



MAFA News

September/October 2018

President's Message

Hope you have all enjoyed your summer and are ready to get back into the regular swing of the fall and winter! Our volunteers have been hard at work on MAFA projects for much of the past few months. (Though hopefully, everyone took a little time out for their fiber pursuits too.)

We are thrilled with our **new website at mafafiber.org** and hope you like it too. There you'll find lots of information about MAFA 2019 and the workshops and activities being planned. You can find out about the guild grants and find the forms to apply. And of course, you can still find links to neighboring guilds, and information about MAFA itself.

A few features are new, however:

- You can submit your guild events for display to a greater audience (e.g. workshops, exhibits, outreach activities) using this form: <https://mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-event-update/>
- You can volunteer to introduce your guild to our members – and give us a page of information and pictures that show who you are and what you do. See an example and submit your guild info here: <https://mafafiber.org/guilds-page/meet-a-guild/>
- You can find fiber resources, and recommend additional ones so everyone can hear about special exhibits in your favorite museum, publications or online tools or links that you have found helpful. Find them here: <https://mafafiber.org/resources/>
- We've even created a section where you can tell us about tips for running your guild or for creating programs. Visit Guild Resources to find the Reps Corner, past newsletters, and Guild Admin at: <https://mafafiber.org/guild-resources/>

In addition, we are excited to present to you our **MAFA 2019 workshops**. The Conference Committee is busy planning a variety of fun new and returning events – see more information below and on the website. If you want to remind yourself or your guildmates how great the conference is, take a look at the MAFA 2017 video on that page. Brings back good memories!

Meanwhile, our Grants Committee is gearing up for the **Fall Grants Cycle**, with more information and a new improved application form online. We hope several of you have been thinking about how your guild could use these funds.

Lastly, our **Fall Reps Assembly** will take place via teleconference on Tuesday, October 9. We hope all our reps will be able to join us to hear more about our accomplishments this past year and about our plans for the upcoming year, including the conference. We need your input.

Karen Miller, MAFA President

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Guild Renewals are due by October 1st! Please renew, update your guild info, pay your dues (or mail a check), and submit your membership list online at:

<https://mafafiber.org/join-us/guild-membership-application-renewal/>

MAFA Reminders

Fall MAFA Reps Assembly

Our Fall Reps Assembly will take place via teleconference on Tuesday, October 9 at 7:00 p.m. Dial in number: (605) 475-4700, Access code: 634163#.

Other Important Dates

- September 1 - Guild Grants Cycle Opens
- October 1 - Guild renewals are due
- October 9, 7:00 p.m. - Fall Reps Assembly Teleconference
- November 1 - Grant Cycle Closes
- February 2, 2019 - Registration for MAFA 2019 opens
- June 27-30, 2019 - MAFA 2019 conference

Apply for a MAFA Grant

MAFA will accept proposals for **2019 Guild Grants** starting September 1st. The deadline is November 1, 2018. Grant projects must be completed during 2019. Grants typically range from \$500 to \$1,500 for projects that further MAFA's mission. Successful proposals will show a clear impact/benefit that extends beyond the sponsoring guild. For additional information, including past grant awards and a preview of the application form, visit the website at:

<https://mafafiber.org/grants/guild-grants/> Please direct questions to grants@mafafiber.org.

Sponsor a Conference Fellow

MAFA will again offer a limited number of **fellowships for 2019 conference attendees** who will pass on knowledge gained at a Conference workshop to a broader audience. The \$300 fellowship is paid upon completion of a post-conference fellowship project. Each guild may sponsor one applicant. Fellowship applications, including a recommendation letter from the sponsoring guild, are due by April 1, 2019. Full details and preview of the fellowship application are available at <https://mafafiber.org/grants/fellowships/>. Email questions to grants@mafafiber.org.

CONFERENCE 2019 - June 27 - 30, Millersville University, PA

<https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/>

Conference 2019 Workshops

We have an amazing 40 workshops in spinning, weaving, dyeing, felting and other fiber arts on tap for the conference. Visit the MAFA2019 pages on the website for a complete list of workshops here: https://mafafiber.org/conference_year/2019/

Conference Volunteers Needed

Visit the website for the latest information on volunteer coordinators still needed. General volunteers will sign up after registration. Find out ways to get involved here: <https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/get-involved/>

Spotlight on Fashion - Exhibit & Show

The 2019 MAFA Conference will feature an exhibit of wearables and a Fashion Show that will include a representative selection of submitted works. Perhaps you have something you've made within the past year that you'd like to share; or you have a project "on the shelf" waiting for the right moment to get started. If it's a garment, ensemble or accessory, then consider submitting it for the Spotlight on Fashion. FAQs regarding the Exhibit and Show are on the MAFA 2019 website: <https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/faqs/special-exhibit-faqs/>. In the coming months we will post a Call for Entries, and an entry form will be available when conference registration begins.

The Fashion Committee is starting to identify equipment we'll need 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! There will be an inaugural 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 leveraged. Find submission details on the website here:

<https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/artist-exhibit-threads-of-communication/>

MAFA Kitchen Towel Exchange 2019

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. At the exchange event, every participant’s name will be in the “hat”. When your name is pulled, you will find the towel that you made and personally present to the person who drew your name. This process will be done one at a time until all towels have found their new owners.

Find guidelines and details on the exchange here:

<https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/kitchen-towel-exchange/>

Silly Spinning Games & Skein Competition

Not only will there be a return of our 2017 “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 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 attendees at the 2019 at no cost whatsoever.

<https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/skein-competition/>

<https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/silly-spinning-games/>

Conference Goody Bag Items

There will be a call for goody bag items next year – so as you plan your 2018-19 guild programs, remember that you might want 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/.

MAFA Reps Groups.io Info

Reps, be sure to join the mafareps group at <https://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: <https://groups.io/g/mafareps/table?id=3297>.

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: <https://mafafiber.org/events/>

Guilds may submit info on events, workshops, programs and sales for the website and newsletter by submitting the online form here: <https://mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-event-update/>

You may also email newsletter items to membership@mafafiber.org before October 21 for inclusion in the November/December MAFA News.

North West Spinners & Weavers, in Meadville, PA, will have spinning demonstrations at the Highland Games in Edinborough, PA, September 6-9.

<http://www.edinboro.edu/events/highland-games/>.

Susquehanna Valley Spinners Weavers Guild is having a workshop on **Braid-O-Rama**, that will be open to MAFA members. Instructor, Ann Weaver is from Baltimore. Ann will teach her students how to knit Latvian Braids and multiple variations using the technique. This is done in the round and you will leave with a unique cowl project. You can follow Ann on Instagram and find her designs on Ravelry, where her username is weaverknits. Visit the SVSWG website at:

<https://www.svswg.org/>

November 10th 2018, 1:00-4:00 pm

Union County Library, 255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg PA 17837

Cost: \$85.00 plus small fee for handouts

Deadline to register: Oct 10th Policy: If class does not fill a full refund will be given. If you cancel for any reason your payment is non-refundable.

Make check payable to: SVSWG and send to: SVSWG, Box 182, Lewisburg, PA 17837

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:

<http://www.centralpaweavers.com/gap-program.html>

Fiber Guild of the Blue Ridge has an active outreach program at schools, events, and festivals.

<https://www.fiberguildbr.org/fairs-and-festival-demonstrations/>

Textile News in Our Region

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

Festivals

New Jersey Sheep & Fiber Festival, September 8-9, Hunterdon County Fairgrounds, Ringoes, NJ. <http://njsheep.net/>

Pennsylvania Endless Mountain Fiber Festival, September 8-9, Harford Fair Grounds, New Milford, PA. <http://www.endlessmountainsfiberfest.com>

The Finger Lakes Fiber Festival, in Hemlock, NY, will be September 15-16, <http://gvhg.org/fiber-fest>

14th Annual WNY Fiber Arts Festival (formerly Knox Farm), Saturday, September 22, 2018. Fireman's Field, East Aurora, NY. <http://wnyfiberartsfestival.org/>

Adirondack Wool and Arts Festival, September 22-23, 2018. Washington County Fairgrounds, Greenwich, NY. <http://www.adkwoolandarts.com>

Shenandoah Valley Fiber Festival, September 29-30, Clary County Ruritan Fairgrounds, Berryville, VA. <https://www.shenandoahvalleyfiberfestival.com>

Fall Fiber Festival and Montpelier Sheep Dog Trials, October 6- 7, across from James Madison's Montpelier, VA. <https://fallfiberfestival.org>

New York State Sheep & Wool Festival (Rhinebeck), October 20-21, Dutchess County Fairgrounds, Rhinebeck, NY. <https://www.sheepandwool.com/>

Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair, October 26-28, WNC Fairgrounds, Asheville, NC. <https://saffsite.org/>

Exhibits

A Nomad's Art: Kilims of Anatolia, Opens September 1, 2018, GWU Textile Museum, Washington, DC. Woven by women to adorn tents and camel caravans, kilims are enduring records of life in Turkey's nomadic communities, as well as stunning examples of abstract art. <https://museum.gwu.edu/kilims>

Color Improvisations 2: An International Exhibition of Contemporary Quilts, Textile Museum of Canada, Toronto, now through September 23. <http://www.textilemuseum.ca/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/color-improvisations-2-an-international-exhibition>

Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination, Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC, runs through October 9. <https://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2018/heavenly-bodies>

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

Kimono! The Artistry of Itchiku Kubota, June 10 to September 19, Munson Wilson Proctor Arts Center, Pratt College, Utica, NY.

<https://www.mwpai.org/view/exhibitions/current/kimono-the-artistry-of-itchiku-kubota/>

Ongoing Exhibits

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery - Alexandria, VA, <http://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, <http://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.

Need to Update Your Guild Info?

You may submit your updated guild info online using this simple form:

<https://mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-update/>

Remember you can submit Guild Events here:

<https://mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-event-update/>

We would love for you to submit a guild profile here:

<https://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.

For complete contact info visit: <https://mafafiber.org/about-us/contact-us/>