

2009 OVWSG Exhibition and Sale Vendor Information Sheet.

This is the 29th year for the Ottawa Valley Weavers and Spinners Guild Exhibition and Sale and represents an important year in the history of the Guild. We are celebrating our 60th anniversary and throughout the year the Guild will be marking the occasion with a number of special events. The Exhibition and Sale will be an important part of that celebration.

The title for the show will remain “ More Than Cloth”. This will be featured in promotional material which will also highlight the 60th anniversary of the OVWSG. The dates for the Ex & Sale are October 30, October 31 and November 1. It will be held again at the Glebe Community Centre.

I apologize for the length of this information sheet but I wanted to include all necessary information in one call letter to eliminate the need for an early planning meeting and long drives to the city in uncertain weather.

Booth Fees. The booth fees will remain the same as last year (\$100.00 and \$150.00). The booth fees pay for the rent of the Glebe Community Centre, printing of promotional material, paid advertising and parking at Corpus Christi School. The booth fees are maintained at a reasonable rate to encourage broad participation by Guild members. That being said, as a vendor you are required to contribute working time (“sweat equity”) to help organize and promote the Ex & Sale. Each vendor is expected to do a personal mailout, distribute printed material to shops, libraries, community centres, on studio tours, at workshops and to other organizations. If you have a website, include the Ex & Sale information there and on any websites to which you have access. There will be a “job jar” created again this year and specific advertising and organizational jobs will be assigned. We will also need written material and people to contact the media etc. I welcome your creative ideas for promotion and I will contact those of you who offered constructive ideas on the 2008 comment sheet.

Membership Fee. All participating vendors must be members of the Guild. **The membership fee will be going up to \$40.00 per year for an individual. Also, the executive has decided that each booth participant will pay an individual membership fee.** The Guild is in need of income to support the Resource Centre and its other programs; some of our annual operating grants may be eliminated or reduced in budget cuts. As a Guild member you have many benefits: receive a monthly newsletter, have access to an excellent library, may attend monthly meetings and programs, have voting rights, and can make use of the Resource Centre as a student or teacher. We encourage any one of the vendors to contribute a program at a meeting or submit a resume to teach a workshop.

Guild Website (www.OVWSG.com) and Other Promotional Material. The website information on the 2008 vendors included a biography, photo of work and website coordinates. Please check the current information and if you would like to make revisions, include changes to the written material and any new photo which you may want posted in 2009 as part of your application. Also, please send 2 or 3 high quality photos to Melanie Overduin to be used on the bookmarks and flyers etc. as part of the promotional material.

Fundraising. As stated earlier, there will be a need for the Guild to undertake fundraising as its outside funding may be decreased. There are many proposals being discussed including a “60th Anniversary Table” at the Exhibition and Sale to sell items donated by Guild members and Sale Vendors. A donation to the table would be much appreciated and expected. The items donated should be of current work and have a price point in the \$50.00 range. We are at an early planning stage and some alternative may be pursued, but, one should be prepared to commit to this or any other fundraiser. Vendors have always been generous in the past in donating to fundraising tables, door prizes and raffles.

Vendor Selection Process. We had considerable interest in last year’s sale and a selection process was necessary. It is important therefore to register early this year as spaces and booth sizes are limited. Participants’ work may be subject to jurying by our Standards Committee.

Note: we are going to continue our emphasis on Canadian Artisans and their products. This factor will now form part of the selection process for exhibiting vendors.

Payment. A Booth Application Form and Membership Form are attached (membership in the OVWSG is a requirement). You may combine payment for the two. Post-date the cheque to May 1st, 2009. (Cheques will be processed after that date). However, for planning purposes and to facilitate the selection process, it is important to register early to ensure consideration. Please complete both forms and make your cheques payable to the Ottawa Valley Weavers and Spinners Guild. Keep copies of the forms and information for your files.

Mail your **forms and cheques** to Nancy Ingram, R.R. #1, Site 4, Box B-4, Portland, Ontario, K0G 1V0. Send your **photos and biographical information** to Melanie Overduin (melanie_overduin45@hotmail.com) – not Nancy Ingram.