



The Irvin Korach Architecture Gallery: A Gift That Keeps on Giving, Thanks to Marjorie Korach

Since July 2009, U-SoA students, faculty and community have enjoyed a 1,530 square foot space that has created a home for final reviews, architecture exhibits, receptions and diverse University gatherings. The Irvin Korach Gallery, made possible by a \$500,000 charitable annuity estate gift from Mrs. Marjorie Korach in memory of her late husband and pioneer architect, Irvin Korach, is one gift that impacts the U-SoA experience just as much today as it did eight years ago.

In a letter to Mrs. Korach shared by former Dean, Professor Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk underscored how “The experience of students, faculty and the community admiring the pieces of art and architecture during our exhibitions is something that Irvin, as an architect, would appreciate.”

Irvin Korach, a 1936 graduate of Western Reserve University School of Architecture, began his custom home design architecture practice in 1938, in partnership with Donald G. Smith. Korach, described by his wife as a “man of natural empathy, from a modest start, who built and shared his dream and left his imprint in the history, growth and wonder of Florida,” was also a WWII veteran and a Navy air combat intelligence officer retiring as a high-ranking Lieutenant Commander. In the 1950’s, Korach and his firm, Smith & Korach, led the way in hospital architecture, later adding engineering to their practice to form a full-service firm. Many outstanding hospitals, educational, communications, civic and federal buildings bear the seal of the Smith Korach Hayet Haynic Partnership, and like the Korach Gallery, their contributions to the architectural community have left an unforgettable mark on future generations.

Today, the Irvin Korach Gallery continues to remind us of Irvin’s kindness and mentoring, and remains a permanent presence in many hearts and lives. Dean el-Khoury adds, “We are eternally grateful to Mrs. Marjorie Korach for this gift, a gift that *truly* keeps on giving!”