

Knitting/Crocheting with Wire *and* Embellishing Felted Items with Laura Kochevar

~~Saturday, June 20, 2009~~ **RESCHEDULED FOR AUGUST**

Sponsored by the Windy City Knitting Guild, Chicago, IL



Laura started knitting 22 years ago and gradually became interested in all forms of fiber arts. Her business travels around the world have taken her to many bazaars and marketplaces where she became keenly aware of textile patterns, color combinations and techniques, most of which are hundreds or thousands of years old.

Most recently, Laura has become fascinated by the properties of wool fiber and the felting process. The felting is not an exact science -- an item can come out looking very different from its intention, which provides for a creative challenge and design opportunity.

Laura's work has been published in *Knitters Magazine*, *Bags: A Knitter's Dozen*, *Belle Armoire* and was featured on HGTV's *Crafters From Coast to Coast*. Her work has been accepted into the Illinois Artisans Program and into juried shows throughout Illinois.

Class 1: Knitting / Crocheting with Wire

Saturday, ~~June 20, 2009~~, 9:00 a.m. - noon (Comfort Inn at 9333 Skokie Blvd. in Skokie)
3 hours. Skill level: All levels. Hands-on class; limit of 15 students.

Working with wire is easier than it sounds. The beauty of knitting and crocheting with wire is that only the simplest of stitches and techniques are needed. Learn tips for knitting and crocheting with wire, as well as working with beads. Participants will come away with several swatches that can be fashioned into jewelry or objects d'art.

Supplies to bring: Copper or Artistic wire in gauges 26 and 30; assorted beads; knitting needles between sizes 7 - 9; and crochet hooks between sizes G - J. Wire cutters will be supplied by instructor.

No supply fee.

Class 2: Embellishing Felted Items

Saturday, ~~June 20, 2009~~, 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Comfort Inn at 9333 Skokie Blvd. in Skokie)

3 hours. Skill level: All levels. Hands-on class; limit of 15 students.

Felted wool is like a blank canvas just waiting to be embellished. Learn to add surface design with needle felting, felted beads and trim, buttons and appliqué. Techniques for adding sturdy straps for purses with grommets or leather will be covered. Materials will be available for participants to add their own straps during class. Techniques for adding pockets will also be covered. For those who do not have a felted purse or hat to embellish, but want to learn the techniques, blank eyeglass/cell phone cases will be available for purchase.

Supplies to bring: Felted item to be embellished; scissors, sewing needles and several colors of thread.

Supply fee: \$10 per student.

Optional supplies and fees: Cord or leather strap, \$5 each. Felting kits, \$8. Blank eyeglass cases, \$8.

Classes will be held at the **Comfort Inn** at 9333 Skokie Blvd. in Skokie. Parking is available (directions are below), and rides from the Howard El or Skokie Swift can be arranged. You can also take CTA Bus #97 – Skokie Westbound from the Howard El station, directly to Skokie Blvd. and Gross Point Rd.

Food and beverages will not be provided at the workshop. There are quite a few restaurants and fast food places nearby, or you may bring your own food and beverages.

Directions to the Hotel:

From North I-94 toward Chicago, exit Old Orchard Rd. and go left. Turn right to Skokie Blvd; turn left at the light just before the hotel and right into the hotel. From South I-94, exit Dempster East to Gross Point Rd; turn left to Skokie Blvd, turn right to hotel.

From West I-88 to I-294 to Dempster East to Gross Point Rd. Turn left to Skokie Blvd, turn right to hotel.

From O'Hare Airport I-294 to Dempster East to Gross Point Rd. Turn left to Skokie Blvd, turn right to hotel.

From Midway Airport I-55 toward Chicago I-90/94 through downtown Chicago area I-90/94 splits take I-94 to Milwaukee to Dempster East to Gross Point Rd, turn left to Skokie Blvd, turn right to hotel.

