



MAFA News

November/December 2020

Please share this newsletter with your guild

President's Message

I hope that autumn weather and color has brought renewed creativity to all of you. I am appreciating the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in comfort. Crisp air always puts a little pep in my step.

I think I speak for all board members and conference committee volunteers in feeling a sense of relief and motivation as we look forward to planning an exciting virtual event for 2021. As always, our team is full of creative ideas and the talent to see them through. I look forward to seeing what they produce.

We were saddened to learn of the passing last year of Virginia Banks, fiber artist, regular conference attendee and wife of Webmaster, Dave Banks. In her memory, and to express MAFA's appreciation for all of Dave's contributions over the years, the board is making a donation to the American Rhododendron Society, one of Ginny and Dave's favorite organizations. We will miss Ginny.

The holidays will be upon us soon. Many of us are facing challenges as we try to retain the special joys of family get-togethers in this difficult year. I wish you all the best, however you decide to celebrate. Stay well and stay safe.

Warm regards,

Helena Valentine, MAFA President

president@mafafiber.org

Contents in This Issue

- Important Dates
 - Membership News
 - Conference Update
 - Grants Committee News
 - Meet a MAFA Member
 - Upcoming Guild Events
 - Textile Events in our Region
-

Important Dates

- November 17, 2020, 7:00 p.m., on Zoom: November Roundtable, Guild Grants. Register in advance for a Zoom link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtdOuhqzwrHdY4lf9nqq3AoUDxDyC-tfFH>
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MAFA Membership

Membership Renewals Are Now Due for 2020 - 2022

At the September Reps meeting we approved reducing dues for guilds and associates by 50% for the 2020-2022 membership period. If you have not already renewed, renewals are due for guilds and associates by December 31, 2020.

Please remember to submit the online form even if you are mailing a check!

Guilds renew here:

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

Associates renew here:

<https://mafafiber.org/about-us/join-us/associate-members/>

Guild Roundtables

Save the date for our next roundtable on Guild Grants, November 17th, at 7:00pm on Zoom (postponed from October). We are open to suggestions for future group discussions! Register here to get a Zoom link for the November meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtdOuhqzwrHdY4lf9nqq3AoUDxDyC-tfFH>

Did you miss the previous roundtables? Find links to meeting notes and recordings of the meetings on the Reps Corner page of the MAFA website, here:

mafafiber.org/guild-resources/reps-corner/

Reps Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the September 22, 2020 Reps Assembly are posted on the Reps Corner on the MAFA website, or [download them here](#).

Guild Zoom Meetings

We have a Zoom Pro account for use by any of our member guilds to hold guild meetings, board meetings, and programs, as a free service to our guilds. Visit the new [Guild Zoom Meetings page](#) (under Guild Resources) to find more info, the meeting calendar, a request form to reserve a meeting time, links to instructions for guild hosts and participants, and a link to download the Zoom app. We now have two hosts to avoid schedule conflicts, and meetings are first-come, first-served.

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.

Conference 2021 Update

MAFA 2021 is going VIRTUAL!

Mark your calendars for June 24 - 27, 2021!

We are excited to announce that the 2021 conference will be a virtual fiber event, and will include hands-on classes, lectures, keynote, evening events, panel discussions and demos, as well as a vendor marketplace with interactive sessions with your favorite vendors! Plus, casual gathering times to hang out with your fiber friends.

We received over 400 survey responses, and they overwhelmingly support our offering a virtual fiber arts event in 2021 in lieu of canceling! We are focusing on workshops and mini-classes in a variety of fiber arts, lectures, demos, panel discussions, and tours. We will have a vendor marketplace, exhibits, and towel exchange.

Here's when you can expect more info from us:

- Look for details on the website and in the newsletter starting late January!
- We plan to publish the catalog late February with a complete class listing and registration details.
- We will also offer sample classes in early March so you can get a feel for what a virtual hands-on class or lecture-style class will be like.
- Registration will open in early April — a little later than usual since we don't all have to make travel arrangements.

Please email conference@mafafiber.org if you have any questions about the conference.

Conference Sponsorships

Guilds, if you would like to sponsor elements of the conference in exchange for sponsor recognition, your logo on the conference website, and a link to your guild, we will be taking sponsorships at several levels for lectures, keynote, exhibits, demos, and events. For more information, please email conference@mafafiber.org.

Conference Committee

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

2021 Grant Application Deadlines

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

The early decision deadline for Grant applications is Nov. 1st. This date was chosen to allow the committee and the MAFA Board to make decisions by the end of 2020. If you are interested in an early decision but need a bit more time, please start your application ASAP using the "Save and Continue Later" link at the bottom of the form and send a note to grants@mafafiber.org.

Guild Roundtable on MAFA Grants rescheduled to Nov. 17 at 7:00 PM. Please join us on Zoom

- Register in advance to receive a Zoom link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtdOuhqzwrHdY4lf9nqq3AoUDxDyC-tfFH>

Send questions to grants@mafafiber.org

Interested in a MAFA Grant?

- 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) is [here](#).

Note: The Grant Application was updated in mid-September, just after the Sept/Oct newsletter went out. The link in that newsletter no longer works. Please re-download to see the latest version. Questions? Contact grants@mafafiber.org.

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.

Meet a Member of a MAFA Guild

Each newsletter we try to highlight a member of a MAFA guild in order for you to get to know the talented people who are part of our organization. We hope you will not be shy and will consider letting us get to know you by completing the Member Highlights form, which can be found on the Mafa website:

<https://mafafiber.org/guild-resources/rep-corner/member-highlights-form/>

November/December Member Highlight: Meet Jenny Sethman



Hi, my name is Jenny Sethman and I am a member of the Loyalhannon Spinners (located in Latrobe, PA), and the Handweavers Guild of Connecticut. I am also the Social Media Chair for MAFA. My major fiber arts interests are weaving, spinning and Kumihimo. To the left is a photo of me wearing a cowl woven on a pinwheel loom using tencel.

I was always intrigued with knitting but having no knitters in my family. I decided that if I were going to learn, I would have to teach myself. Thankfully, a local store had Evie Rosen's "The All New Teach Yourself to Knit" for sale. What a find! That book set me on my fiber arts journey, first knitting in 1994, then spinning in 2009, and finally weaving in 2012.

Unfortunately, I do not make my living pursuing these crafts. I fuel my fiber additions by working as an IT analyst for the United Nations. A new source of enjoyment for me is I recently have become involved in a Sheep-to-Shawl team. Working together in a friendly competition is a great way to build skills and have fun! My favorite quote is "A thread under tension is a thread under control", perfect for my place on the team as their weaver.

I attended the MAFA conference in 2015 and 2019. I love that guilds are so devoted to providing quality education in the fiber arts and that they work together to create 'get-away' weekends like MAFA. Staying on a college campus creates a unique opportunity to meet new friends in an affordable environment. The MAFA format is also aligned to my personal interests which is attending a workshop over several days instead of multiple smaller classes. Although COVID may impact the campus and in person experience in 2021, the conference will simply be different but still exciting and rewarding. No matter what format it takes, I will be eager to participate in the learning and friendship.

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.

Triangle Weavers Guild Annual Sale and Show - Virtual! to 12/14 20,
<https://www.triangleweavers.org/>, Durham, NC

Come check out guild members and local fiber artists work at the Triangle Weavers Guild Annual Sale and Show . This year we are going virtual due to the pandemic, but that means you get the chance to purchase and see what amazing items the regional fiber community has to offer! Hop on over to the site to find items ranging from handwoven goods, local yarns, and other fiber arts items for sale.

The Philadelphia and New York Guilds of Handweavers Holiday Sale. We have joined together for a 2020 Online Holiday Sale. A catalog with links to participating members' shops will be launched on November 10. The catalog can be found on each Guild's web site.

PGHW <http://www.pghw.org/>

NY Guild <https://www.nyhandweavers.org/>

Building Bridges, Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore - Virtual Exhibit to 6/30/21, <https://wggb.org/building-bridges-1/>

The theme of our exhibit - Building Bridges - was designed to allow broad interpretation so that weavers of all levels could feel inspired to contribute. It was interpreted as a bridge between people, cultures, the natural world, phases of life and ideas. The pandemic certainly inspired a number of the entries and weaving was clearly an escape and source of comfort.

This exhibit highlights the diverse possibilities that weaving offers. It includes tapestry weavings, 3-D weavings, clothing, home décor, and more.

Check it out and be inspired!

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.

Virtual Learning: Did you know you can access via our website a list of instructors and studios that are teaching virtually?

https://mafafiber.org/resource_category/instructors-and-studios/

New exhibits in this issue:

None at this time

Previous issue exhibits:

Pliable Plane: Anni Albers

September 3, 2020 – December 15, 2020

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

Poetics of Place

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

Rosie Lee Tompkins: A Retrospective

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

Belmar Arts Center – FiberArts Plus Exhibit 2020

Virtual tour on YouTube

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

Esther and the Dream of One Loving Human Family

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

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>

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. historicpalmyra.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/