

## RUTH & BOB BASCOM

### SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Wharton Esherick Studio, a National Historic Landmark for Architecture, is one of the nation's treasures. Built by American Modernist sculptor Wharton Esherick over the course of more than 40 years, the Studio is a unique sculptural environment reflecting Esherick's evolution as an artist, and his genius as a designer of spaces. Internationally known, it delights, inspires, and educates over 5,000 visitors a year with its sensuous organic forms and its imaginative functional sculpture. The Studio would not be preserved today and open to the public without the hard work and generous spirits of the Bascoms. Fully half of Bob and Ruth's lives have been given to preserving the Esherick Studio, making it accessible to the public, and providing for its future. Excellent stewards, they have worked ceaselessly to ensure that endowed funds will be available in perpetuity, providing joy and inspiration for future generations.

In recognition of their exceptional stewardship, in 2009 the Bascoms received the Otto Haas Award from Preservation PA. In 2012, they received the Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia's Board of Directors Award. It is high time the Community Foundation recognizes the Bascom's Special Achievements in our own backyard.