

Sewing & Stitchery

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Thank you for your interest in teaching at the **2023 Sewing & Stitchery Expo – March 1 - 5, 2023**. Please read the following information carefully in preparation for submitting your class proposals to the show. We are currently planning Expo 2023 as an in-person event. We will follow all state and CDC directives in order to host the event.

2023 Selection Criteria

- Classes in the field of sewing, yarnwork, or other fiber arts.
- Educational in nature.
- Must include demonstration of a technique or enhance knowledge.
- Teachers must be able to fully present their topic within the time allotted for the class.
Time limits will be strictly enforced.

Sewing & Stitchery Expo staff are available to help refine your class ideas prior to submission – if you have questions, do not hesitate to contact them. Teachers will be selected based on applications, class photos, references, class outlines, and telephone interviews (if necessary). There are a limited number of teaching positions and there will be limited class selections in each topic. If there are duplicate topic applications, Expo staff will select the most developed application or work with applicants to refine their topic.

Please provide a title and description of your class that is detailed and specific to the skill or topics the students will be learning. If necessary, we will edit for clarity, grammar, and length. Submissions must include one or more high quality photos of the project, which you own or have written permission to reproduce.

To enhance the educational nature of this event, teachers should be vendors or affiliated with a vendor booth in order to be available to attendees outside of the classroom. For teachers without an existing affiliation, there are a limited number of spaces in the Expo's *Pop-Up Shop*, and some vendors are willing to host teachers from similar crafts. Please let Expo staff know if you do not have a vendor booth and they will work with you.

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Equipment Provided

We provide the following equipment in our classrooms:

- Lavalier microphones
- LCD projector and screen (instructor supplies laptop)
- Document camera (helpful for demonstrating detail work)
- Easel, flip chart, and markers



Class Types

The types of classes available are listed below. Please read the descriptions carefully and select the format that will best showcase your teaching style and topic. You are encouraged to apply for more than one class format; the most successful teachers have a combination of One, Two, and Three Needle classes. The Education Manager and Expo staff will make the final determination of classes (One, Two, Three Needle, Free Stage, etc.), scheduling and room/location.

Free Stage

175 seats • 45 minutes

The Free Stage is located at the back of the vendor floor in the Showplex Building. These lecture/demo sessions are not ticketed and are open to all Expo attendees. Speakers selected for this venue must strictly adhere to the 45-minute time limit (all other Sewing & Stitchery Expo rules & regulations apply). A microphone and flip chart are provided; speakers are responsible for any other tools, materials or props they may require. Must be presented in a way where the teacher and materials can be understood by a large group of people.

One Needle

90 to 200 students • 1 hour

These are lecture/demo classes. Instructional handouts are recommended but not required. They should be presented in a way where the teacher and materials can be understood by a large group of people. If you need more time for your topic, please submit as a Two Needle class. One Needle classes are offered twice during Expo, usually on Thursday/Saturday or Friday/Sunday.

Two Needles

16 to 50 students • 1.5 hours

These are classes focused on a project or specific technique, either as a lecture/demo using step-outs and in-progress samples, or as a simple hands-on project. Sewing machines/sergers are not available for Two Needle classes, but steps may be demonstrated using the instructor's machine. Speakers are required to provide a handout for attendees. Handouts may be a physical copy provided in class, or provided by email or through an online link.

Three Needles

16 to 50 students • 2.5 hours

These are our most popular classes and offer a hands-on creative experience. Three Needle classes can be taught on sewing machines/sergers (provided, classrooms are based on machine brand) or handwork, such as fitting, beading, handsewing, or other applied technique. Students should learn a technique or skill, and have a completed or nearly-completed project by the time class ends. Three Needle classes are offered twice during Expo, usually on Thursday/Saturday or Friday/Sunday. *Applications for Three Needle classes must include a list of student supplies and kit materials (see below).*

Four Needles

16 to 36 students • 4 hours

These four-hour immersive learning experiences are offered on Wednesday (pre-show), with a limited selection on Saturday and Sunday. These are hands-on classes using sewing machines/sergers (provided, classrooms are based on machine brand) or with a focus on drafting, handwork, beading, or other applied technique. Students should learn a technique or skill, and have a completed or nearly-completed project by the time class ends. *Applications for Four Needle classes must include a list of student supplies and kit materials (see below).*

Kit fee costs vary with the amount and quality of product provided. While the Expo does not set a price limit on kit fees, we ask that you consider what materials students truly need in each class and their total cost for the class.

Supply List. Students are accustomed to bringing basic sewing or crafting supplies to Expo. Please consider what they bring with them when you assemble your classes and kit fees. Our basic supplies list includes scissors (fabric & paper), pins, seam ripper, chalk, seam gauge, ruler, measuring tape, sewing needles, etc

Classrooms. The Sewing & Stitchery Expo spans 22 classrooms in six buildings over five days. Class sizes and schedules will depend on classroom availability and teacher preferences, as indicated on your application. We make every effort to schedule classes appropriate to room capacity and required capabilities. If you have specific scheduling requirements, please let Expo staff know.