

A BIT ABOUT OUR 2020 TEACHERS

BEATRICE (BEA) GRANT has been hooking since 1969, beginning with fine shading under Jean Gardiner & Marjorie Judson. She has been teaching heritage hand crafts since the early 1970's and became an OHCG teacher in 2006, being mentored by Jeanne Field. Choosing to specialize in primitive rug hooking, she also teaches classes incorporating the penny applique technique into the hooked rug.

BETTY CALVERT has been a certified OHCG teacher since 2010, but her interest in rughooking goes back much further. Always wanting to hook the mats she saw in homes in the Maritimes, she began hooking on her own twenty years ago. Since then she has had three rugs published in Celebrations, participated in the Ganong Chocolate Box project, has taught courses in various places, and continues to take classes to learn and expand her knowledge. Betty loves sharing with others through her teaching, demonstrating, and helping those who are interested in hooking rugs.

GAIL DUFRESNE

I am a McGown certified teacher from Lambertville, New Jersey and have been teaching around the USA and Canada since April, 2000. My work has been featured in numerous fiber art shows and contests. I have had several rugs selected for Rug Hooking Magazine's annual "Celebrations" contest and I was a Celebrations judge twice. Since my work has appeared in at least five Celebration editions, I will be featured in the Celebration Hall Of Fame, which is in honor of the magazine's 30th anniversary. My "Lizards and Ladders" design was featured in the magazine "Piecework". I have had several pieces juried into the Newtown Hooked Art Show's annual contest. I was the featured teacher and artist at Sauder Village in 2004.

I co-wrote a "Teach The Teachers" course with Cynthia Norwood, which we have co-presented at several ATHA biennials. I was the President of ATHA (Association of Traditional Hooking Artists) for ten years and am now the Vice President. In that capacity I work with a great team to promote the art of rug hooking. I think it is important to give back to the art form.

In 2018, I was selected as the featured artist at the Hooked Rug Museum of Nova Scotia.

I have one personal and three business pages on face book. The business pages are called "Goat Hill Designs"; "Pfunny Sheep Designs"; and "Goat Hill Designs Rug Hooking Cruises". My web site is: www.goathilldesigns.com.

INGRID HIERONIMUS is the owner/operator of Ragg Tyme Studio in Mannheim (Kitchener), Ontario and Ragg Tyme School of Rug Hooking, held in Niagara-on-the-Lake. She is an Ontario Hooking Craft Guild certified teacher, a certified McGown teacher, has her certificate in Fibre Arts – Traditional Rug Hooking from St. Lawrence College in Brockville, Ontario, Canada, and is an Oxford Punch Needle Rug Hooking certified teacher.

Ingrid has been featured in Celebrations Rug Hooking Magazine and is the author of three dye books – "Primary Fusion", "Multiple Fusion Spots", and "Primary Fusion Spots". She has also written "Special Effects

Using Creative Stitches". She enjoys creating new and exciting colours in the dye pot using only the three primaries and black.

Ingrid has been hooking for 40 years and teaching and dyeing professionally for about 30 years. Her expertise in dyeing and rug hooking is matched only by her skill at infusing the practical requirements of rug hooking and dyeing techniques with the excitement of creating and learning.

JAYNE NEVINS

Jayne Nevins is a fibre artist who became certified as an Ontario Hooking Craft Guild (OHCG) rug hooking teacher in 1999 and a McGown teacher in 2007. Jayne has contributed her time in fulfilling many positions on the executive of the Ontario Hooking Craft Guild and as Director of the rug hooking teacher training program in Ontario and as Director of Southern McGown teacher training workshops in West Virginia. Jayne loves to attend and teach at workshops throughout Canada and the United States. She enjoys teaching all forms (wide and fine cut) and all aspects (designing and dyeing) of rug hooking. She has adjudicated at many rug hooking shows, most recently for the Celebrations 29 competition.

JUDY KIELCZEWSKI

Rug hooking, fiber arts, texture, alternative fibers, 3D, Pictorials, Portraits, Traditional fine shading, wide cut shading, alternative fibers, sculpting, proddy, needle felting. I love it all the whole hands on creative process from start to finish. Whether you design your own pattern or a commercial pattern choosing colours or dyeing wool, giving credit to the masters for sharing and caring that this tradition is carried on. I'm an Accredited OHCG Teacher. I have taught classes on Fun Time Gardening, Gardening in Colour, Plants with Animal Names, The Beauty of Nature, Kaleidoscopes, Silhouettes, Christmas in June, Shades of Gray (recreating old photos). I have taught Open classes where help is needed to finish an already started project. The adjacent rug "The Boys" won 1st place Pictorial at the 2019 OHCG Annual held in London.

LEN de GRAAF Len is a retired teacher and school administrator. About 8 years ago Len walked into a yarn shop and life changed and totally turned upside down for Len. The owners of this shop taught Len how to knit and the rest is history as they say..... the yarn stash kept GROWING until every room of the house was filled with tubs of yarn. His yarn quickly found new crafts that kept Len amused such as: Rug Hooking, Punch Needle, weaving, needle Felting (okay he had to buy separate wool for that) and of course his new favourite: yarn painting!

Today Len loves giving workshops and talks on his "yarn journey". In the summer he loves spending time at his cottage on Scugog Island and the rest of the year he resides in Whitby with his partner and his 2 terriers! "Life is good"!

MICHELLE SIROIS SILVER is an exhibiting artist who writes, speaks, teaches, and works from her studio in Vancouver, Canada. Deeply rooted in the handmade traditions of hooked rugs and stitch, Michelle Sirois Silver's exploratory work uses combinations of materials and techniques as metaphor in her storytelling. Often working in a series format, as well as diptych and triptych, Michelle uses images from the natural world, symbols, and abstract imagery to generate storylines about what it means to be human and her connection to the world around her.

Michelle's work is influenced by the exploratory works created by artist Gloria Crouse, who's use of new materials and techniques are as relevant today, if not more so, than when she first integrated them into her own works in the mid 1960's. Another major influence is artist Nancy Edell, who's distinctive and deeply personal story driven hand hooked art and her practice of exhibiting her textile work alongside her mixed media work helped to shape Michelle's approach to her own art practice and the exhibition of her work.

VIVILY POWERS is a McGown certified teacher and owner of Colorama Wool. She is a member of the McGown, ATHA and Nova Scotia Guilds and is the past president of the McGown Guild. She was a judge for Rug Hooking Magazine's Celebrations book.

She is a skilled teacher in a variety of subjects including: tapestry hooking, floral, crewel, creative stitches, geometrics, wide cuts and primitive. She is noted for her beautiful custom dyed wool and colour planning expertise and encourages the beginner as well as the seasoned hooker.

Vivily offers an open class using commercial or original designs. She will work with student provided wool using their color palette and views in order to bring about a unique finished product.

Vivily provides pre-camp communication for advanced planning in order to maximize class time. Rug hooking information, demonstrations and finishing techniques are provided during class.

The ultimate goal of the class is for the student to go home with a well-planned project and an enthusiasm for finishing the project.

WENDIE SCOTT DAVIS

Something about rug hooking captured my soul in my very first loop, and continues to romance me some 14 years later. It's the community. It's the creativity. It's the artistic expression. It's the joy. When a group asks for something I haven't taught before, I love the learning curve and the prep required to teach.

This year I added a "Borders" class and Hooked Doodles to my repertoire. I have yet to find anything I didn't enjoy teaching, although traditional fine cut shading from charted sheets is not my favourite. I must confess to preferring a wider cut and more "painterly" hooking, where there is a light source and more impressionism. Hooking from photos is my favourite thing to do, because it is such a personal journey for each student. When you hook from your photos, you can choose virtually any subject - portraits, pets, landscapes, florals - the sky is the limit. And you end up recreating a special memory.

I incorporate lots of tips and tricks to use technology in virtually every step of my mat making and I love sharing that knowledge with people who are curious to learn.

WENDO VANESSEN I used to work in traditional animation....and before the computer took over, as I traveled for different projects around the world, I gleaned an acute awareness of the tactile nature of textiles. In my spare time, I studied with a Korean embroidery master and a Thai batik spirit cloth maker, learned how to dye saris in Singapore and finally in Berlin I found the art of felt making. My job in animation has been a large influence on my work. I like to create fun whimsical sculptures in wool. I use the technique called needle felting to poke and tease wool fibres in to place, whether it's a landscape or a 3-dimensional character. And because I wanted to stretch my limits in needle felting, I took a wire sculpting workshop at the Haliburton Highlands school of the Arts. In this way I can create even larger pieces of art. Who knows where I'll end up!