Center *for* Furniture Craftsmanship
25 Mill Street, Rockport, Maine 04856

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MESSLER GALLERY NEWS

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Maine Wood 2026
January 26 - April 1, 2026

We are pleased to announce the Call for Entries for our tenth "Maine Wood" biennial.The exhibition is designed to showcase the breadth, creativity, and excellence of wood craftsmanship in the state, and to help promote the artistic and economic development of Maine's growing community of fine woodworkers. The jurors for "Maine Wood 2026" are Aspen Golann, Studio Furniture Maker and Founder of The Chairmaker's Toolbox, Rollinsford, NH; Tom Kealy, Furniture Designer-Maker and Tutor, Somerset, UK; and, David J. Marks, Woodturner, Studio Furniture Maker, and Teacher, Santa Rosa, CA.

Application Deadline: September 1, 2025

Awards: 8 prizes totaling $2,400 provided by The Craftsmanship Initiative, Heartwood Tools, Highland Hardwoods, Lie-Nielsen Toolworks, Packard Woodworks, Rare Woods, USA, Rockler Woodworking and Hardware of South Portland, ME, and Tools for Working Wood.

Additional information and submission guidelines are available under the Messler Gallery tab at woodschool.org.

Co-sponsoring organizations: Bangor Woodworkers Association, Guild of Maine Woodworkers, Maine Crafts Association, and Maine Woodturners.

Exhibitors and award winners at the opening reception of "Maine Wood 2024"

MESSLER GALLERY EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

New Work by Faculty
June 13 – September 10, 2025

Everyday Heirlooms
September 22, 2025 – January 7, 2026

Maine Wood 2026
January 26 – April 1, 2026

Summer 2025 Newsletter

Center *for* Furniture Craftsmanship

FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we pass the halfway point of 2025, we are on track to have more students cross our threshold than any previous year! And just as these full classes provide learning opportunities to so many students, they also provide us the flexibility to consider what's needed in woodworking education.

Whether at the workbench, loom, or potter's wheel, furthering excellence in craft requires a deep respect for tradition teamed with continuous inquiry and an openness to innovation. That's why you'll find students sharpening chisels and hand-cutting dovetails in one shop while we're introducing new technologies like the Shaper Origin in another. These skillsets are not mutually exclusive, and our mission is best fulfilled by teaching students to be discerning, curious, and capable across the full spectrum of approaches available to the modern woodworker.

That balance between progress and preservation is always top of mind when I'm thinking about CFC's future, and that's why next year's workshop schedule will include a few more opportunities to explore technological innovation while we simultaneously launch a brand new program focusing on one of the oldest and most traditional forms of woodworking: our first Carving Intensive--a long-term goal of the CFC's founder, Peter Korn, who has contributed greatly to this new endeavor!

CFC has grown to become a repository of expertise in woodworking; an expertise that should continue encompassing the full range of techniques for working the material in expressive and innovative ways. A recent month in our Fellowship was just one place where this was borne out, with Yuri Kobayashi bending wood to her will like magic while one bench over Jack Mauch combined digital fabrication with traditional marquetry to create his own startling forms.

Modern technologies offer powerful tools for contemporary makers, particularly those looking to pursue a career. At the same time, we remain steadfast in our dedication to traditional practices that have shaped the discipline for centuries. Through an openness to diverse viewpoints and approaches to making, we will continue to find interesting makers making interesting work, and it's with their help that we fulfill our mission, providing the best possible education in wood craftsmanship and design.

NEW CARVING INTENSIVE

We are pleased to announce a new 6-week Carving Intensive launching April 2026! Designed for aspiring professionals and committed amateurs alike, this full-time course will deliver a rigorous, hands-on education in architectural and ornamental carving unavailable anywhere else in the country.

Led by British master carver Takako Jin, students begin by carving a sequence of classic design motifs that build in complexity and are pertinent to both architectural elements and furniture. These typically include chip-carved and incised ornamentation and lettering, relief-carved scrolls, gothic tracery, moldings, floral/foliate motifs, and rosettes. Students then research and design their own projects, beginning with simple combinations of standard design elements and concluding with a more substantial, final project.

This approach simultaneously develops hand skills, hones observational skills, deepens one's understanding of how carvings "work" visually and aesthetically, and introduces the rich inheritance of period styles and techniques. Along the way, students develop fluency with traditional carving tools and techniques from layout and modeling to undercutting and finishing cuts directly from the chisel.

Lead instructor Takako Jin is a London-based woodcarver and an instructor at the City & Guilds of London Art School. Takako worked for many years at Carvers & Gilders Ltd., a Royal Warrant Holder and leading London workshop that specialized in 18th-century carved and gilded furniture. During her time there, Takako restored some of the finest examples of English antique furniture by renowned woodcarvers and designers. Through this work, she developed an expertise in traditional techniques and materials, and an intimate familiarity with historical English styles.

The Intensive's small class size ensures students can work at their own pace with individualized feedback and support. Virtual visits with established carvers in the U.S. and U.K. round out the experience by offering insight into how contemporary carvers build and sustain their careers. Find more information about the schedule and curriculum on our website.

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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ALUMNI NEWS

Dotan Appelbaum (Providence, RI), **Teresa Audet** (Pittsburgh, PA), **Wednesday Childs** (Tecomah Park, MD), **Miles Gracey** (Los Angeles, CA), **Wu Hanyen** (Providence, RI), **Keren Oertly** (Nelson, NZ), **Seth Rolland** (Port Townsend, WA), **Emma Senft** (Montreal, QC), and **Sara Tabbert** (Fairbanks, AK), have been selected for "Renewal," the Wharton Esherick Museum's Annual Juried Woodworking Exhibition, through September 7, 2025.

Emily Appenzeller (Rockport, ME) and **Rachel Davis** (Rockland, ME) have formed the nonprofit organization: Tradeswomen of Maine, an association of female identifying tradespeople in mid-coast Maine, providing mentorship and support to women working in the trades or interested in learning a trade.

Keenan Blough (Portland, ME), **Merle Kreuger** (Lincoln, RI), **Geoff McKonly** (Southampton, MA), and **Myrl Phelps** (Danbury, NH) are featured in the Readers Gallery of *Fine Woodworking* August / September 2025 issue. **Drew Perkins** (Washington, DC) was included in the Readers Gallery, February 2025.

Kate Casey of Peg Woodworking (Brooklyn, NY) will be a presenter at the Texas Woodworking Festival, September 2025.

Eliot Childress (Woodland, CA), **Audrey Kasinger** (Stanwood, WA), **Matthew McDermott** (Bend, OR), **Wesley Terrell** (Cranford, NJ), and **Tristan Zak** (Rockport, ME) have been selected as finalists in the Biennial AWFS Fresh Wood Competition, Las Vegas, NV.

David Colwell's (Powys, Wales) ROXi chair was awarded the 2025 Design Guildmark Award from The Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers at Clarkenwell Design Week, May 2025.

Charles Granthum (Brooklyn, NY), **Kate Casey**, and **Jomo Tariku** (Springfield, VA) exhibited at the International Contemporary Furniture Fair (ICFF) and **Maren Jevremov** (Brooklyn, NY) was selected for the Launch Pad for Wanted Design at ICFF, May 2025.

Chelsea Van Voorhis (New Orleans, LA) was featured on the cover of Fine Woodworking *with an article, "Get Started with Marquetry," February 2025.*

Ellie Horsnell's (Seattle, WA) marquetry piece, The Carpentress, was selected for the Taoxichuan Spring Art Exhibition in Jingdezhen, China, May 2025.

Jonathan Lichter (Hartsdale, NY) was featured in the Members Gallery of *American Woodturner*, February 2025.

Hunter Locke (Scarborough, ME) of Black Tenon Woodworking will host the inaugural Maine Woodworkers Festival, August 2025.

Louise Prockter (Washington, DC) and **John Vining** (Spotsylvania, VA) were featured in the Members Gallery of *American Woodturner*, May 2025.

Matthew Shewchuk's (Tokorozawa, Japan) sculpture Duality was selected for "Balance," the 2024 AAW Professional Outreach Program (POP) exhibition and auction.

A profile of **Karina Steele** (Camden, ME) appeared in an article "Old Skills New Tricks" in the Art Issue of *Décor Maine*, 2025.

Olivia Van Oot (Portland, ME) provided a demonstration on Woodworking, Quilting and Gender: Quilting with Veneer at the Furniture Society Conference, June 2025. Additionally, **Teresa Audet**, **Kate Davidson** (Milton, MA), and **Emma Senft** presented a community conversation around sustaining a craft practice.

2025 WORKSHOP AVAILABILITY

While most of our summer and fall workshops are full, remember that this is the time of year when we are most likely to be calling waitlists as students' plans change! If there is a class you're interested in, be sure to call us even if it's full. We currently have space available in:

WORKSHOP TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	DATES
Turning Lidded Containers	Matt Monaco	July 28 - August 1
Advanced Furniture Studio	Adrian Ferrazzutti & Owain Harris	August 18 - September 5
Marquetry	Jim Macdonald	September 15 - 19
Making the Case: Wall Hung Cabinet	Aaron Fedarko & Rob Hiza	September 22 - 26

FACULTY NEWS

The Summer 2025 issue of *American Craft* features **Robell Awake** (Atlanta, GA) in an article on craft in Atlanta. The same issue showcases metalworker **Erica Moody** (Waldoboro, ME), whose work is on exhibition through August in "Across the Spooniverse" at the Mingei International Museum in San Diego, CA.

Ted Blachly (Warner, NH) and **John Cameron** (Gloucester, MA) have work included in the "New Hampshire Furniture Masters: Celebrating 30 Years" exhibit at the Gallery at Somes Sound, Mount Desert, ME, through October 18, 2025.

Vivian Chiu (Henrico, VA) has a solo exhibition, "Family Dinner," at the John & Robyn Horn Gallery at the Penland School of Craft in Bakersville, NC, through August 30, 2025.

Mark Gardner (Saluda, NC) wrote "Turn a Handled Bowl" for the June 2025 issue of *American Woodturner*.

The April 2025 issue of *Fine Woodworking* includes articles by **Andy Glenn** (Waldoboro, ME), **Aspen Golann** (Rollinsford, NH), **Owain Harris** (Gonic, NH), and **Matt Monaco** (Grandview, MO). The June 2025 issue has an article by **Erik Curtis** (Philadelphia, PA) and showcases work by **Brian Reid** (Rockland, ME) and **Seth Rolland** (Port Townsend, WA).

Aspen Golann has been selected as Artisan in Residence at the Metropolitan Museum of Art through a new 18-month residency program sponsored by Vacheron Constantin. The residency includes research at the Met in NYC, Vacheron Constantin's atelier in Geneva, and the Louvre in Paris, culminating in a public display of work at the Met in 2026.

Peter Korn (Rockland, ME) is among eight "Remarkable Mentors" recognized in the current issue of Fine Woodworking. *The article celebrates "masters who have inspired generations," and credits Peter for building the exceptional woodworking center that CFC has become. Other past instructors honored in the article are Tage Frid, James Krenov, Phil Lowe, and Jere Osgood.*

Michael Hosaluk (Saskatoon, SK) was presented the American Association of Woodturner's (AAW) 2025 Professional Outreach Program (POP) award.

Takako Jin (Surrey, UK) received the Master Carver Certificate for Woodcarving, sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Joiners and Ceilers and the City & Guilds of London Institute. The certificate is awarded in recognition of excellence in the practice of woodcarving and a commitment to the training of the next generation.

Patrick Kana (Boston, MA) will be serving as visiting assistant professor at the Hobart and William Smith College in Geneva, NY, in the Sculpture/3D program of their Art & Architecture Department.

The Loewe Foundation's "Craft Prize" exhibition at the Thyssen-Bornemisza National Museum in Madrid, Spain, May 30 – June 29, 2025, featured work by **Laura Mays** (Fort Bragg, CA) and **Aspen Golann**.

Peter Pierobon (Salt Spring Island, BC) was awarded the prestigious Saidye Bronfman Award for 2025, Canada's top prize for craft artists.

The Studio Museum in Harlem (Harlem, NY) recently commissioned four Barrow Chairs by **Michael Puryear** (Shokan, NY) for its permanent collection.

Jim Sannerud (Grand Marais, MN) has an article in the April 2025 issue of *American Woodturner* entitled "My Journey to Natural Finishes."

Curt Theobald (Pine Bluffs, WY) was a panelist at the Oregon Woodturning Symposium in Albany, OR, in March, and at the AAW Symposium in St. Paul, MN, in June. **Kimberly Winkle** (Cookesville, TN) and **Michael Hosaluk** were also panelists in St. Paul.

Kimberly Winkle had two pieces selected for "Nature's Canvas," a global exhibition sponsored by the AAW and SAQA (Studio Art Quilt Associates). The exhibit will open at the Windgate Museum of Art in Conway, AR, in the spring of 2026, and travel internationally through the end of 2028.

Chelsea Witt (Eliot, ME) has been named Executive Director of The Chairmaker's Toolbox.