

# THE Krenov FOUNDATION

## NEWSLETTER      No 1. January 2016

Welcome the first edition of The Krenov Foundation Newsletter. Our plan is to publish twice yearly and to distribute via email. If you receive this newsletter, you will also receive bulletins when there is news we think you might enjoy reading.

### The Krenov Foundation

*Our mission is to support the craft of fine woodworking in Northern California through educational scholarships, organizing exhibitions and publications. We have begun an ambitious program to archive the work of James Krenov and his students with the goal of producing an on-line accessible collection of images, audio and video. The work of James Krenov inspires our mission.*

We were incorporated in the State of California as a Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation on November 15, 2013. We applied for and received status as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit as defined by the United States Internal Revenue Code, which means that donations to the Foundation are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. In the first year of operation we completed the normal start-up tasks essential to the operation of a non-profit corporation, such as adopting bylaws, electing board and officers and establishing operating policies.

### Highlights of the first two years...

#### Scholarships

*One of our key goals is to provide significant scholarship awards to students of the craft. To us, significant means an award large enough to make the difference between whether a student can pursue a program of study in the field of fine woodworking or not. Thus, financial need is a key criterion for the successful applicant.*

Our first award was made in the fall of 2014 to an incoming student at the Fine Woodworking program at College of the Redwoods. The award was for \$3,000, and was designated by an anonymous donor as the Jack Romine Memorial Scholarship Award. Our next award of the Romine scholarship was in the fall of 2015, also to an incoming student at CR. This time the amount was \$5,000. Shortly after that a second anonymous donor provided a donation of \$2,500, and this was split evenly between two second year students at CR. This new scholarship is named the Smith Sorenson Scholarship, honoring two CR woodworking teachers.



## Archiving Krenov

*A second key goal is to create an archive of the work of James Krenov and his students. We believe his contributions to the field of design are significant; worthy of the effort to document them.*

Our plan is to create an accessible, online archival record of images, audio and video. This archive will reside in a website hosted by The Krenov Foundation. The archive will include not only the work of James Krenov, but of his students at the College of the Redwoods Fine Woodworking program. We envision a searchable database including images and descriptive language which will interpret the major themes of his work. We believe such a resource will be of value to students of design and anyone with appreciation of the Krenov approach to craft.

Considerable progress on the archiving project has been made so far, but it is still in the preliminary phases. We have made digital copies of all the video footage we have been able to locate, and have completed enough of the digitizing of 35mm slides to have a good idea of what it will take to complete the balance. We have also created the website where the archive will eventually reside: [www.thekrenovfoundation.org](http://www.thekrenovfoundation.org).

This project will require approximately \$18,000 to complete. Our first grant application for funding was unsuccessful, but we are persistent and will keep after it. From the beginning we envisioned this to be a multi-year project and progress will depend on our success in raising the money to complete it. Once complete, funding will be needed to add to the database as new work is completed and to continue hosting the site.



Justin Mrizak (right), recipient of the 2015 Jack Romine Award, with Michael Burns, chair of the the Krenov Foundation scholarship committee. August 2015.



Doug Flack and Brian Gallagher, joint recipients of the second year scholarship at CRFW. September 2015

The Foundation is always on the lookout for new donors to our growing program.

## Exhibit Support

*In an effort to broadly support the craft of fine furniture making in Northern California, we have also had a role in supporting public exhibits of the craft.*

Most recently we presented The Krenov Foundation Award of \$500 to Greg Zall for his entry in the 2015 Sonoma County Woodworkers *Artistry in Wood* show. In October, Foundation President and CR Fine Woodworking Program Director Laura Mays delivered a lecture on the meaning of Krenov's work at the exhibit.

In 2014 and 2015 the Foundation subsidized shows of fine furniture produced for the College of the Redwoods Fine Woodworking Spring Show in San Francisco at two contemporary art galleries.

The Krenov Foundation also sponsored *Growth Rings*, a juried show of CR graduates work at the Grace Hudson Museum in 2014. In 2014 and 2015 the Foundation subsidized exhibits taken from the annual Spring show of work completed by CR students at galleries in San Francisco.

We plan to continue supporting exhibits and excellence in the field through competitive awards.



Visitors at the show of CR student work at the Dogpatch Gallery in San Francisco. May 2014.

## The Trailer

*Sometimes support for the craft comes down to the practical, and it doesn't get much more practical than the covered trailer we purchased for the Fine Woodworking program at CR.*

Thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation of Mendocino County, we now have a 12-foot covered trailer, well-equipped with an internal tie-down system, for use by the program. So far it has been used to transport fine furniture and display materials to exhibits, and to retrieve donations of woodworking tools which we have re-sold in order to raise funds.



## What's next

We are hoping to get others who share our views on the value of James Krenov's work to join us and to support us. We know the craft of fine woodworking is appreciated by a small cadre of devotees, but that it would find a larger audience if it were better understood. It is our hope that by supporting students of the craft and making examples available for the public to see in person and online, we can help the field grow.

THE *Krenov*  
FOUNDATION