



Textile and Fibre Artists of Manitoba is officially formed! Those of us who have been working hard to make it happen are very excited. We give a huge welcome to our first members and hope you will find many rewards in being in on the ground floor. Our name has been registered, our inaugural meeting has occurred, we have an Executive committee and we have a membership base. Now the fun can begin. We can make this group be whatever we can imagine!

Message from the President

Krista Zeghers;

It is my great honour to welcome you to the first Textile and Fibre Artists of Manitoba newsletter. If you are receiving this publication you are either a paid member of TFAM or have expressed interest in our group. I have high hopes for the TFAM group and this first newsletter is no exception. Our editor, Yvonne Carlson, has put in an amazing effort, gathering interesting information from within the TFAM group and also from the broader fibre art world.

Our Exhibits Coordinator, Cathie Ugrin, is busy planning two exhibits, one for 2018 and one for 2019. Get your membership in so you can take part in the exhibits! Our Education Coordinator, Michelle Czuby-Slota, is busy planning workshops for us coming up in January and February of 2018. Members get priority and are subsidized for the workshops! Thanks also to Elaine Filyk, Treasurer, and Susan Selby, Secretary, who also work tirelessly for TFAM and have also contributed to this newsletter.

Take a look through the newsletter. I hope it inspires you to create. One of my favorite quotes, from Brenda Ueland, as to why I am an artist and desire to use my

News

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Newsletter Coordinator:
Yvonne Carlson
With the Assistance of:
Susan Selby

Next Issue Deadline:
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creative power..."Because there is nothing that makes people so generous, joyful, lively, bold and compassionate, so indifferent to fighting and the accumulation of objects and money."

I hope this newsletter sends tingles to your fingertips and joy to your heart, and transfers you to that realm where anything is possible!

Happy Creating!
Krista Zeghers
TFAM President

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Guest Editorial -- Krista Zeghers

"Why on Earth do you want to start a new organization?" This was often the question asked of me when I would tell people of my desire to create an organization for all types of fibre artists within the province. Luckily for me, four other people (Elaine Filyk, Cathie Ugrin, Susan Selby and Yvonne Carlson) did not ask me that question; rather they stated they thought that it was a marvelous idea! Immediately I sought out those people's help. Thus began the steering committee for the group you are now a part of, Textile and Fibre Artist of Manitoba (TFAM)!

The main reason behind the creation of TFAM is to network with all like-minded people in Manitoba. There are many different fibre arts – felting, weaving, spinning, knitting, crocheting, dyeing, quilting, lace making, needlepoint, and the list goes on. In the creation of one group we can assist each other in furthering our education and organizing exhibitions, becoming even better at the art we create. But why expend all this energy to build the TFAM organization when it takes time away from my own person creative energy? I do it because of the synergy it provides me.

"Synergy is the interaction of elements that when combined produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements and contributions." <http://www.thesaurus.com/browse/synergy>

Synonyms for the word synergy include cooperation, teamwork, and harmony. Throughout my first career as an educator I found that I fully believed in the cooperative way and used those strategies in my classrooms on a daily basis. I loved working in teams to create and incorporate new ideas. My husband is the chairperson of a Credit Union and my children have both been a part of Cooperative Leadership programs in Manitoba. I guess cooperation has become a large part of the way I see and do things.

Various antonyms for synergy would be discord, competition, separation and divorce. I feel we see too much of this in our daily life. These things zap us of our energy and spirit; they cause us to have a decrease in our creative power. Now, during my

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second career as a fibre artist, I realize that these types of things are not necessary and should be avoided.

I feel I am fortunate as a fibre artist to have been mentored by many people willing to act cooperatively, give their time and encouragement to me. I would like to mention specifically, Coreen Zerr, who taught me the majority of the techniques I use in my fibre art today, and who encouraged me to join Fibre Art Network (FAN) where I learned to put all those techniques to good use. It was through Coreen and FAN that I began to exhibit my art. My first piece, a collaboration with Coreen, "Serengeti Moment", won first in its category at the Canadian Quilt Association's National Juried Show!

It was also through FAN that I was invited to a Manitoba group of fibre artists, called the Divas. This group meets monthly to show their art and share ideas. (The Divas is where I met Cathie and Susan.) Unfortunately, Divas is a closed group, and many of my other fibre friends did not belong and wanted to get together. Thus began another group, FACES (Fibre Artists Create and Exchange thru Sharing). This group includes a number of members including my sister-in-law, Yvonne Carlson.

Recently my husband and I bought a house in Mesa where we winter as Canadian snowbirds. This move led me to search for a fibre arts organization in Arizona to provide that synergistic energy. After two years of searching I found a group called The Mavericks. This group meets monthly for two hours and has amazingly talented fibre artist members. I would go to meetings and get inspired, but then not know how to keep that inspiration and energy going. I needed to be with my fibre people more than once a month. Luckily, through Mavericks, I met other fibre artists (including Elaine Filyk) willing to meet and share ideas. We formed a technique group called Fibre Artists Meet and Exchange (FAME). Do you see a pattern happening here?

I do seem to be involved in a number of fibre artists groups! I belong to CQA, FAN, Divas and FACES in Canada and to Mavericks and FAME in USA. Why would I want to organize another group? ... Because every group has its own purpose. Because getting together with like-minded people is energizing. Because there is a gap for my fibre artist people in Manitoba and I want to see that gap bridged.

It is my hope that TFAM will network all fibre artists living in Manitoba. The positives of that union would be infinite. Imagine having access to who and what is happening in fibre arts within the entire province! My personal goal for TFAM is to build the membership outside the city of Winnipeg. I have spent the majority of my life in rural Manitoba (currently I live in the town of Treherne located in south Central Manitoba on Highway 2) and know that there are many fibre artists throughout the province. I know that Manitoba is large and travel to meetings over long distances may be untenable, so TFAM is attempting to link us all through live streaming. Our first meeting was an experiment and I'm sure we will get even better with the technology.

If you are reading this editorial and know of others who belong to the fibre art scene in Manitoba, please let them know about TFAM! Our membership is currently small but mighty. Imagine what we will accomplish when we are large and mighty!!

Special Events – Inaugural Meeting

Our first meeting was held on October 25, 2017 at Creative Manitoba's facility on McDermot Ave in Winnipeg. Krista was our chairperson and using the slides below, explained the inspiration and reasons for forming the group. A (2 part) video of part of the meeting is available on our Facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/TFAMartists/posts/862474710594448>

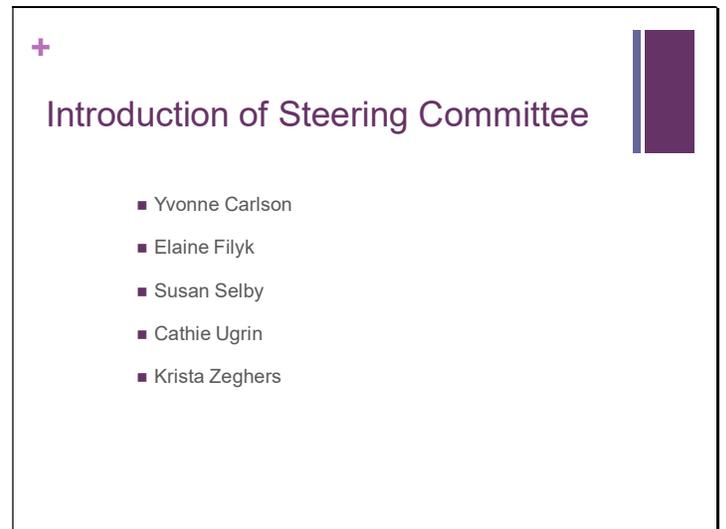
<https://www.facebook.com/yvonne.carlson.92/videos/1477624532290785/>

We learned a lot from this first time recording a live meeting and hope to do better the next time. Thanks for your patience.

Questions or comments? You can contact any of the executive members by emailing tfamartists@gmail.com.

We plan to host future meetings at other locations both in Winnipeg and throughout Manitoba as the wishes of the membership dictate.

Inaugural Meeting Slides:





Goal and Definitions

- Goal
 - The goal of TFAM is to network all textile and fibre artists within Manitoba and to assist in promoting textile and fibre art.
- Definitions:
 - Textiles are a type of cloth or woven fabric made of fibres.
 - Fibres are natural or synthetic tissues that can be made into textiles.
 - Textile and Fibre Art pieces are works of art that communicate a message, emotion or meaning and go beyond the literal meaning of the materials.



Reasons to Create TFAM

- To grow a network of textile and fibre artists within Manitoba.
- To exchange ideas, knowledge and expertise.
- To have discussion on a variety of topics.
- To enter art shows and exhibits as a group.
- To be open to all textile and fibre artists within Manitoba.
- To create a member list for networking.
- To promote the group to other textile and fibre artists.
- To raise awareness of textile and fibre arts as an art form.
- To network with liaison groups, such as Creative Manitoba, Manitoba Art Council, Manitoba Fibre Festival, SAQA, FAN, MPQ, etc.



Sharing

Our Stories of Why We Want To Create TFAM

- Yvonne – beginning artist, join, support, inspiring
- Elaine – network, know others to learn from, exhibit, sell
- Susan – artist, gallery, network with others
- Cathie – class on managing your career, networking benefits
- Krista – mentor, join FAN, want more networking, all textiles and fibre!



Confirmation of Board

- President – Krista Zeghers
- Vice President -
- Secretary – Susan Selby
- Treasurer – Elaine Filyk
- Newsletter and Social Media – Yvonne Carlson
- Exhibits and Liaison – Cathie Ugrin
- Education/Workshops -
- Representatives
 - North
 - West
 - South
 - East
 - Winnipeg



Membership Benefits

- Network with other Textile and Fibre Artists in Manitoba on the password protected membership list.
- Design your own mentor/mentee partnership
- Design your own pod groups
- Ability to enter exhibits, workshops and education opportunities
- Attend quarterly meetings
- Receive the newsletter



Membership

- Membership will be \$40 yearly January to December, and require that the member live in Manitoba.
- Membership forms will ask for – name, email, location within Manitoba, social media, phone (optional), other textile/fibre art or quilting groups they belong to and other ideas they would like to present to TFAM.
- Membership will begin tonight!! Get your membership form.

+ How to get Involved

- Board Position
- Area Representative
- Education/Workshop
- Exhibits
- Mentorship
- Networking – pods
- Other Ideas



Introducing the Executive

Susan Selby – Secretary



Susan has been sewing and quilting for many years. She is largely self-taught but relies on books, internet and workshops to expand her skills. She has begun to teach her methods to other enthusiasts. Susan has lived most of her life in Manitoba and draws inspiration from the prairie landscape – the skies, fields, valleys and forests provide the scenes she photographs and interprets in fabric. She strives to capture the incredible prairie light in winter and summer. The colours, textures and endless variety of the prairie skies come to life in her art using a wide range of fibre and techniques.

Autumn Light



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Elaine Filyk – Treasurer

Art is her passion and textiles her medium.

Elaine Filyk is a graduate Designer. Her work is a reflection of her study of art, architecture, colour and texture as well as the experiences of world travel. Her perception of nature is an amalgam of living in the tree lined streets of Winnipeg, Whiteshell Provincial Park as well as the Arizona Desert.



Dreaming Doesn't Count



Cathie Ugrin -- Exhibits

Cathie Ugrin is a Winnipeg based fabric artist whose work is characterized by a rich and inventive use of colour, and unique approach to geometrical design. She has studied with a diverse collection of artists continually expanding her technique and approach. Her pieces have reached a broad audience finding homes across Canada, USA, England, Finland, Italy and Slovenia. Cathie's work has been accepted into numerous international exhibits and National Juried Shows.

Red Sky



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Krista Zeghers -- President

Krista and her husband, Don, live in the small town of Treherne, located in the Tiger Hills region of Manitoba and they winter in Mesa, Arizona. For inspiration Krista loves to travel. For collegiality, Krista belongs to Fibre Arts Network in Canada; Divas and FACES in Manitoba; Mavericks and Fiber Artists Meet to Exchange (FAME) while in Arizona. Various fibre art works of Krista's have hung at galleries and juried quilt shows across North America.



Windy Point



Yvonne Carlson -- Newsletter/ Membership

Yvonne lives in Winnipeg Manitoba and started quilting and teaching upon retirement. Fibre art has started Yvonne on a new path of creativity. Yvonne belongs to MPQ and CQA, Fibre Art Network in western Canada and FACES and TFAM in Manitoba. Yvonne's work is typically a combination of machine and hand stitching, old and new techniques, modern and traditional. Yvonne enjoys finding ways to combine her love of many techniques and crafts in her fibre art.



Lost Dutchman Hike



TFAM HiLites

Update on **membership**:

We now have 18 members and the membership list will be made available to paid members once we get a website up and running. Meanwhile, the list is available by sending an email request to tfamartists@gmail.com.

Our volunteers are working on the details of our first **workshops**, being planned for January and February 2018. Location and details will be announced soon.

The next member meeting is also being planned, hopefully in conjunction with a workshop in February.

The Executive committee has started the plans for our first **Exhibition** which will be open to paid members only. We are also compiling a list of possible vendors and exhibition galleries.

Exhibition Notices

Fibre Art Divas

October 31 - December 2, 2017

Fibre Art Divas, a group of Manitoba Fibre Artists, is presenting a showing of their work at the Gwen Fox Gallery at the Selkirk Community Arts Centre, 250 Manitoba Ave, Selkirk, MB. The exhibit will run from October 31 to December 2, 2017. The show consists of two parts: the first a collection of 12" x 12" pieces which each artist has created as an interpretation of a photograph of a Manitoba lake at sunset, and the second a grouping of 24" x 36" pieces on the theme 'Prairie Perspectives'. This is the Fibre Art Divas' first show as a group and this collection will be travelling on to Neepawa and other Manitoba Galleries in 2018.

Canada 150; Red and White; to be presented by the [Manitoba Crafts Museum & Library](#) (MCML). **Canada 150** will be installed at C2 this week, opening to the public on Friday, Nov 24th with its opening reception on First Friday Dec 1, 2017.

Heritage Needle Arts Sale

Saturday, Nov 25, 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM at St. Peter's Anglican Church, 755 Elm Street at Grant Ave (in the Hall).

A unique opportunity to purchase quality items produced by members of the Winnipeg Embroiderers' Guild.

www.WinnipegEmbroiderersGuild.ca

Members

We would love to hear from our members. If you know of any galleries, libraries or other locations throughout the province that would be of interest for hosting exhibits of Fibre Art work, please email us at tfamartists@gmail.com.

Do you know of any current or upcoming Fibre Art Exhibits that would be of interest to other artists? Send the information to tfamartists@gmail.com so it can be shared on FaceBook and in the next Newsletter.

Tributes

Cathie Ugrin -- CRAFTED 2017

I was honoured to be one of the 60 + artists juried into this year's CRAFTED Show + Sale that took place throughout the Winnipeg Art Gallery on November 3 & 4, 2017. Partnerships between the WAG, the Manitoba Craft Council, Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association and the Craft Council of Newfoundland and Labrador are what make this one-of-a-kind event truly a celebration of the handmade and fine craft. With the \$5.00 entrance ticket to the Show + Sale also came free access to the various galleries including the Indigenous art exhibition INSURGENCE/RESURGENCE.

Philanthropy is always an important aspect of CRAFTED and this year hundreds of socks and mittens lovingly knitted by many volunteers were donated to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Winnipeg for distribution. The weekend was two nonstop days of talking, showing and selling our individual work to art lovers, holiday shoppers, repeat patrons and our fellow vendors. The staff and volunteers were gracious, considerate and extremely supportive. CRAFTED Show + Sale was a delight to be a part of and will definitely be on my schedule of 'Calls of Entry' to answer come Spring 2018!



Members

Let's share a little recognition of ourselves and our peers. Send us a tribute if you know of anyone (yourself included) who has won an award, got accepted to a special show or competition, or for any reason you think they deserve a Tribute.

Again, send the info to tfamartists@gmail.com

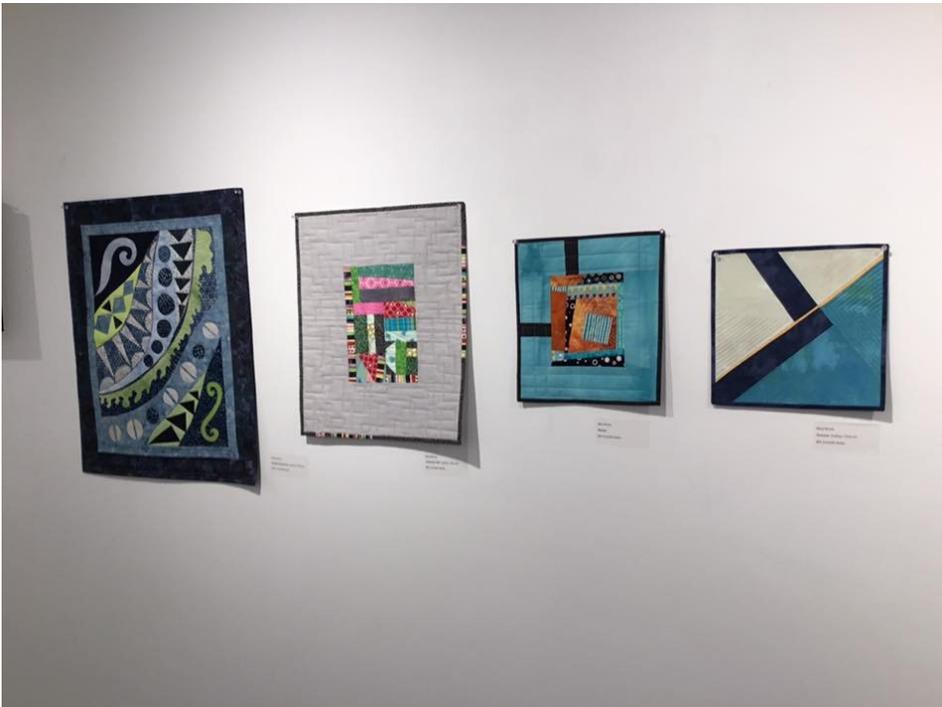
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Skylite Gallery at the WAG



*“You can’t use up
creativity. The more
you use, the more
you have.”
– Maya Angelou*

Marj Moore participated in a members' exhibit at the Cre8ery Gallery in Nov 2017. Here are some of her pieces hanging in the gallery.



Education Opportunities

Creative Manitoba has several education listings. View their website at <https://creativemanitoba.ca/learning/our-classes-and-workshops/>

Call for Entry

Call for Submissions: ARTfest Art Show, 2018

Deadline: March 14th

April 13-15th, 2018 at Crescent Fort Rouge United Church, 25 Wardlaw. The theme for this year is "Renewal"

Go to: <https://cfrucartsfest.weebly.com/>

Canadian Quilt Association

Call for Entry • 2018 National Juried Show

The Show takes place from May 31 to June 2, 2018 at the Vancouver Convention Centre, Vancouver, BC.

To enter your artwork, click the link below. You will find the entry procedure, categories and submission requirements.

<https://njs.canadianquilter.com/>

Manitoba Prairie Quilters are having their Quilt Reflections show April 6-8, 2018. You have to be a member to enter. Go to their website for more details.

<http://www.manitobaprairiequilters.ca/index.html>

Check out other Call for Submissions at **MB Craft Council:**

<http://manitobacraft.ca/calls-for-submission/>

Share education opportunities with other members. Email the information to tfamartists@gmail.com and it will get shared with all our members.

Do you know of competitions, shows or art exhibits open to public submission? Let the members know about it. Send the information to tfamartist@gmail.com so we can share it on FaceBook and in the Newsletter.

Newsletter Deadline Reminder: Please submit all items for the next newsletter by January 6, 2018. Submit by email to: tfamartists@gmail.com