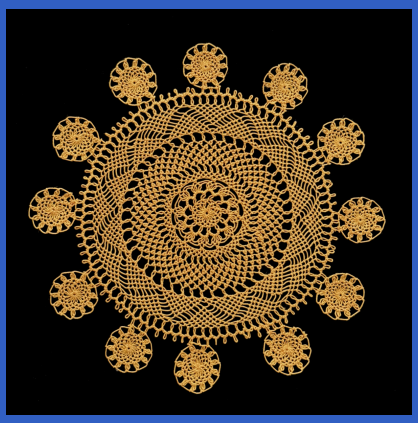
Chesapeake Region Lace Guild

Where lacemaking lives on



Armenian needlelace by Mikayla Kurkjian.

~ A message from the president ~

Members of the Chesapeake Region Lace Guild have had a busy start to 2026 and now Spring Lace Day plans are shaping up to be an educational event. We thank the Lace makers of Greenspring for hosting again this year. Do confirm you have Saturday, April 25 on your calendar. Carpool if you can, and there is also a Metro opportunity if that is what helps you attend. Details are below.

A thank you to Kerry Gruber for her service as Treasurer over the past few years. Kristen Smith was elected by the Board to take on her position. We appreciate Kristen's help with many details during the past few months.

This will be my last message as your President. I finished the term of the previous President, Mary Kay Totty, and then served two terms for a total of close to six years. I want to thank all the other members for their support and many contributions that have helped to keep CRLG so active plus adding many new members. I know lace making is alive and well in the Chesapeake Bay Area! It has truly been my honor to provide leadership for CRLG.

-Linda Kay Benning
CRLG President



Tour of
Cotsen Textiles Traces Study Collection
at GWU
Friday, April 17
1-3 pm

CRLG members are invited to view lace in the *Cotsen Textiles Traces* collection. There are a few slots still available if you haven't yet signed up. Please email Linda Kay at BenningLK@gmail.com if you are interested in attending this event.

The Center, established in 2020, holds more than 4,000 global fragments assembled by Lloyd Cotsen, a trustee of the former Textile Museum. The tour will focus on needle and bobbin lace, and perhaps a recently identified sprang cap.

Additionally, the current exhibition looks amazing: "Adorning the Horse: Equestrian Textiles for Power and Prestige". It is available through June 20 during this Year of the Horse.

701 21st Street NW
Washington, DC

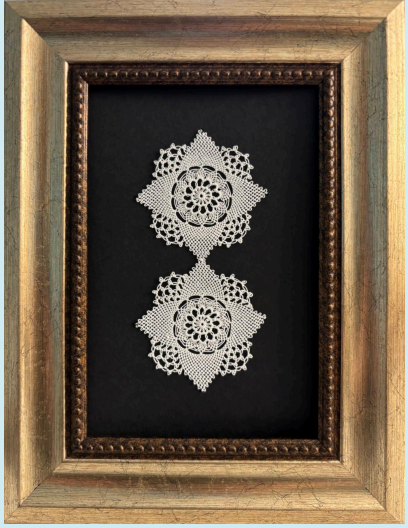
Near the Foggy Bottom Metro. Click the link below to see the digital archives.

Click HERE to view the Collections at GW

~ Spring Lace Day ~
Saturday, April 25
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Greenspring Village
Hunters Crossing Conference Center
7430 Spring Village Drive
Springfield VA 22150

Metro Service is available for Spring Lace Day!:
Take the Blue Line to *Franconia Springfield* and you will be picked up and taken to Lace Day - .... - IF YOU EMAIL Karen H Thompson of your intent to do that at karenhthompson@gmail.com ***the day before.*** She will provide you with a number to text when you reach the station so your ride will be there to meet you with a CRLG SIgn on the windshield.



Armenian Needlelace

Presentation by

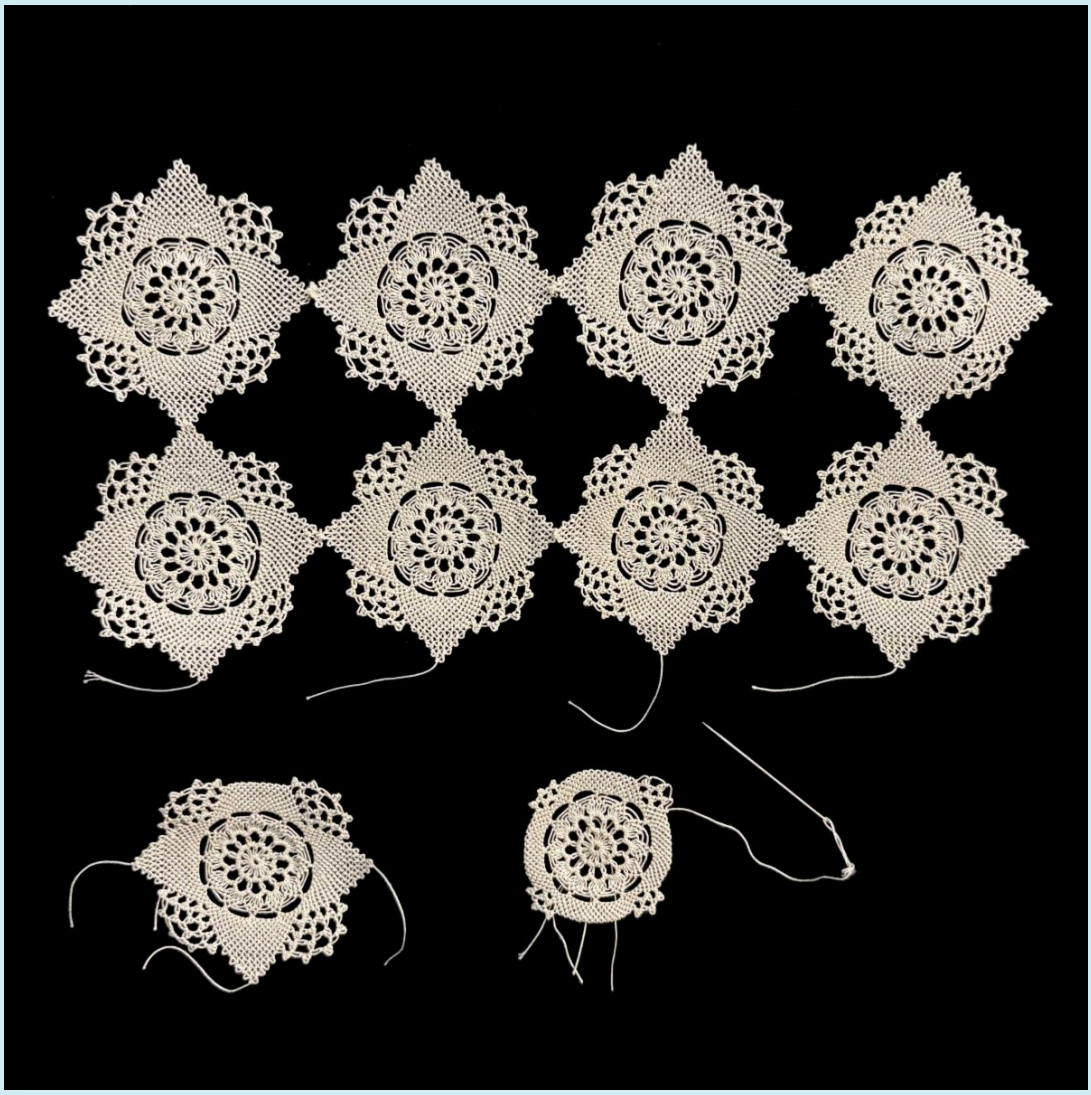
Mikayla Kurkjian

I began learning Armenian needlelace in 2018 after discovering my late grandmother's work hidden in her home. After realizing how few resources exist for Western Armenian lace and embroidery, I became determined to maintain these traditional techniques. My work aims to develop, hold, and transmit Armenian needlelace as a craft that is alive in the present rather than merely historical. I am currently developing a series where I re-create the lace I inherited from my grandmother and great-grandmother. The first piece, titled "My Grandmother Before Me", was shown at Threadlines, the 2025 SWANA Stitch group show for Portland Textile Month.



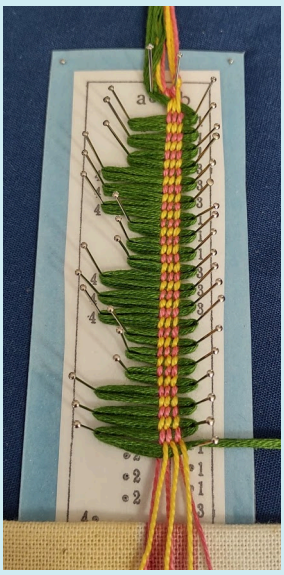
Mikayla Kurkjian

Lace below by Mikayla Kurkjian.



Lace Day Schedule:

9:30 am - Register and Shop
10:00 am - ***CRLG Business Meeting***
11:00 am - Break
11:15 am - ***Presentation***
12:15 pm - Brown Bag lunch and Shop
1:00 pm - Mini Workshops - Round One
2:00 pm - Scholarship Drawing
2:15 pm - Mini Workshops - Round Two
3:15 pm - Clean Up



Vendor: Van Sciver Bobbin Lace, Ithaca, New York

- Details on Mini Workshops coming soon, including option to make bobbin lace fringe, *pictured*.
- Minutes from last meeting and financial reports will be emailed closer to the meeting date.

Binche Lace Class



Teacher: Kamiko Nakazaki
September 25, 26, 27
9 am to 4 pm daily

Save the dates!

Details coming soon.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Chesapeake Region Lace Guild is delighted to announce scholarship opportunities designed to support our members in beginning, learning, connecting, and advancing their lace practices.

Membership Scholarship: This award covers the cost of annual CRLG membership, helping new and returning lacemakers undergoing financial insecurity to join our community and access resources, events, and networking opportunities. Recipients will remain anonymous.
Link here: https://forms.gle/tK2zzwWBuNHZgd1n6

Guild Workshop Scholarship: Designed to encourage hands-on learning, this scholarship provides funding for one member to attend a CRLG-sponsored workshop. One scholarship will be available per workshop.
Link here: https://forms.gle/BbxQ15EZDLHKaE9k8

Together, these scholarships reflect CRLG's commitment to nurturing creativity, skill, and fellowship among lacemakers and textile artists.

** UPCOMING EVENTS **

2026

April 17 - Tour of the lace collection at the GWU Textile Museum
April 25 - Spring Lace Day, Greenspring Village, Springfield, Virginia
May 2-3 - Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival, Howard County Fairgrounds
June 6 - Couvige at GW Textile Museum, 12:30-4:30 pm
July 11 - Clouvige at GW Textile Museum, 12:30-4:30 pm
July 19-24 - IOLI, Durham, North Carolina
August 6-9 - World Lace Festival, Bobowa-Nowy Sącz, Poland
August 17-28 - OIDFA Virtual Congress
September 12 - "Celebration of Textiles" GW Textile Museum, 10-4 pm
September 16-17 - Demonstrate at Mt. Vernon for Homeschool Days
September 25-27 - Kumiko Nakazaki's Binche Lace Class, 9-4 daily
October 24 - Fall Lace Day, Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, MD

2027
April 19-25 - OIDFA Congress, Lanzarote (Canary Islands)
July 18-23 - IOLI Convention, Spokane, WA

George Washington's Mount Vernon





Karen H. Thompson (left) and Bonnie Swank (right), demonstrated at Mt. Vernon for their “Remembering the Ladies Family Day”. The Ipswich story of lacemaking was of great interest to visitors, especially picture of Mrs. Washington wearing a shawl with Ipswich lace trim.

IOLI Convention Favors

Many thanks to Kristen Smith for designing our lens cleaning cloths, featuring lace made by Anita Okrend (sailboats) and Karen Haynes (crab). These will be give-aways for the next IOLI convention this July in Durham, NC.



PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Now you can join the lace guild, or renew your membership, on our updated webpage: **CRLG.org**

Annual Dues: $20

Visit our website

Click Here for Membership Form

Contact Kristen Smith with any questions or if you are uncertain of your status at crlg.ksmith@gmail.com

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Tønder lace class by Bobbi Donnelly



Back row l-r: Nadia Grenier, Susan Kuvelker, Linda Kay Benning, Bobbi Donnelly, KK Nagashima (hostess), Kristen Smith, Ann Manyin, Jan McKee.
Front Row: Yitong Gao, Ziwei He. Not pictured: Judith Lamp

CRLG Volunteer Hours Needed

Please remember to report your volunteer hours before the end of April.

To maintain our non-profit status, it is vital for CRLG to demonstrate how we fulfill our mission of educating and preserving the art of lacemaking. Since May 1, 2025, if you have participated in any of the following activities, please ensure they are recorded:

- Demonstrating or making lace for an exhibit

- Helping to curate an exhibit or identify lace

- Teaching lacemaking without payment

- Writing lace-related articles

- Organizing lace events

- Serving in leadership positions for CRLG or IOLI

- Any other lace-related volunteer activities

Thank you for your contributions and for helping us track our collective impact.

Please send your volunteer hours to Karen Thompson at KarenHThompson@gmail.com or bring to Lace Day !

Click Here for Volunteer Hours Form

Study Group Contacts

Study groups typically meet once a month either virtually or in person. Please consult the Membership Directory for contact details or email CRLGBoard@gmail.com.

****NEW NoVa Group, Falls Church, VA****
Meets monthly at the Mary Riley Styles Public Library on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 2 pm **April meeting on April 12th**
Contact: Kristen Smith

Colonial Lacemakers - Williamsburg, VA
Meet monthly in members' homes from 10-3.
Contact: Mary Drew

D.O.L.I.P. (Dept. of Lacing in Public), Washington, DC
Meets (typically) 2nd Thursday of each month
at the MLK Library Conference Center 901 G St NW from 6:45pm - 8:30pm
Contact: Sarah J. Hull

Doily Madisons - Virtual
Meets the first Saturday of the month at 10 am via Zoom
Contact: Tamara Webb

Lace Wings - Virtual
Meets the fourth Monday of the month at 1pm via Zoom
Contact: Linda Kay Benning

Lacemakers of Greenspring
Meets Tuesdays from 9:00 -11:00 am
Greenspring Retirement Village
Contact: Karen H Thompson

Log Cabin Lacers - Baltimore and Ellicott City, MD
Contact: Susan Kuvelker

Montgomery Moonlight Lacers - Montgomery County, MD
Meets the first Wednesday of the month, at 7pm, via Zoom
Contact: Janet McKee

Queen Anne's Lace - Fairfax, VA
Contact: Sherri Bertrand

International Organization of Lace, Inc.

The Chesapeake Region Lace Guild (CRLG) is an educational non-profit association. As a Charter Chapter of the International Organization of Lace, Inc., the objectives of the Guild are to promote interest in the fine old laces, to preserve fine laces for posterity, to study the history and characteristics of lace, to teach and promote lacemaking and lace identification, to promote and encourage lace exhibits, and to encourage museums that own lace collections to exhibit their collections and make them generally available for viewing by the public at large.

Next Upcoming Convention:

2026 I.O.L.I. Convention

Co-hosted with the

North Carolina Regional Lacemakers

Sunday, July 19 to Friday, July 24

Durham, North Carolina

For more information, see the **2026 Convention Website**.

IOLI Convention Webpage

SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO SHARE!

Please send photos and articles to post on Facebook to Holly Lacusky at **hclacusky@gmail.com**

When sending in your items for reposting to Facebook, please note how you would like you and your work to be tagged and linked to your social media account so that we can ensure proper attribution/credit.

Chesapeake Region Lace Guild | Palisades Neighborhood Library 4901 V Street NW | Washington, DC 20007 US

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