

Fiber Craft Studio

THREEFOLD EDUCATIONAL CENTER

Handwork Conference

April 23 -25, 2010

Friday Evening to Sunday Noon

Handwork as an Aid to the Incarnating Child

Pedagogical, Artistic and Healing Aspects of the Waldorf Handwork Curriculum

Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Gerald Karnow

Dr. Karnow is a physician working in the Fellowship Community, a multi-generational community dedicated to the care of the elderly, an educator with The Otto Specht School and a school doctor for two Waldorf Schools.

With Special Guest

Margareta Eichenholz

Retired Handwork Teacher from Stockholm, Sweden

This conference is supported by a generous grant from the **Michael Foundation**.
A limited number of partial scholarships for Waldorf teachers are available upon request.

“The reason for the sickness of our culture is that we have no proper relationship with the external world. ... It would, for instance, be rather good if we could gradually develop the possibility of passing from purely abstract artistic work, such as the human being creates out of his delight in beauty, to concrete art, artistic craftsmanship. Mankind today is urgently in need of really artistic crafts that can find their place in general cultural life.”

From *Practical Advice to Teachers*, Lecture 3

August 23, 1919 by Rudolf Steiner

These lectures combined with *Study of Man* (now entitled: *Foundations of Human Experience*) and *Discussions with Teachers* formed the basic material of the intensive two-week long study Rudolf Steiner conducted with the teachers of the original Waldorf School in Stuttgart.

For our present research conference we are especially recommending the following study material:

Soul Economy and Waldorf Education, Lectures IX – XII

Balance in Teaching, Lecture Three

With this conference we are building on the handwork conferences organized by Margareta Eichenholz and Tjitske Lehman at Kimberton Waldorf School in the 1990s. These conferences brought together handwork teachers from many Waldorf Schools to share their questions and common striving under the inspiring guidance of Margareta Eichenholz, visiting handwork teacher from Sweden.

They marked the beginning of an extensive collaborative working among several handwork teachers who had met at the conferences in Kimberton and who were then instrumental in forming the handwork section of the Applied Arts Program at the Craft Studio of Sunbridge College. The first cycle of the program began in 1996 with Margreta Eichenholz as core-faculty member for handwork and Renate Hiller and Michael Howard as co-directors.

The Applied Arts Program, at present in its fifth and sixth cycles, continues to be offered at the Fiber Craft Studio which operates since 2008 under the umbrella of the Threefold Educational Center. The program is carried by the Applied Arts Research Group, whose members have been planning this conference.

Nicole Kielblock, Philadelphia Waldorf School
Tjitske Lehman, Kimberton Waldorf School
Chris Marlow, Green Meadow Waldorf School
Renate Hiller and Mikae Toma, Fiber Craft Studio

- CONFERENCE SCHEDULE -

Friday, April 23

5:00 - 7:00 pm	Registration	Fiber Craft Studio
5:45 - 6:45 pm	Supper	Main House
7:00 - 7:20 pm	Welcome and Conference Opening	Auditorium
7:20 - 7:45 pm	Singing together with Jana Hawley	
7:45 -	Keynote Address by Dr. Gerald Karnow	

Saturday, April 24

7:15 - 8:00 am	Breakfast	Main House
8:00 - 8:30 am	Singing together with Jana Hawley	Auditorium
8:30 - 9:00am	Honoring Margareta Eichenholz	Auditorium
9:15 - 10:30am	Workshops (see descriptions)	
10:30 - 11:00 am	Break (<i>Snacks served at the Main House</i>)	
11:00 - 12:15 pm	Workshops continued	
12:15 - 1:45 pm	Fiber Craft Studio open Bookstore open	
12:30 - 1:45 pm	Lunch	
2:00 - 3:30 pm	Keynote Address by Dr. Gerald Karnow	Auditorium
3:30 - 4:00 pm	Break (<i>Snacks served at the Main House</i>)	
4:15 - 5:45 pm	Workshops continued	
6:00 - 6:30 pm	Supper	
8:00pm	Eurythmy Studio Program (<i>\$9 for conference participants</i>)	Auditorium

Sunday, April 25

8:30 - 9:15 am	Breakfast	Main House
9:30 - 10:00 am	Singing together with Jana Hawley	Auditorium
10:00 - 11:45 am	Plenum	
11:45 - 12:00 pm	Conference Closing	
12:15 - 1:00 pm	Box Lunch	Main House

- WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS -

- The workshops take place on Saturday morning and afternoon.
- Each workshop consists of three sessions.
Please refer to the Schedule for the times of each session.
- Please pay the material fee directly to the workshop leader.

1. Laying the Foundations: Handwork in Grades One to Three

With **Nicole Kielblock** and special guest, **Krista Palmer**

The first three grades lay the groundwork for handwork in all the grades to come. In this workshop we will look at how we create a classroom mood that allows all the healing benefits of this work to be fully experienced by the children. We will look with fresh eyes at the nature of children of these ages, as well as the essential skills we teach during these grades and why. And, finally, we will ask ourselves what we can do to deepen both our methods of teaching and the projects we bring in order to strengthen the capacities of young children today, in preparation for the years to come.

A sampling of projects and activities will incorporate embroidery, knitting, crochet, plant dyeing and spinning, as well as clapping games and string games for the first, second and third graders.

Material Fee: \$12 (This does not include size 6 knitting needles -\$6/pair- or size G crochet hooks -\$6/each. These will be available for purchase.)

Nicole was a student in the first cycle of the Applied Arts Program and has been a core-faculty member for this program since 2005. She is currently directing the Sixth Cycle of the program at the Fiber Craft Studio. She was a founder of the Waldorf School of Philadelphia, where she currently teaches handwork, clay modeling and drawing.

Krista has been playing Games with children ages 7-18 for 28 years. She currently teaches both Games and Handwork at the Great Barrington Rudolf Steiner School. She is a graduate of the Fourth Cycle of the Applied Arts Program.

2. Sewing and Embroidery in Grades Three and Four

With **Chris Marlow**

Sewing and embroidery are the core activities of the fourth grade handwork curriculum. After a brief look at how embroidery might be brought in third grade, or earlier, we will create a small cross-stitch pouch and explore how this activity, as well as sewing, meets and challenges the fourth grader. Emphasis will be placed on incorporating the artistic use of color and form while working on this project. Please bring your fourth grade experiences and questions to share.

Material Fee: \$8

Chris has been a lower school handwork teacher at Green Meadow Waldorf School in Chestnut Ridge, NY for 11 years, with 2 years at a charter school in New York City, The West Side Community School. She completed her studies in the first cycle of the Applied Arts Program in 1999, and she is a program director of the current fifth cycle. She is on the Advisory Circle of the Fiber Craft Studio and has volunteered and presented workshops at the Studio.

3. I Know Knot - Knot Work, String Games and Hand-Clapping Games in Grade Four

With **Fonda Black**

This workshop will include an overview of the handwork lesson of the fourth grade curriculum as well as explore special blocks that connect the work of the morning lesson to that of the handwork class and enhance and strengthen this relationship.

Knot work enhances the form-drawing curriculum, while string games as well as hand-clapping games tie together and integrate the course work of the handwork lesson as well as assist with classroom management. Each participant will create a medium to large Ocean Plait trivet or table mat from 100% cotton rope to take home.

Material Fee: \$15

Fonda has been teaching at the Austin Waldorf School in Austin Texas for 14 years. She began as an assistant in the Kindergarten and then in the Handwork Program. She completed her studies in the Applied Arts Program at Sunbridge College in 2001. Currently she

teaches handwork to the students in grades four through eight, as well as a Sheep to Shawl block in the third grade. She is a graduate of Level I Spatial Dynamics and is pursuing Level II course work to become a certified movement therapist.

4. Handwork for the Fifth Grade Child

With Tjitske Lehman

We will focus on the knitting for the fifth grade and explore the significance of this activity for the fifth grade child. We will do this in the context of where the child has come from and where the child is going, and so our work will include other aspects of handwork in the grades, as well as knitting. **Material Fee: \$15**

Tjitske was born, raised and educated in Holland and has been involved with Waldorf Education for over 30 years. During this time she has been teaching handwork in the lower school at Kimberton Waldorf School, organizing handwork conferences, and helping to direct the Applied Arts Program at Sunbridge College.

5. Animal and Doll Making in Grade Six

With Caroline O'Neill

During this workshop we will look into why we bring the making of animals or dolls to the children of this age and how we can approach bringing these projects. We will take a look at the developmental picture of the sixth grade child, sharing our observations and thoughts. In our practical work we will begin a typical animal project by drawing an animal in movement and creating patterns for the stuffed animal from the drawing. Samples of fabrics suitable for this project will be available for discussion. **Material Fee: \$5**

Caroline completed her studies in the Applied Arts Program at Sunbridge College in 1999 and holds a B.S. degree in Urban & Environmental Planning from Worcester Poly Tech. She has been a handwork teacher and administrator at the Hawthorne Valley School in Ghent, New York, for five years and currently teaches handwork in grades four through eight. She has managed the school store "Turose" for 16 years and has offered many workshops to the school and wider community. Caroline enjoys sharing her love of handwork with people of all ages.

6. Creating Articles of Clothing in Grades Seven and Eight

With Andree Bougie

In the seventh and eighth grades the handwork curriculum of the Lower and Middle School years culminates with the students creating articles of clothing for themselves. In this workshop we will build pictures of the older children in our classrooms and explore how these projects meet their developmental needs and how we can ignite their interest and enthusiasm. In our practical research work we will focus on the creation of slippers in seventh grade, especially concentrating on elements of design and embellishment arising out of the function of the pieces. **Material Fee: \$5**

Andree has been teaching handwork at the Ecole Rudolf Steiner de Montreal for 17 years. During this time she has worked with students from grades one through twelve, and for the last six years from grades one through eight. She is a graduate of one of the fashion institutes in Montreal and completed her studies in the Applied Arts Program in 1999. Since then she has served as a member of the Applied Arts Program handwork faculty.

7. An Exploration of Felting for the Waldorf Curriculum

With Sandy Pearson

Felting is an age-old craft that has seen a revival and renewal in the past decade. As with other traditional crafts, it holds a spirit of authenticity about a time when healthy, creative faculties were quite natural. With special interest, we will look at the gestures involved in the many different techniques of felting to determine the developmental appropriateness of different projects within the grades. **Material Fee: \$15**

Sandy has been teaching handwork to grades one through eight at the Merriconeag Waldorf School in Maine for the past 17 years, and has been instrumental in creating its well-respected handwork program. She has enjoyed working with adults in Foundation Studies programs, LifeWays trainings, and Renewal Courses. She graduated with a BS from the University of Maine and completed her Waldorf teacher training with the Center for Anthroposophy's New England Teacher Training Program in 1996. She has a special interest in studying traditional, regional crafts and finding their place in the Waldorf handwork curriculum.

Registration:

Please fill in the enclosed Registration Form and send it to the Fiber Craft Studio.

Please register by **April 5th**. Registration will not be accepted without full payment.

If you have questions about registration, please contact Susan Wallendorf. susanwallendorf@gmail.com / 410-370-6735

Conference Fee: \$165 (Fee includes snacks)

Refund Policy: 50% of conference fee is refundable if requested by April 22nd.

Scholarship:

We are grateful to the Michael Foundation for their generous scholarship grant in support of this conference.

A limited number of partial scholarships for Waldorf teachers are available upon request.

Please contact Susan Wallendorf. susanwallendorf@gmail.com / 410-370-6735

General Information:

Please contact the Fiber Craft Studio. information@fibercraftstudio.org / 845-425-2891

Meals:

Meal service is by registration.

The Threefold Café will serve nutritious, mostly organic meals throughout the conference. The menu will accommodate dairy-free options.

Housing:

Please Make your own arrangements.

- Housing is available in Holder House, the student residence. Please visit www.threefold.org/housing for online requests, or call 845-352-9660
- Limited Community Housing is also available. Please contact Mimi Satriano at housing@threefold.org.
- A number of nearby hotels are listed on the Threefold website. www.threefold.org/housing

Getting here

Threefold Educational Center is located in the Village of Chestnut Ridge, New York (sometimes still known as South Spring Valley). It is 2 miles north of the New York/New Jersey border, 11 miles from the Tappan Zee Bridge, and 18 miles from the George Washington Bridge, near the intersection of the Garden State Parkway and the New York State Thruway (Route 87).

BY CAR, FROM THE SOUTH Take the Garden State Parkway north to Exit 172 (Grand Avenue), the last exit in New Jersey. Turn left at the bottom of the ramp, go under the overpass and turn right at the stoplight onto Chestnut Ridge Road (Route 45). Continue about two miles, through two traffic lights, across the New York State border and a third traffic light. Just past the first sign for Green Meadow Waldorf School on your left, turn left onto Hungry Hollow Road.

BY CAR, FROM THE NORTH OR EAST Take the New York State Thruway (Route 87) to Exit 14A (Garden State Parkway). Take the first exit (Schoolhouse Road), turn right at the stoplight onto Red Schoolhouse Road and go to the T-intersection at the end. Turn left onto Chestnut Ridge Road (Route 45), then take the first right turn onto Hungry Hollow Road, just past the Hungry Hollow Co-op.

BY AIR

Newark, JFK, and LaGuardia all have frequent bus service to the Port Authority bus terminal in Manhattan, from which you can catch a bus to Spring Valley. Go to Ground Transportation and ask for the current schedule. Newark is *by far* the closest and most convenient airport for getting to Threefold.

The **Air Brook Express Shuttle** operates from 5 am to midnight, seven days a week, between Newark and the Montvale Transportation Center in New Jersey, where you can arrange for pick-up or call a taxi (approx. \$10) to take you to Hungry Hollow Road. Just call 1-800-432-1826 after you arrive at Newark Airport and Air Brook will instruct you from there. The fare is approximately \$32, \$58 for a round trip.

Skyway Limo will take up to four people directly to Threefold from Newark. Call 1-800-300-3356 for a reservation. A Threefold community member, **Jan Kadula** provides door to door service to Newark, LAG, JFK. Call 845-425-0087 for prices and further information.

Fiber Craft Studio

THREEFOLD EDUCATIONAL CENTER

We are a center for practice, research and teaching

Promoting healing and transformative ways of working

To serve
the human being and community
the living being of the Earth
and the Eternal Spirit

Spinning – Knitting – Crocheting – Nalbinding – Plant-Dyeing
Clothing Designs – Toy and Puppet Making – Fiber Craft Kits

www.fibercraftstudio.org information@fibercraftstudio.org Phone: 845-425-2891

Co-Directors: Renate Hiller and Mikae Toma

Fiber Craft Studio
260 Hungry Hollow Road
Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977

Handwork Conference

April 23 -25, 2010

Friday Evening to Sunday Noon

Handwork as an Aid to the Incarnating Child

Pedagogical, Artistic and Healing Aspects of the Waldorf Handwork Curriculum

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Gerald Karnow

Handwork Conference April 23 - 25, 2010

- Registration Form -

Contact Information

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

School _____ Teaching Position _____

.....
Workshop: 1st Choice _____ **2nd Choice** _____

- Meals:** None
 \$ 74 All meals
(Beginning with Friday supper and ending with Sunday lunch)
 \$ 60 All meals except breakfast

Conference Fee	\$ 165
minus Grant Award	\$
(Please contact Susan Wallendorf)	
Meals	\$
<hr/>	
Total	\$

Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Money Order/Check# _____ (Payable to **Fiber Craft Studio**)

Mastercard Visa Amex

Card Number _____

Exp Date _____ Card Identifier _____

Name on Card _____

Send this form together with your full payment **by April 5th** to

Fiber Craft Studio - Handwork Conference
260 Hungry Hollow Rd.
Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977