

Minnesota Basket Weavers Guild - Class Registration Form
November 20, 2021
Harvesting and Weaving With MN Forged Fibers
Guest Instructor – Mercedes Tuma-Hansen

Nature provides many wonderful fibers. This course is an opportunity to play with a variety of plants that grow right here in Minnesota and that people have been using for hundreds of years to make rope and string. Dogbane, cattails, basswood trees, and flax plants all have long, strong fibers in them that have many uses. The Ojibwe of northern Minnesota used basswood bark to sew and tie their world together without metal nails. And Scandinavian fishermen used natural fibers to weave their nets. In this course you will learn about the process of harvesting and processing wild fiber plants, and you will get to play with twisting the plant fibers into twine. As a fun way to create a finished product from your twining samples, you will fashion your different pieces of cordage into a bookmark, bracelet, necklace, or other small item of your own imagination! It is fun to feel and compare each plant and discover the product of your work. You will come away with your samples of twine and the knowledge about plant fibers.

Required materials for students to provide:

Beads with larger holes, ribbons, buttons, yarn or fabric scraps to incorporate into your projects.
Scissors, glue (any kind).



Instructor Bio:

Mercedes is a history educator in the Twin Cities area where she enjoys teaching American Indian and environmental education programs at schools, senior centers and nature parks. During the pandemic she has adapted to online teaching. Learning to teach as a tour guide at the Minnesota Historical Society, Mercedes won a national award for developing a museum education program there. By teaching historic traditions like net making, and pioneer and foraging skills, and making traditional art with a modern twist, Mercedes continues to pursue her passion for connecting the past to our modern lives. She and her husband and toddler have recently embarked on a farm adventure with chickens and cats, and have begun planting nut and maple trees.

Class name: Harvesting and Weaving with Forged Fibers Instructor Name: Mercedes Tuma-Hansen

Registration Deadline: October 25, 2021 Fee: \$55.00 Class Date: Nov. 20 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

NOTE: Plant materials for class will need to be picked up from Textile Center. Details will follow. If you need materials mail to you, additional fees will need to be charged (whatever the actual cost will be)

Mail completed class registration form, together with check, payable to: Mercedes Tuma-Hansen:
Debbie Johnson
12210 Urbank St. NE, Unit H
Blaine, MN 55449

9/25/2021

Minnesota Basket Weavers Guild - Class Registration Form
November 20, 2021
Harvesting and Weaving With MN Forged Fibers
Guest Instructor – Mercedes Tuma-Hansen

