

# **April 2025 6-Month Report**

## **Salem Fiberarts Guild**

**Submitted by Dorald Stoltz**

Salem Fiberarts Guild is thriving with a membership of 128, many of them younger people willing to take on jobs. In the studio at the Willamette Heritage Center, all 36 looms are rented and classes are filled. We have a full, newly-organized library and a yarn rack of donated yarns and sometimes-purchased yarns that is popular with the members.

Our special activities during the past six months have included providing a station at the WHC's drive-through Halloween event where our witches sang, danced and passed out candy to an estimated 1,000 kids and their families and dogs. In November we held the guild's annual Handweavers' Sale which drew record crowds and income. During Magic at the Mill, the WHC's major holiday event, our studio was open nightly so visitors could enjoy demonstrations by our weavers as well as other members of the fiber arts community, including spinners, needle stitchers, rug hookers, lace makers and knitters. We helped sponsor and provided three baskets for the silent auction at WHC's Spring Gala fundraiser in April.

We offered two Robyn Spady workshops. Extreme Warp Workshop was in October and Taming of the Hue in April. Guild members enjoyed two days of dyeing in February and locally-grown workshops in beading, drop-spindle spinning, nalbinding and inkle loom weaving.

Our monthly meeting programs during the period were:

October – Bonnie Tarses from Montana, on Zoom, Weaving Your Horoscope.

November – Steve McGrath, a local weaver, Path to Rag Rugs.

December – Annual holiday celebration with a raffle, take-one, leave-one table of fiber related items, show and tell and a potluck.

January – Kirk Dunn from Toronto, Zoom, Knitting for Worship and Equality Projects.

February – Dye days.

March – Sydney Sogel, a North Carolina weaver and dyer, Zoom, Dye Inspirations.

April – Ruth Orschel of Salem, Repurposing Clothing.

Members have been working toward the ANWG Conference, weaving towels and other items in conference colors for the guild booth. Several members have taken up the challenge to dye and weave a scarf in the ANWG colors to show off at the conference and other occasions, such as the Oregon State Fair and our annual sale.