

# fiber forum 2019

## Needle Felting Trolls, Fairies & Wizards - Oh My!

with Irene Heckel-Volpe



### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

In this workshop we will cover needle felting techniques to create a troll, fairy, or wizard --using a wire armature to allow for more character and poseability. The techniques will build noses, cheeks, ears, eyes, etc. all with the goal of creating a unique character. We will be constructing the basic wire armature and creating a body to go with our character's head. Costuming or clothing will be addressed and can be started in class or completed at home.

**EXPERIENCE LEVEL:** All, but some experience is helpful

**MATERIAL FEE:** \$25

### STUDENT SUPPLY LIST

- needle-nose pliers
- scissors
- sewing needles
- strong thread, preferably button and carpet
- fabric scraps for costume ideas or draping
- sense of humor
- sense of adventure



### INCLUDED IN MATERIAL FEE

- fiber to complete project
- some curly locks for hair
- wire for armature
- 2 needles
- skewer
- small foam work pad

**ABOUT IRENE:** I have been involved in fiber arts since 1986 when I began my "calling" as a teddy bear artist. I have created original, handmade jointed mohair bears since then. My work has been featured in several teddy bear industry publications both here in the US and overseas. Starting in 2002, I began the art of needle felting. At that time there was very little information on needle felting, so through a lot of trial and error, I taught myself. At the time I began using the needle felting in combination with my teddy bears to add a different dimension and expression to them. I also started to develop my needle felted sculptural techniques. I have been fortunate to have some of my pieces recognized with awards from various places and organizations. I have taught needle felting since 2003, as I believe that it is a wonderful, creative way of expressing oneself. Since I moved from Long Island NY in 2104, I have been fortunate to teach at the Fiber Forum in 2016 and I currently teach at The Knitting Diva in Asheville and The Wool Room in Hendersonville as well as doing programs for the GoFigure Figurative Art Guild and the WNCFHG. I find teaching to be as rewarding now as it did back then. I love to see the look on students faces as they accomplish a goal they never thought possible.



### CONTACT INFORMATION

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