

FIBER ARTS AND FABRIC DYEING AT THE ART STUDIO

Course Description

We explore the many ways of creating art and functional pieces with fabric and other fibers. Students make hand-dyed fabric using different dyeing methods, framed silk paintings and small weavings and learn different ways to felt wool. Open to all levels. Class is offered in partnership with The Art Studio, the arts education center of New Castle County's Department of Community Services, located at 310 Kiamensi Road, Wilmington, DE 19804. Class meets 10 weeks only and runs for two hours.

Weekly Layout:

Hand Drawn Flags – Using a craft cloth and markers and isopropyl alcohol we will have a choice between making personal flags or koi windsocks.

Indigo dying – A centuries old material for dying fabric, we will also learn about Shibori, an ancient Japanese method of creating patterns in dyed cloth

Needle felting/Painting with wool – Using fine unspun wool and some specialized needles we will create felt art.

Ice dying – Ice dying creates a one of a kind ephemeral pattern that can't be repeated, creating unique works of beauty that you can wear. Each scarf will be graced with subtle shifts in value and stunning contrasts as the ice melts and carries the fiber reactive dye to the silk.

Silk Painting – Using a permanent resist and dyes we will paint silk suncatchers that could also be hung on the wall.

Wet Felting – Using fine unspun wool and soapy water we will make a felted soap and a wool flower that can be made into a brooch, decorate a hat or add a bit of color where ever you want a flower.

Tie Dying – Tie Dye doesn't have to be just for hippies, with a wide-ranging palette of colors we can dye just about any natural fiber and make a wide range of patterns in many colors on wearable or decorative objects.

Weaving – We will spend a morning weaving our own cloth. Participants can choose between weaving a coaster or a small piece of wall art.

Printing – We will draw patterns or images into the surface of foam sheets and using printing inks we can create layered patterns or bold images onto fabric.

Felties – With wool blend felt cloth and embroidery thread we will create pocket size felt dolls or creatures, that make excellent ornaments or quiet toys for small hands.