



Volume 30, Number 1 - Spring 2023

South Sudanese Refugees in Uganda: What They Brought

Printed with permission from the Milaya website <https://milayaproject.org/> Text by Nina Stochlic, photos by Nora Lorek.

On their way from South Sudan to Uganda, refugees walked for days or weeks carrying embroidered sheets, decorated with swirls of flowers, trees, and animals. Before the war these milayas were used for dowries and celebrations, but now, after years of violence, they held the refugees' last possessions.

In a sprawling refugee camp in Uganda, National Geographic photographer Nora Lorek asked residents what they'd



brought from home when fighting broke out in 2016. "Nothing," one woman replied, "except for some clothes wrapped in my bedsheet." When Lorek asked

around, more women retrieved their milayas, posing for portraits that were featured in the magazine.

The civil war in South Sudan has displaced more than two million people. Today, in Bidibidi, the second largest refugee camp in the world, women continue to



sew milaya. They're hung at church on Sundays, and decorate funerals and weddings.

South Sudanese businesswomen Rose Asha and Rose Jaun both run collectives with hundreds of refugee women sewing milayas in Bidibidi. They have business plans, but no transportation, supplies, or buyers in the remote camp.

The Milaya Project is a non-profit founded by Nora Lorek and National Geographic writer Nina Stochlic. It connects South Sudanese refugees with customers who want to support the traditional art form. All profits go to helping the women's collectives scale-up their businesses.

For more information visit the Milaya Project website, www.milayaproject.org

Mission

WARP is a catalyst for improving the quality of life of textile artisans worldwide. We are an inclusive global network of individuals and organizations who value the social, cultural, historic, artistic, and economic importance of textile arts.

Values

- Textiles are fundamental to the human experience and reflect a community's culture.
- Cross-cultural exchange enriches the lives of individuals in the global textile community and promotes positive change.
- Networking and sharing information facilitate constructive action.
- Making ethical connections between textile artisans and the market empowers artisans through stable income generation.

Vision

- WARP is accessible to a multi-lingual, multi-cultural, and all-inclusive network.
- We bring an ethical orientation to all we do.
- We promote the sharing of information, resources, and technical assistance within the global textile arts community.
- We see tangible impacts resulting from our networking in textile arts communities around the world.





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Linda Temple, Editor

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contributions to the
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newsletter is
May 12, 2023

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the newsletter to:
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Using the Internet for Artisan Sales...

Then...

Susan Shaefer Davis

I have been interested in helping women artisans market their products since working with them in rural Morocco in the Peace Corps. In 1966, my first attempt was selling bulky knit sweaters of rough rug wool to family and friends - it didn't go well.

But that and other attempts alerted me to women's needs to reach a broader market, and the Internet seemed the perfect medium. The internet went public in 1993, and by 1994 I was selling Moroccan rugs online. My site came up right away when you searched 'Moroccan rugs.'



I began by buying rugs at markets and bringing them back to the US to sell online. I was lucky enough to have a husband who built my website www.marrakeshexpress.org, and I created the files to post with a photo, description, and price for each rug.

I didn't want to work directly with women until I was sure people would buy online...and they did. So in 2001 I began working with the excellent weavers in the southern Moroccan village of N'kob. The web had the advantage of reaching a worldwide market, and allowing the women the main profit, not the middlemen and merchants who usually bought their rugs to market and sold them. I could have been a middleman and profited, but decided to work pro bono to give the experiment the best chance of



This is Annaya Seqqat, and she and her two daughters (ages 17 and 20) made the rug on page 6 together. Her mother taught her to weave, and she began when she was twelve. Her husband is a farmer who grows wheat, corn, and vegetables when there is water for irrigation.

continued on page 6

and Now...

Rikki Quintana

I launched the first HoonArts website in December 2014. Amazon and Etsy had



taken over the e-commerce space and set new buyer expectations of customer support, technology tools, and delivery speed that are challenging for small brands with limited resources.

Like Susan, what drove my interest and vision in the early days was the desire to give the artisan producers in the 'Stans of Central Asia a wider market for their beautiful products. Since HoonArts was not eligible for Etsy, because I was not the maker or designer of my original products, I launched my website on Shopify, the platform of choice for most smaller e-commerce brands due to the enormous range of technical support tools it provides. The pandemic sent the entire world online, only accelerating the trends and increasing the challenges facing smaller e-commerce brands like HoonArts.

My initial artisan contacts, however, were all digital and we began our communications via Facebook messaging and email. Fortunately, I was able to connect early on with English-speaking artisan managers who had some experience working with Western buyers, having exhibited at the Santa Fe International Folk Art Market and/or participated in US Embassy, EU, and UNESCO sponsored programs in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan.

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In-Person! WARP's 2023 Annual Meeting July 13-16

Kelsey Wiskirchen

It is finally here: Our first In-person Annual Meeting since pre-COVID! We are beyond thrilled to gather with WARP members in Kent, OH this July 13-16. WARP's Annual Meeting brings members together for education, fellowship, and networking. For our 2023 conference, WARP will host speakers from both the local textile community and also internationally.

Presenters will include:

Jessica Pinsky from Praxis Fiber Workshop in Cleveland, OH.

Janice Lessman-Moss, head of the Textile Art program at Kent State for 40 years.

Rustbelt Fibershed and Kent State Student Ambassador Program.

Regina Fitiao, Siapo (barkcloth) maker from Samoa.

Norma Schaefer and Eric Chavez, of Oaxaca Cultural Navigator.

In addition to a great lineup of speakers, we will have a number of networking opportunities including our annual Welcome Circle, a WARP members exhibition reception (see page 4 for exhibition information), a live auction, vendor marketplace, and optional tour bus to the Cleveland Art Museum.

For those of you who are unable to join in person, we also have the option for you to join some of the presentations via Zoom!

Registration is now open! More details and program overview are on our website www.weavearealpeace.org.



Annual Meeting Financial Aid

Alice Brown Memorial Scholarships

Alice Brown was a generous WARP member who donated the funds to establish an ongoing scholarship program. Each year, WARP offers scholarships for students and young professionals 35 years or younger to attend our annual meeting. This is a great opportunity for early career individuals to be impacted by what WARP has to offer. In addition to connecting with our members, recipients give a presentation about their work and receive a two-year WARP membership. The scholarship will cover the full registration and housing costs of attending our meeting in Kent, Ohio from July 13-16. Travel costs are the responsibility of the recipient.

Please help spread the word about the scholarship to interested young people and professors. The scholarship application is online, and we will be accepting applications until April 14. More information and the application are online at: <https://weavearealpeace.org/financial-aid/>

Offering the scholarship each year is a way for WARP to expand the membership while offering a wonderful opportunity to a person early-on in their career in textiles. Alice Brown's original donation was the

seed, but the fund now relies upon the ongoing generosity of WARP members. Please consider helping to sustain the fund by making a donation this year.

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Weave A Real Peace Membership Information

www.weavearealpeace.org

2023 Annual Dues (USD)

- \$50 - Individual in US/Canada
- \$90 - 2 year special - Individual US/Canada
- \$40 - International Individual/International Sister Guilds
- Simple living - Choose an amount you can live with
- \$40 - Sister/Gift Subscriptions
- \$75 - Friend of WARP
- \$50 - Professional: Guild/ Business/ Non-profit Organization
- \$150+ - Patron of WARP

All memberships are for 12 months, and expire 12 months from date of joining.

Members have access to the annual Membership Directory through a secure 'members-only' section of the web site, a quarterly newsletter, and can participate in the WARP Google Discussion Group.

Dues are used for printing, mailing, and office expenses. Weave A Real Peace (WARP) is designated a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization by the Internal Revenue Service. All donations to WARP are tax deductible in the United States.

For membership or additional information, please send your name, address, telephone number, and email address with appropriate check, money order, or Paypal information in US funds payable to WARP to:

Weave a Real Peace
PO Box 403
Seagrove, NC, 27341
or join online at
<http://www.weavearealpeace.org>



From the WARP Office

Kelsey Wiskirchen

Dear WARP Members,

I am absolutely thrilled for what this year holds for our community. This



newsletter is full of the opportunities we have coming up - 2023 Artisan Support Grants, Scholarships, Assistantships, our continued virtual monthly programs, and of course - our 2023

Annual Meeting at Kent State University!

After several years without meeting in person, we are working to make this year's Annual Meeting a fantastic reunion for WARP members. We are also excited to meet new members who have joined WARP since the pandemic. This year, we have added a special discount-

ed registration rate for students, and we hope you will consider inviting a young person to join us in July! Registration details online at weavearealpeace.org

Through the pandemic, we realized new ways we could fulfill our mission and outreach with textile communities around the globe. Our Board of Directors and volunteers continue to develop these new programs and our reach continues to grow. We now have over 500 members, and over 2500 people who attend our programs and contribute. Thank you all for the time and resources you share with our WARP community!

Warm wishes,
Kelsey Wiskirchen
Executive Director

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Kelsey Wiskirchen
Executive Director
info@weavearealpeace.org

WARP Member Exhibit at Annual Meeting: *Threads of Connection*

We are excited to announce that in conjunction with WARP's Annual Meeting this July in Kent, OH, we will host a WARP-member exhibition showcasing outstanding textiles by WARP members! We are extremely grateful to Kent State University's School of Art for providing gallery space for our show at the KSU Downtown Gallery. Given the range of nationalities and cultures represented in our WARP community, we hope this exhibition will showcase not only the many talents of our membership, but also a diversity of artistic creations and traditions from around the world. You do not have to attend the Annual Meeting to be included in the exhibition.

WARP members are welcome to submit works that are textile/fiber related and handcrafted by you or a fiber art community, organization, or cooperative that you represent. This can include but is not limited to: weaving, crochet, knitting, garments, basketry, quilting, embroidery, felt.

The deadline for submissions is March 17th. The full criteria and submission form are online at www.weavearealpeace.org. Please email our Exhibition Coordinator, Diane Manning, at dkmanning@gmail.com with any questions regarding the exhibition.

Newsletter Copy Deadlines for 2023

V30N2 - Summer 2023 - May 12
V30N3 - Fall 2023 - August 4
V30N4 - Winter 2023 - November 3

Save these dates and send your contributions to the Newsletter!
Contact me at lgtempleok@gmail.com for a copy of the Author Guidelines, or if you have questions. Thanks!



Member Profile: Bonnie Tarses

Gloria Miller

Recently named "A Living Treasure"

At age nineteen Bonnie was a student at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) where she had planned to major in apparel design. While meeting another student she happened upon a room full of weaving looms and was so smitten that she immediately changed her major. From that moment she knew she wanted to be a handweaver. After 63 years of weaving she has yet to look back! At the time she started, textile studies were focused on design for industry rather than on studio weaving. When Bonnie came upon **The Shuttlecraft Book of American Handweaving** by Mary Meigs Atwater she found a direct path to studio weaving.



At RISD she learned to set parameters and to take steps ever forward on the path she set for herself within the impossibly vast weaving journey. She wanted to weave unique functional textiles for individuals inspired by Scottish Tartans and Guatemalan huipils both of which contain layers of symbolic colors and shapes that tell much about the wearer.

Businesswoman that she is, she knew that she had to know how much yarn she would need, how long it would take her to produce the item and the price she could charge, yet she kept each weaving different so she would never be bored and the article could never be mass produced. In 1978 she developed Color Horoscope Weaving in which she superimposes the

color wheel over a person's horoscope so that a color goes with each sign, house, and planet. There are 12 colors in all, and these colors combine to create over 5 billion color possibilities! She continues to be amazed and surprised by each handwoven scarf, shawl, throw, and hanging she creates.

Bonnie first joined WARP when she attended the meeting in Carefree, AZ with Irene Schmoller, and she connected with several other members there. Her next meeting was in Burlingame, CA shortly after she started a practice of folding origami cranes. She was grateful to meet a member who taught her a better technique for folding cranes. (She would enjoy connecting with this woman whose name she does not recall.) The process of folding 1000 cranes, stringing them and giving them as gift is called Senbazuru, bestowing a wish on the recipient. Senbazuru has become a spiritual practice for Bonnie and has helped her especially during the time of pandemic.

Bonnie lives in Missoula MT and is now in her 63rd year of weaving, from which she is planning to retire when she arrives at her 65th year. She does want to document her journey in some way and a book may be emerging. She was recently named "A Living Treasure" by the Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners. See <https://bigpicturemag.com/master-weaver-blown-away-by-digital-textile-printing/>

Bonnie can be contacted on Facebook or Instagram under her name or check her website at BonnieTarses.com

Gloria Miller, the Member Profile columnist, is a Sister of Mercy and has been working with a knitting group in Peru for many years. She became connected with WARP when she started weaving in 2006 and continues to enjoy weaving and her weaving connections all over the world.

Connect to the WARP Community!



@weavearealpeace



Weave A Real Peace



@WeaveARealPeace



Weave A Real Peace
(Google Groups)



weavearealpeace.com/blog



Weave A Real Peace

Post Your WARP Experiences

- Social and textile work of members/yourself
- Events from WARP meetings
- WARP's history and long-time members
- New members you've met
- Events relative to WARP's members and mission
- Local and global textile initiatives

(Tag posts with [@weavearealpeace](https://www.instagram.com/weavearealpeace) and [#weavearealpeace](https://www.facebook.com/weavearealpeace) for reposting!)

Be a Social Media Volunteer

Interested in writing a guest post for our blog? Contact Deborah Chandler 1992warp2022@gmail.com

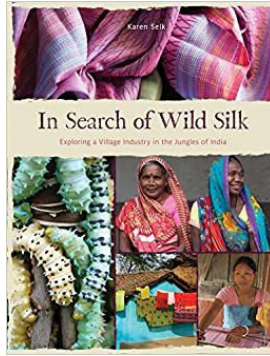
Would you like to be featured on our Instagram or Facebook pages? Send your stories (with images) to Elena Laswick elenalawick@gmail.com

Interested in helping with the blog or Facebook? Contact Kelsey Wiskirchen info@weavearealpeace.org



In Search of Wild Silk

WARP member Karen Selk's long awaited book will be available from Schiffer Publishing on March 28, 2023. (<https://schifferbooks.com/>) From the publisher: "Silk! Just the word invokes intrigue and fantasies of lavish mounds of richly hued fabrics. The journey of metamorphosis from caterpillar to silken luxury is miraculous. Textile artist Karen Selk delves into the amazing world of wild silk and the Indigenous people of India who



raise the wild silkworms. You'll be drawn into the captivating world of a unique living culture that has been engaged in a sustainable industry for generations. Photos and anecdotes captured from weavers, spinners, and silkworm farmers transport you into their homes and villages to get an up-close look at the intimate connection to the skill, dedication, and specialized tools and techniques the artisans use to transform cocoons into yarn and luxurious fabrics. This little-known industry not only provides us with resplendent cloth but improves our environment and provides a sustainable income, allowing families and communities to stay together while preserving a way of life."



2023 Annual Textile and Book Auction

WARP is gearing up for our much anticipated annual auction! This year we will have a live auction during the Annual Meeting in July, featuring special items selected by the Board. Because our online auction has become such a fun and widely-participated virtual event, we will also have the online silent auction in August.

For both auction events, we are seeking gently used or new ethnic textiles and clothing. We also include books, baskets, handmade jewelry, textile related handmade pictures, and other items related to WARP's mission. Please check your drawers, closets, and studios for treasures that you would like to donate.

If you are attending the Annual Meeting, you can bring your auction donations with you. For those who are not attending in person, but would like to make a donation, we will be sending out a donation request form by email. In the meantime, if you have something you are ready to contribute, please contact us at info@weavearealpeace.org.

Internet Sales...Then

continued from page 2

success. You can see a 90 second video description at youtu.be/JZN6vbRvvzk.

I posted a photo of a woman and a brief bio, along with a photo of her rug with a description and price. This involved getting to the site, having women bring their rugs, photographing, measuring and weighing them, later calculating the price to include postage handling fees... and then getting all that online back in the States.



Piece 2.11379 is a flatweave called an "akhnif", made by Annaya Seqqat. The designs may be either woven or embroidered into the rug, and for this one both techniques are used. The blue center is surrounded by woven white diamonds. This rug is 3'10" x 6'11" and the price is \$225. It is SOLD, but can be

I recorded all the info in a notebook....I think there are more modern ways to do this! [For anyone interested, I have an article with a step by step explanation that I can send via email.] I also needed a local contact whom

I could call to see if a rug was sold, give the mailing address, and send payment. That can be a problem with online sales: you need to be sure the contact is honest. I had some problems in that area, and it's very difficult to check from a distance.

To reach clients, I made a mailing list of everyone who contacted me, and sent out email each time I had new stock.

I wanted someone to replace me, to make the project sustainable, e.g., operating by itself from Morocco. Unfortunately after many attempts I could not find anyone: I wanted a woman who spoke English and had Internet skills. Habiba Lrhachi came close, but needed more income than an occasional commission. [She describes her experience in my book *Women Artisans of Morocco*.] By 2016 I found an alternative that was sustainable and referred the villagers to a site that did what I had hoped for: Moroccan artisan leaders working with over 100 artisan groups to sell their products at the price the artisans wanted: <https://www.theanou.com/>

I loved the experience, especially working with the women and seeing all their beautiful rugs. But I'm glad there are now easier, more efficient ways to do online sales for artisans.

Susan can be reached at sdavis@uslink.net



From WARP's Co-Chair

Hedy Hollyfield

WARP is off to a great start for 2023, with many exciting things to come. Thanks to Zoom, we have already hosted talks on the Los Desconocidos Migrant Quilt project in January given by the Arizona Historical Society, and in February the good folks from the Española Valley/New Mexico Fiber Arts Center spoke about Churro Sheep Week coming up in March. (You can watch the recordings of these shows from the Previous Events page on our website.) We continue to host monthly panels open to all, and Meet a Member Fireside Chats for members only. If you haven't attended one of these, you should check them out. We generally have well over 100 guests from all over the world for the panels, which include lively Q&A time. We keep the Fireside Chats small for the sake of intimacy and really getting to know each other.

In this newsletter, you will see that we are once again offering grants to artisan groups around the world (see page 12). Alongside the grants article we are also offering members an opportunity to donate to those grants. We have offered grants for the past two years now and the impact they

have had on the communities receiving them is as heartwarming to us as it is economically important to them. For that reason we plan to continue offering them, even as the COVID pandemic loosens its grip on the world.

The most exciting news for this year is that we plan to have an in-person meeting for the first time since 2019! We will be meeting in mid-July at Kent State University in OH, and you can find more information and registration details elsewhere in this newsletter as well as on the WARP website. For those of you unable to attend in person, don't worry, some of the talks will be offered remotely so you can still participate. One exciting part of the in-person meetings has been the live auction held on Saturday night, while the silent auction has run throughout the meeting. This year we will still hold the live auction during the meeting, but in order to include the whole world the rest of the amazing textiles and other treasures will be offered in an online auction sometime after the Annual Meeting.

Whether it is at the Annual Meeting in July or at an upcoming panel or Fireside Chat, I look forward to seeing you soon. Your participation in WARP makes it what it is.

Best Regards, Hedy

Hedy can be reached at
hhollyfieldwarp2022@gmail.com

Annual Meeting Financial Aid

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Assistantships

Our Assistantships offer financial assistance to allow "simple living" members to attend WARP's Annual Meeting. There is no age requirement to qualify for this award. Like the scholarship, the assistantship covers full registration and housing costs of attending our meeting in Kent, OH from July 13-16. In exchange for financial assistance, Assistants help at the Meeting or on a committee. This year, we will need help with coordinating the vendor marketplace, tech assistance, coordinating volunteers, and other general assistance.

The Gloria Davis Memorial Assistantship Fund began in 2018 thanks to WARP member Susan Davis's donation of the Gloria Davis Textile Collection. Susan's friend, Gloria Davis was an anthropologist who collected Indonesian textiles over her lifetime of doing field work. Proceeds from the sale of these textiles established the Assistantship fund, which is now sustained by donations.

To apply for an Assistantship to attend the 2023 Annual Meeting in Kent, OH, please visit: <https://weavearealpeace.org/financial-aid/> Application deadline is April 14.

New Members

Ellen Benson
Philadelphia, PA

Carol Blundell
Rockville, MD

Candy Boyes
Phoenix, AZ

Margaret Briggs
Charlottesville, VA

Eric Chavez Santiago
Oaxaca de Juarez
Oaxaca, MEXICO

Laurie Churchill
Las Cruces, NM

Katy Clements
Brooklyn, NY

Stephanie Crouch
Round Rock, TX

Caroline Dechert
Ranchos de Taos, NM

Cindy Dross
Sheboygan, WI

Diane Field
Bantam, CT

Billie Geist
Peoria, AZ

Genevieve Hill-Thomas
St. Petersburg, FL

Frances Irvine
Concord, NH

More New Members

Kathryn Kasimor
Olympia, WA

Judith Kopec
Sacramento, CA

Kristin Lundberg
Welches, OR

Jean MacConnachie
Joseph, OR

Sallye Mahan Cox
Gaithersburg, MD

Joanne McBay
Scarborough, Ontario
CANADA

Alaa Mencke
Belleville, IL

Diane Offutt
Yelm, WA

Betsy Schreiber

Carolyn Sherman
Colorado Springs, CO

Kate Speicher
Lincoln, NE

Jim Spencer
Bonita Springs, FL

Cindy Spoerle
St. Augustine, FL

Mary Wegelin
Whittier, CA

Elizabeth White
Talent, OR

Hanga Yoshihara-Horvath
Tokushima, JAPAN

Queen Amina Founder Receives Honor

Hassana Yusuf, who founded Queen Amina Embroidery Center in Nigeria along with WARP member Elisha Renne, will be



Hassana Yusuf, left

h o n o r e d by the Ibu Foundation as one of seven Global Champions at The Fringe Revolution on March 8 in Charleston, SC.

The word Ibu means “a woman of respect.” The Ibu Movement partners with women around the world disrupting poverty and fashioning change through the art of their hands.

Ibu’s mission is “to expand markets for global women artisans, and help build their capacity for success with structural enhancements such as workspace and training”. For more information about the Ibu Movement visit <https://ibumovement.com/>

For more information about the Queen Amina Embroidery Center, visit <https://www.queenaminaembroidery.org/>



Gendered Threads of Globalization (GToG) Symposium March 10-12

Join scholars, activists, and artists from across North America, Asia, and Europe for a free, three day symposium dedicated to women’s textile and garment production in Asia from March 10-12. The schedule includes panels; screening of the award-winning documentary THREADS about

nakshi kanthas, a women’s domestic heritage textile from Bengal; a textile-based performance by the award-winning filmmaker and visual artist Monica Jahan Bose; and plenty of enriching conversation! For program and event times, visit <https://events.uvic.ca/>



Internet Sales...Now

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By the time I started, the technology for e-commerce was readily available at reasonable prices. What had shifted was the massive online competition.

The single biggest challenge for small artisan-made brands today is gaining audience attention in the modern digital world. Competition is fierce and everyone receives more digital messages than we can possibly “consume” through social media and email. We must also capture attention in seconds.

Smaller brands often cannot take advantage of the economies of scale of larger brands, and do not have the budget for the level of advertising necessary to gain traction in today’s online world driven by algorithms that limit who sees your unpaid content. Therefore, smaller brands like HoonArts

have to become tech saavy, focus on high quality photography and video, and build a community of actively engaged fans to succeed in the online retail world. Building that email list of interested people is still a critical piece of the puzzle. Reaching interested customers in the digital world continues to be a tall order in 2023!

For more information about my e-commerce challenges, check out the WARP Fireside Chat I presented on February 9, 2023, which WARP members can access at this Members Only link: <https://weavearealpeace.wildapricot.org/Sys/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fmembers-only>

Rikki can be reached at rikkiQuintana@hoonarts.com



In Memory

From the editor: We've recently heard about the passing of several long-time WARP members. The newsletter isn't big enough to fully honor these amazing women, but hopefully these short notices will help us remember. If you know of member deaths, please let me know. Thanks, LT

Margaret Carlberg, 1934-2022, lived in Huntington Beach, CA. Her life was dominated by everything having to do with plants. Margaret first became interested in natural dying in 1998 when, as a high school chemistry teacher, a student of hers put together an Orange County science fair project studying how different fibers behaved toward a variety of

natural dyes vs. varying mordants. The project won first place and left behind a huge amount of dyed yarns. The natural thing to do was to take up weaving. In 1997 she was presented with the prestigious Distinguished High School Science Teacher of the Year award by the California State Science Teachers Association.

Submitted by David Carlberg



Virginia Davis, a longtime WARP member, died on January first, 2023 at the age of 93, shortly after the death of her husband Martin. They had been married for 77 years. Virginia described her work as "a niche between painting and weaving". In her later years she continued to maintain an active studio and experiment with additional approaches to weaving. In addition to her weaving, Virginia was an accomplished researcher, having spent years with a colleague filming one of the last rebozo weavers in Mexico.

Virginia was known in WARP for her lively presence at our meetings. She loved buying the brightest blouses at our Annual Auction which she wore for Zydeco dancing with Martin until the pandemic interfered. She and her husband Martin, (a mathematician, computing pioneer, author, and speaker) delighted in hosting friends at their wonderful home in the Berkeley Hills and many WARP members enjoyed their hospitality. A full obituary for Virginia and her husband can be found at <https://www.digitalfieldguide.com/blog/20341>

Submitted by Susan Weltman, and Gary and Phillis Alvic



Leslie Grace opened the La Tienda Folk Art Gallery in Seattle's University District in 1962. Her knowledge, expertise, and extraordinary eye for beautiful objects resulted in the gallery becoming a much loved center for the appreciation of folk art. I used to visit La Tienda regularly when I was a student at the university. I was clearly becoming a 'textile person' and La Tienda was where I went to expand my knowledge of global textiles. I give Leslie much of the credit for launching my passion for handmade indigenous textiles. I know

that she inspired many others as well. After selling La Tienda in 1995, Leslie continued to teach, consult, travel, and collect textiles. We were fortunate to have her as a speaker at WARP's Annual Meeting on Whidbey Island, WA. She donated much of her vast collection of textiles to museums – as it was Leslie's wish that her life work be preserved, documented, and shared with a global audience. A full obituary can be found at <https://obituaries.seattletimes.com/obituary/leslie-grace-1085468900>

Submitted by Beth Davis

Travel Opportunities



Mexico City/Puebla Tour
September 14 to 23, 2023

We will be in Mexico for Independence Day (September 16) celebrations with parades, fireworks, and great food. Highlights in Mexico City include Frida Kahlo's "Blue House", the Zocalo, Teotihuacan, Chapultepec Park, museums and the Floating Gardens of Xochimilco. In Puebla, a walking tour of the town, visits to craft and local villages, churches and two archaeological sites.

Textiles - Ixtenco in the Mexican state of Tlaxcala, visit Otomi embroiderers who are known for their smocking techniques. Visit to another weaver's workshop and an Artensal Boutique in the town of Tlaxcala.

For more information visit
Tours By Sharon www.toursharon.com

For WARP members who sign up, a portion of each tour is given as a donation to WARP



Artisan Direct-Connect

Rocio Mena Gutierrez

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Helen Keller

I love this phrase, and I think it represents WARP perfectly. So many hands and hearts joining together in order to create beautiful projects and to help so many textile communities around the world.

Are you familiar with our WARP community and all its amazing members? In the past, I felt overwhelmed by all these amazing projects! And it was difficult for me to remember all of them! So many amazing projects, brands and organizations! It was hard to keep track of all of them.

For example:

Have you heard of **Baskets of Africa**? Baskets of Africa provides long term, sustainable living wages to compensate weavers in Africa for their beautiful work and to support their families.

What about **Kakaw Designs** from Guatemala? Partnering with over a dozen local artisan groups around Gua-



Espace Fann

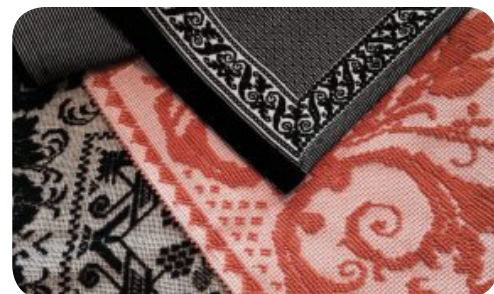
atemala, they create unique designs by combining a variety of regional handmade traditions.

Espace Fann from Lebanon? It is a creative space based in Beirut, Lebanon, offering university-level courses in art and design at affordable rates.

Or what about **Sardinian Arts**? They connect us with the few remaining women who still weave by hand on the Mediterranean island of Sardinia, through presen-

tations, films, exhibitions, trunk shows, and more.

There are more than 50 different WARP member projects and business-



Sardinian Arts

es, in different countries and with different people. Projects from all around the world: Passing through? Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Bangladesh, Guatemala, Vietnam, Bolivia, Africa, Lebanon, the US, and more!

It is amazing how all these projects share the same dreams and values, even though the projects are so different and so far away from each other! WARP links them all together.

The **Artisan Direct-Connect** (formerly Artisan Resource Guide) was created for the purpose of promoting WARP member businesses, projects, co-ops, or organizations.

And the good news is that the **Artisan Direct-Connect** list is updated and ready now!

So check it out and learn more about our community and all these projects full of stories, culture, and amazing textiles. You can visit WARP's website, go to the community link, and click on **Artisan Direct-Connect**.

Remember: *"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."* Margaret J. Wheatley

And what a great community we are!

Travel Opportunities



HoonArts

WARP member Rikki Quintana will be leading the second HoonArts Arts & Crafts tour to the 'Stans of Central Asia in April 2024.

Rikki is developing the itinerary now, and will be focusing on Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, in a "slow travel" mode that involves more time in a fewer number of cities and more opportunity to engage meaningfully with locals.

The key local guide will be our suzani embroidery master artist Munira Aki-lova, who is also a certified Silk Road tour guide. For more information, and to get on the tour mailing list, contact Rikki Quintana at rikkiquintana@hoonarts.com.

Ikat: A World of Compelling Cloth, March 9-May 29 at the Seattle Art Museum.

Over 140 pieces! For more information, visit

<https://www.seattleartmuseum.org/exhibitions/ikat>



Meet the Weaving Communities of the Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco

Marilyn Murphy

The Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco (CTTC) supports groups of weavers in ten villages, spread across the Department of Cusco--each weaving association with its own unique dress, textiles, designs, and techniques.

Recently, the political strife in Peru has brought tourism to a halt. No tourism means no textile sales, leading the weavers to despair. So Andean Textile Arts (ATA), a US nonprofit who supports CTTC has a solution: On Saturday, April 1, ATA and CTTC are bringing the weavers and their work to you via a special online presentation

by Nilda Callañaupa Alvarez, founder and director of CTTC. Beginning at 1:00 pm EDT, Nilda will introduce each of the communities through their textile specialization. Following this one-hour program, CTTC will be conducting a live, online sales event featuring select textiles from the weaving communities. Since the program is also a fundraiser for CTTC, there is a nominal donation of \$20 which also gives access to the sales event. Visit www.andeantextilearts.org for registration link and details.



Thanks to Generous WARP Donors

General Donations

Pamela Allison	Mary Joan Ferrara-Marsland	Diane LaFrance	Mary Rooks	Susan Boccuzzo	Virginia Leighten
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			Sylvia Bergstrom		

Travel Opportunities



Travel to the Silk Road from the Comfort of Home!

Would you like to explore the world of the Silk Road 'Stans direct from the comfort of home? Many people include travel on their bucket lists, but at a certain point, in-person travel becomes challenging for some. Rikki Quintana and HoonArts are launching the second series in an innovative virtual travel program that you might be interested in.

It's a live, interactive Silk Road Design Encounter "Traveler" Program perfect for art and travel fans who would love to explore the unknown culture of the Silk Road Stans but don't feel they can enjoy in-person travel right now.

Uzbekistan Series with Aziz Murtazaev, Master Ikat Weaver

Tajikistan Series with Munira Akilova, Suzani Embroidery Master Artist

Each program features four live Zoom sessions.

For more information and to register for the Uzbekistan or Tajikistan series, go to hoonarts.com





Weave a Real Peace
PO Box 403
Seagrove, NC, 27341

In Person!! 2023 Annual Meeting - July 13-16 (see page 3)

2023 Artisan Grant Applications Due March 19

We are delighted to announce that, for 2023, WARP will again award monetary grants to textile artisan communities in need. This year, the WARP Grants Committee is offering two grant options: one for Basic Needs and one for Development. This reflects the fact that while many artisans may still need COVID or other emergency support, others are transitioning out of an emergency situation and now have needs that are more development-oriented.



2022 grant recipient Leki Textiles and Weaving Studio, Bhutan

The Basic Needs option is for applicants who are still experiencing hardship due to continuing effects of COVID or other circumstances such as drought, extreme heat, or floods. Basic needs could include but are not limited to: food or seeds for food crops, medical care/medicines, clothing, utilities, dependent care, education, or housing.

The Development option is for applicants who are seeking to grow their business coming out of COVID. Development

needs could include but are not limited to: artisan supplies (dye garden, wood for loom, fiber), equipment (sewing machines, looms, etc.), marketing materials (camera, product photography), technology (cell phones, computer, etc.), training (need to specify what, whom, where), and travel (to attend trade fairs, markets).

The deadline to apply for a 2023 grant is March 19th.



2022 grant recipient Cooperative TIMNAY in Morocco



2022 grant recipient ACEPA in Uganda

Please visit weaveareal-peace.org to view the full application criteria and complete an application form.

