



Volume 29, Number 4 - Winter 2022

Discovering Textile Techniques and Cultures as He Learns to Weave

Kai Solon

The first time I got my hands on a loom was about five years ago, when I was seven, but It wasn't until the summer of



Kai wearing a panel of his huipil, handwoven on a Guatemalan backstrap loom

2020 that I really got into it. I started with a spindle, the oldest fiber tool. Then my grandfather made me a spinning wheel, then I got a table loom, two backstrap looms, and a Harrisville floor loom. Over the years, I've realized that there's more to the fiber arts. A history going back thousands of years, spanning over almost every nation. So far, I have done three projects using traditional techniques from around the world. In this article, I will

talk about these projects, where the technique is from, and why I chose it.

The first technique that I tried and am still working with is from the Philippines. It's called "piña cloth." In Spanish, "piña" means pineapple. This cloth was invented when the Spanish conquistadors brought over the Spanish red pineapple. This tech-



A bundle of hand-scraped/hand-knotted pineapple thread

nique has been around since the 1570's and is still used today. As a half Filipino, I thought it would be cool to connect to my heritage. For this project, I needed pineapple leaves, so I planted a pineapple in my backyard. Though it is a long, tedious process of scraping and knotting individual threads together, I found

continued on page 6

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.





WARP Newsletter
published quarterly by
Weave A Real Peace
Volume 29, Number 4
Winter 2022
Linda Temple, Editor

Send address
corrections to:
info@weavearealpeace.org
or mail to
Weave A Real Peace (WARP)
PO Box 403
Seagrove, NC 27341

The deadline for
contributions to the
Spring issue of the WARP
newsletter is
February 17, 2023

Send articles and
correspondence for
the newsletter to:
Linda Temple
1230 NE 70
Oklahoma City, OK 73111
lgtempleok@gmail.com
405/921-1064 (phone)

Information about an
organization or service in
this newsletter does not
constitute an endorsement
by WARP.

Submissions may be
edited or shortened at the
discretion of the editor.

Special Section: Travel!

Stephanie Schneiderman

I started traveling in my early 20s and I'm still going! Alternating between Italy and Mexico, I enjoyed many adventures in new and familiar places. And, having lived and traveled extensively throughout Mexico has resulted in me sharing this incredible country of great bio-cultural diversity with others.

Travel is the intersection between yourself and others; other people, cultures, beliefs, rituals, cosmovision, diet, language, dress; sometimes similar, often very different from one's own. This expanded horizon of the world and its people, has given me a deeper appreciation for the cultural diversity around us. With globalization and homogenization, this diversity is threatened. In some small measure, I hope that by traveling and sharing with others, we can play a small part in sustaining and celebrating cultural diversity.

To quote Wade Davis, "Some people say, 'What does it matter if cultures fade away.' The answer is simple. When asked the meaning of being human, all the diverse cultures of the world respond with 10,000 different voices."

On our upcoming trip to Panama and Colombia, we'll meet Embera, Guna, Ngäbe, Kogui, Arhuaco, Zenu, and Wayuu people. Incredible! All in one small corridor of Central America and the Caribbean Coast alone!

Stephanie Schneiderman
Tia Stephanie Tours
www.tiastephanietours.com
734/730-3729

Norma Schafer

For those of us who love textiles, Oaxaca, Chiapas, and other Mexican destinations are especially compelling. In remote villages, off-the-beaten-path, women (and sometimes children and men) create glorious handwoven textiles on the pre-Hispanic backstrap loom. Often, these are created from cotton and wool using natural dyes sourced from local plants, insects, and snails. This is a portable loom that can be rolled up and transported anywhere. Out in the Chiapas highlands, we often see Maya women tending sheep, sitting cross-legged on a handwoven palm mat, one end of the loom cinched around their waist and the other tied to a tree. A family watchdog sleeps in the shade as children play close by and animals graze. This scene is repeated along the Oaxaca coast in remote mountain villages where traditions prevailed because they were inaccessible to the conquerors.

Getting to the source is essential for cultural intelligence and appreciation. We can never completely grasp our similarities and differences unless we travel. Buying direct from the maker is another important consideration. When we can, we want to put much needed funds into the hands of those who create to help cover the basic costs of food, education, and healthcare.. Women who weave are often the only ones who can generate cash in a subsistence farming economy. Meeting families where they live and work creates bonds, memorable experiences, and lessons in social justice, sustainability, compassion, and mutual respect. We suspend judgment to come to greater awareness and understanding in ourselves and others.

Norma Schafer is founder of Oaxaca Cultural Navigator LLC who organized the Oaxaca, Mexico, 2017 WARP Conference. She is a contributor to Selvedge Magazine, published in the New York Times, and operates textile tours with her godson and partner, Eric Chavez Santiago, founding director of education at Oaxaca's Textile Museum. You can read more here: <http://oaxacaculture.com>



2023 Annual Meeting - July 13-16 Kent State University, Kent, OH

Kelsey Wiskirchen

After the forced cancellation of the meeting in 2020 and virtual meetings for the next two years, we are beyond thrilled to announce the location and dates for WARP's 2023 Annual Meeting which will finally be held in person again! The 2023 Annual Meeting will be held July 13-16th at Kent State University in Kent, OH. We have an exciting program in the works, including a trip to Praxis Fiber Workshop

in Cleveland, a visit to the Cleveland Art Museum, and tours of the TechStyleLAB and Design Innovation Hub on campus at Kent State. We will have more program and registration information after the new year. We have not forgotten those of you who can't make it to the live meeting, so we are also planning some hybrid/virtual meeting time, too. We can't wait to gather together in OH in 2023!



Past WARP Events Available Online

WARP hosted over 60 presenters during monthly panel discussions and a virtual conference this year. Most of the panel discussions and Meet a Member Fireside chats were recorded and are available at <https://weavearealpeace.org/previous-warp-events/>

Here are only a few of those rich offerings:

Continuing Textile Traditions: Indigo Around the World - This panel discussion featured contemporary textile artists who work within various indigo traditions.

Meet a Member: Fireside Chat with Cael Chappell (WARP Members Only)

Continuing Textile Traditions: Around the World in 80 Fabrics - Around the World in 80 Fabrics (ATW80F) is a non-profit that weaves people and fibers together for the planet.

Meet a Member: Fireside Chat with Elena Laswick (WARP Members Only)

Continuing Textile Traditions: Sustainable Fiber Systems - Over a decade ago, weaver and natural dyer Rebecca Burgess founded **Fibershed**, a system of regional and regenerative fiber systems that build soil and protect the health of our biosphere.

Meet a Member: Fireside Chat with Adrienne Sloane (WARP Members Only)

Continuing Textile Traditions: Acadian Brown Cotton, 250 Years of Louisiana History - This discussion featured the very successful Acadian Brown Cotton Project, which strives to document, preserve, and promote Louisiana's unique natural brown heirloom cotton.

Meet a Member: Fireside Chat with Maren Beck (WARP Members Only)
.....and much more!



What's in this Newsletter...

Discovering Textile Techniques	1
Travel!.....	2, 8, 9, 10
2023 Annual Meeting	3
WARP Events Online	3
From the Office	4
Giving Tuesday	4
2023 Newsletter Copy Deadlines	4
Member Profile: Laverne Waddington.	5
WARP on Social Media	5
2023 Scholarship Recipients	6
From WARP's Co-chair.....	7
WARP's Impact.....	7
New Members	7,8,9
Volunteer Opportunities.....	10
Travel Opportunities	8, 9, 10, 11
Donors.....	11
Shop Fair, Buy Local	12

Weave A Real Peace Membership Information

www.weavearealpeace.org

2022 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,

As 2022 draws to a close, I am reflecting on the multitude of ways we promote textile arts and help improve the quality of life of textile artisans worldwide.



As we shared in the Fall newsletter, this year we expanded our artisan grants program and gave \$10,800 in emergency relief grants to textile communities around the world. In 2021, the grants program was established to assist textile artisans suffering from the effects of COVID-19, and we have made a commitment to continue this important WARP program.

This year, our monthly virtual programs have been a staple of WARP's outreach. Do you know that in the past year we have heard stories from over 60 presenters who work in textile communities around the world? We now on occasion are even able to host presenters in languages other than English with the help of translators. This year we were joined

by presenters from Guatemala, India, and Namibia, just to name a few.

One of these programs that was an exceptional honor to host was a special program for Ukraine in April. We were joined by three Ukrainian textile artists who shared their work, and with your help we raised \$10,000 in relief funding. (If you missed this program, or any of the other virtual presentations, you can view the recordings for them all on the WARP website under "events".)

All of this was in addition to our normal work of helping connect members with one another to network and share assistance!

What does it mean to Weave A Real Peace? For me, it means always exploring new ways for us to support weaving communities, and weavers. We are such a wide-spreading and diverse community that our ability to help make connections is grand, and always growing. Thank you all for being a part of the WARP community!

Warmest wishes,
Kelsey Wiskirchen



Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday was November 29th, and we invite you to participate by donating to Weave a Real Peace. Giving Tuesday is a global movement encouraging collective action to celebrate the generosity of individuals, organizations and communities. This year, WARP is focusing on expanding our impact in textile communities, and harnessing the power of our own community to create positive change

in the world. We invite you to donate to our Giving Tuesday fundraiser any time before the end of the year, and help us reach our goal of \$5000 to increase our impact in 2022! You can donate through our website, or you can mail a check to: Weave A Real Peace PO Box 403, Seagrove, NC, 27341. Please specify that your donation is for Giving Tuesday. Thank you for joining us in the work we do!

Newsletter Copy Deadlines for 2023

V30N1 - Spring 2023 - February 17

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!

WARP Governing Board

Maren Beck
Eugene, OR

maren@hilltribeart.com
Term expires 2023

Deborah Chandler
Guatemala City, Guatemala
1992warp2022@gmail.com
Term expires 2025

Cael Chappell
Albuquerque, NM
cael@basketsofafrica.com
Term expires 2024

Beth Davis
Acton, MA
daviswarp@gmail.com
Term expires 2025

Hedy Hollyfield
Raleigh, NC
hhollyfieldwarp2022@gmail.com
Term expires 2024

Elena Laswick
Arlington, VA
hello@ixilcollective.org
Term expires 2024

Rocio Mena Gutierrez
Mexico City, Mexico
romegu@hotmail.com
Term expires 2025

Cheryl Musch
Kirksville, MO
cheryl@yachana.org
Term expires 2024

Sarah Saulson
Providence, RI
sarahsaulson@gmail.com
Term expires 2023

Kelsey Wiskirchen
Executive Director
info@weavearealpeace.org



Member Profile: Laverne Waddington

Gloria Miller

"I am most proud of the fact that my weaving teachers in the central Bolivian highlands now think of me as their weaving sister rather than as their student and often ask me to teach them new patterns. We share our skills as equals."

A native of Australia, Laverne Waddington moved to southern Chile in 1993



to teach English and found herself looking for an indoor activity in order to make it through the harsh

winters. She began teaching herself to weave on home-made frame looms and thus began a rich career learning and teaching weaving techniques, particularly those that use hand manipulation of threads and the barest minimum of tools and equipment.

Since 1996 she has studied with indigenous weavers throughout South and Central America as well as with weavers she met in the US who are from Myanmar, China, and Vietnam. She also learned Navajo-style weaving.

Before the pandemic she was able to play a role in the promotion and sale of handwoven products from the group PAZA, a group in the Bolivian highlands which is well known to many WARP members through their long connection with Dorinda Dutcher (see Call for Volunteers on page 10). She would like to be able to help more with this when she is able to travel again and interact once more with her weaving friends around the world.

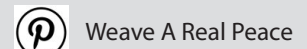
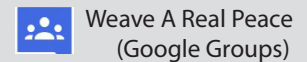
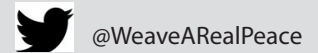
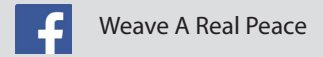
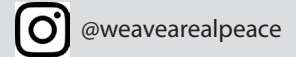
Laverne has taught techniques used for centuries by indigenous weavers in South America and all over the world using simple tools, and has traveled for many years to teach at conferences, guild workshops, and other events in North America, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe. Wherever she goes, she takes advantage of opportunities to meet like-minded artisans learning and sharing techniques and studying motifs from around the world. She considers her own work now to be a melting pot of techniques that she has encountered in her travels. She now lives in Santa Cruz, Bolivia and makes her living selling instructional manuals for band weaving, braiding, and other techniques that she has studied in South America and beyond.

Her blog, with its rich history, contains basics instructions for backstrap weaving, an amazing array of pictures and patterns, as well as endless hints and tutorials that she generously passes along inspiring other with her passion.

Laverne is happy to connect with WARP members via her blog: backstrap-weaving.wordpress.com, on Instagram, Facebook or email: lwaddington@hotmail.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!



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.instagram.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



2022 Alice Brown Memorial Scholarship Recipients

Olaitan Adeleke - Studies show that by 2030, about 350-600 million people would still not have access to electricity worldwide, with about 70-75% living in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Solar technology provides an opportunity to provide electricity to these populations. However, the present solar technology is limited due to the cost and bureaucracies involved in reaching out to the population that needs it. My research focuses on bringing solar technology into regular people's hands by riding on a readily available substrate in the hands of everyone – textiles. Solar textiles offer the ability to democratize solar technology and provide portable and reliable power to the off-grid populace in SSA. The WARP commu-

nity provides great insight into the different textile-making practices that this research needs and the access to the textile makers in SSA. Connecting with the WARP community online has been very helpful, providing an opportunity to meet with collaborators interested in this research.

Prerana Choudhury, Founder, House of Noorie - House of Noorie is a micro handloom initiative working with indigenous communities of Assam, India, to reclaim indigenous textile heritage and identities. We work with rural women and household weavers who weave on the rudimentary, traditional Assamese loom as a way of life. Instead of 'employing' weavers to a static pro-

continued on page 11



Consider WARP
when making your End of Year giving decisions. WARP has been designated a 501(c)3 organization by the Internal Revenue Service in the US. Donations are typically tax deductible. Contact Kelsey Wiskirchen for more information about WARP (info@weavearealpace.org). Contact your Accountant to learn if your donation is tax deductible.

Thanks!

Discovering Textile Techniques

continued from page 1

it quite enjoyable. It doesn't seem like so much work and your hands get into the rhythm of it.



WARP Executive Director and Kai Solon at Converence 2022

After the pineapple thread, I tried backstrap weaving with a loom from Kakaw Designs (WARP member Mari Gray). Years prior I had tried to set up a backstrap loom at home but I wasn't very successful. I recently got a custom loom to weave a Guatemalan huipil on. I have completed one out of the two panels so far and I am so happy with how the first one came out. Backstrap weaving dates all the way back

to before the Spanish conquistadors and is also used in many other countries around the globe. I have been to Guatemala once and hope that I can make it there again one day. The reason that I wanted to try this style of weaving is because after I saw what beautiful works of brocade have been made on these looms, I wanted to try it out. So far, I have made two pieces of brocade and I am quite satisfied with the results.

The third thing I wanted to try was silk reeling, which means taking the silk straight from the cocoon. So far, I've had two successful attempts and one unsuccessful attempt. I



Silk cocoons and a skein of hand-reeled indigo dyed silk

have recently bought more cocoons for more experimentation. So what's next? Who knows. Maybe I'll get my own "army" of silkworms. Follow me at [@fiberbynature](https://www.instagram.com/fiberbynature) on Instagram and [Fiber ByNature](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) on YouTube for updates on my latest projects!



From WARP's Co-Chair

Deborah Chandler

I've been impressed lately by the number of people I know who are traveling again, anxious to get out and see the post-pandemic world, which has in fact changed. Within their own countries and going forth to other countries as well, people are on the move. This issue of the newsletter is aimed to provide information and inspiration for those of you who are ready to take the plunge and head out again.

But for those who can't, I want to remind you that WARP is also a great source for armchair traveling. I just did a quick scan, and here's what I found on WARP's website:

Videos of previous Panel Presentations and Meet a Member Fireside Chats – 35, from MANY countries; if you did not

see them all live, take a look. In fact, take a look even if you did see them. You might want to see some again.

Newsletters now digitized and online – 29 YEARS worth!! That's over 1400 pages of stories!

The Blog, which started in 2013 – 86 posts, again from worldwide sources

Artisan Direct-Connect – 80 listings of artisan groups, services provided, and tours available

Member Publications – over 250 listings of books, videos, articles, and more, all produced by WARP members, an amazing resource

Social Media – you'll also find links to WARP's Facebook and Instagram pages

So even if you can't go out into the world, you can bring a lot of the world into your space. Check it out and be surprised, delighted, and expanded.

Deborah can be reached at 1992warp2022@gmail.com



New Members

Lynell Barrett
Lynelle of the Looms
Singapore, Singapore

Jess Boeke
Rustbelt Fibershed

Bonnie Clark
Gypsy Wolf Marketing LLC
Washington, DC

Denis Doyon

Carroll Dunham

Annalena Eckton
Colectiva Aravera
Santa Cruz de la Sierra,
Santa Cruz
BOLIVIA

Angela Fulton
Weavers Guild of St. Louis

Elisabeth A Glauber
Weavers Guild of St. Louis
Belleville, IL

Maxine Golding
Fort Meyers, FL

Jo Harris
Almonte, ON

Susie Hart
Santa Fe, NM

Sue Hays
Ainslie, ACT
AUSTRALIA

Rebecca Jebert
First Child Designs
Pittsburgh, PA

WARP Had an Impact This Year

In the past year, we:

- Gave 15 COVID-19 artisan relief grants to artisan communities in nine countries, totalling \$10,800.
- Raised \$10,000 in relief funding for Ukraine.
- Hosted over 60 presenters during our monthly panel discussions and virtual conference who work with artisan communities worldwide.
- Shared our free online conference and monthly programs with over 2000 people in at least 25 countries.
- Awarded four scholarships to young artisans from Argentina, India, Nigeria, and the US.
- Grew our membership by ~200 individuals, significantly expanding our international reach.
- Published four newsletters and a monthly blog which powerfully document the stories of our members' work in textile arts communities around the world.

.....
 : "The purpose of life is to live it, to taste it, to experience to the utmost, to
 : reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experiences."
 :
 :
 : *– Eleanor Roosevelt*
 :



Special Section: Travel!

More New Members

Frances Irvine
Concord, NH

Sandra Kenefick
Ponderosa Fibre Arts Guild
Kelowna, BC
CANADA

Katia Keston
Lilliwaup, WA

Molly King
Bozeman, MT

Madeline Kreider Carlson
Mayan Hands
Albany, NY

Carol Kuhre
Ecumenical Earth Justice
Network
Athens, OH

Judith Larson
Albuquerque, NM

Lana McCallum
Handweavers Guild of
America
Glen Haven, CO

Sammie McGlasson
Portland, OR

Alaa Mencke
Belleville, IL

Erin Miller
Nerdy Sheep Fiber Works

Christine Nielsen
New Pathways to Enterprise
Annapolis, MD

Susan Weltman

Travel has opened my mind to new experiences, new people, new colors and perspectives - and is A LOT of fun! As a child my family camped from the East Coast to the West. My father heartily disliked everything about camping - except the opportunity to see new places and have new experiences which we could never have afforded without camping.

As an adult I've been fortunate to travel to every continent. (I still gasp with wonder when I write that!). My partner's passion for hiking and outdoor adventures has pushed me to trek and reach mountain summits, overcoming my fear of heights! And of course, he has visited more weavers and textile artisans than he could ever have dreamed of.

We've driven miles in the incredible heat to visit indigo workers in Ghana, visited artisans working with sealskins in Greenland, taken a very long bus ride to visit Dorinda Dutcher and Paza in Bolivia, and tapestry workshops in Melbourne and Paris.

Next - this summer a cruise from Greenland to Labrador! Which for reasons that I can't explain (!) I've always wanted to visit! Can I entice you to look at our website (stevenjevis.com) to read about our travels?

Susan can be reached at sweltwoman@gmail.com

WARP Member Tours

Guatemala Antigua Week January 8-14, 2023

This tour is led by WARP Member Mari Gray, of Kakaw Designs. The Antigua Week itinerary is based comfortably in her hometown of Antigua, Guatemala. Mornings are filled with creative hands-on workshops, including backstrap weaving, indigo dyeing, traditional embroidery, Pepián cooking, and more. Afternoons are free for exploring beautiful Antigua. Come learn from our partner master makers in a safe

small-group setting, with workshops held in our open-air courtyard! This is a great option for the independently-minded traveler who enjoys taking some time on their own to explore and take it all in. The slow pace will allow for plenty of creative happenings. Additional backstrap weaving sessions can be organized for the free afternoons.

Cost is \$700 for the week / add a private room at our favorite hotel + airport transfers for an additional \$500. You can view the full tour description and reserve your spot at: <https://kakawdesigns.com/pages/textile-travels-2023>.



Laos & Vietnam

February 17-March 8, 2023

WARP Member Maren Beck of Above the Fray will lead this 2023 Village Textile Tour of Hill Tribe Laos and Vietnam. This trip will begin in Vietnam's Lao Cai Province, home to the Hmong and Dzao people, many of whom still create and wear their traditional decorated clothing. Staying with long-established artist/friends in the Hmong village of Hau Thao and the Dzao village of Ta Phin, the tour will explore, hands-on, the details of locally-raised hemp and cotton preparation, indigo-dyes, weaving, wax-resistant batik, and embroidery. Second, we will visit NE Laos' remote Houaphan Province to visit and learn from the Tai Daeng and Lao Loum people who still lead lives devoted to their millennia-old silk-weaving traditions. We will base ourselves in Xam Tai - home to some of the world's most intricate silks - staying with long-established friends who are leading regional experts in sericulture, silk-reeling, natural-dyeing, textile design, and floor-loom weaving. Prepare to reel your own skeins, get your hands deep in the dye-pots, ogle a variety of traditional looms, and enjoy the company of some talented artists. Along the way, we explore the bustle of old-town Hanoi, Vietnam, the haunting stone relics on the

continued on page 9



Special Section: Travel!

continued from page 8

Plain of Jars, the beautiful World-Heritage city of Luang Prabang, Laos, and more.

You can view the full tour description at <https://hilltribeart.com/Textile-Tours-Flyer-2023.pdf>

For detailed information and enrollment packets, contact Maren at 541/485-9386, or maren@HilltribeArt.com.



India: Punjab and Kashmir

April 2024 – 2.5 weeks

This tour will be led by WARP Member Shila Desai of EYHO Tours. Visit Sikhism's holiest temples with Kashmir's exquisite natural beauty and textiles. This tour is an unusual exploration of two defining regions of India. Note: If Kashmir is inaccessible for political reasons, Ladakh and Leh will be substituted. Registration will open in March 2023.

This is just one of many upcoming tours led by Shila - Please visit www.eyhtotours.com for more tour listings, or write with particular interests to shila@eyhotours.com.



Oaxaca, Mexico

One Day Tour to San Pedro Cajonos

July 19, 2023

This tour to the silk weaving village of San Pedro Cajonos is organized by WARP Member Norma Schafer, Oaxaca Cultural Navigator. This region of Oaxaca is known throughout Mexico as the mecca of hand made silk production. Here, we will spend the day with artisan families who specialize in making ixtle (agave fiber) bags and weave amazing silk garments from cultivated worms that become silk cocoons that magically are transformed into fine silk strands. We will have a special homemade traditional lunch in the home of one of the most famous silk weavers in Mexico. His dining room overlooks verdant mountain valleys. Then, we will visit the recently opened Silk Sanctuary, built by federal and state funds to support this important

economic development project. We will discuss the processes used to make these precious textiles. We meet weaving families who devote their creative energies into raising silk worms, raising mulberry trees to feed them, harvesting and preparing the cocoons, using hand-spinning, natural dyeing and fringe knotting (macrame) techniques to complete these fine textiles.

Tour cost is \$295 and includes transportation in a luxury van, lunch, complete guide services with translation, textile and cultural interpretation, and commentary. This tour can be combined with the one below for a two-day Oaxaca experience. You can also contact Norma at norma.schafer@icloud.com for custom Oaxaca tours, and learn more at www.oaxacaculture.com.



One Day Tour to Tlahuitoltepec

July 20, 2023

This tour begins at 8:00 a.m. with a drive into the mountains of the Mixe pueblo of Santa Maria Tlahuitoltepec deep into the folds of Oaxaca's Sierra Madre mountain range. Tlahui is located 70 miles east of the capital city. With its microclimates, this landscape resembles a rainforest. This town has a rich tradition of making musical instruments, textiles, and pottery. We have selected the best weavers and embroiderers from the village to visit. They specialize in making cloth using treadle looms (a pedal loom with four-harnesses and a flying shuttle). They also use local alderwood called palo de aguila, a natural bark that produces a dye the yields rich, deep brown-orange on cotton fibers. Other dye materials they incorporate into stunning dresses, blouses, shawls and ponchos include cochineal, indigo, and wild marigold. This group of weavers has won national prizes for the quality of their designs and workmanship. Tour cost is \$295.

Contact Norma at norma.schafer@icloud.com for custom Oaxaca tours, and learn more at www.oaxacaculture.com.

The following do not have scheduled

More New Members

Catha Paquette
Long Beach, CA

Marcy Petrini
Jackson, MS

Cynthia Phillips
Fargo, ND

Mary Rosell

Frances Schultz
Lethbridge, Alberta
CANADA

Jerry Shoemaker
Albuquerque, NM

Peggy Strickland
Weston, MO

Tierney Thys

Anamarie Twomey
Nature Morte
Durham, NC

Lauren Vaske
Sharing the Dream in
Guatemala
Vermillion, SD

Chengcheng Xu
Fabriulous
London, Londonderry
UK



Special Section: Travel!

WARP Member Tours, cont'd

tours, but the descriptions include information about how to contact the tour givers to join the list of those interested when a trip is scheduled.

Bhutan

Textile Trails offers small group travel through less-visited parts of Bhutan. These annual tours are crafted especially for people who love textiles, craft, and local culture and who seek the immersive experience of traveling with WARP member Wendy Garrity, who has lived and breathed Bhutan and is passionate about the Bhutanese people, their culture, and particularly their weaving. Join Textile Trails if you seek to purchase directly from artisans, learn hands-on, empower and connect with locals, experience village life.

A 2023 tour is not yet scheduled, but you can learn more about the trips and register to receive an announcement when the next trip is scheduled at: <https://textiletrails.com.au/tours/>

Morocco



Travel. Just Travel.

Deborah Chandler

When I was in my 20s and still thought that I knew everything, I had the good fortune to have a seat-mate on one flight who knew better. I had been thinking about people in unspecified far-away places who seemed to have very limited thinking about various issues. A government can control what people do, but not what they think, was my understanding.

My seatmate was a US Army officer. I don't remember our conversation, only that in response to my sureness he shook his head and said, "Travel. Just travel."

Since then I have traveled a lot, even lived in other countries, and sometimes I wish I could thank him, that Army officer. He was so right. I was so ignorant. I could

WARP member Susan Schaefer Davis leads textile tours and cultural tours to Morocco. Given Covid, there are no tours scheduled at this time. However, Susan maintains a list of people who would like to go to Morocco when she does lead a tour, and you can email her (sdavis@uslink.net) for more detailed information, or to join the list. It is also possible to organize your own tour of 8-16 friends or family, working with Susan to help plan and guide (Covid permitting).

As an anthropologist, Susan enjoys introducing people to her Moroccan colleagues and friends, and to share with visitors many parts of the 'real' Morocco. Her tours also include visiting major historical and architectural sites, and can include cooking lessons or other special requests. And there's always some shopping. The textile tour visits some of the artisans featured in Susan's book *Women Artisans of Morocco*. Each lasts about two weeks and is a small group of 16 or fewer.

have read every book in the world, I think, and still not understood the realities I have learned by actually being with people in their own environments, countries, cultures.

Languages help shape how we think, and they are all different. Governments and how one must deal with them, religions going by the same name but shaped differently from the inside out, even how sunlight behaves depending on how near to or far from the equator it is – all of those and so much more affect who we are and how we think. If you want to know how the world works, and why communication can be so challenging, and why peace is so elusive, take his advice: Travel.

Just travel.

2023 Volunteer Opportunities in Independencia, Bolivia

Volunteer opportunities with the Club de Artesanas and Centro de Artesania, Huanca-rani are available for intrepid travelers.

In March, a volunteer is needed to teach sewing, crochet, knitting, and/or fiber design classes to the women and/or chicas of the Club de Artesanas. Weaving classes in traditional Andean techniques are available.

A social media volunteer is needed for Spinning Week activities, October 1st to 12th. A Spinning Week video hasn't been made since 2015, and social media interaction has been minimal. It's an opportunity to document and share the lives of the last generation of weavers born into the rural lifestyle where spinning and weaving were integral to a woman's self-identity.

Sales help is needed to sell the inventory of weavings in the US so that a weaving order can be placed before school supplies are needed in February.

Dorinda Dutcher's development work, PAZA, began as a Peace Corps project in 2007 at the request of the weavers. She returned to the US in 2018 but visits Independencia in March and October. PAZA tales and comments from former volunteers can be found on the PAZA blog: www.pazaboliviablog.com. For volunteer inquiries please contact dkdutcher@hotmail.com.



Scholarship Recipients

continued from page 6

duction centre comprising bigger looms, we take work to the weavers in their homes and villages, enabling women from the remotest of villages to create for House of Noorie. Needless to say, our work involves extensive travel to Assam's verdant rural geographies.

We also tell stories from the communities in an ethnographic spirit in order to study, preserve, and recreate lost design histories, which are primarily passed down from one generation (of women) to another orally. HoN comprises 15 weavers so far who work on projects/collection according to their availability and convenience. We encourage practices such as handspinning, especially with the Eri silk yarn, along with natural dye practices. HoN is strictly plastic-free and we refrain from using anything polyester either in the selection of yarns or packaging choices. We can be reached on: Email: houseofnoorie@gmail.com and Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/houseofnoorie/>

Read more about House of Noorie in the Fall issue of the WARP Newsletter

Trisha Gupta - I am a contemporary artist, community activist, educator, and leader of art as therapy. I work with textiles, paint, printmaking, and a variety of diverse mediums. My work is heavily influenced by social inequality and explores themes of heritage, colonialism, mental health, and immigration.

As it grows increasingly difficult to preserve heritage art forms in a world of many challenges such as fast fashion and climate change, there are fewer young artists who are engaging in preserving textile traditions as a business. The Alice Brown Memorial Scholarship has been a wonderful opportunity for me to meet more of the WARP community and my fellow peers. I have been able to make many lasting connections in the field, such as with the Indian fashion company, House of Noor. I am hoping to work with them to create woven textiles inspired by my Neurodiversity/Biodiversity series. These textiles would be shown in the 2024 Smithsonian Craft Show. Neurodiversity/Biodiversity is about changing how we view neurodiversity and seeing it as something that builds a stronger community. The House of Noor and I are currently looking for support and mentorship with this project and would welcome community feedback.

To learn more, please visit my instagram ([trishaguptaart](https://www.instagram.com/trishaguptaart)) and my website ([trishaart.com](https://www.trishaart.com)). To inquire about mentorship or involvement with my projects, please reach out to me at trisha@trishaart.com

Travel Opportunities

Tours By Sharon - 2023

Best of Oaxaca - Mexico
Small Group Tour
March 11 to 19, 2023

This small group tour has it all. Visits to weaving, woodcarving, pottery, glass-making, and papermaking workshops all of which are a very integral part of everyday life in Oaxaca.

We stay at a bed and breakfast that is located only a few minutes walk to the town square. The rooms are set around a verandah with flower filled gardens and a friendly staff who gives personal service and prepares delicious home style meals.

Expect to have a fantastic experience with visits to the craft villages and markets, trips to archaeological sites, and the ability to meet with the craftspeople of this region. Minimum of six travelers with a maximum of 12 travelers.

For additional information or to sign up email Sharon Giles at toursbysharon@gmail.com

A portion of each tour is given as a donation to WARP



Thanks to Generous Donors for WARP Programs

<u>General Donations</u>	Susan Weaver	Barbara Cloud-Weisman	Teena Jennings	Pamela McGurk	Kristin Rowley
Philis Alvic	Jacquelyn Wesolosky	Kim Comstock	Catherine (Cathie) Joslyn	Mary Ellen McMurtrie	Gerry Scarfe
Kate Banner	Maureen Wilson	Valerie Davis	Nancy Kahrs	Patricia V. Merrell	Irene Sophia Schmoller
Karen Bartlett	<u>Event Donations</u>	Susan Dignam	Lyn Kathlene	Dolores Metivier Ferguson	Barbara Shapiro
Deborah Chandler Weaving Futures	Justine Aldersey-Williams	Joan Esson	Julie Kipp	Nancy Middlebrook	Patty Shaw
Carolyn Coates	Pamela Allison	Diane Ferguson	Kathie Kurtz	Bob Miller	Donna Simms
Sharon Gardiner Guild of Canadian Weavers	Sharon Amastae	Nancy Franklin	Bianca Kuttickattu	Diolinda Monteiro	Michelle Simon
Carole Kantor	Karen Bartlett	Sharon Gardiner	Sara Lamb	Brenda Mulry	Judy Sprague
Erika Lewis	Patricia Bielamowicz	Patrice George	John Laswick	Gretchen Peacock	Carla Staffa
Athens Fibercraft Guild, HGA	Britt Boles	Murray Gibson	Grace Lombardo	Svea Peterson	Georgia Stevens
Nancy Monachino	Deb Brandon	Zoe Gilbertson	Carroll Long	Carol Reinhold	Phyllis Stutzman
Norma Schafer Oaxaca Cultural Navigator LLC	Rhonda Brodbeck	Ellen Goldman	Kathy M'Closkey	Francesca Reitano	Gail Trotter
Barbara Stucki	Carrie Burckle	Fran Gurwitz	Jane MacDonald	Lori Remz	Carol Ventura
	Elizabeth Butler	Jean Haley	Sallye Mahan Cox	Elisha Renne	Naomi Weidner
	Mary Byrnes	Jan Hayman	Gigi Matthews	Deborah Robson	Karen Williams
	Deborah Chandler	Judy Howard	Susan McCauley	Yael Rosenfield	Gina Ziegler
		Kippian Inglis	Barbara McGonagle		





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

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

Shop Fair, Buy Local This Holiday Season

Rachel Spence

Make the most out of your holiday shopping this season by shopping fair!



Fair trade businesses partner with skilled farmers and craftspeople in developing countries to bring high-quality, authentic products to us here in the US and Canada that we would otherwise not be able to access. In turn, our fair trade purchases support

businesses and communities globally.

Explore unique fair trade gift ideas for the adventure, fashion, earth, hosting, holiday, or art lover in your life in the Fair Trade Federation's annual Holiday Gift Guide. The guide features verified fair trade enterprises and close to 100



Check out the Fair Trade Holiday Gift Guide at <https://www.fairtradefederation.org/gift-guide/>

products handcrafted by small-scale artisans and farmers from around the world!

When we purchase a product that's not only fair trade but also from a locally-owned store or cafe, it's a direct way to strengthen and support local business owners and employees as well as our communities as a whole. Want to shop local? Check out the Fair Trade Federation locator to find the closest fair trade store in your area (<https://www.fairtradefederation.org/browse-fft-members/stores-cafes/>).



The Fair Trade Federation (FTF) is an association of fair trade enterprises fully committed to equitable and sustainable trading partnerships. The FTF strengthens and supports members in order to grow the global movement of trade that values the health of the planet, and the labor, dignity, and equality of all people.

