Fall 2017 Newsletter

Center *for* Furniture Craftsmanship

FROM THE DIRECTOR

With leaves rustling underfoot and morning frost presaging the snows of winter, fall usually puts me in a nostalgic frame of mind. But not so this year! Corny as it may sound, I am too fired up about the school's future to wistfully sift through the sands of the past.

Last spring, our Board of Directors conducted a major planning study which asked more than 1,500 alumni and friends for input on a carefully crafted long-range plan. The response was so positive, and the suggestions so good, that the Board has since added two additional strategic priorities to the three it originally proposed. Briefly, the full long-range plan now includes two new scholarship programs, the introduction of funded Fellowships, steps to increase the national reach of the Messler Gallery, and a solid plan for perpetuating the school's executive leadership when I eventually retire.

You may notice that none of these initiatives aims to make the school larger. They are designed with two specific goals in mind: first, to steadily improve the excellence and financial accessibility of our existing educational programs; and, second, to make the Center a national voice for craft education.

While the long-range plan calls for the eventual funding of all five initiatives through sustainable endowment, we are already starting to implement key components, such as the pilot program for *Teaching the Teachers* scholarships described in the adjacent column.

Over its first 25 years, the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship has experienced remarkable growth and developed a strongly engaged constituency. Now, having objectively audited our perceptions through an independent, professional study, the Board and I believe that the school stands at a pivotal moment of opportunity—not only to cement the accomplishments of the past, but to make a greater contribution to the future of craft in contemporary society. I couldn't be more excited to be a part of the process!

TEACHING THE TEACHERS

For 2018, we are launching the pilot program for a new and different sort of scholarship. Instead of being awarded to individual applicants, *Teaching the Teachers* scholarships will go to educational and service organizations that teach woodworking to economically disadvantaged communities in the U.S. and abroad. Our intent is to leverage the excellent education in woodworking and design that we deliver on our Rockport campus for greater social impact.

Institutions participating in *Teaching the Teachers* can nominate their own instructors for fully funded participation in our Workshops, Turning Intensives, or Furniture Intensives, as best meets the needs of the institution and its candidate's availability. These scholarships cover all necessary expenses (above and beyond any provided under the partner institution's policies), including tuition, materials, travel, and lodging. In some cases, we can also offer per diems for expenses such as meals and lost income.

"Our intent is to give educators new woodworking skills and a vision of the educational woodshop that they can share in their own communities," says Board President Dick Whittington.

As this pilot program gathers steam, our first institutional partners are: Eastern Maine Community College in Bangor, ME; Machias Memorial High School in Machias, ME; Kids Making It in Wilmington, NC, and North Salem High School Woods Manufacturing Program in Salem, OR.

Through *Teaching the Teachers* we are also affiliating with advocacy organizations that promote woodworking education for vocational training and economic development. Our first institutional affiliate is the Wood Career Alliance of North America, with more to come.

For more information, please contact our Director of Advancement, Amy Williams.

Center *for* Furniture Craftsmanship

Center for Furniture Craftsmanship is a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational organization. Our mission is to provide the best possible education for people who want to design and build functional, beautiful, expressive work out of wood to the highest standard of craftsmanship.

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The Center for Furniture Craftsmanship does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, or sexual orientation.

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NINE-MONTH COMPREHENSIVE BEGINS

The 2017-2018 Nine-month Comprehensive began on September 11. Lead Instructor Aled Lewis is joined for 12 segments by co-teachers Bruce Beeken, Heidi Earnshaw, Linden Frederick, Owain Harris, Beth Ireland, Mark Juliana, Jim Macdonald, Mike Mascelli, Tim Rousseau, Valdemar Skov, and Stewart Wurtz, among others. Our 12 students were drawn from a pool of 30 applicants.

Eric Dunder
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Ren Provey
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Blake Gover
Paola, KS
B.A. Industrial Design

Imri Givon
New York, NY
Small Business Owner

Sam Friedlander
Pittsburgh, PA
Architecture Staff Assistant

FACULTY NEWS

Beth Ireland hosting an all-school BBQ potluck

Elia Bizzarri (Hillsborough, NC) has two new DVDs available through *Popular Woodworking*: "Milk Paint Finish" and "Octagonal Table."

J. Paul Fennell's (Scottsdale, AZ) turned vessel "Emei Lattice" was recently acquired for the Philadelphia Museum of Art's permanent collection.

Ray Finan (Arlington, VT) is featured in the fall issue of *Stratton Magazine*.

A version of a stool that **Peter Fleming** (Toronto, ON) designed during a recent Fellowship here was presented in "Teaching Materials," the 50th anniversary exhibition of Sheridan College's Craft and Design program, held at the Craft Ontario Gallery in Toronto.

Garrett Hack (Thetford Center, VT) exhibited in the annual auction of the New Hampshire Furniture Masters Association, which took place on October 1, as did **Owain Harris** (Center Barnstead, NH).

Beth Ireland (St. Petersburg, FL) has work in the current Fuller Craft Museum exhibition, "Gender Bend: Women in Wood, Men at the Loom," in Brockton, MA, through March 11, 2018. Other exhibitors include **Kim Winkle** (Smithville, TN).

Clark Kellogg (Houston, TX) wrote "Wall Cabinet with Curves" and "Make a Coopering Plane" for the October 2017 issue of *Fine Woodworking*, which also contains an article by **Jeff Miller** (Chicago, IL).

The September issue of *Furniture & Cabinetmaking* has a feature article on **Aled Lewis** (Machynlleth, Wales) which can also be read on our website under About Us/ Press/General.

Mary May's (Johns Island, SC) first book, *Carving the Acanthus Leaf* (Lost Art Press, 2017) will become available for purchase in late November.

Julie Morringello (Stonington, ME) was a recipient of the 2017 Artist Award, sponsored by Boston's Society of Arts and Crafts. She is also a participant in the Maine Craft Association's "Artists in Their Studios" project, which is presenting an exhibition of photos and work at the Macpage office in South Portland through May 4, 2018. Other participating artists include **Jim Macdonald**, (Burnham, ME), **Erica Moody** (Waldoboro, ME), and **Jacques Vesery** (Damariscotta, ME).

Robert Randall (London, UK) has been building and carving a series of projects for Battle Abbey in East Sussex to commemorate the 950th Anniversary of the Battle of Hastings. These include a throne depicted in the Bayeux tapestry, a set of pews, an exchequer table, and an oak chest.

Jim Macdonald recently exhibited at the Woodstock Invitational Luthiers Showcase in Woodstock, NY.

Instructors Brian Reid (left) and Owain Harris (right) sported fine haberdashery at the Center's Open House this past June.

Brian Reid (Rockland, ME) is currently Windgate Artist in Residence at Purchase College, State University of New York.

Adam Rogers (Cumberland, ME) was one of several designers for the Radnor company whose work was showcased in "Preludes" at the Heller Gallery in New York this past October.

Mark Sfirri (New Hope, PA) recently juried Hawaii's Woodshow 2017.

RockPaperRobot recently released a production folding chair designed by **Pete Schlebecker** (Brooklyn, NY). Called the "Ollie Chair," it has a wood tambour seat and is 2" thick when closed.

Doug Stowe (Eureka Springs, AR) has a new book out, *The Box Maker's Guitar Book* (Spring House Press, 2017).

Josh Vogel (Kingston, NY) is exhibiting turning and sculpture at March in San Francisco through November 18.

ALUMNI NEWS

2017 Nine-month Comprehensive graduates Stephanie Lunieski (left) and Claire Scully (right) teamed up as fabulous Workshop assistants this summer.

Four 2017 graduates of our Nine-month Comprehensive were honored at the Fresh Wood 2017 competition hosted by the Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers in Las Vegas in July. In the post-secondary division: **Evan Boyle** (Kailua, HI) took first place in the Design for Production category; **Joe Brown** (West Roxbury, MA) took first place in the Case Goods category; **Stephanie Lunieski** (Edina, MN) was a finalist in the Tables division; and **Claire Scully** (Austin, TX) took second place in the Open division.

The August 2017 issue of *Fine Woodworking* featured a cover article on building a trestle table by **Marcus Soto** (Stone Ridge, NY), plus **Mike Korsak** (Pittsburgh, PA) in the Designer's Notebook section, and a credenza by **Nick Holmes** (Hamilton, ON) in the gallery section.

Vaishu Ilankamban (Rockland, ME) is in the midst of a six-month artist-in-residency at the Ellis-Beauregard Foundation in Rockland, ME.

Mike Korsak wrote the cover article, "Elegant Bookcase, Top to Bottom," for the December 2017 issue of *Fine Woodworking*. In that same issue, **Ray Finan** (Arlington, VT) wrote "A Classic Spin on Curved Aprons," while the gallery section featured a credenza by **Evan Boyle**.

Jack Mauch (Cambridge, MA) received the prestigious Mineck Award for 2017 from Boston's Society of Arts and Crafts.

Bobby Sukrachand (Ridgewood, NY) was profiled in the "Made in New York" column of the September issue of *NYCG (New York Cottages & Gardens)*.

Christina Vincent (North Haven, ME) had a solo pop-up exhibition at the Red Barn on North Haven in July.

WELCOME ABOARD

Asher Rodriquez-Dunn has been elected to a three-year term on our Board of Directors. He is founder and owner of Studio DUNN, a batch production furniture and lighting design firm in Rumford, RI, and has received numerous honors, including "Best New Designer" at New York's International Contemporary Furniture Fair in 2010. Asher's work has appeared in *Dwell*, *Forbes*, *New England Home*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Luxe*, and *American Craft*. In 2013, he was selected by *Vogue* as one of "Ten Contemporary Designers to Collect Today." Asher earned his B.F.A. in 2008 from the Rhode Island School of Design, where he currently teaches part time in Industrial Design.

2017 CROQUET WINNERS

The unstoppable duo of Tor Erickson and Kristin Wiese-Adelman in the first flush of victory

June 8	Giovanni Cuacuas and Jeff Mandel
June 15	Will Barton and Andy Biddy
June 22	Eric Marks and Mike Zwolinski
June 29	Kristin Wiese-Adelman and Tor Erickson
July 6	Blake Archer and Chris Lind
July 20	Nate Scheibe and Doug Watters
July 27	Bill Sawyer
August 3	Mason Madden and Bobby Sukrachand
August 10	Dean Babin and Elisa Kim
August 17	Seth Walton
August 24	Kelly Sandman
August 31	Roger Dahnert and Kendrick Anderson

2018 WORKSHOPS PREVIEW

Course descriptions will be posted to www.woodschool.org by December 15. Titles are subject to change.

WORKSHOP TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	DATES
Basic Woodworking	Peter Korn and Shannon Bowser	June 4-15
All About Finishing	Mike Mascelli	June 4-8
Just Joinery	Mark Juliana and Mason McBrien	June 11-15
Chair Making	David Upfill-Brown and Tom Kealy	June 18-29
Next Steps in Carving I	Chris Pye	June 18-22
Next Steps in Carving II	Chris Pye	June 25-29
Basic Woodworking	Peter Korn and Marcus Soto	July 2-13
Stringed Instruments 1.0	Beth Ireland and Peter Park	July 2-6
Learn to Turn	Beth Ireland	July 9-13
Tables and Desks	Tim Rousseau	July 16-27
Bowls, Bowls, Bowls	Ashley Harwood	July 16-20
Carving Spoons into Sculpture	Kristin LeVier and Josh Vogel	July 23-27
Basic Woodworking	Peter Korn and Mike Korsak	July 30 - August 10
Precision with Hand Tools	Garrett Hack	July 30 - August 3
Marquetry	Jim Macdonald	August 6-10
Woodworking Journalism	Jon Binzen	August 6-10
Next Steps in Furniture Making	Mason McBrien	August 13-24
Working with Veneer	Adrian Ferrazzutti	August 13-17
Lighting Design	Asher Rodriquez-Dunn	August 20-24
Basic Woodworking	Peter Korn and Mary Ellen Hitt	August 27 - September 7
Introduction to Cabinetry	Jonathan Brower	August 27-31
Greenwood Spoons and Vessels	Jarrod Dahl	September 3-7
Curvature	Chance Coalter and David Haig	September 10-21
Introduction to Turning	Ken Wise	September 10-14
Bevels, Bowls, and Beyond	Jerry Kermode	September 17-21
The Art of Box Making	Clark Kellogg and John Cameron	September 24 - October 5
Hand Tool Clinic	Mason McBrien	September 24-28
Multi-axis Turning	Mark Sfirri	September 24-28
Form and Ornament	Jacques Vesery	October 1-5
Basic Woodworking	Mark Juliana and Michaela Stone	October 8-19
Introduction to Relief Carving	Mary May	October 8-12
Carving for Furniture	Mary May	October 15-19

Registration for the 2018 Workshops officially begins December 15, 2017, although we are happy to take your information in advance.

In the unusual circumstance that a workshop is over-enrolled at 5pm EST on December 15, a lottery will be conducted to select the participants.

All registrations after December 15 will be first come, first served.

CENTER *for* FURNITURE CRAFTSMANSHIP
25 Mill Street, Rockport, Maine 04856

Return Service Requested

MESSLER GALLERY NEWS

CURRENTLY SHOWING

Contemporary Wood Lighting opened to radiant reviews at the Messler Gallery on Friday, September 22 and continues through January 3, 2018.

Curated by Christopher Poehlmann, the exhibition explores wood as a medium for expressing light by presenting work of 20 contemporary designers and makers from six countries.

The table lamps, wall sconces, floor lamps, chandeliers, uplighting, and pendant lighting on display range from functional products to conceptual sculpture. "It is a thrilling visual experience," says Gallery Manager Victoria Allport, "to see how each designer responds to the aesthetic opportunities inherent to wood, whether it is the translucence of veneer, the pliability of lamination, or the precision of working with CNC laser cutters."

For a complete list of exhibitors and to view the images of the exhibition and the online catalog, visit the Messler Gallery at www.woodschool.org.

Installation view of "Contemporary Wood Lighting," which will be on display at the Messler Gallery until January 3, 2018

MESSLER GALLERY EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

Contemporary Wood Lighting
September 22, 2017 – January 3, 2018

Maine Wood 2018
January 19 – April 11, 2018

Current Student Work
April 20 – May 30, 2018

New Work by Faculty
June 15 – September 12, 2018