bennington ARTS guild

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PAULA E. KAUTZ-LAPORTE basketry + weaving



"From pot holders, to chairs, to baskets, and rugs, I travel a weaver's path. As the connecting trails appear, I travel them to enhance my knowledge and experience. Through my weaving I explore the elements of form, function, color and texture. I want my creations to be interesting, unusual yet familiar, perhaps funky, perhaps beautiful and definitely a pleasure to look at, to touch and to use."

Paula E. Kautz-LaPorte is a weaver.

Her creativity is primarily expressed in traditional and original baskets and woven furniture. Paula has updated traditional into modern with the use of new and recycled materials as well as bright colors. Along with wicker, splint, and birch bark, her work includes baskets woven with recycled belts, neckties, and electrical wire. Paula's chairs showcase the beauty and strength of standard patterns yet stretch beyond the expected when she uses unusual patterns, colors, and materials.

Paula is self-taught. She credits Mrs. Jackson, her elementary school Home Economics teacher and members of the Bennington Arts Guild for fanning the flame of her creativity. Beyond potholders, Paula's weaving took off in 1990 when she established herself as a seat weaver. In 2006 she formally opened her business, Paula's Weaving Workshop, in downtown Bennington, Vermont.

Paula lives in an old farmhouse in Shaftsbury, Vermont with her husband Rob, their family, and pets.

When the opportunity arises, Paula uses her weaving skills to create works such as "Sailors' Delight" a copper sunset woven on a giant wooden artist's palette, and "Galaxy" a convergence of found and second time around metal components which create a four foot circular bust of glowing copper and silver.

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archives link to articles on Paula Kautz-LaPorte

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