

Southern Highlands Craft Guild

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in assisting local artisans as they rebuild their livelihoods. Every donation helps to strengthen the resilience of WNC’s creative economy and supports the artists who are keeping the region’s handmade traditions alive.

Throughout the day, visitors will have the opportunity to watch live demonstrations from Guild members and other talented fiber artists. They will also be able to learn about traditional and contemporary techniques behind handmade textiles, including weaving, quilting, spinning, and more. The event is designed to be interactive, with hands-on activities for all ages, making it a perfect day for families and individuals alike.



Demo by Robin Ford

Visitors are encouraged to bring their own handwork projects to work on during the event, making it an even more engaging experience. Whether you’re a seasoned artisan or just curious about the craft, Fiber Day offers something for everyone to enjoy.

The Folk Art Center, located at Mile-



Demo by Pam Granger Gale

post 382 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, is the headquarters of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. The center features three galleries, a craft shop, a library, and a bookstore, providing visitors with the opportunity to explore and purchase high-quality handcrafted goods from local artisans.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Guild at 828-298-7928 or e-mail to (info@craftguild.org).

Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, Offers Pop-up Mini Craft Fairs at the Folk Art Center Supporting WNC Artists in Recovery

The Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, will host its fifth-annual Pop-up Mini Craft Fairs this spring, offering an opportunity to restore and uplift the artistic community in Western North Carolina following the devastation of Hurricane Helene. These special fairs, taking place on May 3 and June 7, 2025, from 10am-4pm, in the lower-level parking area of the Folk Art Center, will showcase the resilience and creativity of 50 different Guild artists working to rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

Each event will feature twenty-four booths that will fill the parking lot featuring a diverse range of handmade crafts. Visitors will have the chance to shop for stained glass, wheel-thrown and hand-built ceramics, woodcarving, screen-printed and sewn textiles, basketry, and metalsmithing - each piece representing the enduring spirit of artists who have faced incredible challenges.

“Our creative community is still recovering from the storm, and these fairs are a way to directly support the artists who make Asheville so special,” said Tom Bailey. “Every purchase contributes to the restoration of not just artwork, but the lives and careers of those who have poured their passion into their craft.”

Different artists will be featured each weekend, so attend both fairs to see a new selection of work.



View of a pervious Pop Up Fair

The Folk Art Center, headquarters of the Southern Highland Craft Guild, also features three galleries, a craft shop, a library, and a Blue Ridge Parkway information desk and bookstore. Located at Milepost 382 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, just north of the Highway 70 entrance in east Asheville, NC, it serves as a hub for traditional and contemporary craft.

Founded in 1930, the Southern Highland Craft Guild is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to cultivating craft, supporting artisans, and preserving handmade traditions in the Southern Highlands. The Guild is an authorized concessioner of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

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Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Member Artists

The Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, is presenting *Patience Makes Perfect*, featuring works by five renowned guild members celebrating craftsmanship and patience, on view in the Folk Art Center’s Focus Gallery, through July 13, 2025.

The featured artists include: Michael Hughey (calligraphy), Eileen Hallman

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(fiber-textiles), Heidi Bleacher (fiber-felted sculpture), Bill & Pam Clark (clay), and Rita de Maintenon (fiber) - each bring their own unique approach to their medium, resulting in stunning works of art that highlight the skill and patience involved in their creative processes.

As Western North Carolina continues continued above on next column to the right



This Is How It Happened
Margaret Curtis
May 18 – June 27, 2025

upstairs
[artspace]

49 S. Trade St., Tryon, NC
Reception: May 18, 2-4 pm
UpstairsArtspace.org

to recover from the impacts of Hurricane Helene, the theme of *Patience Makes Perfect* also resonates as a reminder of the time and effort required for the region’s artistic community to rebuild and thrive once more. Artists and makers, just like the region they call home, demonstrate the resilience and strength that patience provides.

Michael Hughey’s calligraphy demonstrates how patience and precision are key to mastering the art of hand lettering. His beautifully crafted scripts showcase the timeless beauty of traditional calligraphy, where each stroke is carefully considered with attention to detail.

Eileen Hallman’s fiber textiles explore the depth and texture possible through woven and hand-dyed pieces. Heidi Bleacher creates felted sculptures that capture the fluidity of natural forms. Bill & Pam Clark bring their collective expertise in clay to create functional yet artistic pieces that highlight the meditative process of working with the earth. Rita de Maintenon uses various fiber techniques to create richly textured wearable art that showcase the infinite possibilities of fiber manipulation.



Work by Bill and Pam Clark

each piece, and experience firsthand the patience that is an essential part of the creative process. The display will feature a variety of mediums and approaches, offering a rich tapestry of textures, colors, and forms for visitors to enjoy.

Founded in 1930, the Southern Highland Craft Guild is a non-profit, educational organization that preserves and promotes the handcrafted traditions of the Southern Highlands. Through resources, education, marketing, and advocacy, the Guild supports artisans and shares the region’s rich craft heritage with the public. The Guild is an authorized concessioner of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

The Folk Art Center, located at Milepost 382 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, serves as the headquarters of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. The center features three galleries, a craft shop, a library, and a bookstore, offering visitors the chance to explore and purchase high-quality handcrafted goods by regional artisans.

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Work by Eileen Hallman

This exhibition invites visitors to slow down, appreciate the intricate work behind

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be May 24th, at 5pm for the June 2025 issue and June 24, at 5pm for the July 2025 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month.
But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now to (info@carolinaarts.com).