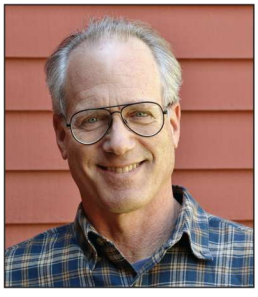
Center *for* Furniture Craftsmanship

From the Director

With eight months of pandemic behind us and the promise of a vaccine in sight, the future looks considerably brighter from our campus than it did in May, when I last wrote this column. Our plan to reopen in September worked, the campus is once again at full capacity, the faculty and staff are intact, and, whatever happens in the short-term, we are confidently moving forward as an institution.



Craftsmanship teaches us to contend with the actuality of things. Either the chisel is sharp enough or it isn't, and wishful thinking can't make it otherwise. That fact-grounded ethos has informed the school's response to the pandemic. So while the decision we made in March to suspend classes for six months was emotionally difficult and financially consequential, there was never any question that it was the right call to preserve health and safety.

Since the pandemic began, we have implemented rigorous safety policies, invested in physical improvements such as air filtration and video technology, continued the Education and Impact initiative to open the school to a broader cross-section of society, prepared to transition to excellent new leadership when I retire, and planned an exciting workshop season for 2021. I am especially pleased that we made the best of idled shop space by professionally filming 50 instructional videos presented by Tim Rousseau. Already, they are allowing us to safely deliver demonstrations that require close-up viewing. Soon, we will post them as a free online library to deliver our educational mission to the world at large, regardless of financial and cultural barriers.

In this difficult year, I am more grateful than ever for the growing community of alumni and friends who support the Center's mission. As we endure the clamor of social media, politics, and popular culture amidst social isolation, craft still empowers us to create order and beauty and meaning in our lives, and teaches us to inhabit the better part of our humanity.

Executive Search Announcement

At our 25th anniversary celebration in 2018, CFC's Founder and Executive Director, Peter Korn, publicly announced his intention to retire at the end of 2021. "I turn 70 then," he said, "and I think it's important to hand the school over to a new generation of leadership while I'm still firing on most of my cylinders."

Peter's long-planned decision takes effect at a time when the Center has completed Phase 1 of a major endowment campaign that leverages the tremendous accomplishments of the last three decades for greater societal impact. "We are indebted to Peter's vision, guidance, and profound commitment to teaching design and craftsmanship at the highest standard of excellence," says David Ingram, President of the Center's Board of Directors.

Recognizing the importance of this transition, the Board plans to launch the search in early 2021 with ample lead time. "We are looking for someone who will embrace the history and mission of the School, while implementing new initiatives to expand our effectiveness in meeting the educational needs of contemporary designer/woodworkers," observes Mark Tresnowski, Vice-president of the Board and chair of the Search Committee. The Board has hired the team of Rosa Morris and Charlie Ingersoll from the executive search firm Korn Ferry (total coincidence!) to serve as our partners. If you are reading this and have a potential candidate in mind (or are interested in the position yourself), we hope you will forward your suggestion to Rosa.Morris@KornFerry.com for consideration.

The Center for Furniture Craftsmanship is well positioned for the future. We enter the search and leadership transition with an exceptionally strong foundation in place: a global reputation for excellence; a dedicated full-time staff; an outstanding international faculty of accomplished designer/woodworkers; enthusiastic students and committed alumni; a devoted and active nationwide Board of Directors; and sound finances. As the search process unfolds, we will keep the school community updated.

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.

25 Mill Street, Rockport, ME 04856
(207) 594-5611 ▪ cfc@woodschool.org
www.woodschool.org

WELCOME ABOARD

Tom Maginnis, from Pittsburgh, PA, has been elected to a three-year term on our Board of Directors. He is a corporate communications consultant who has taken courses at CFC since 2010, including a 2019 Furniture Intensive. Over the past decade, Tom has volunteered extensively at the Center, most recently to help fundraise for Phase 1 of the Education and Impact: Endowing our Future initiative.

PELLIGRINI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

We are honored that the friends of Cindy Pellegrini, who died in September 2020, are celebrating her life by funding a scholarship that instructor Beth Ireland has established at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship. Cindy was a professional woodworker in the Boston area who was active for decades in teaching women how to use tools and mentoring their entries into the trades.

Starting in 2021, we will award Cynthia Pelligrini Woodworking Scholarships to women who intend to become professional woodworkers or are already working professionally in the field and want to expand their skills. No special application is required; tuition grants from the fund will go to qualified applicants to the Center's general scholarship programs, which are needs-based.

A similar memorial scholarship was set up by the family and friends of alumnus Ben Branscom in 2015. Each memorial scholarship funds $2,000 per year in new scholarships for as long as the contributed principal allows. Gifts to the Cynthia Pelligrini Woodworking Scholarship or the Ben V. Branscom Scholarship can be made by contacting our Development Director, Ellen Dyer, at Ellen@woodschool.org.

ALUMNI NEWS

In October, **Dean Babin**'s (Cobleskill, NY) Emmet Lamp won a 2020 Pinnacle Award from the International Society of Furniture Designers in the lighting category.

Fred Dylla (Lewes, DE) had an exhibition of white-line woodcuts at the Peninsula Gallery, in Lewes, in September.

Kelly Harris (Brooklyn, NY) is exhibiting at the CraftBoston Holiday virtual show, November 12 – December 31, as are **Geoff McKonly** (Northampton, MA), **Mya Rae Nelson** (Washington, DC) dba TangoWoods, and **Jesse Shaw** (Watertown, MA).

Bill Hollinshead (Rehoboth, MA) participated in an Alumni/ae Art Show at the Harry M. Drake Gallery of St. Paul Academy and Summit School in September.

Adam Markowitz *(South Caulfield, Victoria, AUS) is a judge for* Australian Wood Review*'s 2020 Maker of the Year award.*

Christina Vincent (North Haven, ME) exhibited in this year's virtual Philadelphia Craft Show, November 6-8, as did **Dean Babin**.

EDUCATION AND IMPACT DONORS

With deep appreciation, we would like to recognize the 263 alumni, friends, and foundations who have so generously contributed to the success of Phase 1 of the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship's Education and Impact: Endowing our Future initiative. Fundraising for Phase 1 began in November 2017 and passed its $4.5 goal in February of this year.

Education and Impact is designed to increase the social contribution of the Center's educational programs and make it a more effective national advocate for craft. Phase 1 established a $1.0 million endowment to sustainably underwrite our Teaching the Teachers scholarship program for vocational educators in economically disadvantaged communities, a $1.5 million endowment to make our Fellowship opportunities affordable to a broader socio-economic cross-section of talented young makers, and a $1.5 million endowed Chair for Executive Leadership to ensure the Center's future operational excellence. Phase 2, which is well underway, will expand the audience and influence of our Messler gallery through a $600,000 endowment. Phase 3 will establish a $1.0 million endowment to fund needs-based scholarships for our longer, professional-track courses.

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Christina M. Vincent
Gregory Wandless
Jack Zimmermann

FACULTY NEWS

Kimberly Winkle *(Cookeville, TN) participated in the Cumberland Furniture Guild show at the Customs House Museum in Clarksville earlier this fall.* ***More...***

An article by **Mark Gardner** (Saluda, NC) on coloring and texturing turned bowls appears in the Nov/Dec issue of *Fine Woodworking*, as do articles by **Ray Finan** (Arlington, VT), **Roland Johnson** (Sauk Rapids, MN), **Clark Kellogg** (Houston, TX), and alumnus **Peter Lutz** (Providence, RI).

An interview with **Owain Harris** (Gonic, NH) is featured in the Sept/Oct issue of *New Hampshire Home*.

British manufacturer SCP introduced two new designs by **Sarah Kay** (Castelnau Durban, France) at the 2020 London Design Festival, in September.

Jim Macdonald (Burnham, ME) is among those featured in *Decor Maine*'s November article, "Movers, Shakers, Artisans, Makers."

Mary May (Johns Island, SC) wrote an article on carving acanthus-leaf jewelry for the fall issue of *Woodcarving Illustrated*.

Julie Morringello's (Stonington, ME) Boom Chandelier was exhibited by Mill Collective at October's High Point Market, in High Point, NC.

The Oct/Nov issue of *American Craft* presents an article on **Michael Puryear** (Shokan, NY) titled "To Sit in Knowledge."

Pete Schlebecker (San Diego, CA) has become Adjunct Professor of Cabinet and Furniture Technology at Palomar College in San Marcos, CA.

David Upfill-Brown (Gerringong, NSW, AUS) is exhibiting in the group show "Furniture Defines Home" at Bungendore Woodworks, near Canberra, in November.

Josh Vogel (Kingston, NY) is one of the makers featured in the current issue (#11) of *Upstate Diary*.

Aled Lewis *(Machynlleth, Powys, UK) is making a documentary for Welsh Channel S4C on the use of local timbers for furniture making and other industries, in conjunction with Coed Cymru, an organization that creates and manages Welsh woodlands.*

2021 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 Rob Chamberlin	June 7-18
All About Finishing	Roland Johnson	June 7-11
Metalworking for Woodworkers	Erica Moody	June 14-18
Next Steps in Furniture Making	Mike Korsak and Libby Schrum	June 21 - July 2
Just Joinery	Rob Chamberlin and Tim Rousseau	June 21-25
Learn to Turn	Beth Ireland	June 28 - July 2
Next Steps in Turning	Beth Ireland	July 5-9
Basic Woodworking	Peter Korn and Ken Stahl	July 5-16
Bowls, Bowls, Bowls	Mark Gardner	July 12-16
Authentic Casework	Tom Hucker and Tim Rousseau	July 19-30
The Artful Spoon	Josh Vogel	July 19-23
Really Basic Woodworking	Libby Schrum	July 26-30
Basic Woodworking	Peter Korn and Melanie Hamilton	August 2-13
Precision with Hand Tools	Garrett Hack	August 2-6
Ornamental Carving	Andrei Marek	August 9-13
Bas-relief and Carving in the Round	John Bryan	August 16-20
Curvature	Yuri Kobayashi and Seth Rolland	August 16-27
Marquetry	Jim Macdonald	August 23-27
Basic Woodworking	Peter Korn and Peter Basil	August 30 - September 10
Introduction to the CNC	Mark Juliana	August 30 - September 3
Lighting Design	Christopher Poehlmann	September 6-10
Elegant Veneered Boxes	Adrian Ferrazzutti	September 13-24
Turning for Beginners	Rudy Lopez	September 13-17
Bowl Turning in Depth	Rudy Lopez	September 20-24
Chair Making	Reed Hansuld and Adam Rogers	September 27 - October 8
Turned and Carved Platters	Al Stirt	September 27 - October 1
Decorative Turned Surfaces	Dixie Biggs	October 4-8
Basic Woodworking	Mark Juliana and Chelsea Witt	October 11-22
Contemporary Upholstery	Annie Evelyn	October 11-15
The Unplugged Woodshop	John Cameron	October 18-22

Registration for the 2021 Workshops officially begins December 15, 2020, 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

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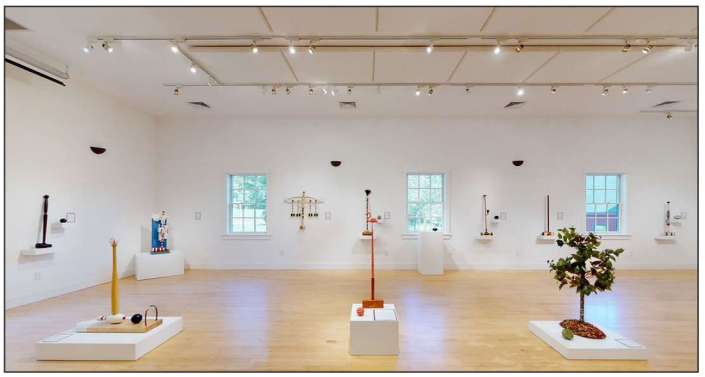
MESSLER GALLERY NEWS

CURRENTLY SHOWING

A striking exhibition of artist-made mallets and balls, *Out of Bounds: The Art of Croquet*, is on view at the Messler Gallery through January 6, 2021, and viewable online as a 3D gallery tour on the school's website.

Curators of the smashing exhibition are Jennifer-Navva Milliken, Artistic Director at the Center for Art in Wood in Philadelphia, PA, and furniture maker Silas Kopf, from Northampton, MA, both of whom are amateur devotees of the sport.

In reimagining the ball and mallet, the show's 21 exhibitors explore a wide range of topics, from personal artistic concerns to contemporary social issues, with clarity and wit. Participants include Ted Blachly, Mark del Guidice, Annie Evelyn, Amy Forsyth, Scott Grove, Michael Hosaluk, Thomas Hucker, Katie Hudnall, Beth Ireland, Yuri Kobayashi, Silas Kopf, Jim Macdonald, Adam John Manley, Craig Nutt, Graeme Priddle, Ellie Richards, Sylvie Rosenthal, Mark Sfirri, Alf Sharp, Elizabeth Spotswood Spencer, and Kimberly Winkle.



"Out of Bounds: The Art of Croquet" installation view

MESSLER GALLERY EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

Out of Bounds: The Art of Croquet
September 18, 2020 – January 6, 2021

Alumni and Fellows 2021
January 22 – April 7, 2021

Current Student Work
April 16 – May 26, 2021

New Work by Faculty
June 11 – September 15, 2021