



# MAFA News

## September/October 2021

**Please share this newsletter with your guild**

### President's Message

I made the mistake of hoping 2021 would be a better year than 2020. It has definitely not been better for me. I'm feeling a bit battered but I'm grateful for my fiber interests. They use my creativity, encourage my hopeful imagination and keep my mind and hands occupied--so valuable while facing major challenges. I appreciated our virtual event, too. With all that I had on my plate this year, I was so grateful for the opportunity to relisten to many of my classes and the streamed events from the conference. I look forward to seeing how the 2023 conference committee incorporates digital options into our in-person event.

Our July Reps Assembly was well attended. The new board was elected and our new officers and board members are already planning for a successful transition in October. I'm also looking forward to interesting and informative roundtable discussions. If you have ideas for topics, please let Sara know.

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as president of MAFA for the past two years. Although these two years have been quite different from what anyone could have imagined, it has been thrilling to work with smart, innovative and dedicated volunteers who have created a spectacular event and enhanced the reputation of MAFA in the process. As I move over to my role as past president, I know that Margaret won't need any guidance from me. I will still have lots to do continuing the conversation about diversity and inclusion. I anticipate reaching out to many of you for your input and experiences. I feel very confident about MAFA's future.

Warm regards,  
*Helena Valentine, MAFA President*  
[president@mafafiber.org](mailto:president@mafafiber.org)

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## Important Dates

- September 28, 2021: Guild Roundtable
  - October 26, 2021: MAFA Reps Business Meeting
  - November 23, 2021: Final Guild Roundtable for 2021
  - January 10, 2022: 2022 Grant Applications Due
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## Next Guild Roundtable

***MAFA Grant Showcase:*** September 28 at 7 p.m.

Curious about the MAFA grants process? Join us on September 28 to hear from past grant recipients about what they accomplished, what they learned, and what they'd do differently now. We hope this will make a MAFA grant seem doable, even for smaller guilds, and give you a realistic picture of the level of commitment and planning needed for a successful project. Tune in to learn more and find out how fun and rewarding a grant can be!

**All MAFA members are invited to this meeting.**

**Register in advance for this meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvf-6hrTsvHdJUvd4XzKHMI2ueGkIL6DXj>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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## Member News

**MAFA Reps Business Meeting:**

**Added: October 28 at 7 pm.** Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpcuiqpzMqG9B0FKUm-1uXT54ua2ifDfo2>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**Upcoming Guild Roundtable 2021**

**November 23** - Francis Irwin Handweavers, will discuss their MAFA Grant project: "Linen the Journey From *"Seed to Cloth"* (presentation and discussion).

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:

<https://mafafiber.org/guild-resources/reps-corner/>

The MAFA Roundtables are ultimately designed to help support the guild representatives. I would love to hear your ideas as to what would interest and be helpful to you. You can reach me at the same Membership email address, [membership@mafafiber.org](mailto:membership@mafafiber.org).

*Sara Robbins, Membership Chair*  
[membership@mafafiber.org](mailto:membership@mafafiber.org)

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## Grants Committee News

### MAFA Grants for 2022

MAFA will begin accepting online applications in September for grant awards to be used in 2022. Please check the Grants Page after Labor Day for recent updates and changes to the grant guidelines and application form.

Once again, applicants may request an early decision for projects and events that kick off early in the year. To secure an early decision, please submit your application by **November 1st** and check the “early decision” box. We will make every effort to have a decision by early January. No more than 50% of the funds available for MAFA grants may be awarded on early decision.

The deadline for all applications for 2022 MAFA grants will be **January 10th, 2022**.

### Interested in a MAFA Grant?

- Read the detailed guidelines and reporting requirements on the [MAFA Grants page](#)
- Check out our recent [slideshow](#) on the grants process
- Read the [reports](#) of successful grant projects
- Download the latest version of the [application preview](#) (Rev. Sept. 2020)
- [Online applications](#) will be accepted in the Fall.

Questions? Contact [grants@mafafiber.org](mailto:grants@mafafiber.org).

### Conference Fellowships will return in 2023

To learn more about Conference Fellowships:

- Check out the [fellowship guidelines](#) and application preview at mafafiber.org
- Read [reports](#) from previous Conference Fellows

## Want to get involved on the Grants Committee?

The Grants Committee welcomes new members annually. For more information or to express interest, contact [grants@mafafiber.org](mailto:grants@mafafiber.org). You can also volunteer when you complete the 2021 Conference survey.

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## MAFA Conference 2021

### Notes after the Conference

There will be a full conference report at the Fall Reps meeting in October, and here are a few highlights:

- We closed the conference with 842 registrations.
- Unofficial net income with all invoices we know about paid, is +/- \$60,000.
- Overall survey responses are overwhelmingly positive. We knew there were some technical and communications issues. But by far most people had a great experience, enjoyed their classes, and were able to navigate the Attendee Hub.
- Instructor evaluations are also largely very positive. A few instructors weren't as comfortable with the virtual medium, and that's something we'll keep in mind for any future virtual programs.
- Remember to add MAFA to your guild budgets for roundtable sponsorships in 2022, and the conference in 2023.
- The MAFA Logo Shop is still open: [www.redbubble.com/people/MAFA2021/shop](http://www.redbubble.com/people/MAFA2021/shop).

Thank you again to our wonderful conference committee, instructors, sponsors, vendors, and of course to you, the attendees!

*Margaret Briggs, MAFA 2021 Conference Coordinator*  
[conference@mafafiber.org](mailto:conference@mafafiber.org)

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## 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/](http://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/](http://mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-event-update/). You may also email newsletter items to [firstvp@mafafiber.org](mailto:firstvp@mafafiber.org) before the 21st of even months for inclusion in the next MAFA News.

**New: The Philadelphia Guild of Handweavers Fiberpalooza:** 3705 Main Street, Philadelphia, PA. Join us for a HUGE fiber and equipment sale on *Sunday, October 24* from noon to 4 pm. <https://pqhw.org/>

**NEW: Handweavers of Bucks Co. Annual Show and Sale:** Trinity Episcopal Church of Buckingham, 2631 Durham Road, Buckingham, PA., *November 19-21.*  
<https://www.hwbcguild.org/>

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## Textile News in Our Region and Beyond

### Events, Festivals, Exhibits & Online Fiber Arts

#### Events:

**Coverlet College in person:** <https://www.coverletmuseum.org/events.htm>  
National Museum of the American Coverlet, Bedford, PA. *Sept 24-26*

**Spinning & Weaving Week:** <https://weavespindye.org>, Oct 4-10. *Virtual*

**NEW: NJ Fibershed Fall Fleece and Yarn Sale:** <https://njfibershed.com/>, Windswept Acres Sheep Farm, 173 Whitebridge Rd., Pittstown, NJ. October 24, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Weaving History Conference:** <https://tiartscenter.org/weaving-history-conference/>,  
*October 25-27. Virtual*

#### Festivals:

**Lehigh High Valley Fiber Festival:** <https://www.lvfiberfest.com/>. Macungie, PA.  
*September 11-12*

**Endless Mountain Fiber Festival:** <http://www.endlessmountainsfiberfest.com/>. New Milford, PA. *September 11-12*

**New Jersey Sheep and Fiber Festival:** <https://njsheep.net/>. Hunterdon Valley 4H Grounds, Ringoes, NJ. *September 11-12.*

**Shenandoah Fiber Festival:** <https://www.shenandoahvalleyfiberfestival.com/>. 890 West Main St., Berryville, VA , *September 24-26.*

**Fall Fiber Festival and Montpelier Sheep Dog Trials:** <https://fallfiberfestival.org/>.  
Montpelier Station, VA. *October 2-3*

**Kings County Fiber Festival:** <http://www.kingscountyfiberfestival.org/>. Brooklyn, NY. *October 9.*

**New York Sheep and Wool Festival:** <https://www.virtual.sheepandwool.com/41>. Rhinebeck, NY onsite and online. *October 16-17.*

**Southeastern Animal Fiber Festival:** <https://saffsite.org/saff-2017-info/>. Fletcher, NC. *October 22-24.*

**MD Alpaca and Fleece Festival:** <http://www.marylandalpacas.org/>. Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairground Road, West Friendship, Maryland 21794. *November 13-14.*

### **Exhibits**

**The Morris Museum:** <https://morrismuseum.org/>. *The Social Fabric: Black Artistry in Fiber Arts, An Exhibition in Homage to Viki Craig.* Morristown, NJ, *Now - October 24*

**Sleep Tight! Bed Covers and Wall Hangings from Throughout the World:** <https://www.allentownartmuseum.org/exhibitions/sleep-tight-bedcovers-and-hangings-from-around-the-world/>, Allentown Art Museum, Allentown, PA. *Now - September 12*

**FabricAs...**[https://fabricworkshopandmuseum.org/exhibition/fabric-as/?doing\\_wp\\_cr on=1624992795.1726489067077636718750](https://fabricworkshopandmuseum.org/exhibition/fabric-as/?doing_wp_cr on=1624992795.1726489067077636718750). The Fabric Workshop & Museum, Philadelphia, PA. *Now - Oct 10*

**Craft Front & Center:** <https://madmuseum.org/exhibition/craft-front-center> Museum of Arts & Design (MAD). New York City, NY. *Now - Feb 13, 2022*

**Abstranded: Fiber and Abstraction in Contemporary Art:** <https://everson.org/explore/upcoming-exhibitions/abstranded-fiber-and-abstraction-in-contemporary-art>, Everson Museum of Art. Syracuse, NY. *Sept. 18, 2021 - January 2, 2022*

### **Ongoing:**

**The McLean Textile Gallery:** <https://www.themcleantextilegallery.com/>, McLean, VA  
The McLean Textile Gallery is the first venue in McLean solely devoted to textile creations and art. Established in December 2020 by Nancy Preston, owner of The Quilt Shop of McLean, the gallery showcases published, award-winning talent and identifiable contemporary art styles each month.

**Pattern and Purpose: American Quilts from Shelburne Museum,** <https://shelburnemuseum.org/>

**Tatter: A Gathering of Material Culture,** is offering online classes. <https://www.tatter.org/stitching-classes-index>

**HGA - Handweavers Guild of America: Textiles and Tea.** The Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. (HGA) is excited to announce our new program for 2021: Textiles & Tea. Every Tuesday at 4 PM (EST) HGA will host a conversation with some of the most respected fiber artists in the field today. In our 45-minute discussion we will focus on their artwork and their creative journey. We will allow 15 minutes at the end of our conversation for questions from the audience. Make a cup of your favorite tea and join us as we talk about fiber, creativity, inspiration, process and so much more. <https://weavespindye.org/textiles-and-tea/>

**San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles:** <https://www.sjqmusem.org/>

**Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.** They have a beautiful and extensive textile exhibit (available in English).

<https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/rijksstudio/works-of-art/textiles>

**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/](http://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/](http://fabricworkshopandmuseum.org/).

**Alling Coverlet Museum,** in Palmyra NY, has a collection of simple 4H to jacquard coverlets. [historicpalmyra.com/alling.htm](http://historicpalmyra.com/alling.htm)

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

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

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](mailto: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](mailto: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: <https://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](https://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](https://groups.io/g/mafareps/table?id=3297).

**MAFA on Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/MidAtlanticFiberAssociation/](https://www.facebook.com/MidAtlanticFiberAssociation/)

**MAFA on Ravelry:** [www.ravelry.com/groups/midatlantic-fiber-association](https://www.ravelry.com/groups/midatlantic-fiber-association)

**MAFA on Twitter:** [twitter.com/MAFAfiber](https://twitter.com/MAFAfiber)

**MAFA on Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/mafafiber/](https://www.instagram.com/mafafiber/)