Winner of Artistic Merit Award

Susan Schmieman is the winner of DFA's Artistic Merit Award!

Judges from Allied Arts comb our biennial exhibit at the Gallery at the Park for a piece that includes an emotional impact, a message or a perspective on the world.

Susan's table runner is handwoven on a 50-shaft draw loom. She used fine cotton and linen yarns. The inspiration for the vine pattern is from Pinterest. Susan worked out where each of her 1000+ yarns were threaded on her loom to enable her to weave the pattern.
STAFFORD WEAVING STUDY GROUP
Tuesday, Feb. 2, 1-3pm on Zoom (Our first meeting of 2021!)
Episode One was released January 21. Topic “Turned Twill.”
Everyone is welcome to our discussion. Feel free to share whatever fiber art you’ve been creating. If you want the lesson, you need to subscribe to Jane Stafford’s Online Guild, https://janestaffordtextiles.com/online-guild/
If you’re not already on our group’s email list, contact Cheryl Reed for the Zoom link.
cheryldavisreed@gmail.com. Phone 509 318-5293

BY THE BOOK KNITTERS
February 16th 6pm zoom meeting contact Earlene Mokler emokler@gmail.com 528-3228

RIGID HEDDLE STUDY GROUP
Monday, February 8, 1:00 p.m. via Zoom -- watch for the Zoom invitation.

We had a great turn out at the January RHSG Zoom meeting, saw some new faces and some we haven’t seen in a long time. It is always interesting to see what everyone is working on and it isn’t just weaving. Nancy has been checking out Operation Gratitude; if you have not heard of it, check it out on the internet. Meredith wove fabric she plans to sew into a cross body bag and Mary is making good use of old neckties she made for her dad and husband to wear to work. Don is teaching his grandkids to weave. He came up with the idea to let them use white board markers on the reed to design colorful stripe scarves.

Don did say he should have threaded the warp in the slot BEFORE the colored hole, rather than after, that way the warp colors would have lined up with the colors on the reed better. For those of you with floor looms, you could use graph paper for the little ones to design a scarf.
I have been weaving towels that required two shuttles and it was a challenge to carry the weft up the side. I found this short video on the internet that helped: https://www.schoolofsweetgeorgia.com/weaving-with-multiple-weft-shuttles/
She suggests placing the shuttle on a table beside the loom or on the loom bench, what worked on the rigid heddle loom was to place the stick shuttle on the warp behind the reed. And this method works when you are changing colors with each shot: https://peggyosterkamp.com/2020/08/ways-to-catch-the-outside-thread-when-using-two-shuttles/
Contact K. Myers kbmyers@gmail.com 509-392-6120

STASH BUSTER!
ROLL OF THE DICE KNITTED/WOVEN HAT CHALLENGE:
Let’s Get ROLLING!
Take the leap & see what you can create! Dive into your stash and choose 2 colors of your favorite yarns or fibers. Create a fun alternating strip pattern with a simple roll of the dice. Weavers can play as well, creating unique striping patterns on Saori hats, scarves, dishtowels or rugs! Crocheters can play along with "stripes by dice". Let your imagination run WILD! Play a game of dice with a fellow fiber artist and knit, weave or crochet your scores! Play a game of FARKLE and throw in a ZINGER every time you get a FARKLE! Model, Show and Share your creation at the March General Meeting!
Thank you, Pam Root, for submitting the challenge! Thank you, Cheryl Reed, your very valuable 2 cents! +(Ideas on how to make the challenge work for all)
Challenge idea from Tierra Wools, in NM. A pdf of this pattern is available here: https://www.handweavers.com/blog/2021/1/23/roll-of-the-dice-hat
MAKING DFA WORK
DFA needs your help! As we start 2021 there are several committees that need volunteers as well as positions on our Board. Below is a portion of our DFA Bylaws. We all get a lot out of DFA. Here’s how we take responsibility to keep DFA thriving:

Section 6. Membership Responsibilities
a. Members shall vote and participate in surveys and discussions in a timely manner and fashion. Those people who represent this organization to the public should be active and involved members of DFA.
b. Members have the responsibility to actively participate and volunteer or serve on committees supporting the goals, aims and purposes of DFA.
c. Members have the responsibility to accept an office when able.

Please contact your Nominating Committee to volunteer to serve as Secretary from June, 2021-June, 2023, a 2-yr term. OR President, from May, 2021- May, 2022, a 1-yr term.

Call Carol Kaminsky, (509) 619-0233 or Cheryl Reed, (509) 318-5293 or Katherine Nye, (509) 531-3919. They can explain the tasks involved with those positions.

WHAT’S UP WITH THE ANWG CONFERENCE?
Over the last few months, the committee has been proactively looking at a wide-range of venues. This has been quite a challenge as we must take into consideration everything from the location, size and availability of the venue, as well as the specific needs of the conference. At this time, we are continuing our efforts to narrow down the most suitable choices and have not yet determined an exact date or location.

So for now, please continue to weave, spin and create fiber art in the conference colors. We will keep you updated with our progress toward the 2023 conference in periodic blog posts and on the website as we work on securing a date and location for our summer 2023 ANWG conference. Stay tuned! Your 2023 ANWG Conference Steering Committee

SMALL EXPRESSIONS 2021 TRAVELING EXHIBIT STARTS IN LA CONNOR

Small Expressions is an annual, international, juried exhibit sponsored by the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. (HGA) to showcase contemporary small scale works created using fiber techniques in any media, not to exceed 15 inches (38 cm) in any direction including mounting, framing, or display devices. Juried by Madelyn van der Hoogt, the exhibit will open at the Pacific Northwest Quilt & Fiber Arts Museum (June 30 - August 22, 2021) in La Conner, Washington. The exhibit will then tour the United States for a year. Deadline for entry is March 15, 2021.
Go here for more info: https://weavespindye.org/calls-for-entry/.
I would like to say a great big THANK YOU to all of the helpers and exhibitors of the Allied Arts Gallery at the Park show. I think that we would all say that the show was a success. January went by way too quickly. It is hard to believe that the show is almost over already. The 30th is teardown/cleanup.

Susan Schmieman was awarded the Artist Merit Award on January 16th, for her Thistle Runner. This award is awarded by DFA, but chosen by Allied Arts, based solely on Artistic Merit and not on technical expertise (although she would have won that one as well). I love Susan’s story of why she chose the thistle design for the runner. She said she read somewhere that life is strewn with Thistles and Roses (ask her to explain it for you - I can’t do it justice). An absolutely stunning piece done on a 50!!! Shaft loom. I didn’t know they existed. Just WOW!

We had a very positive response from everyone who got to stop in and ohhh and ahhh over all of the beautiful creations. There was quite a variety - woven garments, scarves, purses, tapestries, and dish towels, felted slippers, purses, and jewelry, beautiful knit shawls, sweaters, and a ton of knit socks (both by hand and machine) and some surface design items to amaze everyone. This year’s theme, “Wearable Art”, was a big hit. Because of the theme we were able to display more clothing items created from hand woven fabrics than ever before. Some genuinely unique and beautiful one-of-a-kind pieces.

The Poker Challenge items were also fascinating to see. The creativity and interpretation of the different cards of the poker hands (covering color, texture, fiber and theme) was inspiring. It is amazing what emerges when fiber artists are stretched and use their imaginations to go where they have never gone before. Combining technique, fiber, texture and color in a cohesive piece that fit with their assigned theme.

We had t.v. coverage as well as newspaper and internet coverage (Facebook ads and videos, Constant Contact emails, and TourProsser.com). Thank you Jennifer Ely for contacting the t.v. stations, newspapers and Tour Prosser. Thanks to Rebecca Harkins and Felicia Folsom (of Allied Arts) for filming videos for Facebook, and Cheryl Reed for doing promotions via Constant Contact on Email.

Thank you to the many helper bees who helped get things displayed and returned to their rightful owners. A special thanks to Mary Fraser too - who kept reminding everyone of the theme throughout the year.

Hope Harkins
**UPDATES TO MEMBERSHIP LIST**

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CHANGES

REMOVE:

KATHY KEHL

Mentor needed:  
Looking for a DFA member who has a Harrisville Design loom. Char Friberg's neighbor has a HD loom in pieces and needs to see a physical loom (zoom, pics or in person) for assistance. Currently the loom is in the refinishing process. There are pieces that will need to be replaced. Help encourage a new weaver and possible new DFA membership! Here is an opportunity for "Each One, Teach One". Please contact Char Friberg if you are interested and able to help. alcharfriberg@gmail.com
LOGO A SLOW-GO:

OH NO! What’s happening with the LOGO? You may have noticed the hang tags at the Allied Arts Gallery Show sporting a new look. Check it out. This was a TEST…only Test!

But what happened to the circular logo we all voted on so long ago. Hard to believe it was June 24, 2019 when the DFA Board was informed of infringement issues with our LOGO. Leslie & Karen L. (aka LOGO Team) to the rescue! We also needed a plethora of files to be used for swag, internet, print & stuff. So much to LEARN! Funds were appropriated at the Aug. 19, 2019 board meeting for Designs by Larelle to assist the LOGO team. Leslie presents LOGO possibilities at the November 2019 General meeting. Members were asked for their input and selected an idea. DFA initials surrounded by a circle of “Each One, Teach One”, est. 1974 & Desert Fiber Arts written out. February brought the chilling news that our design was problematic. Back to the drawing board to figure out how to invert the wording & correct the spacing. Thank you’s to Karen Lamar for having her computer engineer son to reconfigure the logo. Then COVID hit…challenges and more challenges. We had no possibility of our regular income streams: McCurley Car Drives, classes, sales of donated items & the Fall Sale (Fundraiser). July 2020 ‘s board meeting brought cost concerns: limiting colors, adaptability of hues, Trade Mark & registration of LOGO. Heaving a sigh of relief, the board allocated $1000 more for the LOGO development at the September board meeting. We had just received word that DFA was awarded a $10K CARES Grant. Leslie goes back to Larelle. The crisp November wind blew in circular design changes. While researching Leslie discovers our motto is used by other companies…concerns of possible infringement violations.
The recommendation is for only 2 to 3 colors to be used. Leslie met with an attorney to discuss Trade Mark vs LOGO registration. (DFA received a free 30-minute consultation from the Washington State Attorney’s group) The decision, we need to spend the big buck. Trade Mark & register our name, Desert Fiber Arts and a squiggle (design). We can add “Each One, Teach One” & established 1974 surrounding our LOGO... This keeps us out of infringement issues. Next...color choice: Purple/Green or Blue/Orange (y) or? The LOGO has been a long journey. Many have questioned the results. Options were presented to the board in January to reopen the design process. The board voted to move forward with the selection pictured. As you probably are guessing, there is a lot more to the story. Board approved minutes were used to create this article. All minutes are on the DFA website.

Sadly, Leslie has to part way with the LOGO project. Leslie has done an amazing job of researching, being the DFA Liaison, presenting, negotiating and consulting with all involved. Thank you, Leslie, for your self-less, outstanding efforts! All this while maintain your family, caregiver & life tasks!

It’s the SLOW-GO LOGO that needs to come to an end. DFA needs someone to take the reins and finish up & get us to fruition.

Submitted by: Marion Halupczok
You can be a part of the Desert Fiber Arts Guild. To join send a $25 check along with your name, address and phone to Desert Fiber Arts, P O Box 1004, Richland WA 99352

Desert Fiber Arts newsletter Advertisements;
Members - $1.00 per vertical inch, 8 inch width.
Non-Members - $2.00 per vertical inch, 8 inch width.

I found a shawl recipe in the Weaving with Robert & Roberta workbook from the weaving study group that got the ball rolling on weaving study groups in DFA around 2011. Hard to believe that weaving was second to spinning for years in DFA. Like all things, it has cycled.

Although we were founded as weavers and spinners, there was about a decade long absence of weaving studies in DFA. Then weaving bug hit Tri-Cities, and the PNW again. Lois Johnson, a weaver whose work we all admired, advised the new study group to use the course that she learned from. That course in is a binder in the DFA library. In the mid-1990’s Lois gifted me with a lovely shawl. Photo above. She told me it was a project from the course but she didn’t go anywhere that she’d wear the shawl. It’s in volume 4 part 2 pages 56-61. Cheryl Reed