

Penny-Farthing©2023

Class 14, Session F: Saturday 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Class will be taught in person and via Zoom by instructor in classroom

Instructor / Designer: Jill McCullough

Designation for Project Use:

This project is the artist original design. Jill McCullough gives NAWW members full use of the project.

Instructors Comments:

I learned to plait with straw in the 1970s and sold plaited straw work at craft festivals. I have used my design from 1988 as inspiration for this Penny-Farthing bicycle, popular in Victorian England in the 1870s and 80s.

Size of Project:

6½" high, 7" long, 2½" deep.



Skill Level: Open

Specific plaits, techniques, skills you need to know: Clove hitch. Beginners should be comfortable with plaiting a spiral around a core and with adding straw to increase the length. Arrow Plait and four straw ribbon plait are worked around a core, again, familiarity before the workshop will be helpful.

What will be taught in class:

Four straw spiral PD page 42, Four straw ribbon page 67, Arrow-six straws page 33, Gods eye, Woven Star, modified, the heaving line knot.

Specific parts of the project to be completed before coming to class:

Adding straw marquetry to the wooden base would be attractive, but we do not have time to complete that in class. I will send the base to participants who would like to add the marquetry at home before the convention.

Suggested Wheat: The type is not important, but the diameter is.

Straw needed:

50-60 thin diameter straws, 20 medium diameter straws, 5 large diameter straws: dampened and ready to be worked at the beginning of class. (16-18 inch lengths approximate. Don't trim, we will use all the straw.

Other supplies by instructor: wood base, 20 & 26 ga wire, straw colored thread, thicker thread like waxed linen will be supplied for in class students and sent to Zoom participants.

Dremel tool will be available for in class use.

Supplies to bring:

Wooden toothpicks (5-10), Hair clips and/or small clothespins, ruler, blunt ended tapestry needle (larger eye), regular needle, your favorite straw glue, wire cutter, needle nosed plier, skewer-pointed, seam ripper and nail scissors helpful, plastic covering for your straws to keep them damp along with the finished pieces as you complete them, for assembly later in class.

Material Kit: none, but instructor will provide the wood base free to anyone attending the class in person and will send one to zoom participants in US/Canada.

Extra Kits - none

If offered, kits are required for in person attendees. Zoom participants must obtain the supplies on their own. Kits include items above marked with an *