

# PROGRAMS GUIDE 2023-2024

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HANDWEAVERS'  
GUILD OF  
CONNECTICUT

Traditional Japanese Textile  
from Brenda Osborn

# HANDWEAVERS' GUILD OF CONNECTICUT

## PROGRAMS GUIDE 2023-2024

### WELCOME

Please join us for the coming year, filled with possibilities for growth as makers of unique cloth, review of the history of weaving here and around the world, and wonderful friendships. We will meet four times this year at the Congregational Church in South Glastonbury. The morning Open and Afternoon Programs will be available via Zoom for all State meetings. The details and links will be sent out prior to each State meeting. The November meeting will be a 75th Anniversary Celebration and Luncheon at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, CT.

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### WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Maxi Workshops are in-depth courses of 1 to 3 days in length. This year they are scheduled for November and March. The total fee for the workshop and materials varies. See individual listings in this guide for details.

Mini Workshops are from 10 am to 11:45 am at the State meetings. The fee is \$15.

Many of the workshops fill quickly, so members are advised to register ahead of time. Members can register for classes on the HGC website in the Members Only section. If you need assistance accessing the Members Only section of the website, please email Shelley Neels at [webAdmin@handweaversguildofct.org](mailto:webAdmin@handweaversguildofct.org). In person registration will continue to be available at the HGC state meetings between 9 am and 9:45 am. If you have questions about registration, please email the registrar Steph Slattery at [registrar@handweaversguildofct.org](mailto:registrar@handweaversguildofct.org).

### PROGRAMS CHAIR

Elaine Dimpelfeld

### REGISTRAR

Steph Slattery

### EDITOR

Cate Lucia

## PROGRAMS OVERVIEW 2023-2024

### SEPTEMBER 9, 2023 - STATE MEETING

Open: *Connecticut's Cotton Connection: Connecticut and the Civil War*, Jamie H. Eves/Windham Town Historian, The Mill Museum

Guest Mini: *Gamps Galore*, Penny Lacroix

**Canceled** - Mini #1: *Cane-Wrapped Stones*, Lois Matson – *To Be Rescheduled*

Mini #2: *Fabric Pumpkins*, Marsha Lodge

Mini #3: *Ratings*, Dorrie Hunt

Afternoon Program: *The Wool Bump Project*, Penny Lacroix

### NOVEMBER 2-3, 2023 — MAXI WORKSHOP

*METAWEAVE WORKSHOP*, ELISABETH (LISA) HILL

### NOVEMBER 18, 2023 – 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND LUNCHEON

Aqua Turf Club, 556 Mulberry St. Plantsville CT

### JANUARY 20, 2024— STATE MEETING

Open: *Panel Discussion of Ratings and Scholarship Recipients*, Fran Curran and Mary Roche

Guest Mini: *An Introduction to Pattern Making with Woven Inlay*, Scott Norris

Mini #1: *Hemstitching and Finishing Table Linens*, Lisa Green

Mini #2: *Fringe Exploration*, Ellen Goldman

Afternoon Program: *Storytelling and Woven Inlay*, Scott Norris

### MARCH 13-15 (2 ½ DAYS), 2024 — MAXI WORKSHOP

*Echo and Jin: Playing with Color Chords*, Denise Kovnat

### MARCH 16, 2024 — STATE MEETING

Open: *Narratives through Textiles*, Tara Patrino

Mini #1: *Introduction to Finger Weaving*, Mary Roche

Mini #2: *Getting Started in Weaving: All the "how tos" for beginning weavers*, Bev Lewis

Mini #3: *Planning an Origami Top*, Sharon Northby

Afternoon Program: *The Power of Craft: A Weaver's Perspective*, Denise Kovnat

### MAY 18, 2024 — STATE MEETING

Open: *Traditional Textiles in Japan*, Brenda Osborn

Mini #1: *Learn Bargello Needlepoint*, Stephanie (Steph) Slattery

Mini #2: *Color Inspiration*, Marjie Wheeler

Mini #3: *On-Loom Warp Screen Printing*, Sophia DeJesus-Sabella

Afternoon Program: *Anni Albers: Ancient and Modern Handweaving*, Katherine Kuenzli

NOVEMBER 2-3, 2023

## METAWEAVE WORKSHOP

ELISABETH HILL



What appeals more to a weaver than weaving that looks like weaving? In this round-robin class we will explore multiple structures that can be used to produce images of weaving - most commonly, a large scale depiction of a plain weave interlacement. We will use lace weaves, deflected double weave, tied weaves and more along with profile drafting to learn about, design and weave samples with this "metaweave" design idea in mind.

Participants must be able to warp a loom, change the tie-up, and follow a draft.

Looms will need to be pre-warped (Detailed drafts and warping instructions sent about 1 month prior to the

workshop). A 4, 8 or 12 shaft loom is appropriate (sample choices for 4 are limited, so 8-12 is best). Students need to bring weft materials to correspond to warp, shuttles, bobbins, notebook/pen, scissors, tapestry needle, measuring tape.

Fee: \$175 +\$25 handout/materials fee (students can avoid the materials fee if they pick up the pdf in Dropbox). Class size: 16



MARCH 13-15 (2 ½ DAYS), 2024 (FRIDAY IS A HALF DAY)

### *ECHO AND JIN: PLAYING WITH COLOR CHORDS* DENISE KOVNAT

For 4 to 16 shafts, this is an on-loom study of the color wheel and theories of color harmony, based on the teachings of 20th-century artists Johannes Itten and Josef Albers. The focus is on developing a subjective and objective sense of how to optimize the use of color in your weaving practice, particularly in weaving parallel-threaded designs. At least six weeks prior to the workshop, you will choose from a series of Echo and Jin designs provided by the instructor, all for 4-end parallel threadings. Next, you will choose warp colors based on Itten's theories of color chords, drawing from his 12-point color wheel. During the workshop, you will weave samples using different tie ups, treadlings, weft yarns, and weft colors.

Students must be able to read a draft and dress a loom. Your floor or table loom, must be dressed and ready to weave on a 4-color warp using 10/2 cotton (detailed instructions and patterns will be shared about 6 weeks before the workshop). Materials students need to bring: warped loom, two boat shuttles (or end-feed delivery shuttles), one stick shuttle, 6-8 bobbins or pirns, scissors, waste yarn (for weaving between samples), notepad and pen, laptop or table with weaving software (optional), weft yarns of 20/2 cotton in about 5-6 colors.

Fee: \$225 + \$35 materials fee Class size: 16



OPEN

CONNECTICUT'S COTTON CONNECTION: CONNECTICUT AND THE CIVIL WAR  
 JAMIE H. EVES/SENIOR CURATOR/WINDHAM TOWN HISTORIAN, WINDHAM TEXTILE MUSEUM



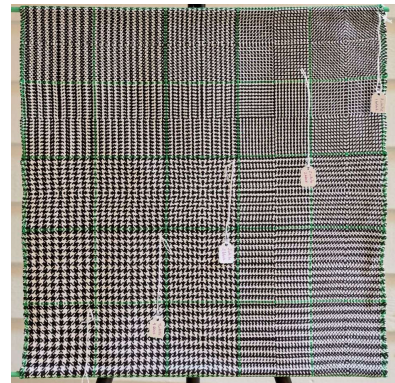
The South may have been the Cotton Kingdom, but in the years leading up to the Civil War, cotton was king in Connecticut, too, as Connecticut's new industrial economy was based on manufacturing cotton thread, cloth, and garments. Did that mean that Connecticutans sympathized with Southern planters and were willing to be tolerant of slavery as long it remained safely in the South? The answer is: "yes and no." Many Connecticutans were sympathetic to Southern slavery, but -- surprisingly -- the greatest opposition to slavery in Connecticut centered around the state's cotton mill towns.

GUEST MINI:  
 GAMPS GALORE  
 PENNY LACROIX

Gamps can be oh-so useful to us as designing weavers. Some give us information about the yarn, some about structure, some about color, some about sett. All will surprise us in some way! The exploration and discovery is the reason for making them. This workshop will examine various types of gamps and discuss their usefulness. Students will then be guided through planning their own gamp, either to be woven later or just for fun. Design can be done with paper and colored pencils, or using weaving design software like Fiberworks PCW.

Materials: Participants should bring paper, pencils, eraser. Also a laptop with Fiberworks or other weaving software if available (optional).

Materials fee: \$2 Class size: 16



## SEPTEMBER 9 (CONTINUED)

### MINI #1: *CANCELED – To Be Rescheduled* CANE-WRAPPED STONES



Cancelled

#### LOIS MATSON

Learn the simple craft of wrapping smooth stones with cane or leather using a Japanese basket-like technique to create gifts for healing, mediation, or just adorn your space with a natural element from nature. Stones and supplies will be provided. However you are welcome to bring a special stone or embellishments (button, shells, sticks, etc.) of your own.

#### MINI #2:

### FABRIC PUMPKINS MARSHA LODGE

Participants will learn how to make a fabric pumpkin using handwoven material or quilting cotton.

Participants should bring: Polyfill stuffing; Strong, long tapestry needle, (or purchase one from the instructor); Scissors; Embroidery floss in the color of your choice; Sewing thread; Regular sewing needle.

Also bring suitable fabric for the body such as a hand woven, chenille, or cotton. (Approximately 8 inches by 20 inches for the large pumpkin, or 6 x 12 for the small pumpkin); And felt for the leaves (approximately 4 x 6)

A sewing machine (optional)

Materials fee: \$3 Class size: 12



## SEPTEMBER 9 (CONTINUED)

#3:

*RATINGS*

*DORRIE HUNT*

Ratings is a program offered by the Guild to help members expand their weaving knowledge and skills. We invite everyone interested in finding out more about Ratings to attend this mini workshop. Ratings follow a sequence of requirements. All weavers start with the Apprentice level, and can then move onto Journeyman and finally may decide to challenge themselves with the Master Weaver level. In this mini we will discuss how to get started, explain all the requirements for each level and talk about the support available to help you on your way. Bring your questions.

Materials fee: none Class size: 16



### AFTERNOON PROGRAM

*THE WOOL BUMP PROJECT*

*PENNY LACROIX*



In 2017, Penny accepted the offer of a carload of dirty fleeces, for free. With help from friends along the way, the fleeces were sorted, processed commercially into "wool bumps", and then - in a Covid project - dyed and used as weft, ultimately becoming delightfully cushy area rugs. This talk will explain the entire process, including videos of the commercial processing in a Vermont mini-mill. She will also include a summary of the finances, as "free" raw materials is not the same as no-cost. Additionally, Penny will talk about the hot topic of "made locally" and how it relates to this project.



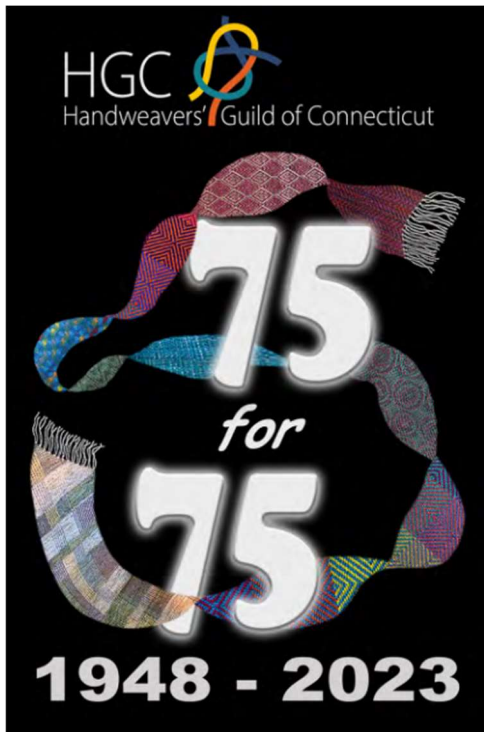
NOVEMBER 18, 2023 STATE MEETING

75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND LUNCHEON, 11 AM - 3 PM

AQUA TURF CLUB

556 Mulberry St

Plantsville, CT



Come help commemorate that our guild is 75 years young.

This celebration includes:

Catered lunch (tickets \$25)

Gift raffle

Silent auction

Show and tell for our 75th Anniversary weaving challenge

HGC History talk part 2

OPEN

*PANEL DISCUSSION OF RATINGS AND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS*

FRAN CURRAN AND MARY ROCHE

Fran Curran and Mary Roche will moderate a discussion of the people who have received scholarships or their ratings in the last year. Each person will speak about their journey of learning.



GUEST MINI

*AN INTRODUCTION TO PATTERN MAKING WITH WOVEN INLAY*

SCOTT NORRIS



The techniques for creating woven inlay are relatively simple and easy to learn. A weaver who understands how to use inlay to insert straight lines, diagonal lines, and curves into cloth holds the ability to embellish fabric with virtually any decorative shape. With the goal of developing that ability among workshop participants, Scott will describe the techniques for designing basic shapes that are suitable for inlay; provide written handouts that explain the process; and demonstrate the actual processes used to weave inlay. Subsequently, participants will have the chance to practice the

techniques themselves on the prepared loom that Scott will bring to the workshop. Participants who learn best by taking notes should bring note-taking materials.

Materials fee: none Class size: 10

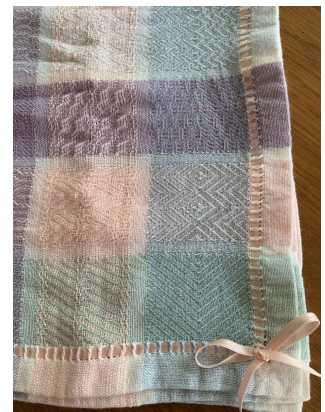
MINI #1

*HEMSTITCHING AND FINISHING TABLE LINENS*

LISA GREEN

A beautiful finish is a nice addition to your handwoven napkins, tablecloths, placemats or even baby blankets. Lisa will demonstrate how to hemstitch on four sides and how to miter corners. Fabric, needles, and threads will be provided so you can prepare samples to use as references for these techniques. Participants should bring small embroidery scissors.

Materials fee: none Class size: 15



## JANUARY 20 (CONTINUED)

### MINI #2

#### FRINGE EXPLORATION

ELLEN GOLDMAN

There is nothing like the excitement of starting to weave a piece on the loom. You have spent hours deciding on the pattern, color and yarn. Thinking about finishing a piece is also a part of the process. In this mini we will explore a variety of decorative fringe techniques that use knotting, twisting, braiding and beads. You will be able to try these out using handwoven samples provided in class that you will be able to take home. Participants should bring small scissors.



Materials fee: \$10 Class size: 12

### AFTERNOON PROGRAM

#### STORYTELLING AND WOVEN INLAY

SCOTT NORRIS



Woven inlay provides a great deal of freedom to weavers as they add patterns to their cloth. In simple examples, colorful inlaid shapes can be inserted anywhere in a piece of fabric. In more complex forms, a weaver can use inlay to add words, sentences, paragraphs, and – with time and patience – entire stories to cloth.

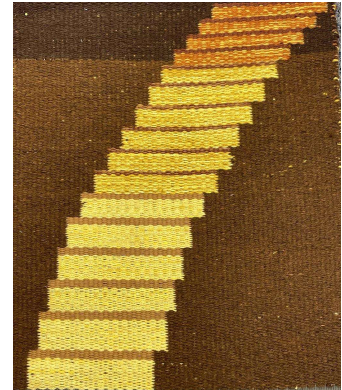
In this talk, Scott will describe the motivations behind his use of inlay; explain the inlay techniques that he uses; and present a number of examples, including decorated linen towels and large linen panels that contain inlaid texts and illustrations.

OPEN

*NARRATIVES THROUGH TEXTILES*

TARA PATRINO, STUDIO DESIGNER, HARTFORD ARTISAN WEAVING CENTER

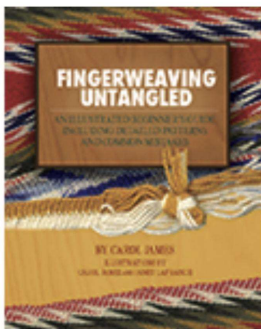
This year the Hartford Artisan Weaving Center artisans have meditated on things that they want to translate into woven objects. This has been anything from memories to an expression of passion for design and structure, all of them deeply personal in their own way. Each project was individually considered, carefully choosing color, fiber, and structure that best suited the original inspiration. Tara will walk through the general process and share examples of the works created.



MINI #1

*INTRODUCTION TO FINGER WEAVING*

MARY ROCHE



In this class we will learn a basic handweaving pattern based on Carol James' book, "Fingerweaving Untangled". The teacher will come with a warp prepared so we can concentrate on the weaving. She will demonstrate how to set up a new warp as part of the class as well.

Materials fee: \$5 Class size: 8

MINI #2

*GETTING STARTED IN WEAVING: ALL THE "HOW-TOS" FOR BEGINNING WEAVERS*

BEV LEWIS

Don't know where to begin? Bev and other Area 4 members will talk about yarn selection, measuring your warp, warping your loom, math calculations, selecting weave structures, bobbins, and weaving.

Materials fee: none Class size: 16





## MARCH 16 (CONTINUED)

### MINI #3

#### *PLANNING AN ORIGAMI TOP*

SHARON NORTHBY

This mini workshop will include participants folding a miniature paper origami garment to demonstrate the process of making a bias garment from a narrow strip of handwoven lot. We will discuss weave structures, suitable fibers for the cloth, and finishing necklines and closures. Finished garments will be displayed for examination and fitting.

Materials fee: \$2 Class size: 10



### AFTERNOON PROGRAM

#### *THE POWER OF CRAFT: A WEAVER'S PERSPECTIVE*

DENISE KOVNAT



There is something in every human soul which seeks to create a thing of beauty, given any sort of opportunity and materials to do so. Throughout all the ages people have pursued their own ideas of beauty, building, shaping, weaving, painting, decorating. They have carried on that pursuit through every medium that ever came to hand: wood, stone, feathers, bone, ivory, cloth, jewels, metals, glass, clay, shell, leather, pigment... and yarn," writes Barbara G. Walker in her 1968 masterpiece, [A Treasury of Knitting Patterns](#).

This lecture, accompanied by images of weaving and crafts throughout history, looks at the pursuit of handiwork, from ancient to modern times, and why it continues to enrich our lives -- from a weaver's perspective, of course!

## OPEN

### TRADITIONAL TEXTILES IN JAPAN BRENDA OSBORN



Brenda will be sharing images of a recent trip to Japan, and some of her purchases and small projects she made there.

During the month of May in 2023, Sara Bixler of Red Stone Glen and her father Tom Knisely led a group of 24 weavers on a textile tour of Japan. The tour started in Tokyo with a visit to the textile area of the National Museum and a day of weaving at the Saori workshop in Tokyo.

From there they spent two weeks traveling north to various towns known for their traditional textile crafts. They had workshops in Sakiori weaving, Shinaori weaving, Kasuri dye works, and an indigo workshop. They visited a museum that houses Ichiko Kabuto's uniquely dyed kimono series, and a village known for temari balls. They traveled north to visit the Pacific coast and the Sea of Japan coast. They also saw Mt. Fuji and hot springs, and took a boat tour of Lake Tawada. Most days there was a thrilling visit to a textile center; it was a memorable journey led by Sara and the Japanese guide.

### MINI #1 LEARN BARGELLO NEEDLEPOINT STEPHANIE (STEPH) SLATTERY

Bargello needlepoint uses vertical stitches to form interesting geometric motifs. Originally dating from the 17th century and quite popular in the 1960's, Bargello can be brought into the 21st century with modern colors and materials and can be used to make beautiful and functional pieces. In this mini workshop, we will learn basic Bargello techniques and make a small project such as a set of coasters, a box, or a decorative piece that could be framed or made into a card. We will discuss ideas for larger projects such as eyeglass cases, tissue box covers, pillows, and purses. No experience needed. All materials will be provided. Bring a small pair of sharp scissors.

Materials fee: \$15 Class size: 12.



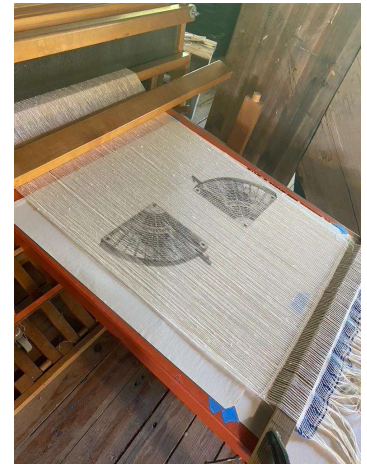
*MINI #2*  
*COLOR INSPIRATION*  
*MARJIE WHEELER*



This mini workshop will cover how to pull color from a photo, notecard, or other artwork to plan a textile. Participants should bring a photo or picture of artwork they like and any artist supplies they may like to use such as pastels, watercolors, or colored pencils.  
Materials fee: \$5. Class size: 20

*MINI #3*  
*ON-LOOM WARP SCREEN PRINTING*  
*SOPHIA DEJESUS-SABELLA*

This workshop is an examination of different techniques for screen printing on warps before they are woven. The workshop will consist of a presentation of my experience screen printing at ACRE Residency and Marshfield School of Weaving and a demonstration of best practices for screen printing on-loom.  
Materials fee: none Class size: 16



*AFTERNOON PROGRAM*

*ANNI ALBERS: ANCIENT AND MODERN HANDWEAVING*  
*KATHERINE KUENZLI*



In 1949, Anni Albers mounted a one-person exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. She was the first textile artist to be showcased at the museum, which prompts the question of her medium's relevance to modern art. This talk will focus on the free-hanging room dividers she exhibited that present a striking synthesis of modern materials and ancient handweaving techniques indebted to Andean traditions.





Metaweave Jacket, Elisabeth Hill

**HANDWEAVERS' GUILD OF CONNECTICUT**

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