

New York Guild of Handweavers Summer 2022 Challenge

“Sustainability”

“Sustainability is the process of living within the limits of available physical, natural and social resources in ways that allow the living systems in which humans are embedded to thrive in perpetuity.”

McGill University, Montreal, Quebec

To participate in the challenge, each of us might consider making sustainability-related changes in our work, including:

- the way we think about the environment, present and future
- the way we think about fiber and materials, including dye materials
- modifications we’ve made in the processes and techniques we use to make our work
- The choice of materials is virtually unlimited; among the possibilities are:
 - re-used/recycled/upcycled materials, possibly thrums or yarn from our stash (or wardrobe)
 - paper/plastic/metallics
 - fiber from small farms or endangered/rare-breed sheep
 - novel environmentally safe dye materials

Work can be made by:

- weaving on or off any type of loom, including multi-shaft, rigid heddle, frame, zoom, and pin looms
- knitting, crocheting, beading, stitching, mending, patching
- boro, sakiori, rag weaving, fabric collage
- spinning, dyeing

Explore, explore, explore---the possibilities are endless! The size of your piece is your choice.

The challenge will conclude with a Show & Tell zoom meeting on **Saturday August 27** at 12:00 p.m.

To participate:

- Take two photos of your work. One of the entire piece and the second, a detail.
- Write a short paragraph (no more than 5 sentences) that discusses
 - The work
 - The process
 - The relationship of the work to sustainability
- Email the photos and written description to nygh.info@gmail.com
- **Deadline: Tues, Aug 23**

Additional Details:

- Each participant will have one slide with project photos and written paragraph
- Phone photos are fine, but please select “large format” when sending them via email
- Can’t attend the Show & Tell zoom meeting in person? You can still participate in the challenge and share your project – and the meeting will be recorded for later access.

Resources:

Philadelphia Guild of Handweavers (PGHW) Sustainability Challenge Show & Tell December 2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VDxo1cfaQxA>

Gigi Mathews, a fellow member, has posted her Philadelphia Guild talk on sustainability on YouTube.

<https://youtu.be/aoSSEeJ9P9c>

Thanks to the Kate Ohara and the Philadelphia Guild for the inspiration to do this.