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Words of Wisdom

“Colour is my day-long obsession, joy and torment.”
Claude Monet

OOTB Program Lineup 2019 – 2020

Please note some of these ideas are unconfirmed.

October 21, 2019, Meeting: Barbara Lukas – Intellectual Property

October 28, 2019, Playdate: A day to play, learn, share and enjoy the day

November 1-30, 2019, Show: Stittsville Library Show – Recycled, Reborn

November 18, 2019, Meeting: Recycled Art circle activity

November 25, 2019, Playdate. Frances Taylor, silk scarf dyeing

Note No Meeting in December

January 20, 2020, Meeting: Demo from France Taylor

January 27, 2020. Playdate: Loree Tannett. Getting to know your sewing machine.

February 17, 2020, Meeting: Fibre Fling Instructions

March 16, 2020, Meeting: Anne Marie Deslaunier

March 23, 2020, Playdate: A day to play, learn, share and enjoy the day

April 3-4, 2020, Fibre Fling

April 20, 2020, Meeting: TBD

May 18, 2020, Meeting: Demo Wendo

May 25, 2020,
Playdate: Juanita Sauv . “the medium is the message”

June 15, 2020, Meeting: 1st Annual Solstice Exchange

July 20, 2020, Meeting: BAZAAR Night

August 17, 2020, Meeting: TBD

October Meeting

Our guest speaker is Barbara Lukas

Barbara is going to talk about copyright and intellectual property. This will include info about obtaining permission to use other personal works for interpretation, or trademarked items, acknowledging the skills and tools learned from other people, etc. She may bring a copy of her Maud Lewis licence to illustrate the talk., but with the specific details blacked out as that is private info. Barbara is licenced by the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia to sell rug hooking patterns for some of the Maud Lewis artwork, so will incorporate that experience into her talk. Barbara asked that members bring examples of items for which they may have copyright questions, to add to the discussion as part of the question and answer section to follow her talk.

Barbara will also have a TRUNK SHOW with some of her wool and patterns to sell. She has rug hooking, punch needles and minipunch patterns as well as miniature embroidery patterns (2" x 1.5 ») that you do with French knots. For those who don't do this art, it will be an education and for those that do, a chance to purchase some patterns. And, Barbara will also bring 5 original Maud Lewis Christmas cards for show and a warning NOT TO TOUCH THEM!.

For our November meeting

The theme for the November meeting will be in keeping with the Recycled, Reborn show at the Stittsville Library. Bring your art made of recycled material and tell the group all about it - this will be the main activity for the meeting. There still be our regular show and tell.

Education Committee Volunteer

We are looking for a new volunteer to join Kathy Lajeunesse OOTB education committee needs a couple more hands to help out!

We need one or two more members to volunteer with the education committee. The goal is to share the load because many hands truly make light work! Your job will be to meet semi-regularly to help brainstorm ideas for speakers, meeting activities, and workshops. Then, we would like to you take on the organisation of one or two of these activities for the benefit of our OOTB community. Volunteering is a great way to contribute to the success of Out of the Box, and meet others that share your passion for fibre arts! For more information about this outstanding opportunity, please contact Luigina Barrato at luiginab56@gmail.com or Kathy Lajeunesse at mklajeun@gmail.com

Playdates

PLAYDATES

Three playdates are planned for each session at a cost of \$10 per playdate or \$25 when you register for a full session. Members of OOTB are welcome. The Playdates are held at Kitchissippi United Church on Island Park Drive. The day runs from 10am to about 4pm. Registration is now open, you can register at a meeting or by contacting Lynn Keeler anottawagirl@yahoo.ca. A playdate brings members together to learn, share, encourage and get inspired. Spending a day with other fibre artist is a great way for new members to get to know the group. Any questions please contact Lynn Keeler.

Fall 2019 Session

Monday, October 28, 2019. A DAY TO PLAY, LEARN, SHARE AND ENJOY THE DAY

Do you sometimes just need a day away to enjoying creating? We will have a relaxing day, creating, learning, sharing and working on our art. Bring anything fibre art you are working on, planning, or never seem to get finished. Take advantage of the large space and tables. And sharing our art process.

Monday, November 25, 2019. Frances Taylor, SILK SCARF DYEING

Frances will demonstrate and guide us in dyeing silk scarfs. Great time to make Christmas gifts.

Winter/Spring Session 2020

Monday, January 27, 2020. Loree Tannett. GETTING TO KNOW YOUR SEWING MACHINE.

Do you use your machine to it's fullest ability? Have you studied your manual? Do you use all the options your machine is capable of? Loree will take us through her

maintenance procedure. We will learn sewing tips, ideas, encourage each other and create, create, create. We will leave the day knowing our machines.

Monday, March 23, 2020. A DAY TO PLAY, LEARN, SHARE AND ENJOY THE DAY

Do you sometimes just need a day away to enjoying creating? We will have a relaxing day, creating, learning, sharing and working on our art. Bring anything fibre art you are working on, planning, or never seem to get finished. Take advantage of the large space and tables. And sharing our art process.

Monday, May 25, 2020. Juanita Sauv . "THE MEDIUM IS THE MESSAGE"

Express yourself with free form stitching on hoops. Juanita will bring samples of her work, talk on how she uses art as a protest and ways to finish your hoops for hanging.

Bethany Garner

TWO UPCOMING WORKSHOPS in NOVEMBER

OOTB is bringing Bethany Garner to Ottawa on November 20 & 21 to offer two day-long workshops. Bethany is a Kingston-based teacher of mixed media and surface design. Her courses are technique-based, fun and developed to ensure that every student is accepted and feels included, supported and making their way forward on their own creative path.

INDIGO DYEING: November 20 at Kitchissippi Church: 9:30 to 3:30 PM. Cost \$70 (\$80 non-OOTB members) Bethany will share multiple techniques and demonstrations that stimulate creativity, and result in a beautiful collection of hand dyed fabrics for you to work with afterwards. Participants will provide their own natural, pre-washed fabrics (e.g. cotton, linen, rayon, silk) and create beautiful shibori prints. The workshop will focus in on 'easy to use at home', studio-bucket dyeing methods that everyone can use and take away for further exploration as they develop their new skills. There is a \$15 materials fee per student and vats are available for students to take home after the workshops for the cost of the buckets (\$8). The other supplies list will be provided following paid registration.

MARK MAKING: November 21 at Kitchissippi Church. 9:30 to 3:30 PM. Cost \$60. (\$70 non-OOTB members) Mark Making is all about creative ways to produce your own, original cloth. It includes the use of pencils and markers and painting/dyeing with thickened dyes and fabric paints, some design play and hand stitching for those who want to play along. In the morning, Bethany will be sharing some great small project examples that she has been working on, and she invites participants to bring along what THEY are working on to share

examples of favorite techniques with classmates! There is a \$15 materials fee per student which includes some fabric for the class samples for painting, shared supplies for paints/dyes and a shared supply of multimedia paper for design play exercises. The other supplies list will be provided following paid registration.

TO REGISTER: Please contact Kathy Lajeunesse at 613-407-3519 (cell) or at mklajeun@gmail.com. Register for one or both. Deadline for registration is Sunday, October 27th after which point the workshops will be opened up to non-OOTB participants. First come, first served. Registration is confirmed upon payment.

OOTB Website Focus on Fibre Links

– Found on Colossal

At some point I saved a link to Design/Colossal and recently decided to revisit the site. A search at the site for fibre art resulted in a wide variety of creations.

On just the first page there was the following:

- an encaustic painter, embroiderer and mixed-media artist who combines embroidery, beadwork, fabric, tree bark, and honeycomb formed around an embroidery in a hoop
- an artist who merges embroidery and calligraphy by replicating each speck of “ink” in carefully places, minuscule stitches
- an artist who with needle and thread, scissors and glue, overlays embroidered designs, fragmented images, and, sometimes, found objects, onto images
- an embroidery artist interprets oceanic landscapes in three-dimensional hoop embroideries in layered stitches, knots, twists, and pom-poms
- another embroidery artist crafts stunningly intricate animals using colored and metallic thread from copper bees to gold lions and much more
- another works in classic embroidery, revisiting old traditions and transforming it in protest for equality, where all have the right to be and live whoever they are
- finally, an artist who uses embroidery thread on images matching all the colours in the image in a circle

There are a total of 18 pages, I haven't looked at all of them, but there are many very creative people out there. The link for this page can be found on the OOTB Resource page - <http://www.out-of-the-box.org/resources.html>

MaryAnne

Waste Reduction

Waste Reduction Week in Canada is October 21-27, and I was pleased to see there is a day dedicated to textiles on Tuesday, October 22, especially appropriate since

our theme for the Stittsville show in November is "Recycled Reborn". The other days cover e-waste, food waste, plastics and more. Check out the Waste Reduction website for information on the issues, solutions, and suggestions at <https://wrwcanada.com/en> and specifically on textiles a <https://wrwcanada.com/en/get-involved/resources/themed-resources/textiles>.

Anne Warburton

The Museum of Nature Collections Facility

The Museum of Nature Collections Facility (1740 Pink Road in Gatineau) is holding a free Open House Saturday, October 19th from 10 am - 4 pm, showcasing their amazing specimen collection of plants, animals, fossils & minerals. This facility is a great resource for artists, and they love to have visiting artists who wish to learn how they can help with our artistic practices. I will have my fibre art lichens on display at the open house, which I had created with the help of museum botanists for the Creative Reactions show earlier this year.

<https://nature.ca/en/plan-your-visit/what-see-do/whats/open-house>

Anne Warburton

Member profile

Meredith Filshie: Honouring textile traditions

By Rebecca Dufton



Meredith Filshie is known for her exquisite, intricate beading and embroidery. Her textile works are small treasures.

“Beading is very meditative and forgiving. You can get into a rhythm. The range of colour and textures can add so much excitement to the work. One of my greatest inspirations was seeing an exhibit of art quilts in Texas that incorporated beading.”

The artist grew up in a home surrounded by beautiful handwork. Her mother encouraged both daughters to do anything creative. Meredith gravitated towards threads and fabric, while her sister took to paint.

Early influences

“Mom was a Renaissance woman. She could repair plumbing and re-wire a lamp as well as play the violin, sew, knit, embroider, cook and win awards for her ceramic work. She earned a degree in Home Economics

in 1942 and became a teacher. Since it was a one-parent household with the youngest only three, we had a live-in housekeeper named Mrs. Johnson who could sew, tat, quilt, embroider, knit and crochet. I spent a lot of time with her and she let me do and try a lot of things, though I never mastered tatting. I was amazed by what she achieved.”

Meredith credits her mother and Mrs. Johnson for her foundation in textile arts and her life-long appreciation for beautiful handwork.

Over the years, she has become the keeper of many lace and embroidered heirlooms. “I recently was given two boxes of silks and lace which my great, great aunt had saved, probably during the Depression. A lot of the silk was hand-dyed. I didn’t appreciate how much variety of colour was possible. It is a legacy and I feel a challenge to do something with it. I think about the motivation behind this collection and am honoured to have these things. Quite a contrast when I think about our own life of plenty and how much we throw out.”

Meredith visited textile and specialty stores with her mother. She learned the value of good fabrics and began to sew her own clothes. Following her mother’s example, Meredith trained in Household Science at university, majoring in Textiles, Clothing and Design. Courses included textile science and design, interior decorating, tailoring, pattern-making, draping, as well as traditional arts and science subjects.

“In the third year, our textile department brought in an instructor from the UK with expertise in embroidery and needlework. The teacher was so appalled at the lack of resources in Canada that she only lasted one semester. It was a privilege for me to meet her. It opened my mind to so many creative opportunities.”

During a visit to England in 1972, Meredith stumbled upon the Needlewomen’s Shop in London – a wonderland with three storeys of threads and fabrics, tools and books – and realised what the instructor was trying to tell them. “It was a real inspiration for my artwork. I visited it twice before it closed down.”

A career in fine craft

Meredith followed her degree with an MBA as one of three women in a group of 210 students. Upon graduation, she was hired by the federal government to develop programs to stimulate the Canadian craft industry.

“I met amazing creative people in those first few years. It was the mid-1970’s and I travelled around the country looking at ceramics, porcelain, metal and fabrics. We ran a national design competition and held the awards

ceremony at the National Arts Centre. I was so young to have had so much responsibility.”

The job also took her to Europe to meet with craft organizations. Whenever possible, Meredith made time to visit museums’ decorative arts collections.

“While working, I didn’t have a lot of time for creative projects, but I was still sewing a lot. By then I had added a partner, a child and a hobby farm. I did some cross-stitching with a friend who had a child the same age as my son. It was an easy way to do something creative and small projects were easy to take with me on my travels.”

By 1994, Meredith was ready for a career change. A friend put her in touch with a real estate broker who let her know that Canada Beading was up for sale.

“Things fall into place for a reason. I could see myself doing this. My love of beads started when I was 10 or 11. While my mom was buying supplies for her home economics classes, I would often visit the bridal section at Dressmaker’s Supply in Toronto to look at beads, buttons, ribbons and laces.”

Meredith loves being surrounded by colour and texture at the store. She’s inspired by customers’ projects and helping them problem-solve.

Membership in OOTB

Meredith joined Out of the Box in 2003, volunteering as treasurer.

“I had a lot of threads and the urge to do something more than cross-stitch. In the early years, there was a lot of inspiration from seeing what members were doing. Many of them were interested in earning a living from their art, which was inspiring. I learned new techniques and found new sources for supplies.

“What I love about Out of the Box is seeing people grow and the encouragement that is given to members. When I joined, I was intimidated by the calibre of art by many of the “older” members and so I notice that with many of the new members. There’s a tendency among women to focus on the negative rather than take pride in what they’ve accomplished. A lot of work goes into creating fibre art – it’s unique and wonderful. OOTB helps people move along and gain confidence. I love the sharing that takes place at member playdates.”

Meredith is also a member of the Embroiderers’ Guild and sits on the board of the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, which she’s seen evolve and blossom in the last 12 years.

Creative projects

Colour and texture are the starting points for all of Meredith's creations. She is eclectic and adventurous in her selection of materials.

"If anything can be incorporated that amuses me, I do it. I like to bring in unusual materials like screening, ribbon, feathers and slices of minerals and find a way to use them."



Meredith has a weakness for beautiful silks and velvets and admits to having spent a small fortune on them. Like most of us, Meredith has her share of unfinished projects. Her studio is in the basement of her home, with good lighting, a comfortable chair and foot stool. She listens to music or news programs while she works. Her pieces still tend to be small so that she can take them on her travels. A challenge for the future is to try to make some larger pieces.

Due to work demands, she doesn't get to her studio every day, but when she does, she gets focused and completely loses track of time. Meredith lives alone and has the luxury of her own space, with various projects spread around the basement. If she hits a road block, she moves on to something else while thinking about what to do next.

One of the items on Meredith's to-do list is to try out a set of dyes for silk painting that she purchased years ago. She is inspired and motivated by fibre artists Elaine Quehl and Garrie Bea Joyce for their knowledge and appreciation of colour and design.

Meredith is currently working on a series of pieces using monochromatic colours. She continues to participate in group exhibits, competitions and challenges.

Artist Gallery Photo

I have received a few photos for the OOTB Artist Gallery profiles and indications are that many more are planned. Thank you very much.

However, a reminder of the specifications for the photo is timely as a result.

- The photo resolution should be 72 pixels/inch - (fairly standard for many websites)
- the size needs to be 266 w x 316 h pixels, about 3.7 w x 4.4 h in inches - (to preserve the grid structure of the gallery)

I can resize and crop as necessary if you are not sure how to make the adjustments but if you make the photo taller than wide it can be done with minimal change to your submission.

We encourage all members to submit a photo to the gallery. If you're not keen on having a photo of yourself on the site, we would be happy to post an alternative - a photo (or detail) of your work, inspiration source, tools you use, etc.

Please send your photo to toonders@gmail.com

Thanks, MaryAnne

News from Wendo



I still have a few spots available for my Burst out of the frame Tulip workshop. Nov 24 at Kitchissippi UC. People can check out my workshop page on my blog for details www.wendovanessen.blogspot.ca

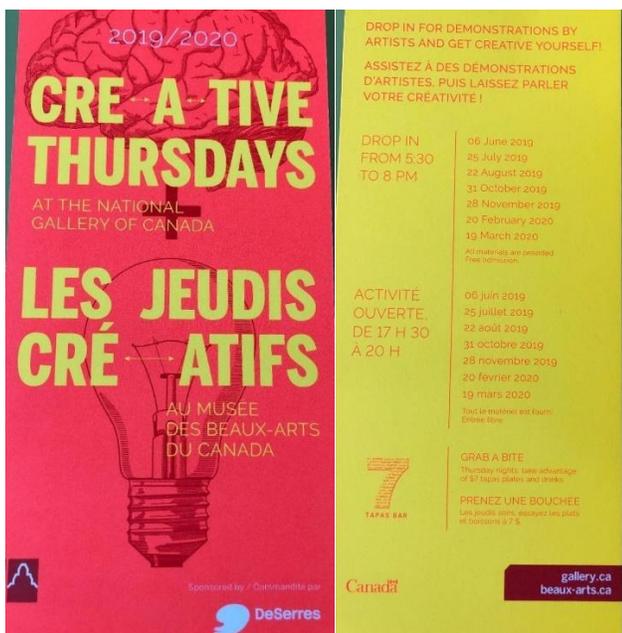
Also, I'll be at the OVWSG show and exhibition on November 2-3

<https://www.ovwsg.com/sale/>

Cheers, Wendo

Creative Thursdays at the Gallery

National Gallery of Canada - Drop in for demos by artists and get creative yourself! Free admission, all materials are provided. From 5:30-8:00. Thursdays: Oct 31, 28 November, 20 Februarys, 19 March.



Spirit Seeds explores historical and contemporary beadwork created by the indigenous people of the Great Lakes and Northeastern regions. Within the beadwork cultural stories are shared and preserved. Beadwork from the 1800s often symbolized a narrative of survival for Indigenous people during this period of great change. We celebrate the beauty and meaning of earlier beadwork and how contemporary Indigenous work contributes to this legacy. Spirit Seeds is a rich exploration of Indigenous beadwork from the Great Lakes Region. This exhibit visually explores post contact trade-era beads, historical beadwork into present day examples of the art form.

For more information about the Workshop: https://mvmt.ca/?event=the-native-beaded-strawberry-workshop-woodlands-beaded-strawberry&event_date=2019-11-10

Mississippi Valley Textile Museum,
3 Rosamond Street East, Almonte ON K0A 1A0
Information: curator@mvmt.ca or 613-256-3754

Spirit Seeds:



A celebration of Indigenous Beadwork
Naomi Smith, Guest Curator/ Artist.
October 26 to December 14, 2019
Vernissage & Curatorial Talk: Saturday November 9
from 2 pm to 4 pm
Workshop: Sunday November 10 from 10 am to 4 pm



Planning Committee

PC Convenor	Sharon Johnson & Nancy Garrard
Education	Lynn Keeler, Nancy Scott, Cheryl Brooks, Kathy Lajeunesse, Luigina Baratto, Patrice Bogall
Secretary	Andrée Faubert
Membership	Val Rochester, Dorothy DeRose
Treasurer	Marilyn White
Web-coordinator	MaryAnne Toonders
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Library	Rita Rottman
Publicity/Marketing	Lorraine Lacroix
Exhibitions/Shows	Connie ten Bruggenkate, Debbie Boyd-Chisholm, Sheree Bradford-Lea
Contacts: co-chair@out-of-the-box.org	