

May 13-16, 2027
The Riverside Hotel
Boise, Idaho



Registration opens
September 1st at:
www.rmrega.org

Designers

Join teachers from across the
Rocky Mountain Region and
beyond:

Vicky Hays
Teresa Huester
Mary Layman
Rebecca Noland
Debbie Rowley
Carolyn Standing Webb

Why Stitch With Us?

Gather with friends old and
new from across the Rocky
Mountain Region!

Encounter local artists on
display at the Prospectors
Exhibit.

Enjoy a class or two and learn a
new technique from fantastic
teachers.

Delight in surprises throughout
the weekend!

Techniques

Take classes in techniques like
crazy quilt, surface embroidery,
counted canvas, mixed media,
blackwork, finishing, and
stump work.

After a day of classes, find time
to work on projects in the open
stitching room,
or participate in our silent
auction or merchandise night.

Questions? Please contact us at registrar@rmrega.org.

Welcome to the Gem of a Weekend brochure!!

I'm glad you're here, exploring what Rocky Mountain Region's next in-person event will include. It's going to have something for everyone.

There will be full day and half-day classes you can take. There will be a dedicated room for stitching, so you can bring a UFO to work on or bring something brand new to start. Or you can come hang out with your stitchy friends, without doing any stitching of your own!!

There will be fun events in addition to stitching – silent auction, Prospectors Exhibit, smalls exchange, and more!

Not having been to Boise before, I'm looking forward to exploring the downtown area, a couple of the local museums, and walking in the riverside park, which is right by our hotel. So, take a look at the information to see what appeals to you.

It truly will be a Gem of a Weekend!

Vicki Bridges
Region Director
Rocky Mountain Region

We are so glad that you are considering our wonderful event!

The Embroiderers' Guild of America Rocky Mountain Region is proud to be sponsoring this special gathering.

The Western Idaho Chapter is working with us to provide an exciting weekend in Boise. I have been pumped about it ever since I went to Boise on a site visit and met the local chapter members. Many have been on our planning committee and are instrumental in providing local information as well as being at the event to make sure that all participants have a great experience.

The faculty providing the classes have a varied array of projects and techniques to explore. Our open stitching room will encourage people to gather, stitch and visit. The first night we will gather for a meet and greet with teachers and fellow event attendees.

One day includes an exhibit, a silent auction and a merchandise night. The hotel has many amenities and several restaurants.

Please come explore and enjoy Boise with us.

Sandra Scribner
Committee Chair
Assistant Region Director
Rocky Mountain Region

Registration Fee

EGA members: \$95
Non-RMR members: \$105
Non-EGA members: \$145

The Fine Print

The registration fee for Gem of a Weekend is non-refundable and does not include the purchase of a class or kit, tour fees or a hotel room during the event.

Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Register early to get the classes you want. Classes are size limited based on capacity.

EGA Members at Large (MALs) or who are otherwise outside the Rocky Mountain Region should register as a non-RMR member. Participants who are not EGA members should register as a non-EGA member.

If you register via mail, you will be notified by the registrar of your class selections by January 15, 2027.

All registrants not staying in the The Riverside Hotel, or those staying at the The Riverside Hotel with a room rate other than the RMR negotiated rate, pay an additional \$100 facility use fee. Those not staying at the The Riverside Hotel or staying with a different room rate are not considered part of the seminar room block, which contributes toward payment of event and classroom space.

If you need to cancel your registration, please contact the Registrar directly at registrar@rmrega.org.

To register via mail, please fill out the printable registration form and mail it with your class choices and a check with the registration and class fees to:

**Teresa Huester
8320 Lakeview Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO
80908**

Non-Sufficient Funds Policy - Cash, money order, or cashier's checks shall be required from members who have outstanding, non-collectible, returned checks payable to an EGA chapter, region, or national. All documented returned check expenses associated with NSF checks shall be charged back to the issuer including returned check fee assessed by the bank, all other documented expenses associated with the return check, plus a \$25.00 handling fee.

Student Code of Conduct – EGA fosters values of honor, mutual respect, cultural sensitivity, integrity, and responsible conduct. Students are expected to behave consistently with these principles, during in-person or virtual classes, displaying common courtesy towards their teacher and fellow classmates. Students will use their best efforts to listen during instruction and will not be disruptive. Students will not unduly monopolize the teacher's time and attention to the detriment of their fellow classmates. Students will limit contact with the teacher to the classroom or online methods deemed acceptable by the teacher. At the discretion of EGA, students who violate the code of conduct may be asked to leave class and/or the event.

EGA is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for stitchers of any experience level, age, race, ethnicity, nationality, ability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or other background to develop their skills and express their creativity through the needle arts. EGA affirms the commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA).

Per EGA guidelines, all student electronics, including task lights, used in the classrooms must be battery operated (no cords).

Please be advised that photographs will be taken during the Gem of a Weekend event. If you do not want to be included in photographs, it is your responsibility to alert the photographer that you do not want to have your picture taken.



The Riverside Hotel

2900 Chinden Blvd

Boise, ID 83714

Phone: (208) 343-1871

<https://www.riversideboise.com>

Our retreat hotel, The Riverside Hotel, sits directly beside the famous Boise River Greenbelt, making it easy to explore the city's parks, river views, and cultural attractions when you take a break from your stitching.

Room rates for Gem of a Weekend are \$198/night with complimentary breakfast and parking.

Room rates are available from May 12 – May 16, 2027, so consider arriving early in Boise to get a jump on the weekend.

King and Queen beds are available.

The hotel is located 10-15 minutes from the Boise Airport (BOI). Contact the hotel about their free shuttle.

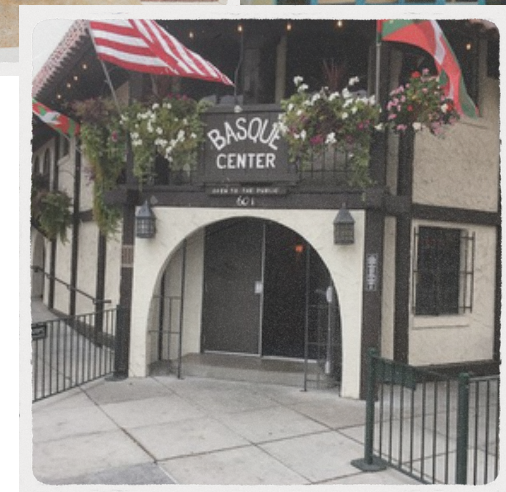
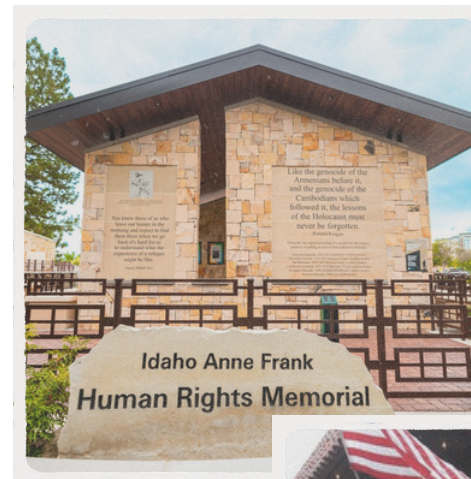
Make your reservation for a Gem of a Weekend hotel room here:

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.13062.html?groupId=Y37EV6C2

Explore Boise

<https://visitboise.com/>

A hidden jewel of the Rocky Mountain Region, Boise is a vibrant city with lots to do, yet keeps that small town feel, with museums, galleries, and recreational trails, including the famous Greenbelt.



Take Home a Program

Teacher: Mary Layman

Cost: Free

Limited to one person per chapter

Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) is pleased to present a new opportunity for Gem of a Weekend participants to "Take Home A Program" (THAP) to share with their home chapter.

Here's how it works:

We will present a chapter program to one representative from each chapter in the region. We will teach you how to present the program, supply you with instructions and materials for stitching and finishing, and answer your questions as you stitch and finish the project--and when you present the project to your chapter.

RMR Education is sponsoring the THAP course, so there is no teaching or materials fee.

Here's the fine print:

The first person from each chapter to sign up for the course at registration will be the only person from that chapter in the THAP course. You will go home with a project to stitch and finish and keep for yourself--for free. You will commit to finishing the project and presenting the program to your chapter within one calendar year. You will also be greatly appreciated by your Programs Chair when you arrive home with a readymade program to fill out the chapter calendar!

Here's the project:

As our inaugural THAP, we will present a Petite Project from the EGA website: Purple Mountain Majesty, designed by Laurel Knapp. This beginner-level project will consist of Bargello (Florentine stitch) on canvas, how to make cording trim, and will be finished into a toolkit tin.

Rocky Mountain Region would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Mid-Atlantic Region for allowing us to use the idea they originated and perfected over a couple of decades of successful THAP courses.

Full Day Classes

Tomato Sewing Roll & Strawberry Pincushion

Rebecca Noland
Class fee \$85, Kit fee \$70

Learn how to hand-finish this delightful yet practical sewing set.

- Kit Contents: Chart, threads and linen for prework. Fabrics for finishing, thread needed and a sharp needle will be supplied at the retreat.
- Pre-Work: Required pre-stitching. Kits will be mailed well in advance so you can complete the work before class.
- Student Supplies: Tapestry needle, scissors, and your favorite stitching accessories.



Embroidery Stitch Diary

Rebecca Noland
Class fee \$85, Kit fee \$45

Create your very own Stitch Diary. During this daylong class you will learn all the tips and tricks to stitch on perforated paper and start the process of decorating your diary and personalizing it.

- Kit Contents: Hand-dyed perforated paper, floss, chart for stitching, notebook, custom frame for perforated paper, ribbon bookmark, and other materials for finishing.
- Student Supplies: Basic embroidery supplies (needle and scissors) and lighting/magnification.

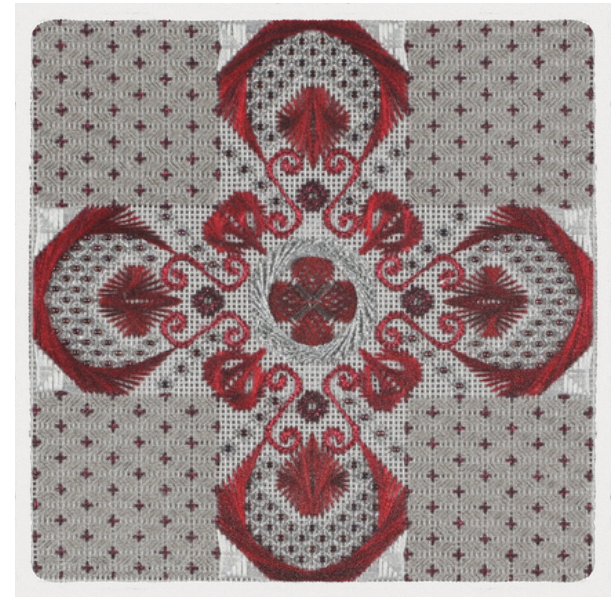
Full Day Classes

Garnet Opulence

Debbie Rowley
Class fee \$85, Kit fee \$135

The richness of garnets set in a silver mounting exudes opulence! Metallic and silk threads highlight the deep burgundy of garnets, placed against a Pewter canvas background (mimicking a silver setting), accented with glass seed beads and bugle beads.

- Kit Contents: Canvas with taped edges, all threads, tapestry needles, and instructions needed to complete the project.
- Student Supplies: 2 pairs of 12" stretcher bars, tacks/staples, and magnification/lighting if needed.



Starburst Square

Debbie Rowley
Class fee \$85, Kit fee \$100

Starburst Square sparkles with a variety of star stitches in gold and silver threads, with added touches of silk floss. The stars radiate from a central point in a brilliant galaxy against the dark blue canvas. Star stitches, both large and small, shimmer together in this appealing project that can be finished as an ornament or other decorative element, a shimmering touch for holiday decorating.

- Kit Contents: Canvas with taped edges, threads, including Kreinik metallic threads, and instructions to complete the project.
- Student Supplies: 2 pairs of 8" stretcher bars with tacks or staples, a laying tool, scissors for fine threads or metallics, lighting and magnification as needed.



Full Day Classes

Finishing for Needlework Smalls

Carolyn Standing Webb
Class fee \$85, Kit fee \$60

Perfect for stitchers who have unfinished pincushions or needle books. Learn techniques to successfully assemble and finish small pieces like pincushions, fobs, and scissors sheaths. A few patterns are included in the directions.

- Kit Contents: Muslin, silk fabric, stranded cotton thread, thread, comic board, shirtex, seed beads, linen, and other finishing supplies. A text with diagrams and instructions.
- Pre-Work: 4-5 hours of easy pre-work so you can focus on practicing the finishing stitches during class.
- Student Supplies: Basic sewing kit, light and magnification, PVA or Elmer's school glue.



Mariposa

Carolyn Standing Webb
Class fee \$85, Kit fee \$50

"Mariposa" is Spanish for butterfly. This class features a Blue Copper butterfly and two white mariposa lilies floating above a silk background. Students will learn how to create three-dimensional elements using wired stumpwork techniques, and how to finish and mount them on a background fabric.

- Kit Contents: Muslin, silk fabric, wire, stranded cotton thread, tissue paper.
- Student Supplies: 6-inch hoop or 8 X 8" stretcher bars, 8 X 10" stretcher bars and tacks, basic sewing kit, light and magnification, PVA or Elmer's school glue.

Half Day Classes

Introduction to Slow Stitching

Vicky Hays

Class fee \$30, Kit fee \$20



Focuses on mindful, creative, meditative processes. This all-levels class covers Sashiko, crazy quilting, and English paper piecing, with other embroidery techniques explored as time allows. Participants will create a needle book and will have the opportunity to gather other materials from shared resources.

- Kit Contents: Fabric base, batting, needles, templates, pearl cotton, instructions, polka dot fabric, cardstock hexagon, denim piece, sashiko and embroidery needles, glue stick, Gem of a Weekend label, and a zipper pouch.
- Student Supplies: Basic embroidery supplies (favorite fibers, small hoop, fabric scissors, and embroidery scissors).

Half Day Classes

Sweets for the Sweet

Teresa Huester
Class fee \$30, Kit fee \$10

This is a fun class for both beginner and experienced embroiderers in which the participant will learn how to make small soft sculptured candies with embroidered and embellished elements. Made from fabric and thread, these soft sculptures are so realistic in appearance, you'll have to make sure your family and friends don't try to eat them.

- Kit Contents: Sewing thread, assorted embroidery threads, assorted beige, brown and white fabrics, assorted ribbons, trims, sequins, and polyester stuffing.
- Student Supplies: 4" embroidery hoop.



Embroidered Tape Measure

Rebecca Noland
Class fee \$45, Kit fee \$25

Learn how to make a covered tape measure. Put the entire project together except for the stitched top which you can do later after stitching it.

- Kit Contents: Fabrics for project, floss, pattern, tape measure, needles, and other materials for finishing.
- Student Supplies: Basic embroidery supplies (needle and scissors) and lighting/magnification.



Teacher Biographies

Vicky Hays has been embroidering for decades and has taught many, including her mother in counted work, children, grandchildren, and others, in embroidery techniques and finishing. This is her first region teaching event, and she is excited to share slow stitching with the participants.

Hailing originally from Louisiana and the Shreveport Rose Chapter, **Teresa Huester** has been a member of EGA since 1985. She has taught multiple classes in goldwork, stumpwork, and surface embroidery at the chapter and regional levels since 1995. She has also acted as a mentor in surface embroidery at the regional level for Pacific Southwestern Region and Rocky Mountain Region stitching retreats.

Rebecca Noland writes “my stitching career all started when I was born with a needle in one hand and a pair of scissors in the other...wait, that may or may not be true. Let us fast forward a few years. My grandmother, Lucy Beam, taught me how to embroider when I was a little girl. This is all her fault. I am now wedded to a needle and thread. I have always loved working with thread, fabric, yarn, anything I could make stick together. My grandmother did too. She would take me to the local factory in their tiny town of Wewoka, Oklahoma, where they sewed various and sundry things. We would sneak behind the building to where the dumpsters were. “Now Becky, grab that pile over there” she would whisper as she grabbed my ankles and lowered me headfirst into the depths. I was a small child and ideal for this sort of situation. Those are some of my favorite memories of her.”

Debbie Rowley lives in Elk City, OK, with her husband of 50 years, Rod, and two Shelties, Misty and Spirit. She has two married adult children and four grandchildren. Debbie dreamed of being a writer and received a BA in journalism from Central State University, Oklahoma (now University of Central Oklahoma); she employs that desire to write in her charted instructions. Debbie has stitched for almost 30 years, been in business as DebBee's Designs for more than 20 years, and a needlework teacher for 15 years. She has published designs in several magazines and publications, including Needle Pointers and Needlepoint Now.

Carolyn Standing Webb has been teaching embroidery for over 30 years for her local guild, regional and national seminars, and other groups. She holds a Master Craftsman in counted thread and served as the chairman for that course. She is a recipient of the Golden Needle Award for her contributions to the guild, has designed petite projects, and currently has several correspondence courses available through National EGA. More examples of her work can be found at carolynstandingwebb.blogspot.com.



Prospectors

An Exhibit of Original Needle-Artwork by EGA Region Members

Prospector's 2027 Theme:
"Stitching Gems"

Registration begins September 1, 2026.
Deadline for forms submission: April 15, 2027.

What is Prospectors?

The Prospectors Exhibit is a spectacular display of needle art put on by the Rocky Mountain Region at in-person, region events.

The first Prospectors was held in 1991.

Members of RMR are all encouraged to participate in Prospectors, which showcases the enormous talent of its many stitchers

Prospectors entries for the exhibit include only original work and adaptations.

The exhibit is not judged but is designed to encourage those members who want to be a bit more creative and try something new and different.

Each Prospectors exhibit has a theme, in part, to help inspire the design and to unify the exhibit: however, following the theme for display is not required.

Both EGA and non-EGA participants are encouraged to exhibit.

Attendees at the Gem of a Weekend Retreat will be voting on Best of Show at our exhibit.

Your piece must be an original work or adaptation of a work.

It is not required that a submission follow the theme.

Requirements to Exhibit at Prospectors

- Completed entry form.
- Insurance form or Waiver.
- Each work must be an original piece or an adaptation of a piece and must have been done with an eyed needle for part of the piece. Refer to the EGA definitions for originals and adaptations.
- Include a high-quality photo of the piece with each submission.
- Pieces cannot be commercially available, under contract, published, or taught prior to or during the exhibit.
- Finished appropriate for display (by delivery date).
- Design must have been created within the last 2 years.
- Up to three (3) entries per participant.

For a complete list of requirements, or to find out where to submit your exhibit, please refer to the Prospectors Policy and Procedures or contact our Prospectors Chair at prospectorschair@rmrega.org.

Fun Extras

Smalls Exchange

Would you like to have an opportunity to receive a small, finished needlework piece for free? Join our Gem of a Weekend Smalls Exchange – contribute a piece and get one in return.

Rules for Smalls Exchange

1. Create a 5 x 7" or smaller picture, pin cushion, biscornu, scissor fob, etc.
2. The item must be a stitched needlework – cross stitch, embroidery, punch needlework, hardanger, etc. Our theme is Stitching Gems, but pieces outside the theme will be accepted.
3. The item must be completed and fully finished.
4. Place your piece in a gift bag so it remains anonymous.
5. Bring it to registration at Gem of a Weekend.
6. Draw a number on Saturday and pick up your stitched gift.

Merchandise Night

Saturday, May 15th, 6-9 pm

Looking for something fun to do on Saturday night?

Check out our Merchandise Night Extravaganza!

Grab a quick bite after class before coming to browse the wonderful selection of products from our vendors.

Cash and checks are accepted. Most vendors also accept credit cards.

Silent Auction

Discover treasures galore at our Gem of a Weekend Silent Auction on **Saturday, May 15, 2027**. Come early and explore the wonderful Gems up for auction.

*Beads

*Needlepoint & Embroidery Treasures

*Books

*Notions & More

Bid high, bid often, enjoy the fun with your fellow stitchers and take home a Gem of your own.

Don't forget to bring some cash or your checkbook as we will not be able to process credit or debit cards.

See you there!

Open Stitching Room

Want to catch up on your latest project?

Prefer meeting up with friends to stitch instead of taking a class?

Need a break with your needle and thread?

You're in luck - an open stitching room will be available during the Retreat on Friday and Saturday from 8:30 - 4:30.

Thursday, May 13	Friday, May 14	Saturday, May 15	Sunday, May 16
Region Board Meeting 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM	Registration 7:30 – 8:30 AM Workshop 9:00 – 11:00 AM Take Home a Program (Mary Layman) All Day Classes 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM Class: Stitch Diary (Rebecca Noland) Class: Garnet Opulence (Debbie Rowley) Class: Finishing for Needlework Smalls (Carolyn Standing Webb) Open Stitching 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM	All Day Classes 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM Class: Tomato Roll (Rebecca Noland) Class: Starburst Square (Debbie Rowley) Class: Mariposa (Carolyn Standing Webb) Open Stitching 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM Silent Auction & Prospectors Exhibit 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Half-Day Classes 8:30 – 11:30 AM Class: Embroidered Tape Measures (Rebecca Noland) Class: Introduction to Slow Stitching (Vicky Hays) Class: Sweets for the Sweet (Teresa Huester)
Region Board Lunch Noon - 1:30 PM	Lunch On Your Own 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Lunch On Your Own 11:30 AM -1:00 PM	Lunch On Your Own 11:30 AM -1:00 PM
Registration 3:00 - 6:00 PM	Full day classes continue Open Stitching 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM	Full day classes continue Open Stitching 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM Silent Auction Prospectors Exhibit 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Tour museums on your own. The hotel offers a free shuttle for some attractions – ask about it at the front desk.
Meet & Greet	Basque Presentation	Merchandise Extravaganza Night	