



Brookfield Craft Center

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October, 2010

Dear Friend of the Craft Center,

Not everyone gets a second chance. With your support, Brookfield Craft Center will get that opportunity.

This past May, we suspended operations in order to regroup and prevent our financial difficulties from becoming terminal. Under the direction of a new Executive Director and the Board of Directors, a group of dedicated professionals volunteered their time and expertise to formulate a new business plan. As a result, we'll be making many changes, including reaching out to more of our community by offering after school programs, parent/child classes, master classes for advanced students, and an apprenticeship program with a progressive curriculum and certificate of proficiency of skills training. We'll be offering studio rental time for students who want to perfect their talents. We're considering opening an artist's cooperative to give working artists a venue to connect with customers and sell their work.

Our goal is for Brookfield Craft Center to regain its prominence as a nationally known center for fine craft education.

To date, we have successfully reduced our expenses and debt. We've already begun a new schedule of fall classes and are making preparations for the November 20th opening of our 35th Annual Holiday Exhibition and Sale, which will be staffed by a dedicated volunteer base.

A few months ago, generous contributions allowed us to pay off a significant part of our debt and begin the rebuilding process. In seeing our progress, the Windgate Foundation has offered **a matching funds grant of \$100,000**. Through the end of this year, every donation we receive, up to a total of \$100,000, will be **doubled**. If you donate \$100, we will receive \$200. If your company has a matching gift program, we will receive a total of \$400 for your \$100 donation. We've already received \$30,000 in contributions towards that goal.

It is essential to our financial success that supporters like you help us meet this challenge during the grant timeframe. We need your support now to take advantage of this one-time opportunity.

It is only with your generous financial support that Brookfield Craft Center can achieve our mission "to teach and preserve the skills of fine craftsmanship and enable creativity and personal growth through craft education."

If it takes a village to raise a child, **it takes a community** to support an organization like the Craft Center. We are a unique resource. Please support our efforts.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

William Markus
President, Board of Directors

Richard J. Herrmann
Executive Director