



PRESS RELEASE

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Textile Center's Summer Camp 2026 lineup weaves storytelling, self-expression, identity, and repurposing

From puppet making and dyeing with flowers to learning about fiber and meeting llamas, our lineup invites curious kids and teens to explore, create, connect, and have tactile fun with fiber.



(Minneapolis, MN) – In a world where screens and AI can absorb so much time from our youth, fiber art techniques provide a welcome alternative for young people to use their hands and imagination to cultivate new creative skills. Textile Center's 2026 week-long camps weave together themes of storytelling, self-expression, identity, and repurposing.

Each year, we get to watch in awe as kids transform camps into their own unique worlds for a week. Our youth and teen camps are designed with an open-ended curriculum that supports meaningful engagement through creativity. We encourage process-based exploration and curiosity to foster a genuine interest in handcraft so that it relates directly to the camper's interests.

"As shared interests and mutual collaboration blossom into new friendships, it isn't long before the shy campers we met on Monday have invented a new language together or completely changed the title of camp to suit the new crafting club they've created," shares Chloe Russell Chang, Textile Center Community and Youth Education Manager.

At the heart of many of our camps is learning from the source — understanding fiber art not just as a finished creation, but as a process rooted in animals, plants, and care. By tracing materials back to where they come from, campers build a deeper connection to the fibers they work with, gaining an appreciation for the labor, time, and ecosystems that make handcraft possible. In *Farm to Fabric*, campers work together to process wool fiber in Textile Center's dye lab and meet llamas and alpacas. In *Dye Garden Explorers*, campers work together to tend to the dye garden by watering, weeding, and harvesting flowers and other botanical materials for natural dyeing explorations.

"We provide opportunities for campers to collaborate with one another to facilitate bonding but also ensure there is time for each camper to work on independent projects which they have full creative control over."



Why Textile Center Summer Camps?

- At a smaller class size, students get devoted one-on-one time with our incredible team of teaching artists. Our classes have a 1:6 teacher to student ratio!
- NEW extended pick-up times! Parents + caregivers can now pick up children anytime between 3 and 4 pm. Campers will receive snacks and structured wind-down time, giving you the flexibility to arrive at a time that works with your schedule!
- Unlock creativity with skills they'll take beyond the classroom! Stitching reminds us to slow down and see opportunities for repair, care, and creative expression.
- Seeing fiber at the source (llamas + alpacas!) and repairing what already exists helps encourage mindful makers!

Textile Center 2026 Full Camp Calendar

Textile Center has sliding-fee scale scholarships available for families in need of financial assistance. For more information, email Chloe Russel Chang at crussell@textilecentermn.org.

YOUTH CAMPS (AGES 7–11):

- [Pride Camp for Kids](#) — June 22 – 26
- [Dream Weavers Summer Camp](#) — June 29 – July 3
- [Dye Garden Explorers Summer Camp](#) — July 13 – 17
- [Mini Felted Worlds Summer Camp](#) — July 27 – 31
- [¡Celebre el arte textil! Summer Camp](#) — August 10 – 14
- [Farm to Fabric Summer Camp](#) — August 24 – 28

TEEN CAMPS (AGES 12–16):

- [Reimagined Threads Summer Camp](#) — July 22 – 26
 - [Pride Camp for Teens](#) — June 29 – July 3
 - [It's Alive! Puppet Theatre Summer Camp](#) — August 10 – 14
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Textile Center – A National Center for Fiber Art

Textile Center is unique as a national center for fiber art, with a mission to honor textile traditions, promote excellence and innovation, nurture appreciation, and inspire widespread participation in fiber arts. The Center's resources include exceptional fiber art exhibitions, an artisan shop, a secondhand supplies shop, the region's only accessible professional-grade dye lab, a natural dye plant garden, and one of the nation's largest circulating textile libraries open to the public. Textile Center produces more than 200 classes a year for all ages and skill levels through its youth, adult, and outreach programs. A dynamic hub of fiber activity for more than 30 years, Textile Center brings people together in community to learn, create, share, and be inspired by fiber art. For more information, visit: textilecentermn.org.

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