

## Give to yourself

Summer is technically over, although as I write this it is 75 degrees and sunny outside! Still, the signs are here: school has started, pumpkins and mums are appearing everywhere (heck—turkeys, Santas, dreidels and snowflakes are popping up already)! Yes, it is officially “that time of year”. The very very busy time. From now into the New Year there are major eating holidays (sugar rush anyone) and gift giving occasions.

Many of you will be making gifts for others (baking and cooking counts). I love original, artist made gifts; I plan to hit the FAOF boutique for awesome one-of-a-kind items (full disclosure, I have yet to actually gift a purchase from FAOF . . . I keep them). The Guild mini-workshops provide new ideas and skills for relatively quick gifts. Some people may be lucky enough to receive a Temari ball created at Jen Weber’s workshop last month!

During this time, please remember to give to yourself. Give yourself a Guild workshop where you explore something new for your creative practice. Give yourself time at one of the many art galleries, museums, and shows that surround us. Give yourself something truly special from the aforementioned FAOF boutique.

Give yourself time and space. There will be an uptick in demands for your time and attentions these next few months. Please, make sure your own personal demands are met.

– Nancy Nicholson, NSNG President, [nancy@nicholson.net](mailto:nancy@nicholson.net)

### HYBRID MEETING:

**Tues, Oct 7 • 9:30 am (CT)**

In person at Gloria Dei or on Zoom

**Mirka Knaster**

*Family as Creative Inspiration*

**FREEBIE TABLE!  
SERVICE TABLE!  
SHOW & TELL!**



Meet new member, Vicki Fischetti, who brought some of her wearable art to our Sept meeting. Her green and magenta scarf matched Nancy Nicholson’s lovely green shirt perfectly!



Hand painted upcycled jacket and felted scarf. Garment below is made with nuno/wet felting process then eco printed with eucalyptus leaves rolled up into a bundle and steamed.



## Wearable art show and tell

I have had a life-long love affair with the world of art, design, fashion and all things beautiful. I work as an artist in a variety of mediums. The processes are intuitive and the results earthy and sensual. Classical prints, botanicals, natural history and the love of nature and animals conspire to create designs and images, which also whisper something of my own story.

Art shouldn’t only hang on a wall – use clothing/fiber as a canvas to create Wearable Art. As a lover of nature and fashion, I incorporate new and reclaimed materials and techniques to create original, handmade, one of a kind designs.

- Nuno/Wet Felting - the process of transforming wisps of wool and silk into felted cloth with a little soapy water is nothing short of magic.

- Botanical/Eco Printing - a direct contact plant dyeing process using botanicals and metals on natural fibers. The process is

a mindful eco-friendly practice, that of gathering leaves, preparing dye baths, bundling the fabrics with the leaves and simmering them in pots to produce nature’s poetry and plant alchemy. Each piece is unique.

- Shibori techniques – natural dyeing, painting, stamping, cyanotype, block printing, sewing, and hand stitching.

The pieces in the photo are Wet Felting. The one Nancy is wearing can be a scarf, necklace or belt. Or for a 10 year old boy – a magical vine hanging over his bed to fall asleep to!

Words I try to live by: “*We don’t stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing.*” – George Bernard Shaw

Never stop playing! Whenever you are creating beauty around you, you are restoring your own soul.

– Victoria Fischetti

Visit our website for program info and more • [www.NSNG.org](http://www.NSNG.org)

# Volunteer, participate and promote the FAOF

It's almost time for the Fine Art of Fiber! The 2025 show runs Friday - Sunday, November 7 - 9, from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm each day. Remember that Friday is a free admission day for Illinois residents (parking fees apply), and pre-registration is strongly recommended. Friday will be a great day to attend the show as the Fashion Show starts at 11:00 am in Alsdorf Auditorium.

Volunteers get free admission and parking (just tell the attendants that you are signed up to volunteer), as do those dropping off on Wednesday and Thursday or picking up on Sunday.

Please bring your fiber-related Silent Auction items to the October guild meeting. Remember that 90% of Silent Auction sales directly benefit your guild.

The Boutique features the work of over 45 vendors with a wide variety of offerings. Large size quilts are for sale in the exhibition area at the turning tables. Both the Boutique and the Silent Auction are excellent places to shop for holiday gifts and self-indulgences.

The NSNG Education Table is fully staffed at this time, but life happens. If you would like to be on the waiting list to demonstrate at the show, please contact Judith Schwab, [judithschwab3@gmail.com](mailto:judithschwab3@gmail.com).

We received over 200 items for the exhibit from 88 entrants, and were able to place practically all of them in the show. Acceptance emails with individualized pin-to-entry forms have been sent out. Remember, if you have at least one item in the exhibit, you are required to do one volunteer session; if any item is for sale, you are required to do two volunteer sessions. The link to volunteer through SignUp Genius is on the Fine Art of Fiber website, under Guild Member Forms, <https://fineartoffiber.org/guild-member-forms/>

We have many possible ways you can volunteer, including two new ones this year: Modelling in the Friday morning fashion show, or Participating in our exciting new docent program, Textile Talks. Contact Irene Lambo, [itlambo@msn.com](mailto:itlambo@msn.com), if you're interested in strutting your stuff on the runway.

## Silent Auction donation information

The success of the Silent Auction depends on your contributions! Please consider donating one or more of your creations, an art book, hand-dyed fabric, vintage handiwork, or other needle work related item to the Silent Auction. Please bring your treasures to the October NSNG meeting along with the completed Donation Form, available at <https://fineartoffiber.org/> or drop them off to:

Gretchen Alexander	1280 Village Drive	Arlington Heights	847-257-2507
Chris Deering	7120 W. Niles Ave.	Niles	773-351-8651
Jeanne Reed	422 Forest Ave.	Wilmette	847-251-7973

PLEASE NOTE: Donations will be accepted at the Fine Art of Fiber **ONLY on Thursday, November 6th**, Turn In Day.

– Gretchen Alexander, [gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net) and  
Chris Deering, [chris@toldme.com](mailto:chris@toldme.com)



A look at last year's Boutique. If you are a vendor this year, be sure to submit a photo for the slide show to be presented before the Fashion Show on Friday, November 7. (see info below)

Contact Judy Friedman, [judyfriedman61@cloud.com](mailto:judyfriedman61@cloud.com) if you have questions about the docent program where you have a one-hour slot at the show but are required to do a 1.5 hour training session on Thursday afternoon, November 6.

Over a quarter of exhibit items are from groups! We are excited to be able to feature various aspects from all three guilds of their education programs, workshops and challenges.

At this year's Special Exhibition, Explorations in Fiber Arts will debut its latest project, "It's a Wrap!: Protect, Embrace, Envelop." Having attended the group's Reveal meeting, I can tell EIFA groupies that this is one of their best shows ever.

So, get the word out to friends and family using the show postcard which is available on the <https://fineartoffiber.org/> website under Guild Member Forms. This show would not be possible without the help of all our members. We look forward to seeing you there.

– Nona Flores, FAOF chair, [ncflores52@gmail.com](mailto:ncflores52@gmail.com)

## Vendor video at fashion show

Prior to the start of the fashion show in the auditorium on Friday, November 7th, there will be a **slide show featuring items from vendors in the boutique** and market areas of the guilds at the Fine Art of Fiber. If you are a vendor and would like us to include a picture of your work, please send a photo attachment in an email to Irene Lambo or Nancy Cross, [nmcross@mac.com](mailto:nmcross@mac.com).

**The deadline for entering your picture is Friday, October 10th.** Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

– Irene Lambo, [itlambo@msn.com](mailto:itlambo@msn.com)

All forms and Sign-Up Genius are on the Fine Art of Fiber website: <https://fineartoffiber.org/> under Guild Member Forms.

## Knitted coat with Judith Schwab

### IN-PERSON MINI WORKSHOP

Tues, Oct 7, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

- Kingswood United Methodist Church, 600 Deerfield Rd, Deerfield

This coat may be crocheted or knitted using garter stitches. No shaping, just 3 rectangles and sleeves. We will talk about my process, not a project class. If you want to bring yarn do so; we'll talk about how to choose. The coat uses a large amount of yarn, up to 2,000 yards of different sizes and types: ribbon, eyelash, solids, variegated and cloth torn into strips. I think the greater the variety, the more interesting the coat although I have one in black and white with a splash of red. It is not necessary to bring anything unless you want to talk about specific materials. There is still room in the workshop.

Fee: \$10 (to be donated to the Guild)

- To register, send an email to Mini Workshop Chair, Elizabeth Guillette AND Judith Schwab, [ekguillette@gmail.com](mailto:ekguillette@gmail.com), [judithschwab3@gmail.com](mailto:judithschwab3@gmail.com)



## Member Challenge

This year's theme is "Everything Old Is New Again." Use your favorite technique to create something around this theme.

All work submitted should be the submitter's original design (no kits, commercial charts, etc.) and should have been created within the past two years. Work that has been previously exhibited at Guild functions is discouraged. Entries must have a fiber element.

Your project will be displayed at our Dec 2, 2025 potluck meeting. Members



in attendance will vote for their favorite entry. You must be a member to enter and vote.

The three winners will receive

a certificate to be used in the next year's NSNG workshop of their choice – \$100 First Place, \$75 Second Place, and \$50 Third Place.

All Challenge entries must be at the meeting no later than 10:00 am to allow for setup and to be included in voting. Voting will open at 10:30 am and close at 11:30 am when all votes will be counted and Challenge winners determined.

### DEADLINE TO ENTER IS NOV 17.

Please let Lu Betcher know if you would like to enter the challenge. Include your name, the name and size of the entry, and how you would like it displayed (hung, placed on a table, or free-standing).

Once you have completed your piece, please send Lu a short artist statement, with the title of your work, describing how your entry relates to this year's theme. Artist statements are due no later than Nov 24 to allow time for printing.

– Lu Betcher, Member Challenge Chair, [lubetcher@gmail.com](mailto:lubetcher@gmail.com)

## Visible mending with Elizabeth Guillette

IN-PERSON MINI WORKSHOP • Tues, Nov 11, 1:00 - 3:00 pm



- Kingswood United Methodist Church, 600 Deerfield Rd, Deerfield

If you have a stain or a hole in your sweaters or any other clothing item, don't discard them. Bring them to the November mini workshop and we will mend them with yarn, embroidery floss, thread, tapestry needle, and crochet hook to create a new wearable item. A darning egg or mushroom will come in handy. Fee: \$10 (to be donated to the Guild)

- To register, or if you have an idea for a mini workshop that you would like to teach, send an email to Mini Workshop chair, Elizabeth Guillette, [ekguillette@gmail.com](mailto:ekguillette@gmail.com)

## NSNG Service Notes

Because of your amazing gifts of time and energy, 500 Scent Hearts for Premie Babies and their Parents were delivered to Neonatal Intensive Care Units at five local hospitals! Additionally, service sewing produces lap robes which are regularly donated to elder care homes, Days for Girls items are completed and collected, and baby blankets are distributed to welcome new Little Ones.

Each holiday season, NSNG provides pretty pillow cases for the residents of the Women's shelters run by the Evanston YWCA and WINGS. Please contribute to the success of this project by taking home a pillowcase kit or two to complete and return by the December NSNG meeting. The kits will be waiting for you at the Service Table at the October meeting.

*Thank you for all you do for others!*

– Gretchen Alexander, Service Chair, [gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net)

### Join others for service sewing at THE SEWING SPACE in Deerfield

Kingswood United Methodist Church, 600 Deerfield Rd.

every Tuesday from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm (except NSNG meeting days)

Questions? Contact Valerie Koppenhaver, [valerie@thesewingspace.org](mailto:valerie@thesewingspace.org)

### MONDAY MEETUP:

Mon, Oct 28 • 9:30 am (CT)

Join others in a relaxed online setting to discuss your projects and chat with other members – hosted by Susan Couch.

- To receive a Zoom link, email [meetups@nsng.org](mailto:meetups@nsng.org)



Class participants, standing, left to right: Lori Grupp, Nancy Nicholson, Anke Meyer, Joyce Pugh, Linda Norby, instructor Jen Weber, Janet Tuzzolino, Susan Miller, Candace Rich, Chris Deering, Judy Pesce.

Sitting, left to right: Sylvia Dresser, Rona Pietrzak, Arlene Rubin, Stana Coleman, Dee McKenna. (photo by Helene Beckman)

## Temari Ball Workshop with Jen Weber

Wow! Two and half days with Jen Weber is a roller coaster but without screams! She is high energy, funny and a totally organized and patient teacher. Her passion of Temari balls is contagious and her generosity in sharing all that carefully accumulated knowledge is impressive. She started us all out with the “fun part” of 3-D embroidery on pre-threaded and marked balls. Once we were



“hooked” she took us back to learn how to do all the prep work.

With the assistance of her two assistants (the Guild’s very own Helene and Jeff Beckman) none of the intricacies seemed too daunting.

Look for some splendid work from this group at the FAOF - where many will be displayed.

– Nancy Nicholson

It was a great class, taking my “comfort zone” embroidery knowledge to a new and exciting place! Working on an orb has its own set of challenges and Jen led us through with clarity and patience. Jeff and Helene definitely added value as experienced helpers! As always in NSNG’s workshops, I learned from my classmates, as well. My tablemate, Joyce Pugh, taught me a way to thread a needle which I had never seen before!

– Janet Tuzzolino



Temari balls are another great way to play with color!  
– Sylvia Dresser



The class was wonderful! Jen is an excellent teacher and such a nice, supportive, and enthusiastic person. Sue Miller and I are going to her John Campbell course in North Carolina in May.  
– Linda Norby



Jen Weber with Helene and Jeff Beckman.



Nancy Nicholson, Anke Meyer and Susan Miller concentrating on their projects.

# Artist Mirka Knaster

Mirka Knaster creates 2-D and 3-D pieces in a non-representational style using textiles, paper, and other materials in a studio overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Her award-winning work has been exhibited internationally and is in private collections. As an independent curator, she has highlighted artists from other cultures and such issues as immigration and plastic pollution.



Born along the Adriatic Sea and educated in the U.S., she earned degrees in three cross-cultural fields. Worldwide adventures deeply inform her sensibility and exploration of art. Nature, East Asian aesthetics, 20th-century abstract art, and meditation practice are her most significant influences and inspirations.

Mirka approaches the creative process as an open-ended improvisation. Pieces emerge intuitively, even serendipitously, as a communication through color, texture, line, shape, space, and pattern. Whatever materials she works with, it is the process of composing, making, and marking that ignites her curiosity and joy. Along the way, she embraces and celebrates the surprises.

Mirka is one of the founders of Korean Textile Tours, a former board member of the Textile Arts Council, Fine Arts Museums, San Francisco, a member of various fiber art groups, and has taught in the U.S. and Korea.

• WEBSITE: [www.mirkaart.com](http://www.mirkaart.com)

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT:

Environment exerts a profound influence as I witness, with awe, how the ever-changing light transforms the colors and textures of land, sea, and sky from dawn till nightfall. The movements, sounds, and hues of water are integral to my sensibility. I'm drawn to the simplicity and universality of geometric shapes and flow lines wherever I look. I observe that space is as important as form, if not more so.



## HYBRID LECTURE: Tues, Oct 7: 9:30 am (CT) *Family as Creative Inspiration*

Creativity often feels like such a mysterious process. How do ideas emerge? Where does inspiration come from? How does an artwork begin and then unfold into a series? And how does what we create take on meaningfulness?

Mirka will speak to these questions through the various experiences and challenges that have led her work to become more and more personally and universally relevant over time. She is now at the point of focusing on what she considers will likely be the most meaningful project of her life—her family's history—and thus her most fulfilling endeavor.

The presentation will include examples of how the creative process can evolve and invite the audience to consider what is meaningful for them to pursue and how they might go about it.



## IN-PERSON WORKSHOP: *Stitching Your Passion: A Fiber Accordion "Book" of What's Important to You* FEE: \$245

Tues, Oct 7: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
Wed, Oct 8: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm  
Thurs, Oct 9: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

What piques your interest: Playing with color and patterns? Preserving memories? Telling your family's history? Recording your travel adventures? Addressing important causes? An accordion "book" made with textiles is a fun way to creatively pursue those interests.

We will turn 2-D pieces into 3-D artwork that will showcase what engages your attention. We will make "pages" (panels) using a stiff interfacing onto which we fuse the fabrics and embellishments that best

narrate the themes we explore.

The front of the panels can be enhanced with stitching, beads, buttons, photos, bits of lace, ribbons, yarn, small twigs, leaves, coins, and other mementos. Fusing fabric or handmade paper to the back of the panels can hide the stitches. Machine- or hand-sewing joins the panels together so they can fold closed or open like an accordion. Bamboo skewers, fine dowels, knitting needles, or chopsticks will make them stand on a shelf, table, mantel, window sill, or pedestal in various configurations like a fiber sculpture. Let your imagination roam freely among the possibilities.

***"Art offers us moments of now, in which we let go of the past and the future, let go of the constant stream of data rushing through us."***

– Mirka Knaster

# Artist Tonya Lemos

A life long environmentalist and plant person, Tony(a) Lemos is a biophilic, process based conceptual artist who works at the intersection of art and herbalism. Her work centers around nature, wellbeing, creativity, connection and co-existence. She believes art and creativity to be an integral part of the healing process.

Presently her work includes eco-printing, photopolymer printmaking as well alternative photography methods, often combining mixed media and found objects into artist books. She likes to explore symbolism from her ancestry (Greek/Middle East) and her deep connection to her present sense of place on Pocumtuc/Nipmuc territory, Ashfield/Conway, MA. She believes there to be such healing when we connect (art+health) materials to place, and has found by using materials from a particular place to help establish a relationship with it.

She currently runs Blazing Star Herbal School and teaches at conferences all over New England including The Arnold Arboretum at Harvard University, the New England Botanical Gardens and The Provincetown Art Museum.

• WEBSITE: <https://linktr.ee/TonyaLemosArts>

## IN-PERSON WORKSHOP: *Cyanotype Papers and Embellished Tunnel Book* FEE: \$175

**Tues, Nov 11: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**  
**Wed, Nov 12: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm**  
**Thurs, Nov 13: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm**

• Cyanotype is a photographic process that uses iron based chemicals, sunlight, and water to create uniquely blue images. This course will focus on both traditional and experimental methods of cyanotype (camera-less photography), covering a variety of approaches to explore the possibilities of this historic process through an experimental lens. In this class we will explore botanical cyanotypes both wet and dry methods. Each participant will have the opportunity to create multiple prints, which may be used to create art, collage, greeting cards, wall hangings, bookmarks and artist books.

• A Tunnel Book is a unique type of artist book in which the pages are viewed as if looking through a window, or a “tunnel” and often incorporate paper cuts. These structures are great for creating visual narratives – when you look into a tunnel book,



## HYBRID LECTURE: **Tues, Nov 11: 9:30 am (CT)** *Art That Breathes: Deepening Our Connection to Plants through Art*

Throughout history, women have drawn inspiration from the natural world as a primary source for their creative expression, and have incorporated elements like landscapes, plants, animals, and natural phenomena into their work across various mediums and styles. Working with plants in one’s art practice is a way in which we can deepen our understanding and partnership with plants and the natural world which can lead to feeling more rooted and a deeper sense of place and inner understanding of interconnectedness between people and their environment.

We will also survey some pioneering artists who drew inspiration from the natural world such as Hildegard Von Bingen, May Morris, Anna Atkins, Maria Sibylla Merian as well as a few contemporary artists creating unique works.

you are looking through an opening into a 3D world. The book is made up of layers of pages or panels that are parallel to each other. The completed pages are attached to accordion folds or concertina binding by hinges, which allows the book to be folded up or opened up for viewing. There are several options for hard and soft covers. In this class we will embellish our “windows” with simple embroidery!

***“To simply slow down and enjoy the process of creating something handcrafted is a healing process.” – Tonya Lemos***



## Textile Worker Emily Jo Gibbs

Emily Jo Gibbs is a British artist who has established an international reputation for her delicate textiles. In her current practice Emily creates hand-stitched portraits and still lifes with a graphic quality, observing the quiet beauty of the overlooked, and gently advocating “The Value of Making” by creating work that celebrates the skill, dexterity and the creative problem solving of people who make things. Projects include Connected Cloth, The British Textile Biennial 2021, Portrait of a Chinese textile worker making silk organza (above).

Emily has received significant critical acclaim and examples of her work are in The Victoria and Albert Museum, The Crafts Council Collection and The Museum of Fine Art, Houston. She is a member of Contemporary Applied Arts, The 62 Group of Textile Artists, and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. Between 1993 and 2006, Emily made luxury handbags.

• WEBSITE: <https://www.emilyjogibbs.co.uk/>

**VIRTUAL LECTURE: Tues, Jan 6: 9:30 am (CT)**

### *A Career in Making*

Emily Jo Gibbs has established an international reputation for her hand-stitched textiles, observing the quiet beauty of the overlooked. She specializes in layered appliqué, creating portraits and still-lives with a pared back aesthetic. This talk is about her career in making – from high end handbags to portraits.



**VIRTUAL WORKSHOP:**

### *Illustrative Pictures, Working with Silk Organza and Hand Stitch*

**Tues, Jan 6: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm (CT)**

**Wed, Jan 7: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm (CT)**

**Thurs, Jan 8: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm (CT)**

Create layered collages – abstract or figurative – that exploit the qualities of semi-transparent material. This is a hand-stitch class. Experiment with layering translucent fabric to change the col-

**FEE: \$185**

or and tone. Learn how to cut accurate shapes, overlap pieces to build areas of different colors and tones, examine how the layers are built up and the work is stitched together. You will look at stitching for construction and stitching for decoration and how the two interplay. Work from your own drawings, photographs or collage.

***“I now make work that reflects how proud I am to be a member of a creative community of people who make things.”***

– Emily Jo Gibbs

# Artist Ana Buzzalino

Ana Buzzalino is a creator, maker, fibre and mixed media artist, surface designer, teacher and lecturer. Her love of layers and texture combine in her original work. She achieves results using a combination of different surface design techniques. A lot of her work for the past few years has used



aspects of history with an impact on our culture today.

Ana's work has won numerous awards at national and international shows. Her work has been accepted into the Festival of Quilts in the UK where she won an honorable mention, Quilt Canada where she's won several awards

and the International Quilt Festival in Houston where she won 1st prize in Abstract in 2017 and a third prize in Abstract in 2019.

Ana writes articles for Quilting Arts Magazine and A Needle Pulling Thread among others. She has made several appearances in Quilting Arts TV. She was also invited to appear in The Quilt Show in 2022. She is currently teaching online from her studio in Calgary, Alberta.

• WEBSITE: <https://www.anabuzzalino.com/>



## VIRTUAL LECTURE: Tues, Feb 3: 9:30 am (CT) *From Blueprint to Thread: Architecture as Inspiration*

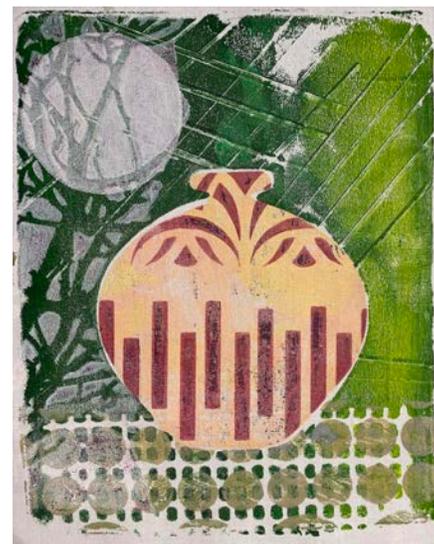
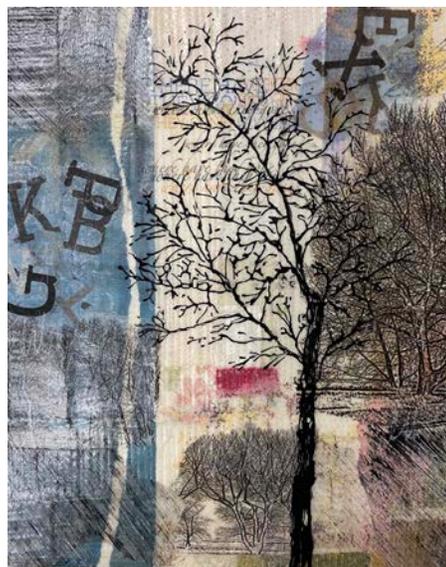
Join me on an inspiring journey through the intersection of architecture and textile art, delving into the captivating world of architectural structures that can serve as a wellspring of creativity for artists. I'll share a glimpse into my own artistic endeavours, unveiling how architecture and its diverse features have become a boundless source of inspiration for my own work.

## VIRTUAL WORKSHOP: *Acrylic Skins and Monoprinting: From Basics to Sophistication* FEE: \$135

Tues, Feb 3: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm (CT)  
Wed, Feb 4: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm (CT)  
Thurs, Feb 5: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm (CT)

In this workshop, you will learn to create acrylic skins (shown at left) to use in your work. These require few supplies and are fun and addictive to make and will add an element of surprise and interest to your artwork: quilts, sketchbooks, painting, collages, etc. Part of this workshop will be a demo on different products you can use to prepare the acrylic skins, how to finish them and how to apply them to your work.

• Monoprints combine the spontaneity of printed paints and fabric, creating a surface that is unlike any other. It is the most painterly method among the printmaking techniques. No two prints are alike. Students will learn to use water-based paint on Gelli Plates or other surfaces, utilizing various techniques: masking, multiple drop printing, colour mixing, etc. Students will play around with textures and random materials to create several pieces that can serve as underpaintings for future work or stand alone as a body of work. The first part of the class will be spent making rubbing plates to use in the monoprinting process.



*“Creativity isn’t always about PRODUCING. Sometimes, it’s about being, sitting with the process, enjoying the materials, and letting the work unfold in its own time.” – Ana Buzzalino*

# Textile Artist Lois Russell

Lois Russell’s fiber work reflects her history as a basket maker. She teaches nationally, and has won numerous awards including Category Winner in Excellence in Fiber 2016. Her work has been featured in Fiber Art Now and several books on fiber arts including 500 Baskets. In 2021 she was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the National Basketry Organization. Her work is in private collections and is represented at the Racine Art Museum, Fuller Craft Museum and the Kamm Collection. Russell has served on the boards of the National Basketry Organization and of CERF+ and is currently on the boards of the Boston Society of Arts and Crafts and Penland School of Crafts.

• WEBSITE: <https://loisrussell.com>

### ARTIST’S STATEMENT:

I love textiles. I finger fabric in expensive stores. I buy one skein of yarn just because I need to have that color where I can see it every day. During my lifetime I have knit countless sweaters and blankets, made quilts, felted wool, hooked rugs, tried to weave, sew and darned, and done all sorts of stitching and embroidery. But mostly I have made baskets.



That does not make me special. Humans have made baskets for thousands of years. To my mind the first basket

was a cupped hand with the fingers intertwined. They made them with whatever they have handy: cedar bark in Alaska; bamboo in Japan; discarded telephone wire today in South Africa.

### HYBRID LECTURE:

**Tues, March 3: 9:30 am (CT)**  
*Yeah . . . But Is It a Basket?*

Over the past 75 years, basketry techniques have been adopted (hijacked?) by artists who have used them to make objects that are more sculptural than functional. Discussions of this evolution have called into question what a basket “is” and whether definitions and preconceived notions help or hinder creativity in fiber as well with work in other materials. This presentation will take a look at how basketry has evolved. And how it hasn’t.



***“There is no end to the possibilities when it comes to making a basket. Baskets are an invitation to play with shape, color and texture.”***

– Lois Russell



The rich traditions of basket making from around the world provide many possible architectures and countless fiber techniques.

I can’t know what my work will be about for other people, but I hope it will provoke something, that it will be a starting place for an emotion or a thought. And, missionary that I am, I hope it will convert them to being artists in their own way, always looking for what is beautiful and interesting, perhaps where they least expect it. And I hope it will make them appreciate, even briefly, how wonderful and complex the world is.

### IN-PERSON WORKSHOP: FEE: \$170

#### Coiled Basketry

**Tues, March 3: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**  
**Wed, March 4: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm**  
**Thurs, March 5: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm**

Participants will learn the basics of coiled basketry: how to start, make a design, create a shape and, of course, how to finish up. Although we will work mostly with closed coiling (and you will learn what that means) we will also experiment with some open coiling techniques.

# Artist Youngmin Lee

Korean-born artist Youngmin Lee holds a master’s degree in fashion design and a bachelor’s degree in clothing and textiles. She has presented numerous workshops, classes and demonstrations on Korean arts and crafts around the Bay Area in California and many other places. Recently she has demonstrated her Bojagi and Maedub at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco as a part of an Asia Alive Program. She also has participated in Oakland Museum’s Lunar New Year celebration with her Bojagi and Maedub artworks.

**ARTIST’S STATEMENT:**

Textiles hold history, and they have the power to initiate conversation about culture, tradition, time, and memory. I appreciate the beauty that comes from the long, slow process of hand stitching, which is a meditative act for me. I constantly practice stitches on the surface of fabrics and think about the invisible labor done by women throughout time.

I use a variety of materials to make items that both reflect modern aesthetics and embrace traditional techniques. This represents my identity as one living in two cultures; bojagi is my interpretation of my cultural heritage and tradition. I create through a spontaneous and improvisational process, using various materials, from new bolts of fabric to reclaimed textiles.

• WEBSITE: <http://www.youngminlee.com/>



**HYBRID LECTURE: Tues, April 7: 9:30 am (CT)**  
*Bojagi, The Art of Wrapping Cloths*

Bojagi (Korean Wrapping Cloths) are pieced together from small scraps of cloth. It is the most unique form of Korean textile art. Bojagi occupied a prominent place in the daily lives of Koreans of all classes. They were used to wrap or carry everything from precious ritual objects to everyday clothes and common household goods and also to cover food. It is also strikingly contemporary: the designs and colors of bojagi remind one of the works of modern abstract artists.

Bojagi can be described as a true form of abstract expressionism. Youngmin Lee will talk about Bojagi during this lecture and show her Bojagi works after the lecture.

**IN-PERSON WORKSHOP: *The Many Faces of Bojagi* FEE: \$240**

**Tues, April 7: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**  
**Wed, April 8: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm**  
**Thurs, April 9: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm**

hand stitching, which can be very relaxing. While working on your Bojagi, wish for the happiness and well-being of the recipient of your finished bojagi.

In the past, Jogakbo, patchwork Bojagi, was made with leftover remnants of fabric from other projects. Using Korean traditional techniques such as Gamchimjil, Settam Sangchim and Ssamsol, Youngmin will teach basic Jogakbo construction in this workshop. Bojagi construction involves

During the workshop, Youngmin will show how to use many small pieces of ramie fabrics, silk organza and Korean silk gauze to create a geometric patterned Bojagi. The finished project will have a unique composition of different shapes, lines and texture.



***“I start this organic process by putting small fragments together, and the Bojagi and I both grow as I work many imperfect stitches together with my wishes for happiness.”***

– Youngmin Lee

## Textile Artist Pat Pauly

Known for her improvisational technique, Pat Pauly uses bold color and unusual juxtapositions of printed and painted fabric in her work. Her frequent lectures and workshops on contemporary art quilts carry the same qualities as her work – energized, spontaneous, and definitive.

Her textile work – which began in the early 1980s, and was first accepted in Quilt National '83 – has continued to be seen in major exhibitions. Her fiber art's distinction uses strong abstracted natural forms and complex color



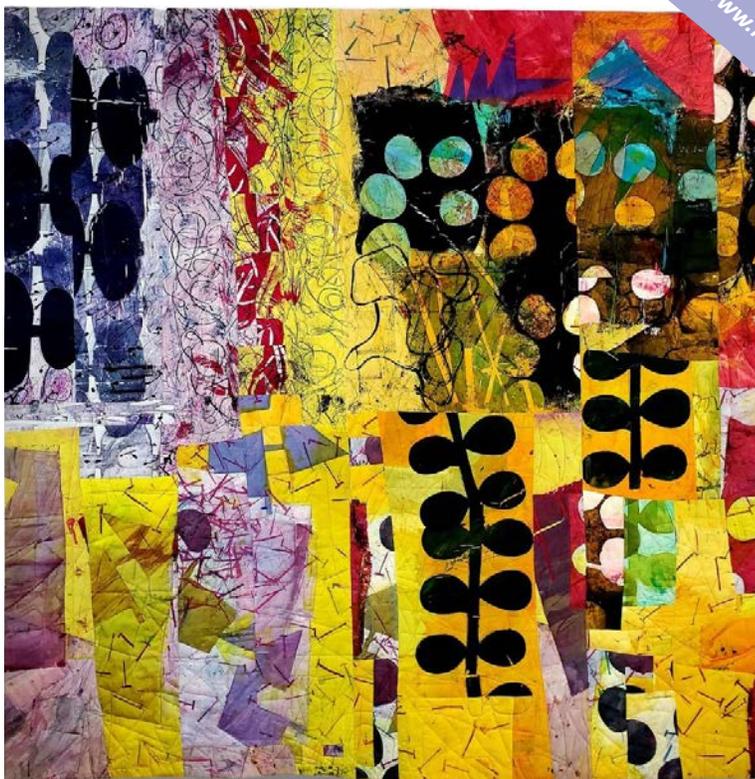
combinations. Her work is in both private and public collections.

With a degree in art, and graduate work in design and fine art, Pat chose fiber art as the perfect amalgam of construction, painting and printmaking. She has taught

throughout the United States, Canada, and Australia, in design and surface design. Pat's work is also widely published, and she has appeared in Quilting Arts televised segments.

If not teaching, she is found in her studio in Rochester, NY, where she has the best advantage of being surrounded by great artists as well as the beauty of the Finger Lakes.

• WEBSITE: <https://www.patpauly.com/>



**HYBRID LECTURE: Tues, May 5: 9:30 am (CT)**

### *Challenge Yourself*

The art quilt world is full of bizarre ways to tease out work through themes, fabric choices, or (worst) deadlines. Take a look at how Pat Pauly embraces a challenge, sees a design decision, and comes up with a solution no one else would think to make. And be sure to take notes on how to use a challenge to turn obtuse ideas into your own successful quilts.

*“The unexpected harmony or discord of an evolving design fascinates me, and this organic construction is an integral part of my creative process.” – Pat Pauly*



**IN-PERSON WORKSHOP: FEE: \$165**

### *Within The Frame: Improvisational Piecing a Center Medallion*

**Tues, May 5: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

**Wed, May 6: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm**

**Thurs, May 7: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm**

Sew improvisationally-made fabric and make it either disappear or be highlighted as it is set in a background. With simple methods for scrambling fabric improvisationally with curves, thin lines, and angles, we'll make a center that will be supported by a framework for a center medallion composition. Work with color, scale, and value is an important feature in bringing the composition to balance. Bold, graphic prints are a useful tool in piecing improv work, as they offer more shapes that maintain the images brought forth, so they are encouraged to be used in this class. It's a great way to use one-of-a-kind prints.

The purpose of the **North Suburban NeedleArts Guild** is to foster the art of needlework and to encourage a high standard of design, innovation, and technique in various forms of fiber arts. New ideas and techniques are developed through lectures, workshops and other group gatherings. Members are encouraged to show their own talents at meetings.

## NSNG SHOW & TELL

Share your projects and announcements about exhibits and events of interest to our members. Bring your work to our in-person meetings, or send photo and description to Jan Harrington for this newsletter.

**Barbara Schneider shares the following.** *If you can't visit these museums in person, the websites offer a wealth of inspiration:*

- **Quilt National 25 Traveling Exhibit** hits the road in 3 collections. My piece, Forest Floor, Tree Bark Fragments, var. 10, is part of Collection A, which will be shown at the **San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles**, San Jose, CA Sept 29 – Jan 2, 2026 <https://sj-mqt.org/>



- **New England Quilt Museum**  
18 Shattuck St, Lowell, MA 01852  
Sept 9 – Dec 31, 2025  
<https://www.neqm.org/>

I have 4 pieces in this exhibit, *A Walk in the Woods – Quilt Artists Respond to Nature*, including Leaf Fall, var. 2, Oak Leaf Tangle, Line Dance, Tree Ring Patterns, var. 27 and 28.

*A Walk in the Woods* is much more than a showcase of its artists' remarkable interpretations of the natural world. It is a poignant reminder of nature's extraordinary ability to restore and transform us.

- **Viewpoints in Fiber: Fiber Artists of Southern Arizona**  
<https://www.fasa-art.com/event/227578/viewpoints-in-fiber>

I have 10 large pieces in the show which I organized. It includes a very large exhibit by 10 artists at the **Tubac Center for the Arts**, 9 Plaza Road, Tubac, AZ 85646 Oct 3 – Nov 9, 2025 <https://tubacarts.org/exhibits/> *Tubac is a great art town about 1 hour south of Tucson.*

- **NEWSLETTER:** The NSNG newsletter is published monthly (except for July and Aug) and sent digitally to all members a few days before each meeting. It is also available on our website. A Zoom link for our meetings will be sent with the newsletter. Send submissions for Show & Tell and other articles by the 3rd week of the previous month to Newsletter Editor, **Jan Harrington**, [janqharrington@gmail.com](mailto:janqharrington@gmail.com).

- **MEMBERSHIP:** Annual membership dues are \$52. Our membership year starts on Aug 1 and ends the following July 31. **If you have a change of address, phone or email address**, contact Membership Chair: **Karen Jones**, [souldprod50@gmail.com](mailto:souldprod50@gmail.com)

- **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY:** A digital directory will be sent to all members in the fall. It includes names and contact info for members, calendars, by-laws and other information about NSNG. Updates will be made as needed. **It is for your personal use only!**

- **WEBSITE & FACEBOOK:** Our website – [www.nsng.org](http://www.nsng.org) – includes info about programs and workshops, service opportunities, and more. Registration for workshops and membership renewals are all done on our website. Share your work and stories of interest on our **FACEBOOK** page: North Suburban NeedleArts Guild.

- **MINI WORKSHOPS** are taught by NSNG members. If you are interested in teaching a class, contact Mini-Workshop Chair: **Elizabeth Guillette**, [ekguillette@gmail.com](mailto:ekguillette@gmail.com)

- **IN-PERSON EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS** are held at **Gloria Dei Lutheran Church** (1133 Pfingston Rd, Northbrook) unless otherwise noted. **Please park in the back lot** – on the east side of the church – and enter at that door.

- **GUESTS ARE WELCOME:** Guests and friends are free the first time they attend, after which they must join the Guild to continue attending.

- **FREEBIE TABLE:** Members may bring in fiber-related items they no longer need. **PLEASE take home any unclaimed items!**

## NSNG Board • 2025 - 2026

**NOTE: The email addresses in this newsletter are for your personal use only.**

President	<b>Nancy Nicholson</b>	<a href="mailto:nancy@nicholson.net">nancy@nicholson.net</a> (847) 533-4818
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Special Events	<b>Barb Maneck</b>	<a href="mailto:happydragn@yahoo.com">happydragn@yahoo.com</a>
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