





WEBS Virtual Winter Knitting Retreat

January 18th-January 21st, 2024

Welcome to our WEBS Winter Virtual Knitting Retreat! We want you to have the fun of the Retreat from the safety of your living room or craft space, and we all hope you'll be excited to join us this winter!

What's Included?

Sumptuous swag bags that will be mailed to attendees

Two full days of online classes, as well as morning yoga

Virtual trunk shows and Q&A sessions with our sponsors

Virtual events for you to join at your leisure with events taking place each day

An exclusive shopping coupon code just for retreat attendees

Instructors

We have some of the most talented instructors sharing their expertise this weekend!

Kate Atherley

Margaret Holzmann

Xandy Peters

Amy Snell

Safiyah Talley

Harry Wells



Teacher Bios

Harry Wells

Teaching and knitting are passions for Harry. In 2010, he retired from being a university professor to pursue his passion for knitting professionally, including managing the Northcoast Knittery yarn shop (from 2010-2017) and teaching a myriad of classes at knitting conferences and fiber festivals on the regional and national circuit. His extensive experience in classroom presentation and course preparation makes for an organized and engaging learning experience. He enjoys designing knitwear and accessories for both men and women, with an aesthetic that emphasizes texture and linear flow. Check out his designs and knitting blog at www.goodforaboy.com. He is Knitteryninja on Ravelry, @harrywellsknits on Instagram, and Good for a Boy Knitting on Facebook.



Safiyyah Talley

Safiyyah started knitting ten years ago, and simply never stopped. She is a knitwear teacher, designer, podcaster and blogger who works from her home in scenic Indiana, USA. When she is not knitting, Safiyyah spends her free time either hiking with her photographer husband and chocolate Labrador or enjoying the rural Indiana landscape with her angora rabbit and two cats. She's the host of The Drunk Knitter podcast on You Tube and her self published patterns are available from her Ravelry Pattern Store. You can learn more about Safiyyah on her [website](#), [YouTube](#), and [Ravelry!](#)



Kate Atherley

Kate Atherley is an internationally known knitting author, teacher, and editor. Her latest book, Custom-Fit Hats is her ninth, and the fourth in a series on customizing projects for perfect fit and style; it joins works on shawls, socks, and mittens. She's also the co-founder and publisher of Digits & Threads, an independent, member-supported online magazine about Canadian fibre- and textile arts, crafts and industry. The combination of her university degree in mathematics, professional experience in software development and usability, and training in garment and fashion design give her a unique perspective. She lives in Toronto with her husband and their rescue dog Winnie. www.kateatherley.com



Teacher Bios

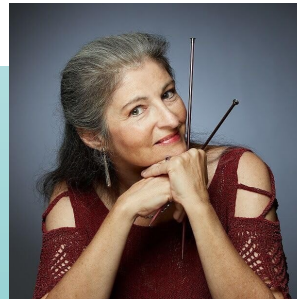
Amy Snell

Amy Snell is an instructor and designer with an eye for the unusual or unusually captivating. Her aesthetic focuses on color, contrast, and texture. She loves to explore unusual stitch patterns and clever construction in ways that are challenging but accessible. Her goal is to make complex concepts accessible and approachable for all knitters, while sharing tips that simplify and improve your process, whether you've been knitting for several months or several decades! You can find her designs at Morehouse Farm, Lovecrafts, Ravelry and her website.



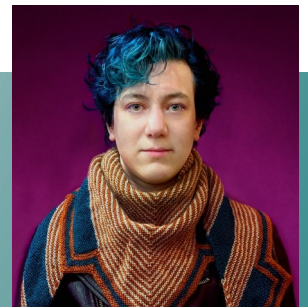
Margaret Holzmann

Margaret Holzmann likes to design and knit the big things! She uses larger items such as blankets, throws and sweaters as a canvas for texture, shapes and colorwork. She excels at construction techniques, the geometry of knitting, and color theory. Following a career as a Software Systems Engineer at Bell Laboratories - a Jet Propulsion Laboratory - she is now a full-time knit designer living in Monrovia, California, and her patterns have appeared in multiple knitting publications. During the stay-at-home orders of 2020, Margaret released the "Safe at Home Blanket". You can check out her blog if you are looking for yarn support or need advice on how to write an arts & crafts book.



Xandy Peters

Xandy Peters is a knitting designer and teacher, best known as the innovator of the stacked stitch technique and for the Fox Paws pattern. Starting out as a footwear and product designer, he turned to knitting as a way to explore textiles and surfaces without using factory production and has since made a career out of publishing new patterns and teaching workshops. Xandy has been published in magazines such as Vogue Knitting, Twist Collective, Knitscene, Knitty, and Pom Pom Quarterly, has a Blueprint class teaching the stacked stitch technique and continues to self publish patterns monthly. Xandy also blogs about design, crafting, and baking on soimakestuff.com and posts craft videos on YouTube.



Harry Wells

Flipside Awesomeness: Reversible Cables: Learn how to make them reversible! Learn what can and cannot be reversed, and two methods in developing reversible cable fabric. Many examples of cables—rope, lozenge, celtic braid, horn and more—are covered with step-by-step examination and in-class exercises to convert them to reversible. Participants will be given several reversible sample stitch patterns to knit up.

Crisscrossing the Rainbow: Color Cables: Now add color to that mix! You will be amazed at how the same cable pattern can produce very different visual experiences by changing which stitch columns receive color. And discover the fun of experimenting with color placement as you learn how to convert a cable chart into a color cable chart using graph paper and/or a charting program.

Introduction to Argyle Knitting: In this class, you will learn the classic technique of knitting Argyle flat, along with a seaming method that makes the seam nearly invisible and not bulky. Students will make an Argyle sample swatch, learning how to wrap yarns to prevent holes, how to add in bobbins, and other Argyle tips and tricks. You will also learn the calculations to design your own Argyle diamond patterns for different gauges. You'll discover the fun of watching these diamonds grow, but beware, Argyle can become addictive!

Colorwork the Easy Way! Mosaic Knitting: Along with the basic mosaic knitting technique for garter and stockinette, learn to predict when combinations of variegated and solid color yarn work together and when they will not, and how charts are written and read differently for mosaic knitting. Practical tips about navigating the technique and advice regarding the best uses for mosaic knitting are included. Also covered are examples of adding slip stitch to basic garter and progressively adding one, two, and three colors to achieve stunning colorwork results with so little effort!

Classes

Safiyah Talley

2 Socks in 1: Knit 2 Socks in 1 is a two at the time sock method in which you knit one long sock that you could then cut in half to create two socks. What makes this method foolproof is that lifelines (lengths of scrap yarn used to hold stitches in place) are inserted as you knit, allowing you to cut into your knitting with confidence. The socks are finished off with a peasant heel, which is an afterthought heel that uses lifelines to simplify the process. The peasant heel also doubles as the toe! The combination of these techniques creates an approachable way to knit two socks at a time!

The Sweater Cheat Sheet: Using my quick and dirty cheat sheet, I walk knitters through how to knit the sweater of their dreams without a pattern. This class focuses on constructing a circular yoke, raglan, and an improved drop shoulder.

Technology for Knitters: Learn to improve your knitting experience using accessible, web based knitting and design programs. In this class, we will explore how to map out color, create knitting charts, schematics, mood boards and more!

Sweater Hacks: The best thing that you can do for a handknit sweater is customize it to fit your needs. This class will guide you through improving the fit of any sweater pattern by incorporating shaping, short rows, alternative necklines and more.

Keynote Speaker
TBA



Classes

Amy Snell

Adventures in Short Rows: Short rows allow us to create shaping and dimensionality in our knitting, giving us the ability to turn a sock heel, raise the back of a sweater neck, or allow for extra room in the bust. Short rows can also be a fun and interesting design element when we play with color in our designs. In this class, you will practice four different methods for creating short rows: wrap and turn, Japanese, German, shadow wrap short rows and more. We'll discuss the benefits of each and talk about how to substitute between them.

Basic Knit Fixes: Recognize, Avoid, and Fix Your Mistakes: Uh-oh, there's something wrong with your knitting! Never fear, almost everything in knitting can be fixed. In this class, you'll learn how to "read" your knitting to identify problems, what causes common problems like dropped or twisted stitches and how to fix them. You'll learn how to tinker, how to frog, and how to know which one to do when. You'll learn how and when to use lifelines, and a few other tips and tricks along the way!

Cabling Without a Cable Needle: Cables take on a new ease when we free ourselves from dependence on that tricky little needle that's so easy to lose. In this class we'll explore how to work different sizes of cables without a cable needle, from simple 2/2 cables larger and more complex cable crosses, as we begin working the Braydon scarf. We'll also explore multiple ways to work 1/1 left and right twists, opening up the world of quick, easy traveling stitches.

Knitwear Repair: Resurrecting Your Damaged Knits: No matter how much care we take with our knitted items, sometimes they develop holes, pulls, snags, or even moth damage. Never fear! With just a bit of effort, you can repair the damage and ready your knits for many more years of use. You'll learn several different methods for repairing damage, and when to use each.

Kate Atherley

Math for Knitters: We'll focus on how math fits into pattern reading – all the aspects of counting and working and keeping track on instructions. We'll cover things like "Decrease every 8 rows 10 times", and "Increase 12 sts evenly distributed across the row". We'll talk about calculating yardage in partial balls of yarn, and how to ensure you'll have enough to complete your project. We'll also have a discussion of gauge and what it really means – and how to deal with it if you can't match. Suitable for newer knitters, and those who wish to get more comfortable reading patterns—it's all about conquering your fear of the numbers and making you a more powerful knitter!

Smart Strategies for Garment Knitting: This class is all about helping you make a better garment by teaching you how to make great choices. We'll start with tips for choosing a good pattern, through to properly identifying what size to make, to finding the best yarn. We'll have a honest discussion about the issue of gauge, and share tips for ensuring that the knitting is fun and the result fantastic.

Chart Reading: Class provides knitters of all levels the tools to read, understand and comfortably work from charts for any type of knitting pattern: colorwork, cables and lace. We'll talk about how to read them, and also share tips for working with them, keeping track of your progress, and making them as easy to read as possible.

Yarn Substitution: Suitable for newer to intermediate knitters, this class will explain yarn terminology, and build your knowledge of types of yarns and fibers. We will dive deep into the topic of yarn weights and gauge, giving you foolproof and easy ways to check and get gauge for a pattern – along the way explaining why it matters, when it doesn't, and what to do if you can't get it. We'll also talk about yarn and fiber types, with a deep dive on matching project to yarn for best result.

Yandy Peters

Intro to Stacked Stitches: Stacked stitches are an innovative approach to striped colorwork, best known as the technique behind the Fox Paws pattern. This introductory class will enable knitters of all levels to try out the technique in a swatch and become confident working patterns that incorporate stacked stitches. We will focus on mastering the increase and decrease stitches and learn several strategies for avoiding problems and fixing mistakes.

I-Cord Cast ons, Bind offs, and Everything in Between: I-cords are simple tubes of knitting, but they have so many uses. In this class, we will learn to make a simple I-cord, and use it as a structural or decorative edge for our knitting. This stitch is easy to learn, and, once you can use it, the possibilities are endless. Students will leave ready to explore their own creative uses for this invaluable technique.

Fixing Mistakes in Brioche: In this class, we will look at the structure of brioche fabric and learn when and how to rip back multiple rows, fix laddered stitches, and even correct a missed increase or decrease. We will also learn how to spot mismatched, dropped or twisted tuck stitches. Each student will cast on and begin a swatch of simple brioche stitch before class and are encouraged to follow along with demos of each fix. They will also have an opportunity to bring in their own brioche projects for help and advice.

Color Theory: Learn strategies to help you quickly and efficiently try out exciting yarns and colors in your knitting. Students will learn about the color wheel, historical points of interest, and will see examples of quick and dirty color-ups from a fashion industry perspective, focusing on methods of exploring color combinations without the expense of yarn and the time intensive process of swatching. Students are encouraged to bring in “difficult” yarns, spinning fiber, and color inspiration.

Classes

Margaret Holzmann

Flower Show Block (Two Sessions): Learn how to work curved shapes and integrate them into a block or design while making the beautiful Flower Show block. Curves are created by short rows, decreases, increases and the clever placement of 3-needle Bind offs. Perfect your skills for purling backwards as you make this beautiful block.

In Part 1 of the class, we learn to make Petals. As homework after class, and before Part 2 of the class, students need to complete 8 Petals. Students generally complete between 4-6 Petals during class.

In Part 2 of the class, taught the following day, we learn how to make the Center, and the edge pieces that surround the Flower and turn it into a square block.

Geometric Knitting Basics: Learn new geometric knitting techniques while making a beautiful Pin-wheel block. Explore ways to create geometric shapes modularly to minimize seaming. We'll be covering the optional construction for this block which is to use Intarsia for Garter Stitch.

Finishing Techniques for Garter Stitch: Learn several methods for assembling garter stitch knitted blocks or strips into a blanket. We'll cover all the finishing techniques to make a polished and perfect handmade blanket that you'll be proud of. We will learn several different sew-less blanket border constructions and their pros and cons, and how to weave in ends permanently and invisibly. Learn how to knit on embellishments and how to tack them to your blanket neatly (so they don't show on the back).



Virtual Class Schedule

Friday, 11:00am-1:00pm

Stacked Stitches
Adventures in Short Rows
2 Socks in 1
Math for Knitters
Flower Show Block - S1
Reversible Cables

Xandy Peters
Amy Snell
Safiyyah Talley
Kate Atherley
Margaret Holzmann
Harry Wells

Friday, 3:00pm-5:00pm

I-cord
Basic Knit Fixes
The Sweater Cheat Sheet
Smart Strat for Garment Knit
Geometric Knitting Basics
Color Cables

Xandy Peters
Amy Snell
Safiyyah Talley
Kate Atherley
Margaret Holzmann
Harry Wells

Saturday, 11:00am-1:00pm

Fixing Mistakes in Brioche
Cabling without a Cable Needle
Technology for Knitters
Chart Reading
Flower Show Block - S2
Introduction to Argyle Knitting

Xandy Peters
Amy Snell
Safiyyah Talley
Kate Atherley
Margaret Holzmann
Harry Wells

Saturday, 3:00pm-5:00pm

Color Theory for Fiber Artists
Knitwear Repair
Sweater Hacks
Yarn Substitutions
Finish Tech. for Garter Stitch
Mosaic Knitting

Xandy Peters
Amy Snell
Safiyyah Talley
Kate Atherley
Margaret Holzmann
Harry Wells

Retreat Schedule

Thursday, January 18th

6:00pm: Welcome meeting
6:15pm: Sponsor presentation
8:00pm-9:00pm: Late-night lounge presentation

Friday, January 19th

8:00am-9:00am: Virtual Yoga
9:00am-10:00am: Tea Time
11:00am-1:00pm: Early afternoon classes
1:30pm-2:30pm: Sponsor presentation
3:00pm-5:00pm: Late afternoon classes
5:30pm-6:30pm: Lounge activity
7:00pm-8:00pm: Sponsor presentation
8:30pm-9:30pm: Late-night lounge presentation

Saturday, January 20th

8:00am-9:00am: Virtual Yoga
9:00am-10:00am: Tea Time
11:00am-1:00pm: Early afternoon classes
1:30pm-2:30pm: Sponsor presentation
3:00pm-5:00pm: Late afternoon classes
5:30pm-6:30pm: Lounge activity
7:00pm-8:00pm: Sponsor presentation
8:30pm-9:30pm: Late-night lounge presentation

Sunday, January 21st

9:30am-10:30am: Tea time
11:00am-12:00pm: Keynote speech



Merino Package - \$375

4 class hours; access to lounge and all presentations and activities;
free shipping code and swag bag

Alpaca Package - \$450

6 class hours; access to lounge and all presentations and activities;
free shipping code and swag bag

Cashmere Package - \$525

8 class hours; access to lounge and all presentations and activities;
free shipping code and swag bag