

Instructor/Teacher General Information

Tidewater Basketry Guild will be holding their annual convention, Guilders' Weave, January 15th-18th, 2026 at the Marriott City Center in Newport News, Virginia.

We will begin accepting teacher proposals on April 1st and the last day will be May 30th.

*Last year we had over 175 registered students.

*Classes are held Thursday from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

*Thursday classes can be 2-4 hours, Friday and Saturday classes can be 6-8 hours, and Sunday classes can be 4-6 hours.

***You may submit for two, three or four days.**

***Class size is limited to 10 students.** Teachers determine the minimum number of students for their classes.

*We are looking for a variety of techniques, materials, weaving levels, and prices.

*As the instructor, you are required to provide all materials needed for a student to complete a finished basket (rather in class or at home) and a written pattern for each student. If your photo shows an embellishment, the classes must include what is shown.

*Be specific on the time it takes to complete the basket and the skill level.

If you are selected to be part of Guilders' Weave 2026, here are a few things to know.

*The registration fee covers meals only. We will offer a discounted price to all teachers depending on the number of classes you have. In the past, we have given the same discount to all teachers but have decided that it's not fair to give the teacher discount to a teacher who only has one class and chooses to be a "student" the other days. We will soon be in talks with the hotel to discuss food costs. We were told to expect increases for 2026. Rest assured that we will do our best to give the teachers a fair price. In the past the student registration was \$145 and the teacher registration was \$100. The GW budget covers the difference in price for teachers, which has been \$45 each in the past.

*If you have a non-teacher guest with you, they will be required to register as a student and pay the full price.

*We offer a teacher's marketplace on Friday evening. You will use your classroom space for vending. This is the **ONLY** time you are permitted to sell. There is **NO SELLING** during class time!!

*We encourage you to offer pre-ordered kits. This was started back in 2020 and has been a huge success, and it helps the teachers tremendously!! With classes limited to 10 students, there will be a lot that don't get their first or second picks and this is where they will be able to pre-order those kits from you!! We will handle the orders, collecting monies, and distributing the kits. This allows you to focus on other sales at marketplace.

*We have an overflowing hospitality room. Our GW attendees will donate all sorts of wonderful goodies from fruit to chocolate to chips to bottled water. Be sure to stop by and grab you some!

*The Marriott will offer a special group room rate, and the reservations are made through a special link that will be posted on our website. With this rate, a free breakfast is included Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. They go way above the average "continental breakfast" that most hotels offer.

You can find all the information that you need on our website "tidewaterbasketryguild.org" under the Guilders' Weave tab.

Please consider submitting for our convention. It's beginning to be well talked about and one of the better ones around! With you here, we will continue to grow and stay up there at the top of the list to attend.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at witchie24@mchsi.com or 252-435-2918

Thank you.

Tina Plageman

GW2026 Chair