



MAFA News

March/April 2019

Please share this newsletter with your guild

President's Message

We were thrilled with our early registration numbers for MAFA 2019—over 200 registrations in our first half-hour of registration, over 300 by the end of the first day, and currently over 400 registered for our workshops. We expect to be closing or restricting registration very soon. So if you or your friends haven't registered yet, don't delay!

Meanwhile, our planning committee is hard at work on the details of the events and logistics of our conference. Our Social Media Committee has been busy getting the word out on the workshops, vendors and events. Our Grants Committee has selected the winner of our 2018 Guild Grant. Our Membership Chair has been growing our membership, and building our second guild profile. (Thanks, [Harmony Weavers Guild](#) for allowing us to profile your guild on our webpages. Who wants to be next? Submit your [guild profile here](#).) And we welcomed our newest board member, Patty Chrisman, of Frances Irwin Handweavers and North Country Spinners, who has stepped up to take over Secretary duties.

Our Nominating Committee will soon be busy putting together the slate for our MAFA Board for 2019-21. If you'd like to volunteer to be a member of this committee, please send me a note at president@mafafiber.org. If you are interested in volunteering for a board position, or know someone you'd like to recommend, please contact the committee at nominating.committee@mafafiber.org.

Hope you all are enjoying your indoor fiber time. Just think, spring is right around the corner! We hope to see all you reps at the MAFA Reps Meeting at Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival on May 4th.

Karen Miller, MAFA President
president@mafafiber.org

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Welcome to our newest MAFA Guilds:
Mountain Homespun Fiber Guild, NC/VA
Sandhills Handweavers Guild, NC
Sunnyside Weavers, VA
Seacoast Spinners and Weavers Guild, NC
WIAC Fiber Guild, PA

Important Dates

- March 31, 2019 - Deadline for registration before late fee applies
 - April 1, 2019 - Deadline to apply for a Conference Fellowship
 - April 30, 2019 - Deadline to enter Fashion Show and Artist Exhibit
 - May 4, 2019 - MAFA Reps meeting at Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival at 3:00 p.m. in the 4H-Hall
 - June 27-30, 2019 - MAFA 2019 conference
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Conference Fellowships - Only a Month Left to Apply **Please remind your guilds about Conference** **Fellowships. The deadline to apply is April 1st**

Conference Fellows help extend the benefits of MAFA workshops to non-attendees through lectures, demonstrations, or outreach activities back home. After submitting a written report and photographs of their post-conference project, each conference fellow receives a \$300 award. Read reports from the [2017 Conference Fellows here](#).

Members of MAFA Guilds and Associate members living within the MAFA region are eligible to apply. Only projects that benefit the MAFA region will be considered. For more information, a preview of the application form and other details, check out the [MAFA Fellowships](#) page. When you are ready, the application form is [here](#).

Each fellowship application must include a recommendation letter from a sponsoring guild (*guilds may sponsor more than one applicant*) or fiber arts teacher and is due by April 1, 2019. All applicants will be notified of the outcome in May.

Email questions to grants@mafafiber.org.

CONFERENCE 2019: June 27 - 30, 2019

Millersville University, Millersville, PA

mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/

United in Fiber is just around the corner!

With conference registration open, we are already close to closing workshop registration. The outpouring of MAFA support is simply commendable. Only a few classes have available spots, so don't be among the disappointed—sign up now to ensure your spot at the place to be this summer! Day-tripping attendees, there are plenty of wonderful demonstrations and shopping opportunities that you can participate in.

This is a reminder to get your guilds motivated for their involvement with the conference with contributions for the goody bags. Each guild can do 20 - 30+ items, larger guilds 50+ items which will be distributed among attendee bags. Items will be due and collected at this year's Maryland Sheep and Wool, or may be shipped. See the details later in the newsletter.

MAFA runs on volunteers! Get involved now to “help as needed” (We’ll call you!) or indicate your wish to help on your registration form. Volunteer opportunities and signups will be available online through SignUp Genius later this Spring.

Find full details about the Conference at mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/.

Download the Conference Catalog

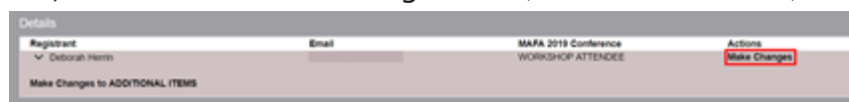
With schedule info, FAQ's, directions to Millersville, and the campus map. [Find it here](#).

Registration

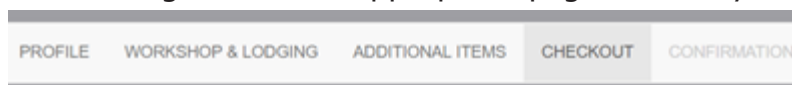
Are you registered for the conference and need to make a change? To update your registration, click on the link in your confirmation email or go to:

www.regonline.com/registration/login.aspx?eventID=2550039.

Once you sign in, click on the Make Changes link (see red box below).



From there, follow the navigation to the appropriate page to make your changes.



You MUST click the Finish button on the Checkout page to save your changes. If you have any questions, please contact registrar@mafafiber.org.

Registration will remain open through March 31, 2019 for day-trippers, non-participant attendees, and sock machine classes, but we will close workshop registrations when we reach 425 attendees. Late registration will run April 1 through May 31, with a \$35 late fee. Find complete details at: mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/registration/.

Workshops

Although we still have a few openings in some classes, we are near capacity for registration. Don't lose out on a great learning experience, sign up NOW to assure your space at the Conference. Workshop with openings include:

Weaving

[101 Beginning Weaving](#)

[103 Creative Exploration Jewelry Weaving](#)

[105 Five Point Twills](#)

[107 Collage to Tapestry Cartoon](#)

[111 Weave Saori](#)

[121 Three Workshops in One - Color Horoscope, Woven Words, Almost Ikat](#)

[123 Inlay Rag Rugs](#)

Spinning

[202 Spin Silk - Sara Lamb](#)

[203 Shetland Fleece](#)

[204 Art Yarn Spinning](#)

[205 Colorplay - Spin with Color](#)

[206 Spin-It Weave-It with Patsy Z](#)

Dyeing, Felting, Other

[302 Dyeing To Spin with Amy King](#)

[304 Redding Method - Protein Fiber Dyes](#)

[401 Hand Felted Bags](#)

[402 Next Gen Felt - Felted Jewelry](#)

[501 Sanquhar Gloves](#)

[503 Twined Rag Rugs](#)

[505 Intro to Temari](#)

Find the complete listing of workshops at: mafafiber.org/conference_year/2019/.

Marketplace Vendors

Visit the Marketplace page to see our great lineup of 28 vendors who will be offering yarns, fiber, tools, books, and equipment, including many workshop-related items:

mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/marketplace/.

Circular Sock Knitting Machine Mini-workshops

Our Thursday afternoon classes are full, but we have one more space open on Friday evening 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., and several still open for day-trippers visiting the Marketplace on Saturday afternoon 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Milissa Ellison Dewey of Bobbin Boy, will offer Sock Machine Drivers' Ed for absolute beginners. Participants will make a knitted sampler and learn about the origins and history of the circular sock knitting machines. Each person will graduate with a Sock Machine Learner's Permit, take home a cast-on basket, a latching-up tool useful for all knitting, and a hand-turned toe jack (like a darning egg on steroids), as well as handouts on supplies and suppliers, and a bibliography of reference and teaching resources. No equipment is required. Find details here: mafafiber.org/sock-knitting-machine-mini-workshops/.



Spotlight on Fashion - Exhibit & Show

The Fashion Committee is thrilled that more than 50 MAFA participants indicated an interest in submitting a garment or accessory to the Fashion Exhibit! We look forward to receiving entry forms for the exhibit over the next two months -- the deadline to enter is **April 30, 2019**. Conference participants, don't hesitate to contact the committee at fashion.show@mafafiber.org if you have any questions regarding your submission. As a reminder, all submissions will be included in the Exhibit. A few of them will be selected for inclusion in the Fashion Show.

More information and a link to the Entry Form can be found here: mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/schedule-events/fashion-exhibit/.

Request for Fashion Exhibit equipment: The Fashion Committee is starting to identify equipment needed for setting up the exhibit. If you or your guild members have mannequins, grid wall units or other free-standing display stands that we could borrow for the conference, please email fashion.show@mafafiber.org.

Fiber Artist Exhibit

"Threads of Communication" is the theme for the first 2019 MAFA Conference Fiber Artist Exhibit. Express an event, story, message, or conversation through the use of fibers. The artwork does not have to be a literal interpretation, an abstract approach may be used.

All entries must be submitted by midnight April 30, 2019. Please contact the Fiber Arts Exhibit Coordinator, Wendy Roberts with any questions at arts.exhibit@mafafiber.org. Find entry details and guidelines on the website here: mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/artist-exhibit-threads-of-communication/.

Kitchen Towel Exchange

MAFA attendees, including instructors, are invited to participate in a kitchen towel exchange. All levels of weavers are welcome! Every participant will contribute one towel and receive one towel. Not a lot of weaving (read that as “low stress”) but also an opportunity to see what other towel weavers are creating and be a part of a large exchange—easier than a snail-mail based weaving exchange! Towels will be collected during registration and then put on display for all conference attendees to enjoy.

Update: A brief weaver’s project sheet will be available in the near future that may be completed online or printed.

Email Towel Exchange Coordinator Aileen Campbell at towel.exchange@mafafiber.org. Or, find guidelines and details on the exchange here: mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/schedule-events/kitchen-towel-exchange/

Silly Spinning Games & Skein Competition

Not only will there be a return of our “Silly Spinning Games” at the 2019 MAFA Conference—but we’ve added a bona fide competition for handspun skeins, right down to the ribbons! Watch the [website](#) for further information about how to prepare for games including gloves (rubber AND cotton!), tinsel, partners, and other wacky challenges—as well as parameters and rules for entering your very finest handspun skeins for adjudication and helpful commentary by skilled judges! Best of all, both kinds of competition are open to workshop attendees at no cost whatsoever.

Questions? For more info, email Spinning Coordinator Marcia Weinert at spinning.events@mafafiber.org. Or find complete details at:

Skein Competition: mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/schedule-events/skein-competition/.

Spinning Games: mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2019/schedule-events/silly-spinning-games/.

Volunteers needed!

If you indicated your interest in volunteering during registration, we’ll send you detailed sign-up information around April 1st. **If you didn’t check the volunteer box, simply email us and we’ll add you to the list.** Organizers will need help with setup, registration, helping instructors get moved in and set up, helping conference attendees unload, monitoring the exhibits, and more.

Email Volunteer Coordinator Margaret Briggs at volunteer.coordinator@mafafiber.org. Find more ways to help at the conference here: mafafiber.org/conferences/2019-conference/get-involved/

Door prizes

We're gathering fantastic donations for door prizes to be given away during Shop 'Til You Drop on Friday evening in the Marketplace, and every attendee is eligible to win! Do you know a local yarn shop, hand-dyer, weaving supplier, or creative arts school who would love the publicity and might be interested in donating a prize of any size? We're also looking for recently published books on the fiber arts.

Every organization that donates will be listed in the online and printed directories and the donation is tax-deductible. We want to spread the word to fiber artists about the great businesses that create our materials!

Please contact Donations Coordinator Paige McAfee at donations@mafafiber.org about donations, or with suggestions and we'll reach out.

Conference Goody Bag Items

We will put out a call for goody bag items soon. So as you plan your 2019 guild programs, remember that you might want to schedule one to make little items that would make nice "goodies." You can see some examples of goodies from past years here [on the MAFA 2017 conference site](#).

Goodies will be collected at Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival in May (*location TBD - we'll send info with the Reps meeting reminder*), or may be sent to:

Lancaster Spinners & Weavers
% Ann Wysock
901 Mt Pleasant Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

Preferably, please send items **between May 1st and June 1st**, and include contact info (email and/or physical) address). Ann will send an acknowledgement when she receives your items.

WGGB Receives 2019 MAFA Grant

MAFA has awarded a grant of \$1,530 to Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore for public events and outreach in connection with their upcoming 70th Anniversary Show at the Baltimore County Arts Guild, July 5 through August 31, 2019. Activities will include an opening reception with weaving and spinning demonstrations, free family art-making classes (one focused on weaving, and another on spinning) and scholarships for beginning weaving classes for graduates or current students (age 18 to 25) of Baltimore City and County public schools.

What impressed us: The guild has a pool of experienced outreach instructors. The scholarship program is an outgrowth of WGGB's ongoing participation in Maker events at Baltimore Public Schools.

MAFA awards grants to member guilds and fiber-related non-profits for projects that support MAFA's mission. Grant awards typically range from \$500 to \$1,500 and several awards may be made each year. MAFA will accept applications for 2020 MAFA Grant awards beginning September 2019. Guidelines and application details are available on the [MAFA Grants page](#).

Upcoming Guild Events

*Let us help you publicize your guild exhibits, workshops, outreach events and sales! Visit the new and improved **Guild Events** listing on the website here: mafafiber.org/events/. Submit info 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.*

Atwater Bronson Lace Variations And Weaver Manipulated Laces Workshop, March 28, 2019, 10 am - 3:30 pm, Hagerstown, MD.

Weavers Roundtable - Students will learn how to weave Atwater Bronson Lace and how to vary its lace block placement. Download a flyer and registration form here: <https://mafafiber.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Weavers-Roundtable-Atwater-Bronson-Lace-Workshop.pdf>.

Transparency in Tapestry Workshop, March 30 – April 1, 2019, 9 am – 4 pm

Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore - Tapestry workshop led by Elizabeth Buckley of NM. Details and registration info [in this flyer](#).

Central Pennsylvania Guild of Handweavers offers the Guild Advancement Program (GAP). Designed to encourage weavers of all levels of development to advance their knowledge and skills in the 5 level program. Find a program booklet at: www.centralpaweavers.com/gap-program.html

Fiber Guild of the Blue Ridge has an active outreach program at schools, events, and festivals. www.fiberguildbr.org/fairs-and-festival-demonstrations/

Textile News in Our Region

Exhibits, Events & Online Fiber Arts

Stanley Bulbach at Mendez SoHo Salons

March 10, 2019, 3pm - 5pm, [Mendez SoHo](http://www.mendezsoho.com), New York City

A master spinner, dyer & weaver, his work focuses on ancient techniques in flatwoven carpets. Find more info about his work at www.bulbach.com.

Weave a Real Peace Annual Meeting

June 20 - 23, 2019, Washington, DC

<https://weavearealpeace.wildapricot.org/events>

New Jersey Guilds – if you are interested in helping the [Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge](http://www.edwinb.forsythe.org) plan arts and crafts events to commemorate their 80th anniversary, please contact Keena Graham at keena_graham@fws.gov, or (609) 382-7641.

Beads, They're Sewn So Tight, October 10, 2018 – May 26, 2019, Textile Museum Toronto, Ontario. Artists: Bev Koski, Katie Longboat, Jean Marshall, Olivia Whetung www.textilemuseum.ca/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/beads,-they-re-sewn-so-tight

Eastern PA/Northern NJ/NYC - Autumn-Winter Exhibits

From the Heart, Made by Hand: Textile Treasures from the Women of Sweden
Now through March 10, 2019, The American Swedish Historical Museum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania <https://www.americanswedish.org/>

Narrative Threads: New Jersey Quilts & Textiles

Now through June 9, 2019, Museum of Early Trades and Crafts, Madison, New Jersey <http://www.metec.org/>

New Directions in Fiber Art

February 9 – June 16, 2019, Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, New Jersey <https://montclairartmuseum.org/exhibition/new-directions-fiber-art>

HGA's Small Expressions

February 16 – March 31, 2019, Peters Valley School of Craft, Layton, New Jersey <http://petersvalley.org/>

Exhibitionism: 50 Years of The Museum at FIT

Now through April 20, 2019, The Museum at FIT, New York, NY

<https://www.fitnyc.edu/museum/exhibitions>

Fabric in Fashion

Now through May 4, 2019, The Museum at FIT, New York, NY (also an online exhibition) <https://www.fitnyc.edu/museum/exhibitions/fabric-in-fashion>

Ongoing Exhibits

New York Members: Find out about activities, festivals and guild meetings in the Hudson River Valley here: www.hudsonvalleyfiberartsnetwork.com/

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

Fabric Workshop and Museum - Philadelphia, PA, fabricworkshopandmuseum.org/
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.

Alling Coverlet Museum, in Palmyra NY, has a collection of simple 4H to jacquard coverlets. historicpalmyrany.com/alling.htm

Fiber Tools & Equipment

Free: 4 shaft, 6 treadle counterbalance Cambridge loom
manufactured by Reed Loom, Springfield, Ohio. 45" weaving width. Cambridge model. Some restoration needed. About the Reed Loom company: <http://www.weaversfriend.com/page1/page4/page4.html>.
Loom manual: https://www2.cs.arizona.edu/patterns/weaving/other/rlc_loom.pdf
Lynn Benedict, Vincentown, N.J. (Southern N.J. near Philadelphia)
Email: anamcarasoap.co@gmail.com
Tel: 609.535.5033



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

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 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.