



MAFA Reps News

January/February 2019

Reps, please share this newsletter with your guild

President's Message

Another year begins — a time for reflection and new beginnings. Maybe you have made some resolutions involving your fiber passions? Hopefully, they include playing more with your fiber passions! Here at MAFA we can help you out! We are busy with preparations for our June conference, and planning to give you lots of opportunities to get your hands on some fiber, get inspired and learn a lot. Check out our workshops to select your top choices. Get busy now on your entries for our exhibits and exchanges. Join your guild working on goody bag donation items. And don't forget to register in early February!

We'll have lots of volunteer opportunities at the conference — but we do have a more pressing need too. Late last year, our hard-working secretary, Joan Martin, determined that she needed to resign from her position for personal reasons. We wish her all the best, and thank her for her many hours of help! That does, however, leave us short a board member. If you, or someone you know, is looking for an opportunity to get more involved with MAFA, this would be a great place to start. We need someone skilled at word processing to write up the minutes, as well as someone who can track some data calls for us. In addition, you will become familiar with what goes on behind the scenes of the conference. It's a bit of work, but a lot of fun too! If you are interested, or just want to talk about it, please pop me a note at president@mafafiber.org.

Karen Miller, MAFA President

**Early Registration for MAFA 2019 Opens
for Guild Members & Associates
February 2nd, 9 a.m.!**

Contents in This Issue

- Important Dates
 - Conference Fellowships
 - Conference 2019 Updates
 - Upcoming Guild Events
 - Textile Events in our Region
-

Important Dates

- February 2, 2019 - Registration for MAFA 2019 opens
 - February 16, 2019 - General registration opens
 - April 1, 2019 - Deadline to apply for a Conference Fellowship
 - June 27-30, 2019 - MAFA 2019 conference
-

Apply for a Conference Fellowship

MAFA will again offer up to four **fellowships for 2019 conference attendees**. Each \$300 fellowship is paid upon completion of a post-conference project that passes on learning from the conference to a broader audience. Members of MAFA Guilds and those associate members living within the MAFA region are eligible. Only projects that benefit the MAFA region will be considered.

Fellowship applications, including a recommendation letter from a sponsoring guild* or fiber arts teacher, are due by April 1, 2019. All applicants will be notified of the outcome in May. Full details and a preview of the fellowship application are available at: mafafiber.org/grants/fellowships/. Email questions to grants@mafafiber.org.

**Guilds may sponsor more than one applicant.*

CONFERENCE 2019: June 27 - 30, 2019

Millersville University, Millersville, PA

mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/

Introduction - Happy New Year and Welcome to 2019! United in Fiber is just around the corner.

With conference registration just around the corner, I hope that you have had the opportunity to scope out the wonderful choice of classes available. Now is the perfect time to select your first and second choices for when registration opens.

This is also a great time to get your guilds motivated for their involvement with the conference with contributions for the goody bags. Each guild can do 20 - 30+ items, larger guilds 50+ items which will be distributed among attendee bags. Items will be due and collected at this year's Maryland Sheep and Wool, or may be shipped. See the details later in the newsletter.

MAFA runs on volunteers. Get involved now to "help as needed" (We'll call you!) or indicate your preferences on your registration form. In addition, volunteer opportunities will also be available online through SignUp Genius later this spring. Find full details about the Conference at mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/.

Download the Conference Catalog

With info about workshops, instructors, housing options, FAQ's, directions to Millersville, and the campus map. Find it here:

mafafiber.org/wp-content/uploads/2019-Conf-Misc-Images-Forms/Print-materials/MAFA2019_Book_01-19.pdf.

Registration

Registration opens February 2, 2019, at 9 a.m. and continues through February 15, 2019, for MAFA-affiliated guild members and associate members only. On February 16, 2019, registration will open to all registrants. All registrations will be online.

During the registration process, you can see the number of open seats in each workshop and your selection will be confirmed upon completion of the registration process. Payment can be made by any major credit card through MAFA's PayPal account. Find complete details on the website at:

mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/registration/.

Workshops

Have you narrowed your dream class down to a few, or do you still have several choices? Registration opens soon, so keep working on narrowing down your choices and be prepared with alternates in case your favorite class fills up before you register. Find the complete listing of workshops at: mafafiber.org/conference_year/2019/.

Circular Sock Knitting Machine Mini-workshops

Have you wanted to try knitting on 100 year old circular sock knitting machines? Milissa Ellison Dewey of Bobbin Boy, will offer four sessions of Sock Machine Drivers' Ed for absolute beginners. Participants will make a knitted sampler and learn about the origins and history of the circular sock knitting machines.

Each person will graduate with a Sock Machine Learner's Permit, take home a cast-on basket, a latching-up tool useful for all knitting, and a hand-turned toe jack (like a darning egg on steroids), as well as handouts on supplies and suppliers, and a bibliography of reference and teaching resources. No equipment is required, but class numbers are limited. Register along with your conference registration. Find details here: mafafiber.org/sock-knitting-machine-mini-workshops/.



Marketplace Vendors

Visit the Marketplace page to see our great lineup of 28 vendors who will be offering yarns, fiber, tools, books, and equipment, including many workshop-related items: mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/marketplace/.

Spotlight on Fashion - Exhibit & Show

Have you made a New Year's Resolution to create a garment and/or accessory for the MAFA **Fashion Exhibit**? There's still plenty of time to be inspired by pictures, museum exhibits, your own stash, fellow guild members' creations. Complete the online entry form between February 2 when conference Registration opens and April 30. You'll bring your piece with you to the Conference, so you'll have a few more weeks to finish it.

As a reminder, the **Fashion Exhibit** will feature garments and accessories created by conference attendees. Open all day Friday and Saturday of the conference, the exhibit will enable conference participants to study the works up close. Opening Night's **Fashion Show** will feature representative works from the Fashion Exhibit.

More information and a link to the Entry Form (when available) can be found here: mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/schedule-events/fashion-exhibit/. Questions? Check the FAQs or contact the Fashion Show Coordinator Carol Ireland at fashion.show@mafafiber.org.

Request for equipment: The Fashion Committee is starting to identify equipment needed for setting up the exhibit. Please email fashion.show@mafafiber.org if you or your guild members have mannequins, grid wall units or other free-standing display stands that we could borrow for the conference.

Fiber Artist Exhibit

A new and exciting addition for the 2019 MAFA Conference will be a Fiber Artist Exhibit with the theme “Threads of Communication”. Express an event, story, message, conversation through the use of fibers. This is not restricted to a literal interpretation, an abstract approach may be used. The online entry form will be available February 2 when conference Registration opens and all entries must be submitted by midnight April 30, 2019. Please contact the Fiber Arts Exhibit Coordinator Wendy Roberts with questions at arts.exhibit@mafafiber.org. Find entry details and guidelines on the website here:

mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/artist-exhibit-threads-of-communication/.

Kitchen Towel Exchange

MAFA attendees, including instructors, are invited to participate in a kitchen towel exchange. All levels of weavers are welcome! Every participant will contribute one towel and receive one towel. Not a lot of weaving (read that as “low stress”) but also an opportunity to see what other towel weavers are creating and be a part of a large exchange - easier than a snail-mail based weaving exchange! Towels will be collected during registration and then put on display for all conference attendees to enjoy. Contact the Towel Exchange Coordinator Aileen Campbell at towel.exchange@mafafiber.org. Or, find guidelines and details on the exchange here:

mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/kitchen-towel-exchange/

Silly Spinning Games & Skein Competition

Not only will there be a return of our “Silly Spinning Games” at the 2019 MAFA Conference—but we’ve added a bona fide competition for handspun skeins, right down to the ribbons! Watch the [website](#) for further information about how to prepare for games including gloves (rubber AND cotton!), tinsel, partners, and other wacky challenges—as well as parameters and rules for entering your very finest handspun skeins for adjudication and helpful commentary by skilled judges! Best of all, both kinds of competition are open to workshop attendees at no cost whatsoever. Questions? Contact the Spinning Coordinator Marcia Weinert at spinning.events@mafafiber.org for more info, or find complete details at:

Skein Competition: mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/schedule-events/skein-competition/.

Spinning Games: mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/schedule-events/silly-spinning-games/.

Volunteers needed

General volunteers - Please indicate your interest in volunteering during registration, then we’ll send you detailed sign-up information. We will need help with registration, stuffing goody bags, minding the exhibits, helping instructors get set up, helping conference attendees unload, and more. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator Margaret Briggs at volunteer.coordinator@mafafiber.org. Find all the ways to help at the conference here: mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/get-involved/

Conference Goody Bag Items

We will put out a call for goody bag items soon — so as you plan your 2019 guild programs, remember that you might want to schedule one to make little items that would make nice “goodies.” You can see some examples of goodies from past years here on the MAFA 2017 conference site:

www.mafa-conference-2017.org/handcrafted-take-away-treasures/.

Goodies will be collected at Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival in May (location TBD), or may be sent to:

Lancaster Spinners & Weavers

% Ann Wysock

901 Mt Pleasant Road

Pottstown, PA 19465

Preferably, please send items between May 1st and June 1st, and include contact info (email and/or physical) address. Ann will send an acknowledgement when she receives your items.

Upcoming Guild Events

Let us help you publicize your guild exhibits, workshops, outreach events and sales! Visit the new and improved **Guild Events** listing on the website here: mafafiber.org/events/

Guilds may submit info on events, workshops, programs and sales for the website and newsletter by submitting the online form here:

mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-event-update/. You may also email newsletter items to membership@mafafiber.org before February 21 for inclusion in the March/April MAFA News.

Transparency in Tapestry Workshop, March 30 – April 1, 2019, 9 am – 4 pm
Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore - Tapestry workshop led by Elizabeth Buckley of NM. Details and registration info [in this flyer](#).

Central Pennsylvania Guild of Handweavers offers the Guild Advancement Program (GAP). Designed to encourage weavers of all levels of development to advance their knowledge and skills in the 5 level program. Find a program booklet at:

www.centralpaweavers.com/gap-program.html

Fiber Guild of the Blue Ridge has an active outreach program at schools, events, and festivals. www.fiberguildbr.org/fairs-and-festival-demonstrations/

Textile News in Our Region

Call for Entries - HGA Small Expressions 2019: Entry deadline is February 26, 2019. Produced by the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. (HGA), *Small Expressions* is an annual juried exhibit to showcase contemporary small-scale works created using fiber techniques in any media, not to exceed 15 inches (38 cm) in any direction, including mounting, framing, or display devices. Juried by contemporary tapestry artist [Jon Eric Riis](#), the exhibit will be held July 12 - September 12, 2019 at the [Southeast Fiber Arts Alliance](#) in Chamblee, GA.

Cash prizes include \$500 for First Place, \$250 for Second Place and \$100 for Third Place. Winning work will be published in a future edition of *Shuttle Spindle & Dyepot* magazine and will be featured on the HGA [website](#). Additional honors/cash prizes may be sponsored by individuals or groups. To sponsor a cash prize contact exhibits@weavespindye.org.

Entry fees per piece are \$16 for HGA Members ([Join Now](#)) and for Non-Members. Students attending an accredited educational institution may enter with no fee. [Download and view the 2019 Small Expressions exhibit prospectus](#)
[Enter Now](#)

For more information visit the HGA [website](#) or email Linda Campbell at exhibits@weavespindye.org, HGA Exhibit and Editorial Assistant.

New York Members: Find out about activities, festivals and guild meetings in the Hudson River Valley here: www.hudsonvalleyfiberartsnetwork.com/

New Jersey Guilds – if you are interested in helping the [Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge](#) plan arts and crafts events to commemorate their 80th anniversary, please contact Keena Graham at keena_graham@fws.gov, or (609) 382-7641.

Exhibits & Online Fiber Arts

Beads, They're Sewn So Tight, October 10, 2018 – May 26, 2019, Textile Museum Toronto, Ontario. Artists: Bev Koski, Katie Longboat, Jean Marshall, Olivia Whetung
www.textilemuseum.ca/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/beads,-they-re-sewn-so-tight

Eastern PA/Northern NJ/NYC - Autumn-Winter Exhibits Lace, Not Lace Exhibition

Now through January 6, 2019
Hunterdon Art Museum, Clinton, New Jersey
<http://hunterdonartmuseum.org/current-exhibitions>

Color Decoded: The Textiles of Richard Landis Saturated: The Allure and Science of Color

Now through January 13, 2019
Cooper Hewitt, New York City, New York
<https://www.cooperhewitt.org/>

Dramatic Threads: Textiles of Asia

Now through February 2019
Newark Museum, Newark, New Jersey
<https://www.newarkmuseum.org/>

From the Heart, Made by Hand: Textile Treasures from the Women of Sweden

Now through March 10, 2019
The American Swedish Historical Museum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
<https://www.americanswedish.org/>

Narrative Threads: New Jersey Quilts & Textiles

Now through June 9, 2019
Museum of Early Trades and Crafts, Madison, New Jersey
<http://www.metc.org/>

Colors of the World: a Textile Tour for Virtual World Travelers

January 10, Thursday, 7 p.m.
Presentation at the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts, Madison, New Jersey
<http://www.metc.org/>

New Directions in Fiber Art

February 9 – June 16, 2019
Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, New Jersey
<https://montclairartmuseum.org/exhibition/new-directions-fiber-art>

HGA's Small Expressions

February 16 – March 31, 2019
Peters Valley School of Craft, Layton, New Jersey
<http://petersvalley.org/>

Ongoing Exhibits

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery - Alexandria, VA, www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com/
Exhibits all forms of fiber work, including weaving, knitting, crocheting, sewing, surface design, and more, in 11 juried shows each year.

Fabric Workshop and Museum - Philadelphia, PA, fabricworkshopandmuseum.org/
The museum's purpose is to stimulate experimentation among leading contemporary artists and to share the process of creating works of art with the public. They have various exhibits and a permanent collection, as well as studio facilities, equipment, and expert technicians on-site.

Alling Coverlet Museum, in Palmyra NY, has a collection of simple 4H to jacquard coverlets. historicpalmyrany.com/alling.htm

Need to Update Your Guild Info?

You may submit your **updated guild info** online using this simple form:
mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-update/

Please submit **guild events** here:
mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-event-update/

We would love for you to submit a **guild profile** here:
mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-profile-submission/

As always, you may send any event info or changes to your Reps, officers, or meeting dates/times to the MAFA Membership Chair at membership@mafafiber.org.

MAFA Reps Groups.io Info

Reps, Guild officers, and Program Chairs, be sure to join the mafareps group at groups.io/g/mafareps. To join, click on "Apply for Membership in this Group", or email me for an invite at membership@mafafiber.org. We particularly want guilds to enter program, workshop and instructor info in our Programs & Workshops database here: groups.io/g/mafareps/table?id=3297.