

the seminar

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar has been sharing, promoting and educating handspinners since 1964.

www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca

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Spring Newsletter 2023

Blending it all together

Registration Opens April 1 (and closes April 30)

www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca

June 2 – 4, 2023
Holiday Inn, Burlington
Hotel and Conference Centre

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Seminar Program

Friday

- 3:00 p.m. Accommodation Check-In (Hotel); Seminar Registration
- Sales Room opens
- 7:00 p.m. Meet & Greet + Spin-In (Round-Robin on shared wheels)
- 9:00 p.m. Sales Room closes

Saturday

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. Welcome
- 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Morning Workshop
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- Sales Room opens
- 2:00 p.m. Sales Room closes
- 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. Afternoon Workshop
- 5:30 - 9:00 p.m. Banquet
- Keynote Speaker: Alexis Hoy
- Fashion Show
- 9:00 p.m. Spin-in

Sunday

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. - noon Welcome
- Keynote Speaker: Liam Blackburn
- Keynote Speaker: Donna Hancock
- Awards Presentation
- Coverlet Draw
- Closing Comments



Photo by [Jo Szczepanska](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Workshop Schedule

a.m.	2D Felted Mixed Media Megan Cleland	Toys & Tools for Blending Kitt Fisher	Creating Your Own Fibre Blend! Jane Steeves	Spinning Spectacular Semis! Beth Showalter	Blending & Spinning Dog Fur Julia Lee	Spinning a Rainbow of Yarns— Blending for a 12-step Colour Wheel Barb Fawcett	Fleece Selection & Preparation Donna Hancock
p.m.	Selecting & Spinning Fibres for Lace Megan Cleland	Toys & Tools for Blending Kitt Fisher	Creative Fun Designing Your Own Tweed Fibre to Spin Jane Steeves	Versatile Hand Carders: Blending for Colour Effects Beth Showalter	Intentional Blending: Mixing Fibres Mindfully Julia Lee	Spinning a Rainbow of Yarns— Blending for Tints, Tones, & Shades Barb Fawcett	Getting to Know Your Blending Board Susan Delafield



Saturday Keynote Speaker: Alexis Hoy

Merging Genres: Finding the Bridges in Your Creativity



It is human nature to categorize things, but categories can become limiting. When it comes to creative pursuits, makers (artists, crafters, etc.) often have multiple passions, and it can be frustrating to try to focus on just one. Through the creation of her book, *Story Maker*, author and designer Alexis Hoy found the bridges between her skill sets to create a work that defies categorization and brings a fresh blend to the world of fibre arts.



Sunday Keynote Speaker: Liam Blackburn

Recreating Historic Textiles: Research Meets Artistry at the Dyepot



Join dyer Liam Blackburn of Iron Cauldron Colour Works as he discusses the process and experiences of working collaboratively to recreate historic textiles and new textiles inspired by historic sources. Covering research, dye selection, experimentation, and artistic license — which all play a role in creating new works drawing on our textile past within the Upper Canada Fibreshed — this talk aims to highlight dyeing as a critical and fascinating element of textile creation and show the value of historic textiles as sources of inspiration for contemporary makers.

Sunday Keynote Speaker: Donna Hancock

Will it Blend? – The 2023 Seminar Baggy Challenge

Donna will review the baggy challenge fibres and discuss how to approach a variety of fibres, possible blends, and end uses.

Workshop Descriptions

2D Felted Mixed Media



Learn needle felting on canvas with the addition of stitching and beads. You will learn that fibre is very versatile and can be used as the main subject on primed and painted canvas. Beading and stitching will enhance and add to the finished product. This class will expand the ideas of what is possible and will inspire the participants to take their ideas and run with them.

Instructor: Megan Cleland

Materials provided by instructor.

Workshop Descriptions (continued)

Blending and Spinning Dog Fur



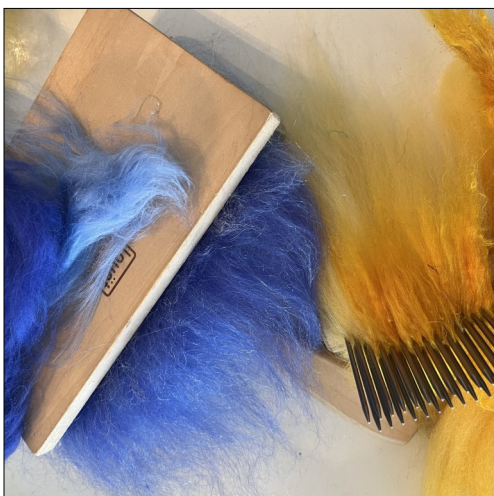
In addition to exploring a selection of provided dog fur types, participants are invited to bring fur to share — longer-coated breeds preferred! We will explore the difference between brushed and clipped fur, consider their characteristics, and experiment with different blending fibres (wool, silk, etc.) to create several blends that might be appropriate for a range of end uses.

Instructor: Julia Lee

Bring the following: Working spinning wheel with fast flyer if possible (ratio approx. 12:1), several bobbins, lazy kate, hand carders (ideally fine, approx. 120 tpi).

Optional: Dog fur, brushed or clipped.

Creating Your Own Fibre Blends!



This workshop focuses on blending different fibres and colours. Sometimes you have a fibre that is boring or not quite the colour that you want, or maybe it is not soft enough. You can blend fibres to fix these issues or just make a fun, custom blend that pleases your spinning senses. Workshop attendees will create unique fibre blends that can be spun on a spindle or wheel. The fibres used in this workshop will include wool, silk, stellina (sparkle), alpaca, and other natural and synthetic fibres.

Instructor: Jane Steeves

Bring the following: Hand combs and/or carders, a spindle or small wheel (for testing).

Creative Fun Designing Your Own Tweed Fibre to Spin



In this workshop you can let your creative juices flow, using multiple fibres and blending colours while adding texture. The workshop attendees will create a unique-to-them textured fibre prep that will spin up into a fun tweed yarn. Tweed yarns have blends of colours and textures but there are no hard rules, you can design a tweed colourway that is special to you.

Instructor: Jane Steeves

Bring the following: Hand carders, a spindle (or wheel), and knitting needles for testing.

Workshop Descriptions (continued)

Fleece Selection and Preparation



In this workshop we will evaluate some raw fleeces to determine whether they are a good purchase and for what end use. We will then do some hands-on prep and try spinning them for the end uses the class feels they are most suited for.

Instructor: Donna Hancock

Bring the following: Hand carders, apron, spinning wheel, and niddy noddy.

Getting to Know Your Blending Board



Blending boards are a fun, accessible way to blend fabulous fibres in your favourite colours and textures to create beautiful rolags, batts, and even roving. We will talk about why and how to use blending boards to create fibre preparations that you will enjoy spinning. These preparations are a beautiful way to use up small amounts of fibre languishing in your stash. There will be different fibres and colours to experiment with and an opportunity to spin samples from your creations.

Instructor: Susan Delafield

Bring the following: Working spinning wheel or spindle, basic spinning knowledge.

Optional: Blending board, hand carders, diz, niddy noddy, any prepared fibre remnants that you want to use up.

Intentional Blending: Mixing Fibres Mindfully



Why might you choose to mix different protein fibres? What are the benefits? How do you choose appropriate combinations? There are no hard-and-fast answers to these questions but Julia will guide you in considering the reasons for creating blends and how to be happy with the result. Participants will explore a variety of protein fibres (wool, alpaca, mohair, silk...) and consider appropriate blending partners for each of them.

Instructor: Julia Lee

Bring the following: Spinning wheel in working order; several bobbins; lazy kate; hand carders (preferably fine: approx. 120 tpi).

Workshop Descriptions (continued)

Selecting and Spinning Fibres for Lace



In this session, we will review and select fibres most suitable for spinning lace-weight yarns. We will take those fibres or blends and discuss lace spinning techniques. Learn how to set up your bobbin and wheel to successfully achieve yarns that can be knit into lace.

Instructor: Megan Cleland

Bring the following: Spinning wheel, carders or flicker, dog comb.

Spinning a Rainbow of Yarns—Blending for a 12-step Colour Wheel



Do you enjoy creating and playing with colour? This workshop will provide you with the tools to create an infinite number of colours for specialized yarn construction using wool fibre in three colours (red, blue, yellow). Some colour theory will be presented.

Instructor: Barbara Fawcett

Bring the following: Working spinning wheel, hand cards (fine is preferable), at least three bobbins, Lazy Kate, niddy noddy, work apron or lap cloth, pen or pencil, notebook, small electronic scale capable of weighing to 0.1 grams for weighing fibre.

Spinning a Rainbow of Yarns—Blending for Tints, Tones, and Shades



Tints, tones, and shades augment the colours found on the colour wheel by adding white, gray, and black. In this workshop we will blend to create tints, tones, and shades by observing how the addition of white, gray, or black can extend the variety of colours available to the creative spinner. Some colour theory will be presented.

Instructor: Barbara Fawcett

Bring the following: Working spinning wheel, hand cards (fine is preferable), at least three bobbins, Lazy Kate, niddy noddy, work apron or lap cloth, pen or pencil, notebook, small electronic scale capable of weighing to 0.1 grams for weighing fibre.

Workshop Descriptions (continued)

Spinning Spectacular Semis!



As yarn designers, we have the ability to spin an infinite rainbow of yarn styles from woolen to worsted and everything in between in the land of semi-something. Most of the yarns that handspinners create are semi yarns. This half-day workshop will focus on the considerations and techniques we make to spin these spectacular semi-something yarns. Suitable for beginning spinners and beyond.

Instructor: Beth Showalter

Bring the following: Spinning wheel in working condition, hand carders, flick carder, 2 or 3 bobbins, basket/bag of spinning support stuff, apron or cloth for lap.

Toys and Tools for Blending



Learn the different types of tools and toys that are used in blending. Why and when would I use a hackle or a blending board? What kind of spinning is more appropriate for each tool?

Instructor: Kitt Fisher

Bring the following: Spinning wheel, carders, and if you have a blending board or hackle you are willing to share please bring them.

Versatile Hand Carders: Blending for Colour Effects



Are your hand carders lying neglected in your spinning basket? This workshop will explore how you can use your hand carders to create a variety of colour effects that are fun and easy to create and spin. Get ready to look at these tools in a whole new way through this workshop. Suitable for beginning spinners and beyond.

Instructor: Beth Showalter

Bring the following: Spinning wheel in working condition, hand carders, flick carder, 2 or 3 bobbins, basket/bag of spinning support stuff, apron or cloth for lap.

Speaker Biographies

Liam Blackburn

Liam Blackburn is the owner / operator of Iron Cauldron Colour Works, a small batch dye and pigment company specializing in custom projects and textile reproduction based in Toronto, ON. With the goal of helping to grow and support the Upper Canada Fibreshed, Liam works with natural and synthetic dyes as project appropriate but specializes in working with natural colourants.

As someone who enjoys the intersection of artistic practice and scientific method, dyeing and textile arts was a natural fit for his interests and after finishing his BFA in Sculpture at OCADU, that interest grew into his primary artistic focus. From this, Iron Cauldron Colour Works was officially launched in 2021.

Megan Cleland

Megan has a passion for all things fibre and her love of knitting began at age 8. She learned to spin on an Ashford wheel after moving to a sheep farm in Australia in 1999 and she advanced her skills studying with the Canberra Hand Spinners Guild. Megan has taken many classes including a 4 day course with New Zealand spinner Margaret Stove, where she learned how to choose the best fibres for projects and how to design and knit lace.

Megan began to combine her love of portraiture and needle felting in 2008. Using wool and other fibres to create realistic portraits and landscapes has been a natural progression from watercolour and pastel with exciting results. Megan has recently started felting onto canvas after painting background details with acrylic paint. It allows the felt to shine and pop out of the piece.

Susan Delafield

Susan's lifelong dream of learning to spin started with a simple drop spindle class. She soon graduated to a wheel (or two), almost 15 years ago. Happily the Hand-spinning Seminar was in her home town that year and her fibre passion was kindled. A 2020 graduate of the OHS Spinning Certificate Program, Susan loves to experiment with all things fibre. She can often be found dyeing, preparing fibre, and spinning or knitting. It is her happy place.

Barbara Fawcett

As a child, Barbara Fawcett was fascinated with the story of the girl who, with magical help from an imp named Rumpelstiltskin, could spin straw into gold. About 12 years ago she embarked on a journey to turn that fascination into reality. A recent OHS Spinning Certificate graduate, Barb is currently exploring many concepts presented over the program's six years, primarily focusing on the design of yarns using Ramie fibre as well as fibre grown in her husband's garden. A lover of all types of textiles, she spins, weaves, knits, crochets, quilts, and makes clothes for her grandchildren. She is a passionate dyer using both natural and commercial dyes.

Kitt Fisher

Kitt Fisher's life has spun around textiles and fibre arts since she was 5 years old. Now, decades later, her enthusiasm for learning about and playing with all varieties of fibres, dyes, textures, and textiles has not diminished. She continues to be fascinated with the infinite ways in which she can transform raw materials into unique textile art creations. Her fibre jour-

Speaker Biographies (continued)

ney has rewarded her with opportunities in which to share her artistry through the facilitation of workshops and lectures ranging from spinning to natural dyeing to designing her own knitted and woven pieces. Her ideas and efforts have been acknowledged with awards, scholarship, and exhibitions. She holds a Fibre Arts Certificate from Fleming College, Haliburton.

Donna Hancock

Donna Hancock completed the Ontario Handspinning Certificate course in 2000. As the owner of Wellington Fibres Mill, she sees lots of different fleeces on a daily basis. She has been involved in the spinning community since 1988. A herd of Angora goats keeps her out of mischief.

Alexis Hoy

Alexis Hoy is a knitwear designer, writer, and artist who has never been able to pick just one creative pursuit. She has been designing knitting patterns for over a decade, with a focus on unusual techniques and local fibre producers. Alexis lives with her husband, three sons, and a growing animal menagerie on a small century farm in Southern Ontario. *Story Maker* is her first book. You can find her online at www.storymadeyarns.com and on Instagram @alexis_storymade

Julia Lee

Julia Lee is a dyer, spinner, knitter, teacher, mender, and weaver who lives in Toronto and sometimes Haliburton. She graduated from the Ontario Handweavers and Spinners' Spinning Certificate course in 2000 and is now a coordinator and in-

structor for that program in Haliburton. Founder of Provenance Yarns and Textiles, Julia teaches spinning both one-on-one and at workshops around Ontario. She also spins on commission—often turning clients' pet fur into beautiful custom yarns to create lasting mementos. Dedicated to encouraging fellow fibre artists to keep their carbon footprint small, Julia promotes and uses Ontario-grown fibres in her work and in Provenance's monthly Fibre Club subscriptions. Julia knits or weaves her natural-fibre yarns into elegant or whimsical creations: garments, home textiles, and knitted tapestries. As the OHS Spinning Education Chair, Julia is active in creating a range of learning opportunities for spinners.

Beth Showalter

Beth Showalter completed the Ontario Handweavers and Spinners Spinning Certificate Program in 2014 with distinction and is now an instructor in the program. She is a spinner who enjoys experimenting, sharing ideas, learning new techniques, and following spinning tangents.

Jane Steeves

Jane Steeves has been sharing her love of all things fibre and spinning for over 10 years. She is a graduate of the OHS spinning certificate program. Owner of 3dogknits Fibre Arts, she dyes yarn and fibres and shares her love of spinning and fibre. Jane lives on Georgian Bay with her husband, dogs, and now a pair of tabby cats.





Once again, the Ontario Handspinning Seminar will take online registrations at www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca

- By choosing to register online you will get a time advantage as the workshops will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The faster arrival of online registration will ensure you know exactly which class you will be taking as you check out.
- Those who wish to register for their workshops as usual through ground post, will be able to do so.
- Workshops will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis, regardless of the method you choose to use for registration (online or post).
- The registration window will be open from April 1st to April 30th.
- A waiting list will be created if your favourite class is sold out before you get there, so if there is a cancellation, the spot will go to the person at the top of the waiting list.
- The webmaster will be available on April 1st to immediately help with any difficulties and will do her best to respond within the day thereafter; she can be contacted via handspinningseminar@gmail.com
- If you are registering by mail: Print the registration form found on the website, complete and add a cheque payable to ONTARIO HANDSPINNING SEMINAR COMMITTEE. Mail (postmarked between April 1 and April 30, 2023) to: Ontario Handspinning Seminar; Patricia Cooper, Registrar; 1146 Montgomery Dr.; Oakville, ON L6M 1G1.
- Post-dated cheques will not be accepted. NSF cheques will be charged \$25.00.
- For our American participants, please send either an INTERNATIONAL POSTAL MONEY ORDER or BANK DRAFT IN CANADIAN FUNDS. We do not accept either personal cheques or Travellers Cheques, and money orders must be specifically meant for International use. Domestic U.S. money orders cannot be cashed in Canada.
- Decisions to provide refunds will be made on a case-by-case basis. An administration fee of \$15.00 will be applied to all refunds. Due to contractual obligations to the Hotel, no refunds will be made after May 26, 2023.
- The Registration desk will be open from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, June 2, 2023. Display items will be received adjacent to the registration desk. The registration desk will also be open from 8:00 until 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning.



Accommodations The Seminar will take place at the **Holiday Inn—Burlington Hotel and Conference Centre**. The smoke-free facility is located at 3063 South Service Road, Burlington.

A block of hotel rooms has been set aside for us until approximately May 3, 2023. Reservations can be made by calling, toll-free, 1-888-Holiday. Please be sure to mention that you are attending the Ontario Handspinning Seminar in order to receive the group rate.

The price per standard room (with 2 double beds, or one queen bed with pull out) is \$135.00 + 13% HST + 4% MAT (Municipal Accommodation Tax) per night. There is a surcharge of \$10.00 per room per night if you have three or four people staying in one room.

Menu Below is the menu plan for the weekend. Prices for the meals can be found on the registration form. The Hotel will accommodate those with allergies and dietary requirements – please indicate them on the registration form. A cash bar will be available during the banquet and refreshments from the Hotel bar can be taken to the Spin-in locations.

Breakfasts

- Fresh Sliced Fruit Platter
- Fresh Baked Muffins + Pastries
- Yogurt
- Juice, Milk, Tea, and Coffee

Saturday Lunch

- Soup - Chef's choice
- Green Salad
- Buns/Sandwiches including Tuna Salad; Tomato, Cucumber and Hummus; Egg Salad; Sliced Roast Beef with Horseradish Mayo; Smoked Ham with Aged Cheddar + Grain Mustard Mayo; Slow Roasted Turkey with Swiss + Cranberry Aioli
- Cookies
- Assorted Soft Drinks, Coffee, and Tea

Saturday Banquet

- Trio of Mezze Dips (Hummus, Tzatziki, Baba Ghannoush) with Flatbreads + Pita Chips
- Assorted Deviled Eggs
- Andean Quinoa, Cucumber, Chickpea, Apricot, Pepita, Roasted Red Pepper, Soya Bean Salad
- Caesar Salad with Creamy Garlic Dressing
- Marinated Tomato + Bocconcini Salad, Balsamic Dressing
- Spinach Ricotta Stuffed Cannelloni with Marbled Padano Pomodoro Cream
- Herbed Roasted Chicken
- Roasted Heirloom Potatoes
- Hot Seasonal Vegetables
- Dessert Squares + Tarts
- Fresh Sliced Fruit Tray
- Coffee and Tea

Volunteer with Us Before the Seminar!

We're still looking for a few more hands on the Organizing Committee.

We need help with tasks such as table decorations for the banquet, display & fashion show management, etc.

If interested, please email:

ontariohandspinningseminar@gmail.com



Photo by [ray sangga kusuma](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Volunteer with Us At the Seminar!

Volunteers help with many tasks during the seminar: collecting meal tickets, hosting in the Display Room, modelling for the Fashion Show. If you would like to volunteer, please check off the appropriate box on the registration form.

Coverlet Raffle!!



Fifty years ago this beautiful handwoven overshoot coverlet was the first-place winner in the 1973 Exhibition of Canadian Weavers in Vancouver, British Columbia. The warp and tabby weft are cotton and the pattern weft is naturally coloured handspun wool. It was donated by Mary Wade with the intention of the proceeds being used to support and promote handspinning in Ontario. Tickets will be available at the Seminar for \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. One lucky winner will get to take this home!

Mugs!!!

The Seminar is happy to partner with Hamilton-area potter Greg Voisin, who has designed three limited-edition mugs specifically for the Seminar—a ball of yarn, a spinning wheel, and a spindle that all feature “the Seminar” printed on the inside. Each mug is made entirely by hand, so each will have its own unique, handmade characteristics. The dishwasher and microwave-safe mugs will easily fit 14 oz./415 ml of your favourite beverage.



Vendors There are two opportunities to shop from our fine selection of vendors! The first, longer session is on Friday, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. If your sleep is troubled because you walked away from an appealing item, you have another chance to buy it on Saturday, from 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

If you are unable to attend the Seminar itself but would like to visit the vendor Marketplace, you can purchase \$5 admission tickets to the Marketplace at the door. (These tickets are only valid on the day of purchase.)

Vendors—there are a very few empty booths remaining in our Marketplace. If you are a vendor, act quickly to snap one of them up to put yourself and your products in front of a selection of motivated buyers (as they say in the real estate world)! The sales area has easy access for set up and take down by vendors. Booth space is limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-included basis. To receive more information about our marketplace opportunity, contact the Salesroom Convenor, Margo Murley, at ontariohandspinningseminar@gmail.com.

Baggie Challenge The \$50 award recognizes an item created from fibre received at the previous Seminar, following guidelines set out in the Challenge. This year we will have three Baggie Challenges to award! Winners are chosen by ballots cast by 2023 Seminar attendees. If you attended the 2019, 2021, and/or 2022 Seminar, bring your Baggie Challenge items!



2022— Spinning Together (A Community Project) Your challenge was to collectively make an item and tell us the story of your community.



2021 – Stash Dive Challenge Your challenge was to make an item solely from material you had in your stash.



2019 – You Can't Make a Silk Purse Out of a Sow's Ear Your challenge was to make a “purse” out of the “unrefined” items found in the baggie handed out in 2019. You must have used at least some of every fibre in your baggie and you may also have used additional fibres from your stash.



Fashion Show

We are pleased to offer our ever-amazing fashion show. Fashion show items may be made using any technique and fibre type. This event is a wonderful way to have your handspinning seen by your peers and to gain inspiration from others. We urge you to bring all the wonderful things you have made over the year, to model or have modelled, for the show. You will be asked for details of your piece when you bring it in so that the announcer will be able to describe each piece fully.

Spin-ins

The Spin-ins on Friday and Saturday nights are a very popular event at the Seminar. This year, Friday night's spin-in will be a Round Robin, where people are encouraged to let others try out their spinning tools. If you would be willing for others to try your wheel(s), spindles, wool combs, hackles, dizzes, or whatever else you want to bring, we will provide a tag to identify the item as part of the Round Robin. If you're not comfortable doing that, that's fine, too!

Receiving the Newsletters

The Spring and Fall newsletters are posted on the Ontario Handspinning Seminar website www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca. Anyone who has attended the Seminar in the past three years or who has requested information about the Seminar in the past two years will receive an email to notify them when the newsletter is available on the website.

Why We Do What We Do

The objectives of the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. incorporates more than the annual function of a seminar. It is also our mandate to preserve and teach the art of handspinning and to innovate new techniques. Toward this end we offer awards and scholarships (pgs. 16, 17).

2023 Competition Categories

Simple 2-ply skein: Your goal is to produce a consistent, balanced yarn.

3 or more ply skein: Your goal is to produce a consistent, balanced yarn.

Novelty skein: Your goal is to construct a yarn which boasts a decorative element. This may be a spinning technique (crepe or bouclé for example) or it may consist of additions to your spun yarn (beads, feathers etc.). The choice is yours...so have fun with it.

Spindle-spun skein: The 2-or-more-ply yarn must be spun and plied on a hand spindle.

Garments: Projects may include sweaters, vests, jackets, shawls, etc.

Accessories: Projects may include hats, scarves, socks, mittens, etc.

Other: Projects may include dolls, tea cozies, placemats, household items, etc.

For all categories the following guidelines apply:

- Seminar participants are limited to one entry per category
- Only entries made entirely of handspun yarn are eligible for the Founders Award
- Entries in all the categories must have been completed since the last Seminar (2019).

Levels of Experience

Beginner (2 years or less), Intermediate (2-5 years), Advanced (more than 5 years).

Competition guidelines and an entry form can be found on the website.



Photo by [Florian Schmetz](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Handmade by You

If competition is not for you but you wish to share the projects you have worked on since the last Seminar, please bring your skeins and projects along for display. This is an opportunity for us to exchange ideas and to indulge in a bit of “Show-and-Tell” — a chance to see what others have been working on. No matter what your level of experience, it is nice to be inspired by each other. This is also an opportunity to have a close look at items that might be in the Fashion Show. Items on display will be eligible for the WOW award and items made from 100% handspun will be eligible for the Founders Award.

2023 Awards

New to the Seminar Award: This award goes to the first person to register who is attending the Seminar for the first time. The award will be the registration fee, along with \$50.

Founders' Award: This award honours the founders of the Ontario Handspinning Seminar and encourages the use of handspun in an end product. Edna Blackburn, Ted Carson, and Dorothy Kirk established the first Handspinning Seminar gathering in 1964. The \$100 award is presented to the person with the best article on display made from 100% handspun. Chosen by ballots cast by the Seminar attendees.

Ontario Handweavers and Spinners Award: This award for \$100 is presented by the Ontario Handweavers and Spinners. The award is given in recognition of an article on display that demonstrates the best use of handspun yarn in a handwoven article. Judges are provided by the Ontario Handweavers and Spinners.

President's Award of Excellence: This award of \$100 is given in recognition of an item of 100% handspun yarn using a textile construction method which embodies a unique interpretation; demonstrates a fresh, individual approach; and expresses personal creativity as judged by the President of the Ontario Handspinning Seminar Board of Directors.

Barb Patterson Award: This award of \$25.00 honours Barb Patterson, one of the founding members of The Grand River Spinners and Weavers Guild. It is presented for the "Best Skein by a Novice Spinner" as judged by the Display Committee.

WOW Award: This \$50 award is also judged by the Display Committee and given to the item which makes them say Wow! All articles submitted for display are eligible.



Photo by [Alexandra Tran](#) on [Unsplash](#)

2023 Scholarships

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar offers two scholarships: one scholarship supports research projects and the other supports you, helping you to reinspire your handspinning. Applications are made to the Secretary of the Board of Directors (seminarsecretary@gmail.com), who can also provide the complete guidelines and application requirements.

The Ontario Handspinner's Research Scholarship: The Ontario Handspinning Seminar has funds up to \$1000 available for an annual Scholarship to be awarded and used for the exploration and development of new techniques, equipment, and/or related research of interest to handspinners and dyers. The scholarship cannot be used for tuition for any other study program for any other group or organization. The initial presentation of the research findings must take place at the Seminar within three years of receiving the scholarship in the form of a workshop, presentation, or display.

Photo by [Tiko Giorgadze on Unsplash](#)



The Re-Inspired Spinner

Scholarship: The purpose of this scholarship is to allow the individual to further their education and knowledge of handspinning in order to re-inspire them in their craft. This is to be accomplished by attending a workshop, class, or course which pertains to spinning or dyeing handspun fibre or other related areas.

The Re-Inspired Scholarship has up to \$250 available. This scholarship requires a short presentation or display at the Seminar within two years of receiving the scholarship.

The application deadline for both scholarships is January 31, 2023. You can apply to either scholarship if you...

- Participated in five Seminars within the past eight years as committee member, workshop leader, or attendee.
- Are not a current member of our Board of Directors

Legal Stuff

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar Inc. is not responsible for damage to or loss of personal property. We do take every precaution to protect your equipment and materials on display. Workshop and display rooms will be secured at all times when Seminar participants are not in attendance.

Ontario Handspinning Seminar Code of Behaviour

The Ontario Handspinning Seminar strives to promote and establish a safe, respectful and positive atmosphere: • For shared knowledge, • For respect of ideas, cultures, and values • In a common space for learning. We also respect the policies of the facilities where we hold the Handspinning Seminar and the support services that make this annual event a success.

Find us on Social Media

www.ontariohandspinningseminar.ca

 www.facebook.com/ontariohandspinningseminar/

 www.ravelry.com/groups/ontario-handspinning-seminar-fans

 www.instagram.com/thespinningseminar/



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Seminar 2023 Board of Directors

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Treasurer: Catherina Forbes

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Registrar & Treasurer: Patricia Cooper

Board Liaison: Lis Baston

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Workshop Convenor: Pat Shaver

Fashion Show Convenor: Lis Baston

Display Convenor: Lianne Tanner

Baggie Challenge Convenor: Pat Shaver

Newsletter: Cat Haggert

Facilities: Cat Haggert