

Speaker Series

November 20, 2025

Deanne Fitzpatrick – “Creative Rug Hooking for the Modern World”

Deanne is a renowned artist and writer from Amhurst, Nova Scotia. She believes that rug hooking and creativity deepens and enriches lives. Deanne has written 8 books, received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letter from Mount St Vincent University and has been awarded the Order of Canada for her contribution to the advancement of rug hooking as an art form.

Her style of rug hooking is not about being perfect, it is about creating beauty every day. It is joyful, powerful and transformative.

Hookingrugs.com

January 15, 2026

TBD

February 19

Swapna Namboodiri – “Beauty in the Breakdown: Post Consumer Plastic as a Creative Medium”

Swapna is a very talented multidisciplinary environmental artist with an unlimited imagination. If you have ever felt wasteful or guilty about items you discard, knowing they may still have purpose in their existence, this is the speaker for you. Discover new ways to get creative and be inspired by the works and the imagination of Swapna Namboodiri. “Beauty doesn’t begin with perfection – it begins with transformation”.

Swapnanamboodiri.com

March 19

Harriet Riddell – “Travels Around the World with a Sewing Machine. Connecting with People Through Stitch”

Harriet is a performance textile artist and educator from Oxfordshire, England who uses freeform embroidery to create stitched portraits and live scenarios. She is known to some of us from her visit to Summer Workshop helping us celebrate the Guild’s 50th Anniversary and will bring us up to date on her adventures.

Institchyou.com