The Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati presents its prestigious Apple Award each year to individuals who have improved the local built environment in a significant way. On May 7, crystal apples were given to Cincinnati philanthropists Rhoda and Manuel D. Mayerson.

Manuel D. Mayerson is the founder of The Mayerson Company, and along with Rhoda, the Manuel D. and Rhoda Mayerson Foundation. Mr. Mayerson was a pioneer in the shopping center industry, and an early developer of open and enclosed malls. He owned or managed many downtown properties, including the Central Trust Tower (currently PNC), The First National Bank (Fourth & Walnut), Dixie Terminal, the Provident Bank Building, and Scripps Center at 312 Walnut. Mr. Mayerson also is known for pioneering the lighting up of the Cincinnati skyline and Music Hall.

The Mayersons have contributed their time, talent, and financial resources and served on many of Cincinnati’s non-profit boards including FreeStore Foodbank, SCPA, Hebrew Union College, Children’s Hospital, and a variety of fine arts organizations, including the Cincinnati Ballet and Cincinnati Art Museum. Their foundation has contributed significantly to hundreds of local non-profits and helped create a number of new non-profits that are unique in the nation.

Sponsors for the gala at the Hilton Netherland Plaza Hall of Mirrors were CR architects + design, HGC Construction, the Kaplan Foundation, and the Mayerson Family. David Arends, AFC vice president and CEO of CR architecture + design was the event chair. Proceeds benefit the educational programs of the foundation. Dr. Neal Mayerson, director of the Mayerson Foundation, introduced his parents. In his address, Manny Mayerson said that development is an exciting career, and he had enjoyed being part of pioneering projects and in revitalizing historic landmarks. He said that good architecture and fine buildings determine the image of a city, praising current local projects such as the Banks and the School for the Creative and Performing Arts. Mr. and Mrs. Mayerson are the 40th and 41st recipients of the prestigious Alice and Harris Weston Apple Award.
In addition to funding its own education programs, AFC makes grants to area nonprofits for youth and adult out-of-school programs. Grants in 2008–2009 went to Architecture By Children for its in-school program offered by AIA Cincinnati volunteer architects, Cincinnati Preservation Association to print a guide brochure, University of Cincinnati for a Summer CAMP introduction of youth to architecture as a career, and several other education programs. For adults, the foundation sponsored the charrette, changing exhibits, and public forums on design and planning topics.
GREAT HOUSE PARTY 2008

Sandra and Robert Heimann hosted the October 11, Great House Party for AFC sustaining members. Guest toured the lakeside house in Indian Hill, which was designed in 1965 by the late Philip Johnson (1906–2005) for the James A.D. Geier family. The Heimanns have beautifully restored the iconic structure and its landscape. Sandra Heimann talked about the challenges encountered in preserving the berm house, which is built into the ground around the artificial lake. Several guests contributed to the lively discussion that followed. Buck Niehoff chaired the memorable event.

AFC COSPONSORS OTR CHARRETTE

AFC, the Bettman Fund of AIA Cincinnati, Brewery District CURC, and Art Academy of Cincinnati conducted a free public charrette at the Art Academy of Cincinnati. More than thirty architects and UC architecture students worked with community members to brainstorm innovative plans for the Brewery District in Over-the-Rhine. AFC trustee Michael Moose, AIA, coordinated the architects. Moose edited and produced the illustrated report, which is available online at www.architecturecincy.org. Corporate sponsors for the January 17th event were CR architecture + design, GBBN Architects, glaserworks inc., and RWA Architects.

CINCINNATI DESIGNS FOR CHINA

Gerald Checco, Cincinnati Parks; Matthew Schottlekotte, GBBN Architects; and Kelly Kolar, Kolar Design, presented an illustrated program on December 8. They highlighted the challenges and opportunities for western designers working in the rapidly urbanizing milieu of China.

ON TOP IN CINCINNATI

Alan Warner introduced his “green” theme—the prominence of Greater Cincinnati as a leader in sustainable design—in a March 5, program. Adam Luginbill, Bob Knight, and Jim Cheng spoke about innovative projects designed by their respective firms: glaserworks inc., GBBN Architects, and EmersionDesign.

COMPLETE STREETS

A June 9, program discussed making downtown streets safer and more inviting to pedestrians and cyclists. Roxanne Qualls, a Cincinnati City Council member who directed urbanism studies at Harvard University and Northern Kentucky University, and Clete Benken, ASLA, principal with Kinzelman Kline Gossman were the presenters.
AFC members met November 20, 2008, at the Foundation headquarters. Vice-President David Arends presided and presented the report of President Christine Schoonover. She thanked Bob Knight, Gary Meisner, and Michael Moose for the programs presented. She noted that the foundation had made great strides with the opening of the AFC headquarters on Ninth Street. Grants Chair Don Junker reported grants of $11,500 for projects in 2008.

In her report, Sue Ann Painter outlined plans for the new exhibition program and for onsite membership events. She thanked the officers and trustees for their assistance with selecting and outfitting the headquarters, especially Michael Huseman, David Arends, and Gary Volz. She acknowledged and thanked Alice Weston, who has placed her framed architectural photographs on loan as a permanent exhibit. She recognized architectural historian Walter E. Langsam, saying that she was especially proud to report that AFC had edited and published Langsam’s *Biographical Dictionary of 19th Century Architects Working in Cincinnati* on its Website.

Arends presented the slate for Christine Schoonover, chair of the nominating committee. The membership elected new trustees Wick Ach, CEO, Hixson Architecture Engineering Interiors, and Robert Grace, Turner Construction Co., and reelected Kelly Kolar, Mark McKillip, Gary Meisner, Nick Rosian, and William Woodward. Alice Weston was elected trustee emeritus. The board elected its officers: president, Christine Schoonover; vice president, David Arends; secretary, Mark McKillip; and treasurer, Michael Huseman. Past president Michael Moose was named advisory board chair. In 2009, Dr. Stanley M. Kaplan was appointed to an unexpired term.

Following the meeting, Cincinnati Art Museum associate curator Jessica Flores gave an illustrated presentation about architectural trends she witnessed in the Venice Bienniale, which CAM director Aaron Betsky chaired.
2008–2009 HONOR ROLL
SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Gold Pinnacle
CR architecture + design
Hixson Architecture Engineering Interiors
Waitek & Company, LTD

Silver Spire
KZF Design
GBBN Architects
Toyota Motor Manufacturing North America Inc.

Keystone
Aaron Betsky
Cincinnati Book Publishers
HGC Construction
Arch

Gold Donors
CR architecture + design
Hixson Architecture Engineering Interiors
Waitek & Company, LTD

Silver Donors
American Architectural Foundation (CNA Insurance Companies, Victor O. Schinnerer Co. Inc.)
Frank Lloyd Wright died 50 years ago, having just completed designs for some of his most iconic commissions, including the Guggenheim Museum, which was under construction. In commemoration of the 50th anniversary Wright’s last works, the Foundation has organized a number of Wright-related programs.

**SAMARA**

This is the Greater Cincinnati premier of an outstanding exhibition of drawings, photographs, and artifacts from a Frank Lloyd Wright house in West Lafayette, Indiana. It was Wright’s last residential commission, and included many interior design elements. The exhibit, which was created by owner John E. Christian, a retired Purdue University professor and his late wife, runs September 17-November 17, at the AFC gallery. Mary Ellen Goeke, who chairs the exhibits committee, is coordinating the exhibition and AFC’s Wright Symposium on October 24. The SAMARA exhibition is sponsored by Thomas R. Schiff.

**SAMARA exhibit opening – September 17, 4:30–6:30 p.m.**

*FREE to members, $10 others. RSVP to reserve@architecturecincy.org. Call (513) 421-4469 to arrange free daytime tours for students and adults.*

**TOUR SCHOOL FOR SCPA SEPTEMBER 22**

AFC members and guests are invited to a hard-hat tour of this new Central Parkway facility, the nation’s first public K-12 school dedicated to the arts. CR architecture + design, the architect of record, is hosting the one-hour tour. Guests are invited to adjourn to Lavomatic Restaurant (1211 Vine St.) for cash bar refreshments and discussion. Wear sturdy shoes, and please bring your hard hat if you own one. Hard hats will be provided for those without. Meet at Turner Construction Co. field office, 1112 Race Street just north of the Parkway. Parking available on street, at Gateway Garage, or lot opposite Lavomatic on Vine Street.

**SCPA tour – September 22, 4:30 p.m.**

*FREE to members, $10 others. RSVP to reserve@architecturecincy.org.*
Sustaining members ($250 and above) receive complimentary invitations to our annual “Great Houses” party—always a unique and delightful event. This year we visit a newly restored Frank Lloyd Wright house in Indian Hill. Wright designed the house for the William Boswell family. Our hosts are Eugenio Bassan, CEO of the owner, Salvagnini America Inc., and his architect wife, Antonella. The Bassans, who come from Palladio’s Vicenza, are admirers of America’s most celebrated architect. Invitations will be mailed in September. Join the foundation or upgrade your membership now to attend the tour and party.

Wright Symposium – October 24, 1 p.m.–4 p.m.
CHCL Main Library, Downtown Cincinnati, Walnut & 8th streets entrance, Reading Garden Lounge. Free to all, reservations requested: reserve@architecturecincy.org or (513) 421-4469.

TOUR WESTCOTT HOUSE SEPTEMBER 26
Deluxe motor coach excursion from Cincinnati to Springfield for a special guided tour of this splendid Frank Lloyd Wright house—his first residential commission in Ohio. Burton Westcott’s Springfield plant produced luxury motorcars. The house, grounds, and outbuildings have been restored and the site is open to the public. The bus will leave from the parking lot at the Grand Baldwin Building, Gilbert Ave. and Eden Park Dr. Free parking that day for tour participants. Space is limited, so reserve soon.

Excursion to Westcott – September 26, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Members, $45; others $50. RSVP with check or charge card information to 127 W. Ninth St. 45202. Or call (513) 421-4469 or register online at www.architecturecincy.org.

GREAT HOUSE PARTY 2009 OCTOBER 11
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AFC HAMMER AWARD AT CDA

AFC will make its third annual Hammer Award at the Cincinnati Design Awards banquet on Friday, November 13. AFC members will receive invitations to the CDA in September.

ARCHITECTURE IN CINCINNATI

Architecture in Cincinnati: An Illustrated History of Designing and Building an American City by Sue Ann Painter, Beth Sullebarger, and Jayne Merkel was produced by the Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati and published by Ohio University Press. Environmental artist Alice Weston contributed more than 200 color photographs. The book may be purchased at the AFC Gallery, Cincinnati Art Museum, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati Museum Center, Mercantile Library, and fine booksellers. AFC is selling books through its Web site and with quantity discounts. Submit requests online at www.architecturecincy.org for this book and those of Thomas R. Schiff.

AFC ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING AND ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Tuesday, November 17, 5 p.m.

Architectural Foundation of Cincinnati
127 West Ninth Street, downtown Cincinnati

Refreshments will be served.
This is the final opportunity to view the Samara exhibition.
Event sponsor: CR architecture + design.
No charge.

NEWS & ANNUAL REPORT

ARCHITECTURE IN CINCINNATI

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