



MAFA News

January/February 2020

Please share this newsletter with your guild

President's Message

Best wishes to all in 2020. I am looking forward to seeing the new grant proposals, to learning about the programs, shows and workshops presented by our member guilds and to exploring how MAFA can provide service and support to our member guilds.

As you know, grant applications were submitted in November. The board will soon be reviewing the grant projects that our Grants Committee has recommended for funding. Applicants will hear by the end of January.

I've been very impressed with the work done by our 2019 fellowship recipients. Each successful applicant has done a prodigious amount of work, learned a great deal and shared that learning with their guilds. These programs are certainly contributing to expanding knowledge about fiber crafts.

During the next two months I will be canvassing our representatives to learn about initiatives guilds have developed to encourage growth and diversity in their membership. I welcome your ideas for improving MAFA. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have ideas to share.

This is the time of year when I'm inspired to make big pots of soup, bake pans of cornbread, and weave, knit and spin to my heart's content. This year I'm also going to be getting to know a new loom. I'm excited! I hope you will be enjoying your favorite winter pastimes as well. Stay warm and healthy.

Warm regards,
Helena Valentine, MAFA President
president@mafafiber.org

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Important Dates

- February 15, 2020 - Deadline for instructors to submit MAFA 2021 Workshop Proposals
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Conference 2021 - Save the Date!

The MAFA 2021 Conference will be held June 24 - 27, 2021, and we will return to Millersville University, Millersville, PA!

MAFA is seeking instructors to teach workshops at the conference! If you or someone you know is interested in submitting a workshop proposal, find the Proposal Form on the website at: mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa-2021/mafa-2021-workshop-proposals/
The deadline for proposals is February 15, 2020.

If you would like us to send an invitation to submit a proposal to an instructor, please email the instructor's name, email address, and a brief note on what sort of fiber art they do, to Chris Field-Funk at education@mafafiber.org.

Help Needed!

Conference Website/MailChimp Assistant - If you have WordPress 5+ skills, know or are willing to learn MailChimp, and would like to help keep conference info updated on the MAFA website and in mailings to attendees, this position is for you.

To find out more about this position, or to get involved in planning the conference in any other way, email Margaret Briggs at conference@mafafiber.org.

Grants Committee News

Conference Fellowships

The 2019 Conference Fellows are wrapping up their work and submitting [final reports](#). You can read their reports on the MAFA website, with more coming soon.

Interested in becoming a [Conference Fellow](#)? Look for information and application instructions in time for 2021 conference registration.

The Grants Committee is reviewing applications for 2020 MAFA Grants

Awards will be announced soon.

Interested in a 2021 Grant? Here's where to start:

- Read the detailed guidelines and reporting requirements on the [MAFA Grants page](#).
- Read the [reports](#) of successful grant projects. The reports include advice for future applicants planning similar projects.
- Download the latest versions of the [grants brochure](#) and [application preview](#). The online application form is available from Sept. 1st through Nov. 1st.

Questions? Contact grants@mafafiber.org.

Want to get involved?

The Grants Committee accepts new members annually. There is even an opportunity to Chair. Volunteers from throughout the MAFA region are appointed for two-year terms. Conference attendance not required. Questions? Contact grants@mafafiber.org.

Update From 2017 Conference Fellow Kathleen Czarnecki

Kathleen Czarnecki, a member of North Country Spinners, based in New Jersey, was a 2017 Conference Fellow and Dorosh Award recipient. She attended a Saori weaving workshop and has taken the resulting inspiration and run with it. Below is a summary of her recent activities.

MAFA FELLOWSHIP AWARD CONTINUES TO INSPIRE EVENTS AT THE KENILWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY in New Jersey

I just wanted to share with you how the Dorosh award for weaving has impacted our local library. Back in 2017 I was generously given the Dorosh award. I had the opportunity to study Saori weaving during the 2017 MAFA conference. After the conference I was able to share lots of information with my spinning guild, The North Country Spinners. I also was thrilled to demonstrate Saori weaving on a small Cricket loom during a library program. Adults were fascinated by the Saori philosophy, and children were excited about this style of weaving. I had a fantasy that we had our very own Saori loom at the Kenilworth Public Library. With this loom, people old and young could easily explore free-weaving.

Our library miracle came through! Thanks to a generous gift from the Ralph Errington Charitable Foundation, we were able to purchase a Saori loom for the Kenilworth Public Library. People of all ages and abilities are now able to work on this loom. Our fiber-arts program has exploded in popularity. We had to increase our program dates

from once a month during the evening to once every week during the daytime hours, while still keeping our original evening schedule in place.

Besides Saori weaving, we also work on charity projects. Hundreds of hats and scarves have been donated to local charities. We also have created Twiddle Muffs for dementia patients and hats for the Purple Crying Project.

The thing that moves me most about the Dorosh award, our Saori weaving loom and the library “Yarnies” program, is the pleasure we bring to others. For example, we have a young girl who races to the library after school to work on our Saori loom. She loves to tell everyone how much she loves weaving, and enthusiastically brings her friends to the library to try out our loom.

Recently our library “Yarnies” program was honored for being the 2019 Adult services Program of the Year from the Libraries of Union County Consortium. Thanks to MAFA and the Dorosh award, we are able to continue to share the joys of the fiber arts with our community.

Upcoming Guild Events

Let us help you publicize your guild exhibits, workshops, events and sales! Visit the Guild Events listing on the website here: mafafiber.org/events/. Submit information 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 firstvp@mafafiber.org before the 21st of even months for inclusion in the next MAFA News.

New in this issue:

Celebration of Fibers, The Philadelphia Guild of Handweavers Annual Fiber Exhibition, April 17-26, 2020, Philadelphia, PA <https://www.pghw.org/>

In previous issue:

Deb Silver: Split Shed Tied Beiderwand Workshop. March 29, 2020, New York Guild of Handweavers. This workshop will teach the basics of split-shed weaving using a variation of the tied beiderwand pattern. Workshop fee: Members: \$85 Non-members: \$95 <https://www.nyhandweavers.org>

Textile News in Our Region

Exhibits, Events & Online Fiber Arts

New in this issue:

Delight in Discovery: The Global Collections of Lloyd Cotsen

February 22 through July 5, 2020, THE TEXTILE MUSEUM, Washington, DC

<https://museum.gwu.edu/delight>

Stitches United

March 26-29, 2020, Hartford, CT, <http://www.knittinguniverse.com/United2020>

East Hungary Felt Tour

Apr 16-27, 2020

During the 12-day Felt Tour in Hungary you can take classes from some outstanding felt masters while having a full cultural immersion. Internationally recognized instructors will be teaching project-based classes eg. Felted Jewelry, Prefelt Pillow Pad, 3D Home Decor and Bottle Holder with Nomad Design. Classes are very informative and well balanced with side trips, a folk festival, craft markets, and a special private trunk show and seasonal programs.

You can access the 2020 East Hungary Felt Tour itinerary [here](#) with all the details.

If you have any questions about the tour, contact Flóra Carlile-Kovács at

flora@florafelts.com

POTOMAC FIBER ARTS GALLERY, Alexandria, VA

Jan. 7 - Feb. 9: *Repetitions*

Feb. 13 - Mar. 15: *Architecture in Fiber*

Mar. 17 - Apr. 19: *Purple Pops*

Apr. 21 - May 17: *Clouds, Showers, and Rainbows*

May 19 - June 21: *Birds of a Feather*

June 23 - July 26: *Everything Old is New — Recycling*

July 28 - Aug. 30: *Landscapes*

Sept. 1 - Oct. 4: *“LaJaponaise” by Claude Monet*

Oct. 6 - Nov. 8: *Around the World*

Nov. 10, 2020 - Jan. 3, 2021: *Holiday Spirit*

<https://www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com/>

Off the Wall: American Art to Wear

Through May 17, 2020 PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART, Philadelphia, PA

<https://press.philamuseum.org/off-the-wall-american-art-to-wear/>

Adorned: African Women and the Art of Identity

Through June 19, 2020, BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART, Baltimore, MD

https://www.artbma.org/exhibitions/2019_adorned-african-women-and-the-art-of-identity

Hidden Stories/Human Lives

October 14-18, 2020, Textile Society of America 17th Biennial Symposium, Boston, MA, <https://textilesocietyofamerica.org/symposia/symposium-2020>

In previous issue:

Esther and the Dream of One Loving Human Family

Through March 2024, AMERICAN VISIONARY ART MUSEUM (AVAM), Baltimore, Maryland. Testimonial embroideries created by Holocaust survivor, Esther Nisenthal Krintz. More info at www.avam.org/.

Frank Lloyd Wright Textiles: The Taliesin Line 1955-60

Through April 5, 2020, METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, New York, NY
www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2019/frank-lloyd-wright-textiles

The **Hudson Valley Fiber Arts Network** is a listing directory, marketing & news resource to promote and celebrate the diversity & creativity of the fiber arts community of the greater Hudson Valley region - from New York City to the Canadian border, along the I-87 and Hudson River corridor and surrounding areas. Find their events listings, and info at www.hudsonvalleyfiberartsnetwork.com/

Ongoing Exhibits

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

Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - 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. Find more info at fabricworkshopandmuseum.org/.

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

Guild representatives (Reps) officers, and program chairs: 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.