

April 20-23, 2017



Registration Opens October 1

Current SFFA members receive priority through
October 15

Registration:

- Workshops will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis determined by receipt of payment.
- Current SFFA members receive priority registration through October 15, 2016.
- Non-members are required to pay \$5 for a lifetime SFFA membership when they register. Don't remember if you are a member? Please email membership@sefiberforum.org.

Costs/Payment:

- Full payment is required at registration and includes:
 - **Conference registration is \$215 thru 2016 and \$245 in 2017.**
 - Meal Plan (Thursday dinner thru Sunday lunch) is \$140 and is required by Arrowmont for all registrants.
 - SFFA lifetime membership is \$5 (if applicable).
- There may be an additional material fee for your chosen workshop which will be payable to your instructor during your workshop.

Lodging:

- Room reservations must be paid for separately and made directly with Arrowmont beginning October 10, 2016. Please contact Cynthia Bellacome at 865-436-5680 ext. 33 or cbellacome@arrowmont.org.
- Make sure to mention that you are with Fiber Forum to receive the correct lodging rates.

Forum News

Members Exhibition at SEFF 2017

For those of you who will be attending the April 20-23, 2017 SEFF Conference at Arrowmont and who would like to present a single work for display during the conference, we ask you to fill out the following brief form and email it to Ray Pierotti.

(rpryb@windstream.net),

Conference Chair. The members exhibit will be on display inside the auditorium at Arrowmont.

If the piece is not for sale mark NFS. If it is for sale SEFF will take a 20% commission to help defray conference costs. Space for the exhibit area is small so each member is allowed one (1) piece. If you would like to participate we ask you e-mail Ray by March 1, 2017. Please put in subject line: *Members Exhibit*. Thanks.

1. Title of work & name of Member: _____

2. Medium or technique _____

3. Dimensions _____

4. Insurance* or Sale value \$ _____

Just a reminder, here are the instructors for the 2017 Fiber Forum:

Phillis Alvic - Weaving
Vicki Bennett - Nuno Felting/printing nature
Joan Berner - Spin Your Ideal Yarn
Sara-Beth Black - Rug Hooking
Rita deMaintenon - Crochet
Karen Donde - Weaving
Irene Heckel - Sculptural Needle Felting
Jon Riis - Tapestry
Liz Spear - Sewing Handwovens
Matt Tommey - Sculptural Baskets
Steve Cook - Wood Turning
Hellenne Vermillion - Silk dye painting
Kathryn Weber - Dyeing Cotton
Paula Vester – Spinning

We featured Jon Riss, Kathryn Weber, and Steve Cook in our last Newsletter. If you didn't receive it or you would like me to email it to you, just contact me at bartzdeborah@yahoo.com.

Descriptions of the workshops are also available on the website.

Instructor Focus

Joan Berner

I have been involved with fiber since I was a little girl, and I even still regularly sew on my mom's 1950's Singer sewing machine. Throughout the years I sewn, knitted, dyed, spun and felted. Each one has a place in my life: I knit when I travel, I spin to relax – I love the feeling of wonderful fiber through my fingers and watch it transform into yarn, and I weave to experience the tranquility that the rhythm of the beater bar brings and to watch the yardage grow before my eyes. Felting has been the most recent adventure – something I said I would never do (just like spinning and weaving). The first few pieces of felt left me wet, exhausted and sure I was not going to be a felter. Soon though, the draw of the fiber and its beauty when felted, pulled me in and I was hooked.



I have finally realized what these somewhat disparate fiber activities have in common. I love color and texture, and each of these crafts give me a way to experiment and use bold colors and create texture. still in awe of the transformation into the finished yarn and fabric.

Workshop Title and Description

DESIGN AND SPIN YOUR IDEAL YARN

Skill level required for workshop: All: Must be able to spin a basic yarn – no special felting skills

Learn about designing colorways and successfully dye ½ pound of animal fiber (including silk) total. We will then investigate and make samples from different fiber preparation equipment (including; drum carder, blending board, hand cards and mini combs) to learn how to appropriately use them and understand how they can change the yarn you spin. A number of plying techniques will be demonstrated and sampled. You will leave class with a yarn you have designed from start to finish.

Instructor Focus

Vicki Bennett

After 35 years as a practicing psychotherapist, a zoo conservation specialist, a snake handler and raptor rehabber, defining myself as an artist is a challenge. When a forced move from the University of Michigan to Chicago left me without my familiar identity or community, I turned to the Lillstreet Art Center and adult classes at Chicago Institute of Art to find my bearings.



I also returned to my love of fiber and resumed weaving learned in my twenties, worked on Margaret Wortheim's first major coral reef installation with the Windy City Knitters... and then! I discovered wool felt! With Akemi Cohen as my first teacher and mentor, I discovered that working with raw wool to create wearable art and sculpture and dyeing fabric with plants from nature is a gift for the rest of my life. Each year I make the time to study with a felt artist I most admire- Karoliina Arvilommi and Judit Pocs among others, in an effort to master more and stretch my limits. Most every day is an opportunity to step up my own creative efforts and refine my work and numerous times each year I'm able to share my experience, knowledge and passion through teaching others. Life reimaged with color, texture and the rhythms of nature as I work in this age old craft of felt making? What a lark!

Workshop Title and Description

PRINTING NATURE: ECO PRINT DYEING ON WOOL FELT, SILK AND COTTON

Skill level required for workshop: ALL

Starting with a brief walk, gather and then learn to print on fabric using leaves, flowers and other botanical materials. In this workshop, we will use plant materials we collect as well as those supplied by the instructor, discuss mordants, learn how to bundle so prints come out clearly with best color and how color shifting occurs in the dye bath. Participants will work with several different fabrics including their own hand felted wool fabric made in class, wool pre-felt, silk and cotton. They will learn how each of the fibers take color differently according to various techniques. Students will make samples, felt and print a full length scarf and a thrift shop cotton top of their choice.

Instructor Focus

Sara Beth Black

Sara Beth got ‘hooked’ as a teenager when her grandmother taught her how to disassemble and cut wool clothes to make rugs. After practicing on her own for several years with kits, Sara Beth sought out teachers and classes to help her develop her skills. She continues to hone her craft, attending various rug camps and the Caraway Rug School annually.

Rug hooking is Sara Beth’s passion and she loves to share her knowledge. She has been teaching various aspects of rug hooking, including fiber dyeing and multi-fiber hooking, for over a decade from her home studio in Western North Carolina, Reuters College at UNCA, and Heritage Weavers and Fiber Artists (HWFA) at The Historic Johnson Farm



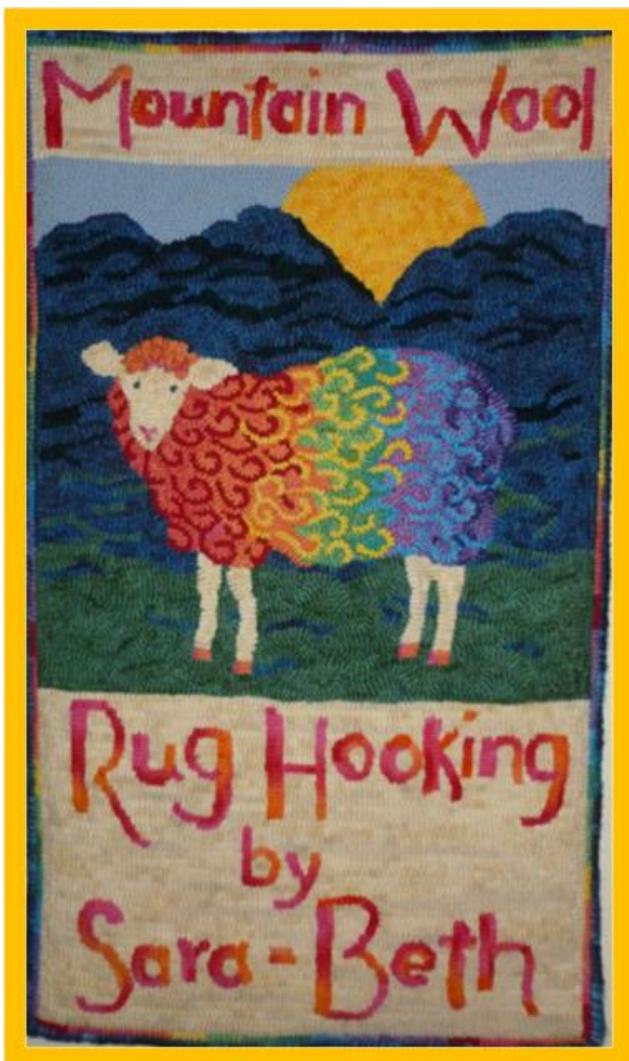
Sara Beth is an award-winning designer. She has won Best in Show many times at rug camps across the South. In 2012 her Season’s Rug won 2nd place in a worldwide competition and was published in Celebrations Magazine. Based on her original designs, which have been published in Rug Hooking Magazine, she creates rug hooking and hand-dyed wool kits offered by Friends & Fiberworks in Candler, NC and HWFA in Hendersonville, NC.

Workshop Title and Description

THIS IS YOUR GRANNY'S HOOKED RUG

Skill Level: All

Learn how to pull a loop to create the traditional hooked primitive rugs. This is NOT Latch Hook, Punch Needle with yarn, or needle punch with floss.



Instructor Focus

Philis Alvic



Philis Alvic is an artist, weaver, and writer. She has exhibited her complex woven wall textiles in over 250 juried and invitational exhibitions. She has been a continuous member of The Sixteens, a 16-harness sample exchange group, since its beginning in 1979 and is a charter member of Complex Weavers. *Weavers of the Southern Highlands* (University Press of Kentucky, 2003) and *Crafts of Armenia* (USAID/IESC Armenia 2003) are her two books and she has written over 100 magazine articles. As a short-term consultant for crafts development and marketing, she has worked on projects in Peru, Morocco, Nepal, India, Armenia, South Africa, Namibia, Kenya, Rwanda, Madagascar, Ethiopia, Tanzania, and Sri Lanka. Philis is a founding and continuing Board member of the Kentucky Craft History and Education Association and currently serves as treasurer of Weave A Real Peace.



Workshop Title and Description

FABRIC DESIGN: DISCOVERING YOUR PERSONAL CREATIVITY

Skill Level: Basic knowledge of how to thread a loom is required but Advanced weavers can work on multi harness weave structures.

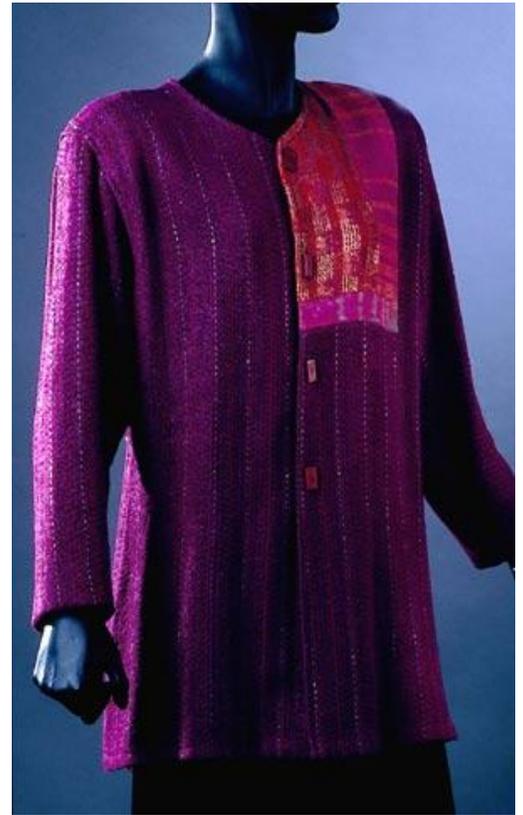
On a warp in a weave structure chosen by the participant, each weaver will work through a series of structured exercises exploring color, pattern, and texture, selecting from hundreds of different yarns. Each weaver will be encouraged to expand her horizons using small baby steps, thus building confidence as new skills are acquired. By the end of the workshop, a new understanding will be reached of how the elements of fabric design relate and combine. While everyone will work only on their own warp, there will have several sharing sessions to learn from other's experiments.

Instructor Focus

Liz Spear

A friend once gave me the pieces of a bowl he'd turned of rhododendron wood he'd gathered on his land. I made buttons of those beautiful bits of wood, then wove some cloth and made the garments to carry those buttons.

I follow this pattern of experience to make one-of-a-kind, comfortable garments with my handwoven cloth: shirts and jackets designed to wear to the office or with your favorite pair of jeans. My fabrics begin with twelve cones of cotton and rayon yarns, inspired by the colors in a neighbor's faded red barn, a single variegated thread or, perhaps, a wooden button.



Workshop Title and Description

SEWING YOUR HANDWOVEN

Skill Level: Intermediate Sewing Skills

Move past the bog jacket and shawl with your handwoven fabric, and learn to cut and successfully sew a jacket, shirt or vest. Adding fit and stylistic flare to our incredibly beautiful handwoven cloth requires some extra care for results you won't get with commercial fabrics. Using pre-workshop suggestions/guidelines, you'll select a pattern appropriate for your fabric. Cutting, marking, seam finishes, pressing, buttons and linings will be demonstrated as you sew through the steps to your new handwoven garment.

Instructor Focus

Hellenne Vermillion

Hellenne Vermillion was born and raised in Tokyo, Japan but attended an American School. After graduating from Zama American High School (Armed Forces Japan) she moved to Atlanta in 1972. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts/Ceramics from Georgia State University 1980 and entered several shows in ceramics.

However she went on to work in graphic design, worked in the children's department at the High Museum, worked with Japanese television filming in the US and Canada, and did a short stint as a travel agent. After studying sewing and other fiber arts, she won several awards in garment embellishment and publication in Australian Stitches Magazine. She then found a teacher and studied silk dye painting and began teaching in the Metro Atlanta area and won several show awards with Silk Painters International. Currently she paints silk wall hangings, garments and scarves but also creates her "Spirit Masks"



which are mixed media works of art using clay, dyed silk, and other materials.

She also gives silk dye painting classes and workshops in the Metro Atlanta area.

Workshop Title and Description

Introduction to Silk Dye Painting

Skill Level: All levels welcome

Participants will learn to apply a special water based resist from New Zealand on to 100% silk fabric stretched on a frame. Using various techniques, they will learn how to apply liquid acid dyes on to the and create a few small samples. Upon completion of the painting process they will then learn to correctly wrap and steam set the dyes for three hours and then the final wash and rinse process. The final project will be a silk scarf 8" x 54" Examples of various results will be shown.