

Kansas Alliance of Weavers & Spinners - KAWS 2022 Conference



The Topeka Handweavers and Spinners Guild invites you to attend the 2022 Kansas Alliance of Weavers and Spinners Conference on **Friday and Saturday, September 16 – 17, 2022.**

- All activities will take place at the Auburn Community Center, 121 W 11th St., Auburn, Kansas 66402.
- Those attending must be members of the Kansas Alliance of Weavers and Spinners (KAWS). A \$2 membership may be purchased when registering.

The theme of the KAWS 2022 conference is the Kaw River – a source of life-giving water to the people who lived on its shores, a transportation route for vessels from steamboats to kayaks, a ribbon through Kansas that can sparkle in the sun or rage with swollen floodwaters. Topeka straddles the Kansas River, a river often referred to as the Kaw. Fool Chief’s village, home to many Kaw/Kansa/Konza people, once sat on the northern shore of the river that now bears their name. By the mid-1800s settlers had arrived and made this section of the river the capital of the new state of Kansas. The Kaw River flows through Topeka and the lives of those who have lived here over the centuries. We invite you to explore the fiber arts that flow through our lives.

Keynote Speaker

“In the Flow of Fiber Arts” – In her keynote, Laura Mead will explore the ways fiber arts connect us to nature, neighbors, and our own creativity. Laura grew up in *Shaftsbury Hollow, Vermont*, and as a young adult moved to Kansas after falling deeply in love with the *Flint Hills*. Both landscapes – the lush, wooded landscapes of the Green Mountains and the vast, rolling prairie of the Flint Hills – have captured her imagination. These vistas inspire her to create art as a means of expression, understanding, and connection with others. Laura is a practitioner and teacher of meditation. To her the act of creating art is part of the meditative process. Her art is cultivated to peace, stillness, insight, wisdom, and compassion. Each piece she creates becomes a type of talisman, invitation, and reminder to cultivate those qualities in and around ourselves each and every day.



Agenda

Friday, September 16, 2022

5:00-9:00 p.m.	Registration & Vendors Open
5:00-9:00 p.m.	Community Service Project
7:00 p.m.	KAWS Board Meeting

Saturday, September 17, 2022

8:00 a.m.	Registration & Vendors Open
8:30-10:00 a.m.	Class Session #1 (<i>choose one</i>) Bow Weaving Knit & Purl, Now What? Oui Candle Holder/Lidded Container Crocheting Cables Preparing Scoured Wool Fleece for Spinning & Weaving
10:00-10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m.-noon	Class Session #2 (<i>choose one</i>) Indigo Go! Slow Stitching Wet Felted Ornament Navajo Plying/Chain Plying Twined Bag
12:00-12:30 p.m.	KAWS Business Meeting
12:30-2:00 p.m.	Lunch, Keynote, Awards, and Invitation to KAWS 2023
2:00-2:30 p.m.	Break
2:30-4:30 p.m.	Make & Take Activities

Community Service Project - Join us on Friday evening for a community service project! We will be weaving mats for the homeless out of plastic yarn or PLARN. These will be donated to the Topeka Rescue Mission. You can also support this project by bringing plastic grocery bags to the conference for use in weaving mats.

Make & Take - Spend the afternoon exploring a few of the Make & Take Activities that will be spread around the conference rooms. No need to register for these. Just find one you like and sit and explore your creativity.

Enter to Win!

- **Guild Exhibits** – Guilds are invited to enter one 5' table top exhibit on the theme of the conference, "The Fibers That Flow Through Our Lives." Exhibits will be judged by those attending the conference with awards for 1st through 3rd place presented during lunch to the exhibit that best represents the conference theme. (Guild exhibits need to be set up by 10:00 on Saturday morning.)
- **Fiber Show** – Registrants are invited to bring one item to enter in the conference Fiber Show. Entries can represent any type of fiber art that has not been previously entered. Items do not need to be clothing so bring your favorite towel, hat, tapestry, skein, etc. Items will be displayed in the exhibit hall and judged by those attending. Awards will be presented during lunch to 1st through 3rd place winners. (Fiber Show items need to be submitted when you check in at the registration table.)
- **Pete Soeken Hand Weaving Excellence Award** – This award is given in honor of Pete Soeken, a founder of KAWS. You must be entered in the Fiber Show to be considered. The winner will be chosen by those attending.

Conference Location & Lodging Information: Auburn is located in western Shawnee County a short 15-minute drive to hotels in Topeka. Several hotels and restaurants can be found along I-70 or on the Wanamaker corridor in Topeka. For information about lodging, restaurants, or other events in Topeka the during weekend of KAWS 2022, see the VisitTopeka website, <https://www.visittopeka.com/> .

Registration – Registration fee includes lunch and keynote presentation on Saturday, 2 classes, Make & Take activities, the opportunity to enter one item in the Fiber Show, and access to vendors. Registration closes on August 30.

- \$65 Early Bird registration through August 16
- \$80 late registration after August 16
- Please share any dietary restrictions or special needs when you register.
- Registration fee will be refunded for cancellations made by August 30.
- In the event that we have to cancel the Conference due to COVID, those registered will receive a full refund.

About Us:

The Topeka Handweavers and Spinners Guild was formed in 1956 as a place for handweavers and spinners to learn and grow together. Today the guild is comprised of artisans and crafts people specializing in a variety of fiber related arts including spinning, weaving, dyeing, felting, knitting, crocheting, papermaking, and hand sewing. The Guild endeavors to promote interest, increase skills, explore history, and encourage education in fiber arts and related areas.

The Kansas Alliance of Weavers and Spinners (KAWS) was organized in 1979 to provide a vehicle for communication, education, and cooperation between organized groups of weavers and spinners in Kansas and those without access to local guilds.

Class Descriptions

Note: some classes have additional materials fees, which will be collected by the instructor at the time of the class. Please bring cash or checks for payment of class fees.

Bow Weaving – Learn to make and warp a bow loom and then weave a bracelet or necklace using the simplest of materials. Bow looms are some of the oldest known looms.

- **Instructor** Julie Beers began sewing at age 7 and continued to actively work with fibers ever since. She taught fashion in Los Vegas, and it was there she began experimenting with small portable looms so her students could learn to weave. She discovered bow weaving in the process. It was easy, portable, and very inexpensive which made it perfect for introducing her students to weaving.
- **Materials to bring** – Size 10 crochet cotton thread in 2 colors; size 6 beads to fit the thread
- **Materials fee for additional supplies** –\$5.00

Crocheting Cables – Have you ever wanted to add a special detail to your crochet or make a sweater or shawl with a little flair? How about cable? They aren't just for knitting! Learn the basic technique by crocheting a sample. A crochet pattern for a cabled scarf will be provided for your next adventure. Knowledge of basic crochet stitches is needed.

- **Instructor** Diane Hooper has been involved in fiber arts for more than 30 years. Her primary areas of interest are weaving, spinning and jewelry making. She has recently been involved in teaching Girl Scouts how to knit and replicating a crochet doll sweater, hat, and booties her grandmother made in 1938.
- **Materials to bring** – Yarn; corresponding crochet hook. (a limited amount of yarn and hooks will be available)
- **Materials fee for additional supplies** – \$0

Indigo Go! – Indigo is a beautiful, magical dye. The shibori resist method is perfect for this natural dye as it captures the intricacies of each stitch or fold. We will explore these ancient Japanese dyeing techniques and learn about caring for an indigo dye vat.

- **Instructor** Betsy Knabe Roe is an explorer and a maker. From an early age, she was fascinated with the abundance to explore in nature and always felt at home outside in the woods and fields. She is a Fiber Sculptor and papermaker based in Kansas. As a maker, she enjoys the fiber processes involved in creating artworks that combine a variety of natural materials and techniques.
- **Materials to bring** - Reusable rubber gloves; apron and water work clothes; empty wine bottle with labels removed (optional)
- **Materials fee for additional supplies** – \$25.00

Knit & Purl, Now What? – Learn common knitting terms and how to combine knitting and purling to create different stitch patterns and textures. Participants should be able to do the basic knit and purl stitches.

- **Instructors** Linda Wardlow and Sherry Jaymes are retired school teachers who have enjoyed knitting most of their lives and now like to share their knowledge with others.
- **Materials to bring** – Size 6-10 knitting needles
- **Materials fee for additional supplies** - \$0

Navajo Plying/Chain Plying - Learn to make 3-ply yarn from a single. This is especially useful in creating color-ways rather than a marled yarn. Proficiency with basic spinning with a wheel is necessary.

- **Instructor** Carol Leffler began weaving about 25 years ago after sewing and doing embroidery since childhood and crocheting since college. She only recently took up spinning – only 15 years ago, and she loves it!
- **Materials to bring** - Spinning wheel
- **Materials fee for additional supplies** – \$0

Oui Candle Holder/Lidded Jar - Weave a pattern around a small glass jar which can hold a small votive, buttons, rings, etc. It is up to you. Learn continuous weave around stakes, choose from several twill patterns and finishes for your original project. Basic twill knowledge is helpful for pattern choices.

- **Instructor** Jan Eitel has been weaving baskets for 12 years and teaching for at least 10. Growing up, she kept her hands busy with crocheting, embroidery, cross stitch, and many other assorted crafts.
- **Materials to bring** - Sharp craft scissors
- **Materials fee for additional supplies** – \$15.00

Preparing Scoured Wool Fleece for Spinning & Weaving - Take a Kansas scoured wool fleece and explore a variety of fiber preparations using different tools - purchased, made, and upcycled. Discuss how to use the prepared wool in spinning and weaving projects. Leave with the wool you prepared and some more to take home for further explorations.

- **Instructor** Liz Bonny is a fiber artist and teacher based in Lawrence. She loves to weave, spin, dye, process raw wool, and teach it all too! She has a keen interest in working with local fiber growers and lovers.
- **Materials to bring** - nothing
- **Materials fee for additional supplies** – \$10.00

Slow Stitching - Slow stitching is a movement created by quilting personality Mark Lipinski. It allows you to create a piece of art while enjoying the process and is a melding of sewing, quilting, and embellishing that produces one-of-a-kind pieces suitable for framing.

- **Instructor** Diane Hooper has been involved in fiber arts for more than 30 years. Her primary areas of interest are weaving, spinning and jewelry making. She has recently been involved in teaching Girl Scouts how to knit and replicating a crochet doll sweater, hat, and booties her grandmother made in 1938.
- **Materials to bring** - Piece of fabric for base (approx. 12"x12"), fabric scraps (consider favorite color palate and variety of patterns or textures), scissors, threads that match or contrast your fabrics, embellishment items (ex: bits of lace, rickrack, ribbon, embroidery floss, buttons, beads), sewing needles
- **Materials fee for additional supplies** - \$0

Twined Bags - Use two of the earliest methods of weaving - twining, from 27,000 BCE and a hanging warp from approximately 7,000 BCE. - to make a small bag. Learn to first make a hanging warp on a box and then twine the weft and design patterns. Once the basics are learned, the only limit is imagination.

- **Instructor** Barbara Beyer, a native of Atchison, Kansas, lived in Southern California for 39 years. During that time she learned to spin and weave. Now retired, these two things are what she most enjoys doing in all their forms
- **Materials to bring (Items with an * need to be prepared in advance of the class.)** - *Warp yarn (DK or worsted weight of smooth, strong & non-stretch fibers such as wool, hemp, or heavy cotton.), *container such as macaroni & cheese box or 1 qt milk container, Weft Yarn - Choose a main color (larger ball) and 3-4 pattern colors (can be smaller balls), scissors
- **Materials fee for additional supplies** - \$0
- **Advance preparations** - See the conference information on the Topeka Handweavers & Spinners Guild website to download the instruction sheet.

Wet Felted Ornament - Use a new method of wet felting around a plastic ornament, to create a lovely, Ooak piece of felted art to display any time of year. This method can be used for many applications once learned. This is a beginner friendly class.

- **Instructor** Anna Walker taught herself to needle felt after winning a handpainted roving in an online giveaway 14 years ago, and her felting journey began. Since then, she's taught hundreds of students how to access their inner creativity through needle felting and wet felting classes.
- **Materials to bring** - towel or two to keep the water mess to a minimum
- **Material fee** - \$20.00

REGISTRATION FORM



A separate form is needed for each conference registrant; feel free to make additional copies of this page. All conference registrations include lunch on Saturday, admission to keynote presentation, choice of 2 class sessions, choice of Make & Take Activities, and access to the exhibitor area.

<i>Please print clearly</i>	REGISTRATION PAYMENT	Amount
Name _____	Early Registration Rate (through August 16, 2022) \$65.00	
Address _____	If postmarked after August 16, 2022 Add \$15.00	
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	KAWS Membership Add \$2.00 (required if not currently a member)	
Phone (_____) _____	Purchase additional lunch for non-conference companion @ \$12.00	
E-Mail _____	Class Instructor Discount- subtract \$10.00	
Guild _____		
KAWS member? ____ Yes ____ No (All members of Kansas weavers' guilds are automatically KAWS members)	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	
CLASS SELECTIONS (please indicate 1 st and 2 nd choice by placing number 1 or 2 next to class title)		
Class Period 1: 8:30 - 10:00am ____ Bow Weaving ____ Knit & Purl, Now What? ____ Oui Candle Holder/Lidded Container ____ Crocheting Cables ____ Preparing Scoured Wool Fleece for Weaving	Class Period 2: 10:30am - noon ____ Indigo Go! ____ Slow Stitching ____ Wet Felted Ornament ____ Navajo Plying/ Chain Plying ____ Twined Bag	
FIBER SHOW – If you will be bringing an item to enter in the fiber show, please describe briefly: _____ _____		
GUILD EXHIBIT – If your guild will be bringing a Guild Exhibit, please provide the name of the Guild: _____ _____		
Note any special accommodation needs here: _____ _____	Note any dietary restrictions here: _____ _____	
All mailed registrations must be received by August 30, 2022. Make check payable to <i>Topeka Handweavers Guild</i> and mail with printed registration form to: <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> KAWS 2022 Conference c/o Barbara LaClair 228 SW Courtland Ave. Topeka, KS 66606 </div>		

