

Freeform Design with Nancy Marsh

A workshop presented by the Bloomington Spinners and Weavers Guild

- When:** Friday, April 12, 2019: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 13, 2019: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Where:** St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 3800 E 3rd Street, Bloomington, IN 47401
- Cost:** \$100 guild members/\$125 non-members; due March 31, 2019

Description: Imagine weaving freeform designs, like damask or brocade, using a 4-shaft loom, without using a pick-up stick! Freeform twill involves a simple 1-2-3-4 threading and a unique treadling system, which facilitate the development of weaver-created, two-dimensional design patterns.

Over the course of this two-day workshop, you will learn the fundamentals of freeform twill, design theory, how to make and use a cartoon, and several variations of the freeform twill technique. Once you know it, you can apply this technique to hand weaving everything from lightweight fabrics to heavy rugs.

Students must have basic weaving skills and be able to warp a 4-shaft loom.

Instructor: Nancy Marsh is the author of *Freeform Design Technique* (Searles, 1984), which shares the technique she spent over ten years developing. In this work, Nancy encourages weavers to think beyond the box: to bend and even break some rules we are taught as beginners. An established teacher with more than forty years of experience, she has taught at Valparaiso University, Midwest and

Convergence conferences, and regional and local organizations throughout the United States. In 1987, she was recognized by the Handweavers' Guild of America as Teacher of the Year in 1987. Now living in Kentucky and weaving for production part-time, Nancy shares her expertise through teaching workshops and presenting on design, color, and creativity. Visit her website at <http://www.nancymarshweaver.com>.



Materials:

1. Table loom or floor loom (preferred) with at least four shafts and a minimum of 12” weaving width.*
2. Two boat shuttles and 2-3 bobbins
3. Scissors, yarn needle, threading hook
4. Paper, pen, and pencil for notes and cartoon
5. Warp: 5/2 mercerized cotton, in a light color; 360 yards
6. Weft: 5/2 mercerized cotton, in two-to-three colors contrasting from the warp color; approx. 270 yards**

Required Preparation:

Warp your loom and be ready to weave prior to the beginning of the workshop:

1. Wind a 2-yard warp, 180 ends, in 5/2 cotton (use light color)
2. Thread 1-2-3-4 (straight-twill)
3. Sley reed at 15 epi (12” width in reed)

Questions or concerns about dressing your loom prior to the workshop? Please email bswg2018@gmail.com.

**The guild has a limited number of table looms available for members to borrow. Please indicate on the sign-up form if you would like to reserve one for the workshop.*

***You may choose to purchase your weft yarns from the guild. A variety of colors will be available for a materials fee of \$10, payable on the first day of the workshop. This will cover all of the weft you will need for the workshop. Please indicate on the sign-up form if you would like to take advantage of this option.*

Other:

Light refreshments will be provided; please plan to bring your own lunch.

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April 12-13, 2019

Registration Form

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

_____ BSWG member (\$100) _____ I would like to borrow a loom

_____ Not a member (\$125) _____ I plan to purchase weft yarns from the guild (\$10)

Registration and payments are due March 31, 2019. Make checks payable to BSWG.

Send to: Karin Lauderback, BSWG Workshop Coordinator
309 Little Salt Creek Run, Bedford, IN 47421