



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF NEEDLEARTS 2024 ASSEMBLY

CLASS OFFERINGS AND TEACHER BIOGRAPHIES

March 15 – 19, 2024
Somerset Inn, Troy, MI

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4 - DAY CLASSES: SATURDAY, MARCH 18 THROUGH TUESDAY, MARCH 21***401: Painted Canvas Workshop – Debbie Stiehler*****Proficiency Level:** Intermediate to Advanced**Kit Cost:** \$0**Ground:** Canvas**Design Size:** Varied

Bring a canvas from Debbie's previous classes or a new canvas on which you need help in a few areas. She will use her 30-year experience in teaching needlework to come up with some unique ideas and solutions. Come stitch in a relaxed atmosphere with old and new friends. Refresh or learn techniques by sharing with classmates. All skill levels welcome.

Student to Bring: Canvas mounted on stretcher bars, threads and embellishments, and usual stitching supplies.

Pre-work: N/A***402: Japanese Embroidery Study Group – Mary Alice Sinton*****Proficiency Level:** All**Kit Cost:** To be purchased prior to class from Instructor**Ground:** 100% Silk Fabric**Design Size:** N/A

All levels of Japanese Silk Embroidery and Japanese Bead Embroidery are taught including Phase pieces and Challenge pieces enhancing the student's journey into the way of Japanese Silk Embroidery. Exploring Japanese Embroidery (JE) helps a student improve their overall stitching in any medium with the discipline and structure found in this discipline. Please allow a minimum of 6 weeks prior to class to order a Japanese Embroidery kit.

Student to bring: JE supplies: Awl, Tekobari, JE needles, scissors, magnification, light box.

Pre-work: None**2 - DAY CLASSES: SATURDAY, MARCH 16 THROUGH SUNDAY, MARCH 17*****101: Monet Kimono – Toni Gerdes*****Proficiency Level:** Intermediate**Kit Cost:** \$190**Ground:** 18-ct White mono canvas**Design Size:** 8" x 11 ½"

Inspired by the beautiful Impressionist paintings of Giverny by Claude Monet, this is the seventh in the Artists's series of kimonos following the previous kimonos: *The Wright Kimono*, *Mackintosh Rose Kimono*, *Klimt Kimono*, *O'Keeffe Kimono*, *Starry Starry Night Kimono*, and *Kubota Kimono*. This kimono features the bridge at Giverny, France along with the peaceful lily pad pond and gardens that Monet painted many times. The use of painterly stitches for this beautiful landscape will be created with emphasis on shading and the bridge being done in a Raised Stem Stitch technique. Using many different silks with some added metallics for highlights will bring the light to this rendition of Monet's work. The design can be done as the original, a kimono, or as a rectangle (with some design changes by student).

Student to Bring: 12"x16" stretcher bars, usual stitching supplies including scissors & laying tool.

Pre-work: None

102: Punkinhead Tree Topper – Janet Zickler Casey

Proficiency Level: Intermediate

Kit Cost: \$275

Ground: 18-ct Mono canvas

Design Size: 11" x 9" x 2"

Punkinhead Tree Topper is a delightful addition to any Halloween tree. This engaging finial is stitched on #18 white mono canvas and includes a hat brim that makes it a fun 3-D holiday decoration. He is stitched in a combination of complex patterns with fun and funky threads including Neon Rays Plus, Kreinik Metallics, Fyre Werks, Silk Floss, Watercolours, Silk Lame Braid and Silk Lame Plus, and Fuzzy Stuff.

Student to Bring: 11" x 16" and 16" x 16" stretcher bars and usual stitching items as needed.

Pre-work: None

103: Black Orchid Necklace – Barbara Ellis

Proficiency Level: Intermediate

Kit Cost: \$95

Ground: Thread and beads

Design Size: Necklace

Create this Black Orchid necklace using brick stitch, modified herringbone stitch, and embellishment techniques. Orchids are beautiful flowers with soft petals and a fan-like structure. There are different varieties, each with a specific color like green, purple, white, and black. Orchid flowers gained popularity worldwide in the 19th century. The black orchid's significance is as a mythical flower with magical powers. The necklace is adjustable by the rope length.

Student to Bring: One G thread in black; size 10, 12, and 15 beading needles; scissors; bead mat or board; lamp and magnification if needed. A rubber needle puller and a tulip awl can also be helpful.

Pre-work: None

104: Interpreting Color Theory for Needlework – Susan Hoekstra

Proficiency Level: All

Kit Cost: \$52

Ground: Notebook class

Design Size: N/A

Being able to understand why a color works (or does not work) within your needlework is a valuable skill. We will have an introduction to color theory and then discuss how we can use these principles to enhance canvases. Sometimes color change is required; other times the color volume (amount on the canvas) needs to be adjusted. We will assess and discuss a canvas you bring for the best way to enhance the design and how to best make changes to suit your taste. (Canvases up to 8" square will be assessed.)

Student to Bring: Canvas for assessment up to 8" square if desired

Pre-work: None

105: Jingle Bell Poinsettia – Wendy Moore**Proficiency Level:** Intermediate**Kit Cost:** \$135**Ground:** 18-ct Eggshell with gold mono canvas**Design Size:** 14" x 12"

A favorite flower at Christmas is the poinsettia with its vivid red petals and green leaves; it epitomizes the season. Can't you just hear the jingle of the bells that is everywhere, and the smell of balsam that fills the halls? This design uses a manipulation of 4-way and diagonal bargello to bring this bloom to life using Straw Silk and stranded silks. A variety of other counted canvas stitches including Fly Stitch, Whipped Stem, Gobelin, Rhodes Stitches will fill out the tableau. Framing this arrangement are glistening Celtic Knots. You will also use Floche, Neon Rays, Mandarin Floss and various metallics. Who doesn't want to be in the Christmas spirit after stitching this delightful centerpiece?

Student to Bring: 16" and 18" stretcher bars (1 pair each), tacks or staples, laying tool, frame or frame weight for hands free stitching, usual stitching supplies, light and magnification if desired

Pre-work: None***106: Snow Drifted Pathways – Dawn Donnelly*****Proficiency Level:** Intermediate**Kit Cost:** \$95**Ground:** 14-ct White mono canvas**Design Size:** 10" x 8"

Inspired by the snowdrifts in Michigan, *Snow Drifted Pathway* takes the student into a winter wonderland. The focal point is a path of handmade paper which is attached using Butterfly Chain Stitch. Another path uses Rhodes stitches in various sizes and shapes. Exploding snowballs are created with torn circles of paper attached with Eyelets. The cyclone is created using wet paper rolled and made into a swirl. Snow logs are created from rolled wet paper. Additional texture comes from stitches such as fake Bullions, Herringbone, Cross Stitches, Couching, Palace Pattern and Fan Vaulting.

Student to Bring: 14" and 12" stretcher bars, tacks, paper scissors, magnifier and light if needed, and usual stitching supplies.

Pre-work: None***107: Studio Time – Do Andrews*****Proficiency Level:** All**Kit Cost:** None**Ground:** N/A**Design Size:** N/A

If you would like to finish some works in progress or begin an old or newly purchased project, this class is for you. If you wish to treat yourself to the luxury of uninterrupted stitching time, this class is for you. If you have any unfinished class projects, now is the time to get additional help. The informal structure of Studio Time lets you use the class to meet YOUR needs, offering a great learning experience...and fun, too!

2 - DAY CLASSES: MONDAY, MARCH 18 THROUGH TUESDAY, MARCH 19***201: Queen of Hearts – Jennifer Riefenberg*****Proficiency Level:** Intermediate**Kit Cost:** \$110**Ground:** 18-ct White mono canvas**Design Size:** 7" x 9"

The *Queen of Hearts* redefines the game of stitching. She will suit one's taste with a simple, yet elegant palette of black, red, and grays using a myriad of fun and interesting stitches and threads. The design has taken the heart motif and used it as a repetitive element. The kit includes a number of different threads, including metallics and silks. Come and play the game – if you dare!

Student to Bring: 11" x 12" stretcher bars.**Pre-work:** None***202: Falling Leaves – Janet Zickler Casey*****Proficiency Level:** Intermediate**Kit Cost:** \$245**Ground:** 18-ct Black mono canvas**Design Size:** 11" x 8", 11" x 6", & 11" x 4"

Falling Leaves is a trio of 3-D pillar candles that explore layered patterns to create beautiful decorative elements for your fall holiday table. Each candle is stitched and finished separately. The candles are then joined together with threads, patterns, and a rich color palette of rust, golds, and greens. The stitches include layered patterns, complex stitches, open stitches, and beaded embellishments done on black canvas with Silks, Neon Rays, Silk Lame Braid, Kreinik Metallics, Fyre Werks, Silk Lame Plus, and Perle Cotton.

Student to Bring: 16" x 13", 16" x 11", and 16" x 9" stretcher bars and usual stitching items as needed.**Pre-work:** None***203: Boot Scootin Lariat – Barbara Ellis*****Proficiency Level:** Intermediate**Kit Cost:** \$95**Ground:** Beads and thread**Design Size:** Necklace

Students will create this lariat style necklace using 15/0, 11/0, and 8/0 seed beads. The tassels are created over a hollow metal tube using peyote stitch and garnished with 3mm Swarovski bi-cone crystals. The fringe has a combination of seed beads, crystals, drops, and charms. We will complete one of the tassels with fringe and get a good start on the twisted herringbone part of the necklace. Students will leave with enough information to complete the necklace at home. Colors used in the sample are gunmetal, silver and lime.

Student to Bring: One G or 6 lb Fireline in smoke; size 10, 12, and 15 beading needles; scissors; bead mat or board; lamp and magnification if needed. A rubber needle puller and a tulip awl can also be helpful.**Pre-work:** None

204: Using Design Theory to our Advantage – Susan Hoekstra

Proficiency Level: All

Kit Cost: \$54

Ground: Notebook class

Design Size: N/A

Being able to understand why a design works (or does not work) when creating original pieces is a valuable skill. We will have an introduction to design theory and then discuss how we can use these principles to enhance your original design. We will also pair this with the elements of art to achieve a cohesive piece. Sometimes color change is required; other times motifs need to be adjusted or moved. We will assess and discuss an original design idea you bring for the best way to enhance your piece and how to best make changes to suit your taste.

Student to Bring: N/A

Pre-work: None

205: Berried Treasure – Celeste Chalasani

Proficiency Level: Intermediate

Kit Cost: \$85

Ground: Silk Shantung

Design Size: 1 ¾" x 2 ½"; finished size is 2" x 4"

What a treasure you'll create stitching this elegant Stumpwork ornament! Plump and juicy berries nestle gently against surface embroidered and detached leaves. In this class, you will learn intermediate Stumpwork embroidery while couching wire, creating padded slips, wrapping beads and wire, and using needle lace techniques to create wild blackberries, blueberries, and a strawberry. Your kit includes the fabrics, threads, beads, wire and finishing materials to embroider the berries and leaves and finish the piece into an ornament. Left-handed instructions will be available upon request.

Student to Bring: 2 4" embroidery hoops; 8" x 8" Evertite frame or stretcher bars OR 7" embroidery hoop; wire cutters; 6" ruler; tweezers; acid free dark green wide felt tip marking pen; acid free glue stick; masking tape; mechanical pencil; small sharp scissors; scissors for cutting paper; needle threader; and usual stitching supplies. Magnification is highly recommended.

Pre-work: None

206: Fire Walk with Me – Diane Herrmann**Proficiency Level:** Basic/Intermediate**Kit Cost:** \$125**Ground:** 18-ct Victorian red mono canvas**Design Size:** 8" x 8"

Lava pours over the earth as a volcano erupts near the sea. Its red-black burning coils flow over the land and the restless dark waves await the plunge of the hot coals. Using Florentine stitches along diagonal lines, you will create the volcano's crimson lava with a variety of sparkling threads. Waves will follow in a blue-black shaded pattern. A coil of cooled lava will add interest to this turbulent scene. This class is for the intermediate stitcher who wants to learn how to use a diagonal line to create a Florentine pattern and to use threads to produce subtle shading. Creating and placing a variety of threads coiled around a core will form the design's unique focal point.

Student to Bring: 12" and 13" stretcher bars, tacks or staples, frame weight or stand, usual stitching supplies including laying tool, scissors, needle minder, pencil for tracing, 10 straight pins, light and magnification as required.

Pre-work: None**207: Studio Time – Do Andrews****Proficiency Level:** All**Kit Cost:** None**Ground:** N/A**Design Size:** N/A

If you would like to finish some works in progress or begin an old or newly purchased project, this class is for you. If you wish to treat yourself to the luxury of uninterrupted stitching time, this class is for you. If you have any unfinished class projects, now is the time to get additional help. The informal structure of Studio Time lets you use the class to meet YOUR needs, offering a great learning experience...and fun, too!

HALF-DAY CLASS: FRIDAY, MARCH 15**001: Christmas Sparkles – Diane Clark****Proficiency Level:** Intermediate**Kit Cost:** \$50**Ground:** 20 count Lugana in white/silver or cream/gold**Design Size:** 4 ½" x 3 ½"

Create this beautiful, raised embroidery (Stumpwork) Christmas tree ornament using wool applique, padding, metallic threads, and bead embellishments. Decorate your tree with a detached buttonhole stitched garland and seed bead ornaments. Cross stitches create the gifts under the tree, with bead bow decorations. A round crystal atop the tree completes the holiday sparkle. Finishing will be discussed; finishing materials are included in kit. Students will have two color options: green traditional on cream/gold 20 count Lugana or blue contemporary on white/silver 20 count Lugana.

Student to Bring: 6" hoop, preferred stand for two-handed stitching, scissors, measuring tape or ruler with both inches and centimeter/millimeter measurements, pen or pencil for notetaking, highlighter, bead mat, laying tool, light and magnification recommended.

Pre-work: None

TEACHER BIOGRAPHIES

Do Andrew

Do is an artist and designer, teacher, lecturer, judge, and author who creates work in a variety of media in the needle art and fine art disciplines. She has NAN certification as both a Master Teacher and Master Judge and completed the Honors Level. Do was the Director of Judges' Certification for six years and currently is the Monitor for the Master Judges' program. She holds a BFA degree from Syracuse University and an MFA from Maryland Institute College of Art. Dolores is a retired Associate Professor of Art at Essex Community College in Baltimore County MD. She has written and illustrated three books on textile subjects and is represented by several galleries. Her artwork has been accepted in juried exhibitions throughout the U.S. www.DoloresAndrewDesigns.com

Janet Zickler Casey

Janet holds a B.S. degree from the University of Texas in Medical Technology, a field from which she recently retired after 40 years. Janet has taught for over 20 years, including ANG and EGA National Seminars, Callaway School of Needle Arts, Blue Bonnet Studios, and many local guild chapters, as well as several local shops in the Houston area, where she makes her home with her husband, Steve. An ANG and EGA Life Patron, she is an avid stitcher, designer, and teacher of needlepoint and is known for creating whimsical three-dimensional characters and ornaments for holiday and festive occasions.

Celeste Chalasani

Celeste is an award-winning designer and teacher specializing in Stumpwork. She has been teaching since 2012 for NAN and at EGA chapter, regional and national events, online through Craftsy, and virtually for Quiltfest. She is a graduate of the NAN Teachers' Certification program specializing in Stumpwork and was invited to accession her piece "Tidal Treasures" into the NAN Permanent Collection at the Gregg School of Art and Design at North Carolina State University. www.celestechalasani.com

Diane Clark

Diane is a third-year candidate in NAN's Teachers' Certification program, specializing in surface embroidery, crewel work, Stumpwork, and goldwork, and is proficient in Japanese Bead Embroidery, quilting, and canvas work. She is a life-long embroiderer and designer, and has taught individuals, groups, and EGA chapters since 1998. Her work has been displayed at needlework exhibitions and judged shows, winning multiple awards. Diane is a member of NETA, and EGA where she is enrolled in the Counted Thread Master Craftsman program. She is a member of Nelly's Needlers, a group of needleworkers who help to preserve Woodlawn, a National Trust property, through a variety of needlework-related activities. She is co-chair of the internationally known Woodlawn Needlework Show.

Dawn Donnelly

Dawn is a mixed-media artist who enjoys incorporating other forms of art within needlepoint. She holds Teachers' Certification in canvas with NAN and teaches nationally and locally for NAN, ANG, and EGA. Dawn has been recognized for the excellence of her work in numerous exhibitions. She spends her time volunteering as Membership Chair and Registrar for NAN, and as President for ANG's Magnificent Obsession Chapter. Several of her articles have been published in *Needlepoint Now* and *NeedlePointers*. www.threadupdd.com

TEACHER BIOGRAPHIES, CONTINUED

Barbara Ellis

Barbara is originally from Chicago, Illinois and graduated from The Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida. She has received many awards for her work as a licensed Interior Designer and as a creator of fine jewelry. She also creates and designs her own beaded jewelry pieces and patterns. She has been published in both *Beadwork* and *Bead and Button* magazines. She participates annually with the Toho Bead Competition and two of her pieces traveled to both Japan and Germany on exhibition. She was a *Bead Dreams* finalist in 2017 and 2019. Currently, her latest creation *Beaded Spats* will be on display at the grand opening of the Bead Museum in Portland Maine later this year. She shares her craft by teaching at The Center of The Arts of Bonita Springs, Florida, and various EGA events and organizations.

Toni Gerdes

Toni holds Teachers' Certification from NAN specializing in canvas embroidery. She currently serves on the Board of NAN as the Director of Education after serving 5 years as Assistant Director of Teachers' Certification. Toni has also served on the Board of Directors for several ANG chapters as Program Chair & President. She is a past President of NETA and has received numerous awards for her designs as well as the prestigious NAN Lifetime Achievement Award. Toni has taught for NAN, EGA, and ANG, as well as guilds and shops. She has been published in *Needle Pointers*, *Needlepoint Now*, and in *Needle Arts* as the Artist Across America. She enjoys all types of stitching and especially sharing her knowledge with others. Toni currently resides in Colorado. www.tonigerdes.com

Diane Herrmann

Diane holds Teachers' Certification in canvas embroidery from NAN and is currently NAN's Director of Teachers' Certification. She has taught nationally and for local and regional guilds and chapters. She has received several prestigious awards and honors for her work. As a retired University of Chicago mathematics teacher, Diane often uses math concepts as inspiration for her designs and presentations. She also has a special interest in textiles from the Maya tradition. www.dianeherrmann.com

Susan Hoekstra

Susan is a Senior Master Teacher, receiving her certification from ANG. She has been teaching in Europe and the United States for 23 years, and taught classes and studio time in Brussels, BE, London, UK and Utrecht, NL from 1996 to 2001. She is the designer of the 2016 ANG Stitch of the Month, *Pineapple Leaves*. She has taught at many ANG National Seminars as well as presenting color theory talks and needlework classes at the regional level. Her strong belief in color theory greatly influences her way of teaching and she encourages her students to be creative in the stitching process. Her designs focus on "quilt geometrics," animals and primitives.

Wendy Moore

Wendy brings both her MFA degree in Costume Design and fourteen years of teaching to her needlework design and teaching, with a great interest in color theory and computer work. She is fascinated by mathematical and perceptual puzzles, which comes out in her designs. She teaches designs locally and has completed Teachers' Certification in canvas embroidery through NAN. In addition to NAN and EGA, she is also a member of ANG Great Lakes Stitchers Chapter. She has held many offices for Monguagon EGA chapter and Great Lakes Region EGA.

TEACHER BIOGRAPHIES, CONTINUED

Jennifer Riefenberg

Jennifer enjoys teaching — both technical skills and the pure love of art and creativity. She is actively teaching both in-person as well as remotely which removes geographic constraints. Jennifer holds Teachers' and Judges' certifications through NAN and serves on the board of NAN as the Director of Judges' Certification. She was selected as the Designer Across America for the Embroiders Guild of America (EGA) in 2019 and has been published in *NeedlePointers* and other magazines. She is also an artist and has won national and regional awards for her paintings. She is currently exhibiting her work at galleries in Denver and Boulder, Colorado. www.artofsunshine.com

Mary Alice Sinton

Mary Alice obtained her Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design in 1975 from Stephens College of Columbia, MO. She started her needle arts career studying Hawaiian Quilting while living in Hawaii 1976 - 1982. During the 1980's she won several international awards with her Hawaiian Quilting original designs. She began studying Japanese Embroidery in 1990 and traveled twice to Japan to study at Kurenai-Kai. She certified to teach Traditional Japanese Embroidery in 1999 and Japanese Bead Embroidery in 2004. She taught Young Student's class at the Japanese Embroidery Center from 1995-2005. She teaches Japanese Silk and Bead Embroidery monthly by Zoom and in-person in her home, and at regional and national seminars around the US. www.bluebonnetstudio.com.

Debbie Stiehler

Debbie is an international needle art designer, teacher, and lecturer who combines artistic ability with a sense of humor to mentor students in finding their own talents. She has taught at many seminars, guilds, and privately in the US and Canada. She currently resides in South Carolina. Debbie completed NAN's Teachers' Certification, is an EGA Master Craftsman in canvas embroidery, and served for more than 10 years on the NAN Board of Directors. Debbie has authored numerous articles for *NANthology*, *NeedlePointers*, *Needlearts* and *Needlepoint Now*.