

Overmountain Weavers Guild and the Reece Museum at ETSU presents:

*“Textile Traditions of the Mountain South:  
Fiber Arts of the Overmountain Weavers Guild”*

The Overmountain Weavers Guild will present a fiber arts show at the Reece Museum on the campus of East Tennessee State University beginning June 10 and running through July 26. The exhibit, entitled *“Textile Traditions of the Mountain South: Fiber Arts of the Overmountain Weavers Guild”*, will feature contemporary and traditional fiber creations of the guild members. The fiber arts displayed will encompass a wide variety of techniques, including weaving, spinning, knitting, crochet, felting, seat weaving, and chair caning. The museum will be open Monday through Friday from 9 to 4:30pm.

Within the larger show, the guild will also present a separate weaving exhibit featuring the reproduction of a rare set of antique weaving drafts from Carroll County, Virginia. This collection of 70 patterns discovered by Suzanne Burow, includes drafts dated from 1847 until 1935. The names of the weavers listed on these patterns led to genealogical research by the guild into the history of these families, revealing some surprising connections. Also on exhibit in the gallery will be a working barn loom.

During the show, the guild will sponsor two hour-long lectures on antique weaving equipment and traditional weaving patterns. The first lecture will be on Wednesday, June 19, from 11-12 noon. Ms. Cassie Dixon will present a program on historical weaving techniques and coverlets entitled **“Kivvers, Coverlets, and Coverlids and Traditional Linens”**. Ms. Dixon is a traditional pattern weaver who specializes in the weaving of coverlets and the processing of the flax plant into linen cloth. She has been spinning, weaving, and using natural dyes for over 40 years. She is also a member of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Ms. Dixon’s recent teaching and presentation experience includes the John C. Campbell Folk School, Penland School of the Arts and Crafts, Southeast Fiber Forum at Arrowmont School and the National Museum of the American Coverlet.

The second lecture will be given on Wednesday, July 17, from 11-12 noon. Ms. Susan Leveille will present a program on traditional Appalachian weaving entitled **“Tromp It Til You Make It Square”**. Ms. Leveille is the owner of Oaks Gallery in Dillsboro, N.C. She has been weaving for 45 years after being taught by her great aunt at the age of 10. Her passion is teaching weaving and she has taught at Haywood Community College, Southwest Technical College, John C. Campbell Folk School, Penland School of Crafts, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts and the North Carolina Center for Advancement of Teaching, in addition to private classes. In 2014, the North Carolina Arts Council and State of North Carolina honored Susan with the North Carolina Heritage Award for her work. Both lecture programs will be held in the meeting room of the Reece Museum.

An **opening reception** will be held at the gallery on Saturday, June 22 from 2-5pm. Mountain dulcimer music will be provided by Don Burger of Jonesborough.