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## Words of Wisdom

*Art is a sort of experimental station in which one tries out life – John Cage*

## Program Lineup 2021

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

**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.

**There will also be a members show and tell. You will not need to submit a photo. More details to follow soon.**

**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.

**Monday, May 17-** Sharing of Snippet Challenge

**Monday, June 21-** Guest Speaker: Robin Whitford – "Hooking Outside the Lines" - Robin is a passionate textile artist, rug hooking teacher and creativity mentor. She loves to share her passion for all things hooking-related with those who are curious to try new things.

## Fibre Fling 2021 – Reinventing the Show!

Due to COVID-19 public health guidelines, this year's Fibre Fling will be held virtually for the first time ever. Our aim is to bring some colour, light and hope to ourselves and to our friends and family by celebrating the creativity and art in the show.

One of the benefits of holding Fibre Fling online is that the show can run for much longer than the normal two days. The Fibre Fling 2021 web site will go live on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and be available until Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. These three weeks will provide an exciting opportunity for our members to show and sell their artwork to fibre art enthusiasts in Ottawa, in Canada, and potentially even to art lovers across the globe!

I will give a presentation during the February 15<sup>th</sup> OOTB virtual meeting to describe how you can submit your artwork for the online Fibre Fling 2021. All of the show's instructions, guidelines and links will also be posted in the 'Members Only' section of our web site at out-of-the-box.org. If you still have questions, feel free to email me or any members of the Fibre Fling Planning Group.

I am extremely proud to say that OOTB will continue to support the Stephen Lewis Foundation through Fibre Fling 2021. Furthermore, based on members' feedback, we will also support the Ottawa Food Bank this year. We will do this by encouraging the show's participants and visitors to donate online to one, or both, of these worthy charities.

Registration will open on March 28<sup>th</sup> -- so get ready to show off your beautiful textile art pieces and let's make Fibre Fling 2021 another fantastic show!

Debbie Boyd-Chisholm  
Fibre Fling Convenor

## Support yourself and your art practice in a new way!

From Craft Ontario

Presenting a six part series of 90 minute, themed workshops designed to support creatives to develop their practice or arts-based business during this challenging time of social distancing and beyond.

Professional life and career coach for artists and creatives, Chris Mitchell guides participants through interactive and self-reflective exercises and introduces customizable tools and tips related to each topic. More information

Learn More and Register <https://craftontario.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e283637a87e60a65baf9c5e25&id=564dcf83bc&e=16f3c89d4d>

## **OOTB Website Focus on Fibre Links - Elements of Design**

Our interaction with the world is heavily weighted towards visual stimulus. When creating art that will be viewed by others we need to understand the effect on those viewers.

The elements and principles of design are the building blocks used to create a work of art. Understanding them is a vital step to making sense of what we see and create. They are not a recipe for creating perfect pieces, but understanding the tools helps make sense of the many options available to make the work "look right" or to analyse why things look the way they do and open the doors to options and opportunities that might otherwise remain hidden.

The link goes to the John Lovett website page to the element "Line" with descriptions of various types of lines, and how they can create other elements. The site also has a lot of information and examples of the other elements and principles of design.

There are endless other sites on the internet that discuss this topic, basic or more complex descriptions.

The link can be found on the OOTB Resource page - <https://www.out-of-the-box.org/resources.html#Links>  
MaryAnne

## **From an Embroiderers Toolbox**

The Snag-Nab-It is a tool that I use periodically and love. I even bought 2 to have one in by my chair, and one in my travelling embroidery kit. I had to look it up on the internet and found the following description.

### **Snag-Nab-It**

Item Number: 82402UPC: 072879824025

*Use the Dritz Snag Nab-It Tool 2.5" to make your woolens look brand new at all times! This 2.5-inch long precision tool repairs snags in your favorite knitted and woven garments easily. You can also use this handy snag repair tool on drapes, upholstery and much more. It is fast and easy to use on labels and lined garments even while you're wearing them!*

*Repairs snags in knits & wovens*

*Insert point into center of snag and push or pull tool completely through fabric*



As the description says, its about 2.5 inches long , with a point on one end. The other half of the tool is very rough, like a rasp. The joy is you insert it from the front where you have a snag, and push it all the through and magically all the snag is pulled through to the back caught by the rasp end. For quilters, it pulls through all those snipped ends that spoil the finished look. For embroiders, it similarly pulls through loose ends. For anyone who wears knits and jerseys, and is tried having snags spoil the look, its great. Available on Amazon.  
Helen.

## **Planning Committee**

PC Convenor	Sharon Johnson & Nancy Garrard
Education	Kathy Lajeunesse, Nancy Scott, Cindy Brown, Nancy Davies, Pam Davy, Crystal Angers
Secretary	Andrée Faubert
Membership	Val Rochester, Dorothy DeRose
Treasurer	Marilyn White
Web-coordinator	MaryAnne Toonders
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
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Library	Rita Rottman
Publicity/Marketing	Lorraine Lacroix
Exhibitions/Shows	Connie ten Bruggenkate, Debbie Boyd-Chisholm, Sheree Bradford-Lea
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