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## Words of Wisdom

"The creative adult is the child who survived."

Ursula Leguin

## Program Lineup 2021

### Monday, July 19

No meeting.

**Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>** - "TENTATIVE" tailgate gathering at City View United Church parking lot - a chance to reconnect in person with your OOTB artist friends! Bring your lawn chair and the latest fibre art projects you have completed or are working on. We can sit socially distanced, but don't forget your mask! This meeting will depend fully on Covid limitations for group sizes for the date in August, and will be confirmed by email a week ahead based on the status of Ontario's [re-opening](#).

For the fall we are exploring a potential return to in person for some meetings while others may remain on Zoom. We will keep everyone posted as we get closer to September.

**Monday, September 20** - This is the meeting to welcome new members and introduce what is coming up for members in the year ahead. A new challenge will be presented.

**Monday, October 18** - OOTB member Connie ten Bruggenkate will discuss her experiences eco-dyeing and how she is using natural inks like those developed by Wendy Feldberg.

**November** – Stittsville Library Show – Idioms

**November 2-3 - Yarn Painting Workshop** on Zoom

The Education Committee has booked Len de Graaf to do his Starry Night yarn painting workshop. The workshop will be run over 2 half days, from 9am - 12pm. The price will be \$70, that includes the workshop and a beeswaxed board that will be prepared for each participant. Members will learn about the history of yarn

painting, as well as techniques and tips. It's a great way to learn something new in a relaxing atmosphere and share some time with fellow OOTB members. Please contact Nancy Scott at [opus1300@gmail.com](mailto:opus1300@gmail.com) to indicate your interest or if you have any questions.

**November 15<sup>th</sup>** – Challenge Reveal

**December 13<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Social – a Christmas ornament you have made of that has inspired you. Note, this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month to avoid being too close to Xmas and is planned to be on Zoom.

**January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022** – Elaine Quehl – a Design Journey

The **January** and **February** Meetings are planned to be virtual to avoid the dark winter driving. Also planned are 4 playdates, 2 in the fall and 2 in the winter, virtual or in person. More details will follow.

## Membership Renewal

It's almost time to renew your OOTB membership! Many great things are planned for the coming year and we hope you will be a part of them. The membership year runs from September 1st to August 31st. The fee for the 2021-2022 year will be \$45 - the same as it was in 2019.

In August we will be sending out the link to Google Forms where you will be able to fill in your application form. Instructions on how to pay will follow.

## From the Co-chairs

Loree and I would like to send huge virtual bouquets of flowers to Nancy Garrard and Sharon Johnson for all they have done for OOTB as Co-Chairs over the years. Sharon stepped in to help in 2017 and shared with us her very eloquent talks and emails and strong behind the scenes work. Nancy had been Co-Chair for about 11 years, bringing humour, strong leadership skills and vision to our group. I'm sure neither will be just relaxing in their "retirement" but will be continuing with other activities and taking on new challenges, and of course staying highly involved in OOTB. Thanks to you both for such commitment. And thank you as well to Rita Rottman who has been our librarian for many years and has built up our fabulous library. She is turning the reins over to Nancy Scott who will bring new ideas to this position.

## 2021-2022 Theme

As your new Co-Chairs, Loree and I presented the following theme at the last meeting for the coming year:

### ***Inspiration: Let's Play, Explore, Find our Voices, Push our Boundaries, and Be Brilliant!***

Whatever level we are in our fibre art - and our creativity - there is always room for growth and improvement. Our struggles with creating are what ultimately lead us to our best works. So let's stretch our creative muscles together.

All OOTB activities- workshops, program, shows, playdates, challenges - have 3 elements: technique based, artistic development, play & exploration. Loree and I will be bringing you some tips each month on composition, design elements and design principles, all to help pull in the eyes of the viewers and help our work pop!

We invite you to join us on this journey. Let's be brilliant together.

#### August Meeting

We really hope we can have an in-person meeting August 16th in the parking lot of City View United Church. We're in great need of some socializing and seeing each other in person. Bring along some show & tell, and any items you no longer want to give away (any leftovers we can donate to Wendy Feldberg's art kit projects). More details on the evening will be coming from the Education Committee. Membership renewals, due in September, will also start.

If we cannot meet in person, then we'll meet instead on Zoom - and have a show & tell.

Meeting in person will of course depend on public health restrictions and how many are allowed to meet, plus weather. We'll keep you up to date on status.

#### September Meeting

At the September meeting we will present an update on plans for the year, the next challenge will also be unveiled, and we'll talk a bit about composition for our fibre art pieces. This meeting will most likely be on Zoom.

Anne Warburton  
Loree Tannett  
Co-Chairs

### ***Stittsville Library Show 2021***

Every year for the past several years we've had a show at the Stittsville Library. There's a wall space and a glass cabinet. This year it's planned for November 1-30th. The theme this year is "Guess the Idiom". I would like you to make a piece of fibre art depicting an

idiom. Preferably one that's not too obvious so it's fun to guess but not too obscure either. Examples of an idiom in English would be: *Quick as a flash, Run like the Wind, Strong as an ox* etc. In French an example of an idiom would be *Faire la grasse matinee, Avoir un coup de foudre, Avoir la gueule de bois* etc. If you have a look online you will find lots of websites with idioms. Here are some examples of links:

<https://www.thoughtco.com/common-english-idioms-3211646>

<https://fr.babbel.com/fr/magazine/expressions-idiomatiques-francaises-courantes/>

The instructions will be the same as in other years. For the wall space pieces can be any size as long as no side is longer than 24 inches. And you can use any technique as long as there is some fibre included. Please have your piece ready to hang with wire if it is hard mounted or a rod if it is soft mounted. No alligator clips please because they don't hang well at the library. The artwork on the wall will be hanging by nylon cords so very heavy pieces are not suitable to hang but a regular weight large canvas is fine. Three dimensional pieces are also a possibility because we have a glass display case.

Hopefully you've started on a piece or have an idiom in mind. If not, start thinking about what idiom you would like to depict and how you will depict it in fibre art. I do encourage you to make a new piece if possible. That way you will have some new work and you can enter it into Fibre Fling or another exhibit later this year. I look forward to seeing what we can put together again this year!

If you have any questions email me at: [connietb10@gmail.com](mailto:connietb10@gmail.com)

### ***The Art of Being: Creative Musings***

by Nelusha McDonald

Embracing the creative life is relatively new to me. Growing up, there was no opportunity to experiment and risk being anything less than trying to measure up to the grand expectations my mother had for me. That came to hard stop a few years back when the charade I was living caved in. I'd begun dabbling with art and that small opening became the only invitation that was needed to swing the door wide open to the artistic being that resided within the depths of my soul.

The grace of living in the moment with a willingness to experience everyday events with an artistic perspective has opened me up to a whole other dimension of life. That may sound a little extreme – and it is: it is also how profoundly life altering these past few years have been.

Living in the world of textile art has taught me many valuable lessons. I often write about how rich life has become when I allowed myself to become vulnerable to a new beginning, letting go of the past and the unfulfilled expectations that held me captive. It's been an awakening. Here are a few snippets of the humble observations I've gleaned through that experience.

- (a) The journey matters. Creativity is an experience and not a destination. Along the way we are presented with numerous opportunities to grow and become a better version of ourselves. To be a better artist, we must be willing to meet those opportunities where they find us, welcome them and most importantly, be willing to engage.
- (b) There are no mistakes. Creativity is about developing an authentic approach to problem solving. I say authentic because it is an individual experience and must be true to our core. What we label as a mistake is often an opportunity to see what exists through a different and new lens. But in order to do that, we must be willing to suspend the harsh and judgmental critic within.
- (c) Feeling that we lack knowledge or experience should never be a hindrance to progress. In fact, as artists it is the impetus that fuels our passions and drives us forward. It allows us to be moved forward with curiosity and an open mind, enabling everything we need to find it's way to us. It is also what fuels invention.

### Planning Committee

PC Convenor	Anne Warburton, Loree Tannett
Education	Kathy Lajeunesse, Nancy Davies, Pam Davy, Crystal Angers, Liz Tyrwhitt, Olivia Chuchryk
Secretary	Andrée Faubert
Membership	Dorothy DeRose
Treasurer	Marilyn White
Web-coordinator	MaryAnne Toonders
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Facebook/Instagram	Cathy Haley <a href="mailto:haley.cathy@gmail.com">haley.cathy@gmail.com</a>
Library	Nancy Scott
Publicity/Marketing	Lorraine Lacroix
Exhibitions/Shows	Connie ten Bruggenkate, Debbie Boyd-Chisholm, Andree Faubert
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