



## **Fiber Arts Competition 2026**

Consider submitting your best work in this year's Fiber Arts Competition! Participating is fun, and will provide a learning experience for you and festival visitors. All entries will be on display in a public exhibition.

**As we work to promote traditional fiber arts, we are asking for a \$5 per item, entry fee this year.**

### ***Rules:***

- **Any item completed since the 2025 Fall Fiber Festival is eligible for entry.**
- Each entry must be the work of the entrant alone.
- Individuals are limited to no more than two entries **per class**.
- Entries must meet class descriptions (see below) as to fiber content.
- Judges reserve the right to move entries to a more appropriate class without penalty to the entrant and to combine or divide classes as needed.
- For safety reasons, display under glass is NOT allowed.
- Judges' comments will be on public display.
- All youth entrants must be 17 years of age or under as of October 02, 2026.
- Any items not meeting criteria will be disqualified.
- ***Judges' decisions are final.***

### ***Three Steps to enter your items:***

1. Complete one Entry Form that includes a brief description of each item you are entering. (e.g., blue scarf, woven shawl).
2. Complete an Item Description form for each Entry.
3. Place the fiber art item, Item Description Form, and \$5.00 (per item) entry fee in a plastic bag.

### ***Important details!***

Item description should be thorough and include:

- a. Handspun skeins must include fiber information (e.g. cotton, alpaca, llama, sheep and breed if known), color, weight of skein in grams and/or ounces, length in yards and/or meters. Include all steps if processed from raw, indicate type of wheel or spindle used, and include best or intended use for yarn. If dyed, type of dye used.
- b. For all other items, briefly describe the item, (e.g. blue knitted lace shawl), and include yarn/fiber information. If pattern was used, include name of pattern, source, and designer and note if any alterations were made to the pattern. Describe how the item was made and finished, including any special techniques used in the creation of the entry.
- c. Each entry should be placed in a clean zipper-sealed plastic bag. For larger items, do your best to wrap them in a protective plastic covering or bag. Place the item description form along with the \$5.00 entry fee, inside the bag with each item.
- d. Entrants are encouraged to provide a "touch sample" (no larger than 5 x 5 inches) which visitors will be allowed to handle. This will help us keep your valued handmade entry as safe as possible. Place the sample in the bag with the item.
- e. Entries must be clean and odor-free.
- f. Entries and entry forms must be received by September 25, 2026. No late entries will be accepted. There will be opportunities to hand-deliver entries at certain guild meetings. Check with your guild for more info.
- g. All entries will be on display in the Demonstration Tent. Award announcements will be posted in the

Information/Tshirt Tent. Be sure to stop and see your entry and the awardee announcements in person, in the Demonstration Tent.

If you cannot deliver in person, please mail your entries and entry forms to:

**Fiber Arts Competition, % Donna Westermann, 2080 Lakeside Drive, Charlottesville, VA 22901**

If you need to make arrangements for submitting entries or have any questions, contact Donna Westermann at: [fiberartscompetition@fallfiberfestival.org](mailto:fiberartscompetition@fallfiberfestival.org)

- Judging will take place prior to the festival.
- All entries will be on display under supervision during the festival.
- The Festival Committee will make every effort to secure and care for entries, but assumes no responsibility for damage or loss.
- You may pick up your entries on Sunday, October 4, 2026, from 3 to 5 pm, but no earlier. **If entries cannot be picked up at the festival, you may designate on the entry form someone to pick it up for you, or include USPS postage for return mailing.**
- **Unclaimed entries after 5 pm on Sunday, October 4th will become the property of The Fall Fiber Festival of Virginia, Inc.**
- In the event of unforeseen circumstances, please email [fiberartscompetition@fallfiberfestival.org](mailto:fiberartscompetition@fallfiberfestival.org) to make arrangements. Every effort will be made to return your entries to you.

#### **DIVISION I: HANDSPUN SKEINS**

- Skeins must be made from natural animal or plant fibers.
- Hand-dyed natural fiber using natural or synthetic dyes can be included as part or all of a skein. • Man-made fibers (tencel, soysilk, rayon, Angelina, nylon, etc.) must make up no more than 25% of fiber content and should be clearly described.
- Art/Novelty skeins may include commercial thread for core or binder plies.
- Each skein should consist of no less than 2 ounces. Fine skeins may be no less than 1 ounce. • Skeins should be: 1.5–2 yards in circumference, neatly wound with the two ends tied together, with a figure 8 self-tied in four places.

**S1:** Singles: Natural or Dyed Fiber (All natural fiber)

**S2:** Plied: Natural or Dyed Fiber (All natural fiber)

**S3:** Blended by spinner, singles or plied, any weight. (Remember to provide details of blended material)

**S4:** Art/Novelty: Define technique used, such as: core spun, boucle, etc.

**S5:** Spindle spun singles: Natural or Dyed Fiber

**S6:** Spindle spun plied: Natural or Dyed Fiber

#### **NOTE: DIVISIONS II–VII:**

- Items must be made entirely by the entrant. Materials for knitted, crocheted or woven entries may be made of handspun, commercial or a combination of these yarns.
- Please indicate the type / source of materials used, as described in “How to enter your item” • Commercial findings may be used in construction or as embellishment, e.g., thread, lining, buttons, zippers, beads.
- Machine stitching is permitted for construction of items only, not embellishment.

#### **DIVISION II: KNITTED ITEMS**

**K1:** Wearable Item

**K2:** Non-wearable Item

#### **DIVISION III: CROCHETED ITEMS**

**C1:** Wearable Item

**C2:** Non-wearable Item

**DIVISION IV: WOVEN ITEMS**

**W1:** Wearable Item

**W2:** Non-wearable Item

**DIVISION V: FELTED ITEMS**

**F1:** Needle-Felted: Wearable or Non-wearable

**F2:** Wet-Felted: Wearable or Non-wearable

**F3:** Other Felted: Knitted, Crocheted or Woven Item, Felted

**F4:** 3D-Felted, using any felting method

**DIVISION VI: OTHER FIBER ARTS - may include the following:**

Hooked Rug: traditional or punch

Needle Arts: e.g., cross stitch, embroidery, needlepoint

Machine Knit: flatbed or circular sock machine

Any item using a technique not listed in another class, ie - Macrame, Kumihimo, Basketry

**DIVISION VIII: YOUTH:** Rules for each class are the same as for adult divisions.

(Under age 17 as of October 02, 2026)

**Y1:** Handspun Skein

**Y2:** Knitted Item

**Y3:** Crocheted Item

**Y4:** Woven Item

**Y5:** Felted Item

**Y6:** Miscellaneous: any item using a technique not listed in another class

***Award Premiums***

- Ribbons will be awarded for 1st through 3rd place for each class.
- A rosette will be awarded for best entry in each division and for sponsored awards.
- Many entries may be awarded a gift certificate prize from our Fall Fiber Festival vendors.
- Upon arriving at the Festival, all entrants should check with the monitor at the Fiber Arts Competition to see if a vendor prize was awarded. This will allow the recipient time to shop.

**Special Awards**

**Barbara Gentry Best in Show \$100**

- Sponsored by the Central Virginia Fiber Arts Guild

**Youth Best in Show \$50**

- Sponsored by Donna Westermann

**People's Choice Award \$50**

- Sponsored by Mangham Wool & Mohair

**Gladys Strong Memorial Award for Best Handwoven Entry \$50**

- Sponsored by Clothos Handspinners

**Christine Burley Memorial Award for Best Handmaid Item from Handspun Yarn \$50**

- Sponsored by Clothos Handspinners

**Best Felted Entry \$50**

- Sponsored by the Blue Fields Farm

**The Art of Handspinning Award for Best Handspun Skein \$25**

- Sponsored by Longshot Fibers



# Fall Fiber Festival 2026

## Fiber Arts Competition Entry Form

Name: Youth / Adult Age (youth only)/DOB:

Address: Phone: Email:

| Division | Class | Item Description | Entry # (committee use only) |
|----------|-------|------------------|------------------------------|
|          |       |                  |                              |
|          |       |                  |                              |
|          |       |                  |                              |
|          |       |                  |                              |
|          |       |                  |                              |
|          |       |                  |                              |
|          |       |                  |                              |
|          |       |                  |                              |
|          |       |                  |                              |

I am unable to pick up my item(s) in person, please release to:

Phone of person picking up:

Item(s) picked up by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



Please complete and include this form with your entries. Thank you.

# Fall Fiber Festival 2026

## Fiber Arts Competition

### Individual Entry Information Form

Please complete the following form, cut apart and include one in the bag with each entry along with your \$5.00 per item entry fee.

| Fall Fiber Festival 2026                    |        |                 |
|---------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Division:                                   | Class: | Youth / Adult   |
| Item Description:                           |        |                 |
|                                             |        |                 |
| Processes & Techniques used to create item: |        |                 |
|                                             |        |                 |
| For Committee Use Only                      |        |                 |
| Entry #:                                    | Place: | Special Awards: |
|                                             |        |                 |

|                          |        |               |
|--------------------------|--------|---------------|
| Fall Fiber Festival 2026 |        |               |
| Division:                | Class: | Youth / Adult |
| Item Description:        |        |               |
|                          |        |               |

|                                             |        |                 |
|---------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Processes & Techniques used to create item: |        |                 |
|                                             |        |                 |
| For Committee Use Only                      |        |                 |
| Entry #:                                    | Place: | Special Awards: |
|                                             |        |                 |