

A HOUSE PARTY AT CRANBROOK

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

Live Auction Items

Tickets to A HOUSE PARTY on sale now at center.cranbrook.edu



***Reproduction
Studio Loja Saarinen
Kingswood
Headmistress's Rug***

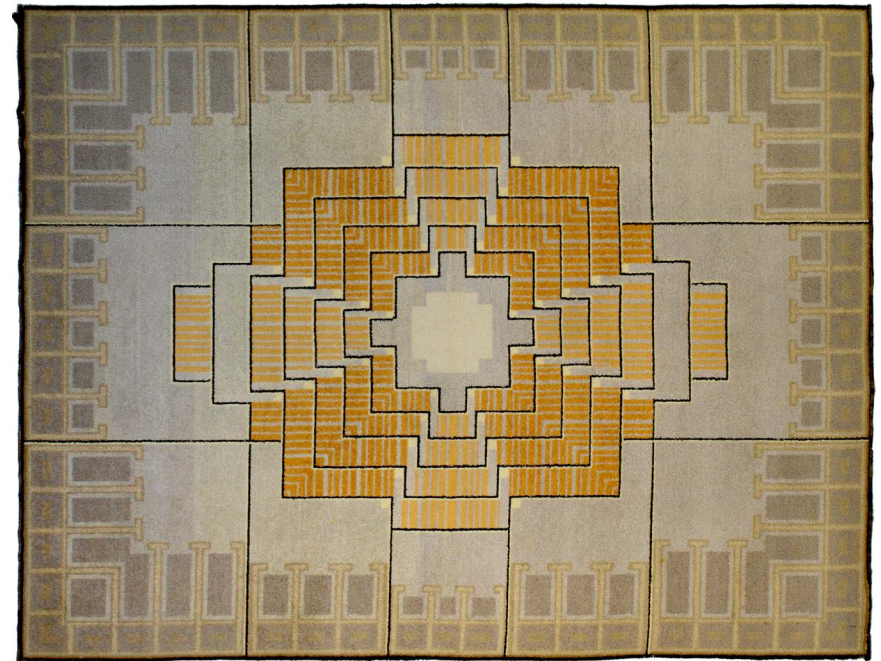
**HAND-KNOTTED
HAND-SPUN TIBETAN AND NEPALESE WOOL
APPROXIMATELY 7'-5" BY 5'-10"
DONOR STATED VALUE: \$4,400**

This remarkable rug has been handmade by weavers in Nepal, skillfully reproducing a 1931 design by Loja Saarinen for the Kingswood School Headmistress's office. The rug's design relates to elements throughout Kingswood—from tapestries to chimneys and radiator screens—but will form a striking, durable centerpiece to a special room in your home.

Loja Saarinen headed the Department of Weaving and Textile Design at Cranbrook Academy of Art while also leading Studio Loja Saarinen, a commercial weaving studio, from 1928 to 1942. The Studio produced handwoven art fabrics, rugs, and window hangings, and much of the Studio's production was for Cranbrook's institutions.

The Center has worked closely with Edmond and Suzanne Hagopian, grandchildren of Haroutun "Harry" Hagopian who immigrated to Detroit in the 1920s and established a carpet cleaning business in 1939, to produce this handwoven reproduction rug.

This item has been generously produced and donated by Hagopian World of Rugs.



Photography Courtesy of Cranbrook Art Museum
Photography Courtesy of Hagopian World of Rugs

Behind-the-Scenes Tour of Eero Saarinen's General Motors Technical Center

WARREN, MICHIGAN

10 GUESTS

BUSINESS DAY, MAY—OCTOBER 2020*

DONOR STATED VALUE: \$1,000

Revel in the delights of what has been described as the “Corporate Cranbrook,” including the shimmering Design Dome, sleek walls of glass and colorful glazed brick, and the floating stairs of the Styling Building. Join former GM designer and retired founder of the GM Design Archive & Special Collections Susan Skarsgard in this rare opportunity to peek into the design heart of one of Detroit’s Big Three.

General Motors Technical Center is a remarkable midcentury masterpiece designed by Cranbrook’s own Eero Saarinen, with assistance from fellow Cranbrook designers including Marianne Strengell and Maija Grotell. Built between 1949 and 1956, the campus houses facilities for research, engineering, and product design. As a work of architecture, it signaled to the world the prosperity, modernity, and futurism of a postwar America—and launched the younger Saarinen to international acclaim.

Susan Skarsgard is the author of the forthcoming book *Where Today Meets Tomorrow: Eero Saarinen and the General Motors Technical Center* published by Princeton Architectural Press.

*This item has been generously donated by General Motors.
Tours of the Technical Center are not available to the public.*



Photography Courtesy of General Motors
James Haefner, Photographer

*on a mutually agreeable date

Tour and Soiree at the Frank Lloyd Wright Turkel House with Owners Dale Morgan and Norman Silk

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

20 GUESTS

JUNE—OCTOBER 2020*

DONOR STATED VALUE: \$2,000

Have an afternoon fete for you and your guests at Wright's 1955 concrete masterpiece in Detroit. Enjoy wine and appetizers as you explore the lush gardens and move through the house, from the soaring music room to the intimate playroom. Discover the rich details of Wright's architecture, furniture, and engineering, and hear stories from the current owners of their painstaking restoration and modernization of the home.

Built when the architect was eighty-eight, this Palmer Woods home was designed for the parking-lot heiress Dorothy Turkel and her family. Constructed with handmade precast concrete blocks, the house is the only two-story example of what Wright called his "Usonian Automatic" construction system. The architect believed this innovative system could prove to be a cost-efficient and labor saving way of building houses across the country, though only a handful were ever realized.

This item has been generously donated by Dale Morgan and Norman Silk of Blossoms in Birmingham and Detroit.



James Haefner, Photographer

*on a mutually agreeable date

Immersive SarasotaMOD Weekend Experience

SARASOTA, FLORIDA

2 GUESTS

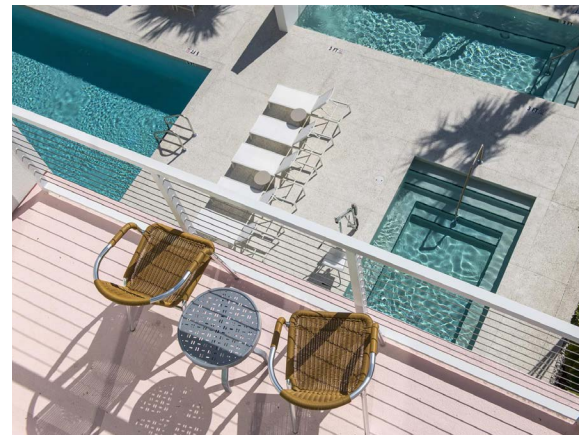
NOVEMBER 8—10, 2019

DONOR STATED VALUE: \$1,350

Fly south for this three-day festival celebrating midcentury modern architecture, design, and art in sunny Sarasota. You'll receive two VIP tickets to the weekend's events, including walking and trolley tours, lectures, and evening parties. Your winning bid also includes a two-night stay at The Sarasota Modern boutique hotel (November 8 and 9) and an exclusive private tour of architect Paul Rudolph's restored 1953 Umbrella House.

The Sarasota Architecture Foundation presents the annual SarasotaMOD Weekend to celebrate the architects and designers of the Sarasota School of Architecture, a regional style of postwar modern architecture characterized by experimental construction. This year's theme, "Sarasota in the Sixties," highlights public and private buildings by architects including Paul Rudolph, Ralph Twitchell, Victor Lundy, and Frank Folsom Smith.

This weekend package has been generously donated by Bruce and Kimberly Peterson. The winner is responsible for flights to Florida, local transportation, and meals.



Photography Courtesy of Dwell Magazine
Photography Courtesy of The Sarasota Modern

Tour of the Portland Japanese Garden with Curator and Designer Sadafumi Uchiyama

PORTLAND, OREGON

5 GUESTS

MAY TO OCTOBER 2020*

DONOR STATED VALUE: \$350

Immerse yourself in the serenity and beauty of America's premier Japanese garden. Leave your worldly worries behind as you experience this phenomenal work of landscape design alongside the Garden Curator, landscape architect, and third generation Japanese gardener Sadafumi Uchiyama. The tour concludes with tea and sweets in the Umami Café, part of the Garden's 2017 Cultural Crossing expansion project designed by the world-renowned Japanese architect Kengo Kuma.

Nestled in the hills overlooking Portland, since 1963 the Japanese Garden has provided a tranquil oasis for the city. Covering twelve acres with eight separate garden styles, you'll experience an authentic Japanese tea house, meandering streams, intimate walkways, and spectacular views of Mt. Hood.

This item has been generously donated by Sadafumi Uchiyama, who is designing the Master Plan for the Cranbrook Japanese Garden. The winner is responsible for all travel arrangements.



Photography Courtesy of Portland Japanese Garden

*on a mutually agreeable date

Tour of the Gustav Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms & Lunch with Executive Director Vonda Givens

PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY

4 GUESTS

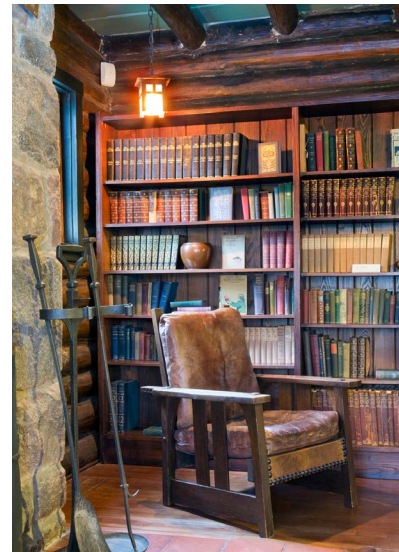
OCTOBER 2019—OCTOBER 2020*

DONOR STATED VALUE: \$700

Dart forty-five minutes outside of New York to experience the beauty of handcrafted art and architecture at Gustav Stickley's Craftsman Farms. Delight in an intimate look at the extraordinary Craftsman details, including many original furnishings, of Stickley's "Garden of Eden." Alongside the museum's Executive Director Vonda Givens, tour the Log House, Stickley's masterpiece and family home, the North Cottage, and the new Education Center (to be completed in early 2020). Reflect on your experience over a delicious lunch with Vonda Givens at the nearby Tabor Road Tavern and depart with a special gift to remember your visit.

The country estate of designer Gustav Stickley, from 1911 to 1915 Craftsman Farms served as a gathering place for workers, students, and visitors who came to learn about the Arts and Crafts movement in decorative arts, home building, and furnishing styles. Stickley combined the roles of designer and manufacturer, architect, publisher, philosopher, and social critic. Here at Cranbrook, his furniture filled the dormitories of Cranbrook School for Boys.

*This item has been generously donated by Vonda Givens.
The winner is responsible for all travel arrangements.*



Photography Courtesy of Craftsman Farms
Doug Stivison, Photographer

*on a mutually agreeable date

Behind-the-Scenes Tour and Dinner at the Fabulous Fox Theatre

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

10 GUESTS

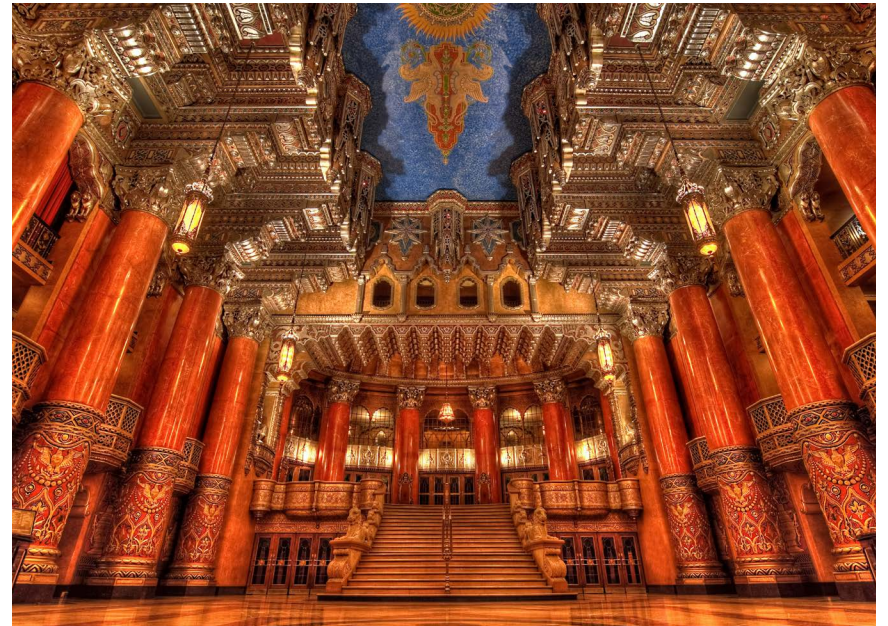
OCTOBER 2019—OCTOBER 2020*

DONOR STATED VALUE: \$5,000

It's Showtime! Walk in the legendary footsteps of Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, and the icons of Motown in this one-of-a-kind, magical experience. Go behind the scenes of the spectacular Fox Theatre and enjoy 90 years of American history, from the Golden Age of movies to the birth of Motown to the recent Presidential Debates. Learn how this National Historic Landmark has amazed, inspired, and united Detroiters for nearly a century. After your exclusive tour, enjoy an imaginative private dinner on the stage of the majestic theater itself. This experience is not to be missed.

The Fox Theater opened in 1928 as the flagship movie palace of film pioneer William Fox. Architect Charles Howard Crane designed the building in an eclectic revival style, bringing influences from Hindu, Asian, Byzantine, and Islamic architecture together with skill and creativity. With its ten-story marquee, half-a-block lobby, and 5,048 seats in the auditorium, it is one of the largest theaters in the world. The theater was carefully restored in 1988 by owners Mike and Marion Ilitch.

*This item has been generously donated by the
Kelle and Christopher Ilitch Family.*



Photography Courtesy of Olympia Entertainment

*on a mutually agreeable date

***Dinner for Four at the
Saarinen-Designed
Koebel House
with Owners Jim Kelly
and Mariam Noland***

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS, MICHIGAN
4 GUESTS
OCTOBER 2019—JULY 2020*
DONOR STATED VALUE: \$1,000**

Step inside this gem of a home built for the owners of the Koebel Diamond Tool Company by Cranbrook's architect Eliel Saarinen. Explore the house's built-in furniture, exquisite brickwork, hand-painted decorations by Pipsan Saarinen Swanson with the home's second and current owners, Jim Kelly and Mariam Noland. Sit down for a relaxed dinner in the original dining room, underneath the silvery circular ceiling and lantern reminiscent of the Saarinen's own at Cranbrook.

Commissioning Eliel Saarinen for a house after meeting him aboard an ocean liner bound for Europe, industrialist Charles Koebel and his wife Ingrid moved into their sumptuous modern home in 1940. The house was a collaboration between Eliel, his wife Loja, son Eero, daughter Pipsan, and son-in-law J. Robert F. Swanson.

*This item has been generously donated by
Jim Kelly and Mariam Noland.*



Photography Courtesy of Jim Kelly and Mariam Noland
James Haefner, Photographer

*on a mutually agreeable date

Behind-the-Scenes Tour and Tile Making Workshop at Pewabic Pottery with Executive Director Steve McBride

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

2 GUESTS PER BID (UP TO 20 GUESTS)

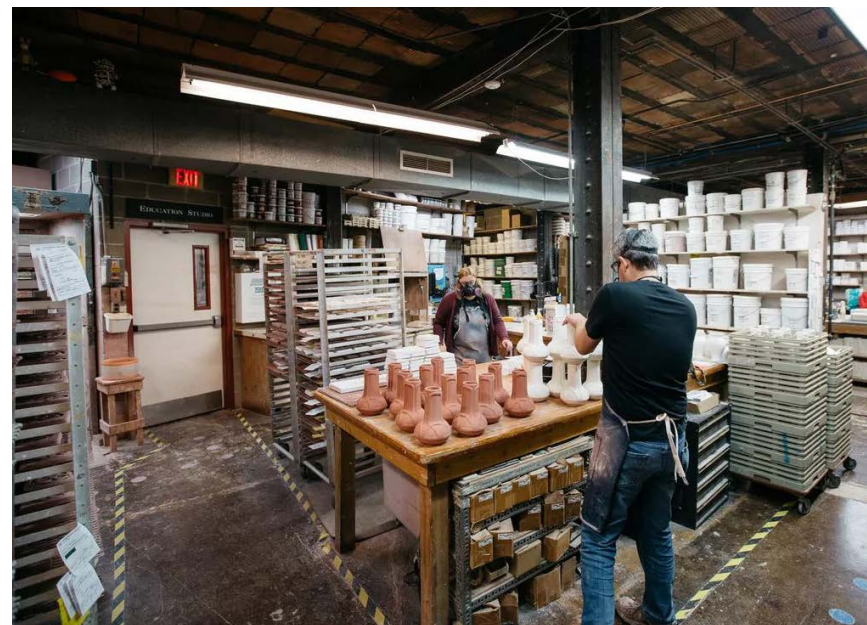
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019, 6:00—9:00PM

DONOR STATED VALUE: \$150 PER COUPLE

Join a group of Cranbrook patrons for an exclusive experience at the legendary Pewabic Pottery in Detroit with both the Pottery's Executive Director Steve McBride and the Cranbrook Center's Director Gregory Wittkopp. After a behind-the-scenes tour with Steve McBride, including some rarely discussed details about the Cranbrook — Pewabic connection revealed by Gregory Wittkopp, you will don an apron and be deputized as a craftsperson and participate in all the steps it takes to give a clump of clay new life as a Pewabic tile with a stunning glaze. The experience will include wine, hors d'oeuvres, and, a few weeks later, your fired tile.

Pewabic is a National Historic Landmark pottery founded in 1903 by Mary Chase Perry Stratton and Horace Caulkins. Stratton produced works at Cranbrook for George Booth, including the beautiful Baptistry at Christ Church and the stunning Green Lobby at Kingswood. Today Pewabic continues to be an architectural tile studio, educational space, and vibrant cultural destination.

*This item has been generously donated by
Steve McBride and Pewabic Pottery.*



Photography Courtesy of Curbed
Photography Courtesy of Pewabic Pottery

An Evening at the Frank Lloyd Wright- designed Smith House with Kevin Adkisson

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN

8 GUESTS

OCTOBER 2019—OCTOBER 2020*

DONOR STATED VALUE: \$800

As the curator responsible for the research and interpretation of the Center's Cultural Properties, Kevin Adkisson has focused his attention on updating the visitor experience in the Center's three historic house museums, including the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Smith House. Join Kevin on a magical evening tour of the Smith House and hear about his newest discoveries. From tales of a drawing for the landscape found under a mattress to his research on the vibrant new upholstery, you'll experience this landmark like no ordinary visitor. The tour will include classic Sara Smith refreshments, served while seated at the original dining room table designed by the master.

The Smith House is an excellent example of the Wright's Usonian ideal, which aimed to build quality houses for the American middle class. Completed in 1950, this little gem was the home and life's work of Sara and Melvyn Smith, two Detroit schoolteachers who worked tirelessly to achieve their dream. The home and its collection of fine and decorative art was donated to Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research in 2017 by The Towbes Foundation with support from Anne Smith Towbes and the late Michael Towbes.



Courtesy of SEEN Magazine, Brett Mountain, Photographer
James Haefner, Photographer

*on a mutually agreeable date



A HOUSE PARTY AT CRANBROOK

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

...See you there!

**Tickets to A HOUSE PARTY on sale now at center.cranbrook.edu
or by calling Kathryn Dimond at 248.645.3215**