



MAFA News

January/February

Please share this newsletter with your guild

President's Message

MAFA is excited to note the addition of our new Winter/Spring 2024 virtual classes! For those who have asked, we will continue to offer virtual programs throughout the year, as a complement to our in-person conferences. New for 2024, we're planning even more free virtual activities, including our new book group, occasional trivia nights, and other special events. Of course movie nights and free lectures will continue as well. To get involved on the MAFA Virtual committee, email virtual@mafafiber.org.

As we also look forward to MAFA 2025, it is exciting to see the in-person workshop proposals that have already come in. We are going to have some great new topics to offer! I want to remind you that the conference needs volunteers to make it all happen, both now in the planning phase, and at the venue. If you are interested in joining the MAFA 2025 Conference committee, please scroll down for notes on some important open committee positions we're looking to fill, then email conference@mafafiber.org.

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

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Important Dates

January 23: *The Lost Flock* Book Group Discussion
January 27: *The Lost Flock* author talk with Jane Cooper
March 1: Deadline to submit workshop proposals for MAFA 2025

MAFA Virtual

Visit the MAFA page on Lessonface to register for ongoing virtual classes: www.lessonface.com/mafa.



Join the email list for monthly updates and movie night Zoom links:
dashboard.mailerlite.com/forms/221138/102410233504073183/share

Upcoming Virtual Classes

Visit the Lessonface MAFA landing page to see our updated schedule for Winter/Spring 2024! www.lessonface.com/mafa

Stay tuned as we have a few more classes to add, and we'll post Fall classes soon.

Upcoming FREE Events

January 23: Join us for our first MAFA Book Group discussion of *The Lost Flock* by Jane Cooper, FREE, 7:30 to 9:00 pm ET on Lessonface. *The Lost Flock* is Jane's story of "rare wool, wild isles & one woman's journey to save Scotland's original sheep." It's free, but you do need to register on Lessonface to get the Zoom link, here: www.lessonface.com/apply/MAFA-Book-Group-discussion-Lost-Flock-Jane-Cooper.

Chelsea Green Publishing has generously offered a 35% discount to MAFA members and book group attendees at their website. To order the book, follow this link: www.chelseagreen.com/product/the-lost-flock/?coupon-code=MAFA35.

Note: The discount cannot be combined with other offers. The discount is good until 12/31/2024 and can be used on any book at www.chelseagreen.com.

Interested in having book group meetings about once a quarter to discuss fiber arts-related books? Please sign up here: forms.gle/HQyMbp9T7qcpcnfz5. Questions about book group? Email Patty Chrisman at events@mafafiber.org.

January 27: *The Lost Flock* - author presentation by Jane Cooper, FREE, 10 a.m. - Noon ET. Jane will present her further adventures with the Orkney Boreray sheep. Attendees will have the opportunity to chat with Jane and ask questions about the book and her life on the Island.
Register here: lessonface.com/apply/Lost-Flock-Presentation-Jane-Cooper.

MAFA Movie Nights

MAFA Movie Nights will continue every month on second Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Sign up for the email list to receive a reminder email each month with the Movie Night video info and Zoom link.

If you have an instructor or topic to suggest, have questions, or want to join the MAFA Virtual committee, email us at virtual@mafafiber.org.

MAFA Virtual Committee

MAFA Conference 2025

**MAFA 2025 will be held June 26-29, 2025
at Millersville University, Millersville, PA**



Planning for 2025 is already underway!

We have several open positions on the conference planning committee and we're asking Reps to help us get the word out to guild members. For 2025, we particularly need volunteers to take on the following important committee roles:

- **Ads and Donations Coordinator** – contact advertisers and organizations, and manage submitted ads and donations. Skills needed: good communications, spreadsheets, and email.
- **Weekend Classes Coordinator** – solicit, schedule, and coordinate up to a dozen 2 to 3 hour classes for day trippers on Friday afternoon and Saturday during the conference. Skills needed: good communications, spreadsheets, and email. Experience scheduling guild programs/workshops helpful.
- **Volunteer Coordinator** – coordinate and manage volunteers before the conference and onsite. Skills needed: good communications, spreadsheets, and email. Knowledge of Signup Genius helpful.

For more information about these positions, or other ways to help the Conference Committee, please email conference@mafafiber.org.

2025 Workshop Proposals now being accepted

Instructors may submit proposal(s) for IN-PERSON workshops at MAFA 2025 here: mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2025/mafa-2025-workshop-proposals/. If you have an instructor to suggest, send them the link or email their contact info to Chris Field-Funk at education@mafafiber.org. **The proposal deadline is March 1, 2024.**

MAFA Conference Committee

Grants Committee News

MAFA Grants for 2024

The Grants Committee is accepting grant applications to be reviewed ongoing. mafafiber.org/grants/guild-grants/. Questions? Contact grants@mafafiber.org.

Micro-Grants

Due to the popularity of the micro-grants, MAFA will be continuing the program with the next review to be held the first week of February 2024. These grants are for

requests up to \$500. Guilds that received microgrants in the past may apply again in 2024. Details can be found at: <http://mafafiber.org/grants/micro-grants/>. Questions? Contact grants@mafafiber.org

Want to get involved on the Grants Committee?

The Grants Committee welcomes new members annually. It's a rewarding experience to see what other guilds are planning! For more information or to express interest, contact Grants Committee Chair Angela Fishman at grants@mafafiber.org.

MAFA Grants Committee

Member News

Membership

Marla Campbell, our past Treasurer, is the new Membership Chair. Be sure to be in touch with Marla at membership@mafafiber.org to let her know if you have a new Rep or new guild officers. Patty Chrisman, our former Secretary, is the MAFA Vice President—a new position. She will continue to schedule your guild zoom meetings as the MAFA “zoom administrator,” but will also be scheduling the Free Lectures and Roundtables. Additionally, Patty will be the Reps Liaison, or “ombudsman,” acting as a representative between the Reps and the MAFA Board on any matters of concern of interest to the Reps. You can reach Patty at vp@mafafiber.org.

MAFA Reps Roundtables

Roundtables are designed to help support the guild representatives and guild leaders on leadership issues. I would love to hear your ideas as to what would be of interest and be helpful to you. You can reach me at vp@mafafiber.org.

MAFA Zoom Account

As a benefit to our member guilds, MAFA will continue to offer zoom meetings. To schedule a meeting for your guild, use the Zoom meeting request form on the MAFA website: <https://mafafiber.org/guild-resources/guild-zoom-meetings/>. As a reminder, if you do not need the host controls (i.e. for recording etc.) you can simply request a “no host” meeting. If you do need the controls, a MAFA Board member will transfer hosting capabilities to you. If your guild needs to cancel a meeting, please let Patty Chrisman know prior to the meeting date. You can reach Patty at vp@mafafiber.org.

Patty Chrisman, MAFA Vice President, Reps Liaison

Upcoming Guild Events

Let us help you publicize your guild exhibits, events and sales! Visit the Guild Events listing on the website here: <https://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 newsletter@mafafiber.org before the 21st of even months for inclusion in the next MAFA News.

Events, Festivals, Exhibits & Online Fiber Arts

Events and Festivals

HGA's Searchable Fiber Arts Calendar: <https://weavespindye.org/calendar/>

Local Fiber Regional Fiber Events: <https://localfiber.org/regional-fiber-events/>

Express your Sole! DIY Espadrilles

July 7, 2023 - February 4, 2024 at the Cooper Hewitt Museum in New York.

<https://exhibitions.cooperhewitt.org/dorothy-liebes>

Ongoing

The McLean Textile Gallery, McLean, Virginia - The gallery is the first venue in McLean solely devoted to textile creations and art. The gallery showcases published, award-winning talent and identifiable contemporary art styles each month.

(703) 281-4091 <https://www.themcleantextilegallery.com/>

Tatter: A Gathering of Material Culture, offers online and in-person classes and events. <https://tatter.org/events/>

HGA - Handweavers Guild of America: Textiles and Tea. Every Tuesday at 4 p.m. HGA hosts a conversation with some of the most respected fiber artists in the field today. Each discussion will focus on their artwork and creative journey, with time at the end for questions from the audience. <https://weavespindye.org/textiles-and-tea/>

San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles, San Jose, California.

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

Textile Museum, George Washington University, Washington, D.C. - The museum presents rotating, thematic exhibitions inspired by its collections of global textiles. <https://museum.gwu.edu/>.

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. <http://fabricworkshopandmuseum.org/>.

Alling Coverlet Museum, Palmyra, New York, has a collection of simple 4H to jacquard coverlets. <http://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/>

OR send any event info or changes to your Reps, officers, or meeting dates/times to the MAFA Membership Coordinator at membership@mafafiber.org.

Submit guild events here: mafafiber.org/guilds-page/guild-event-update/

MAFA Website: We encourage you to explore the MAFA website 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 us 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 18 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 <http://groups.io/g/mafareps>. To join, click on "Apply for Membership in this Group", or email me for an invite

MAFA on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MidAtlanticFiberAssociation/>

MAFA on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mafafiber/>

MAFA on X: <https://twitter.com/MAFAfiber>

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