

# Chautauqua County Weavers' Guild

CCWG promotes education and interest in weaving and fiber arts whose roots go back to 1954. It is dedicated to enhancing lives in a welcoming atmosphere for fiber enthusiasts in a helpful, encouraging shared community with creative expression and fun.

The Guild meets March through November on the fourth Saturday of the month at the YWCA in Westfield, NY. It is located on Route 394 at 58 South Portage Street about 1/2 block south of the intersection of Routes 20 and 394. Meetings are open to anyone interested in fiber arts.

Members come from a broad geographic area including both New York and Pennsylvania. They possess a range of skills from beginner to advanced and are friendly, supportive, and always willing to share and learn from each other. Fiber items from other countries are shared and discussed.

Meetings feature a fiber related program, Show & Tell, social time with refreshments, and a short business meeting. Members share weavings,



workshops, conference classes, exhibiting their work, and other fiber experiences. The July meeting is a picnic with a Clothesline Show displaying members' projects. The November meeting is a party celebrating the holidays. Each year a different "Over the Winter Project" is undertaken to encourage members to expand their creativity and skills and it is shared at the March meeting. Previous projects have included a towel exchange, creating a color story from a picture, and color and structure challenges.

CCWG maintains membership with MidAtlantic Fiber Association (MAFA). Members of CCWG are automatically members of MAFA and as such have access to a large community of fiber arts guilds as well as the educational opportunities and resources provided by MAFA including a biennial conference.

CCWG members may borrow materials from the Guild's extensive fiber arts library which contains over 250 books plus periodicals and digital media. Many items in the collection are no longer in print and hard to find elsewhere.



For a nominal fee, guild members are eligible to rent an 8 shaft table loom kit – complete with warping board, shuttles, bobbins, two reeds, and a stand. A rag cutter is also available for rent.

Past programming has included in-person guild sponsored workshops with well known weavers. The guild has also taken advantage of Zoom to connect with experts located around the world. Member led demonstrations, discussions, and hands on learning have included tapestry weaving, dyeing, Kumihimo (Japanese braiding), spinning, basket weaving, felting, basic as well as advanced weaving instructions, and other textile related work.

Dues are \$30 per year. Members are informed of upcoming events through a digital newsletter published three times a year and by email reminders.





# Chautauqua County Weavers' Guild



CCWeaversGuild@gmail.com