

PRESS RELEASE

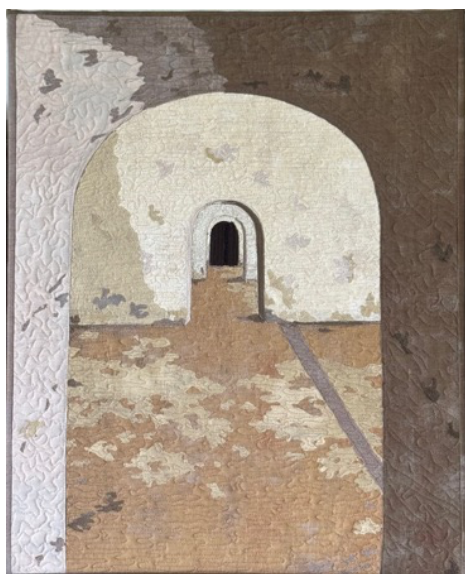
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, July 6, 2026

Textile Center presents *A Common Thread* during *Minnesota Handwork* – A celebration of fiber art in Minnesota in 2026



On view July 30 – October 10, 2026

Artist reception: Thursday, August 6, 5 – 7 pm



From left: *And Another Door Opens*, Emily Chesick; *Flowers from a painting by Marsden Hartley*, Nancy Gehrig; *Accumulation*, Judy Smith

(Minneapolis, MN – July 6, 2026) — Textile Center is pleased to present the 25th year of *A Common Thread*. Now a biennial exhibition featuring the work of our member artists, this beloved show marks its 25th year of celebrating fiber art and textile works created by our community.

As a vital fiber arts nonprofit located in the Twin Cities, Textile Center – in its 32nd year – welcomes more than 130 artists and their artworks, filling our gallery spaces with an exhibition as diverse in technique as it is expansive in scope.

Submitted by artists from among our more than 1,000 members, this exhibition showcases the achievements of our members through myriad approaches to working with fiber art materials and textile techniques. Featured works include stitching, quilting, knitting, weaving, crochet, sewing, dyeing, felting, hand construction, polymer clay, basketry, beading, sculpture, and mixed media.

Textile Center invites the public to join in the celebration at an artist reception on Thursday, August 6, 2026, from 5 to 7 pm. Visitors will have the opportunity to meet member artists and experience the diversity, creativity, and breadth of fiber art on display.

“As the only unjuried biennial fiber exhibit in the country of this magnitude, *A Common Thread* offers every Textile Center member who applies the opportunity to exhibit a piece, resulting in an extraordinary variety and scope of work. Over the years, the show has grown in both depth and commitment to artistic practice in fiber art. As a long-standing community event, it has welcomed everyone – from first time exhibitors to artists whose creative practices have embraced textiles and fiber art for decades. The dedication and enthusiasm our members bring to *A Common Thread*— and the fact that there is something on display for everyone to fall in love with – have made this exhibition an audience favorite.” says Tracy Krumm, Textile Center’s Director for Artistic Advancement.

Minnesota Handwork is funded, in part, by a 2026 Minnesota State Arts Board Arts Experiences grant.



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board FY2026 Arts Experiences grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

About 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.

PRESS CONTACT:

Mia Finnamore, Director of Marketing + Communications
mfinnamore@textilecentermn.org • Phone: 612-436-0464
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From left: *Grandfather and the Heron*, Amanda Shopa; *Samara's Wings*, Karen Altenhofen