

EDUCATORS ARTLAB 2024

Sunday, July 7 - Friday, July 12



Kansas City
Art Institute

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4415 Warwick Blvd

Kansas City, MO 64111

FIBER

Hand Stitched: Acts of Decoration + Repair

INSTRUCTOR: Kim Eichler-Messmer, Associate Professor in Fiber

Embroidery and other forms of needle arts are ancient, tactile forms of communication and care. The practice of using a needle and thread to decorate, mend, and reinforce cloth can be traced back thousands of years, with examples found on nearly every continent. While practical and rooted in sustainability, stitching can also be a form of drawing, record-keeping, and storytelling. In this course, we will explore a range of embroidery, applique, and embellishment techniques that span time and place. Each day we will encounter a new form of stitching and learn about the culture and context it emerged from. Emphasis will be placed on learning new skills, but there will also be time for play and more individual explorations of the stitching practices covered.

Studio Materials to Bring

- Sketchbook/notebook + pen/pencil
- Sharp scissors: fabric scissors, paper scissors, and small embroidery scissors (one pair of sharp scissors is totally fine)
- Ruler (clear acrylic quilting rulers are perfect - any size will work, but I like 4"x14" for stitching; some will be available in the studio)
- Colored pencils or markers for sketching/planning (optional)
- 6-strand embroidery floss in a variety of colors and values (optional, some will be provided)
- Fabric (optional, I will provide enough white cotton for the week, but feel free to bring scraps of fabric or second hand fabric such as cotton, linen, or a cotton/linen blend; small pieces of other types of fabric can also be used)
- Any sewing notions you already have and like to use, such as straight pins, hand-sewing needles, embroidery thread, thimbles, etc. (some will be provided as well)
- If you're driving and have an iron, please bring with you!