



Request for Spinning & Weaving Week Art Sparks Proposals

The Handweavers Guild of America's (HGA) mission is to educate, support and inspire the fiber art community. One of the ways we do this is with our virtual Spinning & Weaving Week Celebration attracting more than 600 participants for panels, talks, shopping, fashion show, studio tours, networking events, and more. Art Sparks Sessions are taught by the world's leading fiber arts instructors and those who are up-and-coming in the field, known as Leaders.

Art Sparks Sessions are sample classes or mini-workshops. They cover a hyper-specific topic and are often used to introduce participants to a new art form, technique, or equipment. They might be repurposed content or a unit from a larger online course. Art Sparks Sessions are offered in 30-minute and 1-hour segments and the following formats:

- **Meeting Sessions** are reserved for sessions that require a supply list and for the participants to work on camera alongside the Leader.
- **Webinar Sessions** are more "listen and learn" where participants can watch and use the Q&A to ask questions.

HGA seeks a diverse selection of proposals. We are looking to offer our participants a variety of topics to choose from including traditional fiber arts experiences and Sessions that are new, innovative, and unique. Being that these Sessions will be taught online, participants will be learning from their homes from around the world. When planning your Session, please remember the restrictions that teaching online may impose on participants' ability to participate in your proposed Session.

Proposed Sessions will be evaluated based on overall quality, relevance to the industry, well-defined focus and objectives, practical applications of material, relevance and timeliness of the topic, originality of material, hands-on learning for immediate application, and educator qualifications (including level of speaking experience and expertise). Each Session must be educational. Sessions to advertise a program, product, or service for sale are unacceptable. Leaders are expected to comply with copyright law in selecting materials and images for their Sessions and are responsible for their permission of use in HGA's marketing materials.

Non-Compete. HGA does not impose any restrictions on teaching the same Session outside of Spinning & Weaving Week. However, please keep in mind that by doing so you may dilute the number of participants in your Convergence® Session. Low enrollment may lead to cancellation.

Enrollment. There is no limit to enrollment for Webinar sessions because of the format of the session. For hands-on Meeting sessions, HGA requires Leaders to accept a minimum of 12 students per Session, however, HGA reserves the right to run a Session should enrollment fall below.



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Technology. Leaders should have a solid internet connection, good lighting, and a clear microphone. Professional equipment greater than a laptop camera and mic is recommended but not required. HGA's Spinning & Weaving Week is presented on the Cvent platform and uses Zoom for its Sessions. All Leaders will be required to participate in a brief training 1-2 weeks before Spinning & Weaving Week.

Materials and Sales. Complimentary digital handouts (worksheets, written instructions, diagrams, drafts, etc.), shared with Session participants in advance, are encouraged. These may be attached to the Session for the participant to download. Leaders may offer participants an optional materials kit that complements the Session and may include things such as printed booklets, fiber, beads, dyes, etc. The kits should be optional, and participants should not feel excluded from the Session if they do not purchase the kit. Please ensure that fees for materials kits are reasonable. Higher materials fees often dissuade registration. Leaders may not sell additional supplies, publications, or handcrafted items in the Session.

Recording. All Art Sparks Sessions are recorded and available to view on the Cvent platform by registered participants for 90 days following Spinning & Weaving Week. Participants will not be able to download the recording. Because Sessions are recorded, it is to be expected that many participants will choose to watch a recorded Session instead of participating in real-time.

Scheduling. Sessions will be offered Monday – Sunday between the hours of 10 AM and 9 PM Eastern Time. Sessions will be scheduled based on the availability of the Leader per their application. HGA will do its best to minimize conflicts with other Sessions, but due to the format of the program, it is expected that some Sessions will run concurrently.

Membership. All Spinning & Weaving Week Leaders must be or become HGA members upon receiving notification of proposal acceptance and must maintain membership through the Spinning & Weaving Week Celebration.

Leader Compensation

1. **Honoraria** will be paid at a rate of \$50 per 30-minutes of instruction (\$50 for a 30-Minute Session and \$100 for a 1-Hour Session). All Sessions will require a minimum of 5 registered participants or they will be subject to cancellation.
2. **Complimentary Spinning & Weaving Week Registration** includes daily admission to the Marketplace LIVE, Panels, Thread Talks, Studio Tours and Fashion show.

Application Deadline: May 1, 2025

Selected individuals will be notified by June 2, 2025. For more information or if you have questions, please email HGA@WeaveSpinDye.org or call (678) 730-0010.

Spinning & Weaving Week: October 6-12, 2025



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How to Apply

Step 1: [Preview the application](#) and prepare your materials. You will need a current headshot and 2-3 images representative of your proposed session in JPG format with a minimum resolution of 300 PPI and labeled to our specifications.

Headshot: Label the image using your last name and then first name.
Example: Smith_Joan.jpg

Session Image: Label the image using your last name followed by the Session title.
Example: Smith_WeavingBasics.jpg

Step 2: (Optional) Obtain letters of reference. The selection committee highly regards references that support your ability to teach the topic you are proposing and your skills as an instructor. You may use the same letters of reference if submitting multiple proposals or you may want to use a specific letter of reference for the session topic.

Step 3: Access the application at [Reviewr](#). If this is your first time using Reviewr, you will need to create an account. This is separate from your HGA account.

Info Session and Q&A

HGA will offer three informational Zoom sessions to assist you through the process. In these sessions, the HGA staff will discuss proposal guidelines, how to apply, and answer questions you may have about the process. Info sessions are scheduled for: [January 10, 2025 @ 1 PM ET](#), [February 6, 2025 @ 7 PM ET](#), and [March 14, 2025 @ 1 PM ET](#).