MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We're back with another edition of our newsletter, packed with all the latest news and updates.

I am sure we are all looking forward to the warm weather and all the activities that summer brings. Summer here is so short, we have to enjoy it while we can.

Entries have been coming in for the 'Dual Impressions' exhibit. Based on the photos I have seen this is going to be a fantastic exhibit. It's interesting to see the amazing variety of artistic impressions based on a theme shared by two partners. Dual Impressions' first showing will be in Birtle, MB at the Ties That Bind Fibre Arts Symposium on June 1st and 2nd. I am looking forward to seeing the pieces in person. I hope you all get a chance to see these beautiful pieces over the run of the exhibit. Our exhibits travel for three years, so that should give everyone a chance to see the exhibit at some point, or any of our other exhibits. Thanks go out to Krista Zeghers and Coreen Zerr for putting together this exhibit, and to all who entered. For me, entering these exhibits is the impetus needed to get creating. You really have to think about the theme and how you want to express yourself. That's the fun part, along with executing your ideas. It is very rewarding to share and see your artwork in galleries.

The TFAM executive meets every year for a few days to review the past year, and to plan ahead for the following year. We are planning to meet June 18-20th. If you have any suggestions, please pass them on. We would love to hear from you.

Our next Meet-Up is June 25. This will be the last Meet-Up before our summer break. I hope to see many of you there. Feel free to share any creative adventures you might be involved in via email or on our Facebook page. It's always nice to know what others are up to.

Have a great summer!

Yvonne Rempel
TFAM President

NEWS

JUNE 2024
Volume 8 Issue 2

Newsletter Coordinator:
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Yvonne Carlson

Next Issue Deadline:
August 20, 2024

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1 President's Message
2 Education Report
3 - 4 Introducing the Members
5 TFAM at MB Art Network
6 Tributes

Item of Interest

7 Austin Woollen Mills
7 - 10 Textile Travels 2024
11 TFAM Exhibit Schedule
12 See an Exhibit
13 Call for Entry

Contact Us

TFAM EDUCATION REPORT

Submitted by: Theresa Shaw

Greetings everyone,

Yay! It's summer once again. As we embark on this short but oh so beautiful season, let's remember to keep an artist's eye on everything around us - the colours in our garden, the light through our windows, the shadows cast by leaves…. all grist for the artist's mill.

TFAM is transitioning to summer as well. Our May Meet-Up was held on Tuesday, May 21st on Zoom. Our focus for this meet-up was Portraits in Fibre. Krista, Theresa and Yvonne Rempel gave brief presentations on a diverse number of fibre artists they admire who specialize in portraits. Have you tried portraiture - of people, pets?

The artists presented were:

Krista presented:
Fuzzy Mol, Bisa Butler

Theresa presented:
Sue Stone, Emily Jo Gibbs, Debbie Smyth, Rosie James

Yvonne presented:
Cayce Zavaglia, Kathryn Harmer Fox, Melissa Emerson

The meeting was recorded and is available on the 'Past Events' page on the website.

On Saturday, May 25th, we hosted a live, in-person workshop on Creating Portraits in Fibre. Our very own Krista Zeghers led participants through the process of taking and selecting photos, designing a template or pattern, and determining a portrait style. Lots of ideas were shared….

Our next meet-up will be on Tuesday, June 25th at 6:00 pm on Zoom. It is a week later than usual as the TFAM executive is holding its annual planning retreat on the18th. Our June meet-up will be an informal conversation about what we are planning to do this summer. Travel? Relax? Create? We want to hear about it all.

Planning for the 2024/25 TFAM programming is under way. Please be sure to let us know about artists you would like to learn about and and/or workshops you would like to have us plan for you in the coming year.

Reach out to us at tfamartists@gmail.com

INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS

MICHELE FUNK

Michele has always had an interest in most forms of handicraft, including knitting, embroidery, sewing and crewel work. She would like to continue to learn new crafts and techniques.

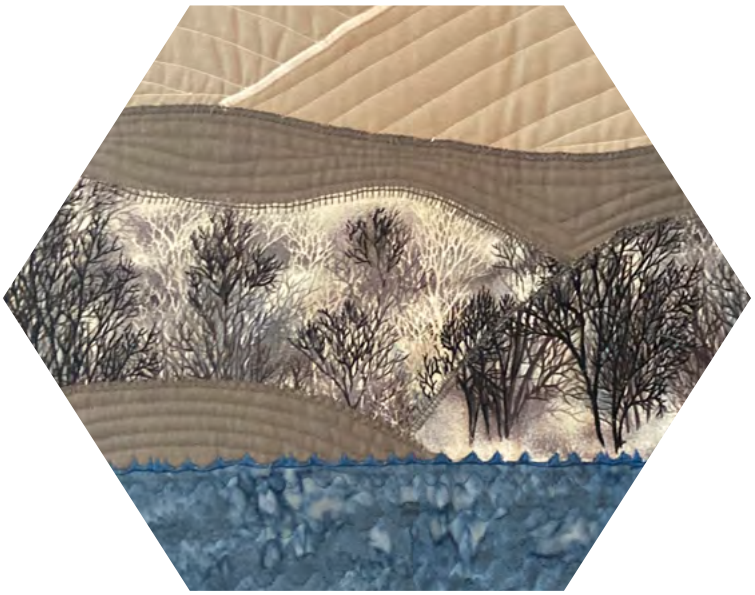
INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS

DEE O'CONNOR

Dee is a quilt maker, printmaker, and explorer of techniques.

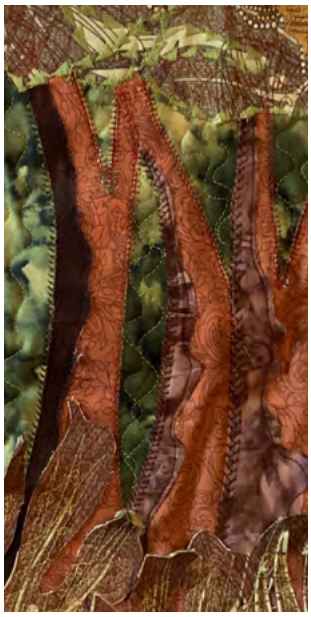
WANDA KEMP

Wanda enjoys quilting and knitting and is always open to learning new skills



BRENDA TAYLOR

Brenda is a former home economics graduate who enjoys a variety of mediums to create art. She has visited the gallery of TFAM work at the UCA in Pilot Mound Manitoba and was impressed with the quality and variety of work displayed, and thought TFAM sounded interesting and challenging.



INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS

MARY ANN ROSENBLOOM

Mary Ann has been quilting for about 20 years, both utilitarian and art quilts. She enjoys painting and drawing and sashiko embroidery. Mary Ann recently started 2D needle felting which is her new passion!

MARION YAREMA

Marion is primarily a quilter, but dabbles in embroidery, fabric collage, needle felting and Inktense on fabric…all for her own enjoyment.

KAREN POTTER

Karen is a multi-media artist who works mostly with fabric, fibres, acrylic and watercolour paints, but dabbles in many kinds of art and mediums. She loves to explore and stretch herself as an artist. She lives in rural Manitoba where art classes and community are limited by distance. Being a part of an online art community is a very interesting experience for Karen. Karen makes a lot of clothing, bags, and aprons for herself. She is interested in expanding herself into more artistic work.

TFAM Exhibits at Manitoba Arts Network

Submitted by Cathie Ugrin

As the inaugural artist group showing their work at the new Manitoba Arts Network space in Winnipeg, TFAM's Shifting Perspective and JOY exhibits were a perfect fit! TFAM artists and the exhibits were very well received as two First Friday Artist Talks were given in March and April. Promoting fibre as an art form is one of TFAM's foundational focuses and many people were introduced to the artistry, texture and depth present in fibre art. Our postcards for donation to Harvest Manitoba were sold throughout the exhibit run in March and April, as well as a requested additional month in May.

The next time you are in the Exchange District come check out this fabulous new space located at 210 Princess Street in Winnipeg and enjoy seeing the varied exhibits. MAN is open from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday to Friday. After your browsing, you can stop for a delicious Mexican pastry and coffee right next door at the delightful new cafe, La Panaderia.

Shifting Perspectives Opening Reception

Judy and Antoinette during their Shifting Perspective Artist Talk

TFAM members at Opening Reception

Shifting Perspective Opening Reception March 2024

TRIBUTES

Submitted by Yvonne Carlson

CONGRATULATIONS TO CINDY DYSON

She was the featured artist in the Ciao! Magazine Apr/May edition.

art al fresco

Patio Days, acrylic on canvas, 42 X 48 inches, 2020

Patio Days celebrates the eagerly anticipated patio dining season and streets coming to life during Manitoba summers. Painted in the summer of 2020, it marks a time at which life returning to city streets was particularly poignant. "Everyday moments depicting ordinary life are special, and inform art", she says. That's what she loves about impressionist painters such as Renoir, who inspire her work.

Cindy Dyson

Finding refuge from a challenging childhood, Cindy Dyson began drawing young. Today her paintings and observations reveal the wistfulness and preciousness of a fleeting moment, presented through splashes of colour that exude energy and life. Her work captures scenes and landscapes of Winnipeg's cultural hubs like the Exchange District and downtown core. Dyson's art adorns Harrison's coffee company and is sold at Pulse Gallery at the Forks. Cindydysonart.com

44 ciao! / apr/may / two thousand twenty-four

Moroccan tile work

Tributes also go out to all those who put themselves (and their artwork) out there by entering exhibits, whether local, national or international.

Getting accepted is, of course, wonderful and gratifying, but many of us frequently have our entries rejected. It is hard to not be discouraged by this.

So here is to all those 'rejected' entries, I'm sure they are as wonderful as the artist creating them.

SAQA RESOURCES

Through the Affiliate membership that TFAM holds with SAQA (Studio Art Quilt Associates), all members are given access to the amazing resources that SAQA has to offer.

HOW TO ACCESS.
Login on **SAQA website**
Login information has been sent to all TFAM members.

REMINDER:
Using the TFAM Affiliate SAQA account does NOT allow you to register for conferences, seminars,workshops or entering exhibits. You must have a personal account to do that.

ITEM OF INTEREST

Submitted by Antoinette Blankvoort Wieberdink

Wool producers and fibre lovers in Manitoba will be excited to hear about the opening of the Austin Woolen Mill in Austin, MB. In Manitoba there is a great demand for fibre processing plants. The longtime dream of fibre enthusiasts, Lynda and Bryan Driedger, to own and operate a fibre mill came true, when in December 2023 they purchased the fibre processing equipment from Belfast Mini Mills (BMM) in PEI. The grand opening of their new facility on April 20th, 2024 at 7 Division St, Austin , MB, was a huge success. Fibre enthusiasts and wool producers came from far and wide to admire the facilities and support the new owners.

The Austin Woollen Mill is now open for business and has started the custom processing of fibre, which involves cleaning, preparing, spinning, and finishing or packaging the fleece. Some of their custom fibre milling products are: roving, batts and yarns. The yarns they make include 2 or 3 ply and ranges from fingering weight right up to chunky weight, as well as lopi-style and rug yarn.

The mill store offers yarn, other wool products, and a small variety of giftware and loose leaf tea. Some items are also available through their online store.

For all inquiries please consult the website: austinwoollenmill.ca or call (204) 295- 4496.You can also follow them on Instagram #fibrefellow or Facebook: Austin Woollen Mill
Business Hours : Wednesday - Friday 1:00 pm - 5:30 pm

ITEM OF INTEREST

Submitted by: Theresa Shaw

Textile Travels 2024

In April, Krista and Theresa had the great good fortune to travel to Morocco together on a handcrafts tour. The tour was organized by a woman-run travel company called Retreat/Recreate, out of Australia www.retreatrecreate.com

Morocco is an amazing country, filled with lovely people, beautiful landscapes, a rich history and deep seated traditions. Traveling in spring with a small group of like-minded women was the perfect adventure.

Our tour group was made up of just twelve women, eight from Australia, including our tour leader Susan, two from Britain, and the two of us from Canada. Our tour started in Marrakesh and over 16 days we traveled throughout the country, visiting artisans in cities and villages, traversing the Atlas Mountains and even venturing into the Sahara Desert.

Our local guide and interpreter, Khaled, ensured that we were safe and well cared for throughout our adventure. In addition to touring through ancient kasbahs (fortified houses), and staying in centuries old riads (hotels), we participated in six different handcraft workshops.

Our first workshop was on Fessi embroidery, a traditional Berber (Amazigh) embroidery technique. It is like cross-stitch, but the patterns are reversible (same on the front and the back). We learned the basics from members of a cooperative for handicapped women in Marrakesh.

Textile Travels 2024 *(Cont'd)*

Our second workshop was taught by an artisan in the heart of the leather souk in the Medina (old walled city) of Marrakesh. We cut and glued leather pieces to make our very own pair of Babouches, traditional Moroccan slippers. Our teacher was very patient as we peppered him with questions and chatter.

In the wool and yarn souk

Our next workshop was on natural dyeing in a women's handcraft cooperative in a tiny village. They use locally foraged plants such as pomegranate, turmeric, madder, and henna to dye wool for their rugs. We each dyed a length of cotton to be used as a cheche (turban/scarf used to protect against sun and sandstorms) when we ventured into the desert. We were also served a delicious lunch!

At our next stop, a 16th century kasbah in the Draa Valley near the Sahara Desert, we visited a family of weavers and took part in a traditional palm leaf mat weaving lesson. It was definitely harder than it looked. Our visit coincided with the end of Ramadan and we were treated to an evening of traditional song and dance by local musicians.

After an amazing interlude in the desert, we journeyed north to Fez and visited a ceramic studio where we learned all about the famous Zellige mosaic tile work. The craft dates back to the 10th century and is still practiced in the traditional way. The artisans use fine bodied Moroccan clay to make tiles by hand, which are then cut into a myriad of shapes, and arranged upside down, and grouted. The artisan has to memorize the pattern in order to place the tiles in the correct order. Very hard!

Our last workshop was in carpet weaving, another famous handcraft in Morocco. We visited the Anou Cooperative, a wholly woman owned organization. Carpet knotting and weaving are a part of everyday life for many Moroccan women, particularly rural Amazigh women.

Our camel train

The interior of our riad

Krista and Theresa at the Palm Leaf weaving workshop

Textile Travels 2024 (Cont'd)

Making Leather Babouches

Leather Babouches

Finished Babouches

They make carpets for their homes and families. When they sell their work, many of them earn very little for their labour, as middlemen and distributors make a profit getting the carpets to the marketplace. The women's cooperatives cut out the middlemen. These organizations are becoming more widespread as women are becoming educated and learning to run businesses and take control of the marketing and selling of their products.

We are so happy to have had this experience, and grateful to have arrived home safe and sound and with wonderful memories (and a few material treasures). We recognize that traveling to other countries in retirement is a real privilege. Traveling in a small group, staying in independently owned hotels, learning about traditional ways of living, and supporting local artisans, especially women, is one way to make travel more meaningful and impactful for all.

Bon voyage to all of you and your next adventure. We'd love to hear all about it.

Krista being shown how to weave

Introductions at the Women's Carpet Cooperative

Dyeing workshop

Dyeing workshop using rose madder for pink and turmeric for yellow

Textile Travels 2024 (Cont'd)

Fessi Embroidery as traditionally practiced by Amazigh woman

Wearing our dyed cheches for our ride in the Sahara Desert

City of Fez from the rooftop of our riad

Concentrating on our tile work

Our song and dance men at the riad

TFAM EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

Submitted by Cathie Ugrin

SHIFTING PERSPECTIVE

Mid May - end of July, 2024.
MacGregor Library
35 Hampton Street, MacGregor, MB

September 4 – October 31, 2024.
Tiger Hills Arts
103 Broadway Street, Holland, MB

TEXTURAL DIMENSION

June 1 – 30, 2024
Birtle Centre for the Arts
160 Centre Street, Birtle, MB

July 1 - August 16, 2024
MAWA- Mentoring Artists for Women's Art
329 Cumberland Avenue - Suite 203, Winnipeg, MB

July 5 at 7 pm
First Friday Artist Talk
Volunteers requested.

September 6 & 7, 2024
Manitoba Fibre Festival
Red River Exhibition Place, Winnipeg, MB
Volunteers requested.

JOY

Wasagaming Community Arts (110 Wasagaming Drive, Wasagaming, MB) June 29 – July 23, 2024. Artist Talk – June 29 at 7 pm, Volunteers requested.

DUAL IMPRESSIONS

June 1 and 2, 2024
Birtle Fibre Art Symposium
Birtle, MB

August 10, 2024
Eleanor Rose Outdoor Quilt Show
Kelwood, MB
Volunteers requested.

September 4 – October 30, 2024
Charleswood Library
4910 Roblin Blvd., Winnipeg, MB

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered for past events. The more, the merrier, especially when sharing and talking about our fabulous fibre art!

CALL FOR ENTRY

Submitted by: Theresa Shaw

Refer to individual websites for more details on dates and entry requirements. There are many more opportunities available online by searching for individual quilt or art organizations.

CENTRE FOR CRAFT

WORKSHOP INSTRUCTOR
Manitoba Craft Museum and Library
Application deadline: July 31, 2024

Manitoba Craft Museum and Library is looking for passionate craftspeople who are interested in sharing their knowledge and skills. We are accepting proposals for hands-on workshops on various craft techniques.
c2centreforcraft.ca

SEE AN EXHIBIT

of armour bespoke, of fabric, of skin, of within / binubuo ng pasadyang proteksyon, ng tela, ng balat, at ng kalooban

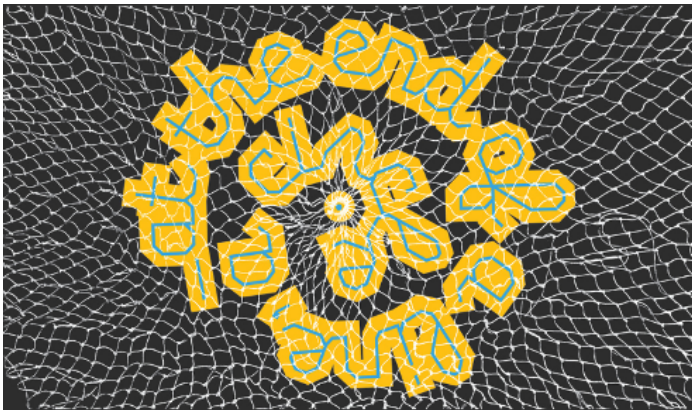
Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba
710 Rossner Ave. Brandon, MB
June 20-August 24, 2024
Solo exhibit of Marigold Santos

The recurring motifs of unravelling and dismemberment speak to Marigold Santos' interest in hybridity and multiplicity of self-hoods, particularly as a diasporic Filipinx-Canadian artist. She is influenced by the woven landscape of her childhood, specifically fans, hats, baskets, and mats made of woven grasses and palms, as well as Piña silk, a traditional fabric made from the labour-intensive harvesting of fibres from pineapple leaves. It is a fabric that is used for formal garments, including the Barong Tagalog, a collared shirt worn by men only for special occasions, and the Terno, a type of Filipiñiana dress, that has evolved in shape and form over time to reflect cultural eras in the Philippines. www.agsm.ca

Grand National - Delights
United Community Arts. Pilot Mound. MB
August/September 2024

This juried exhibition will consist of the works of 35-40 Canadian professional fibre artists from across Canada, each expressing a particular delight that has great meaning to them, resulting in a diverse range of materials, techniques, ideas, concepts, and cheerful thoughts to get us all back on the path to living, having fun and enjoying the pleasures of life once again.
www.grandnationalfibreartexhibition.com

_at the end of a line, a circle
C2 Centre For Craft
329 Cumberland Ave. Winnipeg, MB
May 3 - June 29, 2024



The Manitoba Craft Council is excited to introduce their new exhibition opening in May 2024: _at the end of a line, a circle by Kristin Nelson. Nelson uses traditional craft processes like knitting and net-making paired with non-traditional materials to playfully subvert a range of established binaries.
www.c2centreforcraft.ca

MORE CALL FOR ENTRY

Submitted by: Theresa Shaw

ARTWEAR
June 1-30, 2024
(Fiber Art Now)

Seeking artful pieces made with fibre and/or constructed using fibre or textile techniques. Take a look at the technique list on the Fiber Art Now website and get inspired, fiberartnow.net. Juried artwork will be featured in the Fall 2024 issue of Fiber Art Now and selected works will be eligible for an onsite exhibition.
fiberartnow.net

EXCELLENCE IN FIBERS X
August 1-31, 2024
(Fiber Art Now)

Artists are encouraged to push the boundaries in the areas of installations, sculpture, vessels, wall/floor works, and wearable art. The exhibition will be featured in the winter 2024–2025 issue of Fiber Art Now to be released in early January 2025. Selected artwork will be eligible for the onsite exhibition at the Schack Art Center in Everett, Washington, January 15 through February 14, 2026.
fiberartnow.net

BOTANICALS
November 1-30, 2024
(Fiber Art Now)

Flowers, plants, trees . . . Nature's bounty. Show us how they help bring art to life. Be inspired by your surroundings. Be creative; be colorful (or not); be innovative. The exhibition will be juried by the Fiber Art Now creative team and will be featured in the Spring 2025 issue of Fiber Art Now. Selections from the exhibition in print will be eligible for the onsite exhibition at the Denver Botanic Gardens, May 18 through September 28, 2025.
fiberartnow.net

PRIMAL FORCES: FIRE
August 1-31, 2024
(SAQA Global Exhibition)

Fire can both create and consume. From prehistory, humans have harnessed the power of fire for protection, cooking, and heat, but have fallen victim to its destructive aspect as well. Recently, around the world, we have experienced some of the most devastating wildfires in recorded history. Yet, the land can still be rejuvenated making way for new growth. In modern times, science and industry have used fire to fuel significant innovations and discoveries. How do you feel about fire?
saqa.com (open to SAQA members only)

COLOR IN CONTEXT: BLUE
November 1-30, 2024
(SAQA Global Exhibition)

Blue is a primary colour, crucial to the creation of other hues. The sky, oceans, and rivers are so ubiquitous that blue has symbolic meaning to most, if not all cultures and creatures. Blue is all around us. This exhibition invites you to explore the colour blue and what it represents to you.
saqa.com (open to SAQA members only)

PRAIRIE FIBRE EXHIBITION – FULL CIRCLES
Deadline: September 30, 2024

Full Circles, an exhibition at the Saskatchewan Craft Council Gallery from January 24 – April 11, 2026, will celebrate fibre arts created from natural materials within Saskatchewan. If you are interested in creating a piece (or pieces) for this exhibition, please submit your "Prairie Fibre — Full Circles" application to:
judy.haraldson@gmail.com

Other sources for information about exhibit opportunities:

- *creativemanitoba.ca*
- *manitobaartsnetwork.ca*
- *lyrickinard.com has an extensive list of calls for entry in US*

If you have any news or information about fibre related exhibits in your area, please contact us at tfamartists@gmail.com

CONTACT US

Email: tfamartists@gmail.com

Webpage: www.tfamartists.ca

Instagram: www.instagram.com/tfamartists

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TFAMartists

Facebook (Members Only): www.facebook.com/groups/1669208509877992