



MAFA News

Sept/Oct 2020

Please share this newsletter with your guild

President's Message

Summer 2020 has been a memorable one, although not always in a good way. Our region has experienced several storms accompanied by flooding and power outages. The coronavirus is still disrupting our lives and pressing issues of equality and civic engagement continue in the forefront of our thinking. MAFA has not been immune to any of these currents but I hope we have responded purposefully to those we can directly influence.

August 18 was our third representatives' roundtable, and the second on the topic of diversity and inclusion. The Zoom meeting was very well attended. We had an excellent presentation from Cecilia Nelson-Hurt. It was an opportunity to learn and reflect. I was especially struck by the realization that there are so many opportunities to be inclusive when we set this as an intention. Look around and see who is missing or not speaking up. When your guild does demonstrations as part of community outreach, look around. Is the attendance at these events diverse? If not, it's time to look for new venues. Are you careful to treat all newcomers the same at your meetings? Do you connect newcomers with other members who share their interests? Is your meeting location accessible? Does your meeting time make it difficult for working people to attend? Once all guild members share the commitment, you will find a host of ways to make your guild welcoming to the entire community.

The pandemic has had an impact on all aspects of life. The Executive Board and the Conference Committee have begun discussing the contours of a possible virtual conference in 2021. There are opportunities as well as challenges to such an undertaking. The Board will vote on the direction we will take during our September meeting. As promised, we will work to be transparent and to keep you fully informed. The Fall Representatives teleconference will be September 22. At that time we will announce the decision on Conference 2021 and ask the reps to vote on a dues reduction for the next two-year cycle.

I am grateful every day for our fiber community and for the creative outlet that weaving, spinning, dyeing, felting and knitting provides. I hope that you are able to spend some time lost in your fiber loves. Stay well and stay safe.

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

If you have any questions, need help scheduling a meeting, or have any other suggestions on how MAFA can support our members right now, please email membership@mafafiber.org.

Looking for someone to present an online class or lecture?

Visit the new [Online Teaching](#) category under Fiber Resources on the MAFA website. Check back as we'll keep updating this as we get teaching info from new instructors.

Join an ongoing conversation about guild issues

We have a discussion group for our member guild reps, officers, and program chairs, as well as MAFA board members. We will post a Question of the Month, and we hope you will join in the ongoing conversation. To join the discussion group, go to: <http://groups.io/g/mafareps>. Click on "Apply for Membership in this Group", or email for an invite. If you need any assistance joining the group, or to request an invite, email membership@mafafiber.org.

Reps Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the May 5, 2020 Reps Assembly are [posted on the MAFA website](#).

Conference 2021 Update

The MAFA 2021 Conference will be held June 24 - 27, 2021

We will email Reps and previous attendees with a detailed conference update later in September. In the meantime, please email conference@mafafiber.org if you have any questions about the conference.

Want To Get Involved!

If you would like to join the conference planning committee, we'd love to have you! Please email and we'll discuss what coordinator positions we still need to fill and what your particular interests are. Email Margaret Briggs, at conference@mafafiber.org.

Grants Committee News

Changes to Grant Application Deadlines for 2021

The deadline for new grant applications has been **extended to January 8th, 2021** with awards to be announced in April.

Applicants may also request early decision for events and programs to be held in early 2021. To request an early decision, please apply by November 1, 2020 and check

“early decision” on the application. The Committee will make every effort to finalize early decision grants by the end of 2020.

Grants Briefing. Save the Date: Join us **October 20th, at 7:00pm on Zoom**. Our next Guild Roundtable will focus on the MAFA grant process and highlight past grant projects, along with some lessons learned and pitfalls to avoid. Please pre-register here: [us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckdOGvrjsvGdSD5tGO3w54jp-CXgRpEc5k](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-qr?qr=us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckdOGvrjsvGdSD5tGO3w54jp-CXgRpEc5k)

Interested in a MAFA 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 (required) will be **available Sept. 1st**.

Questions? Contact grants@mafafiber.org.

Interested in becoming a [Conference Fellow](#)?

The 2019 Fellows each received an award of \$300 after completing their post-conference projects. [Reports](#) from past Conference Fellows are available on the MAFA website.

Look for more information and application instructions in time for 2021 conference registration. As you think about a fellowship project, please coordinate with your guild's program planners early in the process to reserve space for your presentation, workshop, etc. MAFA Associate Members are also welcome to apply.

Want to get involved?

The Grants Committee welcomes new members annually. Volunteers from across the MAFA region are needed for 2021 and beyond. For more information or to express interest, contact grants@mafafiber.org.

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.

None at this time.

Textile News in Our Region

Exhibits, Festivals, Events & Online Fiber Arts

Please note that many museums are still closed. See * for current details. Some virtual tours have been added to the listings.

New festivals in this issue (watch websites for COVID19 updates):

PA Endless Mountains Fiber Festival **Virtual**

September 11- 12, 2020

<http://www.endlessmountainsfiberfest.com/>

Maryland and Alpaca and fleece Festival **Virtual**

October 31 to November 1, 2020

<http://www.marylandalpacas.org/page/8709/virtual-maryland-alpaca-and-fleece-festiv/>

Penns Valley Fiber Festival **Virtual**

November 7, 2020

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

In previous issue:

NJ Sheep and Fiber Festival ** Now Canceled**

Shenandoah Valley Fiber Festival **Now Virtual**

September 26 - 27, 2020, Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds, Berryville, Virginia

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

New York Sheep & Wool Festival **Now Virtual**

October 17, 2020 - October 18, 2020

<https://sheepandwool.com/>

Fall Fiber Festival & Montpelier Sheep Dog Trials: **Now Canceled**

New virtual textile exhibits in this issue:

Pliable Plane: Anni Albers

September 3, 2020 – December 15, 2020

<https://theglasshouse.org/whats-on/pliable-plane-anni-albers/>

In Thread and On Paper: Anni Albers in Connecticut

Through Sunday, September 13, 2020

<https://www.nbmaa.org/exhibitions/anni-albers>

Poetics of Place

<https://publish.exhibbit.com/gallery/48757320/solo-gallery-16892>

Taking a Thread for a Walk

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/17/arts/design/textile-show-moma.html>

<https://www.moma.org/calendar/exhibitions/5101>

Rosie Lee Tompkins: A Retrospective

<https://bampfa.org/rosie-lee-tompkins-media>

Previous issue exhibits:

Belmar Arts Center – FiberArts Plus Exhibit 2020

Virtual tour on YouTube

2020s://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1vZXzhhgDVM&feature=youtu.be

Fiber III, a National Juried Exhibition

October 2, 2020 - November 1, 2020, LIBERTYTOWN ARTS WORKSHOP, Fredericksburg, Virginia. Full prospectus on the website. Submissions due: 9/14/2020. <https://libertytownarts.com/calls-for-artists/>

Esther and the Dream of One Loving Human Family

*Closed now. Ends March 31, 2024, Testimonial embroideries created by Holocaust survivor, Esther Nisenthal Krinitz, AMERICAN VISIONARY ART MUSEUM (AVAM), Baltimore, Maryland, <http://www.avam.org/>

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery

Alexandria, VA

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

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

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

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

Delight in Discovery: The Global Collections of Lloyd Cotsen

* Extended through December 23, 2020 but the museum is currently closed.

The Textile Museum, Washington, DC **view the video tour here:**

https://secure2.convio.net/gwu/site/R?i=xb20svHRLsXxEg_cIO74Yw

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

Hidden Stories/Human Lives

Online October 15-18, 2020, TEXTILE SOCIETY OF AMERICA 17TH BIENNIAL SYMPOSIUM, Boston, MA,

<https://textilesocietyofamerica.org/symposia/symposium-2020>

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 please check websites for reopening dates

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. historicpalmyrany.com/alling.htm

Need to Update Your Guild Info? Looking for MAFA Resources?

Submit your **updated guild info, officers, Rep, or meeting times** online using this form: mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-update/

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 Website: MAFA has created an entirely new website, most of our resources are located there, and we encourage you to explore to see what we have to offer. Of particular interest to member guilds will be the Guild pages, the Guild Resources & Reps' Corner, and the Fiber Resources pages.

NOTE: If your guild hasn't already, please ask your web person to add a link to MAFA at <https://mafafiber.org/> and let me know if you want a MAFA logo for your website.

- Under the website **Guilds** tab, you will find our list of all member guilds, sorted by state, as well as on a Google Map.
- Under the **Guild Resources** tab you will find links to the Rep's Corner with current and past newsletters and our Role of the Rep document; info on guild administration topics; and program suggestions.
- MAFA can **host your guild website**. If you are interested in having us create and host a website for your guild, please email webmaster@mafafiber.org.
- Check out the **Fiber Resources** pages on the website to find info on exhibits, events, festivals, schools, other conferences, and much more. If you have a resource to add, use the online form linked in the sidebar and found here: mafafiber.org/submit-a-resource/.

MAFA Reps Groups.io: 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. We particularly want guilds to enter program, workshop and instructor info in our Programs database here: groups.io/g/mafareps/table?id=3297.

MAFA on Facebook: www.facebook.com/MidAtlanticFiberAssociation/

MAFA on Ravelry: www.ravelry.com/groups/midatlantic-fiber-association

MAFA on Twitter: twitter.com/MAFAfiber

MAFA on Instagram: www.instagram.com/mafafiber/