

Mountain and Valley Wool Association 2023 Wool Festival - SPUN YARN Show

Saturday, October 7th, 2023 Santa Fe County Fair Grounds, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Information, Rules, and Entry Forms for Handspun and Millspun Yarn

Information

The Hand and Mill Spun Yarn Show is open to entrants from anywhere, and to all types of animal fiber and animal fiber blends. At the Judge's discretion, Special awards may be given to entries sourced from the MAVWA area: NM, CO, and TX.

MAIL IN ENTRIES IN ADVANCE OF THE FESTIVAL

- Skeins, entry forms, and fees may be mailed to the Spun Yarn Show Manager, to be received no later than September 15, 2023. We recommend you obtain a tracking number for your package.

MAVWA,
Spun Yarn Show Manager,
PO Box **2754**, Taos, NM 87571

For questions, e-mail **Info at MAVWAWoolFest dot org** (*spelled out to avoid spammers!*) Include 'SpunYarn' in the subject line.

- If you are mailing more than one entry, please place each entry skein, along with its paperwork in a separate bag inside your envelope to avoid mixing up entries when they are unpacked.
- Please include a pre-paid USPS Priority mailing label including tracking and insurance if you would like us to return your entry.
- MAVWA will not be responsible for any skeins lost in transit, we recommend you obtain mailing insurance .

WALK IN ENTRIES AT THE FESTIVAL

- Entries will be accepted at the Yarn Show in the Information Booth between 8:00 and 9:00 am on Saturday, October 7th .
- Prior to submitting the entry, **you must visit the Information Booth** to pay for your entry and receive proof of payment for the Spun Yarn Show. The Information Booth will open at 8:00 AM.
- Bring the proof of payment and completed 2023 Yarn Show Entry Form, along with your yarn skeins to the Yarn Show area.
- At 10:00 am judging will begin and the Yarn Show area will be closed. **No late entries will be accepted after 9:00am.**
- People's Choice voting for Millspun entries will take place outside of the area at the same time as the judging inside.
- When judging is completed, the area will open for public viewing of Handspun and Millspun entries and their prizes.

FEES

- No charge for MAVWA members and their family up to 5 entries total between the competitions. For 6 or more entries the fee is \$5 per entry.
- \$10 per entry per show for non-MAVWA members
- No charge for Wool Festival Booth vendors for the first 5 entries. For 6 or more entries, \$5 per entry.
- There is no limit on the number or type of skeins that each spinner may enter.

SALES

There will be no sales during the Yarn Show.

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PICK UP

- Entries may be picked up in person by the spinner or a designated representative (as indicated on the entry form) between 4:30 and 5:00 pm Saturday at the festival.
- Entries indicated to be returned via mail will be mailed to the entrant within thirty days after the event.
- Entries that are not picked up by 5:00 pm or that did not indicate return by mail will be considered a donation to MAVWA. If you choose to donate your yarn, you may indicate "Silent Auction" as the pick-up authorization.

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Rules

I. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (HANDSPUN AND MILLSPUN ENTRIES):

- An entry shall consist of **one skein**. Each skein entered must have a separate entry form.
- All yarn entered must have been spun since the last Mountain and Valley Wool Association Wool Festival in October 2022 in Santa Fe
- The skein(s) must be at least 25 yds. in length, clean, and finished.
- Skein(s) must be tied in four places with figure-eight ties using the same yarn being shown or yarn that is a similar color. Ties should not contrast with the skein.
- **Very Important! Include the end use on the entry form. What could be made using the finished yarn? How would you make the end product -- knit, crochet, weave, etc.**

NOTE: Sections II., III., and IV. apply to Handspun entries only.

Tip for handspun entries: Provide as much information about your yarn as possible. The more the judges know, the better your chances at receiving a higher score. For example: raw fleece, commercial roving, all prep done by the exhibitor, hand-dyed, commercial or natural dye, method of spinning and plying etc.). Indicating the location where the fiber is from will determine eligibility for the Silver Medallion-Best in Class awards.

II. HANDSPUN CLASSES AND CATEGORIES

Classes:

Youth: Age 12 and under

Beginner: Novices of any age, new to spinning, or spinning for 1 year or less.

Intermediate: Spinning 1 to 4 years

Experienced: Spinning more than 4 years

Categories:

The MAVWA Wool Festival proudly showcases Colorado/New Mexico/Texas (CO/NM/TX) fibers. Only yarns spun from fiber in the CO/NM/TX region are eligible to receive Silver Medallion-Best in Class awards.

CO/NM/TX animal fibers: Fiber from animals raised in Colorado, New Mexico, or Texas.

Other: Fiber from animals that are not raised in Colorado, New Mexico or Texas

#1: 100% wool; **#2:** Wool blends (at least 60% wool, *may include some silk*); **#3:** Other animal fibers;

#4: Art Yarn/Novelty/Designer; **#5:** Spindle Spun (must submit a photograph of yarn on the spindle)

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Handspun Judging Criteria

Members of the Southwest Spinners Handspun Judges (SSHJ) have developed a Yarn Judge Certification Program, based on a similar program of the Northwest Regional Spinners, in order to standardize the way hand-spun yarn is judged across the country.

A judge who is SSHJ certified will evaluate hand-spun yarn at the MAVWA Wool Festival. The judge will issue prize ribbons, and entrants will receive valuable feedback to help improve their spinning.

Skeins are graded on presentation, technique, quality of spinning, fiber choice for type of yarn spun, and suitability of yarn for finished project.

During judging, the judge has the right to combine classes that have very few entries, to divide overly full classes, and to move skeins that would fare better in a more appropriate class.

The judge's decisions are final.

III. HANDSPUN AWARDS:

- For Youth and Beginner Classes, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbons will be awarded by the Judges.
- For Intermediate and Experienced Classes, SSHJ judges use the Danish system for scoring: 90 points and above receives a blue ribbon, 80-89 receives a red ribbon, 70-79 receives a white ribbon.
- The Silver Medallion is awarded for overall Best of Show for Handspun Yarn. To be eligible for the Silver Medallion, the source fibers must originate from the MAVWA region, consisting of Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas **and** be 100% animal fiber (no silk).

IV. MILL SPUN ENTRIES

Eligible entries are those from fiber mills that have spun yarn in-house on their equipment. Refer to Information and Section I. of the Rules for Entry Submission, Fees, Pick Up, and Requirements.

Millspun People's Choice Judging and Awards

Millspun entries will be judged through votes by Wool Festival participants. Festival participants will be allowed to handle and closely examine the entries, then will indicate their favorite entry by casting a paper ballot. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbons will be awarded according the number of votes cast by participants. 1st place will be awarded to the entry receiving the highest number of votes; 2nd place to the next highest number, and so on.

The Judge(s)' decision will be final.

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Entry Forms – Handspun and Millspun

1. Read the Information and Rules on Pages 1 – 4 carefully.
2. Print an Entry Form for each skein you submit. Include the completed form(s) with your skein(s), by mail or in person. Separate forms are required for each skein entered.
3. For questions, e-mail [Info at MAVWAWoolFest dot org](mailto:Info@MAVWAWoolFest.org) (*spelled out to avoid spammers!*) with 'Spun Yarn Competition' in the Subject line.
4. The information on the entry forms will be used by either the Judges for Handspun entries or the Festival goers for People's Choice Millspun voting.

Please fill out the appropriate form carefully and completely - and if hand-written, make sure your writing is clearly legible- and attach the form securely to the skein. This is very important so that the judges/voters can have as much detail as possible about your yarn.

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Entry # _____
(for Festival Staff use)

Saturday, October 7th, 2023 Santa Fe County Fair Grounds, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Name of Spinner/Mill: _____

Name of Entrant (if Millspun): _____

CLASS of hand spinner (if Handspun): Youth Beginner Intermediate Experienced

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Best Phone #: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

MAVWA Member: No Yes If a Vendor, Booth # _____

(NOTE: You do not need to be a Member or Vendor to enter an item.)

Drop off or Mail? Walk In Mail In (If mailing, see page 1)

Who do you authorize to pick up your yarn if you are not able? _____

Pick up Signature: _____ (at time of pick-up)

Pick up time is between 4:30pm and 5:00 pm on Saturday

NOTE: If not picked up by 5:00 pm on Saturday, your entry will become the property of MAVWA (see Pick-Up on Page 3)

CATEGORY

100% Wool Wool Blend (Min. 60% wool) Other Animal Fiber Art Yarn/Novelty

In order for you to enter an item, sign the following release:

The Mountain Valley Wool Association, which produces the Wool Festival, will make every effort to care for my entry but assumes no responsibility for loss or damage.

I agree that the judges' decisions are final.

The information I provided in the Entry Forms is truthful and accurate.

I have read, understood, and agree to abide by the Spun Yarn Show rules.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

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Do not include any information that could identify you on the forms below, otherwise your entry will be disqualified.

2023 MAVWA Wool Festival Handspun Yarn Competition

Entry # _____

Fiber Content _____

Source or Farm where purchased or raised (if known):

Fiber from a Colorado/New Mexico/Texas source? Yes No

Fiber from a US source? Yes No

Original form (e.g., raw, sliver, roving): _____

How did you prepare it for spinning? _____

Yarn type (e.g., single, # of plies, novelty, etc.): _____

Spun on Wheel Spindle (Submit a photograph of yarn on the spindle)

Yarn color: Natural Dyed: ___By you? ___Purchased dyed?

End use for this yarn? Please give details.

Youth (12 yrs. or under) Beginner (less than 1 yr.) Intermediate (2-4 yr.) Experienced



2023 MAVWA Wool Festival Millspun Yarn Competition

Entry # _____

Fiber Content _____

Source or Farm where purchased or raised (if known):

Fiber from a Colorado/New Mexico/Texas source? Yes No

How was it prepared for spinning? Describe the mill processing steps.

Yarn color Natural Dyed ___By the mill?

End use for this yarn? Please give details.