

One day at a time

I have a pile of carefully curated books lent from friends or borrowed from the library.

I have several yarn selections and appropriate crochet patterns waiting (this would be a good time to learn, right?).

I cleaned my studio (Really! You can see the floor now!) and pre-cut fabric; it's sitting there ready for piecing.

What the HECK was I thinking?

I was going to be THE exceptional patient. I'd done pre surgery PT, lost weight, cleaned out closets (don't ask why). I was going to be a G*D D%amned rock star. Foolishness.

I had been warned about the pain, but you just don't really know do you. I'd been advised to stay "ahead" with pain meds and to ABSOLUTELY take the anti-nausea pills. Oh, and LOTS of prune juice or comparable medicine. Or both.

Did I listen? Yes. Did I take it 100% to heart? I did not.

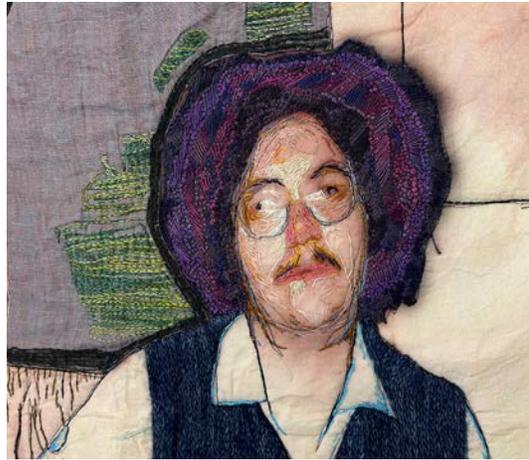
You know how some project instructions might say "read 2-3 times, before starting"? You know how you regret it when you don't.

I'm writing this 4 days after having total knee replacement surgery. Millions of people do so, including many of you in our Guild. Still, I've learned a few things for those considering. It's rough. The first day was so much worse than I thought. The second day you will learn to handle the meds better (THIS IS IMPORTANT). Make sure your caregiver/spouse/friend understands urgent cues: "I'm feeling like I might throw up" . . . "I have to get to the bathroom NOW." It can be unpleasant for everyone. Urgency is real, not implied.

Keep saying thank you. You absolutely cannot say it enough; to your caregiver, to the neighbor who brings over a tray of Mac & Cheese, the friends who encourage you before and the ones who check in afterwards, anyone who provides chocolate (and you need chocolate right now, do not hold back!). These are wonderful people. A close second to your medical team; these people will get you through it all.

To anyone facing surgery soon, let me know. I have new sources for good chocolate . . . and they deliver!

– Nancy Nicholson, NSNG President,
nancy@nicholson.net



Art quilt detail – me in the mid-70s as a wannabe hippie; "Good Boy" is a bead embroidery incorporating my high school yearbook picture as a Greek icon.

Al Krueger's creative journey



My formal training is in the sciences. I have a BS and MS in Zoology from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. I have worked as a scientist in the pharmaceutical industry throughout my adult life. Now that I'm retired from the corporate world, I can devote much more time to my art.

I've always enjoyed handwork and have knitted, crocheted and embroidered since I was a teenager. I discovered beadwork about 20 years ago and have included bead embroidery and off-loom bead weaving in much of

my earlier work. My current interest is in art quilts. I transfer photos to fabric and embellish with extensive hand and machine embroidery. Pieces are then layered with batting and backing and machine quilted.

I've explored the idea of self by incorporating photos of myself in my latest work. Many of these portraits are quite embarrassing and I celebrate the awkwardness. I like to emphasize my warped sense of humor as often as possible.

I joined NSNG initially for the outstanding workshops but now enjoy the many social aspects of the group as well. I look forward to meetings not only for the artist talks and workshops, but for the freebie table (always something good can be found there), volunteer opportunities and show and tell.

I have finally found my tribe.

– Al Krueger, NSNG 2nd Vice President



Embellished teapot "The Mad Hatter Goes Scuba Diving"

FEBRUARY VIRTUAL MEETING: Tues, Feb 7 • 9:30 am (CT)

Ana Buzzalino, From Blueprint to Thread: Architecture as Inspiration



Prajnaparamita is the Mother of all Buddhas, representing profound wisdom and the “emptiness” doctrine in Mahayana Buddhism. This piece is tentatively set in stonework in colors which mimic those found in the Grand Palace of Thailand, which I visited recently. The story of Prajanaparamita is spellbinding.

Emily Jo Gibbs conveys her conceptual artistry through carefully crafted lessons on the fine points of collage making through organza and simplified stitching techniques. Whether working in portraiture, landscape, stills or abstract designs, she skillfully demonstrates processes which allowed me to create my own narrative. I highly recommend workshoping with Emily Jo.

– Ann Wachter



I loved the workshop and she was a wonderful, kind instructor willing to share so much information. This is a portrait of my mother. I can't wait to try a still life or landscape next!

– Rachel Murguia



Portrait of my grandson Braiden, and a conch shell. Emily Jo is a wonderful patient instructor and I completely enjoyed her, my fellow students on zoom and her process! The layering of silk organza gave interesting subtle effects and the hand “stab” stitching was so satisfying! I definitely plan to create some pieces based on this technique!

– Cynthia Boudreau



Silk organza with Emily Jo Gibbs

This workshop provided an opportunity to work with materials and a style I think most of us had never seen before! The project was to create a portrait or still life using colored silk organza on white linen and use hand stitching for outlines and details. Many people chose to create portraits, but I chose to do a still life of tools that belonged to my grandfather, who was a painter and wallpaper hanger in St. Louis. It is the large shears he used to cut the wallpaper, and the brush he used to smooth it out.

I found the organza incredibly difficult to work with; the layers kept shifting and rogue threads frayed from the fabric after it had already been trapped by stitching. However, Emily was incredibly patient and encouraging with all of us!

I personally was impressed with those who chose to do portraits even while thinking they would not succeed, then proceeded to prove themselves wrong! Even though I may not choose this medium in the future, I think it proves that every exposure to art and process has value to one's own creative journey.

– Luan Wold



I started out with several ideas, and ended up doing something entirely different! This is a much loved view from the top of the cliff-like descent to the beach on Lake Champlain where my father-in-law loved to swim. Emily is a great teacher, she managed to work individually with each of us using Zoom, quite the accomplishment.

– Sylvia Dresser



This is my grandson Jacob's first Christmas. For a non-embroiderer, I was happy with it! I learned that my silk paints work on organza without resist!

– Ronna Leibach



Art by Cheryl Reynolds-Fefles in library exhibit

A display of my work is on view now through March 2 at the Dunning Library, 7455 W. Cornelia, Chicago. Several sculptural felted pieces are featured, along with felted jewelry, fused glass plates and sculptures, and bas-relief ceramics. I do my fused glass work at the Chicago Glass Collective (CGC), where I have been a member since the beginning - 13 years. My work is fired in the kilns at the studio. I teach an intro to fusing two-hour workshop called Friday Night Fusing. CGC offers a variety of fused glass workshops and bead making workshops. The studio is in Ravenswood at 1770 W. Berteau Ave, #203-B, Chicago. <https://www.chicagoglasscollective.com/>

– Cheryl Reynolds-Fefles, NSNG Secretary

Fine Line Creative Arts Center exhibits



Looking for an artsy outing? Visit the Kavanagh Gallery at the Fine Line Creative Arts Center in St. Charles. "Autumn Pallet" by Cynthia Boudreau is in the current exhibit, *In Bloom*, through Fri, Feb 6.

Upcoming shows include:

- *Paper*: Feb 12 - March 20
- *Home Improvements - The Functional Art Show*: March 26 - May 8

The center holds classes and workshops and has a nice shop with yarns and other fiber art supplies. Open Mon -Sat, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
37W570 Bolcum Road, St. Charles

• <https://fineline.org/>

An evening with Sunshine Joe Mallard

Joe's work is full of interesting stitches, embroidery and other decorative elements. One of his works, "The Obama Tie Quilt"



(shown here) was presented to the Obama Presidential Library. This inspiring event is a collaboration between the Needles and Threads Quilters Guild and the the Lakeside Quilting Guild.

• Mon, Feb 16, 6:00 pm, Augustana Lutheran Church, 5500 S. Woodlawn Ave, Chicago. Tickets are \$10.

• Website for more info: <https://lakesidequiltingguild.weebly.com/>

NSNG Member Challenge 2026 – It's a Small World

The theme of our next Member Challenge is "It's a Small World".

Use your favorite technique to create something around this theme, keeping the size of your 2D entry to 12 inches X 12 inches, or your 3D entry to 12 Inches square. All hanging pieces should have a sleeve and rod or some other means of attaching to the display board hooks. If your piece sits on a table and requires an easel or some type of stand you must provide these.

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 annual **Summer Potluck, July 21**. Members in attendance will vote for their favorite entry. You must be a member to enter and vote.

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 potluck 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 noon when all votes will be counted and Challenge winners determined.

Deadline to enter is **June 30**. Please email Lu Betcher 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 entry, describing your work. Artist statements are due by July 11, to allow time for printing.

– Lu Betcher, Member Challenge Chair, lubetcher@gmail.com

THE SEWING SPACE

Kingswood United Methodist Church,
600 Deerfield Rd, Deerfield

Tuesdays from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
(except for NSNG meeting days)

The Sewing Space website:
<https://thesewingspace.org/>

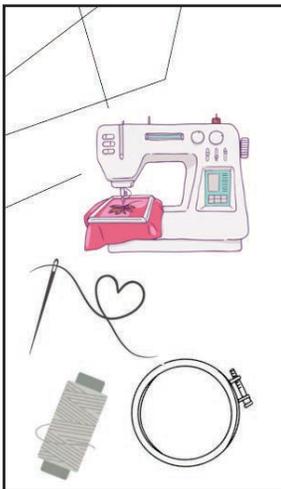
- For questions about service projects, contact Service Chair, Gretchen Alexander, gretchen.alexander@sbcglobal.net

• New serger needed for The Sewing Space

- Members of NSNG volunteer at The Sewing Space every Tuesday, making a difference in the world by using their sewing skills to make things that benefit others. Right now we are working quickly to ready some things for the Days For Girls project to ship to Madagascar by the middle of February.
- We are in desperate need of a **newer model serger** in working condition. The ones we have are older and a bit cranky. If you have one that you do not want, or will not use, it would be amazing if you would be willing to donate it to the cause. Please let Valerie Koppenhaver or Candace Rich know.
- Email: valerie@thesewingspace.org

ZOOM PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Basic stabilizers for sewing and embroidery with Susan Couch



- **Tues, Feb 10, 10:00 am - Noon**

Learn all about stabilizers in this online lecture written and presented by Susan Couch. Topics will include:

- Stabilizer uses
- Types of stabilizers and applications
- Examples of use
- Your projects

Fee is \$10.00, which will be donated to Paisley Paws at Golf Rose Animal Hospital in Schaumburg.

- To receive the ZOOM link and arrange payment, send an email to Mini Workshop chair, Elizabeth Guillette, ekguillette@gmail.com and Susan Couch, couchs12@outlook.com

IN-PERSON MINI WORKSHOP

Button and bead mosaics with Marla Florio

- **Tues, March 3, 1:00 - 3:00 pm**

Kingswood United Methodist Church, 600 Deerfield Rd.

Gather up your buttons and beads and bring them to the March mini workshop. We will use buttons and beads to stitch a mini mosaic or jewelry pin. Highlight a favorite button or two. Create a fun collage with lots of colors and shapes. Please bring thread, needles, and fabric backgrounds, (optional embroidery hoop) along with your buttons and beads. Marla will provide lots of supplies too. Fee is \$10.00, which will be donated to the Guild.

• To register, email Mini Workshop chair, Elizabeth Guillette, ekguillette@gmail.com and Marla Florio, mflorio808@gmail.com



IN-PERSON MINI WORKSHOP

Little crafty sheep with Natasha Lehrer Lewis

- **Tues, April 7, 1:00 - 3:00 pm**

Kingswood United Methodist Church, 600 Deerfield Rd.

Join Natasha Lehrer Lewis for a fun needle felting mini workshop! Create a little 4" tall sheep with curly fleece in your choice of colors, and then bring from home a mini craft for your sheep to hold (or create a heart!). It could be a tiny swatch of knitting, a basket of fabric, or a mini quilt. Or look online for art supply miniatures! Easy project for the felting novice to an experienced felter.

Fee is \$25.00 and includes all materials.

- To register, send an email to Mini Workshop chair, Elizabeth Guillette, ekguillette@gmail.com and Natasha Lehrer Lewis, natasha@esthersplacefibers.com



MONDAY MEETUP:

Mon, Feb 23 • 9:30 am (CT)

Our virtual gathering hosted by Susan Couch is for members to get together and share what they are working on, ask for advice on their crafting endeavors, get used to Zoom in a low pressure environment and relax and enjoy each other's company.

- To receive a ZOOM link, email meetups@nsng.org

A note from Barbara Schneider

Thank you to everyone from NSNG that has reached out to me about Larry's passing.

I appreciate the kind thoughts very much.

Fondly, Barbara

- **SHOW & TELL:** Show us your work at our meetings, including our ZOOM meeting on February 3. Or send photos and descriptions to Newsletter Editor, Jan Harrington, janqharrington@gmail.com

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

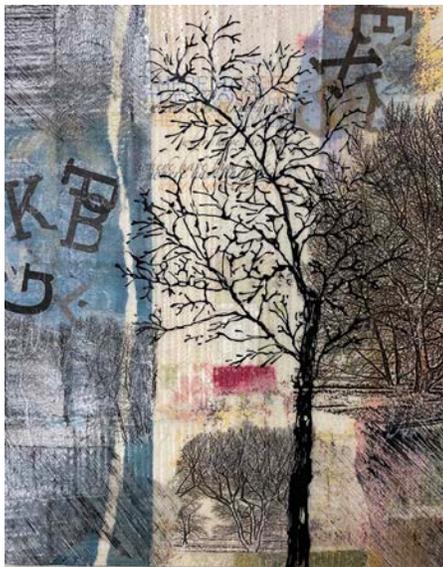
Join me on an inspiring journey through the intersection of architecture and textile art, delving into the captivating world of architectural structures that can serve as a wellspring of creativity for artists. I'll share a glimpse into my own artistic endeavours, unveiling how architecture and its diverse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

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

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.

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

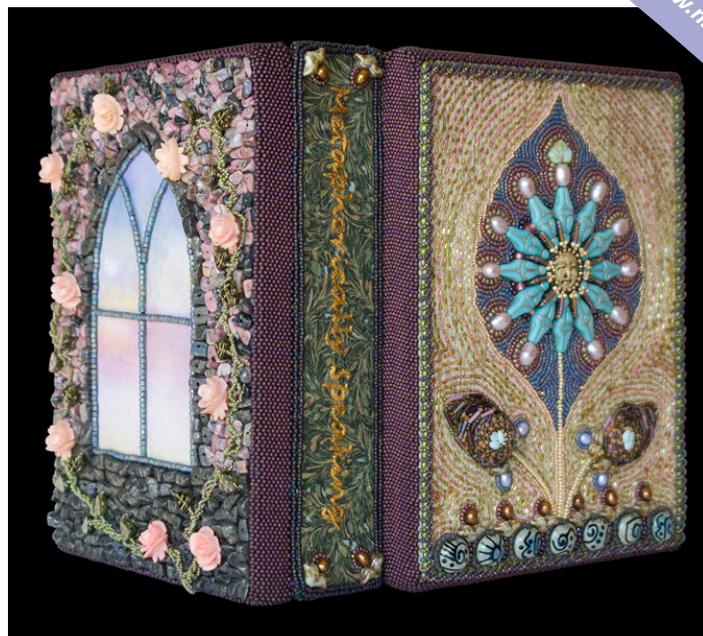


IN-PERSON WORKSHOP: FEE: \$165

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 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.



Embellished Reliquaries with Artist Lisa Binkley

Lisa Binkley has had a life-long passion for working with fabrics, threads, beads, and her hands, and she has maintained an active fiber art studio since 2000. Lisa has taught fiber art workshops throughout the U.S. since 2007 and also teaches internationally. Her award-winning artwork has been selected for national and international exhibitions including those of the American Quilters' Society, the International Quilt Association, CraftForms, Crafts National, QSDS, Wisconsin Artists Biennial, and many others. Lisa and her artwork have been featured on local and national television and in internationally distributed books and magazines. Her art is represented in public, private, and corporate collections. Lisa loves sharing her passion for fiber art and beads through her artwork, classes, and lectures. She and her husband, artist Ed Binkley, have two young-adult children. Lisa and Ed live in the woods of Madison, Wisconsin, with their big fluffy dog.



A NOTE FROM LISA –

“It is such a treat for me to be returning to teach again for NSNG. In the nearly 20 years I’ve been teaching I’ve had the privilege and delight of teaching a variety of topics for the Guild over many years. You truly are the benchmark for what guilds can be — filled with creative, caring, energetic members who work in a wide array of media and who bring enthusiasm, fearless creativity, and good humor to your work and workshops.

My Embellished Reliquaries workshop is very dear to me because much of my own artwork has been in this mode. I love the mix of media we use, the artistic and engineering/architectural challenges that come with working in 3D and in this way, and the personal meaning that each artist can bring to what they create.

I’m really looking forward to this time together in June!”

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

IN-PERSON 4-DAY WORKSHOP:

Embellished Reliquaries

FEE: \$310

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 1133 Pflugston Rd, Northbrook

Mon, June 2: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Tues, June 3: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Wed, June 4: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Thurs, June 5: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

In this mixed-media workshop students begin with a special object of their choosing—a small sculpture, piece of jewelry, shell, stone, photograph, personal symbol, etc.—and then design and build a small, adorned box/frame/reliquary to house the treasured object. Using fabric, bead embroidery, hand stitching, paint, and dimensional embellishment techniques, each student creates her/his unique reliquary from a wooden cigar box, acrylic paints, and a wide variety of fiber art materials. This workshop is open to students of all levels of hand stitching experience.

These supplies are provided:

- Small, hinged, wooden cigar box (about 7" w x 8" h x 2" d)
- Foam core for building structural detail within boxes
- Glue, acrylic paints and sandpaper
- Detailed booklet with color illustrations



Samples of student projects.

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.

2026 CALENDAR

NSNG Meetings are held at 9:30 am (CT) on Tuesday mornings at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 1133 Pflingston, Northbrook, followed by a 2.5 day workshop.

All are also offered on Zoom, with January and February meetings and workshops on ZOOM only.

• **Feb 3: Ana Buzzalino, *From Blueprint to Thread: Architecture as Inspiration***
VIRTUAL Workshop Feb 3-5:

Acrylic Skins and Monoprinting: From Basics to Sophistication

• **Feb 10:** Online presentation.
Basic stabilizers for sewing and embroidery with Susan Couch

• **March 3: Lois Russell,**
Yeah . . . But Is It a Basket?

Workshop March 3-5: *Coiled Basketry*

• **March 3, 1 to 3pm:** *Button and bead mosaics* mini workshop with Marla Florio

• **April 7: Youngmin Lee,**
Bojagi, The Art of Wrapping Cloths

Workshop April 7-9:

The Many Faces of Bojagi

• **April 7, 1 to 3pm:** *Little crafty sheep* mini with Natasha Lehrer Lewis

• **May 5: Pat Pauly, *Challenge Yourself***
Workshop May 5-7:

Within The Frame: Improvisational Piecing a Center Medallion

• **Summer Seminar: June 2-5:**

Lisa Binkley, *Embellished Reliquaries*

• **July 21: Summer Potluck/Member Challenge**

Meeting Dates for 2026-2027

Artists and workshops will be announced in the April newsletter

- Sept 1, workshop Sept 1-3
- Oct 6, workshop Oct 6-8
- Nov 10, workshop Nov 10-12
- Dec 1: Holiday Potluck/Member Sale
- Jan 5, 2027, virtual workshop Jan 5-7
- Feb 2, virtual workshop Feb 2-4
- March 2, workshop March 2-4
- April 13, workshop April 13-15
- May 4, workshop May 4-6
- July 20: Summer Potluck/Member Challenge

• **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, www.nsng.org. 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.

• **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

• **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 – 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

• **IN-PERSON EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS** are held at **Gloria Dei Lutheran Church** (1133 Pflingston 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.

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1st Vice-President
2nd Vice-President
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