

IN THE STUDIO ONLINE WORKSHOP WEEK 2025

Welcome to **In the Studio Workshop Week 2025 (WW2025)**. We are excited to offer ___ workshops and talks. Everything is new this time around! None will run concurrently so that you may register for as many as you wish.



Our formats include:

- *Talks*, which run about one hour and cost \$25;
- *1-Session Workshops*, which run between two and three hours and cost \$65; and
- *2-session workshops*, which cost \$95.

All classes will be held online via Zoom. Zoom link will be sent to you by your instructor via email prior to the class. Please read through the class descriptions carefully, and if you have any questions or would like to register, email the instructor of the class directly.

- Note that by registering for any WW2025 classes, your email address may be shared with all instructors for the purpose of organization and follow-up. You will not be added to any mailing lists unless you request it.
- All workshops will be taught in English.
- One paid registration = one participant.
- Before you register for a workshop, make sure that you know the teacher's refund policy. After registering, if you find that you cannot attend a class, please contact that instructor.

BONUS EVENTS

All registered students are eligible for the three bonus Workshop Week events:

WW2025 GUEST SPEAKER-

Sunday, February 9, 4:00 PM Eastern

PLAYING WITH FIBER AND CLAY
with April DeConick

In this lecture, the artist will share her journey from a rug crafter to an interdisciplinary artist who uses fiber and clay as her canvases. She will share her thoughts on the art world, the challenges that face fiber artists, and the use of media that are typically considered "crafty" to create abstract fine art.

April DeConick is an abstract expressionist who uses fiber and clay as her "canvases." She is also a professor of the study of religion at Rice University (2006-). After decades of writing about mysticism and gnosticism, she has found that words often are inadequate to communicate the deepest aspects of reality. She has turned to abstract art to express this wonder. In her



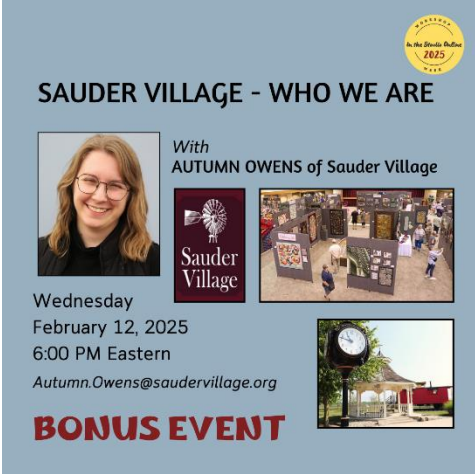
interdisciplinary practice, she plays with the intersection of touch and visual aesthetics in order to convey the sensation of “hygge (who-gah),” the feeling of comfort, care, and companionship. She intends her pieces to inspire us to cultivate a culture of care for ourselves, each other, and the planet we share. She operates Studio 220 in The Silos at Sawyer Yards, Houston, Texas, and is represented by The Ardest Gallery in The Woodlands, Texas. Her work has been exhibited by Surface Design Association, Lawndale Art Center, Fiber Art Takes Two, Women in the Visual and Literary Arts, the Art League of Houston, and Sawyer Yards. Website: <https://www.aprildeconick.art/>. Instagram: @aprildeconickart.

SAUDER VILLAGE CHAT

Wednesday, February 12, 6:00 PM Eastern

Learn more about Sauder Village, the living history museum that plans and produces the annual Rug Hooking Week event! Join Autumn Owens, Event Planner, for a fun overview of the Historic Village and all the fantastic activities that happen year-round on campus. There will be a short Q&A, so come prepared with all your burning questions!

(Ask about the ice cream...) Find out more about Sauder Village at <https://saudervillage.org/>.



SAUDER VILLAGE - WHO WE ARE

With
AUTUMN OWENS of Sauder Village

Wednesday
February 12, 2025
6:00 PM Eastern
Autumn.Owens@saudervillage.org

BONUS EVENT

WW2024 SHOW & TELL GATHERING

Sunday, February 16, 4:00 – 5:30 PM Eastern

You are cordially invited to join the WW2025 instructors and students for an online gathering Sunday, February 16, 4:00 – 5:30 PM Eastern. This is a time and place to chat, to show off artwork begun during WW, to work on a piece in progress, or to just sit back and listen to the conversation. The Zoom link will be sent by teachers to all students the day before the Gathering.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

W = Workshop; T = Talk

Thursday, February 6

1:00 PM	Hooking and Stitching with Sari Silk (W)	4
6:00 PM	Looping the Techniques: From Hooking to Punch Needle to Tufting (T)	5

Friday, February 7

1:00 PM	Before and After Braiding Comes Hooking (W)	6
---------	---	---

Saturday, February 8

1:00 PM	Creating a Value-Based Portrait from a Photograph (W)	7
---------	---	---

Sunday, February 9

1:00 PM	Eco-Printing: Discover Nature's Palette (T)	9
---------	---	---

4:00 PM	<i>Playing with Fiber and Clay with April DeConick (Guest Speaker)</i>	1
---------	--	---

Monday, February 10

1:00 PM	Sketching and Designing for Your Rug (W)	10
---------	--	----

6:00 PM	I Made This... Now What? (T)	11
---------	------------------------------	----

Tuesday, February 11

1:00 PM	Whole Creative Living: A 2-Part Workshop for Artists Moving Beyond Burnout (W)	12
---------	--	----

6:00 PM	Color Sense Or Color Wheel? (T)	13
---------	---------------------------------	----

Wednesday, February 12

1:00 PM	How to Exhibit Your Work (W)	15
---------	------------------------------	----

6:00 PM	Sauder Village – Who We Are	2
---------	-----------------------------	---

Thursday, February 13

1:00 PM	Small But Mighty: The Power of Working Small (W)	16
---------	--	----

6:00 PM	Prairie Alphabet Project - an Adventure in Nature and Fibre (T)	17
---------	---	----

Friday, February 14

1:00 PM	Circle, Rectangle, Triangle (W)	18
---------	---------------------------------	----

Saturday, February 15

1:00 PM	Wet Felting a 3-Dimensional Form (W)	19
---------	--------------------------------------	----

Sunday, February 16

1:00 PM	Make Your Own Backing with a Pin Loom (T)	21
---------	---	----

4:00 PM	<i>SHOW & TELL GATHERING</i>	2
---------	----------------------------------	---

CLASS SPECIFICS

**HOOKING AND STITCHING
WITH SARI SILK**

With
DAWN LIU-SMYTH

Thursday
February 6, 2025
1:00 PM Eastern
heartfeltfibre@gmail.com

HOOKING AND STITCHING WITH SARI SILK

With Dawn Liu-Smyth

Thursday, February 6; 1:00 PM Eastern

Second session date and time TBD

WORKSHOP description

Using silk ribbon derived from sari-making waste in India has recently become popular with rug hookers. Available in many beautiful colours, the silk adds sheen and texture. It's versatile and fun to hook with.

In this two-part Zoom workshop (2 hours per session), participants will learn about the history and characteristics of

sari silk. You'll hook with it and incorporate several creative stitches.

Dawn will use a sampler kit (available for \$35 Canadian or to be sourced by student) to teach various stitches, including Shisha mirror embroidery, woven wheel, and the Hungarian braided chain stitch. When completed, the sampler will make a perfect pillow or bag front.

Length of class: 2 hours per each of 2 sessions

Number of students: minimum 4, maximum 8

Who should attend?

Students should have basic rug hooking skills.

Materials needed

Hook, hoop or frame, scissors, tapestry needle

- Sari silk ribbon in at least 5 colours
- Foundation cloth/backing (approx. 20"x20," primitive linen or rug warp)
- Round craft mirror (2-4" inches)

Dawn will provide a PDF sampler pattern to students.

Students can also contact Dawn to purchase supplies and/or a kit directly.

Class fee \$95 US

For more information or to register, please contact Dawn at heartfeltfibre@gmail.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Dawn Liu-Smyth

Dawn Liu-Smyth is a Toronto-based fibre artist who has been rug hooking for more than 12 years. She has a special interest in designing with technology and incorporating alternative fibres in her hooking.

Dawn is an Ontario Hooking Craft Guild-certified teacher and belongs to rug hooking guilds around the greater Toronto area. She also owns a fibre arts supply business: www.heartfeltfibrearts.com.



LOOPING THE TECHNIQUES:
From Hooking to Punch Needle to Tufting



With
ANASTASIA TILLER



Thursday
February 6, 2025
6:00 PM Eastern
anatiller@gmail.com

LOOPING THE TECHNIQUES: FROM HOOKING TO PUNCH NEEDLE TO TUFTING with Anastasia Tiller

Thursday, February 6; 6:00 PM Eastern

LECTURE description

Anastasia will introduce the audience to her decision-making process for choosing a technique to best convey a conception. Early in the session, she will share images that demonstrate the techniques as well as her personal experiences working with a traditional hook, a punch needle, and tufting equipment. Each approach presents its own challenges and benefits. Afterwards, Anastasia will lead a relaxed and

informal discussion with participants about their own experiences and concerns.

Students may submit questions to Anastasia ahead of the talk.

Length of talk: 1 hour

Number of students: minimum 5, maximum 25

Who should attend?

Anyone looking to explore any or all of these fibre art techniques.

Lecture fee \$25 US

For more information or to register, please contact Anastasia at anatiller@gmail.com.

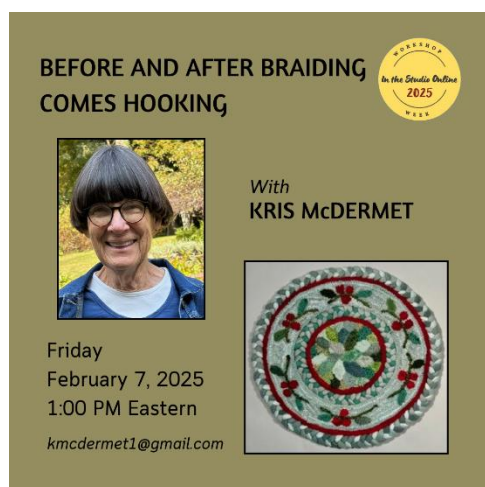
An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Anastasia Tiller

Anastasia Tiller is a multidisciplinary artist based on Bonavista Peninsula in Newfoundland and Labrador and has been exhibiting her work in Canada and internationally since 2008. She takes a fun and whimsical new spin on the traditional Newfoundland and Labrador art of rug hooking. Hooking was a craft taken up by Tiller during the long winters in Newfoundland. With a fantastical approach to ocean creatures, the imagery is a playful departure from traditional methods. Loops of theatricality, bright pops of colour, and a flagrant optimism exude from these textile creatures which seek to brighten up the foggy or snowy days.

Tiller is influenced by flora and fauna as well as a rich geological history of Newfoundland and Labrador and Bonavista Peninsula in particular.

Tiller is actively involved in the provincial visual arts community as an art teacher as well as being a member of the Visual Artists Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors in the past and an active member of the organization presently. Among her notable exhibitions are *Loops to Live By* collective exhibition at the Rooms Provincial Art Museum and Archives 2019, *Room for Happiness* solo exhibition at the Craft Council of Newfoundland and Labrador 2020, installation *Symbiosis* at the Bonavista Biennale 2023, and *Symbiosis* solo exhibition at the Elora Center for the Arts in Ontario. Anastasia is a recipient of the Arts and Letters Award in 2023 in the senior artist category.



BEFORE AND AFTER BRAIDING COMES HOOKING

With
KRIS McDERMET

Friday
February 7, 2025
1:00 PM Eastern
kmcdermet1@gmail.com

WORKSHOP
In the Studio Online
2025

**BEFORE AND AFTER BRAIDING COMES HOOKING
With Kris McDermet**

Friday, February 7; 1:00 PM Eastern

Second session date and time TBD

WORKSHOP description

Learn to create an interesting and beautiful combination Hooked and Braided Wreath Mat. The final size will be 13-14 inches in diameter and suitable for a table mat or chair pad. It can also be enlarged for a floor rug, if preferred.

Class 1

Learn to braid one row on a 6-inch hooked or punched mat.

Students will come to class with a 6-inch hooked/punched mat that they will pad and line. Kris will send instructions to students for padding/lining and for tearing braiding wool into strips.

Class 2

Students will bring to class their 1.5-2-inch wide hooked or punched wreath that they will pad and line before class. You will learn how to attach the wreath to the hooked/punched and braided center made during the first class. The final part of the class will include adding a final row of braid and joining the ends together.

Note that Kris and all students may determine that a third session is warranted. This and any additional costs will be discussed during Session 2. Also, if you attended Kris's WW2024 Braiding Social Issues class, and have completed your small, hooked pieces, this class will work for you. Talk to Kris.

Length of class: 2-3 hours per 2-3 sessions

Number of students: 4 minimum, 8 maximum

Who should take this course?

Students should have basic rug hooking skills. There is also hand sewing involved in this class.

Materials needed

Kris will provide a list of materials to students upon registration, but all should come to class with a round, 6-inch in diameter hooked or punched mat.

Class fee: \$95 US

For more information or to register, please contact Kris at kmcdermet1@gmail.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Kris McDermet

Kris began braiding and hooking in the late 1970's. Her greatest interest is in combining the two art forms to make interesting shapes for the wall or floor. The colors, designs, and textures of hand-dyed and "as is" wool, charmeuse silk, and silk and wool yarns complement both mediums. She's developed a joining technique to create endless design and textural possibilities, so that the delicacy of the hooking is set off by the boldness of the braiding.

Kris is a member of the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild (and a Board member!), ATHA (Association of Traditional Hooking Artists), TIGHR (The International Guild of Handhooking Rugmakers), VFRBG (Valley Forge Rug Braiding Guild). She's also part of a lovely rug social group in her hometown in Vermont.

Learn more about Kris's work at <https://www.krismcdermet.com/>.

THE VALUE OF VALUES

With
WENDIE SCOTT DAVIS

Saturday
February 8, 2025
1:00 PM Eastern
wendie.scottdavis@gmail.com

Workshop
In the Studio Online
2025

CREATING A VALUE-BASED PORTRAIT FROM A PHOTOGRAPH With Wendie Scott Davis

Saturday, February 8; 1:00 PM Eastern

WORKSHOP description

Whether you are a painter, a stitcher, a quilter or a rug hooker, creating a good likeness of a photo depends more on value than anything else. Including colour.

No matter the subject matter, if the values are not correct, it will look wrong.

Correct values allow you to capture the image and create shape, perspective and make it look realistic.

The easiest way to see values is to convert your image to a black and white version, so you can clearly see the values, without the distraction of colour. On a monochrome value scale, you can see the different values of white, light gray, middle gray, dark gray, and black.

And that is what this workshop is all about.

Ahead of the workshop, you will send Wendie a photo you would like to interpret in your chosen fibre art. She will email all the tools needed to create a value-based, black and white version of your photo.

During the workshop, you will discuss the importance of values, and Wendie will show you all the steps she took to get your materials ready for you to create your piece.

She will also give a brief overview of actually hooking and stitching the various values in your work, colour planning, dealing with direction (in fur, for instance), eyes, and so on.

Note: There will be no hooking during this workshop. It is all about getting ready to move forward.

Length of class: 2-3 hours

Number of students: minimum 4, maximum 12

Who should attend this workshop?

Anyone interested in how to better capture the likeness of a photo in order to create a representation in their fiber art.

Materials needed

All students will email to Wendie a photograph that they would like to use for this class. Because Wendie must communicate with and do extensive digital pre-work (2-3 hours) for each student, there will be a \$35 US “materials” fee that should be remitted to Wendie along with the registration fee.

Note that Wendie and all students may determine that a second session is warranted. This and any additional costs will be discussed during the workshop.

Workshop fee \$65 US

For more information or to register, please contact Wendie at wendie.scottdavis@gmail.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Wendie Scott Davis

Something about rug hooking captured my soul in my very first loop and continues to romance me some 20 years later. It’s the community. It’s the creativity. It’s the artistic expression. It’s the joy.

Since becoming a certified OHCG teacher in 2006, teaching has become a favourite part of my hooking life, right up there with designing my own patterns. I love working with rug hookers who are eager to come along with me on my various explorations and classes.

I incorporate lots of tips and tricks to use technology in virtually every step of my mat-making, and I love sharing that knowledge with people who are curious to learn.

ECO-PRINTING: DISCOVER NATURE'S PALETTE




With
DAWN LIU-SMYTH



Sunday
February 9, 2025
1:00 PM Eastern
heartfeltfibre@gmail.com

ECO-PRINTING – DISCOVER NATURE'S PALETTE
With Dawn Liu-Smyth

Sunday, February 9; 1:00 PM Eastern

LECTURE description

Eco-printing, also referred to as *Botanical Print Transfer*, is a process in which the tannins from leaves and other foliage are encouraged to release and permanently print onto fabric or other textiles.

During this 1-hour Zoom lecture, Dawn will share her personal journey through this exciting fibre art. She will provide an overview of the eco-printing process complete with samples,

images, video clips, and simple instructions. There will be time reserved at the end to take questions.

Length of lecture: 1 hour

Number of students: minimum 6

Who should take this course?

Anyone interested in natural dyeing.

Workshop fee \$25 US


For more information or to register, please contact Dawn at heartfeltfibre@gmail.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Dawn Liu-Smyth



Dawn Liu-Smyth is a Toronto-based fibre artist who has been rug hooking for more than 12 years. She has a special interest in designing with technology and incorporating alternative fibres in her hooking. Dawn is an Ontario Hooking Craft Guild-certified teacher and belongs to rug hooking guilds around the greater Toronto area. She also owns a fibre arts supply business: www.heartfeltfibrearts.com.

**SKETCHING AND DESIGNING
FOR YOUR RUG**



Monday
February 10, 2025
1:00 PM Eastern
kbentleypottery@yahoo.com

With
KIMBERLY BENTLEY

SKETCHING AND DESIGNING FOR YOUR RUG

With Kim Bentley

Monday, February 10; 1:00 PM Eastern

WORKSHOP description

In this course, students will focus on using zine-making as a tool to develop and improve sketching abilities and design-making skills. These designs will then be applied to rug-making. For those wondering, a zine is a self-published magazine that's gained popularity among artists seeking an alternative platform for sharing their work.

By participating in this workshop, students will have the opportunity to explore the creative processes behind rug

design. You'll also expand your creative intelligence and stimulate your imagination.

Items covered in this class:

- Where do ideas come from?
- Drawing techniques
- Making a zine.

Length of class: 2-3 hours

Number of students: 5 minimum, 15 maximum

Who should attend this lecture?

Anyone interested in learning some drawing techniques which can be added to their design toolbox. And their imagination! Those wanting to explore zine creation.

Materials needed

A sketchbook or paper; markers or colored pencils; rug backing if you wish to transfer your design(s).

Class fee \$65 US

For more information or to register, please contact Kim at kbentleypottery@yahoo.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Kimberly Bentley

Kimberly Bentley is an artist, sculptor, activist, and arts educator based in Maine, known for her unique approach that intertwines art with social commentary. Her artistic vision is influenced by the aesthetics and themes of 1970s horror movies, which she merges with feminist ideals and the principles of "craftivism" — a movement that uses craft as a means of activism and social change.

Kimberly holds a BA from the University of Maine in Augusta and a MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts in Montpelier. Kimberly has early memories of making things with her hands. She spent considerable time in and out of the hospital due to asthma, which she believes fostered her desire to create, as she often found herself alone with her imagination and television.

Kimberly is a Part-Time Lecturer of Art at the University of Southern Maine, where she teaches the *Art of Creativity*, and at the Southern Maine Community College in South Portland, where she teaches drawing classes.

I MADE THIS...NOW WHAT?

With
REBECCA MARTIN

Monday
February 10, 2025
6:00 PM Eastern
Rebecca@
storytellerwool.com

I MADE THIS...NOW WHAT? with Rebecca Martin

Monday, February 10; 6:00 PM Eastern

LECTURE description

It's not long into our fiber arts journey that we begin to accumulate projects with no firm home. What do we do with all the wonderful small pieces we made as part of a class? What about the mid-sized to even large works? Display and decor ideas, gifts and wearable fiber arts - learn the many ways your projects, large and small, can find a functional and beautiful home. In this one-hour lecture, we will explore display options for your work and dive into the details of how to attach fiber art to different objects, wall display options,

and much more.

Length of class: 1 hour

Number of students: minimum 6

Who should take this course?

Anyone interested in learning how fiber artworks can be displayed.

Materials needed

NA

Lecture fee \$25 US

For more information or to register, please contact Rebecca at rebecca@storytellerwool.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Rebecca Martin

Rebecca is a passionate fiber artist, educator, and writer based in Longmont, Colorado. Her studio is filled with all things wool, however, rug hooking takes center stage. She is a certified Oxford Punch Needle Rug Hooking instructor and a McGown certified teacher in traditional rug hooking. Rebecca teaches locally and online and has taught at Sauder and the ATHA conventions. She has written articles for *Rug Hooking Magazine*, the *ATHA magazine* and *Magpie Times*. In the fall of 2023 her book *Rug Hooking in Harmony* was published. When not hooking, teaching, or writing, Rebecca can be found hovering over her dye pots, creating rug yarn for her company [StoryTeller Wool](http://StoryTellerWool.com).

WHOLE CREATIVE LIVING:
A 2-Part Workshop for Artists Moving Beyond Burnout

With
FAYE D'AVANZA

Tuesdays
Feb. 11 and 18, 2025
1:00 PM Eastern

faye@fayedavanza.com




**WHOLE CREATIVE LIVING:
A 2-Part Workshop for Artists Moving Beyond Burnout
With Faye D'Avanza**

**Tuesday, February 11; 1:00-3:00 PM Eastern
Tuesday, February 18; 1:00-3:00 PM Eastern**

WORKSHOP description

"You may run out of energy, but not creativity." —Rick Rubin

Do you ever feel like a broken clock? Gears stuck, springs unwound, the weight of the world creating too much pressure? As creatives, our relationship with stress is deeply intertwined with our art, influencing our lives in ways that can

both move us forward or stop time completely. Burnout happens when we get stuck in the stress cycle and no longer have the energy to move through life and the creative process the way we once did. Without the gentle rhythm from our internal creative clock—your unique beat that guides your body to feel and make sense of the world—our vitality begins to fade; we become less heart and more head. We may no longer recognize ourselves, grasping for self-care quick fixes to lives lived without user guides or repair manuals. How then, we ask, does one begin to mend the harmful effects of living in modern time?

In this workshop for the chronically stressed, anxious, and burned out among us, we explore the energetic cycles of rest, digest, play, and create that are vital to your well-being as an artist living in the 21st-century. Through writing, reflection, and somatic practices, you will identify where you get stuck in the parallel cycles of stress and creativity, and, as a group, we will nourish each other to create the momentum we need to ritualize the winding of our creative clocks and begin to move through our cycles with less stress and more peace.

This workshop draws from the research, wisdom, and inspiration found in literature, including [Burnout](#) and [The Burnout Workbook](#) both by Emily Nagoski, PhD, and Amelia Nagoski, DMA. In time, and with the support of others, you will once again embody the values most important to you as you begin to be well, create, and thrive on the path of your whole creative life.

Length of class: 2 hours (each session)

Number of students: minimum 8, maximum 24

Who should attend this lecture?

Anyone wishing to repair their relationship with creativity, stress, anxiety, or burnout. Anyone interested in taking part in a creative community to find support and healing.

Class fee \$95 US

Materials needed

Required: notebook and pen. Ability to print worksheets/handouts/readings from the instructor and/or view them on a digital device.

Optional: Purchase *Burnout* or *The Burnout Workbook* by Emily Nagoski and Amelia Nagoski from my [Bookshop](#).

Register through the instructor's website jfayedavanza.com/workshops. For questions email: faye@jfayedavanza.com.

About Faye D'Avanza

J. Faye D'Avanza is a writer, holistic librarian, creative consultant and facilitator who is known for helping people find their path toward living a more sustainable (whole) creative life. The founder of Library of Care, she curates and creates resources for creative well-being, growth, and discovery, teaches writing and creativity workshops, leads personal growth and creativity book groups, and supports authors, artists, healers, and helpers in connecting their soul-fired work to communities of care. Serving as a mental health-informed guide, Faye shares stories and tools to help you be well, create, and thrive in her Substack newsletter *Keeping Creative Time*. Her personal mission is to expand our understanding of creativity, connection, and well-being through clarity, change, and growth. She lives among the tourists, trees, and mountains of Asheville, North Carolina, and can often be found drinking a matcha latte and writing in the margins of her books.

COLOR SENSE OR COLOR WHEEL?

With **SANDRA BROWN**

Tuesday
February 11, 2025
6:00 PM Eastern
Pghframe@aol.com

Workshop
In the Studio Online
2025
Week

COLOR SENSE OR COLOR WHEEL? With Sandra Brown

Tuesday, February 11; 6:00 PM Eastern

LECTURE description

How can we use our eye for color and not rely on color wheels since they are essentially a fiction (handy for some things, not for creating stuff)? What does “having an eye for color” actually mean, and how can we develop our own preferences?

We should recognize the applicability of this “eye for color” to every aspect of our lives, not just our art and crafts. And we can nurture this gift through color exercises in our everyday

lives that expand our color sensibilities and ability to make good color choices.

Our goals in this presentation include:

- Opening up our thinking about the color wheel and its limitations, using slides and other art sources;
- Discussing the “color sense” those drawn to the arts and crafts already have;
- Discussing ways to improve/develop one’s eye for color, depending on the preferred medium; and
- Using your eye for color to the max in your own craft/art.

Length of talk: 1 hour

Number of students: minimum 3

Who should take this course?

Anyone interested in learning about their innate color sense. Anyone lacking confidence when it comes to color planning...anything, but especially their own art.

Lecture fee \$25 US

For more information or to register, please contact Sandra at Pghframe@aol.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Sandra Brown

Sandra Brown is a McGown certified rug hooking teacher and fiber artist who has been rug hooking for 43 years and teaching for 36 years. Her rugs have been featured six times in *Celebrations of Hand-Hooked Rugs* and include the Readers' Choice award for "House at Night" in 2001; in 2022 she was inducted into the Rug Hooking Hall of Fame.

She's on the Editorial Board of *Rug Hooking Magazine* and is an author of nearly 20 articles on various aspects of the craft, including dyeing protein fibers, color planning, and approaching various techniques and themes in rug hooking. Her YouTube videos on dyeing and hooking have been viewed by thousands.

Sandra has received awards for her use of color and compositional themes, including three "Best of Show" awards at Sauder Village. She gives workshops on geometrics, florals, pictorials, dyeing and use of light in hooked rugs and is also the inventor of the Pittsburgh Crafting Frame.

She currently offers workshops at her Studio/Guesthouse for small groups interested in hands-on learning. Her REAL specialty is getting students to the place they want to be in their finished piece.

HOW TO EXHIBIT YOUR WORK



With
SUSAN FELLER



Stories are Made Loop by Loop



Wednesday
February 12, 2025
1:00 PM Eastern

rugs2wv@gmail.com

HOW TO EXHIBIT YOUR WORK

With Susan Feller

Wednesday, February 12; 1:00 PM Eastern

WORKSHOP description

Are you interested in entering juried art shows or curating an exhibit for a public space? This workshop will address the steps for:

- preparing to submit a proposal to a museum or gallery;
- what material you will need besides good quality images of your artwork;
- how long a lead time to anticipate in scheduling;

- how to approach venues; and
- and how to market the show.

I have curated exhibits for decades with one currently traveling for 18 months to four museums. The lessons learned along the way and my observations can help you enter art shows and even create a full exhibit.

Time ahead will be spent with each registrant via zoom to identify specific interests and level of readiness. Even if you aren't ready for a museum show, perhaps there is a library exhibit coming up?

See the digital catalog for traveling exhibit here

https://issuu.com/susanfeller/docs/2024_stories_are_made_loop_by_loop

Length of class: 2-3 hours

Number of students: minimum 1, maximum 8

Who should take this course?

Anyone interested in exhibiting their artwork in any capacity.

Materials needed

List will be provided upon registration.

Class fee \$65 US

For more information or to register, please contact Susan at rugs2wv@gmail.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Susan Feller

Susan L. Feller is the author of *Design Basics for Rug Hookers* (2011, Stackpole Books). Her work has received national awards and is in museums and private collections. She lives in West Virginia and advocates for the Appalachian Region with her artwork, along with promoting other artists. Learn more at SusanFeller.com.

**SMALL BUT MIGHTY,
THE POWER OF WORKING SMALL**

With
LIZ BESSEL

Thursday
February 13, 2025
1:00 PM Eastern
anattiller@gmail.com

SMALL BUT MIGHTY, THE POWER OF WORKING SMALL With Liz Bessel

Thursday, February 13; 1:00 PM Eastern

WORKSHOP description

In this class, we explore the immense power of working on a small scale. Using a thumbnail approach, we'll focus on creating projects no larger than 4 x 4 inches. This compact format is a versatile and effective tool for artists of all kinds, from rug hookers and quilters to embroidery artists and beyond.

Whether you're looking to refine your composition skills, experiment with value structures, or try out new techniques, this class offers the perfect opportunity to dive in without committing a lot of time or materials. Working small allows you to test ideas quickly, make bold choices, and explore new creative possibilities in a manageable way.

Throughout the course, you'll create three small works, which can either relate to each other or stand alone as independent pieces. You'll have the freedom to choose your preferred techniques, whether you're trying something new, revisiting an old method, or simply seeking to open up new avenues for composition and creative exploration.

These small works can serve as studies that inform larger pieces or series, or they may become complete, self-contained works of art. The possibilities are limitless!

Join me for an inspiring and supportive class where we can learn, experiment, and create together. I look forward to seeing the unique and exciting outcomes we'll all bring to life.

Length of workshop: approximately 2-3 hours

Number of students: minimum 4, maximum 10

Who should attend this lecture?

Anyone looking to experiment on a small scale with any fiber arts technique(s). Students should be proficient (enough) in the techniques they choose to use.

Materials needed

Students should bring items specific to their preferred fiber arts technique(s). This might include:

-Hooking frame or embroidery hoop

-Wool strips, yarns, sari silk. You may also want embroidery floss, pearl cotton, and a variety of fabric scraps.

-Pins, scissors, thimble if desired.

-Rug hook or punch needle if you are hooking.

-A base fabric about 20 x 20 inches. Either monk's cloth or linen, muslin or a low value fabric.

-Cardboard templates in the following sizes. 2x2 inches, 3x3 inches and 4x4 inches. You can make these from cereal boxes etc.

- A playful, open spirit. We're going to have some fun!

Class fee \$65 US


For more information or to register, please contact Liz at lizbessel@gmail.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Liz Bessel

Liz Bessel is a lifelong textile enthusiast whose creative journey began at a young age, piecing scraps of fabric together and never looking back. Over the years, Liz has expanded her repertoire to include knitting, crochet, rug hooking, and embroidery, approaching each craft with intention and mindfulness. She is deeply attuned to the “why” and “what” behind every stitch, seeing the process as an opportunity for both technical exploration and personal reflection.

Liz is fascinated by the transformative power of hand stitching, believing that it has the ability to reveal hidden thoughts and emotions. To her, the act of making is a form of storytelling, one that allows us to express our inner worlds through our hands. She encourages students to embrace the process, trusting that their hands will reveal the stories of their lives, one stitch at a time. Find out more about Liz at lizbessel.com.



**PRAIRIE ALPHABET PROJECT -
an Adventure In Nature and Fibre**

With
SHELLY NICOLLE-PHILLIPS

Thursday
February 13, 2025
6:00 PM Eastern
hookedontheprairies@gmail.com

PRAIRIE ALPHABET PROJECT – an Adventure in Nature and Fibre With Shelly Nicolle-Phillips

Thursday, February 13; 6:00 PM Eastern

LECTURE description:

The Prairie Alphabet Project highlights and celebrates the precious native prairie found in Saskatchewan and across Western Canada. This project began in 2021, and took almost two years to come to life. The inspiration came from Shelly's desire to learn more about the native prairie and the grasslands ecosystem and the plants and animals that depend on it.

Native prairie is in a precarious state and needs to be protected. Many birds, plants and animals rely on this ecosystem and as it declines, the risk that these species are lost forever increases. Grasslands are one of the most threatened ecosystems in the world and hold great cultural, spiritual, recreational, environmental and economic significance.

Each letter highlights a species that is important to the grasslands and this critical ecosystem. The pieces are made using traditional rug hooking technique. They are hooked on burlap or linen using a variety of wools and natural materials.

In this lecture, Shelly will talk about the project and each of the letters, the inspiration and significance of each selection, and the project over all. She will also discuss her background in rug hooking and how it has impacted her life and connection to family history.

The Prairie Alphabet Project has been displayed publicly and featured in several news and other publications. In 2024, the Alphabet was acquired by the Saskatchewan Arts Board as a part of their permanent collection. More information about the project can be found at: <https://www.hookedontheprairies.ca/selected-work>

Length of talk: 1 hour

Number of students: minimum 6

Who should take this course?

Anyone who's interested in how the arts, and rug hooking specifically, can educate and highlight our natural environment and other issues.

Lecture fee \$25 US

For more information or to register, please contact Shelly at hookedontheprairies@gmail.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Shelly Nicolle-Phillips

Shelly grew up on the east coast of Canada and moved west to Regina, Saskatchewan, the heart of the Canadian Prairies in 2002. She first picked up a hook in 2015, and while she is largely self-taught, genetics may also be at play as her paternal grandmother was also a rug hooker and hooked beautiful rugs to keep the farmhouse floors warm.

Drawing on the traditional rug hooking technique, Shelly uses the texture and colours of natural fibres to explore the prairie landscape. While the prairie landscape is a strong influence, any landscape she finds herself in is creative inspiration.

Sharing the craft of rug hooking through teaching is a rewarding part of her art journey. She has a deep belief that creating art has therapeutic benefits and that everyone can benefit from finding their own creative outlet.

Shelly is a juried member of the Saskatchewan Craft Council and has had her work in solo and group shows. Shelly's Prairie Alphabet Project was featured in a number of publications and was recently acquired by the Saskatchewan Arts Board as part of their permanent collection.

CIRCLE, RECTANGLE, TRIANGLE



With
CHARLIE DALTON





Friday
February 14, 2025
1:00 PM Eastern
charlievdalton@gmail.com

CIRCLE, RECTANGLE, TRIANGLE with Charlie Dalton

Friday, February 14; 1:00 PM Eastern

WORKSHOP description

This is a great class for someone who wants to get better at hooking basics (straight lines, turning corners, hooking circles), for someone who wants to step out of the comfort zone of a printed pattern, and/or for someone who's looking for a creative break. Charlie will explore design fundamentals using the three basic geometric shapes of the circle, rectangle and triangle. He'll also share his daily ritual of using these shapes to brainstorm new design ideas in the hopes of inspiring students'

own regular practices.

In class, Charlie will discuss his morning routine. Sketchbooks and daily drawing are cornerstones of his practice; the former will give you an idea of what he goes through to develop his ideas. Charlie will also present some computer programs that he finds useful.

You will hook on a 10" x 12" piece of backing. Charlie will use 6-cuts for the majority of the work, and 3-cuts for lines. It's up to the student to devise their own process and constraints, but work will be confined into a specific space using circles, rectangles, and triangles. The vision of the artist will dictate how they manipulate and interpret the shapes and color choices.

Disclaimer: During the brainstorming session, Thelonious Monk will be playing in the background.

Goals of workshop:

- To learn design basics and how they apply to abstract art;
- To design something unique;
- To begin to produce a unique piece of artwork;
- To become familiar with upcycling fabric; and
- To have fun

Length of class: 3 hours

Number of students: minimum 3, maximum 15

Who should take this course?

Anyone interested in learning some drawing techniques which can be added to their design toolbox.

Class fee \$65 US

For more information or to register, please contact Charlie at charlievdalton@gmail.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Charlie Dalton

Charlie Dalton, aka The Hooking Colonel, is a former Spanish teacher who now lives in Price, Utah. He learned to hook from his mother-in-law, Cass Gannaway, while teaching in Sewanee, Tennessee.

Charlie likes geometrics and enjoys incorporating his drawings inspired by Alma Thomas into the rugs that he hooks. Once upon a time, he started creating animal rugs to give to friends mourning the passing of pets, and over time his work developed into the cosmic pups that he hooks today. Charlie credits a close circle of friends with some special pups for being the impetus for his well known pet portraits. You can learn more about Charlie and see his work on [Instagram @thehookingcolonel](#).

WET FELTING A 3-D FORM

With
YVONNE ITEN-SCOTT

Saturday
February 15, 2025
1:00 PM Eastern
itenscott@aim.com

WET FELTING A 3-D FORM With Yvonne Iten-Scott

Saturday, February 15; 1:00 PM Eastern

WORKSHOP description

In this workshop, you will discover the magic of wet felting using a resist to create a 3-dimensional object. This ancient art form is easy to learn, and it's therapeutic too!. We will be layering, rubbing, rolling and throwing our fibers as we watch our sculpture come to life.

You can choose to make any shape you wish after Yvonne shows numerous samples at the beginning of class. The basic

supplies needed are: wool roving, water, soap, a towel, a resist, and bubble wrap. What is a resist? It can be anything you position between two layers of wool to keep them from felting with each other. Another item that would be helpful but not absolutely necessary is a ball brauser or spray bottle. Yvonne will provide some suggested suppliers in the USA and Canada so you can order good quality wool roving for felting.

Length of class: 3 hours

Number of students: 5 minimum, 15 maximum

Who should attend this workshop?

Anyone who's been wanting to try their hand at wet felting.

Materials needed

See above in description. Upon registering, Yvonne will provide a formal list of materials and suppliers in the USA and Canada.

Class fee \$65 US

For more information or to register, please contact Yvonne at itenscott@aim.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Yvonne Iten-Scott

Yvonne is an award-winning textile artist, educator, author, and curator. Her preferred medium is wool in all forms. She uses multiple techniques including wet and dry felting, rug hooking, punch needle, appliqué, weaving, and stitching. Yvonne is a graduate of the Fibre Arts program at the Haliburton School of Art and Design and is now a faculty member in that program. She is currently co-curating the global exhibition *Magnificent Bugs in Rugs*. She has taught and exhibited in Japan, Australia, the USA, and Canada. Yvonne recently completed an artist residency at the Icelandic Textile Center and organizes Roving Textile Tours.

Learn more about Yvonne and her work at yvonneitenscott.com.

MAKE YOUR OWN BACKING USING A PIN LOOM With Susan Feller

Sunday, February 16; 1:00 PM Eastern

LECTURE description

Curious how I could make my own foundation to hook on I found pin looms and will show you how to use them to make a decorative base to embellish with a variety of techniques.

Resources, history, social media groups for help and examples using the small woven pieces in artwork will be addressed. Time for questions at the end.

Length of lecture: 1 hour

Number of students: minimum 5

Who should take this course?

Anyone interested in learning how they might make their own foundation fabric for hooking, stitching, and other fiber arts.

Lecture fee \$25 US

For more information or to register, please contact Susan at rugs2wv@gmail.com.

An invoice will be sent electronically.

About Susan Feller

Susan L. Feller is the author of *Design Basics for Rug Hookers* (2011, Stackpole Books). Her work has received national awards and is in museums and private collections. She lives in West Virginia and advocates for the Appalachian Region with her artwork, along with promoting other artists. Learn more at SusanFeller.com.