



MAFA News

November/December 2018

Reps, please share our newsletters with your guild

**Guilds, please update your website links to MAFA with our new
URL: mafafiber.org**

President's Message

It was great to have so many reps on our fall teleconference. We hope you all learned a little bit about what your board has been working on this past year. We're very proud of our new website and our more regular newsletter; we hope they are proving useful to you too.

The board has recently made a change to the policies surrounding conference fellowships. In the past, each guild was limited to sponsoring only one fellowship application per conference. Going forward, each guild may sponsor multiple fellowship applications. The Grants Committee will then evaluate all the applications, with the understanding that there are only a limited number of fellowships to grant, and with one of the considerations being how the application meets MAFA's goal of extending our outreach throughout our geographic area.

Meanwhile, our Conference Committee has been hard at work. In the next week or two, we will be announcing the vendors on our website. We have recently posted a downloadable PDF of all the workshops that you can print off and share with your guild members. We hope you and your guild members are busy planning your exhibit submissions - whether they be artistic creations, fashions, skeins or towels. And we've heard of a few guilds planning programs around goody-bag creations.

Karen Miller, MAFA President

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**Please welcome our newest MAFA guild members:
Three Rivers Fiber Focus, Pittsburgh, PA
Loyalhannon Spinners, Latrobe, PA
Tryon Weavers Guild, Tryon, NC**

MAFA Reminders

Important Dates

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

Sponsor a Conference Fellow

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

CONFERENCE 2019 - June 27 - 30, 2019

Millersville University, Millersville, PA

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

Workshops Brochure

Want a downloadable PDF of the workshops to start planning what class to take? Find it on the MAFA2019 Workshops page, or download it here:

https://mafafiber.org/wp-content/uploads/2019-Conf-Misc-Images-Forms/Print-materials/MAFA_2019_Workshops_5web.pdf

Marketplace & Vendors

Visit the Marketplace page to see our great lineup of 2019 vendors offering yarns, fiber, tools, and equipment related to weaving, spinning, dyeing and related fiber arts including many workshop-related items: <https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/marketplace/>

Conference Exhibits, Competition & Exchange - Preparing for the MAFA Conference

You're probably wondering why we're writing about preparing for the June 2019 MAFA Conference nine months in advance. Registration doesn't even open until early February.

Well, here are some things you can be thinking about, and doing:

- Drool over the **40 workshops** and consider the possibilities. Which one would you REALLY like to take? Which five more would you ALSO really like to take? Consider how you're ever going to make the decision. Download the workshops brochure here: https://mafafiber.org/wp-content/uploads/2019-Conf-Misc-Images-Forms/Print-materials/MAFA_2019_Workshops_5web.pdf
- Consider whether you've made a wearable in the past year that you would like to show off in the **Fashion Exhibit**, and perhaps the **Fashion Show**. Or use the exhibit as an opportunity to do a wearable project that you've had on your shelf, to submit to the Fashion Exhibit. <https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/faqs/special-exhibit-faqs/>
- Do you create ART with your fiber art? Consider what you might have made in the last year, or that you'd really like to try making in the next year, to submit to the **Threads of Communication Fiber Artist Exhibit**. This exhibit will feature pieces that express an event, story, message, or conversation through the use of fibers. <https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/artist-exhibit-threads-of-communication/>
- Weavers, we know what you can do with that extra towel you wove - bring it for the **Kitchen Towel Exhibit and Exchange**. <https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/kitchen-towel-exchange/>
- Are you a spinner? You can spin up some of that special fiber to submit in the Skein Competition. <https://mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/skein-competition/>
- Every conference participant receives several goodies made by members of MAFA guilds. Think about what little things you could make as goodies - mug rugs; unique fiber samples; useful tools...

More information on all of these can be found on the MAFA Conference website: <https://mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/>. Your MAFA Conference experience can be that much richer if you share a little of yourself in one of the exhibits and/or the goodies.

MAFA Reps Website Tutorial

Reps, find our website at <https://mafafiber.org>. If you have MAFA linked from your guild website, please be sure to update to this new URL!

The first thing we hope you will notice is our fantastic new website design, rolled out in August, with a revamped look and lots of updated content and functionality. I'm sure most of you have already checked out the workshop info for MAFA2019, our June 2019 conference. We hope you will also poke around and explore a bit, but here are a few highlights of particular interest to Reps and guilds.

About Us:

Find all you want to know about MAFA, our structure, bylaws, how to contact us, and how to join/renew. If you ever get asked about MAFA membership, the Join page is the best place to send those interested, as it explains member benefits, plus links to the online application form. <https://mafafiber.org/about-us/join-us/>.

Guilts:

- Check your **Guild Info** here <https://mafafiber.org/guilds/>. We moved all the info over from the old website, so if your rep, meeting info, or contact info have changed, we've added a Guild Info Update form here: <https://mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-update/>.
- There is also a great new **Guild Events** listing page, for any guild events you want to publicize. Guild programs, workshops, exhibits, outreach events and sales may all be listed on our calendar. To submit an event, find the form here: <https://mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-event-update/>.
- We want to learn more about your guild, and prospective members do too! Submit info and photos for a **Guild Profile** and we'll link it back to your guild listing. I'll be honest, I went first, just to show you how simple it can be, so check out our guild's profile here: <https://mafafiber.org/central-virginia-fiberarts-guild/>. Submit your guild's info using this form: <https://mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-profile-submission/>.

Fiber Resources:

Help us create a comprehensive list of fiber resources in our region by submitting resources not already listed. Our categories are: Competitions, Events & Festivals, Exhibitions, Instructors & Studios, Museums, Online Tools, Other Conferences (besides MAFA), Publications, Schools, Shops, Tours & Residencies. If you know of a fiber resource to share, please submit it on this form <https://mafafiber.org/submit-a-resource/>.

Guild Resources:

- Here you will find our **Reps Corner** with reminders, important dates, newsletters, and meeting minutes. Find the Reps Corner at <https://mafafiber.org/guild-resources/reps-corner/>
- On the **Guild Admin** page, we are compiling technical info that may be of use to guilds, such as tax-exempt status info and tax filings for workshop payments made. We also host websites for guilds who want an online presence, but may not have the resources or expertise to host and create a website. Visit the Guild Admin page for a list of guilds we host, and contact our webmaster if we can set up a website for you, or host an existing website. <https://mafafiber.org/guild-resources/guild-admin/>
- Lastly, do you have great hands-on program ideas to share? We'd love to add them to our Program Ideas page here <https://mafafiber.org/guild-resources/guild-programs/>.

If you have any questions about the website, or suggestions for information that would help you as a Rep, feel free to email me at membership@mafafiber.org, and I'll direct you to the right person if I can't resolve your issue myself. *Margaret Briggs, MAFA Membership Chair*

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 by December 21 for inclusion in the January/February MAFA News.

Weavers Guild of Rochester, 2018 Holiday Sale

Friday November 2, noon - 8 p.m.; Saturday November 3, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday November 4, 11 a. m. - 3 p.m. <http://www.weaversguildofrochester.org/galleries/holiday-sale-gallery>

Jockey Hollow Weavers Exhibit & Sale

November 10-11, Saturday-Sunday, Brookside Community Center, (Mendham Twp), New Jersey
10am - 5pm Saturday, 10am - 4pm Sunday, Free

<http://www.jockeyhollowweavers.org/>

Distaff Day, also called Roc Day, is 7 January 2019, the day after the feast of the Epiphany. It is also known as Saint Distaff's Day, one of the many unofficial holidays in Catholic nations. Many St. Distaff's Day gatherings are held, large and small, throughout local fiber community. Check your local guild to see if they are holding an event.

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/>

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 see the attachment at the end of this newsletter, and contact Keena Graham at keena_graham@fws.gov, or (609) 382-7641.

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>

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
<http://www.textilemuseum.ca/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/beads,-they-re-sewn-so-tight>

The Barns of Rose Hill, Berryville, Virginia presents the first ever free Oxford Punch and Traditional Hooked Rug Exhibit, called, "Woolen Wonders", November 3rd thru the 24th. Rug Artists from five states will display one hundred primitive, contemporary, commercial and original rug designs. Several Artists have won recognition in the annual Rug Hooking Magazine "Celebrations" listing the top nationwide best one-hundred rugs. Visit <http://barnsofrosehill.org/> for Gallery Open Hours. Free event. Barns of Rose Hill, 95 Chalmers Court, Berryville, VA 22611

Podcast interview with tapestry artist Jo Barker

Jo produces absolutely exquisite work that is full of gesture and movement, beautifully captured in warp and weft. In her episode, we talk a lot about her process and how she begins with very open-ended, intuitive mark making, then slowly edits and refines to identify key components. These are further developed by a process of collage and digital manipulation until she arrives at a final design. Then she begins the process of actually weaving! You can see some of her work here: <http://jobarkertapestry.co.uk/>

The podcast is all about conversations with people who are actively making and doing creative work. You'll find in-depth interviews where I ask guests about their work, inspiration, getting 'stuck', and loads more. You can see the work of all my guests and listen to the podcast directly from the website at: <https://thepracticalcreative.life/> *Jeremiah Krage*

Eastern PA/Northern NJ/NYC - Autumn-Winter Exhibits

The Secret Life of Textiles: The Milton Sondag Archive

Now through December 31

MET 5th Avenue, New York City, New York

<https://metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/secret-life-of-textiles>

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

Alling Coverlet Museum, in Palmyra NY, has a collection of simple 4H to jacquard coverlets.

<http://historicpalmyrany.com/alling.htm>

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/>

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>.

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.

From Keena: The refuge stretches from the suburbs of Atlantic City to Brick Township. January 2019 marks the 80th anniversary of our refuge. We were unable to commemorate the 75th due to extensive storm damage. Therefore, we decided to celebrate the entire 80th year through arts and crafts. Although our headquarters is in Oceanville, our plan is to host events at some of our northern sites so that people can experience all the landscapes, ecosystems, and cultures that have inspired works of art, food, music, and even dance. Let me share with some of ideas that we're work-shopping at the moment:

- **"Embrace the Greenheads"**: greenhead flies terrorize our visitors during the summer months. Are they villains or are they superheroes? We think that illustrators will get a kick out of creating such a character whose lair is in the salt-water marsh at Forsythe.
- **"The Fibers of Forsythe"**: New Jersey is rich with fiber artists who knit, quilt, crochet, weave, spin, and sew. We'd like to explore the idea of establishing "circles" at different locations along the refuge so that people can work on projects inspired by the history and the natural landscape.
- **"Impressions of Forsythe"**: we'd like to encourage painters and sketch artists to go to different parts of the refuge weekly, monthly, or quarterly to paint and draw their impressions of the refuge.
- **"The Forsythe Hop & Bop"**: Animals really can boogie! We'd love for dancers to create dances based upon the movements of the animals they observe at Forsythe. We think this is something that kids would especially love.
- **"Forsythe in Verse"**: There's a great tradition of American writers who have been inspired by the great outdoors. We hope that our local writers feel the same way about Forsythe. We'd like to share some of these verses with the public during National Poetry Month.
- **"Carving Forsythe Culture"**: We like to acknowledge other recreational and cultural experiences that people enjoy on the refuge like fishing and hunting. Carving decoys and making fly fishing flies is an art that we'd like everyone to see.
- **"Food and Libations for the Forsythe Celebration"**: It's called culinary arts for a reason. We want our **local** chefs and mixologists come to Forsythe to get that creative spark to make tasty dishes and drinks.
- **"Photographing Forsythe"**: We already have a wealth of talented photographers who come to our headquarters. But we want to widen that range to include our other locations.

We currently host a monthly series called "Evenings at Forsythe" where people come out to present on a number of topics every third Thursday of the month. And we do have plans on conducting several workshops, gallery exhibits, and even contests with our partners from the Friends of Forsythe group. We'd like to see at this point if you or any of your members would be interested in meeting soon to discuss the 80th anniversary project as a whole. Just drop me a line or call me if you'd like to know more.