



# THRUMS

## Newsletter of the Syracuse Weavers Guild

### President's Message

We are famous! The theme of the Sept/Oct issue of Handwoven was guilds and guild challenge projects and we were very well represented by Susan Szczotka, Nancy Smothergill and Judy Fox's projects! If you haven't seen the articles yet our guild library copy will be at the September meeting. We will be kicking off another great year with half of the program being an explanation of the challenge planned for the coming year and the other half on how to think about color in new and different ways.

*Elyse Meltz*



### Inspired by Nature

Darlene Endy and Nancy Smothergill had pieces chosen for the exhibition "Inspired by Nature", on display at the Thousand Islands Arts Center, April 9 - June 8, 2018. Congratulations to both on your beautiful pieces!

<p><b>Guild Officers</b></p>	<p><b>Study Groups   Judy Fox</b></p>
<p><b>President</b> Elyse Meltz</p> <p><b>1st Vice President</b> Sue Szczotka</p> <p><b>2nd Vice President</b> Judy Fox</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> Darlene Endy</p> <p><b>Treasurer</b> Donna Johnson-Brown</p>	<p>The <b>small bands group</b> is steady and strong. They meet regularly after the meeting the first Saturday of the month. New participants are always welcome.</p> <p>The <b>tapestry group</b> meets the second Thursday of the month at the Liverpool Library in the Sargent room from 10:00AM to noon. Everyone is welcome including non-guild members.</p> <p>We welcome ideas for study groups. Groups are self-directed and designed to further an understanding and skills of the topic under study. Study groups are a good way to explore new areas with the support of other guild members and to keep projects moving.</p>
<p><b>Mission</b></p>	<p><b>Traveling Loom   Judy Fox</b></p>
<p>The mission of the Syracuse Weavers Guild is to stimulate an interest in the art and craft of weaving, achieve a high standard of excellence and help encourage all persons interested in weaving.</p>	<p>Traveling looms are guild looms with a small project on it to try techniques you are not familiar with or just want to experiment with. We welcome suggestions for future projects. There is a small fee to cover the cost of the fiber. With the loom comes instruction, fiber and a list of those who have signed up. When you are ready to transfer the loom, please email those remaining on the list to find the next recipient. Please include my address on all the emails that way I know where the loom is. I appreciate knowing when the loom actually changes hand. We like the loom to be traveling at least monthly.</p> <p>The <b>Theo Moorman loom</b> is circulating and is expected back soon. Also circulating is a <b>small bands loom</b> that Cynthia Pendergrast is coordinating. The <b>Rep loom</b> is on the move.</p> <p>A <b>"color study" loom</b> will be on the move sometime after the September meeting. Signups at and after the September meeting.</p>

**Guild Meetings**

Held on Saturday, starting at 10:00 a.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
7248 Highbridge Road  
Fayetteville, NY 13066

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## Syracuse Weavers' Guild 2017-2018 Programs

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### September 8<sup>th</sup>

Part 1) Program: A Different Point of Hue Presenter: Karen Smith

The goal of this program is to encourage participants to think about color in new and different ways when planning weaving projects. An alternative to the traditional color wheel will be presented as well as other basics of color theory. In addition, members will be introduced to our new traveling loom project which will provide opportunities for color exploration using the alternative color system.

Part 2) Program: 2018-2019 Guild challenge "Inspired Weaving" Kickoff Presenter: Joyce Lock

Continuing in the tradition of an annual guild project, this year's challenge is to weave a piece inspired by an image - a photo, a postcard, a work of art, a page from a magazine, etc. You may use an image you select at this meeting or find your own. The challenge projects will be shared at the April meeting.

**October 6<sup>th</sup>** Program: Taming the Wild Chenille Presenter: Mary McMahon Facilitator: Nancy Smothergill

Here's chenille up close and personal! It's a quirky thread...wonderful in color, soft and sumptuous in texture...but pretty fussy, even temperamental for weaving. Spend a little time with this thread, its history, many examples, and lots of tips for weaving. We'll talk about the whole weaving process, from prepping the warp to finishing the cloth, to making clothing. There will be lots of touchable chenille to prove that it's worth the time to work with this very special thread.

**November 3<sup>rd</sup>** Program: Finding Inspiration Presenter: Sarah Saulson

For this year's guild challenge, participants will each choose an image that will inspire a weaving. Many weavers love to do this while others find it challenging. No matter where you fall on that spectrum, Sarah will walk everyone through a design process to help you make friends with your image. We'll consider color, proportion, texture, pattern, and possibly even the mood of the image. Don't worry if you haven't yet chosen an image, there will be some at the meeting.

**December 1<sup>st</sup>** Program: The Travels of a Wool-a-byte: We stop for sheep Presenter: Judy Fox

After recent travels to Scotland, Wales, Iceland and Norway searching for all things fiber and specifically wool, along with culture, history and great food, Judy will share some of her discoveries through music, pictures and narrative. We will visit historic tartans in Scotland, Icelandic sheep and goats, weaving in a Norwegian weaving center, efforts to preserve all things related to wool production in all countries, historic castles in Wales, etc.

**January 5<sup>th</sup>** Program: Weaving Software and Online Resources Presenters: Elyse Meltz & Sarah Saulson

Why would you want to use software to plan and design your next weaving project? Overviews and demos of various software packages will be provided including Fiberworks, Pixeloom and iWeavelt. We will discuss how they are alike and how they differ. There will also be time to cover other online resources for weaving drafts, designing with color, stripes, basic information such as the Master Yarn Chart, sett charts, and social media groups for weavers.

## Syracuse Weavers Guild

**February 2<sup>nd</sup>** Program: Peruvian Textiles in a Box - Textiles and Traditions of the Peruvian Highland Weavers Facilitator: Sue Szczotka

The Peruvian Textiles in a Box provides an introduction to and education about indigenous textiles and the skilled artisans who make them. Through a documentary video, *Peruvian Weaving Revival* and actual samples of the artisans' work, you will meet the weavers, dyers, knitters and spinners of the Peruvian Highlands who are cooperative members of the Center for the Traditional Textiles of Cusco (CTTC). Hear the story about the vision of Nilda Callanaupa Alvarez, the founder and director of CTTC, whose mission has been to preserve and perpetuate the traditional textile arts of her village of Chinchero and the other Highland communities. The program also includes 5 presentation boards with 20 samples of the actual textiles for a complete tactile experience.

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>** Program: Warp/Weave/Wear Presenter: Barb Decker Facilitator: Nancy Smothergill

It has happened to all of us. We see a gorgeous work of art, beautiful fall foliage, a photo in a magazine. The colors and textures inspire us and we want to honor them somehow. Let's weave something to wear. In this lecture we will explore the endless possibilities of using a variety of materials, weights, textures and colors in one warp - how the choice of weave structure and weft can change the look and feel of the finished fabric and how to add width to a warp already on the loom. The program will include a show of classic, comfortable, fashionable garments made from the imaginative use of squares and rectangles.

**April 6<sup>th</sup>** Program: Presentation of the Guild Challenge "Inspired Weaving" Facilitator: Joyce Lock

Bring the image that inspired you and the piece you wove. Be prepared to share your interpretation of the image and how it inspired your woven work. This also includes your process, challenges, successes and lessons learned.

**May 4<sup>th</sup>** Program: Annual Pot Luck Luncheon and Towel Exchange

Location to be announced.

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### Membership Form | Donna Connery

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Thanks to the 34 returning members who renewed their interest in our guild for 2018-19. We plan to distribute member booklets at the September meeting, so remember to get your copy. Many thanks to Nancy Smothergill for compiling them for us again this year! Also, let Donna know if you need a name tag.

Regular dues: \$30

Senior (over 62) dues: \$25

Make checks payable to: Syracuse Weavers Guild

Memberships in SWG are for one year, May-May

Mail to: Donna Connery  
172 Jewett Hill Road  
Berkshire, NY 13736

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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## Hostess List | Lois Koenig

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### September

Cynthia Pendergrast | Donna Connery

### October

Lois Koenig | Joan Brickner

### November

Elaine DuBois | Darlene Endy

### December

Jayshri Prasad | Hostess needed

### January

Linda Miller | Hostess needed

### February

Meg Welch | Susan Mehringer

### March

Joyce Lock | Elyse Meltz

### April

Sally Meyers | Sue Szczotka

### Alternate

Laureen Whitney

### **Hostess Duties:**

- Know your day. Lois emails a reminder about a week before the meeting.
- Arrange for someone to take your place if you cannot make it.
- Communicate with your partner hostess.
- Provide dessert
- Arrive early to prepare the table and hot water
- Clean up the kitchen
- If you notice that items are needed in the supply baskets, let Lois know.

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## Committees

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### Booklets

Nancy Smothergill

### Calling Committee

Carolyn Wolfson

Meg Welch

### Membership

Donna Connery

### Refreshments Coordinator

Lois Koenig

### Program

Sue Szczotka

### Webmaster

Joyce Lock

### Special Projects

Judy Fox

### Library

Elyse Meltz

### Thrums Newsletter

Susan Mehringer

Guild Website

[www.syracuseweaversguild.org](http://www.syracuseweaversguild.org)

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## Syracuse Weavers Guild Looms For Rent | Joyce Lock

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Rental fee is \$2 per week. If interested in borrowing one of these looms and it is available, please contact the person listed in the table.

Description	Current Use	Contact	Notes
Kyra 22" 4-H table loom	Travelling Loom	Judy Fox	Currently not available to rent
Peacock 12" 2-H loom #1	Nancy Smothergill	Nancy Smothergill	<a href="http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg">http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg</a>
Peacock 12" 2-H loom #2	Nancy Smothergill	Nancy Smothergill	<a href="http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg">http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg</a>
Peacock 12" 2-H loom #3	Nancy Smothergill	Nancy Smothergill	<a href="http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg">http://possumjimandelizabeth.com/adjusted_images/loom_table_plaid.jpg</a>
Inkle loom	Available	Joyce Lock	
Harrisville 22" 4-H floor loom	Available	Joyce Lock	<a href="https://harrisville.com/products/22-floor-loom-4-harness-6-treadle">https://harrisville.com/products/22-floor-loom-4-harness-6-treadle</a>  Picture shows 6 treadles, this one has 4 direct tie treadles.  Not easily transported
Nilus LeClerc 12" 8-H table loom	Available	Nancy Smothergill	Looks like Structo
Purrington Norris 12-H table loom	Travelling Loom	Judy Fox	Currently not available to rent

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## Kimono Exhibit | Donna Connery

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You've been there: a glowing orange sunset, the crocus popping through the snow, a stormy sea. These visions of light playing with color evoke an emotional response to the seeming serenity or violence of the scene. And you remember it, and draw inspiration from it. This year's SWG programming is all about color! Without a doubt, the Itchiku Kubota Kimono collection that is now on exhibit at the Proctor Munson Williams Gallery in Utica through September 10, is a master study in the art of color in nature. It's an exhibit that you truly don't want to miss. In these works, Itchiku uses the kimono as an art canvas for his master skills in *tsujigahana*. Building on this 15-16th century textile art, he uses a complex process of stitch-resist dyeing combined with elaborate surface embellishment to create panoramas of color and form. The pictures on the back cover of this Thrums issue show two views of Jo/ Autumn Prologue which is my favorite kimono in the exhibit. It is from the series "Symphony of Light: Seasons". It's a jaw-dropping exhibit. No pressure, but it heads back to its permanent home in Japan in September!

## Upcoming Conferences, Festivals, Exhibits

In our members' survey, you asked for ways to get to know each other better. How about attending a conference, going to a museum, or planning projects, taking classes, and shopping at an upcoming festival? What better way to share our interests in all things weaving than to get out and do it! A full list of upcoming events can be found on the guild website; go to [www.syracuseweaversguild.org](http://www.syracuseweaversguild.org), select Calendar, then All Events. The list below covers the next two months. If you know of other events to add to the list, be sure to send them in for the next Thrums.

Date	Time	Event
Sat. 9/8 - Sun. 9/9	All day	Endless Mountains Fiber Festival  15th Annual Endless Mountains Fiber Festival <a href="http://www.endlessmountainsfiberfest.com/">http://www.endlessmountainsfiberfest.com/</a>
Sat. 9/15 - Sun. 9/16	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Finger Lakes Fiber Festival  <a href="http://www.gvhg.org/fiber-fest/">http://www.gvhg.org/fiber-fest/</a>
Fri. 9/21 - Sun. 9/23	All day	Coverlet College VIII  Coverlet College VIII at the National Coverlet Museum  <a href="http://www.coverletmuseum.org/events.htm">http://www.coverletmuseum.org/events.htm</a>
Sat. 9/22 - Sun. 9/23	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Adirondack Wool and Arts Festival  <a href="http://www.adkwoolandarts.com/">http://www.adkwoolandarts.com/</a>
Sat. 10/13 - Sun 10/14	9:00 AM (Sat) 10:00 AM (Sun)	Little York Fall Fiber Arts Festival  <a href="https://www.cortlandrep.org/little-york-fall-fiber-arts-festival/">https://www.cortlandrep.org/little-york-fall-fiber-arts-festival/</a>
Sat. 10/20 - Sun 10/21	9:00 AM	NYS Sheep and Wool Festival  <a href="https://sheepandwool.com/">https://sheepandwool.com/</a>



**THRUMS**

Susan Mehringer  
11 Pheasant Way  
Ithaca, NY 14850

