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## **Fiber Arts**

### **Residency offered:**

Fibers: Spinning Dying, Weaving: This is an introduction to the myriad world of fiber: from silk cocoons to kimonos, Navajo sheep to ancient tapestry techniques, from spinning yarn to dying indigo, once a prized commodity of the ancient world. Class content will be tailored to be age/curriculum appropriate. I will show and discuss wool, silk, cashmere, cotton, linen, rayon, and manmade fibers. We will use hand spindles to spin and ply fiber into thread and then dye our product with natural dyes. Dyes are my passion - natural dyes are part of world history as well as safe to use. A small pouch may be woven on a cardboard card using the yarn made in class. This class can include all stages of working raw wool into a finished product or can be tailored to fewer sessions, depending on class need.

**Kumihimo Cord weaving:** Students can easily learn this ancient Japanese braid-making technique using colorful fibers on a disc cardboard loom. These beautiful cords were once used to lace Samuri armor. In Japanese tradition, patterns are learned and woven through chants which direct the order of colored strands. The project can be completed in several sessions. Students may keep their looms to continue braiding projects on their own. Cords may be used as trims or as a lanyard to hold a favorite amulet. Suitable for grades 3 and up.

**Preferred Age/Grade level:** grades K - Jr. High

**Supplies, Equipment, Space, and Time Considerations:** I will supply all fiber, spindles, dyes, looms, buckets, hotplates, etc.. I am available to teach from mid January – May.

### **Teaching Experience:**

AIR.- Spinning, Weaving Residency 2004-2006, Pateros Public School, grades 4/5  
Adult spinning classes at my gallery ( the Ashford Gallery, Winthrop), Youth Spinning workshops at Twisp Arts Fest, and at the Okanogan County Fair, Kids' Summer Tapestry Weaving through King County Parks Commission, as well as numerous dying classes using indigo and natural dyes.

### **Artist's Statement:**

For 25 years, I have been involved with all aspects of fiber. I love it. I will share this enthusiasm with the students in a way they have probably not considered before. The study of fiber embodies numerous ties historically, sociologically, artistically, anthropologically and undoubtedly a few more ways the teacher would discover.

