



Fiber Artists of Oklahoma

NEWSLETTER

Volume IV Issue 03

November 2008

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Sara Braden

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From The President's Desk—

Shirley Conaway



Where has the time gone? It seems we've just begun our new year in FAO, and it's already November. This upcoming meeting will be our last until January. But while we're wisely taking a break, many of our members are working at top speed, hurrying to complete handmade items for their annual holiday open house events. They're madly weaving, dyeing, knitting, knotting, and so on, and it's exciting to see the flurry of activity! Artist open houses are such fun, especially during the holiday season!

We have a very special event going on in Oklahoma City right now. Some of us found time to attend the opening of the exhibit "Craft in America: Expanding Traditions" at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in October. What a show! If you haven't had a chance to see it yet, do give yourself that pleasure before the

exhibit closes January 18. Showcased are hundreds of dazzling examples of fine craft, some quite recent, including weaving, basketry, leather work, wood items, metal, jewelry, and many other materials. Two Oklahomans have work in the show: a boot maker from Guthrie and a basket maker! According to the museum, a series of lectures are scheduled during the exhibit, and the next one, at 6:30 on November 7, will be given by Jo Lauria, curator of the exhibit and co-author of *Craft in America: Celebrating Two Centuries of Artists and Objects*. Also, Oklahoma's PBS affiliate, OETA, will rebroadcast the accompanying television series, *Craft in America*, Sunday afternoons at 1 pm. from November 9-23.

I'm grateful to the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum for shining the spotlight on fine craft, and I hope that you'll find time to treat yourself to a visit!

FAO MEETINGS:

Oklahoma City

Date: Thurs, Nov 13th

Time: 7:00pm to 8:45pm

Location: Belle Isle Library, 5501 N. Villa, OKC (NW Hwy & N. Villa).

Tulsa

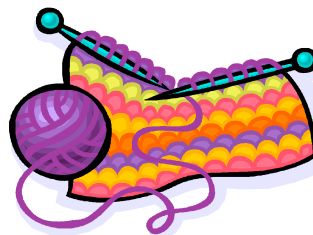
Date: Mon, Nov 10th

Time: 6:30pm to 8:00pm

Location: Schusterman-Benson Library, 3333 East 32nd Place, Tulsa (S. of 31st & Harvard).

OKC Program: Beautiful Gourmet Yarns

Margaret Schroeder, owner of the Gourmet Yarn Shop, will show off some of the beautiful yarns available in her store at 9638 N. May Ave. in Oklahoma City. She will also pro-



vide information on the many knitting and crocheting classes offered for all levels of expertise.

<http://www.gourmetyarnco.com/>

Sara Braden,
Program Coordinator

Visit To The Textile Museum By Sara Braden

In October I had the privilege of spending four days in Washington, DC. I took the trip with my sister, who often travels there on business, and who was eager to show me the sights of the city. Together we walked all around DC, enjoying museums and restaurants at a ratio of approximately three to one.

One of the main reasons I wanted to go to DC was to visit the Textile Museum. About a mile from the Dupont Circle stop on the Metro, this museum is on a beautiful, tree-lined street of mansions and foreign embassies. My sister wanted to come with me to the museum, and she was a great sport about exploring it with me.

When we were there, the current exhibit was of woven and knitted items from Bolivia. The exhibit was not large; however, there were enough exquisitely beautiful pieces, each accompanied by care-



fully written text, to capture the interest of a normal person (my sister) and to thrill a person like me into paroxysms of ecstasy. There were also many photographs of people wearing items similar to the ones on display.

In addition to the exhibit, the Textile Museum also has a fun and educational room for children, with many hands-on activities for learning about different fibers and how people work with them. The museum also has a gift shop, with textiles from around the world and a good selection of books.

If you are planning a trip to the DC area, I strongly recommend that you visit the

Textile Museum. Check their website <http://www.textilemuseum.com/> to see what will be on display during your visit.

Enjoy!

SHOW & SHARE—OCTOBER MEETING IN OKC



Sara Cowan, who presented our program, is showing us one of her cute skirts made from recycled T-Shirts.



Dawne Pyles showing us a quilt she hand quilted. She brought several finished projects to show. Thanks Dawne!



Amelia Daws, one of our new members, is holding her beautiful rainbow hand-woven project.

FAO TULSA MEETING MINUTES—by Sharyl Landis

The Tulsa Chapter of FAO met at the Schusterman-Benson Library on Tuesday October 14, 2008. Jean Ann Fausser introduced our speaker, Kathy McRuiz, Director of the Visual Arts Center. She explained the various activities that the Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa sponsors. Many of these programs are designed for children and include Artists in Residence in the schools, after school arts programs and Artists-In-The-Parks.

She showed architectural drawings of the proposed Visual Arts Center that will include galleries, studios and classrooms. This will be developed by the Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa in the west half of the Mathews Warehouse at 100 E Brady. The Brady Arts District is in the process of redevelopment and the Visual Arts Center will be a central and vital part of this area. Completion is anticipated for the fall of 2010.

Kate Kline then led the meeting with 13 FAO members and 3 guests attending. She explained the purpose of FAO and Fiberworks, then announced that the following members have agreed to serve as Tulsa officers:

Kate Kline - "Moderator" to conduct meetings

Sharyl Landis - Newsletter correspondent will keep meeting notes and send to Kay Moore in OKC



Jan Hawks - Program Coordinator

Jean Ann Fausser - Communications and Board of Directors Rep

The Craft in America Exhibition at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum was discussed and everyone was encouraged to make the trip to OKC to see the exhibit before the January 2009 closing.

Questionnaires on programs were distributed by Jan Hawks asking for suggestions and volunteers for programs.

The next item on the agenda was the long anticipated "Show and Tell". Ten members of the group brought samples of their fiberarts.

Techniques included: fabric doll making, needle felting, wearable art, weaving, quilting, fabric collage, "Sculpted Threads" and basketry. Each item was examined closely and many questions asked of the artist as to technique, materials and time. The group could have continued with this part of the program for another hour, but we had to stop as it was closing time at the library.

The next meeting will be held on MONDAY, November 10 since the library will be closed on Tuesday the 11th (our regular meeting time) due to Veterans Day. Since there will not be a meeting in December the group wanted to have a November meeting even on another day. Candace Dove will present the program and demonstrate her fabric collage technique.

TULSA'S FAO NOVEMBER PROGRAM NEWS

Because the library will be closed for Veterans Day, the Tulsa FAO Chapter will meet on **MONDAY, November 10 at 6:30**. Jean Ann Fausser will talk about the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition (OVAC) and it's programs. Candace Dove will demonstrate her fabric collage technique which is a raw edge process that uses quilting to hold pieces in posi-

tion. Show and Tell items are always welcome and encouraged.

There will not be a meeting in December.

By Janet Shipley Hawks



CALL FOR ENTRIES

CONNECTIONS: SMALL TAPESTRY INTERNATIONAL 2009. Juried exhibit. **Digital entry deadline November 30.** American Tapestry Alliance juried small tapestry exhibit

(max. size 100 sq. in.). Artists are encouraged to push the idea of connections with concepts, techniques, other artists, the viewer, or other areas of artistic investigation. For prospectus, send SASE to ATA Connections, 1050 Gunnison Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81501. <http://www.americantapestryalliance.com>

VISIONMAKERS 2009: Deadline December 8, 2008. No Entry Fee for OVAC members—\$15 for non-members. **\$6500 in Awards.** The **Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition** announces a call for entries for Vision-Makers, a definitive exhibition for Oklahoma Artists working in high craft and three dimensions. The exhibition will be held at the East Central University Gallery in Ada from March 23 until April 30, 2009. Guest Curator—Judith Schwartz, Ph.D, is the Head of the Sculpture: Craft Media Area at New York Univ. For prospectus: <http://www.ovac-ok.org>, or 405-232-6991.

FANSTIC FIBERS. Deadline February 15, 2009. Entry fee \$25. Awards. Juried. International exhibit at Yeiser Art Center in Paducah, Kentucky, April 19-May 20, 2009, seeking to showcase a broad range of outstanding work by a variety of artists. Any pieces created with fiber as the primary medium are welcome. The Jurors for this exhibit are Caryl Bryer Fallert, world-renowned art quilter, Judy Schwender, curator of the Museum of the American Quilters' Society, and Freda Fairchild, nationally known printmaker and fiber artist. For information, (270) 442-2453 or <http://www.theyeiser.org/>

THE LOWERTOWN ARTS DISTRICT QUILT WALK. Awards. Entry fee. Juried. **Deadline February 15, 2009.** To be held in Paducah, KY, the exhibit will coincide with the 2009 American Quilters Society Quilt Show. Art quilts selected will be on exhibit in the LowerTown art galleries. Maps to all galleries will be available for visitors at each venue and the quilt show. Max. size 40" in any dimension. For information, (270) 442-2453 or <http://www.theyeiser.org/>



Sharyl Landis will have her beautiful beadwork on display at the Dennis R. Neill Equality Center, 621 E 4th St, Tulsa. **Opening is Nov 6th 6-9pm.** Show ends Dec 1st.

Four of our members, **Carla Houston, Stephanie Grubbs, Maryruth Prose and Jan Hawks** will have work on display at the Leslie Powell Gallery in the "Oklahoma: Centerfold" juried art show in Lawton, OK. The opening reception will be Saturday, November 8, 2008. The exhibit will be on display from Nov. 8th to Dec. 30th at the Leslie Powell Gallery then the show moves to the University of Arts and Sciences Oklahoma, Chickasha on Jan 11, 2009. For more information see <http://www.lpgallery.org/>

Lessons From An Oklahoma Girlhood. An Art exhibit, book launching & poetry reading at the Adelante!

Gallery, 3003 Paseo, OKC. **Opening Reception:** Thurs, Nov 6th, 5:30pm-9:00pm. **Marie Miller** was one of the invited artist and she interpreted two of Dorothy's poems in her beautiful hand-worked embroidery. **Marie Miller** also has work that is featured in an article in the September issue of the Embroidery Guild of America's **Needle Arts Magazine.**

Charlotte Hickman's Pansy quilt won the Ina Steniford Memorial award in the "In Full Bloom" exhibit at the International Quilt Festival in Houston, TX.

Elia Woods - Studio Open House, 1012 NW 32 St., OKC, 405-524-1864. Handwoven scarves and shawls, fused glass earrings, cards, and photo fiber art.

Friday, **Nov. 28,** 4-7pm, Saturday, **Nov. 29,** 1-4pm.
Friday, **Dec. 5,** 4-7pm, Saturday, **Dec. 6,** 1-4pm
Or by appointment.



FROM THE EDITOR

An interesting tutorial about recycling sweater yarn was brought to my attention and I'd like to pass it along to you. Sara Braden presented a wonderful program on

this subject last year but a lot of you weren't able to attend. Look at this blog under Tutorials - Recycling Yarn for Sweaters <http://dawnprickett.blogspot.com/>.

I love the Gourmet Yarn shop so I'm looking forward to Margaret Schroeder coming in November. See you then! Kay Moore

OKC FAO Program Schedule for 2008—2009

October 9th—Sara Cowan—Designer Skirts
From Recycled T-Shirts.

November 13th—Margaret Schroeder, owner of
the Gourmet Yarn Shop.

(No meeting in December)

January 8th—TBA

February 12th—TBA

March 12th—TBA

April 9th—TBA

May 14th—TBA

June—Joint Potluck Dinner TBA

All OKC meetings, with the exception of the Pot-
luck Dinner, are at the Belle Isle Library, 5501
N. Villa, Oklahoma City, OK. Meetings start at
7:00PM.

FAO Treasurer's Report



Treasurer's Report not available for online view-
ing.

FAO currently has 54 new and renewed members.
Thanks to all of you that have paid your dues. A new
membership roster will be available shortly.

For those of you that haven't paid your dues you may
send your check for \$20 to Dorothy Dinsmoor, made
payable to FAO, at 2613 Windmill Road, Edmond, OK
73013. Please provide us with your email address if
you want to receive the newsletter by email.

Have your forgotten to pay your dues? We will
remind the non-paid members again this month but
this will be the last newsletter you will receive and
your name will be dropped from current membership
roster so please get those checks in the mail.

DYE WORKSHOPS Available At City Arts Center

Yarn Painting with Natural Dyes. November 8th—10am to 4pm. Created for weavers and knitters, students will focus on hand painting yarn using natural dye extracts. All experience levels are welcome and students will receive instructions for prepping yarn before being introduced to various dyeing techniques. Instructor: Heather Clark. Workshop fee is \$50 (plus cost of yarn).

December 5th, Friday, 6-9pm. Come relax with friends while creating beautiful scarves. Designed for natural dye beginners, students will be introduced to shibori dyeing techniques using intense natural dyes. Each student will create two beautiful hand-dyed silk scarves to take home. **\$45 (supplies included).** Instructors: Elia Woods and Heather Clark.

Shibori—December 9th, Tuesday, 6-9pm. Clamp it, stitch it, tie it, twist it and dye it! Explore a range

of dyeing techniques for resist-dyeing fabric and discover the intricate patterns that emerge when you unbind the cloth. We will create an arrangement of items including: scarves, bandanas, bags and shibori socks. **\$40 (supplies included).** Instructor: Heather Clark.

Weaving Classes. On going weaving classes for beginning to advanced weavers are also available. Check the website for the schedule. Instructor: Elia Woods.

Check out <http://www.cityartscenter.org/> for other fiber classes and workshops available at the City Arts Center or call 405-591-000.



FAO TULSA MEETING PHOTOS



First Row Left to Right:
 Paula Klassen-art quilter, Mary Sorrells-basket maker, and Louise Reed-wearable art.

Second Row Left to Right:
 Sally Bachman-weaver and Brenda Haxton-art quilter.

Third Row: Peggy Spence-art quilter.

Photography by Jan Hawks

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Tulsa FAO Program Schedule for 2008—2009

October 14th—Kathy McRuiz—VAC Director

November 10th— Candace Dove—Fabric Collage

(No meeting in December)

January 13th, February 10th, March 10th, April 14th, and May 12th—TBA

June—Joint Potluck Dinner TBA

All Tulsa meetings, with the exception of the Potluck Dinner, are at the Schusterman-Benson Library which is located at 3333 East 32nd Place, Tulsa, OK. Meetings start at 6:30PM.



Above is Candace Dove showing her fabric collaged quilt. She will be giving a demonstration on this technique at the November meeting.



More Show and Share From the Tulsa Meeting in October

Above Left: Elizabeth Smathers—basket maker

Above Right: Daria Cash—dollmaker

Bottom Left: Joy Bellar—fabric artist

Photography by Jan Hawks



Fiber Artists of Oklahoma

C/o Dorothy Dinsmoor

2613 Windmill Road

Edmond, Ok 73013

FAO Membership Dues run from September—August each year. Dues are \$20.00, please make checks payable to Fiber Artists of Oklahoma and mail to Dorothy Dinsmoor, 2613 Windmill Rd., Edmond, OK 73013. For questions call 405-348-4666.

We Are On The Web!

<http://www.fiberartistsok.org>

ABOUT US:

Fiber Artists of Oklahoma (FAO) is made up of individuals interested in sharing knowledge and promoting appreciation of all aspects of fiber art, including weaving, spinning, embroidery, basketry, felting, papermaking, dyeing, rug hooking, lace-making, and quilting. Skill levels of members range from novice to expert, with some members experimenting as hobbyists, and others working as professionals.

Members of FAO participate in various activities during the year to encourage, support, and inform persons interested in fiber art. The organization promotes **Fiberworks**, a major juried fiber art show

featuring Oklahoma artists. Held each year, Fiberworks is now a nationally respected fiber show.

Fiber Artists of Oklahoma was formerly the Handweavers League of Oklahoma, the name chosen in 1976 by a group of hand weavers who first met in Norman, Oklahoma. Officers were elected, by-laws were written, and the first newsletter was published. In 1984 the group began meeting in Oklahoma City and became a statewide organization. A Certificate of Incorporation to become a non-profit [(501(c) (3)] group was filed and approved in 1985. In 1978, the organization initiated Fiberworks , a major juried fiber art show that has been held each year since. The Handweavers League was renamed Fiber Artists of Oklahoma in 2006 to better reflect the broader focus of the organization.

Fiber Artists of Oklahoma meets in Oklahoma City the second Thursday and in Tulsa the second Tuesday of each month from September through November and January through June. All meetings with the exception of the June Potluck dinner meeting are at the Belle Isle Library, 5501 N. Villa, Okla. City at 7:00pm or the Schusterman-Benson Library, 3333 East 32 Pl., Tulsa at 6:30 pm.