DENVER art MUSEUM

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DENVERARTMUSEUM.ORG

Textiles: Tapestry Weaving

Ruby Red Workshop
Thursdays, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
4-week session, March 11 – April 1, 2027
Educator: Etta Sandry, etta.sandry@gmail.com

CLASS DESCRIPTION

In this 4-week class, students will be introduced to the techniques of tapestry weaving. They will learn about the basic elements of weaving (the loom, warp, and weft) and how to set up a frame loom for hand weaving. We will cover the fundamental weaving patterns and tapestry design techniques, such as plain weave, color block design, and methods for creating texture in the weave. The course will engage with the many examples of woven works from the museum's Indigenous Arts of North America and Textile and Fashion Collections as well as the work of contemporary weaving artists. Through this class, students will gain a deeper understanding of the textiles that we engage with in our everyday clothing, homes, and lives and become familiar with one of our oldest technologies: weaving.

Pricing:

Museum Friend: $130 / Member: $135 / Student: $135 / Non-Member: $160
**Students will purchase their own materials and should expect to spend $40-60.*

Refund and Class Cancellation Policy:

The Denver Art Museum adheres to a no-refund, no-exchange policy. If you are unable to attend, please consider your payment a tax-deductible donation.

If a class or workshop is cancelled by the Denver Art Museum due to inclement weather or teacher illness, a make-up day will be scheduled on a later THURSDAY as the educator's schedule allows.

Accessibility Statement:

To request large print materials, a sign language interpreter, CART or any other accessibility service, please email Access@DenverArtMuseum.org at least ten

(10) business days in advance of the program. We will make every effort to provide accommodation for requests made outside of that window of time.

Please see further information about accessibility, parking, and directions to the DAM here: https://www.denverartmuseum.org/en/accessibility

Materials:

Students must purchase their own materials and bring them to each class session. The anticipated materials spend is $40-60. Additional materials will be supplied.

The DAM partners with Denver-based Meininger Art Material to create class materials kits that can be ordered online and picked up or shipped locally. Students must pre-buy the kits online via the Meininger website before picking up prior to the first day of class. Please search the *Meininger Class Kit* section on their website.

Item	Quantity	Suggested Link
Plastic Weaving Needles	2	Susan Bates Plastic Weaving Needles
Cotton Carpet Warp Yarn	1 tube	Maysville Cotton Warp Or similar
Medium Weight Worsted or DK Yarn, Wool or Wool-Blend	2 skeins	Lion Brand Wool-Ease Yarn Or Friendly Loom Yarn Packs Or Cascade Yarns 220 Yarn – 100% Wool Worsted
Plastic Pick Comb or Fork	1	Pick Fine Tooth Comb
Tablo Tool Loom*	1	Hello Loom Tablo Tool Loom Or similar size and style of tapestry frame loom
Cut Fabric Strips, Paper, or Found Material	Assortment	Up to you!

*Note:
If you purchase the Tablo Tool Loom, you do not need the plastic weaving needles or comb, the loom comes with all the tools!

What to Expect:

The first half of the class will focus on loom set-up, weave basics, and skill building. This class will offer a mix of hands-on making, art viewing, discussion, and designing. We will look at images of the work of contemporary tapestry weavers and students will be offered reading material to add context to the skill-based class. We will then take a group visit to the galleries to look at works from the museum's collection as inspiration for designing a final tapestry project. As students develop their skills, they will be encouraged to experiment with the materials they use in their weavings, using non-traditional wefts and found materials. Students will leave the class with one sampler weaving and one final piece. Students do not need any prior knowledge for this course.

Timeline:

Week 1 – Introductions and Basics

- Introductions and community agreements
- Slide lecture/demonstration: Weaving basics
- Demonstration/activity: Setting up the tapestry loom
- Demonstration/Activity: Basic weave structures
- For next time: bring a found material to weave with

Week 2 – Texture Play

- Re-introductions, questions/reflections from last class
- Slide lecture: Contemporary Weaving Artists
- Demonstration/Activity: Texturing Techniques
- Demonstration/Activity: Finishing Techniques
- For next time: begin thinking about final design; optional reading

Week 3 – Designing

- Welcome and gather, introduce final project/check-in
- Gallery visits to woven textile objects
- Designing and beginning final weaving
- For next time: finish setting up loom and begin weaving, if you can; optional reading

Week 4 – Project

- Welcome and gather
- Project weaving
- Share work and wrap-up

Educator:

Etta Sandry is an artist, educator, and facilitator currently based in Denver, Colorado. Rooted in weaving, her interdisciplinary work is situated in the expanded material practices field between craft, contemporary art, and creative research. Etta has exhibited work in the United States and Canada and was the 2022 Experimental Weaver in Residence at the Unstable Design Lab at the University of Colorado, Boulder where she now conducts research as a PhD student. Etta has presented her research at venues including the Designing Interactive Systems conference and the Textile Society of America. Her teaching and organizing work centers on fiber structures, critical writing, and sustained engagement in artist-run and community-based arts organizations. Recent teaching positions have included Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Catskill Weaving School, and the University of Colorado, Boulder. Etta has worked as an organizer and administrator in numerous arts communities and currently serves as a board member for ACRE Residency in Chicago/Wisconsin. Etta received an Master of Fine Arts from the Fibre & Material Practices program at Concordia University.

https://ettasandry.com/

WORKSHOP SPACE POLICIES

About:

The Ruby Red Workshop is a dedicated space for Creative Classes and adult programs located on the first floor of the DAM's Martin Building. Students can expect a traditional style art workshop with tables and four-legged chairs with backrests. There are a variety of other seating options available. Sinks, soaps, paper towels, and waste receptacles are accessible in the workshop. Restrooms are located in the elevator bay just outside the workshop entrance. Food and beverages are allowed inside the workshop space, please ensure that you do not enter any galleries with these items.

Each class is different and does not follow a strict or set structure, but will generally include instructor presentations and demonstrations, class gallery visits to view artworks in the DAM collections, individual work time supported by class instructor and assistant, and discussion or share-out time of finished works and works-in-progress.

Cleanup:

Please remove all artworks from the classroom at the end of each class. If wet paintings or in-progress artworks need to be stored in the classroom, there is

limited storage on drying racks and in the equipment closet. Students must take home their own materials after each class. Please ensure that art supplies and equipment belonging to the DAM are put back in the appropriate locations. Sponges, paper towels, and cleaning solution are provided in the classroom for cleanup.

Classroom Access:

Students will have access to the classroom only during scheduled class hours. Please contact Mia DeBakker, Creative & Public Engagement Coordinator, if you need to arrange entrance to the Workshop outside of those hours – mdebakker@denverartmuseum.org.

QUESTIONS

Questions about class content, curriculum, materials, etc. can be directed to Mia DeBakker at mdebakker@denverartmuseum.org or Sarah Rockett at srockett@denverartmuseum.org.

For any questions concerning your registration, please reach out to our Sales & Service Team at info@denverartmuseum.org or (720) 913-0130.

Thank you for being part of Creative Classes at the DAM!