



Fiber News & Updates

October 2023 Vol. 14, Issue 2

Valley Fiber Art Guild ~ www.valleyfiberartguild.org

2023 / 2024

October 9, 2023

Basketry

Monthly meetings will be held at :

Valley Presbyterian Church
2800 S Camino del Sol
Green Valley, AZ 85622

Come early for socializing and library browsing at 9:30am.

Meeting / programs from 10:00am – 12 Noon

Valley Fiber Art Guild



Membership \$25/year

www.valleyfiberartguild.org

Download an enrollment form from our Web Site.

President's Letter

BASKETS - A TISKET A TASKET

WE NEED THEM WE USE THEM

WE LOVE THEM WE MAKE THEM



Thinking about our upcoming program on baskets I slowly became aware of the presence of baskets in our lives. Just strolling through a major store like Fry's or Walmart I saw aisles dedicated to baskets and containers. At the mall last weekend I spent too much time and cash at the Container Store. I use them for organizing my knitting and sewing supplies, transporting laundry items from one place to another and displaying decorative objects in and for serving fruit and bread.

Most indigenous cultures have made some form of basket and not only made them useful but made them beautiful as well They are a very common and necessary household item that has risen to an art form. Showing us once again, that very human drive to decorate, individualize and uplift the mundane to an object perfectly suited to its task while also being aesthetically pleasing.

We even sing about them. An American nursery rhyme from the late 19th century was made into a hit song by Ella Fitzgerald which reached the number one spot on the Hit Parade on June 25, 1938. By 1950 it had sold 1 million records.

Fondly,
Martha Fine

October Meeting Program: Baskets – An Essential Art

Guild member Pat Merritt will present a program on baskets from around the world. She will bring in some of the baskets from her collection that represent a wide range of techniques and materials used by indigenous basketweavers from Vancouver, B.C. to Venezuela and from Asia to Uganda. Some are old, some new with skill levels ranging from extremely fine to simple and crude. Of course samples of SW Native American tribes are included as well.



A display of locally collected basketry materials will be displayed as well. Materials that were and are currently used by Native Americans in the SW as well as different types of materials used by modern weavers locally.

Anyone who has baskets that they own or have made is encouraged to bring them in for show and tell.

Shibori & Indigo Dyeing with Ric Rao

1½ day Workshop

November 11th 9am-3pm & 12th 9am-1pm, 2023

Cost \$100.

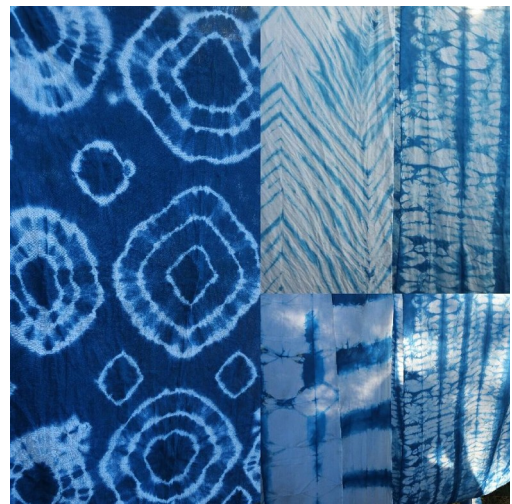
Hello from the workshop Committee!

We are excited to report there have been nine registrations for the November 11-12, 2023 Shibori & Indigo Workshop with Ric Rao. Initially we thought the workshop space would be in my home and backyard but I have been able to make reservations for the workshop at the Canoa Golf Resort. Ric will be able to take 15 students instead of 12 so we have room for 6 more! We will open registrations to other guilds October 15th so if you have been thinking about taking the workshop please register now so you are not disappointed. If you have questions please contact me via email at misseyb@gmail.com. I will have information, samples and registration forms at the October 9th meeting. See you then – Debbi Brunner

Ric Rao of Las Cruces, New Mexico will be with us again this Fall! It been 6 years since Ric shared his love of Indigo dyeing with us so we are excited he is able to offer this opportunity to our members. Day 1, Ric will show his samples as you prepare fabrics for the Indigo vat, teaching you how to wrap and tie fabrics on a pipe, folding techniques and sewing options to create different designs. Day 2, he will explain the how the dye vat is created and guide you through the dyeing process.

Shibori Dyeing is wonderful on natural fabrics such as cotton, linen, and silk. Yarns of the same fibers and wool. This will be an opportunity to create samples that may be combined in a collage, accessory or garment.

There will be information and sign up sheets available at the general meeting.



There's Still Time to Create Something Special to Share for the President's Summer Complementary Color Challenge

I hereby challenge every member of VFAG to a COLOR SMACKDOWN.

The challenge is to create anything of your choice that uses a pair of complementary colors (opposites on the color wheel, sometimes called opposites).

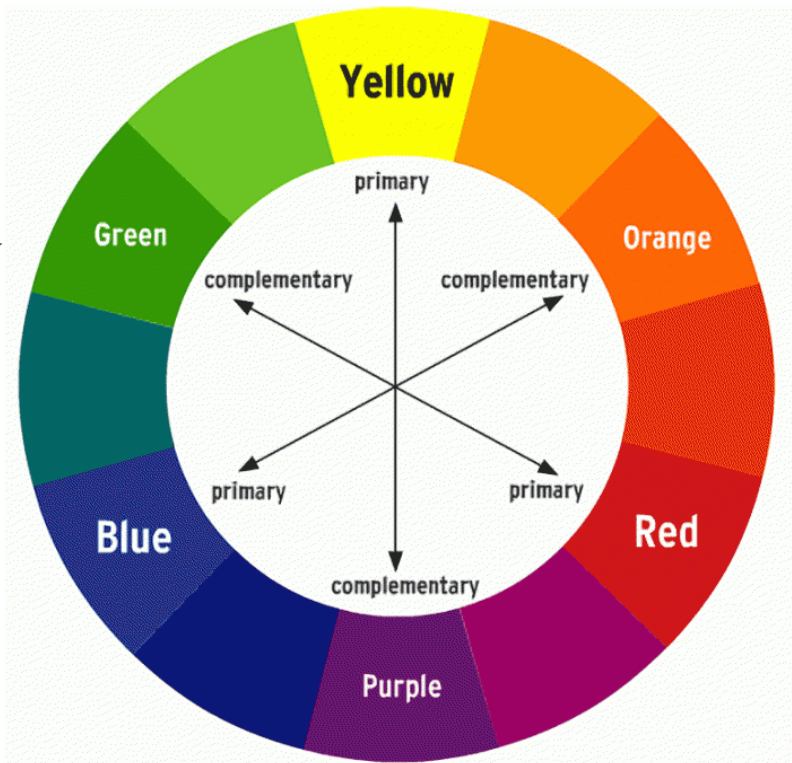
- Violet and Yellow
- Red and Green
- Blue and Orange

You may add a neutral but the majority of the piece must use the complementary color pair.

You can submit an individual piece, one you make with a partner or even a group piece made by a study group, or all of the above. You may submit as many entries as your creativity and time permit. There are no size, material or subject guidelines; let your imagination be your guide.

I am already thinking about violet and yellow as I see spring arrive in our beautiful desert but I know by the summer I will be delighting in blue waters and orange sunsets. I'm sure many of you will be intrigued with creating a Christmas delight in red and green.

Bring your entries to the VFAG general meeting on December 11, 2023. All members present will be able to vote for the "People's Choice Award" which is a gift certificate for the lucky winner.



September 18, 2023 Show 'n Share







2023 / 2024 General Meeting and Workshop Schedule

October 9, 2023	Basketry
November 11 & 12	<i>Shibori & Indigo Dyeing Workshop with Ric Rao</i>
November 13, 2023	Natural Dyeing
December 11, 2023	Holiday Luncheon and President's Challenge Presentation & Voting: "Complementary Color Challenge"
January 8, 2024	Handmade Sorochka Experience
February 12, 2024	The Color Red
March 11, 2024	Art Quilts
April 8, 2024	Member's Stash Sale

TAG (The Art of Giving)



Since many new members have joined the Guild, a brief explanation of TAG is in order. TAG was implemented 10 years ago. Our focus is the low income elderly in the immediate area. We target our gifts to reach people just before the holidays. We work with Valley Assistance and the local Fire Department to manage and delivery the gifts.

Our gifts include home made items; shawls, scarves, hats, gloves, lap blankets, etc. These items can be knit, sewn, crocheted, woven or any craft. They also encourage toiletries, books (I (Jane) try and include a homemade bookmark) or decorative items. Please use your own imagination and experience with interaction with older people for ideas for these gifts. In addition, there are more ideas on the website.

Jane Tempel will be collecting items in the October Guild meeting as she delivers to Valley Assistance in early November.

YouTube Channel



Valley Fiber Arts Guild has a YouTube channel all our own. It is a private channel; available only to our members. Information to access then channel will be made available in the members-only password-protected section on our website.

Arizona Fiber Festival (AZFF)



April 5th – 7th, 2024. Workshops will be posted on the AZFFED.org website soon. Registration begins in November. Deborah Jarchow and Carol Byrne co-chair the festival. They will be looking for volunteers so think about how you can help. Jol'ene will have additional information as it becomes available.

Guild Library Report

Greetings from the Library!

Wow! We are off to a great start at the beginning of our year! Our new location is fantastic and I finally get to keep the library open and be a part of the general meetings!

To begin, I want to thank my moving helpers who made the move from CPAC to the Presbyterian church such a quick and smooth transition! Wow!! The library was packed and moved in record time and the Abrego moving team were prompt and efficient. My thanks to Martha Fine, Debra Brown, Marge Delker, and Jol'ene Northrup. Many hands make light work!

By shifting and re-organizing the collection as we did the reloading, I am pleased that we have a teeny bit of space on most shelves now. We did purge a few older knitting books, so there are a few left for sale at the next meeting. I will continue to review and make recommendations about collection maintenance as the season wears on, but I think we are in great shape for the beginning of the fiber year!

And after our first meeting, I am happy to report that we have 18 books and 4 magazine checkouts so far!

I am considering purging and selling off the small collection of videos that are still gathering dust at my house since they did not fit in the cabinets. Most people have moved on from CDs and DVDs since it is now considered "old" technology, and I have had only 2 DVDs checked out at the beginning of last year. I plan on selling off the collection at the April Stash Sale. I will have a complete list of the collection posted in a future newsletter. In the meantime, if anyone is interested in checking out any of the DVD/CD collection, go to the online VFAG library, the link is on our website or by going to Valley Fiber Arts Guild Library and using the search term DVD and/or CD for a list of what is currently owned. Anyone wishing to preview and check out a DVD can contact me before the next meeting and I will be sure to bring the requested title to the meeting.

Until October 9th, happy fibering!

Melanie Fritz, Guild Librarian

Study Groups

Study groups are the heart and soul of our organization. They are vital for sharing ideas, techniques, and most of all: friendship.

The VFAG will follow Pima County's Guidelines for COVID precautions. Whether you decide to wear a mask or not OR to create distance, you will be respected by all.

For more information about a particular group or the current topic of the month, please contact the group leader.

Note: "OTM" refers to "of the month."

We are always looking for new study group ideas; please let a Board Member know of your interest.

Beading:

Meetings have historically been the last week OTM at Friends in Deed. Time and locations to be determined and may change. Please contact Karen Gabriel for updates.

Karengary115@gmail.com or 520-207-0799

Clothing:

Clothing Study Group meets the third Tuesday OTM at 9:30, Desert Hills Lutheran Church. First meeting of the season is in October. Contact Peggy McGaughey – peg-e-su.silk@msn.com or 303-241-7686 for questions.

Felting:

Contact Lyndy Runyon – lyndyrnyon@gmail.com or 707-373-8584 for questions.

Knitting:

The Knitting Study Group meets the fourth Tuesday OTM, from 9:30am to 11:30am at Friends in Deed meeting room A. Contact Jane Tempel at tempelj@aol.com for questions.

Kumihimo:

The Kumihimo group meet on the last Wednesday OTM. Next meeting is October 25th 1:00 to 3:00pm. We are a small but mighty group who would love to see new members. Contact: Laurie Wykoff at lawykoff@yahoo.com.

Weaving:

The Weaving study group meets the third Monday OTM at 1:00pm at a members home. All weavers are invited including Tapestry & Rigid Heddle people! Contact Ann Bont for detail – abont@comcast.net or 231-652-6275 for addition information.

Spinning:

This study group has started with strong interest. The next meeting will be on October 23rd at 2:00pm at 300 E Paseo Chuparasos. At that time, we will decide on a permanent day and time. For more information contact Sally Young - rare1alaska@gmail.com or 907-322-9264.

Tapestry:

The Tapestry group meets the first Tuesday OTM, 9:30am-Noon at Friends in Deed. Everyone interested is welcome, beginners to advanced. Group leaders are April Boysen and Debra Brown. Contact Debra Brown at debrabrown15@icloud.com or 520-372-2075 for questions.

Newsletter Editor:

Cheri Golden. Please contact Cheri with questions or suggestions - cheri-golden@comcast.net.

VFAG Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

- President: Martha Fine
- Vice President: Jol'ene Northrup
- Secretary: Marjorie Delker
- Treasurer: Debra Brown
- Federation: Jol'ene Northrup
- Programs: Debbie Brunner
- Membership: Peggy McGaughey and Cindy Wolf
- Librarian: Melanie Fritz
- Webmaster: Open
- Newsletter: Cheri Golden

WORKSHOPS FOR 2023-2024

SOUTHWEST CORNER will be offering classes in Four Harness Weaving, Basketry, Beading, Inkle Weaving and a variety of Spinning workshops with the SPINNING RODEO finale at the end of February. Go to WWW.COTTONSPINNING.COM, for more details and to download details and registration forms.

THE CALENDAR IN WWW.COTTONSPINNING.COM WILL GIVE YOU LINKS TO ALL THE FIBER ART WORKSHOPS IN TUCSON AND NEIGHBORING AREA.



DanDoh Retreat Date Change

Monday, April 15 - Thursday, April 18, 2024
Happy knitting and crocheting!

DanDoh Style

- No shaping
- Easy to knit
- Adjustable length/width/sleeves
- Make your own style

Konnichi wa

こんにちは

New Retreat Date: Monday, April 15 - Thursday, April 18, 2024

We're all about community.

Immerse yourself for two and a half days into the world of DanDoh, including lectures, a Mystery Knit Along, a Pop Up Shop, knitting, food, beverages, more knitting, reuniting with old friends, making new friends, sharing ideas and techniques, learning, (did I say knitting?) and building community, all within a very relaxed, informal atmosphere.

RETREAT REGISTRATION OPENS MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2023 AT 9:00 AM MST

Visit www.dandoh.com, select more, and select retreat to register.

