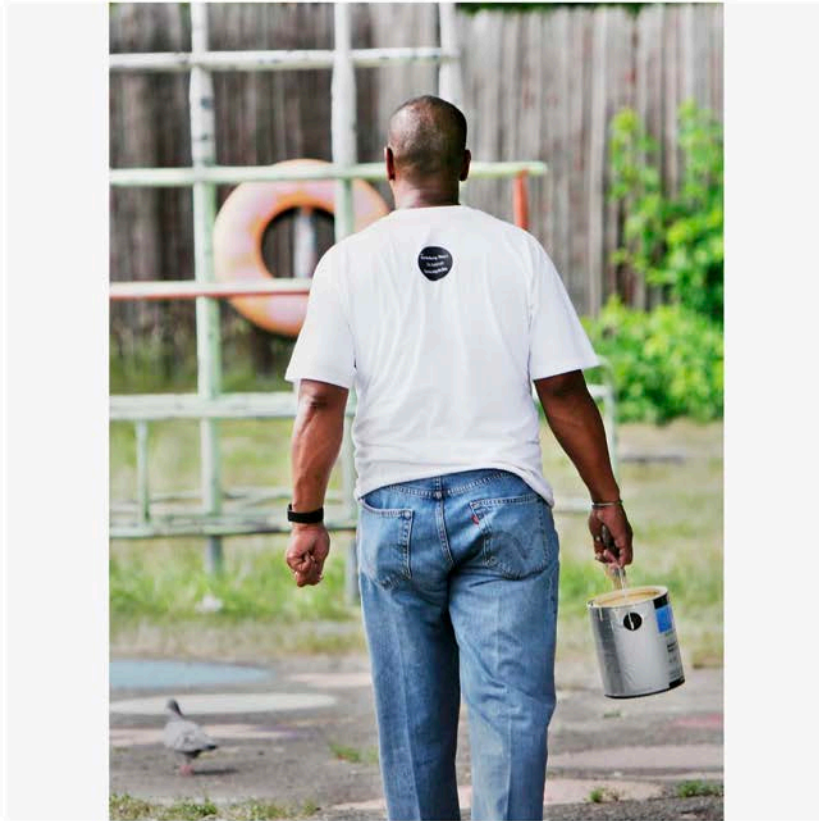


Tyree Guyton on Nov. 27, 2007.

John T. Greilick, The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



Guyton at work on Heidelberg Street in August 2006.

[Donna Terek / The Detroit News](#)



Will Frame, 6, reaches out to touch some art Aug. 18, 2006, during a festival to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Heidelberg Project.

[Donna Terek / The Detroit News](#)

# MARTOS GALLERY



Tyree Guyton at work on his project in August 2006.

Donna Terek / The Detroit News

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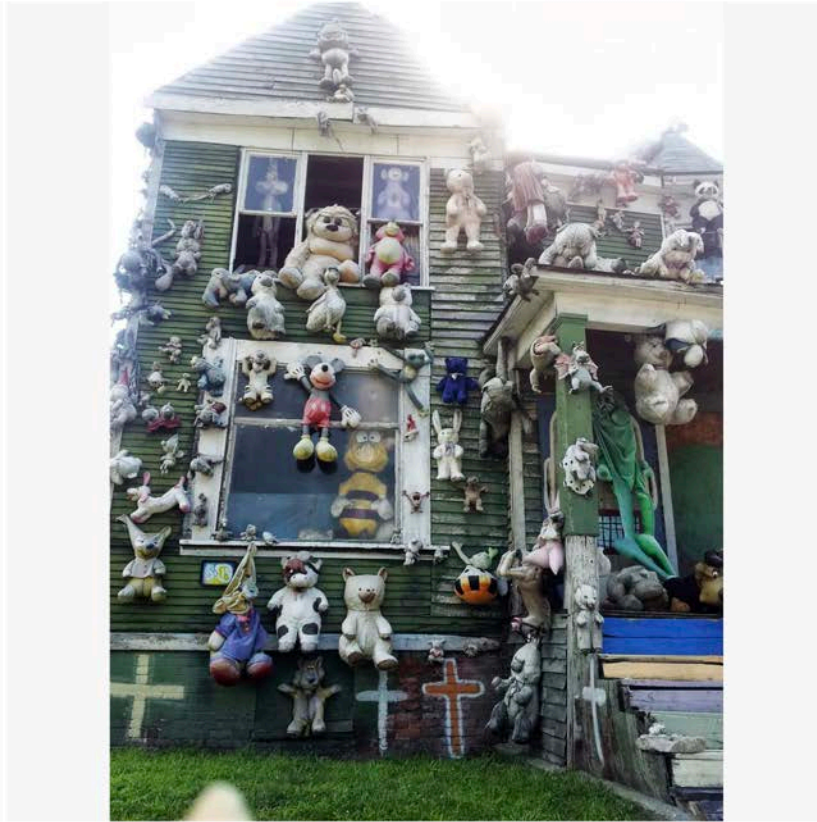


Guyton and Marian Nelson help third-grader Alicia Clifford, 8, donate her class pennies. Commerce Elementary School students presented thousands of pennies to Guyton on Nov. 8, 2006.

Velvet S. McNeil / The Detroit News

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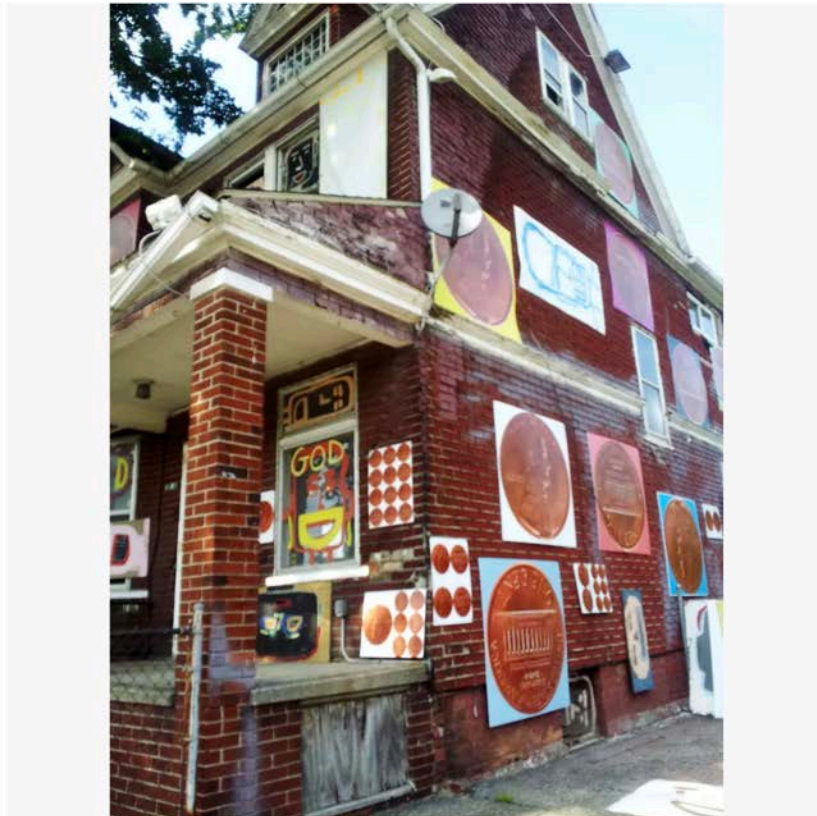
# MARTOS GALLERY



Stuffed animals of every size and species adorned the Party Animal House.

Jean Johnson, The Detroit News

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The Penny House featured large representations of copper pennies.

Jean Johnson, The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



Tyree Guyton talks during a planning meeting for the Connect the Dots Festival in front of the information booth in August 2006.

Donna Terek / The Detroit News

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The Polka Dot House is seen in 2009.

Ricardo Thomas / The Detroit News

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Tyree Guyton's "God Noah" boat weathers the snow in December 2009.

Ricardo Thomas / The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



Bethanie Borkowski, 19, of St. Clair Shores walks among an estimated 10,000 shoes displayed on Edmund at Woodward in Detroit. Artist Tyree Guyton sought to bring awareness to homelessness in an outdoor exhibit titled "Street Folk" as part of the 25th anniversary of the Heidelberg Project in 2011.

Max Ortiz / The Detroit News



Da' Mya Grimes, 9, holds the shoe she painted and donated along with another estimated 10,000 shoes displayed on Edmund Street at Woodward on May 12, 2011. Guyton's shoe display was designed to bring awareness to homelessness.

Max Ortiz / The Detroit News



The artist works in 2011, the year of the project's 25th anniversary.

Max Ortiz / The Detroit News

# MARTOS GALLERY



Commerce and religion come together in a cash register painted with "God."

Max Ortiz / The Detroit News

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The Obstruction of Justice House at the Heidelberg Project, seen in 2011, was destroyed in 2013.

Charles V. Tines, The Detroit News

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Tyree Guyton cleans up after a fire destroyed his Obstruction of Justice house on May 3, 2013. His studio was in the house.

Clarence Tabb, Jr., The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



A taxi sits in front of the Taxi House at the Heidelberg Project in May 2011.

Max Ortiz, [The Detroit News](#)



One of Tyree Guyton's faces of God is seen in 2011.

Max Ortiz / [The Detroit News](#)



A taxi in the Heidelberg Project in 2011.

Charles V. Tines, [The Detroit New](#), Charles V. Tines, [The Detroit New](#)

# MARTOS GALLERY



Tyree Guyton sits on the steps of one of his houses in June 2011.

Charles V. Tines / The Detroit New, Charles V. Tines, The Detroit New

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The artist works to cover the House of Soul with more than 2,000 records on April 17, 2013.

Max Ortiz / The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



The completed House of Soul.

Jean Johnson, [The Detroit News](#)



The aftermath of the fire at the House of Soul leaves a charred mess at the Heidelberg Project on Nov. 12, 2013.

David Coates, [The Detroit News](#)

# MARTOS GALLERY



A destroyed record lies in the remains of the House of Soul at the Heidelberg Project on Nov. 12, 2013.

David Coates / The Detroit News

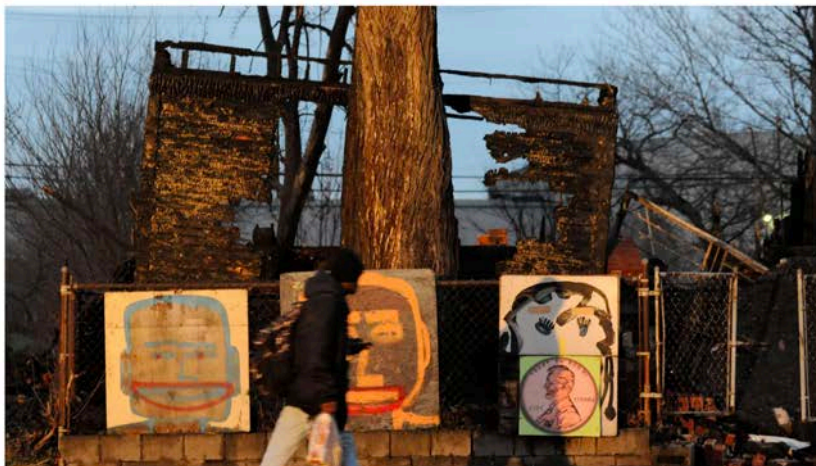
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Tyree Guyton sifts through the remains after a fire at the House of Soul, Nov. 12, 2013.

David Coates / The Detroit News

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A man passes the Penny House, which was destroyed by fire on Nov. 21, 2013.

David Coates / The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



Guyton holds up a clock at the Clock House on Dec. 9, 2013, after the structure was destroyed by fire.

David Coates / The Detroit News

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A partial wall is all that remains of the Clock House on Dec. 9, 2013. The roof collapsed, leaving only charred timbers from the foundation.

David Coates / The Detroit News

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Heidelberg Project artist Tyree Guyton takes pictures of The War Room, another of his projects that was burned to the ground by a suspected arsonist, on Nov. 28, 2013.

Todd McInturf / The Detroit News

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# MARTOS GALLERY



Wood smolders at a Heidelberg Project house burned to the ground on Nov. 28, 2013.

Todd McInturf / The Detroit News

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The Party Animal House, also known as the Doll House, burned to the ground on March 7, 2014.

Charles V. Tines, The Detroit News

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Heidelberg Project creator Tyree Guyton, left, instructs Delshawna Jones, center, 8, and her sister, Chardelle Jones, 9, both of Detroit, how they can help as UAW Local 412 volunteers build the frame of new House of Soul on Sept. 27, 2014.

Todd McInturf, The Detroit News

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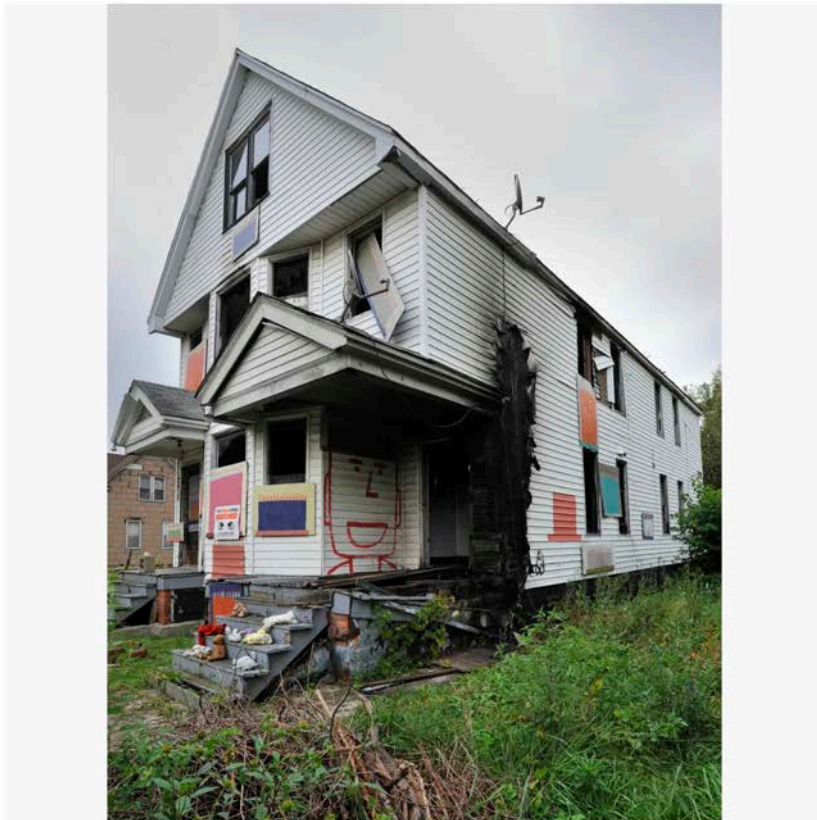


# MARTOS GALLERY



UAW Local 412 volunteers raise the first wall of the House of Soul on Sept. 27, 2014. The volunteers helped rebuild the house that was destroyed by arson in 2013.

[Todd McInturf / The Detroit News](#)



The Birthday Cake House, seen here on Sept. 30, 2014, also was struck by an arsonist.

[Charles V. Tines / The Detroit News](#)

# MARTOS GALLERY



The remains of the destroyed Clock House at the Heidelberg Project is seen on Feb. 11, 2015.



A stove that was inside the Heidelberg House of Soul sits outside the framework for a new house being built in the same location. The original House of Soul was torched in November 2013.



The foundation of the torched Party Animal House at Heidelberg now has a few new stuffed animals.

Elizabeth Conley, The Detroit News

# MARTOS GALLERY



Artist Tyree Guyton works outside the Taxi House, which became the 12th of the Heidelberg Project structures to burn, on Nov. 23, 2014.

Lauren Abdel-Razzaq, The Detroit News

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