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**For First Time, the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust Is Holding
Froebel Block Workshops in Arizona**

PHOENIX, Arizona, (DATE), 2009 – For the first time, the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust will be conducting workshops in Arizona on the Froebel geometric blocks that influenced the renowned architect and inspired the “Biltmore Blocks” used in the building of the **Arizona Biltmore**.

Wright and other modern architects and artists were significantly influenced by early 19th century German educator Friedrich Froebel who developed toy blocks that introduced children to pattern-making, beauty, harmony, aesthetics and structure. The Biltmore was built with Biltmore Blocks, adapted from a Wright design, which were pre-cast from desert sand on-site and created in 34 different geometric patterns.

The single-session Froebel Block Workshops will be conducted by Jan Kieckhefer, director of education for the Chicago-based FLW Preservation Trust. The workshops have not been held outside of Chicago previously. Kieckhefer will introduce participants to the geometric shapes that underlie nature, art and design, and they will work with the shapes to create both two- and three-dimensional structures. In the workshop, they will experience principles of balance, tension, composition, symmetry and asymmetry, and spatial relationships.

Held in the Arizona Biltmore’s historic Gold Room, there will be workshops on Saturday Oct. 10 and Sunday Oct. 11. On Saturday there will be two classes: a one-hour class at 10:00 a.m. for children in the second through fifth grades for \$50 per person, and a 90-minute class at 3:00 p.m. for fifth graders and up for \$50 each. On Sunday there also will be two classes: a one-hour class at 10:00 a.m. for families for \$50 per person, and a 90-minute class & discussion at 3:00 p.m. for adults for \$100 each.

For workshop reservations, please contact Becky Blaine at the Arizona Biltmore at 602-954-2550. Space is limited. All of the classes will be capped at 30 participants. If you book a workshop and also want to stay overnight, special room rates are being offered starting at \$169 per night for classic accommodations, Ocatilla accommodations starting at \$219 per night – please use group offer code “BLOCKS” when booking.

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Arizona Biltmore / Froebel Block Workshops at the Arizona Biltmore

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The Arizona Biltmore is the ideal place to turn a Froebel Block Workshop into a family getaway because it is among the country's most family-friendly resorts. *Travel + Leisure* named the Arizona Biltmore to its 2008 list of the '50 Best Family Resorts.' Kids enjoy everything from Teepee Parties and the fun and games of Kids Korral to the Paradise Pool with its 92-foot waterslide. Meanwhile, the Biltmore offers the parents and other adults every sophisticated resort pleasure, such as a massage at the spa, cocktails on the patio of the Wright Bar with its panoramic mountain views, championship golf, and gourmet dining.

The Arizona Biltmore, which is celebrating its 80th anniversary in 2009, is among the world's most recognized resorts for its distinctive Frank Lloyd Wright – inspired architecture, luxurious facilities, and storied history as a playground of the rich and famous. Facilities include 740 guest accommodations; eight swimming pools; seven tennis courts; two 18-hole championship golf courses; and signature dining in Wright's at The Biltmore or Arizona comfort food in Frank & Albert's. Contact the resort at (602) 955-6600 or 800-950-0086, or log on to www.Arizonabiltmore.com

The Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa is managed by Hilton Hotels and is a member of Hilton's exclusive Waldorf=Astoria Collection®.

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