



HANDMADE
in AMERICA

HANDMADE:
The Western
North Carolina
*Craft, Architecture
& Design Expo*
JUNE 25 & 26, 2010

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Tour Private Homes and Offices Filled with Craft

HandMade in America, known for its successful efforts to establish Western North Carolina as the national destination for the handmade object, offers a unique opportunity to visit private homes and offices where the focus is on craft. Using handcrafted architectural and design elements, architects, designers and clients have created unique, personalized spaces for working and living.

The tours are a component of *HandMade: The Western North Carolina Craft, Architecture & Design Expo*, a new regional event bringing together craft entrepreneurs, architects, builders, designers and the public to experience the possibilities and access resources for purchasing or commissioning an original work for the home. Through model rooms, workshops and presentations, participants will be inspired and educated about integrating craft in the built environment.

Visit as many as seven different sites on two tours offered twice daily for attendees of the HandMade Expo. The small group guided tours depart on 15-passenger vans each morning and afternoon from The North Carolina Arboretum. Each tour visits three locations and a special exhibition at The Grovewood Gallery. Tours are \$25 each per person in addition to the regular Expo admission fee.

HandMade: The Western North Carolina Craft, Architecture & Design Expo will be held June 25 and 26 at The North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville. Tickets at \$15 per day or \$25 for both days will be available, along with additional information on the event web site at www.handmadeinamerica.org/designexpo.

Funding for the project has been provided by The North Carolina Rural Center, The Golden Leaf Fund, the North Carolina Arts Council, the Beattie Foundation, Windgate Charitable Foundation, Buncombe County, and Grovewood Gallery.

Each tour will include historic and modern homes, new construction, and renovation in different neighborhoods. A 1902 Victorian kitchen addition in Montford showcases handcrafted kitchen cabinets, built-in furniture, a dry-stack stonewall and handmade door. In Biltmore Forest a renovated Tudor features stone, iron, and wood work by local artists. A renovated 1920's cottage serving as an office includes furniture, iron handrails and firescreen, glass and ceramic objects. Renovation of a 1911 Arts and Crafts cottage was featured in *Style 1900* magazine. Modern style

in new construction takes advantage of views from Reynolds Mountain, and Pisgah House on the UNCA campus offers an example of large- scale livable space incorporating craft. The tours illustrate the tremendous craft resources that are a unique and vital part of the region, emphasizing craftsmanship in architectural elements and design for both the high-end and mid-range markets.

HandMade: The Western North Carolina Craft, Architecture & Design Expo is part of an ongoing program of HandMade in America to enable artists to compete more effectively with international and national suppliers, bring architects, builders and designers into contact with the outstanding artists of the region, provide homeowners with inspiration, ideas and access to resources, and establish WNC as the center for the handcrafted home. Other activities include Artist Sourcebooks and an on-line Craft Registry of qualified craftspeople to work in home construction and design, and The HandMade House at the Ramble, an example of how the well-thought-out integration of regional craft takes a home to a new level.

Several local hotels are offering special rates for out-of-town attendees. Tickets will be sold beginning in March 2010. A list serve and Facebook page are available for those interested in receiving regular event updates. Additional information is available on the event web site at www.handmadeinamerica.org/designexpo.

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