



MAFA News

March/April 2022

Please share this newsletter with your guild

President's Message

Well, this is one of the best times of the year to be involved with MAFA! The Conference workshop proposals have come in and they are exciting! Many teachers we all know and love have submitted, and lots of new faces as well. It's going to be a challenge to choose only 40 to offer, and sorry in advance, it's going to be hard to choose which to take too.

We're also busy working on other initiatives to assist our guilds — developing a micro-grant program for smaller projects than our usual grants, disaster relief assistance, and fun things like our continuing roundtable series.

Later this Spring, you will also hear from us with motions on bylaws amendments and dues for the next membership period. Remember, instead of meeting in-person at MDSW, we're going to try holding the Reps Assembly on Zoom, on May 24th. We've had such good attendance at the last few meetings, we thought this would be more accessible to more Reps, especially as we all sort out returning to large events.

I welcome your suggestions for how MAFA can best support your guild. Email me any time.

Margaret O'Reilly Briggs, MAFA President
president@mafafiber.org

Contents in This Issue

- Important Dates
 - Member News
 - MAFA Conference 2023
 - Grants Committee News
 - MAFA Recovery Fund
 - Upcoming Guild Events
 - Textile Events in our Region
-

Important Dates

- March 22, 2022: MAFA Roundtable, 7 p.m. on Zoom
-

Member News

Next Guild Roundtable

Presentation by Sarah Woodyard, March 22 at 7 p.m.



Please join us for the next MAFA roundtable on Tuesday, March 22 to hear Sarah Woodyard's *Hand-Sewing Journey: From 18th-century Dressmaking Apprentice to Modern Day Hand-Sewist*.

This lecture and discussion will explore Sarah Woodyard's apprenticeship in 18th-century English mantua-making (dressmaking) and millinery (accessories) she completed at the Margaret Hunter Millinery Shop in Colonial Williamsburg. She will explore what she learned and why hand sewing preservation is important in the modern day.

As the owner of Sewn Company, Sarah Woodyard is committed to hand-sewing preservation as a teacher and practitioner.

She teaches virtual hand sewing workshops, private lessons and stitches custom hand-sewn clothing. Sarah became a Journeywoman Milliner and Mantua-maker in 2015 completing her seven-year apprenticeship at the Margaret Hunter Millinery Shop in Colonial Williamsburg where she worked for ten years. She holds her M.A. from the University of Alberta.

Learn more about Sarah Woodyard at <https://www.sewncompany.com/>.

This roundtable is open to all MAFA guild members. Register to attend at: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0uf-6gpzMqGdekXHcjtR0_DukpVmCocVik After registering you will receive a confirmation email with a Zoom link.

Save the Dates for Upcoming Roundtables

- **May 24 and September 27:** Reps meeting and guild leadership programs
- **July 26:** Melissa Weaver Dunning, Traditional Knitting from England, Ireland, Scotland, and the Shetland Islands (open to all MAFA guild members).
- **October 22:** Cindra Kerscher from Save Em to Save Em (open to all MAFA guild members).
- **November 22:** Karen Hampton, title TBD (open to all MAFA guild members).

Recordings and Schedule

Did you miss the previous roundtable? Wonder when the next event will be and its topic? Find links to the schedule, recordings, and notes on the new Roundtables page on the MAFA website, here: <https://mafafiber.org/guild-resources/roundtables/>.

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 membership@mafafiber.org.

MAFA Zoom Account

If your guild has scheduled virtual meetings through the MAFA Zoom account, but for any reason need to cancel, please let Patty Chrisman, MAFA Secretary (and Zoom Administrator) know prior to the meeting date. You can reach Patty at secretary@mafafiber.org.

Sara Robbins, Membership Chair
membership@mafafiber.org

MAFA Conference 2023 - June 22-25, 2023

Millersville University, Millersville, PA

Hats! Hats! Hats!

Love hats – traditional, silly, felted, knitted, or mad hatter? **We are looking for someone to lead the new Hats Exhibit at the conference.** Come up with the categories, create the application, keep track of the entries, and stage the exhibition at the conference.

Education Update

We have received an amazing variety of class proposals. Over the next few weeks the committee will choose the best selection of weaving, dyeing, spinning, felting and fiber arts classes for everyone to enjoy next summer.

Volunteers

Want to get involved? We still have many positions available.

Carol Steuer, MAFA 2023 Conference Coordinator
conference@mafafiber.org

Grants Committee News

MAFA Grants for 2022

In response to the lack of grant proposals due to the pandemic, the Grants Committee is considering offering micro-grants of up to \$500 for guild recovery and maintenance. These grants could be used for basic equipment, technology, speakers or something related to keeping your guild healthy and thriving. Please watch for future announcements after the March board meeting!

Questions? Contact 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 Angela Fishman at grants@mafafiber.org.

The MAFA Recovery Fund Pilot Program

During the past two years, while we have experienced many challenges, we have also had the opportunity to witness many examples of meeting challenges with creativity and generosity. One such example was provided by the Weavers' Guild of Buffalo. In 2020, the guild made a donation to MAFA to acknowledge the efforts we were making to support member guilds during the pandemic. Buffalo suggested setting up a program to provide assistance to persons impacted by disasters. The MAFA board responded by adding money to create such a fund and by establishing a committee to administer it as a pilot program for two years. By the end of that time we hope to know if the program fills a need and whether or not we have the human resources to administer it.

In coming weeks we will be explaining details of how the fund can be accessed. We wish to thank Buffalo for being the catalyst to the establishment of a mutual aid program for our guilds and their members. We'll keep you informed going forward.

Questions? Contact Angela Fishman at 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 membership@mafafiber.org before the 21st of even months for inclusion in the next MAFA News.

Events, Festivals, Exhibits & Online Fiber Arts

Events

Handweavers Guild of America 25th Convergence. July 22, 2022, July 15 through July 21, 2022. <https://weavespindye.org/schedule-and-registration/>

Spindle and Dyepot Calendar of Events: <https://weavespindye.org/calendar/>

Festivals

NEW! Delmarva Wool and Fiber Festival. *https: Ocean City, MD* March 11 to 13, <https://www.woolandfiber.com/>

NEW! Central PA Fiber Festival, May 14 & 15, 2022, Hughesville, PA, <https://centralpennfiberfest.com/>

NEW! Sheep Shearing Festival, Queens County Farm Museum, May 14, Queens, NY, <https://www.queensfarm.org/sheep-shearing-festival/>

NEW! Quilt and Fiber Show, June 25-26, Historic Cold Springs Village, Cape May, NJ <https://hcsv.org/>

Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival. May 7 and 8, 2022. Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD. <https://sheepandwool.org/>

Exhibits

NEW! Excellence in Quilts. Virginia Quilt Museum, February 15 through April 9. Other quilt exhibits included. <https://www.vaquiltmuseum.org/>.

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.sjqmilmuseum.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/.

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: <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.

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. MAFA is currently hosting 15 guild websites.
- 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. 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/