

Loose Ends & Gathered Threads

Newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild
October 2018

Autumn is a season followed immediately by looking forward to Spring.
Anonymous

Art History – Mine

As I watch my mother's brain deteriorate and my father age I think of all they taught me over our 63 years together. I love to create because they empowered and enabled me to be creative. When I was a child, my mom took me to Boyd's Variety store—a classic small town 'five and dime' store with creaky wooden floors and tons of stuff—to buy pre-printed pillow cases and every color of embroidery floss from the little bins. I loved going out into the garage with my dad and building with whatever found objects I could find, using his tools and his incredible knowledge to my full advantage. Now when I create, it's hard for me to choose just one project or creative idea at a time. I love that about my creative process. Anything is possible.

Penny Burns

Please note that the meeting in November will be on November 7th, a Wednesday. The workshop will start that afternoon and continue into Thursday and Friday.

CALENDAR

Tues. October 2 9:30 am Socializing, sign up for workshops. At Gloria Dei, Cherry and Pflingsten in Northbrook

9:30 am Lecture Akemi Cohn Traces of Journey

Afternoon: Mini workshop Infinity Fleece Scarf Marcey Pomerantz, see p. 5

Wed. Thurs. Oct 3-4 Akemi Cohn Workshop, Japanese Boro at Gloria Dei

Tues. Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30 10:00 Service Projects at Jeanette Page's, see p. 5

Tues. Oct. 16 10:00 Board meeting at Gloria Dei

Wed. Thurs. Oct. 17-18 Akemi Cohn Workshop #2, Japanese Boro at Gloria Dei

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Loose Ends and Gathered Threads is the newsletter of the North Suburban NeedleArts Guild which meets in Northbrook, Illinois. It is published 8 times per year, monthly except for June, July, August and December. Copy deadlines for the upcoming issue will be included in the calendar of each newsletter.

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Akemi Cohn, October 2-4

Akemi was born in Yokohama, Japan. She studied traditional Japanese dyeing techniques for ten years under the master, Haru Izumi in Japan. She has an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art and has taught at the Art Institute of Chicago, Haystack, Penland, Arrowmont and at the International Surface Design Conference. Her national and international exhibits include the Bellevue Arts Museum in Washington, the University of Nebraska Art Museum and Gallery Uesuto in Japan. Akemi was selected as a scholar in residence by the SEEDS Arts and Education Program in 2016 and she has several commissioned works hanging in the Chicago area including the Unitarian Church in Evanston, Loyola University Medical Center among others.

Her lecture will be "Traces of Journey: From Tradition to Personal Stories." She will share how her ideas often come from surrounding nature, such as light and shadow through Japanese shoji screens, flowers and plants, and animals on an urban prairie. Akemi will also show and explain Boro, a Japanese art form that uses scraps of cloth recreated into beautiful new works of art. Historically, Boro depicts women's devotion, pleasure and love of family by treasuring old kimonos and remnant fabrics.

Workshop: Japanese Boro 2 days

In the workshop, Akemi will provide a kit of various shades of indigo dyed fabrics that you can use, along with any indigo dyed fabrics you may bring from your own stash, to explore simple stitching to create rich imagery. She will lead us through several hand stitching exercises including Sashiko, patching and shredding to assemble beautiful fabrics into a new mode reflecting your own personal story. You will return home with experimental fabric pieces as a guide to more creative Boro projects in the future.

A second session of the workshop will be presented again on October 17th and 18th.

Dawn Edwards, November 7-9

Please note this is Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Dawn Edwards is a felt artist and tutor based in Plainwell, Michigan. She is the co-coordinator of the not for profit Felt United, with over 6,000 members around the world. Felt United is celebrated internationally and annually on the first Saturday of October, with the goal of connecting feltmakers around the globe. Dawn teaches extensively within the United States and internationally. Her felt art has appeared in numerous exhibitions, shows as well as magazines and books, most recently the book *Worldwide Colors of Felt*. Dawn sells her work under the label "Felt So Right."

Dawn's lecture is entitled "Eco Printing, Releasing Nature's Secrets"

She will share with us how eco printing releases nature's secrets by using plant materials to leave extraordinary leaf prints on beautiful hand felted merino bags, purses and other felted items. She will take us on an eco printing journey where you will meet some of her friends from around the world, such as Australia, Ireland and the Netherlands. Without any jetlag you will embark on this amazing eco printing journey with Dawn and be inspired by these artists' work and her own work as well.

The 2 1/2 day workshop is Eco printing on felted bags, purses. Join Dawn as a participant in her workshop and you too will Feel So Right about felting and eco printing! You will begin by felting a lovely purse or bag using natural Merino wool. Then you will learn how to use leaves and plant matter that print while bundled and simmered for a period of time. It will be exciting to discover the lovely leaf prints on your own bag, especially if you used Eucalyptus leaves, which print in a bright beautiful color. While our bags simmer, you will also have the opportunity to experiment with eco printing on paper.

The workshop is appropriate for all levels. There is some standing involved and some physical exertion, although you may sit for some portions.

Fine Art of Fiber

Boutique set-up: Wednesday only, 10/31,
2:00 – 8 pm
Exhibit drop-off: Thursday, 11/1, 9 - 10 am.
Exhibit Set-up: Thursday, 11/1, 9:00 am - finish
Take-down: Sun, 11/4, 5 pm – finish
Pick-up purchased items: Sun, 11/4, approximately
5:15pm
Pick-up other exhibit items: Sun, 11/4,
approximately 5:45 pm

Please see FAOF website (fineartoffiber.org) for info on Rules and Requirements. If you have questions – Shelley for exhibit (shelley.brucar@yahoo.com 847-921-4364) and Pat Rued for boutique (prued@aol.com 847-267-1407). Shelley will be out of town 9/26 through 10/1 and would prefer text messages at above number instead of phone calls or emails.

Hosting the show - Nona will have volunteer signup sheets at the Oct guild meeting. Exhibitors volunteer for one shift (two if you have work for sale). Boutique volunteer requirements are in addition to your volunteer requirements for the exhibit. We are often short on volunteers; if you can be available, please talk to Nona about an extra shift. And, as always, we welcome volunteers even if you are not exhibiting.

Handicap Parking: If you are volunteering for the show and need handicap parking, please let Val Koppenhaver know by October 15. We need your name, license plate number, the make/model of your car and your cell phone number. Email Val at: koppenhaver@comcast.net.

Silent Auction - Please consider making at least one item for the silent auction – items need not be big or expensive, just beautifully made by you! Gretchen Alexander will accept your pieces right up to show time. For questions about the Silent Auction, contact Gretchen (gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net 847-998-6040).

Education – If you would like to sit and demonstrate your work for an hour or so on one of the days at the show, please sign up with Sue Babbs (suebabbs385@gmail.com 847-446- 5251). Sue is also looking for volunteers (the ones who want a sitting job) to sit at the education table and talk about the guild. Please sign up with her.

Fashion Show – If fashion is your thing, you might want to enter something in the always popular Friday and Saturday fashion shows. This year, you may enter 1, 2 or 3 garments. Garment descriptions must be emailed to Faye Ryan by October 1 and drop-off is Oct 23 and 25, as explained on the Fashion Show entry form. Questions about Fashion Show go to Faye Ryan (fayeryan1415@gmail.com 847-825-0836).

Something new this year: Boutique jewelry and accessory artists are invited to have your work displayed on a large screen in the auditorium as visitors walk in and out of the Fashion Show. If you are interested in being included, please read the guidelines sheet available on the FAOF website. Contact Cindy Heineman if you have questions about this (cindyheineman@gmail.com 847-579-0300).

Discounted Personal Memberships to CBG - Our Guild has Plant Society membership for Chicago Botanic Garden to allow us to exhibit there. A significant benefit for each NSNG member as a result of this is a \$10 discount on any of the levels of membership for the Garden. Remember this when you renew your Garden membership.

Workshop Registration

It's time to register again! We have another great slate of workshops this year.

At the October meeting, I will be taking registrations. Please be patient and be prepared to wait in line so that I can look at the forms and make sure they are correct. I will take registrations before and after the meeting, but not during the meeting itself or Show and Tell.

There is space in all of the workshops except October. Registration is available by mail and at each meeting. If you want to make sure there is space in the workshop you are interested in, please send me an email or call.

I hope you find at least one workshop that piques your interest. They are wonderful learning opportunities and of course great ways to meet other guild members.

Sylvia Dresser
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847-945-6095

Things to see and places to go

Shelley Brucar's piece, *Water's Edge*, is showing at ArtPrize which is at the First Park Congregational Church, 10 E. Park Place NE in Grand Rapids, Michigan. It runs from September 19th through October 7th. More info at <http://www.artprize.org/>

Service News

Thank you to all who gathered items from the Freebie Table last month. You are welcome to bring your goodies for the Freebie Table to the October meeting. A donation container is available should you want to throw in a few dollars! If you have cotton fabric or batting, give it directly to Jeanette or me for our projects. Stop by for pillowcase or baby quilt kits to take home to sew.

Service meets every Tuesday at 10-1 at Jeanette Page's home located at 2339 Dehne Rd. in Northbrook. We usually have lunch, and you are all invited to join us. Call Jeanette at 847-564-1057 to let her know if you are able to come.

Nancy Calandra

Mini Workshop October

Infinity Fleece Scarf—\$10—Marcey Pomerantz

Learn how to make these neck warmers before the weather turns cold. They are easy to make and make great holiday gifts. You don't have to worry about them falling off as they are a continuous piece. They are comfortable as well as washable. This technique also works well with light weight fabric for a more decorative scarf.

Bring: A half yard of polar fleece, needle, and thread.

Marcey will bring pins, a rotary cutter, ruler, and cutting board. She will also have extra fleece.

Please contact Susan Kenyon at slkenyon@aol.com if you plan to attend. It helps to know how many tables and chairs we need.

2018 Member Challenge: 'Fifty Shades of Gold'

There's still plenty of time to join in on the excitement! Our theme this year is 'Fifty Shades of Gold' in honor of the 50th anniversary of our guild's founding. Your challenge is to create a fiber art piece that relates in some way to our theme. All it takes is a threaded needle, your imagination, and the 'ingredients' of your choice. This is the perfect opportunity to experiment and have fun! Turn in and awards will take place at our December 4th holiday gathering. Entries will be displayed and voted on by our members. Participation ribbons will be awarded to all participants, while medals and fabulous gift certificates** for the upcoming workshop of your choice will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. Jump in and be a part of our tradition and celebration!

(**\$100, \$75, \$50 gift certificates toward a guild workshop, respectively).

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First Class Mail