



MAFA News

September/October 2024

Please share this newsletter with your guild members

President's Message

MAFA 2025!

When this newsletter comes out, we will be only two weeks away from publishing the MAFA 2025 Conference brochure and going live with the full conference website. We have a great lineup of 40 workshops, plus a new scholarship program, new events and activities, and by popular demand, the return of the spinning games.

Guilds, it's not too soon to think about goody bag items for the conference totes!

We now have MAFA cards available for guilds to hand out at fiber festivals, see Members News below for info and let Patty know if we can send you some cards.

Last but not least, we have a full schedule of virtual classes and free events through Fall/Winter/Spring to keep us busy until it's time for the in-person conference.

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

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Important Dates

- September 17: Fall 2024 Reps Assembly, 7:00 pm on Zoom**
- September 24: Free Lecture**, 7:00 pm with Cameron Taylor-Brown
- October 29: Book Group**, 7:30 pm on Zoom: *All That She Carried*.
- November 26: Free Lecture**, 7:00 pm with Barbara Shapiro

NEW Conference Scholarships

The board and grants committee have developed a new conference scholarship program for MAFA 2025. Focused on encouraging first-timers to attend and take workshops, this new program will help make the conference more accessible by providing twenty \$500 scholarships to defray the cost of workshops. Find details here mafafiber.org/grants/scholarships/.

NEW Weekend Classes

For those who aren't taking a full workshop, we are bringing back Weekend Classes on Friday afternoon and all-day Saturday. Classes will include weaving, spinning, fiber prep, and stitching.

NEW Makers Meetup

Daytrippers and conference attendees, join us in the Marketplace Friday afternoon and all-day Saturday to relax, meet fiber friends, work on projects, and join in make-and-take demos.

NEW Functional Textiles Exhibit

Our newest exhibit in the Marketplace will feature non-wearable, useful items such as: rugs, blankets, table runners, baskets, yardage, and more.

RETURNING Spinning Games with Tom Knisely are back!

Competitors will gather in the Marketplace on Friday evening to test their spinning skills by spinning blindfolded, wearing gloves, using unusual 'fibers,' or working in teams. Signups will open in February.

Guilds - Help support conference events with an advertisement

For 2025, we will again be taking advertisements to help support various exhibits, events, and happenings at the conference. If your guild has a budget for ads or sponsorships, find details, the list of ad/event opportunities, and the advertiser form, here: mafafiber.org/conferences/mafa2025/advertise-at-the-conference/.

Goody Bag Items

Many guilds make small items which we add to attendees' tote bags and often this is done as a guild program. Though we expect to stuff about 500 totes, each guild doesn't have to make that many items as our volunteers will mix and match donations from various guilds. Think small practical items such as tiny pouches, dorset buttons, needle cases, or useful logo items. The idea isn't for guilds to spend a lot of money on this. Items will be shipped to the Goody Bag Coordinator in May 2025 to be sorted before the conference. We'll send out info about shipping next Spring. Questions? Email goody.bags@mafafiber.org.

MAFA Conference Committee

MAFA Virtual

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



Upcoming Virtual Classes

Visit Lessonface to see our full schedule of classes for Fall 2024 and Winter/Spring 2025 at www.lessonface.com/mafa.

Upcoming FREE Lectures

September 24: How String Changed the World: An Exploration of Fiber, Culture and Human Ingenuity with Cameron Taylor-Brown, 7 pm ET on Lessonface. On the heels of our Book Group discussion of *Women's Work: The First 20,000 Years*, join us for a talk by artist and educator Cameron Taylor-Brown. Taylor-Brown will discuss the history of flax, wool, silk and cotton as well as new ways to view textiles. Register here:



lessonface.com/apply/How-String-Changed-World-Exploration-Fiber-Culture-and-Human-Ingenuity

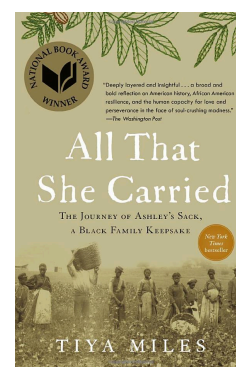
November 26: Barbara Shapiro: Weaver, Dyer and Basketmaker, 7 pm ET on Lessonface. Register here:

lessonface.com/apply/Barbara-Shapiro-Weaver-Dyer-and-Basketmaker

Book Group

October 29: Fall Book Group, 7:30 pm ET on Zoom. We will discuss *All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake* by Tiya Miles.

Sign up for the book group email list to receive details on upcoming dates, books, and Zoom links: forms.gle/HQyMbp9T7gcpcnfz5.



Movie Nights

Movie Night will continue each month on second Wednesdays at 7 pm.

Have questions about MAFA Virtual, or want to join the MAFA Virtual committee? Email us at virtual@mafafiber.org.

MAFA Virtual Committee

Grants Committee News

MAFA 2024 Grants

MAFA awards grants on an ongoing basis to member guilds or organizations wanting to support the fiber arts community. Grants can assist in public exhibitions, holding public outreach events, or anything else that might give your group more exposure! Please consider applying for a grant at mafafiber.org/grants/guild-grants/. For questions, contact grants@mafafiber.org.

Micro-Grants

The Grants Committee is reviewing applications for micro-grant requests up to and including \$500. Many of these micro-grants in the past have been for technology needs but several have also been for smaller equipment to be used for classes and demos. Details on micro-grants can be found at mafafiber.org/grants/micro-grants/. Have questions? Email grants@mafafiber.org.

Fellowships and Scholarships for MAFA 2025 Conference

We are delighted to inform you that MAFA will again be offering the fellowship opportunity for attendees at the in-person conference next summer. AND we will be offering scholarships with preference given to first-time attendees! Details can be found in the conference links section at <https://mafafiber.org/grants/fellowships/> and <https://mafafiber.org/grants/scholarships/>.

Want to get involved on the Grants Committee?

The committee welcomes new members annually. For more information, please contact Grants Committee Chair Angela Fishman at grants@mafafiber.org.

MAFA Grants Committee

Upcoming Guild Events

Let us help you publicize your guild exhibits, 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 newsletter@mafafiber.org before the 21st of even months for inclusion in the next MAFA News.

Guild Events

Chattahoochee Handweavers Guild - FALL CLASSES 2024

Offering 15 classes in Floor Loom Weaving, Rigid Heddle Weaving, Tapestry, Spinning, Nature Printing and Indigo Dyeing, and 3 New Bead Weaving Classes.

<https://chgweavers.org/classes/classes-fall/>

Weavers' Guild of Buffalo 55th Anniversary Exhibit, September 3 to November 29

- The exhibit will feature original designs of hand-woven, felted, hand spun and mixed media work by its guild members. Prizes will be awarded at the opening reception and many of the exhibited items will be available for sale.

<https://sites.google.com/view/weaversguildofbuffalo/>

Drawlooms & Damask Design with Amy Blair, October 13 - Amy Blair, master weaver, will talk about drawloom features and how easily these looms can be adjusted to accommodate the changing needs of an imaginative weaver. Amy will examine and discuss the interplay between loom setup and design capability of these versatile looms.

<https://www.svswg.org/>

Sashiko Ori Weaving Workshop in OBX, October 28 to November 1 - This is a workshop in weaving Sashiko Ori. It is open to all.

<http://www.paumanokweaversguild.com/>

Events, Festivals, Exhibits & Online Fiber Arts

Events and Festivals

Garden State Sheep Breeders Festival - September 14-15

Hunterdon County Fairgrounds, Ringoes, NJ <https://njsheep.net/>

The Coverlet College - September 27-28-29

The National Museum of the American Coverlet, Bedford, PA

<http://www.coverletmuseum.org/events.htm>

HGA's Spinning and Weaving Week (Online) - October 7-13

<https://weavespindye.org/spinning-and-weaving-week-2/>

New York Sheep & Wool Festival - October 19-20

Rhinebeck, NY <https://sheepandwool.com/>

Weaving History Conference (Online) - October 21-23

Schedule & Registration: <https://tiartscenter.org/weaving-history-conference/>

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

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

Ongoing

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/>.

The McLean Textile Gallery, McLean, Virginia, at the Quilt Shop of McLean - If interested in showing your work or visiting the gallery, contact quiltdoctor@msn.com or call 703-281-4091 <https://www.quiltdoctor.com/>.

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

Subversive, Skilled, Sublime: Fiber Art by Women, Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC, the work of artists such as Emma Amos, Sheila Hicks, and Faith Ringgold
<https://www.si.edu/exhibitions/subversive-skilled-sublime-fiber-art-women%3Aevent-exhib-6523>

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

MAFA Zoom Account: MAFA will continue to host Zoom meetings for guilds. Use the Zoom meeting request form on the MAFA website to request a meeting time: mafafiber.org/guild-resources/guild-zoom-meetings/. If your guild needs to cancel a meeting, please email to let Patty Chrisman know, prior to the meeting date at vp@mafafiber.org.

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.
- 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>