



Aurora Project Preservation Trades Workshop

Co-Hosted by

The Aurora Project, Inc.

Preservation Alliance West Virginia

Preservation Trades Network

Saturday, October 6 & Sunday, October 7

Location

Aurora Project's Historic Brookside Cottages

US Route 50, Aurora, West Virginia

(Across from Cathedral State Park)

Pre-registration required – Please call 304-296-1010 or email mmills@millsgroup.biz prior to noon, Thursday, October 5 to register for the workshops. Payment may be made on Saturday morning on the front porch of Brookside Inn before the workshops begin.

Information

Registration: 8:00am-9:00am
Saturday, October 6

Cost: \$75.00 per person for the two day workshop

Please make checks payable to the Aurora Project, Inc.

Registration fee includes admission to one morning workshop, one afternoon workshop and speakers' panel on Saturday, one Practicum session on Sunday and admission to the Aurora Project Barn Dance (3:00pm Sunday held in Brookside Farm's historic barn)

Box lunches and refreshments will be provided on both days

Agenda

Saturday, October 6

8:00am-9:00am

Registration
Front Porch, Brookside Inn

8:30am-8:45am

Welcome
Front Porch, Brookside Inn

Viola Wentzel, President, The Aurora Project, Inc.

Michael Mills, Board Member, The Aurora Project, Inc.

9:00am-12:15pm

Preservation Practices for Wood and Window Repair
Linden Cottage

Instructor: Duffy Hoffman, Hoffman Painting and Refinishing

9:00am-12:15pm

Plaster Restoration

Instructor: Sarel Venter, Adventures in Elegance

12:15pm-12:45pm

Lunch *(Provided by Sirianni's Café, Davis, WV)*

Front Porch, Brookside Inn

1:00pm-4:00pm

Paint Practices for Historic Structures
Linden Cottage

Instructor: Duffy Hoffman, Hoffman Painting and Refinishing

1:00pm-4:00pm

Traditional Plaster Application in New Construction
Aurora General Store

Instructor: Sarel Venter, Adventures in Elegance

4:15pm-5:45pm

Preventive Maintenance: The Routine Acts of Preservation

Speakers: Michael Mills, AIA and David Kemnitzer, AIA

Aurora General Store

Sunday, October 7

9:00am-2:00pm

Practicum: Preservation Practices for Wood and Window Repair
Linden Cottage

Instructor: Duffy Hoffman, Hoffman Painting and Refinishing

9:00am-2:00pm

Practicum: Plaster Restoration and New Application
Brookside Inn and Aurora General Store

Instructor: Sarel Venter, Adventures in Elegance

(Lunch, provided by Melanie's Family Restaurant, will be brought to the site)

3:00pm-6:00pm

4th Annual Aurora Barn Dance
Brookside Farm

The Aurora Project, Inc.

Aurora, West Virginia's history as a nineteenth-century resort destination and as the location of a Depression era artists' colony informed the Aurora Project's early development. The historic Brookside cottages, once part of the resort complex, are being restored and the rural but not isolated location - ideal for a turn of the century getaway and a 1930's artists' retreat – will again offer a timeless respite.

The historic buildings that will comprise the Aurora Project's main residency site are along a winding two-lane stretch of US Route 50, across the road from Cathedral State Park, a protected old growth forest. Nestled in the Allegheny Mountains, surrounded by high-plateau farmland and forested hills, the studios will be located in several buildings, some onsite and others within two miles. The General Store, now completely restored, was once Aurora's center of commerce. The building has seen many uses and today reflects its history in the museum and genealogy center on the first floor and its future in the creative arts studios on the second floor.

It is within this setting that we will provide artists with the time to think critically and the space to create freely, to explore and exchange new and diverse ideas and to be responsible only to themselves and their work. And, through public programs, to encourage an understanding and appreciation of the role arts and the humanities play in everyday life.

Founded in 2001, the Aurora Project's purpose is to provide a dynamic environment supportive of artists and the creative process and to maintain a facility in which all participants and visitors feel welcome, engaged and inspired. The Aurora Project programs include:

Artists' Residencies

Three to Six Week Residencies for Creative Artists and Scholars

Undisturbed time and space for exploration of new projects or advancement of works in progress in

*Visual Arts • Film & Video • Writing
Music • Architecture & Historic Preservation*

Community Partnerships Programs:

Lifelong Learning

Day, weekend and week-long educational opportunities for community residents and visitors

*Arts & Humanities • Ecology & Environmental Studies
History & Historic Preservation
Workshops • Lectures • Performances • Film*

Artists & the Community

Collaborative projects between artists and/or scholars and community schools and organizations
Support Creativity • Strengthen Critical Thinking Skills • Encourage Tolerance and Enliven Community

Experiential Learning

Job Training & Internships for local youth, adult residents & college students
Hospitality Services • Landscape Management • Arts Management

Meet Our Instructors

Duffy Hoffman, Hoffman Painting and Refinishing, Inc.

Paint Practices for Historic Structures

Duffy Hoffman is owner of Hoffman Painting and Refinishing, Inc. Mr. Hoffman presents at various historic preservation events, has been featured in newspaper and magazine articles and has been on HGTV. Hoffman Painting and Refinishing, Inc. specializes in combining traditional techniques with modern technology for the ultimate in aesthetic accuracy and safety. Mr. Hoffman is best known for his removal of lead paint and his experience in all phases of epoxy repair.

David Kemnitzer, Historic Architecture Consultant

Preventative Maintenance: the Routine Acts of Preservation

Specializing in consultation for historic restoration, adaptive reuse and existing building projects for public and private clients around the world. Mr. Kemnitzer has received awards for his work on several federal rehabilitation projects and has published articles in various industry journals.

Michael Mills, AIA, Principal, Mills Group, LLC

Preventative Maintenance: the Routine Acts of Preservation

Michael Mills has many years of experience includes work in historical preservation and architectural design and planning. He is a registered architect with project experience in interior and exterior preservation, window restoration, and integration of MEP systems in historic structures such as the B&O Railroad Station in Grafton, West Virginia; the Macdonough Hall and Scott Natatorium at the United States Naval Academy; Building 42 Restoration and Interpretive Display at Fort Myer in Washington, DC; and the restoration of the Chief of Naval Operation's house at the Washington Navy Yard.

Sarel Venter, Adventures in Elegance

Plaster Restoration

Sarel was born and raised in South Africa. Sarel's history is filled with many careers that have led him to his art today. While working as a drywall contractor, he began dreaming of architectural designs drawn from both history and his vivid imagination. He started creating in homes in West Virginia a few years ago, and while not thinking of himself as an artist, he became one. With his vision, he steps into a project and designs environments for his clients. Because of his background, Sarel is able to install his designs as permanent architectural detail in homes and commercial spaces.

Course Descriptions

Preservation Practices for Wood and Window Repair

This session will cover repair techniques for exterior architectural wooden details, including methods such as in-kind wooden Dutchman patches and epoxy consolidation. Students will focus on window restoration and will experience the process with hands on activities at the Linden Cottage. Also covered are the different wood preservation techniques that are available to combat fungi, rot and insect damage.

Paint Practices for Historic Structures

This session will cover how paints have traditionally been made in America and discuss the prominent colors that were used on the exteriors and interiors of structures. Other topics will include paint analysis, appropriate paint removal methods and personal safety concerns. Paint failure problems and remedies for the exterior and interior will be discussed and appropriate surface preparation, paint selection, and application procedures will be demonstrated.

Plaster Restoration

This session will cover the history of American plaster renderings for the interiors of historic structures. The students will learn the typical makeup of historic plasters and will be introduced to the use of wooden lath. The session will also address decorative plastering techniques, crown moldings and ceiling medallions. The students will learn and practice the process for repairs for flat wall/ceiling plastering at the Brookside Inn.

Traditional Plaster Application in New Construction

This session will focus on the challenges presented when integrating new construction within historic structures and the application of traditional plaster techniques. The students will learn the proper materials and tools to be used as well as the specifications for a proper job given the possible variables that one might encounter. The students will learn and practice the process for new plaster application at the Aurora General Store.

Preventative Maintenance: the Routine Acts of Preservation

This session will focus on the why of preservation and how preservation relates to and enhances your environment. A snap shot of the current preservation activities in the region will be provided along with an introduction to cultural resource management as it is related to the neighborhood, town and region that we live in. Additionally the session will give some basic theory behind historic preservation and the general guidance on how to approach any given preservation issue.