

## Turning Nature: A Central Ohio Woodturners Exhibition September 23–November 12, 2017

For Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, a Columbus, Ohio, organization filled with plants and people who love them, a new experience will be offered: a surprising demonstration of how nature can be used as an artistic medium. The Conservatory has collaborated with the Central Ohio Woodturners to present a contemporary juried art exhibition celebrating the art and craft of woodturning. Displaying woodturning in a space that celebrates natural beauty elevates and enriches the visitor experience and introduces audiences to new concepts and ideas.

The exhibition, presented in the Cardinal Health Gallery at the Conservatory, will feature works

selected by Betty Scarpino, a contemporary artist, sculptor, and woodturner, as well as Conservatory staff. The works possess intricate shapes and challenging designs, ranging from functional to sculptural. “Best in Show” and two “Honorable Mention” cash prizes will be awarded to top artists.

The Conservatory is a premier botanical landmark and cultural attraction in Columbus, featuring exceptional plant collections and gardens, seasonal art- and nature-based exhibitions, and a dynamic array of educational opportunities and special events for visitors of all ages. The Conservatory’s mission to elevate quality of life and connect the community through educational,

cultural, and social experiences is at the forefront of exhibition development.

The Central Ohio Woodturners has a membership of more than 200 turners who strive to produce works that embrace strong concepts, technical mastery, and professionalism. On opening day, woodturning demonstrations will show visitors what it takes to produce the work, and a Pens for Troops workshop will be offered on Veterans Day. ■

For more, visit [fpconservatory.org](http://fpconservatory.org) and [centralohiowoodturners.org](http://centralohiowoodturners.org).

—Bonnie Roche, Exhibitions Manager, Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Garden

Photos by Mark Boyd.



(Top) **Mike Trucco**, Untitled, 2015, Elm burl, 8" x 14½" (20cm x 37cm)

(Bottom) **Joel Bossley**, *Sphere/Stone*, 2017, Tiger maple, beach stone, 4" (10cm) diameter



(Top) **Ron Damon**, Untitled, 2016, Curly soft maple, stainless steel, 2¼" x 18" (6cm x 46cm)

(Bottom) **Leslie Nielsen**, *Eternal Beauty*, 2017, Box elder, 8" x 8" (20cm x 20cm)



(Top) **Walt Betley**, *Celtic Cross Rolling Pin*, 2017, Hard maple, various other woods, 3½" x 18" (9cm x 46cm)

(Bottom) **Don Leman**, *Donut Ever Do This Again!*, 2017, Maple, walnut, acrylic, granite, 15" x 12" x 4" (38cm x 30cm x 10cm)