



Volume 30, Number 3 - Fall 2023

Boundless Diversity in African Basketry

Cael Chappell

African basketry is a rich and dynamic craft that deserves celebration and appreciation for its boundless diversity. From coiling, twining, netting, looping, ply



Cael Chappell explains how this Kavango Deep Makalani Bowl is made at the WARP Members' Textile Exhibition at the Kent University Gallery as part of the Annual Meeting

Artist: Unnamed Kavango Weaver, Kavango Tribe, Namibia - Presented by Baskets of Africa

splitting, and plaiting to Burkina weave and Zulu weave, the basket weavers in Africa have been using just about every basketry technique that exists since the beginning of time.

African baskets range from utilitarian, such as chicken coop baskets, fishing baskets and nets, and cargo baskets to art level "museum-quality" baskets such as Zulu



Uganda, a coffee farmer utilizing a well worn and repaired basket for harvesting

and Botswana baskets, and everything in between. Utilitarian basketry is usually for use "in country" by the weavers and others in the community while the highest quality baskets are usually sold for export to the US, Europe, and the rest of the world.

Coiled baskets are created by wrapping and/or stitching a material such as palm leaf around a core such as a bundle of grass or other available fibers. Highly skilled master weavers, such as the Zulu people in South Africa, and the Bayei in Botswana, commonly stitch coiled baskets to be water-tight. Some of these masterpieces may take months or even more than a year to weave one basket.

Basket weavers in Africa are usually subsistence farmers; they farm and garden to grow food for survival. In their spare time, they weave baskets to earn money for education, healthcare, access to clean water, or anything else they deem necessary. Earning this money from



Uganda, naturally dyed raffia stitch be coiled over banana leaf stalks

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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WARP Newsletter
published quarterly by
Weave A Real Peace
Volume 30, Number 3
Fall 2023
Linda Temple, Editor

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The deadline for
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Winter issue of the WARP
newsletter is
November 3, 2023

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The Worldview of the Indigenous Maya on Display through WARP

Nicole Eubanks

As I walked through Kent State University's downtown gallery for the *Threads of Connection* WARP members show, I saw a basket made of dyed palm leaves from Africa, a woven shawl made from a 600-year-old brocade technique from



Friendship Bridge Chief Development Officer Nicole Eubanks poses next to the Patzún huipil, part of the Threads of Connection exhibit at Kent State University. Inset: detail of neckline.

India, and an upcycled necktie wrist cuff from Lebanon. I was there representing the organization I work for, Friendship Bridge, that creates economic opportunities for women in Guatemala, including helping textile artisans market and sell their work.

Our artisan client Florinda Quiché Sr from Patzún, Guatemala, submitted a huipil for the exhibit—a traditional Guatemalan blouse. I felt proud as I walked by Florinda's design, knowing that through the huipil, both the worldview of the indigenous Maya and the history of Patzún would be on display.

Patzún, meaning Place of Sunflowers, was derived from Maya who speak the Kaqchikel language, and is the reason for flowers in the design. As the Maya are sur-

rounded by nature everyday, embroidery of many different leaves, plants, and trees are included in the neckline. Other shapes represent volcanoes, present in Guatemala's landscape; the former Guatemalan currency, cuartilla; and the broken chains of slavery. The latter symbolizes what has been called the Ten Years of Spring (1944-1954), a brief period of representative democracy in Guatemala preceded and



Friendship Bridge Chief Development Officer Nicole Eubanks and WARP member Betty Toguchi model Guatemalan huipiles in WARP's fashion show at the annual meeting in July.

followed by a series of military coups. Elections resumed in 1986 and have been held every four years since 1996, the official end of the 30-year Time of Violence (called Civil War in the US). From the late 1800s until the middle of the 1900s, many indigenous communities were stripped of their communal lands. The government encouraged foreign investment and participation in agriculture for export, most notably bananas and other fruit for the US (think Banana Republic) in lowland areas, and coffee for Europe in the mountains of what are now Baja and Alta Verapaz. This was done to strengthen the economy, but it in fact harmed local farmers and drove

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2023 Annual Meeting a Grand Success



WARP's first in-person meeting in three years could not have been more rewarding! **Threads of Connection: Exploring the Local to Global Textile Community** was held at Kent State University, OH, from July 13-16. Throughout this newsletter you will see articles about the various meeting activities—presentations, Marketplace, Member Exhibit, Fashion Show, Live Auction, Scholarship students, and more. You will also see feedback received from participants in this issue and the next. As Elena Laswick writes in her article on page 5, "...for a whole weekend, WARP's intangible magic was very tangible, indeed."

All of the Saturday presentations were videotaped and will be available on WARP's website (weavearealpeace.org).



"Open, socially conscious minds meeting up with the goal of improving things for others - a wonderful group of people to be with!" Katy Clements

"Thank you so much for the opportunity to attend the meeting virtually! The best part for me was the interviews with the weavers during the lunch break. I wish it could have been longer." Betsy Phillips

"It was my first meeting and all was amazing- the people the presentations the connections!!" Sharon Donnan

"As a first time WARP attendee to the conference, I found that not only the speakers so inspiring but also the attendees that I met." Fannie Lee

Above: WARP's tradition of having a Welcome Circle the first night of the Annual Meeting has become a favorite part of the meeting. Everyone introduces themselves in two minutes (!!), and we all get an idea of who we want to touch base with during the weekend. No matter how many participants there are, the time flies.



Daniel Johnston, Hedy Hollyfield, Rocio Mena, and Carol Ireland at the Welcome Circle.

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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 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>



WARP Insider

Rocio Mena Gutierrez

WARP's Annual Meeting in Kent, OH was fantastic! Interesting textile and community presentations, local design-



Rocio Mena, Lidia Lopez de Lopez, Maren Beck at the Cleveland airport following the meeting.

ers, an amazing Art Gallery exhibit, a fashion show, an auction, a marketplace and so much more...

Over 60 people attended the full conference, around 20 people attended the Saturday program and 20 more virtually. So we had around 100 attendees in total.

We missed those of you who weren't able to attend! And we hope you can join us at our 2024 Annual Meeting in Golden, CO, from May 16th to May 18th! Lots of exciting programs happening next year! If you have any suggestions for our next meeting, you can write me at rociomenawarp@gmail.com. We would love to hear your ideas!

You can still watch some of the recorded presentations online and you can see the Textile Art exhibit here: <https://weavearealpeace.org/events/warp-members-textile-exhibition/>

The board was also able to gather in person on Wednesday to talk about

WARP'S future. It was a very productive day where we spent around seven hours talking about new ideas and ways to improve this organization.

Here are just some of the ideas we talked about:

- plan to continue with the Grant program since it has been a huge success,
- explore hiring an assistant to help Kelsey with the administrative workload,
- name a volunteer coordinator to help match WARP volunteers with the right opportunities,
- and finally, institute an informal mentor program to offer a "buddy" to scholarship students as a pilot test.



Board members Cael Chappell, Hedy Hollyfield, Deborah Chandler

We want to thank Sarah Saulson for all the work she did as the outgoing Board member, and we welcome Diane Manning as our new Board member this year.

I am also very honored to have been elected as WARP's new co-chair this year. I have been a board member for over a year, and I am really happy to be part of this amazing community and help in any way I can.

Rocio Mena

WARP was so special this year after missing in-person meetings for so long. I brought my daughter, Bex of Hillcreek Yarn and Fiber, with me. So glad I did. We learned about the local Fibershed program for which she is a new coordinator for the Mid-Missouri region, just getting started. I was so impressed with the textile programs at Kent U. That was an eye-opener for me." Carol Leigh Brack-Kaiser, Hillcreek Fiber Studio

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WARP "COVID baby" has her first non-virtual WARP encounter

Elena Laswick

I am a WARP COVID baby - I was born into the organization sometime in 2020 so virtual networking groups, presentations, and annual meetings were all I knew - until Ohio.

As WARP's youngest member, or at least one of a very few '90s babies, you would think virtual would appeal to me just fine, and it did, initially. WARP's Business Networking Group (BNG) during COVID, right as I was launching my tiny social business, Ixil Collective, in isolation, was a salve.

I had just joined WARP, and had been skeptical of what it could offer and how active of an organization it was. Why? Well, since all my initial contact was virtual, when I went to the website it seemed static and outdated. It led me to question how active the membership was, and what it could potentially offer someone with a small social business such as mine. Either way, I figured for \$50 bucks, what did I have to lose, and I joined, primarily to list in the Artisan Direct-Connect.

Well, how wrong I was! The emails started pouring in and soon I realized just how vibrant, supportive, and engaged the membership really was. After the BNG, my next step towards integration was as Queen Kelsey's technical assistant for our very first virtual annual meeting. It was fine, but it was also the only version of the annual meeting I knew, so...what did I know?

Ironically (never having met any WARP member in person other than my mom), Maren Beck of the nominating committee invited me to join the board. Having just quit a board position in D.C., I had a lot of questions. Cautiously optimistic this experience would be different, I accepted.

More virtual meetings! Yipee!

"Fascinating presentations and beautiful textiles." Kathy McConaughy

Loved the outfits and what a joy to reconnect in person with new and old friends, people who "get it!" Adrienne Sloane

As a board member, I met up with fellow board members Deborah Chandler in Guatemala City, and Rocío Mena in Mexico City.


However, it was not until Ohio that I was able to finally understand the true feeling of fellowship that only an in-person event could provide. Before, I had considered proposing that annual meetings continue to be online every other year, to expand our international reach, but having finally had the chance to interact with everyone "off-screen", I can't imagine not having the opportunity to reunite at least once yearly, offline.


Despite being a smaller meeting, Ohio felt like a long-awaited reunion with family I had never even met. Although I had been part of numerous rebranding and board calls in which people spoke of the "intangible" value of WARP membership as the feeling of finding your "hive", the point only finally hit home in Ohio, a place I never thought I needed to go, but would eagerly go back to. And for a whole weekend, WARP's intangible magic was very tangible, indeed.




Elena at the Ixil Marketplace booth at the Annual Meeting

Connect to the WARP Community!

 @weavearealpeace

 Weave A Real Peace

 Weave A Real Peace (Google Groups)

 weavearealpeace.com/blog

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 weavingfutures2012@gmail.com

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

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



2022-2023 Financial Report

Please refer to the Budget on pages 10-11

2023 Online Auction

Our 2023 Online Auction will be open for bidding October 16th - 22nd. This is a fun and highly anticipated WARP event! We have a collection of items donated by WARP members, including hand-made textiles and clothing, we include books, baskets, handmade jewelry, folk art, and fiber related tools and equipment. The auction will be hosted on WARP's website www.weavearealpeace.org

We are still seeking donations from WARP members until September 10th. If you have items you would like to contribute, please email info@weavearealpeace.org for the donation form.

Notably, this year's Annual Operating Budget is \$110,000, our highest budget of any year to date. As WARP's activities have grown in scope and impact over the past few years, so have our financial commitments. Our largest financial commitments of 2023 are the Executive Director salary, Annual Meeting costs, Communications tools (our website and online membership database), and our Artisan Support Grants.

Our work is made possible through the generous support of WARP members and the WARP community-at-large:

- Our fundraisers, including the annual auction and raffle, are supported by your textile donations, and your participation. (This year's raffle raised over \$6,000, and our online auction has typically raised around \$11,000 the past couple of years.)

- We rely heavily on donor support. So far this year, we have received approximately \$22,000 in donations that have supported our Artisan Support Grants, our Scholarship program, and more. We especially are in need of undesignated donations that can be used freely without restriction, to make sure our operating expenses are covered.

- We have received two generous bequests in the past couple of years, totalling \$75,000.

These gifts make a very big difference to WARP's financial stability. We deeply appreciate our supportive members considering WARP when planning your financial legacy.

*Kelsey Wiskirchen, Executive Director
Cheryl Musch, Board Treasurer*



Friendship Bridge

continued from page 2

indigenous populations into poverty. Like any country, Guatemala has a long and complicated history that has led to a complicated present day.

Far from Patzún, I, too, got to display another artisan's work during the WARP fashion show, wearing a huipil made by a client-artisan from Huehuetenango, Guatemala. The designs in my huipil represent the union of people, which was even more fitting as I connected with so many members of the WARP community over a shared love of textile arts.

The weekend was made even more special as I was accompanied by a Friendship Bridge supporter and WARP member, Betty Toguchi, who long ago recognized Guatemalan weavers as the artists they

are. As a result of exposure at the WARP exhibit, we sold three custom-made huipiles from our Handmade by Friendship Bridge online store, and are so grateful to WARP for the opportunity to be part of the exhibit.

The Patzún huipil and other Handmade by Friendship Bridge® items can be purchased directly at www.handmadebyfriendshipbridge.org to support the Guatemalan artisans who make them.

Nicole Eubanks is the Chief Development Officer at Friendship Bridge, a Colorado- and Guatemala-based nonprofit social enterprise that creates opportunities that empower Guatemalan women to build a better life. She can be reached at neubanks@friendshipbridge.org.

More Comments from Meeting Participants

*"I'm so glad I attended the WARP meeting in Ohio and forged meaningful connections with so many people!"
Cael Chappell*

"What interesting, friendly people!" Betsy Blosser

"Thank you so much for featuring Janice Lessman-Moss; I was stunned by the beauty and complexity of her work." Shelley Mintz

*"WARP meetings are good for the soul."
Marcia Bellas*

"For four days WARP created the most magnificent bubble imaginable - an instant community filled with wonderful people, programs, textiles, discussions, and events. I wish it could have lasted forever!" Beth Davis



WARP Members' Textile Exhibition

Threads of Connection: Recent Fiber Works by Members of WARP

For the first time, WARP's Annual Meeting was the occasion for a major fiber exhibit at the KSU Downtown Gallery in Kent, OH.

With over 500 WARP members living and working in textile communities around the world, this exhibition showcased a diversity of artistic creations and traditions from thirty-two artists from over a dozen

countries, including Argentina, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Laos, Lebanon, Mexico, Morocco, Uganda, the US, Sardinia, and more.



Susan S. Davis points out a Moroccan Teereera Rug, made by Aicha Seqqat, N'kob, Morocco. Presented by Cooperative Timnay des Tapis

Although the physical exhibition is no longer on display, you can view the textiles included in the exhibition via the online catalog at

<https://weavearealpeace.org/events/warp-members-textile-exhibition/>



Kelly Manjula Koza describes a Traditional Pibiones Rug, made by Susanna Frongia, Isa Frongia, Anna Maria Pirastu, Sardinia, Italy. Presented by Sardinian Arts

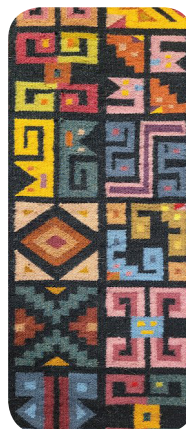


Ashley Juarez Lopez, Florinda Lopez, and Jenny Juarez Lopez examine the Piblonos Rug from Sardinia



Left: Manta cloth, made by Cecilia Martinez Guerrero, México and USA Presented by Artisans Beyond Borders

Below: Cyano-Orchids Artist: Christine LoFaso New Mexico, USA



Above: Inca Calendar, made by Fermin Aybar Ayacucho, Perú Presented by Ayni, Inc.

Right: Maren Beck tells about the Shaman Cloth or Ceremonial Wedding Blanket from Laos. Made by Souksakhone Khakampanh Houaphan Province, Presented by Above the Fray: Traditional Hilltribe Art



Thanks to Kat Novak for arranging for this exhibit to be held, to Diane Manning for coordinating the exhibit, and to Deborah Chandler for writing the descriptions.

New Members

Erica Laurie Addis
Kent, OH

Linda Aring
Sagamore Hills, OH

Vicki Aspenberg
New York, NY

Vicki Assegued
Concord, CA

Renee Berry
Marthasville, MO

Jean Breitzmann

Robert Breitzmann

Mia Deno
San Francisco, CA

Karen Frankenbery
Peninsula, OH

Patrice George
NYC, NY

Karen Gil
Hudson, OH

JoAnn Giordano
S. Euclid, OH



Scholarship Students Contribute to Meeting

Biographies, along with each student's impressions of the Annual Meeting

More New Members

Deb Grale

Julie Hall

Susu Hauser
Cary, NC

Andrea Heckman
Taos Ski Valley, NM

Joan Horwich

Elie Jammal
Kent, OH

Victoria Johnson-Parratt

Lidia Amanda Lopez de Lopez
San Antonio Aguas Calientes
Sacatepequez
GUATEMALA

Amy Lovejoy
Sarasota, FL

Laura Martin
Cleveland, OH

Laramie McEnaney

Shelley Mintz
Metuchen, NJ

Nadia Modjrian
Kent, OH

Karen Page
Pittsburgh, PA

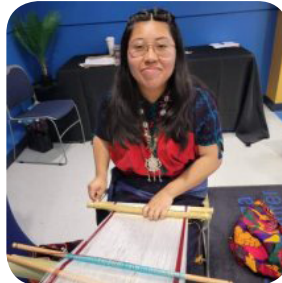
Patrice Perillie
Puerto Escondido
Oaxaca, MEXICO

John Sanderson
New York, NY

The Alice Brown Memorial Scholarship is an award for students and young professionals who are invested in WARP's mission. Scholarship recipients join us at the Annual Meeting to connect with the WARP community and share their research and creative practices. The scholarship includes a complimentary 2-year membership with WARP, registration costs and room and board for WARP's annual conference, and the opportunity to share their work at the conference. Alice Brown was a generous WARP member who had the foresight to donate the funds to establish the scholarship. Donations from WARP members now sustain the fund. Those of you who have attended meetings since 2008 know how much these special young people have added to the event.

Jenny R. Juarez Lopez (2023 Recipient)

Jenny graduated from Virginia Tech in 2022 with a bachelor's degree in Mathematics. She is a backstrap weaver of Guatemalan textiles and has been a member of the Weaving for the Future cooperative since 2016. With the cooperative, she attends events to demonstrate back-strap weaving and educate the public on Guatemalan culture.



"This past WARP meeting was the first annual meeting that I attended in person. I got to see many different textile arts and hear about different life experiences in textiles. I especially enjoyed hearing about the scholarship recipients' works and efforts in textile arts. I learned new things and got to connect with fellow WARP members. I loved the vendor marketplace because I got the opportunity to feel and see textiles from different areas of the world. My favorite part of the annual meeting was participating in the fashion show, showing off the Guatemalan textiles, and experiencing a live auction of beautiful items. I am grateful to WARP for allowing me the chance to experience an annual WARP meeting. I plan to return and attend another annual WARP meeting."

Ashley F. Juarez Lopez (2023 Recipient)

Ashley weaves Guatemalan textiles with a back-strap loom. She is currently a student at George C. Marshall High School and is a member of the Weaving for the Future Cooperative. One of her goals is to learn more about the process and history that goes into Guatemalan textiles and to continue expressing her Maya heritage.

"I got to attend my first annual WARP meeting and I really enjoyed my time in Kent, OH. I enjoyed hearing the many panel presentations on different textiles works. My favorite presentation was

Norma's work with weaving and co-operatives in Chiapas and Oaxaca. I also really liked the vendor marketplace because I got to see many cool textiles.

With the marketplace, I got a chance to purchase a beautiful shoulder bag designed by a weaver in the Lao Cai province in Vietnam. Thank you to WARP for helping me to attend this year's meeting, with my mom and sister. It was a fun experience for me to learn new things about textiles and meet so many nice people."



Chad Troyer (2023 Recipient)

Chad Troyer is a textile artist living and working in Cleveland, OH and works as the Digital Weaving Coordinator and a weaving instructor at Praxis Fiber Workshop. As an instructor, Chad teaches weaving and introduces the history of weaving to beginners. As the Digital Weaving Coordinator, they interact with and aid resident artists in their use of the TC-2, a digital jacquard loom. Their own work investigates landscape and environment, and the threads that connect community and family to our natural terrain. Warp and



Scholarship Students Contribute to Meeting

continued from previous page

weft are reminiscent of latitude and longitude, and can become the markers of our own path through our life and our natural environment.

"From the very first moment, at the welcome circle, I felt welcomed, and I think that is an overarching sentiment from the whole weekend. As I stood shaking in my boots at the welcome circle trying to describe myself and why I was there, it seemed a chorus of responses came forth to affirm me. After the first day, I had loosened up somewhat (and was shaking somewhat less) and again, the same treatment of welcoming overlapped. I had a little more time for one on one interactions, and that was so rewarding. That is not to say I don't love standing up in front of a large group of people and making a fool of myself. There was no shortage of amazing people that all wanted to connect with me and about our shared experience and love of textiles. This shared connection of textiles is why I love weaving, it is the ultimate connector between people."

Elisa Lutteral (2022 Recipient)

Elisa Lutteral is an Argentinean artist based in Brooklyn, working in sculptural and performative pieces revolving around the exploration of social constructions around capitalism and patriarchy and challenges these narratives of control. Elisa holds a BFA in Fashion Design from the University of Buenos Aires (2015) and a Master's degree in Fine Arts, Textiles from Parsons School of Design (2023). Lutteral works collaboratively with living materials studying new connections between humans and the natural world. With her mother and sister, she also co-founded Dallá Paracá, a brand that supports textile makers and artisans in Argentina.

"I had a great experience attending the Annual WARP meeting

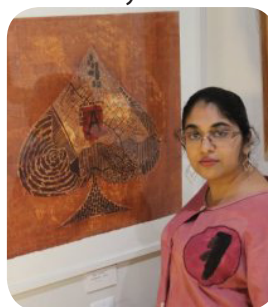


conference. I enjoyed every moment of the diverse activities and most of all meeting all the members in person and getting to know them one on one. I think it is a unique experience to be surrounded by people who are textile obsessed and to be immersed and inspired by textiles through daily activities for three days. I had the most meaningful and interesting conversations and felt included in the group from the beginning. It was very interesting to me to attend the business meeting since I got to understand how WARP is structured and how members are involved and what decisions are being made."

Trisha Gupta (2022 Recipient)

Trisha is a contemporary artist, a community activist, an educator, and a leader of art as therapy. She works with textiles, paint, printmaking, and a variety of diverse mediums. Her work is heavily influenced by social inequality and she explores themes of colonialism, mental health, and immigration. She is strongly influenced by her Indian American heritage. After being trained in the Western tradition of woodblock printing, she returned to her home in Rajasthan to learn about Indian woodblock carving. She loves teaching Asian printmaking processes like Indian woodblock printing, Japanese woodblock, and viscosity. She is committed to preserving traditional folk art and fine Indian printmaking. In particular, she has learned about Indian block printing with natural plant-based dyes.

"Community is the one thing that really stood out for me at this year's meeting. I got to meet the members who all knew each other and had supported each other. The trip was deeply inspiring and the conference led me to visit Praxis. And I have been seriously considering starting my own woodblock residency program out of my new studio space. The women of WARP are conscientious, generous, talented and deeply committed to textile traditions."



More New Members

Kathryn Scafidi
Eastlake, OH

Deborah Silver
Cleveland Hts, OH

Cynthia SMITH
Portland, OR

Stephen Tornero
Canton, OH

Patricia Tracy
Blacksburg, Va

Roberta Valdez
Corralitos, CA

Linda Watson
Westminster, CA

Cindy Weinstein
Joshua Tree, CA

Rita Williams
Aurora, Oh

Ana-Maria V. Zaugg
Plymouth Meeting, PA

Donate Now to the Alice Brown Scholarship Fund!

Go to
www.weavearealpeace.org
and click on the DONATE
tab, or mail a check to
WARP
PO Box 403
Seagrove, NC 27341

Designate the donation is
for the Scholarship Fund.



Special Section: 2023 Budget Report



WARP's Annual Business Meeting took place on Sunday, July 16, 2023 at Kent State University. Highlights of the meeting included presentation and approval of the Financial Report, presentation and approval of the 2022 Meeting Minutes, recognition of Board Members,

election of new Board Members, a review of major accomplishments of the year, and discussion of primary goals for the next year. Approximately 45 were in attendance. A complete copy of the Minutes of the meeting are available on WARP's website, weavearealpeace.org

WARP 2023 Annual Budget

	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
Fundraised Income Carried Forward from previous year		\$9,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$14,000.00
Income & Support				
Annual Meeting				
Live Auction				\$1,000.00
Online Silent Auction	\$5,675.48	\$11,057.00	\$11,833.98	\$11,000.00
Meeting Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,520.00
Vendor Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Total Annual Meeting Income	\$5,675.48	\$11,057.00	\$11,833.98	\$43,520.00

Donations				
Annual Meeting	\$0.00	\$2,235.00	\$2,670.00	\$0.00
Assistantships	\$560.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$500.00
Designated for Grants		\$2,000.00	\$11,475.00	\$10,000.00
Endowment Fund			\$50.00	\$0.00
Designated for Website			\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Fireside Chats			\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Giving Tuesday	\$3,575.00	\$5,675.68	\$2,618.75	\$2,500.00
Not Designated, (To Ops Fund)	\$7,118.00	\$56,284.00	\$6,757.65	\$9,354.00
Scholarships	\$345.00	\$125.00	\$175.00	\$500.00
Panel Discussion Donations		\$3,585.00	\$4,680.00	\$4,000.00
Ukraine Fundraiser			\$10,730.00	
Total Donations Support	\$11,598.00	\$69,954.68	\$43,456.40	\$28,054.00

Interest Income				
CD Interest, Endowment Fund	\$471.00	\$74.73	\$0.00	\$0.00
Checking Interest	\$13.58	\$6.77	\$18.40	\$18.00
Savings Interest	\$13.95	\$5.47	\$7.17	\$7.00
Money Market Interest (Bequest)		\$11.65	\$50.03	\$50.00
Total Interest Income	\$498.53	\$98.62	\$75.60	\$75.00

Memberships				
Members Dues - Checks	\$2,385.00	\$1,865.00	\$2,160.00	\$2,000.00
Members Dues - Online	\$11,524.00	\$13,775.00	\$19,288.00	\$19,000.00
Total Memberships	\$13,909.00	\$15,640.00	\$21,448.00	\$21,000.00

Book Fundraiser	\$970.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Raffle		\$4,895.00	\$4,160.00	\$4,000.00

TOTAL INCOME	\$32,651.01	\$101,645.30	\$85,973.98	\$110,649.00
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Please refer to the Financial Report on page 6



Special Section: 2023 Budget Report



Expenses				
ANNUAL MEETING				
Advertising	\$0.00	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Assistantships	\$0.00	\$1,496.36	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Board - Financial Assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Staff Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Catering, all F & B	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,230.00
Facilities	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,390.00
Equipment Rental				\$1,134.00
Insurance, Event Liability	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Lodging	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,920.00
Meeting Expenses Board Meeting	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Printing Costs for Program				\$500.00
Misc. Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Scholarship Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Speaker Fees	\$0.00	\$652.12	\$1,100.00	\$2,000.00
Total	\$250.00	\$2,193.48	\$1,100.00	\$35,524.00

CONTRACTOR SERVICES

Accounting, Bookkeeping	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$850.00	\$1,320.00
Administrative Coordinator	\$12,300.00	\$25,180.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Graphic Designer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$200.00
Blog Contractor	\$600.00	\$500.00	\$200.00	\$500.00
Web Designer	\$321.50	\$103.50	\$3,236.25	\$5,000.00
Lawyer			\$200.00	\$0.00
Panel Discussion Presenters			\$1,079.99	\$1,500.00
Total	\$13,221.50	\$25,783.50	\$5,916.24	\$7,020.00

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR			\$34,859.29	\$32,890.00
Payroll Tax			\$2,776.90	\$2,505.00
Health Care Stipend			\$1,440.00	\$1,440.00
Total			\$39,076.19	\$36,835.00

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Editor	\$1,700.00	\$1,775.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Int'l Postage	\$66.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Printing & Postage	\$2,073.43	\$1,551.69	\$1,970.09	\$2,000.00
Total	\$3,839.69	\$3,326.69	\$3,970.09	\$4,000.00

OPERATING EXPENSES

Professional memberships	\$96.00	\$97.00	\$148.00	\$150.00
Auction Expenses			\$427.40	\$500.00
Hardware - New Computer			\$2,133.93	\$120.00
Software - Communications	\$1,893.48	\$3,565.21	\$4,327.85	\$5,300.00
Marketing	\$0.00	\$27.82	\$300.00	\$800.00
Misc. expenses	\$25.00	\$659.69	\$141.00	\$200.00
Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$64.19	\$100.00
Processing Fees for Bankcards	\$1,065.39	\$1,408.43	\$2,200.13	\$2,200.00
Postage, Mailing Service	\$794.17	\$680.84	\$170.86	\$200.00
Printing, copying	\$5.07	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$746.00	\$0.00
Total	\$3,879.11	\$6,438.99	\$10,659.36	\$10,570.00

SPECIAL WARP PROJECTS

Artisan Resource Guide	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	
Ukraine Fundraiser Donation			\$10,000.00	
Endowment Contribution (10% of memberships)	\$1,290.00	\$1,564.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Artisan Grants Payment Fees			\$128.95	\$200.00
Artisan Grants		\$6,000.00	\$10,800.00	\$15,000.00
Total	\$1,290.00	\$7,764.00	\$22,428.95	\$16,700.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$22,480.30	\$45,506.66	\$83,150.83	\$110,649.00
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Gain/Loss	\$10,170.71	\$56,138.64	\$2,823.15	\$0.00
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Rust Belt Fibershed Developing Regional Natural Fiber Systems in Cleveland Area

New Fiber Mill Invites Investors

Kelly Powers, an organic farmer and shepherd is working hard to bring the textile industry back to OH. Cleveland was once the second-largest manufacturing center of clothing in the United States in the early 20th century.

Currently, while most of our clothing is made overseas, there is interest in establishing local opportunities.

This wool fiber mill, from Belfast Mini Mills, will serve over 50 local farmers and have the capacity to process 7000 lbs. of local fiber every year. This will help not only the fiber farmers who raise sheep and alpacas, but also the local fiber arts community and clothing designers all over the Rust Belt Fibershed.

Kelly is currently looking for a few investors to buy into this amazing business and provide her with the startup capital needed to make this happen. If you are interested in investing in this opportunity, please connect with Kelly.
kellysnowfish@gmail.com;
216/554-0827

Sarah Pottle

We were thrilled to share the Rust Belt Fibershed's mission at this year's WARP conference in Kent, OH, located almost directly in the center of our fibershed which encompasses a 250 mile radius around Cleveland, OH. The Rust Belt Fibershed is one of over 60 Fibershed affiliates worldwide working to regionalize a fiber supply chain.

Like all other fibersheds in our affiliate network, we are passionate about developing regional natural fiber systems that generate lasting prosperity for local economies, global climate and the health and diversity of our nested ecosystems.

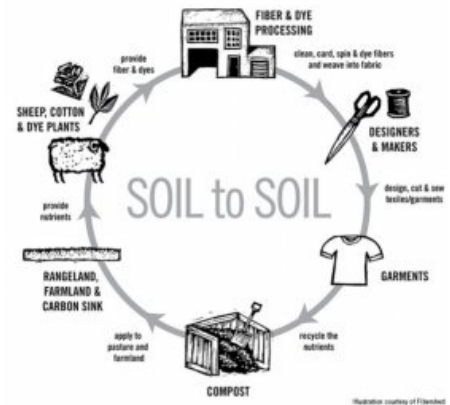
We care so deeply because our current globalized, industrial textile system promotes disconnection: it separates workers from the value of their labor, consumers from the origins of their clothing, and the Earth from a circular, regenerative natural system. This is largely what we spoke about at the WARP conference: the importance of connecting the threads—something we know weavers truly understand.

Unfortunately, as much of the world continues to ignore this disconnection, there is an increase of global poverty, soil and land degradation, human illness, resource and labor exploitation, industrial pollution of waterways, soil, and air. This linear industrial textile system robs human dignity, ecological stewardship, and connection to people and place, and trades them in for short-term benefits.

Alternatively, if we take the long view and create regional, regenerative soil-to-soil models for the textile industry, we can co-create a textile culture that will actively contribute to human health, planetary health, and economic stability. We believe in an integrated, circular strategy for the textile industry, where the production and consumption of clothing values stewardship of financial capital, living capital, and material capital. We believe that what we

wear can create meaningful livelihoods and deeper connections with the world around us.

As we secure funding for infrastructure-type projects that require more up-



front capital, here in the Rust Belt Fibershed we've been emphasizing education and community-based projects, such as the Rust Belt Fibershed Linen project, where this year we had approximately 36 growers growing small plots of flax throughout our region; the One Year One Outfit project, where we had approximately 32 artisans create a soil-to-soil outfit completely sourced in the Rust Belt Fibershed; and the Student Ambassador Project at Kent State, where we are piloting how to get university students involved in the movement. Several Student Ambassadors actually joined us for a brief panel and show-and-tell at the WARP conference!

We are so excited to share what we are up to with you. You can follow us at [@rustbeltfibershed](https://www.instagram.com/rustbeltfibershed) on Instagram, but better yet: you can likely find a fibershed affiliate near you at fibershed.org/affiliate-directory/

Sarah Pottle is the co-founder of the Rust Belt Fibershed, which she began as a project with her sister, Jess Boeke, in 2018. You can find more information at rustbeltfibershed.com.



Fashion Show and Auction Provide Entertainment and Great Benefit for WARP

This year's fashion show and live auction event was a highlight of the Annual Meeting! With wonderful live music by WARP member Katy Clements, it was a fun and entertaining evening. The fashion show featured about 20 WARP members wearing garments they either made or have collected.



Katy Clements

The fashion show was followed by the live auction. With Daniel Johnston as auctioneer, and Chad Troyer assisting, the auction brought many laughs and also raised about \$2,600 for WARP. Thank you to everyone who donated to the auction, and also to those who donated to the scholarship fund.

The evening concluded with a call for donations to WARP's Alice Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund, and due to the generosity of attendees, we raised enough funds for six scholarships (about \$2,500)!



Daniel Johnston and Norma Schafer closing the evening's entertainment with a victory dance, after raising over \$5000 for WARP. Great music once again provided by Katy Clements.

A peek at the Fashion Show

Susan Weltman and Cathy Joslyn



Ashley Juarez Lopez

Erica Lewis in her costume made from recycled materials.



Florinda Lopez

More Comments from Meeting Participants

"This was, my ninth in-person conference, and each time, I meet new (or new to me) members, and am astonished by their extraordinary contributions to textile makers' lives in many parts of the world. Scholarship winners give presentations that blow me away. And presenters from the meeting region share exciting things that are going on in their areas to try to help those who need encouragement in our textile field of interest." Catherine Joslyn

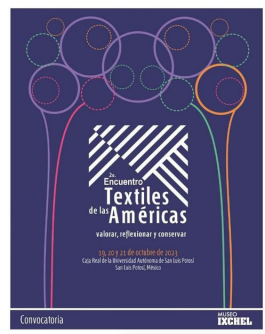
"This meeting was so fabulous it was worth waiting three years for. It inspired visions of both early WARP and the future ahead of us." Deborah Chandler

"It was an amazing experience, filled with new friends and connections (and customers for Hoon-Arts!), education, field trips, enthralling artistry, inspiration, and lots of laughter." Rikki Quintana

"The one word I have for the meeting this year is INSPIRATIONAL, what a way to kick off live meetings again. It will be hard to top it!" Hedy Hollyfield



Textiles of the Americas Meeting



The Ixchel Museum of Indigenous Costume invites you to participate in the Second *Textiles Meeting of the Americas* gathering to be held on October 19, 20, and 21, 2023 in San Luis Potosí, Mexico.

More information:
textilesdelasamericas@museoixchel.org
<https://museoixchel.org/>

The *Textiles of the Americas* meeting is a space for dialogue, discussion, and information exchange between those who create the traditional textile heritage of the American continent and those who study it from multiple disciplines for purposes of assessment, reflection, and conservation.

Mark Your Calendar: WARP's 2024 Annual Meeting

May 16-18, 2024

American Mountaineering Center in Golden, CO
In conjunction with Colorado Weavers Day

African Baskets

continued from page 1

basket weaving can be especially important in years when crops fail due to changing weather conditions. The weaving provides them with money to buy food in these instances.

Twined baskets are usually faster and easier to weave but can still take many days to complete. A good example of twined baskets from Africa is the common Ghana Bolga baskets, often referred to as "market baskets." There are probably more than 10,000 weavers in Northern Ghana twining these baskets from dried grass as a cottage industry. They have been selling them to foreign



Ghana, twining cordage made from grass to create market baskets

buyers from around the world for more than 70 years.

Burkina weave originated in Burkina Faso with the Mossi people. Baskets woven in this technique result in an open grid that is useful as a sieve. Most baskets in Africa are woven by women, but the Zulu weave is a modern type of basket weaving invented by men in South Africa and is woven over a form out of repurposed wires.

When you combine the variety of techniques with the variety of materials, and the creativity and skill of the weavers in Africa, you can easily see why there is boundless diversity in African baskets.

Cael has been working in African art and craft and travelling to Africa for over 30 years. A basket maker himself, he has a not-for-profit project called Baskets of Africa to support basket weavers in Africa. Contact Cael at cael@basketsof africa.com



"It was wonderful to feel a connection again with everyone, because WARP has meant so much to me over the years." Philis Alvic

"The emotional and financial generosity of the membership was inspiring. It isn't about the amounts, but about the willingness to give to others, to share information and connections, and understand the impact each of us can have on other textile people in terms of supporting their art through appreciating them as people. The energy gained from attending the Annual Meeting is amazing!" Maren Beck

"Warm, wonderful, helpful, interesting, brilliant, compassionate, talented, knowledgeable, inspiring, fun — the people at the WARP conference were all of this and much more. While attending online in 2021 was great, attending in-person in 2023 was fantastic." In-person WARP conferences are not to be missed! Kelly Manjula Koza

"Several conversations at the meeting inspired thoughts about expanding WARP's impact. Increasing the size and number of artisan support grants would be powerful and effective; I pledge to contribute funds to that effort." John Laswick

"The WARP Meeting is my Reset Button. Here, I leave my life of everyday concerns behind and focus on how to make the world a better place." Sarah Saulson



Weaving for the Future Cooperative Members Attend Meeting

Friends of the Ixchel Museum (FOIM) is a charitable foundation established to promote interest in the Maya textile tradition of Guatemala and the work of the Museo



Florinda Lopez, Yolanda Alcorta,
Ashley Juarez Lopez, Jenny Juarez Lopez,
Angelica Lopez

Ixchel. FOIM uses their US-based textile collection to bring exhibits to museums, schools, and organizations. FOIM works with their Weaving for the Future Cooperative in the Washington, DC area to bring live weaving demonstrations, hands-on activities, and virtual programs for all age

groups and interests. The Weaving for the Future Cooperative consists of Maya weavers who come together to continue their weaving tradition, share it with the public, and create beautiful items for sale to enable a sustainable cooperative. The Cooperative members are Florinda Lopez, Jenny Juarez Lopez, Ashley Juarez Lopez, Julia Sanchez, Victoria Cabrera, Angelica Lopez, and Olandina Hernandez. Learn more about FOIM at:

www.ixchelfriends.org.

"I enjoyed every part of my first meeting! Getting there, setting up a vendor table, the excellent presentations, fashion show, annual meeting and the live auction! The best was connecting with other artist and all interested in weaving!" Yolanda Alcorta



Thank You!

The 2023 WARP Annual Meeting could not have been so successful without the help of many volunteers. The planning committee consisted of Cathy Jacobus, Cathie Joslyn, Deborah Chandler, and Kat Novak.

Mary Joan Ferrara-Marsland and Teena Jennings coordinated the live auction; Maren Beck was responsible for the Marketplace, Diane Manning coordinated the Gallery Exhibition, Kelly Koza Manjula was

the technician (videotaping the entire weekend), and Daniel Johnston was the ultimate auctioneer.

Jasmine Kornel and Nadia Modjrian helped with check-in and the live auction.

Every member of WARP's working Board was working! And coordinating everything was WARP's amazing Executive Director, Kelsey Wiskirchen.

A huge thanks to all!

And Thanks to Generous Donors for WARP Programs!

Yolanda Alcorta	Beth Davis	Sue Helmken	Fannie Lee	Rikki Quintana	Georgia Stevens
Marcia Bellas	Susan S. Davis	Betty Hilton-Nash	Mariana Mace	Lori Remz	Jenny Stimac
Betsy Blosser	Leesa Duby	Hedy Hollyfield	Diane Manning	Katherine Rickett	Linda Temple
Sara Borchert	Debbie Durham	Lucionne "Shawnnee" Holmberg	Susan McCauley	Kristin Rowley	Amanda Thompson
Carolyn Braaksma	Nancy Feldman	Carol Ireland	Kathleen M. McConaughy	Julia Sanchez	Dorothy Thursby
Carol Leigh Brack-Kaiser	Mary Joan Ferrara-Marsland	Teena Jennings	Barbara McGonagle	Laura Sandison	Erica Tiedemann
Sara Burnett	Sharon Giles	Daniel Johnston	Kathryn McHenry	Sarah Saulson	Betty Toguchi
Deborah Chandler	Virginia Glenn	Cathie Joslyn	Mary Ellen McMurtrie	Norma Schafer	Carol Ventura
Cael Chappell	Ellen Goldman	Kelly Manjula Koza	Carole Pierce	Adrienne Sloane	Susan Weltman
Kate Colwell	Elinor Gollay	John Laswick		Rebecca Smith	Virginia Westheider
Tere Cordon	Jeanne Heifetz			Ellen Spears	Laurie Wilkins

Travel Opportunities



Tours by Sharon

Oaxaca, Mexico -
Textile and Food Tour

March 26 to April 4, 2024

This is the first time offering this tour and it will take place during Semana Santa (Holy Week)

WARP Member Discount -
10%

This small group tour has it all. Visits to a weaving workshop, backstrap weaving co-op, hands on Oaxaca embroidery workshop, local markets where we will see many local textiles, a papermaking workshop, walking tours of downtown Oaxaca markets, hands on cooking class, mezcal making demo with a tasting and so much more.

We will have enough free time to enjoy the special Holy Week events and processions during this special time in Oaxaca. We stay at a bed and breakfast, with comfortable rooms and a friendly staff who gives personal service and prepares delicious home style meals for our group.

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





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

All About the Amazing 2023 Annual Meeting!

The Many Faces of WARP's 2023 Annual Meeting (everyone was happy!)

Photos by Elena Laswick,
Norma Schafer, John Laswick

Clockwise, from top left: Kathy McHenry at her Marketplace booth; John Laswick at Welcome Circle; Lidia Lopez de Lopez; Rinzo Wangmo; (L-R) Betsy Blosser, Adrienne Sloane, Sarah Saulson, Cheryl Musch, and Susan Davis examining textiles at the Cleveland Museum of Art; Kelly Manjula Koza (far right), recording the Welcome Circle; Erica Tiedemann, Amy Thompson, Betsy Blosser at Welcome Circle.

