

THE MOTHER OF ALL

Newsletter of the Arizona Desert Weavers & Spinners Guild, Inc.

OCTOBER 2024

Volume 53, Issue 1

From the President Desk **Merlyn Heck**

adwsg.president@gmail.com

Welcome back to another exciting year of fiber arts and fellowship! I hope that everyone had a good summer, and found some time for the things that bring you joy. The highlight of my summer was a week-long fossil dig in New Mexico, where I helped paleontologists excavate and map their finds and spent my free time crocheting dinosaurs for the field crew. Taking requests from people with very niche favorite dinosaurs is a challenge sometimes- especially when I don't have the internet available to show me a picture of something like Nothronychus or Zuniceratops! But it leads to some fun conversations, where I try to replicate a dinosaur based on napkin doodles and descriptions like "big claws- no, bigger than that!" and we end up with a fun memory and a yarn-based token of another field season.

I think that fiber arts have a special way of connecting people through time and space. The practice of spinning fiber into yarn and turning it into textiles is as old as human civilization, and something we share with every culture around the world. We make garments to keep ourselves and our loved ones warm, rugs to welcome people to our homes, toys to brighten people's days, and countless other expressions of connection through art. I have a connection to a great-grandmother I never met through a blanket she knitted for me before I was born; my nephew and niece have a collection of warm, silly hats that I crocheted for them.

I felt this same sense of connection when I came to my first Guild meeting in 2023, and promptly found myself diving down the rabbit hole of spinning/dyeing/weaving/knitting/every other art form that our talented members are eager to share! It's a very special community to be part of, and it's an honor to help keep the Guild running in the office of President this year.

In the August board meeting, we discussed ways to continue fostering our community, including highlighting the talents of our own members and ways to support one another in and outside of the Guild. Please reach out if there are programs you would like to see (alongside those currently in the works!), or skills you would like to share.

See you at the meeting!
Merlyn



OCTOBER 5TH

Presented by

CHRIS ACTON

Color as a Communication Tool

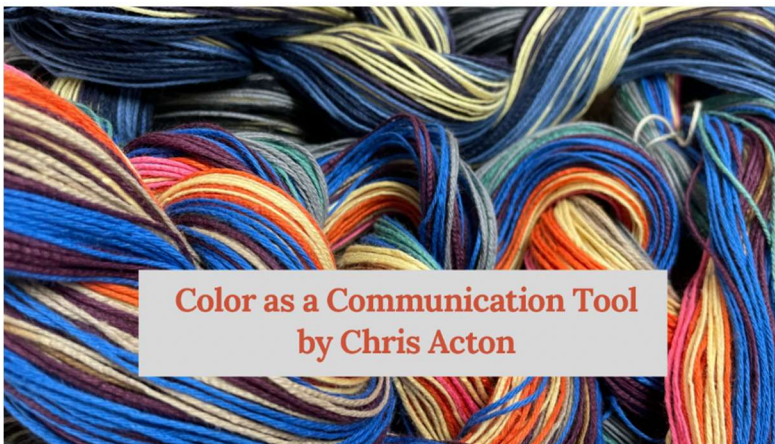
Have you ever been frustrated by the colors in your project? Or on the flip side, have you ever thought, "Boy, the colors completely make this fabric!"?

Color is a major tool in any weaver's toolbox. It has the power to precisely dictate the personality of your fabric. As a weaver, our job is to play with, explore, and better understand exactly how color can help us achieve our goals in each and every weaving project.

Join Chris Acton, with Acton Creative, at the October meeting to learn more about how to better wield the powerful communication tool that is color.

Bio:

Chris randomly took a weaving class in 2005 as a way to counteract her boredom with a corporate job in the Chicago suburbs. It was love at first sight. Little did she know this would be a major turning point in her life. Because of that class, she then left her job, moved to Indiana, and became a full-time weaver. Over the years, she has participated in art fairs all over the country and created hundreds of yards of handwoven fabric that have been transformed into unique handbags and home goods. These days you can find her carving a new path with weaving classes and resources, encouraging people everywhere to give weaving a try.



**Color as a Communication Tool
by Chris Acton**



TREASURER
Sue Carneal
adwsg.treasurer@gmail.com

Arizona Desert Weavers Spinners Guild, Inc.
Statement of Activity - Cash Basis
For the Year Ended May 31, 2024

	Amount	%
REVENUE		
Dues	\$2,010.00	27.98%
Sales	960.85	13.37%
Ways & Means	1,080.00	15.03%
Equipment Rental	310.00	4.31%
Donations	180.00	2.51%
December Fund Raiser	2,190.76	30.49%
Interest Income	452.75	6.30%
Total Revenue	7,184.36	100.00%
EXPENSES		
Awards	\$250.00	3.48%
Anniversary Celebration	1,227.61	17.09%
Bank Fees	1.47	0.02%
Demo Expense	90.46	1.26%
Office Supplies	212.08	2.95%
Zoom Account	149.00	2.07%
Rental Expense	2,852.40	39.70%
Program Expense	500.00	6.96%
Facilities & Equipment	1,000.00	13.92%
Filing Fees	20.00	0.28%
Dues	398.07	5.54%
Insurance	375.00	5.22%
Website	242.17	3.37%
Miscellaneous Expense	67.40	0.94%
Library	240.00	3.34%
Professional Fees	175.00	2.44%
Total Expenses	7,800.66	108.58%
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	(\$616.30)	-8.58%

See accompanying accountant's compilation report.

Arizona Desert Weavers Spinners Guild, Inc.
Statement of Financial Condition- Cash Basis
May 31, 2024

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Cash in Bank Checking	\$5,519.63
Cash in Bank Savings	8,313.08
Cash in Bank Certificates of Deposit	<u>10,588.49</u>
Total Current Assets	24,421.20
Fixed Assets	
Equipment	\$4,221.17
Library	<u>2,616.72</u>
Total Fixed Assets	<u>6,837.89</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$31,259.09</u></u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	
Prepaid Dues and Workshop Fees	<u>\$1,465.49</u>
Total Liabilities	1,465.49
Net Assets	
Balance, June 1, 2023	30,409.90
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets for the Year Ended May 31, 2024	<u>(616.30)</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>29,793.60</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u><u>\$31,259.09</u></u>

See accompanying accountant's compilation report.

Demonstrations

Jody Dozer

adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com

It is time to be thinking about the Arizona State Fair. We are looking for demonstrators on Friday September 27th and Saturday October 19th from 12 pm to 4 pm. This is an indoor event in the South Hall.

The guild also has a request for demonstrations at the Phoenix Zoo October 12th and 13th from 9 am to 1 pm. We could use a couple of people for Sunday October 13th. Zoo demonstrations happen in the barn area.

Please contact Jody for more information or to sign up.

Thank you and looking forward to summer's end.

Jody

jody@dozerlane.com

adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com

WAYS & MEANS

Lauren Goldfish

adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com

Greetings from the 2024 Ways and Means committee! A couple of announcements as we start another great year for our guild:

- We will have a raffle at our first meeting of the year, this October. Looking forward to seeing you and your dollars! Tickets will be \$1 each, or 6 for \$5.
- This December our guild will have its annual fundraiser, a mix of raffle and silent auction. Your donations help support our guild! We're in need of baskets... and prezzies to fill the baskets! We can accept your donations ahead of time, and we'll be ready to receive your donations at our guild meetings. Much thanks!
- Fiber stored with mothballs cannot be accepted for donation. Thank you for keeping this in mind.
- The rental fee for equipment is \$20/month. The current list for equipment available for rental or sale can be found on our website: <https://adwsg.org/rentals-and-sales>

Best regards,

The Ways and Means Committee - reach us at adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com Mary, Lauren, and Sue

LIBRARY

Beki Welsch

adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

Attention Spinners: the Summer 2024 issue of Ply Magazine is full of helpful spinning hints! Ply's teaser is as follows:

Do you ever struggle with which draft to use when? Curious about how to take the TPI measurement and why? Wonder which ply structure is best for socks? The PLY Summer issue is brimming with these and more invaluable insights. It has a wealth of informative articles ranging from scouring to dyeing to drafting to how and why to measure your yarns to the best ply structure for socks to how to choose the exact right yarn for your project. There's even an innovative way to practice spinning diameters you struggle with! This issue also has something new -- handy reference sheets. Keep them near your wheel or spindle for swift, effortless referencing of drafts, woolen and worsted, grist, finishing, and measuring TPI in singles and plied yarns.

We have subscribed to Ply Magazine for several years at the suggestion of members of the spinners groups, yet no one is checking it out. This would be a good one to start with. The Fall issue is all about alpaca spinning from choosing your fleece to making various yarns including boucle'.

Several books were purchased this summer. I have added:

Weaving Outside the Box: 12 Projects for Creating Dimensional Cloth by Denise Kovnat. Projects include woven shibori, pleats, ruffles, deflected double weave and more.

Woven Optical Illusions: Patterns and Design from Four to 24 Shafts by Stacey Harvey-Brown and Katharina Kronig. Included are chapters on changing depth perspective, causing tilt and eye jitter, and creating phantom effects. You get theory (why the illusions happen) plus drafts so you can create your own.

Weaving Max 8 by Marian Stubenitsky. As the title says, this book is for weavers with no more than 8 shafts. Included are drafts for Double Weave, Jin, Deflected Double Weave, Huck, Taquete', Crackle and many more. This is not a project book, but there are full color detail photos of what each draft looks like when woven.

Book highlight for this month:

Virginia West Swatch Book: This book has actual woven swatches of some very creative fabrics using four to twelve shafts (most use four shafts).



FEDERATION

Helene Hall

adwsg.federation@gmail.com

The current plan is to schedule workshops in March or April. More details will be provided after the Federation meeting. These are the possible future workshops:

Amanda Robinette:

Brief Bio: Amanda Robinette is a professional fiber artist who has achieved the Olds College Master Weaver Levels I and II status. She also has a background in environmental science, and her current weaving practice explores recycling, frugality, and the joy of creative destruction through rag weaving. Teaching and practicing Tai Chi is her other passion. She has been teaching and lecturing in the fiber arts for 10 years, and is the author of Weaving Western Sakiori and the developer of the Tai Chi for Weavers workshop and DVD and the Tai Chi for Fiber Artists workshop.

CRAFTING A CREATIVE MEMOIR

Anna Akridge

adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com

Interested in exploring a different side of your craft? Announcing “Crafting a Creative Memoir,” a creative write-along.

“Crafting a Creative Memoir” is a multi-month guided group project with the goal of helping each of us tell the stories of ourselves as makers and creatives. The project will run during the guild year, from October through May, and at the end, participants will have seven pieces of creative work exploring their origins, values, and aspirations as a maker.

Each month, I will send out a theme with a short excerpt or reading, some guided reflection questions to get you thinking about how you relate to the theme, and suggested approaches for the month’s “assignment.” No previous writing experience is required - this is a chance to explore.

I’ll be running this project through Substack - a free e-newsletter/blog platform. Go to <https://adwsgcreativememoir.substack.com/> to subscribe for the monthly email notifications (you can also view each month’s entry without subscribing, if you prefer). Prompts will begin following the October meeting. Contact Anna at adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com with any questions!

PROPOSED- BEGINNING WEAVING STUDY

GROUP

Beki Welsch

adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

We seem to have quite a few new weavers and wanna be weavers in our Guild now. If you would be interested in an in-person beginning weaving study group that will be hands-on starting with planning your project and warping a multi-shaft loom, email me at adwsg.librarian@gmail.com. In order to accomplish this, we would need to meet in people's homes where their looms and other tools are. The Guild study groups meet monthly, which should give you time to work on your new skills and come up with questions for the next meeting. Saturday or Sunday afternoons work well for me. When you email me, please state which day is best for you and if you prefer to start in October or November.

Beki Welsch adwsg.librarian@gmail.com

2024 Heritage Craft Prize Competition

Lisa Takata

ADWSG friends, here is my photo album showing my process for spinning, weaving and sewing the coat and jumper that was chosen to appear in the 2024 Heritage Craft Prize competition last week. My participation was a secret until last Thursday, September 12 but now that we are all home from Wyoming I can go back and fill in some of the blanks.

The Prize was open to craftswomen in the western United States; we were asked to submit photos of a handmade item along with a short narrative. As you all know, I have been very excited about using natural colors of wool in my work for many years, so that is what I talked about. I like to know the people and animals who raise the fiber that I use and consider them my collaborators in the projects I make. For this particular project (which I originally wove for the Fibershed design challenge and posted about in March 2024) I used Shetland wool from Cecile Parsons (Ducor, CA), karakul wool from Babette Turk (Aptos, CA) and natural colored cotton warp from Sally Fox (Foxfibre Colorganic in Northern California). I have been playing with vintage Bertha Gray Hayes weaving drafts for most of the past year (I donated BGH inspired handwoven coasters for the ADWSG holiday sale last December) and used Bertha Gray Hayes' "Jitterbug" draft for this project. I had originally planned to do plain weave but after several months of playing with miniature overshot I knew I could not pass up the opportunity to weave it on a larger scale. There is a whole book full of other fabulous designs to explore next!

You will see that the top part of the coat is extremely textured. I wove a length of fabric with a three-shaft honeycomb pattern and put it through the washer and dryer, knowing full well that the cotton warp and wool weft would shrink at differential rates, distorting the yardage. I moved it from the washer to the dryer one night at 2 am, moved the dryer setting to hot and went right to bed so I wouldn't be tempted to check it or rescue it before the morning. Something

2024 Heritage Craft Prize Competition

Lisa Takata

magic happened and as soon as I saw the fabric, I started redesigning the whole coat in my head as I knew the fluffy cloud of fabric needed to become the coat collar. I highly recommend taking a chance with washing and shrinking your handwoven now and then, just to see what might happen! Be brave!

I'm sure there is a lot more to say about this whole process but I am still resting up from last week so I will stop for now. Please ask me any questions you wish about the project and I will be glad to respond later this week.

I have some info on the NEST organization and its wonderful free resources to help crafters with the marketing and business aspects of what they do. I will share a post soon explaining that with a link for you to sign up if you wish.

Thank you to everyone in our guild who has been so helpful and supportive of me as I made my way through this project. As a finalist, I will be receiving a grant which I will put towards upgrading my loom, educational opportunities and buying a little more raw fiber. I would love your individual advice on things to consider as I think about what loom/equipment will be something to grow into as I continue my journey.



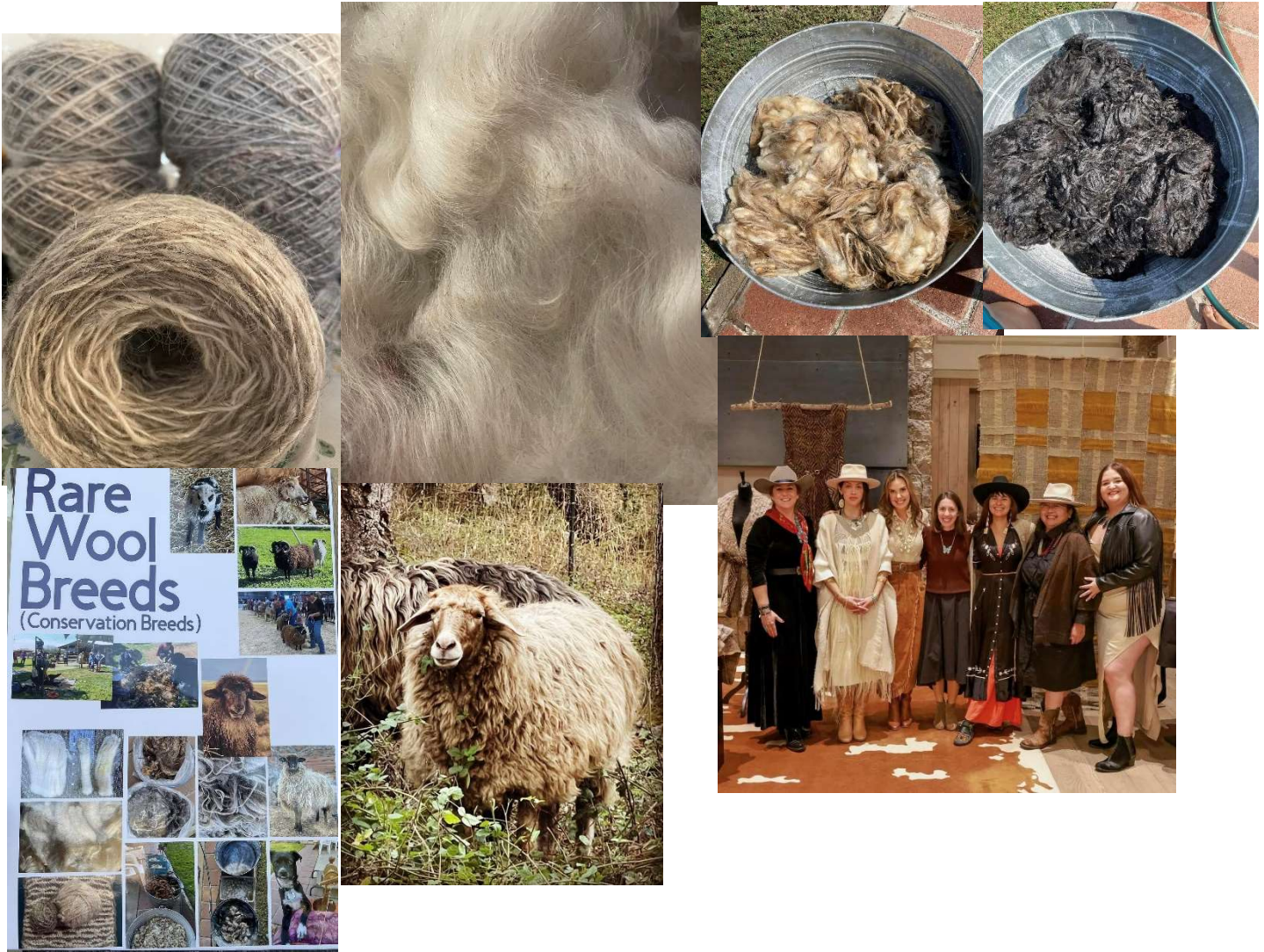
2024 Heritage Craft Prize Competition

Lisa Takata



2024 Heritage Craft Prize Competition

Lisa Takata



The Nest Guild is something all crafters can benefit from. It's free to join and gives crafters access to over 200 free video workshops and other resources (business advice, marketing etc. <https://www.buildanest.org/nest-guild>) The Kendra Scott foundation and Nest are the primary organizers of the 2024 Heritage Craft prize. For those already familiar with Kendra Scott (Austin based Jewelry company) her charitable giving since 2010 tops \$70 million and she has worked with UT Austin to establish a business entrepreneur program that is open to any major (not just business majors). Her biography is well Worth a read.

2024 Heritage Craft Prize Competition

Lisa Takata

[Nest Guild — Nest](#)

The Nest Guild is an ever-growing global network of 2,600+ handcraft enterprises and maker businesses in 125+ countries. While representing a diversity of craft types—from basket weaving to hand dyeing, ceramics, and woodworking—Guild members are united in their pursuit of sustainable business growth and social impact in their communities.

Kendra Scott's authentic and dynamic memoir, [Born to Shine](#), tells her journey from a jewelry hobby to a billion dollar business.



OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

President	Merlyn Heck	adwsg.president@gmail.com
Vice President Programs	Sue Garber	adwsg.programs@gmail.com
Vice President Workshops	Roberta Perpich	adwsg.workshops@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sue Carneal	adwsg.treasurer@gmail.com
Secretary	Velvet Dishon	adwsg.secretary@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2024-2025

Demonstrations/Publicity	Jody Dozer	adwsg.demonstrations@gmail.com
Federation Representative	Helene Hall	adwsg.federation@gmail.com
Historian	Vacant	adwsg.historian@gmail.com
Hospitality	Julie Cattaneo	adwsg.hospitality@gmail.com
Interest Groups		
Spinning/Fiber Group	Paula Rudnick	adwsg.fibergroup@gmail.com
Wonderful Weavers	Ann Ormiston	adwsg.weavinggroup@gmail.com
In Person Spinning Group	Nancy Moore	rayandnancy@comcast.net
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75 TH Anniversary	Sue Carneal	adwsg.anniversary@gmail.com
Ways & Means	Lauren Goldfish	adwsg.waysandmeans@gmail.com
Web Site	Anna Akridge	adwsg.webmaster@gmail.com

Next Meeting:

OCTOBER 5TH will be in person and on Zoom

At

Northtown Community Center

Meeting starts at 10 am

MOA Submission

Deadline

The 15th of each month

September through May

adwsg.editor@gmail.com

INTEREST GROUPS

SPINNING/FIBER GROUP ZOOM MEETINGS

Meets the third Wednesday of the month (all year long). FOR THE PRESENT TIME WE ARE MEETING ON ZOOM-(please be sure you are on the group email list so you get the email invite) We love to chat, learn what events are happening online, see what everyone is working on, and exchange ideas and get help with questions or problems we might be having with our projects. Our Zoom starts at 9:30---so join us and start chatting. We love to talk and work while we are still at home so join us for the talk and fun. We also try to have field trips a few time a year.

The group chair is **Paula Rudnick** - adwsg.fibergroup@gmail.com

WONDERFUL WEAVERS STUDY GROUP

Currently Meeting as a ZOOM Group - Meets the Third Sunday of each month, all year long. Currently we are meeting from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm as a Zoom Group. We discuss Hand Weaving structures, ideas, problems, and solutions and enjoy our show and tell. Come and join our group. The group chair is **Ann Ormiston** adwsg.weavinggroup@gmail.com

THE DROP IN SPINNERS GROUP

The Drop In Spinners meet at the North Town Center 2202 E Waltann Ln, Phoenix on the 4th Thursday of each month from 10:00 to 2:00 pm. From the front door, proceed to the library in the far back left corner. Everyone is welcome to attend. Anyone with an interest in spinning may join in, even if you are currently working on something else. The group chair is Nancy Moore rayandnancy@comcast.net

ADWSG WEBSITE

<http://www.adwsg.org>

Follow us on

[FACEBOOK](#)

Join Us for Our Monthly Meetings:

10 am In Person

Northtown Community Center 2202 E.
Waltann Lane,

Phoenix, AZ

Doors Open at 9 am

Come Early and Mingle!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

OCTOBER 5, 2024

October 5, 2024
November 2, 2024
December 7, 2024
January 4, 2025
February 1, 2025
March 1, 2025
April 5, 2025
May 3, 2025

BRING YOUR OWN CUP

Thank you for bringing your reusable cups,
mugs, and utensils to the meetings.
Let us take care of Our Earth



Heard Museum Guild

Volunteer Arm of the Heard Museum

Marquee Artists Series Returns

Wednesdays: Oct. 23, Nov. 6, Jan. 22

\$50.00 for Series

Register for Series Only Below

\$20.00 for an individual program
payable at the door.

Ask a friend to join you - Open to the Public



Program 1 – Wed. October 23, 2024

Venancio Aragon (Diné)

Navajo Textile Arts

9:30 Sign In / Coffee

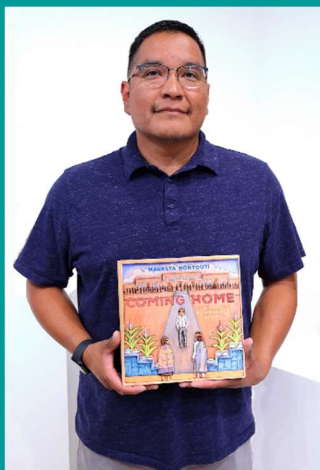
10:00 to 12:00

Steele Auditorium

“The Promise of Spider Woman; Navajo Textile Arts and
Intergenerational Transfer of Knowledge in a Changing World.”

Venancio Aragón is a Diné textile artist and holds two Bachelor of Arts degrees: one in Cultural Anthropology from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque and the other in Native American Studies from Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. While Venancio was weaving textiles he worked for the National Park Service as an interpretive ranger in various parks and monuments throughout the Southwest. His interest in archaeology, anthropology, and art has led him on a journey of researching and reviving portions of the Diné weaving repertoire that are in danger of being lost. Venancio was the 2020 Rollin and Mary Ella King Native Artist Fellow at the School for Advanced Research (SAR) in Santa Fe, New Mexico. His work at SAR centered on documenting and recreating lesser known and uncommon Diné weaving techniques. He lives and works in Farmington, New Mexico, where he continues to educate and promote Diné weaving as a form of decolonial expression. Venancio's textiles have been featured in numerous exhibitions, films and publications.

Above Photos: Two sides of the same textile



Program 2 – Wednesday., November 6, 2024

Mavasta Honyouti (Hopi)

Wood Carvings

9:30 Sign In / Coffee

10:00 to 12:00

Steele Auditorium

Through the teachings of a long line of master carvers, Hopi artist Mavasta Honyouti uniquely combines the traditional style of carving while integrating contemporary techniques. All of the pieces Mavasta creates embody the essence of nature, family, and prayer, through the journey of spirituality.

Mavasta is from Hotevilla, Arizona and member of the Coyote Clan (Iswungwa). Starting out as a teenager and over the years, Mavasta has been able to evolve in his carving approach. With inspiration from his earliest teachers, he has been able to create a unique form. His accomplishments have included numerous awards from the most prestigious art shows around the country. Mavasta's work was featured as the cover art for the Native American Art Magazine's official guide at the 2020 Heard Museum Guild Indian Fair and Market.





Most recently, Mavasta has completed a picture book featuring sixteen original carved plaques telling the story of his grandfather's experience in a government-operated boarding school. The book "Coming Home: A Hopi Resistance Story" will be released in the fall of 2024 in conjunction with a show of the plaques at the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian.

Photos: Close-up of book cover and select artwork being shown August 2024 at King Galleries.



Program 3 – Wed., January 22nd, 2025

Jason Garcia/Okuu Pín (Santa Clara Pueblo Tewa)

Clay & Printmaking

9:30 Sign In / Coffee

10:00 to 12:00

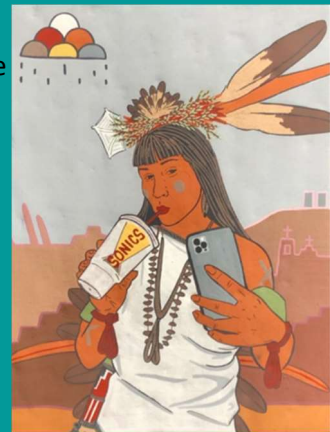
Steele Auditorium

Jason Garcia's (Okuu Pín/Turtle Mountain) work documents the ever-changing cultural landscape

of his home of K'haPo Owingeh/Santa Clara Pueblo, NM.

Garcia's Tewa cultural ceremonies, traditions, and stories as well as 21st century popular culture, comic books, and technology, influence his clay and print work. Using traditional materials and traditional Pueblo pottery techniques coupled with various printmaking techniques, this juxtaposition of customary and contemporary materials and techniques connect him to his Ancestral past, landscape, and cultural knowledge.

His work has been exhibited in many museums and various exhibitions in the Southwest and the Midwest US; these include the National Museum of the American Indian, Arizona State University, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, the Colby Museum of Art, and the Peabody Essex Museum.





Garcia has been a participant in the Heard Museum's Indian Fair and Market for over twenty years and his work has been acquired for the permanent collection and has been included in several exhibitions including Maria & Modernism, Super Heroes: Art! Action! Adventure!, and "HOME-Native People in the Southwest".

Garcia earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM and his Master of Fine Arts in Printmaking at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI. Garcia resides and works in his studio located in Santa Clara Pueblo, NM.

Photos of clay tiles:

Upper right "I live off the land....and Sonics"

Lower left: "Back in Tlme"

Your generosity makes these programs possible. With strong subscription levels, we hope to be able to offer more programs like these. Come, see, and learn from the artists that build on their traditions and push the boundaries in the process. The Marquee Artists.

Michael and JoAnne Mandracchia

Questions? Contact Michael at MRMandracchia@cox.net

or Joanne at jamandracchia@cox.net

Heard Museum Guild

Co-Chairs / Educational Programs / Heard Guild Presents

\$50.00 for all 3 programs

\$20.00 for an individual program

payable at the door with cash or check

Invite a Friend to Join You

[REGISTER FOR SERIES ONLY](#)



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A barely used Louet Spring II (\$10,000 Value)

8 shafts installed with 4 shafts add-on kit (12 shafts)

Includes 5 reeds (6,8,10,12,15)

Extra heddles, Matching Bench, Extra Loom Lift System

All documentation! Prescott Area Pick Up!

Linda Schoenmakers 847-946-7368

Did you know - Classified Ads are free to current ADWSG Members - Just send your ad to adwsg.editor@gmail.com

And it will be included in the next MOA