MARYLAND
SHEEP & WOOL
Winterfest

# 2027 Winterfest Class Descriptions


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# *Free Keynote Lecture*

### Woefully Unprepared; Building a Fiber Arts Publishing Company from the Ground Up

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 1 – 2 pm**

Join Jacey Boggs (founder and director of PLY, WEFT, and PURL magazines) for a candid retrospective on building a career and a publishing company from the ground up, starting with a secondhand spinning wheel and no formal training. This talk traces almost three decades of hands-on learning across spinning, weaving, and knitting, the lessons (and mistakes) that shaped each craft, and the collaborators and mentors who helped turn one magazine into three. A personal look at building an editorial business rooted in curiosity, craftsmanship, and community.

# *Fiber Arts Classes*

## Ergonomics for Fiber Arts – Saturday Class

### Knitting Comfortably Ever After – Ergonomics for Knitters with Carson Demers

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Ever known a knitter who hasn't said, "Just one more row"? Me neither! I'll bet they've also complained of aches and pains while knitting. In this class, you'll learn how knitting effects the "fabric that makes the fabric" – your body, and see how your knitting technique impacts your efficiency and productivity. By completing a Risk of Injury assessment in class you'll learn how knitting contributes to those aches and pains throughout your body. But more importantly, you'll learn how to reduce them. A little knowledge and some simple changes can keep you knitting comfortably and safely ever after. Students who've taken this class have said that it should be "required learning for all knitters regardless of experience level!" and, "it's as important as the knit and purl stitches!" This class is taught by a passionate knitter who is also a physical therapist. This class is not an individual knitting assessment.

**Skill Level:** All levels of experience welcome.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Bath-sized towel
- Materials to take notes

**Homework:** None

# Ergonomics for Fiber Arts – Sunday Class

## Ergonomics for Fiber Enthusiasts with Carson Demers

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Do you do more with yarn than knit? This class takes inventory of the ergonomic pros and cons for a variety of fiber arts including weaving and finer needle work. You'll learn how injuries occur and the contributions your craft makes both to their occurrence and prevention. You'll learn to identify ergonomic risk in your craft and techniques to prevent injuries including improved posture, stretching and exercise

**Skill Level:** All levels of experience welcome.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Bath-sized towel
- Materials to take notes

**Homework:** None

# Fiber Prep – Saturday Classes

## Blending Color: Carding vs Combing with Jillian Moreno

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

I like to spin color, but I'm not a dyer. When I need a specific color, I card or comb commercially dyed and natural colors together until I get exactly what I want. In this class we'll compare the effect and speed of blending color by carding and combing. Which is faster? Which blends most thoroughly? Which method is better for making tweed, semi-solid, or heathered yarn? I'll be presenting with hand cards, combs, and a drum carder. I will also show how to use easy to find and inexpensive tools, like dog and cat brushes and combs to blend. You do not need to have all the tools to participate in this class; use what tools you have and learn about the tools you might want to buy later.

**Skill level:** Curious advanced beginner. Student should be able to spin a singles and ply a yarn.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- A wheel in good working order or a spindle
- Regular spinning supplies, you will be spinning small samples
- Fiber: Two solid or semi solid colors of fiber that have contrast

- Tools: Hand cards and combs

**Homework:** None

## Intro to Drum Carding with Roy Clemes

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Drum carders are a mystery to the average fiber artist: fiber is fed into the carder, ends up on the big drum, and something magical happens in between. De-mystify the drum carder as we delve into the differences of woolen and worsted carding, explore the many tools that make drum carding more efficient, and crank out four different fiber preparations.

***Please note:*** *The instructor will demonstrate techniques at a pace that may be too quick for students to perform during the live class. Students will be able to practice the techniques as per the instructor's guidance after attending the class and while reviewing the class recording (available for 30 days after the class is finished.)*

**Skill level:** Both novice and veteran fiber artists will appreciate the breadth and depth of drum carding techniques demonstrated in this class. No prior use of a drum carder is necessary.

**Optional Materials Kit:** $50, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

Optional materials kit includes fiber and two batt lifter refills.

***NOTE:*** *Drum carder, tools, and accessories ARE NOT included with this materials kit.*

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Drum carder and any tools you may want to use with it
    - Minimum tools: Doffer and Flicker
    - Recommended tools: Lock Pop, Batt Lifter, Diz, Rolag Dowel Kit, Packing Brush, Burnishing Brush
- 1 oz. of long wool fleece (Border Leicester is supplied in the kit)
- 1 oz. of a medium or fine wool fleece – 4 inches or shorter (Corriedale or CVM are supplied in the kit)
- 1/2 oz. of two colors of dyed BFL top (1 oz. total)
- 1/3 oz. of roving dyed in primary magenta, primary cyan, and primary yellow (1 oz. total)

**Homework:** None

## Simple Tools for Fiber Prep with Jill Duarte

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

This workshop explores the use of simple and affordable tools for fiber preparation for handspinning. From spinning from fleece with just the use of a flicker, to making commercially prepared fibers easier to spin with a diz or a stick, this workshop will show students how the

addition of a handful of tools that cost less than $50 can make fiber preparation and blending easily accessible. We will cover how to spin a fleece with just a flicker, making "faux"logs with just a couple sticks, use of a diz to blend and pre-draft, and how to use "bowing" to prepare fiber for spinning. Expand your fiber prep toolbox and learn how simple tools can be used in new ways to broaden your spinning experience.

**Skill level:** All levels

**Materials Kit:** $50, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

The kit includes:

- Diz and threader
- Set of smooth dowels
- Assortment of fiber (approximately 4 ounces)

*Purchase kit at [https://www.hipstrings.com](https://www.hipstrings.com)*

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- A spinning wheel (with 2 bobbins) or spindle in good working order
- Pencil
- A flicker or set of hand cards
- A small firm pillow

**Homework:** None

# Fiber Prep – Sunday Classes

## Blending for Socks with Laura Linneman

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 10 am – 12 noon EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Looking to make socks that are strong and wear for longer? Or maybe you want to have soft and warm socks? Making your own fiber blends for socks can help create your own perfect pair. In this class you will learn some basic tips and tricks for blending fiber for your desired socks using both equipment or just your hands.

**Skill level:** Students should be able to spin worsted method singles consistently on a spinning wheel. They should have plied a yarn. If using fiber prep equipment, the student should already be familiar with using the equipment.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Spinning wheel or e-spinner in good working order
- 4 bobbins
- Lazy Kate
- Niddy noddy

- Combs, hackle or carding equipment to create the blend, although other spinning and blending methods will be discussed.
- Fiber needed:
    - 4oz of Southdown wool or cheviot wool or superwash merino
    - 1oz of mohair or tussah silk or nylon,
- Cards to label samples
- Notebook and pen

*Students may also find a twist angle and consistency card helpful.*

**Homework:** None

### Blending Board Basics with Roy Clemes

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Learn basic use and techniques of a blending board from one of its designers! In 2011, Henry and Roy Clemes created a new tool that became the wildly popular Blending Board. This class will not only demonstrate the versatility of the blending board - blending fibers of various types, lengths, and colors - but also the strength of the blending board - quickly preparing fiber as rolags for woolen spinning.

***Please note:*** *The instructor will demonstrate techniques at a pace that may be too quick for students to perform during the live class. Students will be able to practice the techniques as per the instructor's guidance after attending the class and while reviewing the class recording (available for 30 days after the class is finished.)*

**Skill Level:** Both novice and veteran fiber artists will appreciate the breadth and depth of blending board techniques demonstrated in this class. No prior use of a blending board is necessary.

**Materials Kit:** None.

One of the great things about blending board is that you can use whatever fiber you have on hand.

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Blending board with brush and dowels
- Optional: cleaning brush, flicker, and/or hand cards
- Four ounces of assorted roving
- Optional: One ounce of washed fleece with a staple length of less than four inches long

**Homework:** None

## Knitting and Crochet – Saturday Classes

### Fair Isle Knitting for the First Time with Joan Sheridan

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 1 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Join in the fun of stranded color knitting the Fair Isle way! In this hands-on class, you'll be introduced to the yarn of Shetland as well as a bit of the history and the unique story behind this colorful, time-honored technique. We'll work with traditional jumper-weight, woolen-spun Shetland yarn, equivalent to fingering weight. After some practice knitting with two colors, you'll begin your own Fair Isle headband using a pattern Joan developed specifically for learning the technique. Topics to be covered include: three ways to knit with two strands of yarn at the same time, yarn dominance, yarn management, maintaining even tension, floats and tails, reading and using color charts.

You'll leave with the skills and confidence to continue exploring the wonderful world of Fair Isle knitting, one colorful stitch at a time!

**Skill level:** Advanced beginner; can knit and purl and knows how to knit in the round.

**Optional Materials Kit:** $25 (plus shipping and applicable taxes), ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***
Optional kit may be ordered at heritagespinning.com (in the kits section of the webstore). It includes two contrasting skeins of jumper weight yarn (note the colors in the comment section at check out), stitch markers, pattern, two T-pins and a ruler.

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- US 1 (2.25 mm) and US 3 (3.25 mm) 16 inch (40 cm) circular needles for knitting in the round
- Scissors
- Note taking materials
- Spare set of US 3 (3.25 mm) needles for practicing

*If not purchasing the class kit from the instructor, you will also need*

- Two contrasting colors of Jamieson & Smith or Spindrift Shetland jumper weight yarn
- A ruler
- Two T-pins
- Locking stitch markers

**Homework:**

- Print out the pattern PDF that will be provided after registration
- Decide which color will be your background color—it can be either the light or dark color
- Using smaller circular needles, Cast On 144 stitches with the background color
- Join in the round and place marker to indicate beginning of round
- Work six rounds of 2x2 (knit two, purl two) ribbing
- Switch to larger needles and increase as follows in round 7 as follows:
    - Knit 9, make 1, (knit 14, make 1) 9 times then knit 9 (total 154 stitches).
    - Leave on needles.

## Shapely Sweaters: Short Rows & Sweater Fit with Kim McBrien Evans

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 12 noon EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Hemlines that ride up. Shoulders that feel too tight. Necklines that choke us. All of these fit issues, and more, can be resolved by adding short rows to your sweaters! Come explore how to shape your sweaters with short rows to create sweaters with comfortable shoulders, necklines, and hems that lay evenly all around your body.

**Skill level:** You must understand how short rows are worked. Knowledge of German Short Rows is preferred. *Instructions for how to create short rows will not be covered in this class.*

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Pencil or pen and notebook for taking notes
- Handout
- Measuring tape
- Your homework samples

**Homework:**

- With any light-coloured yarn and any needle, cast on 30 sts. Work 4 rows in Garter stitch. Then work 4 rows in Stockinette stitch. Do not bind off. Have this sample for class with the needles still in it and the yarn. We will use this sample to practice short rows for shoulders and the body.
- With any yarn and your preferred needles for working in the round, cast on 80 sts. Join to work in the round, being careful not to twist your work, and mark the beginning of round. Knit 1 round. Purl 1 round. Do not bind off. Have this sample for class with the needles still in it and with the yarn. We will use this sample to practice short rows for necklines.

## Hybrid Crochet (aka Tunisian Crochet) with Kira Dulaney

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Delve into a fun and easy crochet technique which is easy for beginners and interesting even for experienced crocheters! Hybrid crochet, also called Tunisian crochet, uses two passes to create a single row, building up stitches on your crochet hook, then working them off on the return pass. It creates a soft, squishy fabric in a process that feels like a mix between knitting and crochet, with endless possibilities for texture and lace.

**Skill Level:** No experience necessary

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- 40 yards smooth worsted or aran weight yarn in two colors

- 4.5-6mm crochet hook – this can be a long-handled Tunisian hook, a hook with attached cable, or a smooth-handled hook (no rubber grips) with a rubber band on the end.

**Homework:** None

## Knitting Comfortably Ever After – Ergonomics for Knitters with Carson Demers

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Ever known a knitter who hasn't said, "Just one more row"? Me neither! I'll bet they've also complained of aches and pains while knitting. In this class, you'll learn how knitting effects the "fabric that makes the fabric" – your body, and see how your knitting technique impacts your efficiency and productivity. By completing a Risk of Injury assessment in class you'll learn how knitting contributes to those aches and pains throughout your body. But more importantly, you'll learn how to reduce them. A little knowledge and some simple changes can keep you knitting comfortably and safely ever after. Students who've taken this class have said that it should be "required learning for all knitters regardless of experience level!" and, "it's as important as the knit and purl stitches!" This class is taught by a passionate knitter who is also a physical therapist. This class is not an individual knitting assessment.

**Skill Level:** All levels of experience welcome.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Bath-sized towel
- Materials to take notes

**Homework:** None

## Math for Knitters with Kate Atherley

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Everything you need to know to figure out all those tricky numbers puzzles you encounter in your knitting. We'll focus on how math fits into pattern reading – all the aspects of counting and working and keeping track of instructions. We'll cover things like "Decrease every 8 rows 10 times", and "Increase 12 stitches evenly distributed across the row." We'll talk about calculating yardage in partial balls of yarn, and how to ensure you'll have enough to complete your project. We'll also have a discussion of gauge and what it really means – and how to deal with it if you can't match. Suitable for newer knitters, and those who wish to get more comfortable reading patterns - it's all about conquering your fear of the numbers and making you a more powerful knitter!

**Skill level:** Beginner friendly - suitable for knitters who are confident with the mechanics of knitting, and are looking to take on their first pattern-based project

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:** Students are welcome to bring patterns they have questions about

**Homework:** None

## Mix It Up: Combining Handspun with Commercial Yarn for the Perfect Sweater with Laura Linneman

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Have a special skein (or two) of handspun but it's not enough for the sweater of your dreams? Maybe you have a few braids of fiber that you want to include in a garment and you just don't know how? This class will cover how to swatch and sample for the perfect projects plus lots of inspiration to move stash into successful sweaters. Please note that this is an interactive, not lecture style class.

**Skill level:** Students should be able to spin singles consistently on a spinning wheel. They should have plied a yarn.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Spinning wheel or e-spinner in good working order
- 4 bobbins
- Lazy Kate
- Niddy noddy
- Fiber and yarn you want to combine into the perfect project
- Knitting needles or crochet hooks for swatching
- Needle gauge
- Tape measure
- Tags to label samples
- Notebook and pen

*Students may also find a twist angle and consistency card helpful.*

**Homework:** None

## Scandinavian Colorwork with Mary Jane Mucklestone

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

What makes Scandinavian colorwork different from other world traditions? We will study classic motifs found in Scandinavian stranded knitting and explore the traditional use of color. We will begin by learning a fun, tricky way to knit garter stitch in the round, a common border in

traditional vintage garments. We'll discover when and how to tack down extra-long floats, learn to Norwegian purl, and consider combining motifs to create new ones. We will start a headband or hat using Mary Jane's Storhedder pattern as our template.

**Skill Level:** Intermediate – Some experience working stranded colorwork in the round.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Two or more colors of worsted-weight yarn with high contrast, 100% wool preferred, 50-100 yards each
- 16" circular in the smallest size recommended on the ball band and another one size larger
- 1 set dpn in larger size if intending to finish hat
- Stitch markers

**Homework:** With smallest needle and color of your choice cast on 84 stitches and join for working in the round. Knit one round.

## Cast Ons and Bind Offs with Kate Atherley

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 6:30 – 8:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

A deep dive into starts and ends; we'll cover key ways to cast on and bind off your knitting, highlighting both good general-purpose methods, and specialty methods and when you might use them. We'll talk about how to create stretch when you need it, and how to stop it when you don't, and give tips to help you decide what version to use if the pattern isn't specific Along the way we'll provide tips like how to ensure you never run out of yarn for your long-tail cast on, and how a crochet hook can change your life.

**Skill level:** Advanced beginner - knitter should be confident with knit and purl

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- 4 to 5mm/US #6 to 8 needles
- Scrap yarn in a light color;
- A crochet hook in a similar size to your needles

**Homework:** None

## Sock It to Me: Basic Sock on Your Circular Sock Machine with Amelia Garripoli

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Ready to crank out socks but not sure where to start? In this hands-on class, you'll master the hung hem, and tackle no-drop short-row heels and toes. With step-by-step guidance,

troubleshooting tips, and plenty of practice, you'll gain the skills and confidence to keep cranking at home. Bring your CSM, and let's make some cozy socks—one row at a time!

**Skill level:** Advanced beginner; you can crank a tube and have made some attempts at short-row heels

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Circular sock machine in working order
- Cylinder suitable for your yarn - typically 60, 64, or 72 slot cylinders are best with sock yarns.
- Your accessories: weights, heel hooks, latch hook tool (a spare needle will do the job), needle lifter (old credit card can stand in), oil.
- Needles, floor mat, and supporting tools.
- 4 ounces of sock yarn for the socks.
- Waste yarn (best if it's obviously different from the sock yarn);
- Setup bonnet (contact Amelia prior to the workshop if you have a different starting method).

***Note:*** *We won't be using a ribber for this project.*

**Homework**: Wind the waste yarn and sock yarn onto cones or your preferred yarn-delivery system for your sock machine.

# Knitting and Crochet – Sunday Classes

## Boob Camp: Bust Shaping for Every Body with Kim McBrien Evans

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 10 am – 1 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Learn life changing techniques for those of us with chests that are larger and smaller than patterns are written for, as well as chests that have been transformed by surgery.

Sweaters look best when they fit us in the shoulders and properly accommodate the chest. From how to properly choose a size that fits your shoulders, and multiple methods of bust shaping to accommodate your chest, including bust darts for bottom up and top-down sweaters, and alternate shaping methods that work for all genders. Leave class with endless choice for modifying any sweater pattern to fit your chest, as it is!

**Skill level:** Intermediate sweater knitter who:

- Has knit minimum of 3 adult sweaters, preferably in different shoulder constructions (circular yoke, set-in sleeve, raglan, drop shoulder, etc.)

- Is familiar with basic sweater constructions (circular yoke, set-in sleeve, raglan, drop shoulder, etc.) and can identify parts of a sweater (shoulders, sleeve cap, cuff, hem, body, etc.)

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Pencil, pen, notebook for making calculations
- Wear a light layer, such as a t-shirt or tank top for taking measurements
- Measuring Tape
- Optional: links to patterns you would like to adjust for your chest

**Homework:** Email links to patterns you would like to adjust for your chest **at least 5 days before class** to Kim at kim@indigodragonfly.ca

## Start Knitting with Emily Parker

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 12 noon EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Discover the relaxing and rewarding world of knitting in this beginner-friendly class. No experience is necessary—all are welcome. You'll learn to cast-on, the knit stitch, and bind off. You will end the class ready to try your first project!

**Skill level:** Absolute beginner – no experience needed

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Super Bulky yarn (size 6) – smooth, light color yarn recommended
- US Size 11 Needles (8 mm)
- Scissors
- Tapestry needle

**Homework:** None

## Sweater Knitting Smarts with Kate Atherley

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 10 am – 1 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

This class is all about helping you make a better garment by teaching you how to make great choices. We'll start with tips for choosing a good pattern, through to properly identifying what size to make, to finding the best yarn. We'll have an honest discussion about the issue of gauge, and share tips for ensuring that the knitting is fun and the result fantastic. Along the way we'll talk about how to deal with unclear and confusing instructions, and answer a lot of frequently asked questions about the patterns and the process.

**Skill level:** Knitters who are just starting out making garments.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:** Students are welcome to bring patterns they have questions about

**Homework:** None

## Thoughtful Yarn Selection for Knitters with Laura Linneman

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 12 noon EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Looking to make the best yarn choices for your projects? Look no further as we discuss fiber, twist, spinning styles, ply structure and how all of these factors alter your finished object. If you've been unhappy with how a project has turned out in the past, or just want to learn more about yarn; this is the class for you!

**Skill level:** Anyone is welcome. Come prepared to learn with an open mind.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

Notebook and pen for taking notes

***Note**: If you have a specific yarn that you want to discuss, bring it so that we can chat.*

**Homework:** None

## Intermediate Hybrid Crochet (aka Tunisian Crochet) with Kira Dulaney

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Move beyond the basic stitches while exploring chevrons, lace, and textured patterns. We'll cover different ways to increase and decrease, as well as reading both written and charted instructions. Kira will show lots of samples to encourage you to start an exciting new project with your expanded skills.

**Skill level:** Advanced beginner: familiar with foundation row, simple stitch, knit stitch, and full stitch

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- 40 yards smooth worsted or aran weight yarn in two colors
- 4.5-6mm crochet hook – this can be a long-handled Tunisian hook, a hook with attached cable, or a smooth-handled hook (no rubber grips) with a rubber band on the end.

**Homework:** None

## Knitting with Art Yarns with Charan Sachar

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Art yarns look pretty and are great for sharing on social media, but have you wondered how you could use these yarns in your knitting projects? Using art yarns for weaving seems obvious, but these yarns can enhance your knitting projects, too. Charan will share ways of using different kinds of art yarns in knitting projects. By practicing these techniques and learning what technique works best for each yarn, you will gain the skills to use these yarns in your future projects.

**Skill level:** Students should be able to knit and purl.

**Optional Materials Kit:** $25, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

The kit includes different styles of art yarn:

- Corespun
- Thick and thin
- Beehives
- Spiral plied

***Note****: different techniques will be used with different yarn styles.*

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Art yarns from stash or the optional materials kit listed above
- Straight or circular knitting needles in US 7, 8, or 9 for swatching
- Knitting notions as you prefer
- 50 gm skein of worsted-weight yarn in a light neutral color (white, cream, beige, light gray)

**Homework:**

- Cast on 40 stitches with your worsted weight yarn
- Knit 6 rows of garter stitch followed by 6 rows of stockinette

## Quick Fit Fixes with Kim McBrien Evans

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Shoulder seams that fall off the shoulders. Sweaters fit in the chest but don't fit anywhere else. Sweaters that stretch across the bum or the belly but seem loose everywhere else. Sleeves that are tight and twist when we move. There are many sweater fit issues that have simple solutions you can implement right now. Have your WORST fitting sweaters with you for class, and we'll look at solutions you can use in your next sweater!

**Skills level:**

Intermediate sweater knitter who:

- Has knit minimum of 3 adult sweaters, preferably in different shoulder constructions (circular yoke, set-in sleeve, raglan, drop shoulder, etc.)

- Is familiar with basic sweater constructions (circular yoke, set-in sleeve, raglan, drop shoulder, etc.) and can identify parts of a sweater (shoulders, sleeve cap, cuff, hem, body, etc.)

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Pencil/pen, notebook for taking notes
- Measuring tape
- Wear a light layer such as a t-shirt in case we need to take some measurements
- Optional: have a sweater or two that doesn't fit you as you would like. If you do this, please send Kim screenshots of the schematic for the pattern.

**Homework:** If you have specific fit issues you hope will be covered in class or have specific patterns you have questions about, please email them to me at kim@indigodragonfly.ca **at least 5 days before class.**

## Saved by the Swatch with Mary Jane Mucklestone

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Have a colorful time learning how small practice squares—swatches—can make a big difference in the outcome of your colorwork knitting projects. Mary Jane will show you how to use swatching to choose colors, fix tension issues, and plan projects more confidently and successfully. We'll explore four different methods of knitting a colorwork swatch, finding the best method for your future projects. A swatch lays the groundwork for a successful project, testing out color choices, the qualities of different yarns, and achieving gauge. Swatches are the key to making your projects look just as you imagine. They become a resource you will refer to over and over again. Perfect for knitters who are fairly new to colorwork or want to improve their skills, this relaxed workshop will help you feel more confident, creative, and ready to take on colorful projects.

**Skill Level**: Intermediate – needs to be familiar with easy stranded colorwork. Students should be able to knit/purl, cast on/bind off, work in the round, and read a chart reading, experience with easy stranded colorwork.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- A variety of yarn from your stash (2 contrasting colors of each type of yarn, 25-50 yds each)
- Needles: Needle size to match your yarn – long circulars for magic loop & dpns.
- A crochet hook slightly smaller than your needle size
- Notions:
    - Stitch markers
    - Tapestry needle
    - Sewing needle and sewing thread

**Homework:** None

### Sleeve Alterations with Kate Atherley

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Sleeve style and fit are crucial elements of what makes a garment just right! This session is a very focused discussion about alterations to sleeves in garment patterns. We'll talk about everything from adjusting stitch patterns (or fit) for the cuff, to measuring for and fine-tuning sleeve length, all the way to adjusting the fit at the bicep. We'll share tips for making sure you're choosing a good garment pattern to begin with, that makes the alterations easy.

**Skill level:** For knitters who have made a few garments and are looking to dip their toes into alterations.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:** Students are welcome to bring patterns they have questions about

**Homework:** None

## Needle Felting – Saturday Classes

### Needle Felted Woodland Sprite with Kristen Walsh

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 1 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

This needle felting project combines so many wonderful skills to add to your felting know-how. Learn how to create on and off the form (on and off of your work surface), work with wool locks, use an armature and more, all while making this cute woodland sprite!

**Skill Level:** Beginner – no experience needed

**Optional Materials Kit:** $20 + shipping, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

Kit includes:

- Core wool (2oz)
- Skin color merino (1/4 - 1/2 oz)
- Green merino wool (1oz)
- Green wool locks (1oz)
- 2 needles
- 3 – 12" pieces of green, cloth covered floral wire (gauge 18)
- Small leaf or other "do-dad" for the end of the hat
- Does NOT include work surface

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

Supplies:

- Foam work surface
- Wire cutter
- Plier
- Scissors
- Felting needles

Materials:

*If you are not purchasing the materials kit from the instructor, you will need:*

- Core wool (2oz)
- Skin color merino (1/4 - 1/2 oz)
- Green merino wool (1oz)
- Green wool locks (1oz)
  **Note**: Locks from many breeds work as long as the curl is tight. BFL and Teeswater are often a good choice, but not always. When buying, make sure you ask the seller if the curl is small and tight.
- 3 - 12" pieces of green, cloth covered floral wire (gauge 18)
- Small leaf or other "do-dad" for the end of the hat

**Homework:** None

## Sunrise…Sunset Needle Felted Landscape with Kristen Walsh

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Two-dimensional needle felting is its own art form. In this workshop you'll learn the art of blending colors to create a beautiful blue sky or a sunset/sunrise. Then we'll take this landscape to the next level by adding texture using lumpy art yarns and smooth wool yarn to create the land in the foreground. You'll learn the best way to attach this yarn to your work so that it will not move. Lastly, we'll add tree silhouettes to complete the scene. You'll quickly see why this type of needle felting is often called "painting with wool."

**Skill Level:** Beginner – no experience needed

**Optional Materials Kit:** $20 + shipping, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

Kit includes:

- 8"x8" piece of 100% wool felt (green)
- 1oz variety of wool roving in oranges & yellows OR blues & white
- ½ oz medium green wool roving
- Flat wool yarn (not lumpy)
- Lumpy art yarn
- Does NOT include foam work surface

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

Supplies:

- Foam work surface
- Scissors
- Felting needles

Materials:

*If you are not purchasing the materials kit from the instructor you will need:*

- 8”x8” piece of 100% wool felt (green)
- 1oz variety of wool roving in oranges & yellows OR blues & white
- ½ oz medium green wool roving
- Flat wool yarn (not lumpy)
- Lumpy art yarn (doesn’t need to be wool)

**Homework:** None

# Needle Felting – Sunday Class

## Needle Felted Sheep Head with Kristen Walsh

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Join me in making a sheep head to frame and put on your wall or give as a gift. I’ll walk you through the process of forming the head using various rolling and shaping techniques. You’ll learn how to create the ears, eye lids and the neck separately and then add them to the head. Next, I’ll teach you the best way to work with wool locks, adding them one at a time to your project. You’ll be amazed how the locks complete your sheep.

**Skill level:** Some needle felting experience preferred

**Optional Materials Kit:** $24 + shipping, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

Kit includes:

- White core wool (2oz)
- Small “pinches” of colored merino wool in these colors:
    - Pink
    - Black or brown for eyes
    - Tan or light gray (mouth)
- White wool locks (1oz)
- 6”x6” 100% wool felt for background
- 2 needles
- Does NOT include foam work surface

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

Supplies:

- Foam work surface
- Scissors
- Felting needles

Materials:

*If you are not purchasing the materials kit from the instructor, you will need:*

- White core wool (2oz)
- Small "pinches" of colored merino wool in these colors:
    - Pink
    - Black or brown for eyes
    - Tan or light gray (mouth)
- White wool locks (1oz)
  **Note**: Many breeds work as long as the curl is tight. BFL and Teeswater are often a good choice though not always. Make sure you ask the seller if the curl is small and tight.
- 6"x6" 100% wool felt for background

**Homework**: None

# Spinning – Saturday Classes

## One Hand-Dyed Braid, Five Tool-Free Preparations with Kate Larson

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 12 noon EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Most of us spinners have fallen in love with a handpainted braid with gorgeous flowing colors, brought it home, and then worried about how best to spin it. Join Kate as we cover five different ways to prepare, reconfigure, and reimagine our handpainted combed tops using only our hands. No handcards or drumcarders needed! The class session will focus on fiber preparation, and Kate will show examples of finished yarns and share yarn construction recipes to help you plan your own roadmap for the braids in your stash.

**Skill level:** Ability to spin and ply a basic yarn.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

Kate is happy to answer questions before class about materials!

- *Fiber*: 4 oz of handpainted combed top, commonly called a "braid." Choosing a braid with at least 3 high-contrast colors will help; this can be contrast in value (light to dark), hue (different colors), or both!
- *Equipment*: Several spindles, a working wheel, or e-spinner; pen and notebook.

**Homework:** None

## Parallel Drafting: Blending Color at the Wheel with Jillian Moreno

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 12 noon EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Parallel drafting is one of my favorite color spinning techniques, there are so many exciting options! It allows you to blend and mix colors without dye and tools beyond your wheel and hands. Together we'll learn the basics of parallel drafting with solid colors, including lots of tips to keep fibers together and orderly. We'll work with solid colors and braids, shifting the value and mood of colors, and making multicolored braids more unified. We'll see how ply change the look of parallel drafted yarns, by making singles, 2-ply, and 3-ply yarns. For extra fun, we'll parallel draft intermittently and compare parallel drafted and plied yarns to standard drafted and plied yarns and see what happens when we combine the two. Parallel drafting is versatile and exciting, after this class your stash will look limitless!

**Skill level:** Curious advanced beginner. Student should be able to spin a singles and ply a yarn.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- A wheel in good working order
- Regular spinning supplies (you will ply)
- 3-4 bobbins
- Fiber:
    - Bits of fiber, partial braids and some solid colors
    - White fiber
    - Either grey or dark brown fiber to mix with the braids and solids

**Homework:** None

## Tips for Spinning a More Consistent Yarn with Maggie Casey

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 1 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

When you're spinning a yarn there are several things to consider: the fiber, how it's prepared, and what draft you'll use and that's even before you sit done to spin. In this class, we'll look at why some fibers are easier to spin evenly and practice some ways to make the others behave a little better. We'll talk about keeping records and use some tools to help you stay on course.

S**kill level:** Beginning spinning skills required. Students should be able to spin a continuous yarn and be comfortable with their wheel.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Spinning wheel or e-spinner in good working condition and all its parts
- 2-3 ounces of your favorite wool (having both carded and combed wool would be desirable)

- 2 ounces of a not so favorite wool

**Homework:** None

## Why It's Important to Skirt Your Fleece: A Seminar for Shepherds and Handspinners with Kimberly Radcliffe

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 12 noon EST**
**Seminar Fee: $10**

Do you raise sheep and not sure how to skirt your fleece to sell to send to a mill or sell to a handspinner? Are you new to buying raw fleece and not sure how to choose a good one? Learn what to look for and what to avoid. Producers and buyers alike will benefit from this lecture by Kimberly Radcliffe, fleece judge and longtime raw fiber enthusiast!

**Skill level:**

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:** None

**Homework:** None

## Blending Color: Carding vs Combing with Jillian Moreno

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

I like to spin color, but I'm not a dyer. When I need a specific color, I card or comb commercially dyed and natural colors together until I get exactly what I want. In this class we'll compare the effect and speed of blending color by carding and combing. Which is faster? Which blends most thoroughly? Which method is better for making tweed, semi-solid, or heathered yarn? I'll be presenting with hand cards, combs, and a drum carder. I will also show how to use easy to find and inexpensive tools, like dog and cat brushes and combs to blend. You do not need to have all the tools to participate in this class; use what tools you have and learn about the tools you might want to buy later.

**Skill level:** Curious advanced beginner. Student should be able to spin a singles and ply a yarn.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- A wheel in good working order or a spindle
- Regular spinning supplies, you will be spinning small samples
- Fiber: Two solid or semi solid colors of fiber that have contrast
- Tools: Hand cards and combs

**Homework:** None

## Corespinning Basics with Charan Sachar

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

What core to use? Should I pre-twist my core? My core-spun yarn always has extra twist, how do I fix that? What fiber prep can I use for corespinning? If you haven't tried corespinning because of these questions (or more), this class would be a perfect starting place as the basics of corespinning will be covered.

**Skill level:** Intermediate, students should be familiar with their wheel, and be able to spin a continuous thread and make a plied yarn.

**Optional Materials Kit:** $40, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

Kit includes:

- 3 oz Art Batt
- Core yarn
- Ply thread.

***Note:*** *Students can use material from their stash*

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Wheel with a large orifice (1/2" or more) to accommodate textured yarns. A smaller size orifice on your wheel will work as well to learn the technique by scaling down the texture and might require some hand-winding the yarn on your bobbin.
- 2 bobbins, or ability to wind off bobbins on storage bobbins to ply
- Lazy kate
- Niddy noddy and any additional spinning tools students prefer
- Pen & paper to take notes

***Note:*** *If not purchasing the optional Materials Kit from the instructor, you will also need the following:*

- 3 oz Art Batt
- Core yarn
- Ply thread

**Homework:** None

## Finishing Your Yarn with Maggie Casey

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

When I first learned to spin, I thought there was just one way to finish your yarn. You washed it, rinsed it and hung it to dry with a light weight if it was misbehaving. I was missing so much information. In fact, maybe you shouldn't finish your yarn at all until you have used it in your project. It depends! In this class we'll explore the reasons for finishing or not and then play with some of the different ways to finish your yarn. We'll also see if the way you spin your yarn may determine how you finish it. We will talk about finishing cellulose fibers as well.

***Note:*** *There will be time to do some of the finishing techniques so hot and cold water should be available nearby.*

**Skill level:** Beginning spinning skills required, but we won't be spinning yarn in this class.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- There will be time to do some of the finishing techniques so cold and hot water should be available nearby
- Students should have 8-12 small skeins of handspun wool to try different finishing techniques
    - The skeins should be big enough to make a small swatch or sample to understand how the finishing can affect the project
    - Most of these can be skeins of different wools or the same wool, your choice
    - For two of the skeins, spin one skein woolen and one skein worsted of the same fiber

**Homework:** Students should have 8-12 small skeins of handspun wool to try different finishing techniques.

- The skeins should be big enough to make a small swatch or sample to understand how the finishing can affect the project.
- Most of these can be skeins of different wools or the same wool, your choice.
- Two of the skeins should be from the same fiber but spin one skein woolen and one skein worsted.

## Make Friends with Your E-Spinner with Amelia Garripoli

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Discover the joy of your e-spinner! In this hands-on class, you'll master setup, speed, tension, and twist control for smooth, consistent results, while picking up tips to troubleshoot common challenges and spin more comfortably. You'll see what your e-spinner can do, and for those transitioning from a treadle wheel, we'll highlight the key differences. We'll also explore smarter plying techniques to speed up your plying. Gain confidence, build skills, and make your e-spinner your go-to fiber companion.

**Skill level:** Advanced beginner to Intermediate. Students should be able to spin consistently on either a spindle, wheel, or e-spinner prior to this class.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- An e-spinner in working condition with reliable power (battery or wall power)
- 2 empty bobbins
- Lazy kate

- Orifice threader
- Maintenance kit
- Yarn to make leaders
- 1-2 ounces of wool top, not matted, or a fiber you are comfortable spinning
- One additional bobbin with singles for plying if you want to do that in class.

**Homework:** None

## Mix It Up: Combining Handspun with Commercial Yarn for the Perfect Sweater with Laura Linneman

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Have a special skein (or two) of handspun but it's not enough for the sweater of your dreams? Maybe you have a few braids of fiber that you want to include in a garment and you just don't know how? This class will cover how to swatch and sample for the perfect projects plus lots of inspiration to move stash into successful sweaters. Please note that this is an interactive, not lecture style class.

**Skill level:** Students should be able to spin singles consistently on a spinning wheel. They should have plied a yarn.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Spinning wheel or e-spinner in good working order
- 4 bobbins
- Lazy Kate
- Niddy noddy
- Fiber and yarn you want to combine into the perfect project
- Knitting needles or crochet hooks for swatching
- Needle gauge
- Tape measure
- Tags to label samples
- Notebook and pen

*Students may also find a twist angle and consistency card helpful.*

**Homework:** None

## Spinning Cotton with Jill Duarte

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

An introduction to the world of spinning cotton. Students will learn the basics of spinning cotton and the variety of cottons and fiber preparations available for cotton. Students will be instructed in how to setup for successful cotton spinning, how to long draw cotton, how to manage a long draw drafting method and ensuring that you've created a stable single with an appropriate amount of twist. We will try out a variety of different cotton fiber preparations as well as have the opportunity to try out different cultivars of cotton. Everything to help you get started with spinning cotton!

**Skill level:** Participants should be able to spin a single independently. Participants should already be familiar with the wheel or spindles they plan on using for this class.

**Materials Kit:** $25 plus shipping, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

Includes 8 samples of different cottons-approximately 4 total ounces. *Purchase kit at https://hipstrings.com/products/cotton-sampler*

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Functional spinning wheel set up in either flyer-led (Scotch) tension or double drive with a 15:1 ratio or a functional e-spinner with flyer-led (Scotch) tension
- 3 bobbins

OR

- Three Tahkli or tahkli-style supported spindles, spinning bowl

**Homework:** None

## Spinning Thick and Thin Beehives with Charan Sachar

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Thick and thin yarns are great when it comes to creating textured yarns and are one of my favorites to spin. In this class you will learn to spin thick and thin yarns with the intention of plying them into something magical. Using the thick and thin singles we will explore how to create Beehives.

**Skill level**: Intermediate, Students should be familiar with their wheel, and be able to spin a continuous thread and make a plied yarn

**Optional Materials Kit:** $35, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

Kit includes:

- 4 oz braid of Falkland wool
- Ply thread.

***Note:*** *Students can use material from their stash*

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Wheel with a large orifice (1/2" or more) to accommodate textured yarns. A smaller size orifice on your wheel will work as well to learn the technique by scaling down the texture and might require some hand-winding the yarn on your bobbin.

- 2 bobbins, or ability to wind off bobbins on storage bobbins to ply
- Lazy kate
- Niddy noddy and any additional spinning tools students prefer
- Pen & paper to take notes

***Note:*** *If not purchasing the optional Materials Kit from the instructor, you will also need the following:*

- 4 oz braid of Falkland wool
- Ply thread

**Homework:** None

# Spinning – Sunday Classes

## 1 Ply, 2 Ply, 3 Ply, 4 Ply, Cable Ply, Chain Ply, Maybe Even More with Maggie Casey

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 10 am – 1 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

In this class, we'll look at swatches with different plies and see how they change the look and feel of the swatch and discuss why. Then we'll do some plying and you can see which one you like best for your next project.

**Skill level:** Beginning spinning skills required. Students should be able to spin a continuous yarn and be comfortable with their wheel.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Spinning wheel in good working condition and all its parts
- Lazy Kate
- At least 4 bobbins (if you do not have 4 bobbins, you can wind off on storage bobbins)

**Homework:** Before class complete the following

- Spin 3 oz. of wool singles spun in the same direction at least 12 hours before class
- Divide singles, putting 1 ounce on each of 3 storage bobbins
- Spin ½ oz. in the opposite direction of the original singles
- For chain plying, have a bobbin with more than an ounce of well rested singles

## Blending for Socks with Laura Linneman

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 10 am – 12 noon EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Looking to make socks that are strong and wear for longer? Or maybe you want to have soft and warm socks? Making your own fiber blends for socks can help create your own perfect pair. In this

class you will learn some basic tips and tricks for blending fiber for your desired socks using both equipment or just your hands.

**Skill level:** Students should be able to spin worsted method singles consistently on a spinning wheel. They should have plied a yarn. If using fiber prep equipment, the student should already be familiar with using the equipment.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Spinning wheel or e-spinner in good working order
- 4 bobbins
- Lazy Kate
- Niddy noddy
- Combs, hackle or carding equipment to create the blend, although other spinning and blending methods will be discussed.
- Fiber needed:
    - 4oz of Southdown wool or cheviot wool or superwash merino
    - 1oz of mohair or tussah silk or nylon,
- Cards to label samples
- Notebook and pen

*Students may also find a twist angle and consistency card helpful.*

**Homework:** None

## Intermittent Spinning: Just a Bit of Color with Jillian Moreno

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 10 am – 12 noon EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

An intermittent yarn is one with a color change that happens at regular intervals, and in various lengths. Typically, there is a background color and a higher contrast intermittent color. In the knitting and crochet world there are commercial yarns dyed to be knit or crocheted into assigned pooling patterns, working with a design that switches to a different stitch pattern when the colors change. You can use intermittent yarns for assigned pooling-type of patterns or worked without stitch pattern shifts, making a unique colorway. As a spinner you have so many options to make intermittent yarns. In this class we will explore intermittent singles, 2-ply, and 3-ply yarns. We'll see what happens when we leave the intermittent color clear, or marl it. Of course we'll also dip into our dyed braids stash, using a braid as the intermittent color, and as the base color.

Intermittent color helps you create beautiful and unique yarns that will be a joy to work with.

**Skill level:** Curious advanced beginner. Student should be able to spin a singles and ply a yarn.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- A wheel in good working order
- Regular spinning supplies (you will ply)
- Fiber:
    - Two solid or semi-solid colors of fiber that have contrast
    - A braid or partial braid, and a solid or natural color to use intermittently

**Homework:** None

## The Ins and Outs of Corriedales, the 2027 MSWF Featured Breed with Dr. Geoff Ruppert and Deborah Robson

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 1 – 2 pm EST**
**Seminar Fee: Free**

## Save That Fleece! Common Fleece Flaws & How to Fix Them with Kate Larson

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

If you are keen to work from sheep to shawl—starting with raw wool and working through to a finished textile—there is always the chance that you'll purchase a lemon of a fleece. Sometimes we buy a fleece that looks great at the show and turns out to have a significant break in one area, or you might have brought home a free scratch-and-dent fleece on a whim. Join Kate, who has been a shepherd for most of her life, as she walks you through diagnosing the problem fleece, methods for fixing a flawed fleece, and knowing how best to use the prepared fiber. For this workshop's kit, Kate has selected a group of fixer-upper fleeces that can be made into beautifully prepared spinning fibers with only a pair of handcards.

**Skill level:** Ability to spin and ply a basic yarn.

**Materials Kit:** $35 includes shipping, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

Includes locks from a variety of scoured, ready-to-prep fleeces with specific but fixable flaws curated by Kate.

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Something to spin on: several spindles, a working wheel, or e-spinner
- Handcards or Lock Pop
- Apron or tea towel for chaff
- Pen and notebook.
- *Optional*: Do you have a sad fleece you'd like to fix? Have it on hand during class to explore.

***Note:*** *If you do not have handcards but would like to take this class, reach out to Kate in advance.*

**Homework:** None

## Spinning for a Project: Evaluating and Planning a Yarn with Jillian Moreno

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

How do you spin a yarn for a specific project? The key is knowing what you want and how to get there, and learning to love (or at least appreciate) sampling. In this class we'll discuss and explore how each decision in the spinning process affects your finished yarn and your finished project.

A few of the things we'll discuss are:

- How to evaluate a knitting pattern in order to build a handspun yarn
- How to assess a commercial yarn to spin a match or make a better yarn
- Making informed choices about your project yarn
- How to evaluate your yarn
- The elements of successful sampling
- How to sample quickly

***Note:*** *This isn't a hands-on spinning class, it's more of a planning to spin class. You can absolutely spin whatever you'd like during this class, while you listen and watch me work through my process of planning and spinning intentionally for a project.*

**Skill level:** Curious advanced beginner. Student should be able to spin a singles and ply a yarn.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- A pattern that you'd like to spin and knit
- The basic details of your default yarn (fiber, draft, finished size, ply, finish)
- Note taking materials
- All of your questions!

**Homework:** Please choose a pattern you'd like to spin and knit, and print it out for class

## Spinning for Socks 101 with Laura Linneman

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Handspun yarn opens so many possibilities for sock knitters! This class discusses fiber choice, drafting method, wheel mechanics, twist, and basic sock ply structures. Start making the perfect yarn for sock knitting now!

**Skill level:** Students should be able to spin worsted method singles consistently on a spinning wheel. They should have plied a yarn.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Spinning wheel or e-spinner in good working order

- 4 bobbins
- Lazy Kate
- Niddy noddy
- Fiber needed:
    - 1 oz of a superwash wool blend (such as a merino/nylon)
    - 1 oz of a down breed blend (Southdown,  Dorset, Shopshire, etc)
- Cards to label samples
- Notebook and pen.

*Students may also find a twist angle and consistency card helpful.*

**Homework:** None

## Spinning on the Charka: Cotton, Speed, and Control with Amelia Garripoli

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Cotton and some fine fibers are unforgiving. The charka's speed and control make it the right tool for the job. Bring your spindle or wheel skills and gain control of your charka. With some technique troubleshooting, you will develop the skills needed to use the best tool for these fibers, especially cotton. We focus on speed, control, and twist as you align your drafting and turning speeds to spin the yarn you want.

As a friend once said to me: master cotton and cashmere will be a breeze!

**Skill level:** Students must already be able to spin a consistent single on a spindle, wheel, or e-spinner.

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Charka in working condition with at least one empty quill and whatever accessories it needs to keep it running smoothly
- Cotton sliver – 1 ounce should be plenty
- Spool of thread (cheap polyester is fine) to make leaders
- Scissors
- Paperclip

**Homework:** None

## Understanding Blends with Jill Duarte

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Interested in spinning or preparing your own fiber blends but not sure how including different accessory fibers will affect the primary fiber? In this workshop, we will start with spinning

Polwarth wool top and then explore a variety of variations of blends that combine Polwarth wool with other fibers such as different types of silk, luxury down fibers and even a bast fiber! We will discuss the characteristics of common fibers found in blends and how they interact with wools, as well as understanding the role of ratios when developing our own blends.

**Skill level:** Participants should be able to spin a single independently

**Materials Kit:** $28, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

The kit includes 4-6 ounces of wool:

- 100% Polwarth wool
- A variety of Polwarth based wool blends

*Purchase kit at [https://www.hipstrings.com](https://www.hipstrings.com)*

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

- Spinning wheel or e-spinner (with 4 bobbins) or 4 spindles in good working order

**Homework:** None

## Supported Spindling with Jill Duarte

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

A hands-on introduction to the world of spinning on supported spindles. We will go over the different types of supported spindles and their traditional uses - Tahkli, Pu-Yok Tibetan styles, Russian, and more. We will discuss how to pair spindles to a particular fiber type, and the importance of fiber preparation for spinning on supported spindles. Students will be instructed in how to long draw on a supported spindle - starting with park and draft, how to manage drafting and their fiber supply and ensuring that you've created a stable single with an appropriate amount of twist. How to manage the winding on of singles and building a stable cop on the spindle will also be discussed. Students will purchase a class kit with a HipStrings Tahkli style supported spindle and spinning dish, along with a sampler of different fibers well suited for supported spindling.

**Skill level:** All levels

**Materials Kit:** $65, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

The kit includes:

- HipStrings Tahkli-style supported spindle
- Spinning bowl
- At least 4 ounces of fiber, including luxury fibers, cotton and hand carded batts

*Purchase kit at [https://www.hipstrings.com](https://www.hipstrings.com)*

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

Materials kit listed above. No additional materials needed

**Homework:** None

# Visible Mending – Sunday Class

## Visible Mending with Kira Dulaney

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Visible Mending is a creative way to extend the life of your clothing and household items while embellishing them for a unique look. We will cover decorative embroidery and woven patches using Speedweve looms (or just a needle and yarn). After this class, you'll look at holes and stains as opportunities rather than tragedies!

**Skill Level:** No experience necessary

**Optional Materials Kit:** ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

Materials kits are available with two options for embroidery kits and three options for Speedweve mending loom kits. *Purchase optional kits at:* https://kirakdesigns.com/collections/notions-and-tools/products/materials-kit-for-visible-mending-workshop.

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

Embroidery hoop, embroidery needles, embroidery floss or Sashiko thread, scissors, fabric for practicing or items with small holes or stains. Optional: Speedweve style mending loom, 10 yards fingering weight yarn.

**Homework:** None

# Weaving – Saturday Classes

## Clasped Warp and Weft on the Rigid-Heddle Loom with Angela Tong

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 1 pm EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Create dramatic color changes across your weaving using **clasped warp** and **clasped weft** techniques. Students learn how to control color patterning by choosing where warp and weft colors meet, allowing them to create:

- Blocks of solid color
- Gradations
- Painted-warp effects
- Unique color intersections

With a warping peg and two sources of yarn, even simple plain weave becomes a canvas for expressive colorwork.

**Skill Level:** Intermediate, has previously warped and woven on a rigid heddle loom several times

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

Equipment:

- Rigid-heddle loom (10" or larger)
- 7.5- or 8-dent heddle
- 2–4 stick shuttles
- Warping peg
- Threading hook
- Clamps (for loom + warping peg)
- Warp separator (warping sticks, craft paper, or grocery bags)
- Tapestry needle
- Scissors
- Tape measure

Yarn:

- Fingering-weight yarn in 3–4 contrasting colors
    - One may be variegated or gradient
    - Others may be solids or semi-solids
- Scrap yarn

Optional Supplies:

- Notebook + pen/pencil

**Homework:** None

## Creative Tapestry Weaving with Kira Dulaney

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm EST**

**Class Fee: $49**

Weaving is an ancient art that is easy to learn yet has endless possibilities, and tapestry weaving is a wonderful introduction. Unleash your creativity while playing with color and texture! We will use a simple frame loom to make an artistic wall hanging while exploring plain weave as well as rya fringe, soumak, and clasped weft weaving techniques.

**Skill level:** No experience necessary

**Optional Materials Kit:** $50, ***must be ordered by 1/15/27***

Materials kit of Black Sheep Goods Pop Out Loom, metal darning needles in two lengths, mini scissors, cotton warp yarn, and variety of yarns. *Purchase optional kit at: https://kirakdesigns.com/products/materials-kit-for-intro-to-creative-tapestry-weaving*

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

If you order a materials kit, you don't need anything else but can gather additional yarns to incorporate into your piece.

*If you do not purchase a kit from the instructor, you'll need:*

- A tapestry loom – *If you're unsure whether a loom that you have will work, please message the teacher through Lessonface to confirm.*
- Weaving needle
- Scissors
- A variety of yarns including a smooth plain yarn to use as warp

**Homework:** None

# Weaving – Sunday Classes

## Pin-Loom Weaving with Angela Tong

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 10 am – 1 pm EST**
**Class Fee: $49**

Learn to weave on the go! Small, portable pin looms make it easy to take your weaving anywhere, and they're perfect for using up those colorful odds and ends in your yarn stash. Inspired by Angela's *Creative Pin-Loom Designs* video with Long Thread Media, this class teaches you the essentials of pin-loom weaving.

You'll learn how to **warp the loom**, **weave your squares**, and **seam them together** to create simple, satisfying projects. Whether you're brand-new to weaving or looking for a fun, stash-busting technique, this workshop offers an easy, portable way to enjoy weaving wherever you are.

**Skill Level:** Beginner

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class**:

- 4" Pin Loom (3-pin-style pin loom, such as Zoom Loom or Weavette)
- 6" weaving needle
- 3" yarn needle
- Scissors
- A variety of DK to worsted-weight yarns in wool or wool blends. Choose fibers with good elasticity—avoid cotton. Each square uses approximately 8 yards, so leftover yarn and scraps work perfectly.

**Homework:** None

## Weaving Overshot on the Rigid-Heddle Loom with Angela Tong

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 5:30 pm**
**Class Fee: $49**

Learn how to weave beautiful overshot patterns on the rigid-heddle loom using just one heddle and a pick-up stick. Angela will go over all the basics of the overshot structure to get you started

on this new weaving adventure, and then you'll weave a sample using what you've learned. Discover endless design possibilities as you weave these complex patterns using simple pick-up techniques.

**Skill Level:** Advanced; student must be very comfortable warping and weaving on a rigid heddle loom

**Materials Kit:** None

**Supplies, equipment & materials needed for class:**

Equipment:

- 10" or larger rigid heddle loom
- 7.5- or 8-dent heddle
- 2–3 stick shuttles
- Pick-up stick
- Tapestry needle
- Scissors
- Tape measure

Yarn:

- Warp: 8/4 or 3/2 cotton, 1 cone.
- Weft (tabby): 8/4 or 3/2 cotton, the same as your warp.
- Weft (pattern): Worsted-weight, Chunky, or Bulky yarns in 2–3 colors that will contrast against your weft tabby yarn. Weft yarn needs to be thicker than warp.
- Scrap yarn

**Homework:** Students should have their rigid heddle looms warped. The instructor will send warping directions before the workshop.

# *Shepherd Seminars*

## Saturday Seminars

### Why It's Important to Skirt Your Fleece: A Seminar for Shepherds and Handspinners with Kimberly Radcliffe

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 10 am – 12 noon EST**

**Seminar Fee: $10**

Do you raise sheep and are not sure how to skirt your fleece to sell to send to a mill or sell to a handspinner? Are you new to buying raw fleece and not sure how to choose a good one? Learn what to look for and what to avoid. Producers and buyers alike will benefit from this lecture by Kimberly Radcliffe, fleece judge and longtime raw fiber enthusiast!

## The Shepherd's Toolbox: Ergonomics and Equipment for Low-Stress Handling with Sara Kidd, Agriculture and Food Systems Extension Educator, Frederick County

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 12 noon – 1:30 pm EST**
**Seminar Fee: $10**

Routine sheep care tasks such as catching, restraining, trimming hooves, and moving sheep can be physically demanding for handlers and stressful for animals when appropriate equipment and low-stress techniques are not used. Through group discussion and sharing of practical examples, participants will consider basic animal behavior and safe handling strategies, and then identify ergonomic tools and economical equipment that may improve daily work on their own farm. Whether participants are new to sheep production or looking to refine established handling methods, this session will offer space to share accessible ideas for calmer sheep, safer working conditions, and more manageable chores.

Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will be able to identify different tools and equipment used for sheep handling and care
2. Participants will better understand sheep behavior and low stress sheep handling techniques
3. Participants will share their tips for sheep handling and different ergonomic tools and equipment

## Tools for Every Flock: Programs & Resources from the American Sheep Industry Association and the American Lamb Board

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 2 – 3:30 pm EST**
**Seminar Fee: Free**

Find out what resources are available to help you raise healthier sheep, add value to your wool and lamb, and grow your operation. The American Sheep Industry Association and American Lamb Board are led by producers, for producers. Join the ASI staff and discover practical tools, educational resources and marketing programs designed for you. From the flock to the marketplace, uncover resources that can help you raise a healthy flock, market your products better, and find new opportunities for success.

## Meet ASI's New Executive Director in a Q&A Session

**Saturday, January 30, 2027, 4 – 5:30 pm EST**
**Seminar Fee: Free**

Meet the American Sheep Industry Association’s new Executive Director, Mike Michener. You will have an opportunity to ask questions about the future of the sheep and wool industry in the US.

# Sunday Seminars

## Grants and Other Assistance for Shepherds with Becca Tucker, Sara Kidd and Heather Hutchinson

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 10 – 11:30 am EST**

**Seminar Fee: Free**

Becca Tucker of the Frederick County Office of Agriculture likes to be the first point of contact for farmers in Frederick County. They help connect farms to other local resources, programs, or individuals based on their specific needs. Some information will be provided about the different organizations that businesses can connect with for assistance such as Maryland Department of Agriculture, University of Maryland Extension, Soil Conservation (local, state, federal), USDA Farm Service Agency, MARBIDCO, Future Harvest. The importance of business plans will be briefly discussed as these are often needed for funding.

Sara Kidd is the University of Maryland Agriculture and Food Systems Extension Educator. She is located at the Frederick County office.

Heather Hutchinson, of the Frederick County Soil Conservation District, will also present information on the state cost share programs and initiatives

## The Ins and Outs of Corriedales, the 2027 MSWF Featured Breed with Dr. Geoff Ruppert and Deborah Robson

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 1 – 2 pm EST**

**Seminar Fee: Free**

Listen to Dr. Geoff Ruppert and Deborah Robson as they talk about the Corriedales, the 2027 Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival Featured Breed.

Geoff will talk about how to improve your breed while honoring breed standards, including how you make decisions to improve genetics to achieve your desired flock improvements. Other topics he will cover are importing processes (semen vs embryos) and deciphering EBVs.

Deb will follow with information about the history of the Corriedale breed. She will talk about the characteristics of Corriedale wool, how to prepare the fiber for spinning and fleece best uses.

## Sheep Health News for 2027 with Dr. Cindy Wolf

**Sunday, January 31, 2027, 2:30 – 4 pm EST**

**Seminar Fee: $10**

This seminar will discuss what sheep producers can expect in 2027 regarding new animal health products and updates regarding New World Screw Worm, Scrapie and other important diseases.