

Fiber Forum Retreat 2024

Visioning in Textiles and Mixed Media with Laura Smith

April 14-April 19, 2024

Marywood Retreat & Conference Center - 235 Marywood Drive, St Johns, FL



Detail of Laura Smith's *Bright Angel Canyon*



One of three villas at Marywood on the St. Johns River

Visioning in Textiles & Mixed Media is an applied design and color workshop for textile and mixed media artists. The goal is to cultivate the forward movement of your artwork in the direction that YOU desire. The learning tools include hands-on experimentation with design, color, and a few useful mixed media. Individual consultations provide an opportunity to address your specific themes and goals, offer gentle guidance in your art process, and sharpen your focus. Class conversations teach you how others see your work – and how you see theirs.

This retreat is a great opportunity to stimulate your creative juices and find your vision to progress in your artwork.



Daily Themes

Day 1 (Monday) - Visualize Design, Value Structure, Focus, Mixed media materials introduction.

Day 2 (Tuesday) – Passage, Edges, Create Impact with Color (Chromatic, Achromatic colors, and Neutrals)

Day 3 (Wednesday) – Balance, Rhythm, Movement, and Direction, Textural Contrast, a Unique Advantage of Textile Work.

Day 4 (Thursday)- Subtlety and Drama, The Power of Intent

Shared Materials - A Class Treasure Chest containing fabric and thread in a range of colors. Use these for making samples, experimenting, and play. Also included are several useful mixed media materials and tools that will be shared by the class.

Pre-Work Gather the following items and supplies. Please allow yourself plenty of time to curate your collection. Bring one suitcase to class containing:

1. Your ideas for one or two future works – notes, drawings, images
2. Sketchbook or notebook, writing/drawing/coloring tools that you enjoy using
3. Your usual materials of choice such as fabric and threads – if you create work in many different techniques, please choose one or two current favorites
4. Scissors for embroidery, fabric, paper, and metallic threads
5. Straight pins, pink hair tape, or other ways to join materials temporarily
6. Needles that you use most often, some sharp needles, some tapestry needles
7. A few and stitching threads ranging from thin to thick. Focus on one or two colors and neutrals.
8. Optional - artworks that cause you uncertainty or blockage. These are often works that you have put aside for a time. You can bring photos if space is limited.
9. Optional – attachments that you enjoy – beads, buttons, keys, found objects
10. If you wish, you may bring additional items to store in your room or car trunk.



Laura Smith is an embroidery innovator, nationally known designer, and teacher. She holds the Master Craftsman in Color from the Embroiderers Guild of America (EGA) and has won their National Gold Thread Award for service in 2021. She has served as chair for the EGA Master Craftsman in Color Program from 2006 – 2018, Chairman of Fiber Forum (2011 – 2015) judge for a Master Craftsman program (2015-2023), EGA National Education Exhibition Chairman (2017), seven terms as president of her chapter, and has held every chapter office. Laura is a former Executive Director of an arts center with responsibility for over forty successful exhibitions, fourteen artists/teachers and their classes, numerous community events, public

relations, grantsmanship, and fundraising. She holds an MBA as well as an undergraduate degree in chemistry – valuable for understanding paint and mixed media materials.

Email: 4LauraSmith@gmail.com

Website: www.Stitch4Fun.com

Marywood Retreat & Conference Center

Our retreat will be held at the Marywood Retreat and Conference Center, just 39 miles from the Jacksonville International Airport. It rests on 100 acres of tranquil surroundings that are accented with towering live oak trees and gardens. Three meals a day are provided in a dining room with views of the St John’s River. The sleeping rooms include a private bath, and are roomy, comfortable, and contained within a charming villa. In addition, our villa will include a lounge with a full-size refrigerator and coffee pots. Our classroom is large and airy with an individual table for each participant. See www.marywoodcenter.org for more details.



Costs The retreat cost includes workshop tuition, classroom facilities, and supply fees, five nights lodging (based on double), Sunday evening welcome dinner, breakfast, lunch and dinner for 4 days (Mon. – Thu.). Gratuities are included. Breakfast Friday morning is not included. Travel, sightseeing etc. are at your own expense. The amounts below include a \$340.00 deposit.

Fiber Forum Members	\$1016.00
Fiber Forum Friends	\$1066.00
Other EGA members	\$1116.00
Single supplement	\$ 318.00
Non-participating spouse/guest	\$ 577.00

Registration opens for:

Members	August 21, 2023
Friends	October 9, 2023
All Other EGA Members	November 1, 2023

Registration will close: February 1, 2024

Final payment due: **March 1, 2024**

You are encouraged to register as early as possible as registration is first come-first served basis. To reserve your space, please email your completed registration form to Carole Fiore at cfiore@comcast.net. Please put FF RETREAT in the subject line. Once Carole receives your registration, EGA headquarters will invoice you for the deposit amount of \$340.00. If your deposit is not received within the designated registration period, your registration will be handled with the next group of registrants.

Upon receipt of the form and deposit, a letter of confirmation will be sent. Registrants will be notified immediately if no spaces are available and will be placed on a waiting list. In February 2024 registrants will receive additional retreat details and a list of participants.

For further information, please contact Carole Fiore, Retreat Registrar, cfiore@comcast.net or (850)-656-8474
Please put **FF RETREAT** in the subject line of your email.

2024 Fiber Forum Retreat Registration

To register, email this form to Carole Fiore at cfiore@comcast.net. Please put **FF RETREAT** in the subject line.

Name _____ EGA # _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Address _____

___ \$1016 Fiber Forum Member (Double occupancy) Roommate: _____

___ \$1066 Fiber Forum Friend (Double occupancy) Roommate: _____

___ \$1116 Other EGA Member (Double occupancy) Roommate: _____

___ \$ 318 Single supplement

___ \$ 577 Non-participating spouse/guest (includes meals)

Note: Registrants must be current EGA members in order to register for and attend Fiber Forum Retreats.

Deposit of \$340.00 payable upon receipt of invoice. Balance due at EGA Headquarters by March 1, 2024.

Emergency Contact

Name _____ Relationship _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone (or Cell) _____

Class Cancellation Policy: At the discretion of Fiber Forum, cancellation may be made in the case of insufficient enrollment, illness or death of teacher or immediate family, acts of nature, or other emergency. In the event of class cancellation, student workshop registration fee reimbursement or credit will be issued. Travel cost is the sole responsibility of the student.

Student Cancellation Policy: Refunds will be made up to January 1, 2024, less a handling fee of \$50.00. After that date, refunds will be at the discretion of Fiber Forum.

Release of Liability: I release EGA and the teacher of this Fiber Forum workshop from liability for theft, property damage or personal injury while I am participating in or attending any or all functions of the Fiber Forum Retreat. EGA and the Teacher are not responsible for actions and/or omissions made by any service supplier associated with this retreat. I have read and I understand the EGA cancellation policy and liability policy.

Date _____ Signature _____