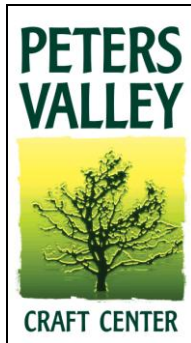


August 27, 2009



Dear supporter,

What happens at Peters Valley is not only “skills gained”, but also “lives changed”. Here is just one story. During our annual Open House, Mike Kernor discovered Peters Valley and became mesmerized with blacksmithing. He volunteered to be a work exchange student and worked very hard making much-needed repairs to our campus. In July, he took his first blacksmithing class with us and he recently completed another. A former police officer injured while on duty, Mike sustained trauma that prevents him from continuing to serve on the force. He told us that during his recovery he spent months thinking about the next phase of his life. He credits Peters Valley with inspiring him to learn new skills and welcoming him to our supportive artistic community.

Mike’s story is just one of many. It’s a testament to collaboration; one in which Peters Valley enhances people’s lives and thrives with individual participation and mutual sharing.

The value of what we do here was recently acknowledged by the Dodge Foundation, which has generously given a grant to the Board of Trustees to develop an actionable strategic plan by the middle of 2010. The goal of this project is to help the center strengthen its organizational capacity in order to serve you more effectively through the fulfillment of the mission: *to promote the skills and core values of traditional craftsmanship and creative expression in a contemporary context and to cultivate knowledge and leadership in the field of fine craft education.*

To keep Peters Valley vital, responsive, and sustainable, we aim to connect with you in an ongoing dialogue that will enable us to direct the center into a fulfilling and prosperous future. You will hear more from us about this exciting plan in the coming months.

While we make plans for the future, Peters Valley Craft Center has immediate financial needs. Did you know that almost 40% of Peters Valley’s annual operating funds come from grants and donations? It is an impressive figure and speaks to the generosity of our supporters. However, with reductions in revenue we must reach out to you for increased support.

**Our Annual Fund Goal for 2009 is \$75,000.**

**Today we are asking that you support the Annual Fund at the highest level with which you feel comfortable.**

Will you help us achieve this goal? Together we can make a positive change. Your contribution is, as always, tax deductible to the extent allowed by law, and will be applied to raise your membership category providing you with all the privileges and premiums of that level.

Please donate today in whatever capacity you can. Your contribution will ensure a secure future for fine crafts education at Peters Valley Craft Center!

Gratefully Yours,

Kristin Muller  
Executive Director

Maleyne Syracuse  
President of the Board of Trustees