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Words of Wisdom

Don't worry about people stealing your ideas. If your ideas are an good, you'll have to ram them down people's throats. Howard H. Aiken

Program Lineup 2021

NOTE to members: Monthly meetings in the first months of 2021 will be VIRTUAL and will continue via Zoom.

Monday, January 18 – Fabric postcard sharing. This meeting will be a chance to share pictures and inspirations for the fabric postcards made by members in our first OOTB virtual challenge! Twenty-eight beautiful postcards were made and shared!

Monday, February 15 – Two things on the agenda: Announcements related to the first virtual Fibre Fling event. Then, join guest speaker and OOTB member Pat Hardie who will share with us the process she used when she accepted a commission to create footstools using ties and do-rags

Monday, March 15 – Arctic Botany at the Canadian Museum of Nature

Join Paul Sokoloff for this virtual talk about past and present Arctic plant research at the Canadian Museum of Nature, and how artists have used the herbarium, and all CMN collections, as inspiration for their work.

Monday, April 19 – "Evolution of an Art Quilter" with guest speaker: Helena Scheffer Helena is a Member of SAQA and President of Lakeshore Artists, Beaconsfield, Quebec. She describes herself as a "colourist" and works with texture using fabric, dyes, paints, stamps and prints fabrics.

Coming soon...the next OOTB creative challenge...

In an effort to keep us connected and involved through this pandemic, your education committee would like to

introduce our next challenge – The Fiber Snippet-Roll Exchange.

In brief, a snippet roll is a piece of muslin or cotton, covered with a variety of fabrics of your choice, then further embellished using stitches, beads, buttons, found objects etc. They can be truly scrappy or a themed memory snippet – think of honoring a person or event. You can hang it on the wall, roll it on a spool or spindle, or pile them in a basket. You can cut off snippets from the roll to use in another project.

For our exchange, each participant will be paired with another. Each person prepares their own base, sends it on to their partner, who will embellish it before returning it to the original owner. Once we know who is interested in participating, we will pair you up, and you can begin. The proposed size is 2" – 3" wide by 12" – 18" long. We would like them finished and ready to show at the May 17th meeting.

Pam will show us some samples at the January 18th meeting, and there are numerous youtube tutorials on the subject. A few of our favorites are: The Quick and Dirty Booksmith Method by Nik the Booksmith, Linda Isreal, and Shabbydabbydoodah.

Please let these members of the education committee know if you are interested in participating by February 1. More detailed instructions and the name and contact info for your partner will be sent to participating members on February 15.

Pamela Davy: pamela_davy@hotmail.com
Nancy Davies: nancymaydavies@sympatico.ca

Zoom Tips

A few quick tips for Zoom - to help eliminate Zoom slowdowns, and improve the experience.

- Reboot your modem/Wi-Fi AND your computer/laptop/ipad/phone before the call. A computer or laptop work better with Zoom than ipads and phones.
- Plug in if possible, rather than using wifi.
- Close any unneeded apps and programs.
- Be as close to the modem as possible, so the signal doesn't have to beam through walls, cupboards, etc.
- Turn off or block any lights behind you, lighting should light up your face.
- Your camera should be at about eye level. Put the laptop on a stack of books if needed to raise the camera, or use a higher chair. And don't sit too close to the camera or you may look distorted.

- But don't sit too far from the microphone if you're speaking, so we can hear you. Muting is best when not speaking, as microphones tend to pick up every little sound in other parts of our homes.

"See" you at our next meeting.
Anne Warburton

Textile Forum Blog

The following link was sent to me by an artist friend <https://www.textile-forum-blog.org> I had never visited this site but thought it might be of interest to members. From the many listed exhibitions I chose this one <https://www.textile-forum-blog.org/2020/09/contextile-2020-contemporary-textile-art-biennial-2/> The following part of the description gave me a chuckle.

"Clearly the organizers are more confident now that they will receive high quality art, and are thus more generous towards textile art (often still seen as too crafty)."

Many of the exhibitions feature woven work, tapestry in particular. However, the tags listed on the side of the blog allow you to narrow down to an amazing list of sub-topics.

Pat Hardie

What is this?

Somebody seemed to have missed the solution to the mystery tool in the Summer, so I'm repeating it.



Thanks to Val Rochester who identified my mystery tool. "Your mystery number one that you own is called a third hand. You attach it to something with the red cord to hold it firm, then attach your needlework piece to the clamp and you have both hands free to do whatever you want. "

A new mystery tool is the follow from a fellow member. Any ideas??



From an Embroiderers Toolbox

2 tiny stitches

This is more a tip than a tool. When I work on embroidery, I put my work in an embroidery hoop, or a wooden frame. I then attach the hoop/frame to a stand or clamp it to a table. This leaves both hands free to work on the embroidery, one hand below and one above. However, it's "a pain" to flip the work over to anchor the thread at the start and finish. A trick is to start your stitching with a knot on the top of the work, go down into the fabric away from your where you will be stitching, and then take 2 tiny (I prefer 3 for safety) stitches in area you will be working. As you stitch you will cover the tiny stitches and you can safely cut the knot. You can take the same tiny stitches at the end of your thread either in the unstitched area, or in a new unstitched area. – Helen



Planning Committee

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