



## **Launching 40/30 Anniversary - 1976 – 2016**

### **40 Years of Vision / 30 Years of Programming**

#### **Reflecting as We Move Forward**

Every year at the Center is special to me, defined by the exhibitions, Windgate ITE International Residency, and programs we've sponsored or on which we have partnered. 2015 wraps up a very successful year of exhibits, but 2016 will be very special for me and Center co-founder, my brother, Alan. Exciting exhibitions await you!

Next year marks my 40th anniversary of programming and symposiums, always with Alan's assistance. Years of work in the 1970's evolved into establishing the Center with Alan in 1986. In 2016, the Center gets 31 candles on its cake as a small focused global nonprofit, with an extra candle to grow on. What a double-barreled milestone to experience—our 30th and 40th anniversaries!

Programing has always necessitated collaboration, and even today we build on the past. To all our early partners - 40 years is your victory too because your participation and wallets and skills made it all possible!

From the 1970's through 2000, we had programs and exhibitions, but no public space. Finding museums and community centers to take Center exhibits took up many of my working hours. Crating and insurance and trucking presented major logistics, and compounded my experience. Books and documentation required sponsors and publishers; professional writers; editors and administrators. From 2000 to the present, the Center has been in public locations.

So, by the numbers:

- 3 national book awards for design, brought to us by Dan Saal, Studio Saal, California (dysFUNctional, Turning to Art in Wood, Bartram's Boxes Remix)

- 4 locations - all based in Philadelphia, PA, USA
- 10 years at 501 Vine Street; symposia at the George School, Bucks County, PA
- 20 years of the Windgate ITE International Residency, with host partners at University of the Arts, Philadelphia; Moore College of Art, Philadelphia; George School, PA
- 20+ books documenting artists and their art made from wood, and wood plus other materials
- 30 years as a global 501c3
- 40 years as project manager, then Executive Director, working on one idea after another after another ...
- 50 administrators: accountants, book partners, carpenters, collection advisors, committee members, computer geeks, designers, editors, educators, exhibition coordinators and registrars, landlords, museum store associates, pedestal and platform builders, expert volunteers, writers
- 60+ exhibitions - on site and touring (***Bartram's Boxes Remix*** is traveling now)
- 100's of collaborators, funders, grants, partners, sponsors, trustees, Turning Points
- 1,000's of artists, members, objects
- 13,000 visitors a year at 141 N. 3rd Street, Old City Philadelphia
- 1 great co-founder and brother, and 1 great wife—always involved, always there

It's a flashback and a privilege to write this today. We are just launching the 40/30 celebration. As we face the challenges of the Center's fourth decade, we hope you'll continue to join us for the fun and the work. Please bring your children and friends and collaborators. We have much to do - to present innovative exhibitions, conserve the museum collection and archives, and turn people on - the way art from wood has turned us all on. We also have an endowment plan to populate to secure the Center's future.

Thank you for helping make all of this happen! We are a nonprofit and we need you: every membership and donation helps. Join us at the Center and online as often as you can.

Best wishes for 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized 'Q' or 'J' shape followed by a horizontal line.