In the fall of 2001, the relocation of the Maloof residence and woodworking shop from Highland and Amethyst to Carnelian and Hidden Farm Road was completed. From February to March 2001, the residence, which Sam built over a forty year period and occupied with his late wife Alfreda, was broken into eight sections and gradually moved at night on large flatbed trucks. Slimen Maloof, Sam and Alfreda’s son, remembers the heart-wrenching night the first section of the house he grew up in was moved. “It has been a bittersweet emotional roller coaster of an experience. To see a place you’ve known and loved your whole life, moving like box cars, illuminated by street lights in the middle of the night, was extremely eerie and surrealistic. Hundreds of thoughts flashed through my mind and the one I really remember was how glad I was that my mom didn’t have to go through this.”

During the next six months the Maloof residence was painstakingly reassembled, section by section, brick by brick, with great care given to historic accuracy. “Burge Construction did an excellent job of preserving the historic fabric and making the landscape and planters immediately surrounding the residence as close to the former setting as possible”, commented Dr. Knox Mellon, State Historic Preservation Officer.

The relocation of the Maloof residence was caused by the extension of the 210 freeway through the Maloof home. Because the residence had been deemed eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and federal funds were involved, it was necessary to enter into a mitigation process under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The mitigation, which saved the Maloof home from demolition, is a model for preserving unique historic structures. According to Dr. Hans Kreutzberg, Supervisor of the Cultural Resources

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About the Foundation

The Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts, a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, was established as part of the mitigation arising from the extension of the 210 Freeway through the original Maloof property on Highland Ave. The mitigation provided for relocation of the Maloof residence and woodworking shop to a new comparable site, construction of a new residence for the Maloofs on the new site, and the creation of a Foundation that would own the site and be responsible for the preservation and maintenance of the structures and grounds.

The Foundation perpetuates and celebrates the artistic legacy of Sam and Alfreda Maloof – their vision of recognizing and celebrating fine artists who create timeless treasures with their hands. The Foundation will operate a cultural center/museum, develop education programming, and be responsible for the conservation of the superb collection of arts, crafts and artifacts acquired by the Maloofs and displayed in the museum. Creating a pre-eminent, unique center for arts and crafts that is an asset for the larger community and draws artists, craftsmen, scholars, school children, teachers and the general public is a primary goal of the Foundation. In doing so, the Foundation hopes to heighten awareness of the ever increasing role of craft in our world of machine made products – the reconnecting of human values with natural forms and materials.

Opening...

“Guest House” Bookstore

The Sam and Alfreda Maloof Bookstore is open and waiting for you! Open during regular tour hours (Thursdays and Saturdays, 1 – 4 p.m.), the bookstore features Sam’s autobiography, Sam Maloof Woodworker, Jeremy Adamson’s The Furniture of Sam Maloof, Alfreda Maloof’s Reflections From My Time in the Indian Service, Sam Maloof’s woodworking video, note cards, posters, rocking chair magnets and t-shirts. In the store’s fine arts and crafts section are works from artists selected by Sam.
Quotes from Sam

“I am not interested in producing images of flowers – a reflection of Sam’s love of the environment and cradles were pictures of flowers – a reflection of Sam’s love of the environment. Sam showed a video produced by the Smithsonian’s Renwick Gallery for his 70 piece retrospective held from September – January 20, 2002 and showed slides of his furniture and workshop. Interspersed between rocking chairs, tables and cradles were pictures of flowers – a reflection of Sam’s love of the environment and belief that it is almost impossible to create anything as beautiful as nature does.

The Maloof property will be using California native plants and flowers. It is difficult for me to explain how I reach the conclusion on how a chair is to be made – the height, the depth, the width, the cant of the seat to the back – I have no formula or answer. I do it by feel…design is a matter of instinct and feeling, a matter of intuition and inner impulse.”

From Sam Maloof, Woodworker by Sam Maloof

Leaf bowl by Kay Sekimachi, who made her first leaf bowl in 1996. Sometimes Ms. Sekimachi pastes the leaves to sheer tinted paper cut in the shape of leaves and pasted and pressed to the mould for support and stability and sometimes she uses paper just at the base to help hold the leaves together.

From the Maloof Arts & Crafts Collection

The Gamble House Master Craftsman Award

On Sunday, September 29, 2002, the Friends of The Gamble House will honor Sam Maloof with The Gamble House Master Craftsman Award for Excellence at a reception from 5 to 7:30 p.m., at the Robert R. Blacker house (Greene & Greene, 1907) in Pasadena. The Gamble House Master Craftsman Award has been conferred just once before, in 1987, on architects Donald Hensman and the late Conrad Buff, whose homes represent a level of design and craftsmanship rarely seen today. Sam Maloof’s work upholds nobly the spirit of this award. A self-taught artist, Sam’s talent and skill span more than 50 years. His name is synonymous with high-art furniture delicately crafted with precision, a genre he elevated to new stature and status.

Edward (Ted) Bosley, Director of the Gamble House, remarked, “Sam’s work in wood is rich with the sensuous elegance and simplicity that exemplify the work of Green and Greene as well as the very best of contemporary craft. The Gamble House and Sam Maloof have long enjoyed an abiding mutual respect, and we recognize that with this award.” At the Master Craftsman Award ceremony, guests will tour the main level of the Blacker House and enjoy refreshments in the garden. Proceeds from the reception will be donated to the Partners in Preservation campaign for the restoration of The Gamble House, and a contribution also will be made to the Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts. For reservations call (626) 793-3334, ext. 16. Tickets are $100 per person.

Sam to be Honored with Beverly Hills Presents Special Exhibit of Sam Maloof Furniture

Beverly Hills City Hall’s new art gallery is temporary home to 24 exquisite pieces of Sam Maloof’s handmade furniture. The exhibit opened July 1 with a lecture by Sam Maloof and a dessert reception. Sam’s lecture was part of the “Beverly Hills Forum”, a lecture series begun by the City that features prominent personalities from the worlds of entertainment, arts, commerce, medicine, public affairs and the like. Sam drew a crowd of more than 250 people who filled the Council Chambers and two adjacent rooms. Mayor MeraLee Goldman, a long time friend of Sam’s, gave a warm, personal introduction of him. Referring to the first time she saw his furniture she said, “I had never seen anything like it – woods that came together and joined in a way that brought their grains into wonderful patterns – pieces that just felt good to the touch of your hand – arms of chairs that invited you to sit in and enjoy them and to feel as if you were very, very special just for experiencing the feel of the furniture.” Sam showed a video produced by the Smithsonian’s Renwick Gallery for his 70 piece retrospective held from September – January 20, 2002 and showed slides of his furniture and workshop. Interspersed between rocking chairs, tables and cradles were pictures of flowers – a reflection of Sam’s love of the environment and belief that it is almost impossible to create anything as beautiful as nature does.

Beverly’s Garden

In addition to the fine and whimsical architecture of the original Maloof residence, a major attraction of the Maloof home was its 5 acre setting, filled with lemon and eucalyptus trees and hundreds of varieties of plants. Sam’s wife, Beverly Maloof, has assumed responsibility for transforming the new 5 acre site of citrus, oaks, eucalyptus and an incredible natural arroyo into a wondrous discovery garden. Rick Fisher, talented landscape architect of Toyon Design, has created a master plan to realize the Foundation’s environmental vision. Maloof, has assumed responsibility for transforming the new 5 acre site of citrus, oaks, eucalyptus and an incredible natural arroyo into a wondrous discovery garden. Rick Fisher, talented landscape architect of Toyon Design, has created a master plan to realize the Foundation’s environmental vision.

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See our next newsletter for more information.

From Kay Sekimachi, Paper Foldings and Other Hanging Crafts & Decorations, 1991.

The Maloof Arts & Crafts Collection

Leaf bowl by Kay Sekimachi, who made her first leaf bowl in 1996. Sometimes Ms. Sekimachi pastes the leaves to sheer tinted paper cut in the shape of leaves and pasted and pressed to the mould for support and stability and sometimes she uses paper just at the base to help hold the leaves together.

This issue’s featured artist is Kay Sekimachi, noted for her use of unusual materials and designs. Ms. Sekimachi studied at the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland and at the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Liberty, Maine and served on the faculty of the adult division of San Francisco Community College from 1965 to 1986. Her work has been shown in over two dozen solo or two-person exhibitions, including the Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian Institution and the National Museum of American Art. On October 5, 2002, she will receive the American Crafts Council Gold Medal for consummate craftsmanship. Ms. Sekimachi’s chosen instrument is the boom on which she has made three-dimensional monofilament hangings, linen-fold books and other objects. Of her leaf bowls she commented: “The leaves are beautiful in themselves, but when laminated around a mould for support and stability and sometimes she uses paper just at the base to help hold the leaves together.”
Please welcome the following new Friends

Phil and M.J. Abraham, Subscriber
James V. Anderson, Subscriber
Julie Bagish, Subscriber
Jessie Barragan, Eagle Tools, Patron
Sioox Bally, Sustaining
Frances Barlotti, Patron
Al Bell, Subscriber
Louise Bloom, Subscriber
Edward R. Bosley, Patron
Linda and Gary Briskman, Patron
Chattel Architecture, Planning & Preservation, Corporate
Bill and Irene Coburn, Subscriber
Joan Golding, Subscriber
James Gregory, Subscriber
Mike Hernandez, Patron
William and Mary Louise Hunter, Patron
Vickie and John Ivey, Subscriber
Anne Lynch, Patron
Lilliane Ounn McCain, Sustaining
Georgia McManigal, Subscriber
Bob Meese, Subscriber
Carlotta and Knox Mellon, Patron
Don and Martha Milner, Patron
Kay and Dave Mowry, Subscriber
Chris Pate, Subscriber
Tom and Barbara Peckenbaugh, Subscriber
Edith and George Pines, Patron
Ranchos Cucamonga Chamber of Commerce, Supporting
John and Beth Reff, Patron
Michael Rosberg, Patron
Garrett Scott, Patron
Tahir and Caynor Souzet, Subscriber
Cristina Vallanatos, Subscriber
David and Katherine Warren, Supporting
Clair and Scott Wilson, Subscriber
Patricia and Stuart Winston, Patron
Ray Winiarski, Subscriber
Stephen and Connie Zetterberg, Subscriber
Milford and Patricia Zomes, Supporting

Friends Program

FRIENDS OF THE SAM AND ALFREDA MALOOF FOUNDATION FOR ARTS AND CRAFTS

Because of the cost of maintaining the property and developing programs, the Foundation has launched a general membership program. If you are interested in becoming a “Friend of the Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts” contributing to the Foundation’s endowment campaign, making a bequest or other planned gift or would like further information, please contact Carlotta Mellon at (909) 980-0412 or at malooffoundation@earthlink.net.

Annual Member Fees and Benefits:

Friends’ contributions help conserve and maintain the Foundation’s art collection, structures and grounds, as well as support Foundation programs that seek to create an awareness of the way in which crafts enrich our culture.

Sustaining: $1,000.00 and above
Supporting: $250.00
Patron: $125.00
Subscriber: $45.00
Student: $35.00
Corporate: $2,500 and above

Sustaining: Newsletter subscription, unlimited free tours during regularly scheduled public tours, 20% discount at book/gift shop, free attendance at symposia and lectures; private group tour available upon request.

Supporting: Newsletter subscription, 5 free tours during regularly scheduled public tours, 15% discount at book/gift shop, free attendance at symposia and lectures.

Patron: Newsletter subscription, 5 free tours annually during regularly scheduled public tours, 10% discount at book/gift shop, member rate for symposia and lectures.

Subscriber: Newsletter subscription, 2 free tours annually during regularly scheduled public tours, member rate for symposia and lectures.

Student: Newsletter subscription, 1 free tour annually during regularly scheduled public tours; member rate for symposia and lectures.

Corporate: Sustaining member benefits and special arrangements to suit your needs.

Please contact Carlotta Mellon at (909) 980-0412 or at malooffoundation@earthlink.net.

Introducing the Foundation Executive Director

Prior to becoming Executive Director of the Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts on January 1, 2002, Carlotta Mellon, Ph.D., served as Chief of Staff to the Mayor Ron Loveridge, City of Riverside. Dr. Mellon’s background includes teaching positions at San Diego State University and Pomona College, serving as Appointments Secretary to Governor Jerry Brown, Executive Director of Public Affairs for Pacific Telesis Group, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor at U.C. Riverside and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Community and Governmental Relations at UCL. Her non-profit experience includes nine years on the Board of Directors of the Carmel Bach Festival – two as president – two years on the Executive Board of the Inland Empire Symphony, seven years on the Board of Trustees of the Stevenson School, and thirteen years on the Board of Trustees for the Claremont University Center. Mellon commented in an interview, “To help shape the Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts and develop programs that will allow future generations to see and appreciate the work of Master Woodworker Sam Maloof and the superb arts and crafts collection he and his late wife Alfreda gathered is a most exciting and unique opportunity.”

Carlotta Mellon, Ph.D.

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Foundation Seeks Docents

The Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation is recruiting docents to conduct tours of the historic Maloof residence. Docents will receive intensive training that includes information on the residence, its furnishings and arts and crafts collections. Docents may undertake concentrated study in an area of special interest, such as Native American arts and crafts, ceramics, textiles, and the artists whose works are part of the Maloof collection. Our volunteers are dearly valued, so we will work around your schedule and level of interest. Please contact the Foundation office at (909) 980-0412 or at malooffoundation@earthlink.net if you want to learn more about or sign up for this exciting and fulfilling volunteer opportunity.

Relocation Completed!

Program for the State Office of Historic Preservation, “The Section 106 undertaking on the Sam Maloof/Route 30 Project, was in my judgment, one of the most successful win-win mitigations in California preservation history. Sam and Alfreda Maloof received fair market value for their historic property, a foundation was established with a three million dollar endowment to perpetuate the woodworking achievements of Sam Maloof, the home was successfully relocated and a new freeway is under construction.”

What is today a 22 room residence began as a three room home in 1932. Over the years, Sam added a room here, a tower there; an upstairs gallery and a new wing that contained a master bedroom and bath, staircase room, tower bridge and guest room. Showing the same craftsmanship and eye for detail that he does in furniture making, Sam constructed an architectural jewel that reflects his unique sense of design and love of wood.

A year prior to the relocation of the original residence, Sam moved to a new residence on the Carmelian site that he designed and occupies with his wife Beverly.
October 27, 2002
Grand opening of Maloof historic residence
12:00: Welcoming ceremony
12:30 – 4:00 p.m.: Tours of historic and new residences and woodworking shop and Lebanese buffet lunch
$75 per person by reservation

October 31, 2002
Regular public tours of historic Maloof residence begin
Reservations required
Fee: $10; Seniors $8; Students $5
Hours: 1–4 p.m. Thursdays and Saturdays
Group tours, $15 per person by special arrangement

Board of Directors

Anne Ashford, Director of Development, Catholic Education Foundation
Walter Boldig, Retired businessman
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Patrick Ela, Arts consultant
Jerry Foster, Woodworker
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Sam Maloof, Woodworker
Slimen Maloof, Woodworker
Ted Maloof, Attorney
Roy Miller, Attorney
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Joe Unis, M.D., Radiologist
Larry White, Woodworker
Diane Williams, Councilwoman, City of Rancho Cucamonga
Carlotta Mellon, Ph.D., Executive Director

The name of our newsletter The Wooden Latch, coined by Sioux Bally, was inspired by all the unique hand-carved latches designed and executed by Sam that are found throughout the Maloof home.