

Mission

The Center for Art in Wood, formerly the Wood Turning Center, is an arts and educational institution whose mission is leading the growth, awareness, appreciation and promotion of artists and their creation and design of art in wood and wood in combination with other materials.



May 2011

Issue: 17

The Center in 2011 - New Location and New Name

Dear Andrew,

FROM THE CO-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

Albert LeCoff



NEW LOCATION

After 11 years at our location at 501 Vine Street and, as part of the new Strategic Business Plan, the Center committed itself to moving to a more centrally located facility in heart of Philadelphia's Old City Arts District. In 2010, the Board, staff and constituents collectively began planning for the

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Visit the Center and See
Our Inventory in the
Museum Store



Jerry & Deborah Kermode
Wood Turnings available
price range from
\$120 - \$380

move during which time many of you supported the design and engineering work on the building. Initially we anticipated moving to a building adjacent to the John Grass Wood Turning Company on North 2nd Street. Unfortunately, after careful study, renovations to the building proved too expensive. Serendipitously at precisely the same time, a building on North 3rd and Quarry Streets became available.

The Center's new location is 141 N. 3rd Street, between Arch and Race Streets. The Center is ideally situated in close proximity to Snyderman/Works Gallery the Wexler Gallery and the Clay Studio. The new space - the former Iron Works Gym - contains approximately 7,200 square foot. The renovated first floor will include an expansive exhibition space, Museum Store, Community Room and my new office. The "L-shaped" mezzanine level will house the Center's Museum Collection, Library and Archives, a conference room and staff offices. We have a small basement for storage. This space is 50% larger than our current location, and the street is ten times busier. We anticipate annual Center foot traffic to jump from 2,800 in our current location to over 28,000 in the new location. The Center has signed a lease, construction drawings and bids are underway, and we anticipate opening the new location in late summer or early fall 2011.

The Center is extremely grateful to its many constituents who have help the Center raise \$415,000. This amazing number includes \$58,000 from individuals, \$150,000 from the City of Philadelphia; \$100,000 from the Windgate Charitable Foundation; \$50,000 from H.F. (Gerry) Lenfest, and in-kind support from the local Carpenter's Union. The total cost of renovations including new HVAC systems, lighting, archival cabinets for the collection, shelving for the library, pedestals for exhibits and packing and moving is approximately \$561,000.

The Center recently created a fundraising plan in order to to raise the remaining balance of \$146,000. In order to "jump start" our efforts, the Center's Board of Trustees have committed 100% financially to our endeavor. In addition, an anonymous donor along with my brother Alan and myself has created a \$30,000 challenge grant. The Center's Trustees would like to invite you to become a part of this new, exciting era by considering a donation to ensure the successful completion of the Center's move and relocation project. Any gift, large or small, will help the Center meet its match grant of \$30,000 by the end of July 2011.

The Center is also pleased to be able to offer to our prospective donors the Naming Rights Program for the new



Rock Paper Scissors
lines of fun paper products.

Coaster pack of 12 price
\$10.00

Note Books Price
\$10.00

Books



Fruits of Desire:
A Seventeenth-Century
Carved Ivory Cup
by Eike Schmidt
price \$14.95



Univers Revolved:
A Three-Dimensional
Alphabet
by Ji Lee
price \$19.95

Stay Tuned For
Moving Specials!

SAVE THE DATES!

Closes July 23rd

Exotic Woods,

space. The Naming Rights Program contains many levels of giving and, in addition to helping the Center in this exciting endeavor, will allow your generosity to be recognized by all Center visitors. We are pleased to say that several spaces have already been spoken for and that opportunities remain.



NEW NAME

In concert with the Center's new 3 year Strategic Business Plan and move to 141 N. 3rd Street, the Center's Board, staff and constituents have also been undertaking a rebranding of the organization. During the rebranding process, the Center re-examined its mission and vision statements and concluded that the Center's current programming and collections showcased a broader spectrum of art in wood. The Center actively solicited input from the business and cultural communities and its constituents and, through the process, the name *The Center for Art in Wood, formerly the Wood Turning Center*, was selected as most representative of the Center's mission and vision.

The Center was assisted in this endeavor by Finch Brands of Philadelphia. Finch's efforts will include creation of a new logo and design templates for marketing and public relations collateral and implementation strategy.

Metal Cutters and Dale Chase: Ornamental Turnings from the Walter Balliet Collection

(Mar 4 - Jul 23, 2011)

ITE Open Studio Day

Sat: July 16, 2011

10am - 4pm

UArts

allTURNatives:

Form + Spirit 2011

(Aug 5 - Sep 24, 2011)

To Be of Use: 25/35 Year Anniversary Exhibition

Curated by
Gerard Brown

(Oct 7, 2011 - Jan 22,
2012)

Fri: Oct 7: 5-6:30pm
Opening Reception &
Gallery Talk with
Gerard Brown

CALL FOR ARTISTS

**[CHALLENGE VIII:
Bartram's Boxes Remix -
New Perspectives on
John Bartram's Legacy](#)**

**The Center is pleased to
announce the next
Challenge series, an
exhibition call to
furniture makers,**



**sculptors, painters,
printers, video,
instillation,
performance, and multi-
media artists.
Collaborations are
welcome.**

Challenge VIII Bartram's Boxes Remix (BBR) is a collaborative project between the Center and [Bartram's Garden](#), Philadelphia (home of famed 18th century explorer and botanist John Bartram). The title of this project, *Bartram's Boxes Remix*, references the boxes containing seeds, plants, and curiosities that John Bartram began sending to his colleagues in England in 1735, making Bartram's Garden an international hub of plant knowledge and sharing.

Best regards,

Albert LeCoff
Co-Founder & Executive Director

It's In the Name: Naming Rights for New Space

The Center is pleased to announce that it has created a naming rights program for the new space in order to recognize those who have made significant contributions to the Center's move.

Among the spaces already named are the **Gerry Lenfest Gallery** on the 1st floor, the **Fleur & Charles Bresler Resource Library** on the mezzanine and the **Norty Rockler Community Room** on the first floor.

Many opportunities still exist including:

In the spirit of John Bartram's desire to share his passion for trees and other plants, BBR will bring together artists who will create works in wood and other materials from Bartram's Garden. Artists will be able to select from 13 types of wood from the Garden felled by a recent storm. BBR celebrates John Bartram's legacy of discovery and will provide a unique opportunity for artists to "remix" the history, materials and inspiration of one of America's oldest gardens in their work.

- The Collections Study Gallery (Mezzanine - \$50,000)
- Artists' Files (Mezzanine - \$10,000)
- Research Study Area (Mezzanine - \$10,000)
- Executive Director's Office (1st Floor - \$25,000)
- Elevator/Lift (1st Floor/Mezzanine - \$25,000)
- Staff Offices (Mezzanine - \$10,000)
- Museum Collection Cabinets (Mezzanine - 40 total \$2,500 each)
- Conference Room Table (Mezzanine - \$20,000)
- Reception Area (1st Floor - \$25,000)
- Museum Store (1st Floor - \$15,000)
- Wall of Acknowledgement (Reception Area - \$1,500 - \$250)

Naming Right Recognition Includes:

- Custom plaque with donor name and date in named space
- Gallery wall signage at entrance
- Recognition on Center's Website
- Recognition in *Turning Points* newsletter
- Recognition on exhibition invitations and associated press materials
- Additional recognition opportunities can be discussed.

For further information please contact Albert LeCoff at [Naming Rights](#)

Recent Awards to the Center

The Center is extremely pleased to announce that it has been awarded grants from the following funders: **Google.com Foundation**, the **Philadelphia Cultural Fund**, **PA Council on the Arts** and the **Collector's of Wood Art**.

Google is providing the Center with 6 months of in-kind marketing which is valued at approximately \$60,000. When Google users input key words such "museum", "wood", "art", a box containing the Center's information and link to its website will appear on the right side of the search screen. The exposure the Center is receiving from this opportunity is invaluable as, according to statistics, Google is utilized by approximately 5 million individuals each day.

The Center is also grateful to the **Philadelphia Cultural Fund** and City of Philadelphia for their continued support. The recent grant award from the Cultural Fund will be utilized for general operating expenses. Similarly, the **PA**



Available Wood at Bartram's Garden for this project include: Tulip Poplar, Cucumber Magnolia, Bitternut Hickory, Honey Locust, Silver Maple, Yellowwood, Willow Oak, Silverbell, White Mulberry, Paper Mulberry, Osage Orange, Kentucky Coffee Tree and Boxwood



The *Challenge* series provides artists from around the world with a forum to push the frontiers of conceptualizing and executing their work while inviting the public to expand its understanding and appreciation of contemporary art in wood. The *Challenge* series includes works from both established and emerging artists.

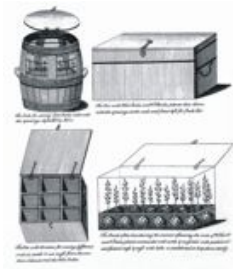
[Learn more about Challenge VIII: Bartram's Boxes Remix](#)

[Download the Application here!](#)



Council on the Arts has awarded the Center two grants -- one for general operating support and the second a Technical Assistance and Professional Development grant.

A special thanks goes to the **Collector's of Wood Art** for their recent support toward the Center's 25th/35th Anniversary Publication. The 25th/35th Anniversary Publication is being developed in concert with the exhibition of the same name by Gerard Brown, the Center's first Resident Fellow Scholar. The publication will include essays by Glenn Adamson, Michelle Holzapfel, Elisabeth Agro, Richard Goldberg, Albert LeCoff and Gerard Brown. Publication is slated for fall 2011.



**Applications are due
August 30, 2011**

Take A Day Off!

Come See the Center's Current Exhibition Before it Closes!

Exotic Woods, Metal Cutters and Dale Chase: Ornamental Turnings from the Walter Balliet Collection

If you haven't had the chance, please stop by the Center and see this amazing collection of turned objects from the Walter Balliet collection. The collection was donated to the Center's Museum Collection by Walter Balliet of Collingswood, NJ. The 200 unusual objects in the exhibition showcase the many aspects of this special art and featured over 80 boxes by the late artist Dale Chase. According to Chase's widow Charlene, the Balliet donation makes the Center's Museum Collection the largest public collection of Chase's work to date.

The exhibition will run through July 23, 2011.

**Meet The Center's
Newest Additions**

**Perry Genovesi,
Library Intern**

Perry Genovesi is a recent graduate of Drexel University's masters Program in Library Information Science. When not at the Center, he is a librarian at the Darby Free Library in Southwest Philadelphia. Perry's duties at the Center include cataloguing the Museum Library's collection of over 800 books and monographs into an accessible database.

Perry also enjoys writing fiction and has been published in *Prick of the Spindle* and *Work Literary Magazine*.

**Erin Scheckenbach,
Collections Intern**

Erin began her internship at the Center in October of 2010. Erin assists Ron Humbertson in the



Walter Balliet

Three Tier Decorative Piece, 1998

Boxwood

Gift of the Artist

Meet the 2011 ITE Resident Fellows

Now in its sixteenth year, the 2011 International Turning Exchange ("ITE") Resident Fellows program will begin in June 2011. This year's Fellows were selected by the ITE Selection Committee whose members include: Doug Finkel (artist/educator, Baltimore, MD); Susan Hagen (artist/educator, Philadelphia, PA); Jack Larimore (artist/educator, Philadelphia, PA); and Mark Sfirri (artist/educator, New Hope, PA). As was the case in 2010, the ITE residency program will again be hosted at the University of the Arts dorms and Wood Shop. This year's ITE fellows include:

Noah Addis, Photojournalist, PA, US

Noah Addis started his career as a photojournalist working with major newspapers. During this time he completed national and international assignments including a story about the growth of Christianity in Africa, coverage of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and a month-long unilateral trip to Iraq to cover the immediate aftermath of the fall of Baghdad. Recently his transition from photojournalist to an independent artist and documentation, has given a new directions in his

cataloguing of the Center's Museum Collection in PastPerfect and Excel software.

Erin graduated with a degree in Art History in the spring of 2010 from Temple University and hopes to continue to work in a museum environment. She lives in nearby Northern Liberties with her very lazy and lovable Labrador-Pitbull mix, Hank.

Amy Hussey, Exhibition Cataloguing Intern

Amy Hussey is currently a graduate student at the University of the Arts in the Museum Communication Masters Program. She graduated from Lehigh University in 2009 with a B.A. degree in anthropology and art history, with a minor in museum studies. Amy's focus within her graduate program is in registrar and collections management.

Stop In and Meet the
Newest Additions to the
Center

Thinking of Giving? Consider the Center's Legacy Program

A major component of the Center's new Strategic Business Plan is the development of the Legacy Program.

perspective. Creating photographs of the artists as they work will be a key part of his documentation during his fellowship this year.



Michael de Forest, Artist/Educator, OR, US

Michael de Forest is interested in the asymmetry of form and curves that flow through his work. Conceptually, de Forest is fascinated by looking at work as portraiture. His use of color and texture supports the physicality of objects being lopsided and showcasing subtle imperfections. During his residency he will be developing a brick building technique he learned in Ghana. Through this process and experiments, he will generate compound curves for sculptures and vessels both functional and non-functional.



Daniel Forrest Hoffman, Artist, PA, US

Daniel Hoffman's artistic career has been full of learning and working with disparate processes and materials. Though Hoffman has a BFA and MFA in ceramics, his work has included various materials and construction- including wood turning. Hoffman's work explores the idea of memories. Intrigued by the simple act of story telling from family, he began developing visual memories and work that represents relatives he has never met. When speaking of the ITE residency, Daniel said "I find creating in an environment where artists from various backgrounds are brought together to be incredibly stimulating."

The Legacy Program is designed to allow our friends, members, donors and constituents the opportunity to give a gift that will survive through the years. The Legacy program will provide donors with a unique, ongoing connection that will honor the wishes and life of the donor and, in turn, provide vital sustainability to the organization.

The Center will be rolling out the Legacy Program shortly. In the interim, to request more information please contact [Legacy Program](#)

Remember to Become a Member!

A special thanks goes out to all who renewed or became a new member during our April membership drive.

Member support is critical to the Center and enables us to run day-to-day operations, present amazing exhibitions and publications and provide critical educational outreach programming.

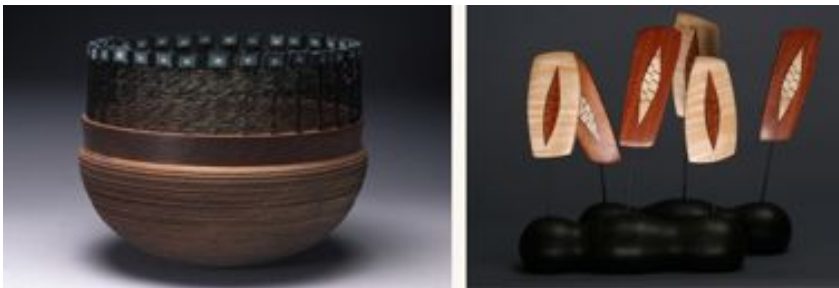
If you haven't done so, please take this opportunity to become a member or renew your membership by clicking on the following link

[Membership](#)



Beth Ireland, Artist, MA, US

Beth Ireland has been making furniture and architectural objects for over 27 years. Through her professional career, she has seen a great change in professional craft colleagues who have grown out of tradition to contemplative objects. Ireland's interests are in the vessel as figurative form and portrait, as well as the historic role of bowl forms that can translate into a modern aesthetic. Her uses of color and alternative materials have expanded her work into combining illustrations and writing within her carved objects. The ITE residency will give Ireland the chance to step outside her isolated shop and see the value of a community exchanging ideas.



Carl Pittman, Artist, NC, US

Carl Pittman's background in Natural Resources Forestry led to his continued connection and passion for wood. Early in his career as an artist, he began shaping canoes and small intricate items. After a 3 year apprenticeship in wood turning with sculptor George Peterson, Carl became a full time studio artist, working with wood through turning and sculpture.

**October 2011:
Mark Your Calendars**

The Center is pleased to let everyone know that work on our website redesign and creation of database for the Museum Collection is on track and on time for our "Go Live" date of October 2011.

We also want to take this opportunity to once again thank our supporters for this project: the **Arts & Business Council of Philadelphia**, the **William Penn Foundation** and the **Windgate Charitable Foundation**.

Stay tuned for future updates!



Kimberly Winkle, Artist, TN, US

Kimberly Winkle employs furniture making and turning techniques to build forms that often become untraditional. Winkle's interests lie in the potential of wood as an expressive element - versus its function. Her use of paint and graphite animate the surface and create surfaces that reflect the artist's hand. The residency, Winkle explained, will enrich her both personally and artistically - it will challenge and inform her work, and ultimately push her ideas and artwork forward into new directions.



Lowery Stokes Sims, Scholar, NY, US

Lowery Stokes Sims is Curator at the Museum of Arts and Design. She was on the education and curatorial staff of The Metropolitan Museum of Art from 1972-1999 where she curated over 30 exhibitions. Sims then served as executive director, president and adjunct curator for the permanent collection at The Studio Museum in Harlem from 2000-2007. A specialist in modern and contemporary art Sims is known for her particular expertise in the work of African, Latino, Native and Asian American artists. At MAD Sims has co-curated *Second Lives: Remixing the Ordinary* (2008) and *Dead or Alive: Artists Respond to Nature* (2010). She was coordinator of MAD's 2010 venue of the exhibition *Bigger, Better More: The Art of Viola Frey* also conceived and co-curated *The Global Africa Project* (2010-11). Sims has lectured nationally and internationally and guest curated many exhibitions at institutions such as the National Gallery, Kingston, Jamaica (2004), The Cleveland Museum of Art and the New York Historical Society (2006) and the Driskell Center at the University of Maryland, College Park (2009). She served as general editor and essayist of the catalogue for

the National Museum of the American Indian's 2008 retrospective of Fritz Scholder. She was Visiting Professor at Queens College and Hunter College in New York City (2005, 2006), a fellow at the Clark Art Institute and Visiting Scholar in the Department of Art at the University of Minnesota in 2007. Sims also served on the selection jury for the World Trade Center memorial in 2003-2004 and is on the board of ArtTable, Inc., the Tiffany Foundation, and Art Matters, Inc.

The 2011 ITE Program:

The ITE participants begin their residency in Philadelphia in June 2011. A Photojournalist and a scholar will join the artists. All will live, travel, and work independently and collaboratively from June 1 until the first week of August. Typical activities include visits to museums, nature areas, historic sites, and public and private collections of art. Sponsored by The Center for Art in Wood, Philadelphia, and hosted by partner University for the Arts (UArts), the residency will focus on research, discussions, studio work, experiments and collaborations.

Saturday July 16 - Open Studio Day - the public is invited into the ITE Residents' shop for demonstrations and discussion.

This event takes place from 10 am until 4 pm at the UArts Wood Working Department in Anderson Hall, 333 South Broad Street. The resident fellows will share their skills and talk about their evolving work, whether in wood, film, writing or other documentation. Visitors can arrive any time after 10 am and stay until 4 pm. Lunch with the group will be available. Please RSVP for shop time and/or lunch at 215-923-8000, info@woodturningcenter.org or visit www.woodturningcenter.org for more information. The donation for Open Studio Day is \$10, payable to The Center for Art in Wood.

The grand finale exhibition for the 2011 ITE program is the exhibit, ***allTURNatives: Form + Spirit 2011***, at **The Center for Art in Wood opens August 5, 2011**. This multi-disciplinary exhibit will reflect each resident fellows' experiences including objects produced before and during the residency. Three-dimensional work will be accompanied by photos, essays, films, journals and other documentation depicting the summer experience. Included will be each fellow's statements about their personal and professional experiences. **The opening reception and gallery talk takes place on First Friday, August 5, 2011 from 5pm to 7:30 pm. On Saturday, August 6, from 2pm to 4pm**, the residents will present a gallery talk for the public about their work and the ITE experience. The *First Friday* opening and

Saturday afternoon discussions are free and open to the public.

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