

Fall, 2016

The Kentucky Weaver from

The **LITTLE
LOOMHOUSE**



News from the Board



LLH student wins big at State Fair! See page 2

Dear Friends,

The Little Loomhouse in fall and winter is a magical place. The trees first reveal their glorious colors, then the snow turns the site into a winter wonderland. We have celebrations like our Annual Meeting and Member Pot-luck in October and Holiday in the Woods in November. This year we are also offering crafting classes during winter break - great for when your family starts going stir-crazy. I hope that you are able to come visit us this winter and enjoy the beauty and camaraderie that we offer.

Warm wishes,

Sara Reyna-Byler

President, Board of Directors

L E A R N

EXPERIENCE

C R E A T E

P R E S E R V E

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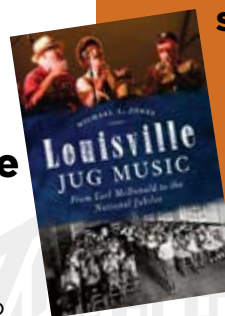
Caitlin Sollee,
Director of Development
Michelle K. Amos,
*Director of Programming
and Education*

L E A R N

Please Join Us: The Little Loomhouse Lecture Series Continues

The Little Loomhouse is proud to continue it's Lecture Series to benefit Restoration/Preservation of the Loomhouse and to be part of the celebration of local African American History: ***River City Breakdown: African American Music in Louisville.***

This lecture series by author and historian Michael L Jones will open a month long exhibition on the History of Black Music in Louisville. Exhibit will run Saturday, January 14 to Saturday February 25th (during open hours). The lecture is open to the public with a suggested \$10 donation for non-members and \$5 donation for members.



**January 14, 2017
Martin Luther King Day
Saturday, 2:00 pm**

Michael Jones -
River City Breakdown:
African American Music
in Louisville

Michael L. Jones is freelance journalist and author who studied journalism at the University of Kentucky and history at the University of Louisville. Jones has worked as a staff writer for LEO Weekly, the Louisville Defender, the Louisville Courier-Journal and the Jeffersonville Evening News. He has received seven Metro Journalism Awards from the Louisville Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists for his reporting. Jones' writing appears regularly in LEO Weekly, Louisville Magazine, Food & Dining - Louisville Edition, and Who's Who Louisville: African American Profiles.

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LEARN

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LLH will continue the Speaker Series in 2017 based on it's past popularity, which has brought interesting speakers and topics to the Kenwood Hill site.

All proceeds will benefit the restoration fund at the Little Loomhouse. Visit www.littleloomhouse.org to learn more about the series.

Michael Jones will give a lecture on January 14 about *River City Breakdown: African American Music in Louisville*.

Past speakers include Chris Kincaid, a Composer who wrote music inspired by patterns from our coverlet collection, and Stephanie Buzan and Rosemary McCandless who discussed their book *A View From the Top*.



Programming and Education Update

By: Caitlin Sollee and Michelle Amos

Educating young people about the history of textile arts and opportunities to explore them is an important part of our mission. As a result, the Little Loomhouse has served many young children recently; teaching them about the history of our organization, weaving, spinning and textile arts while providing each of them with hands on projects to learn about the subjects.

In the first week of November, Christian Academy came out for a field trip with a total of 33 children. In the second week of November, we participated in the Girl Scout's

Festival of the Arts where we served 8 troops, totaling almost 65 girls. In the third week in November, Sayers Classical Academy came out for a field trip and we taught a total of 26 new students. The last week of November the Little Loomhouse started a new after school program with the Islamic School of Louisville taught by Michelle Amos.

We want to thank the schools for the opportunity to work with them, our volunteers who endlessly work to prepare for our young students, and finally to our members whose annual dues and donations make all of this possible.

Ali Richards with her winning entry



CREATE

LLH Student Ali Richards wins big at the State Fair

By: Sylvia Kinsfather

It is always wonderful to acknowledge the achievements of our young participants. After attending the Little Loomhouse's Spring Break Camp and a Drop-In Weaving Class, 3rd grader Ali Richards entered her woven artworks into the 2016 Kentucky State Fair. We are delighted to report that she won a 1st Place Blue Ribbon for a wall hanging and a finger woven rug made at home won her a 2nd Place Red Ribbon!

We are so proud of Ali for her achievements and look forward to working with her again! I would also like to thank our directors, Caitlin Sollee and Michelle Amos who have done wonders in developing programs and introducing the craft of weaving and textile arts to the next generation.

EXPERIENCE

An Extra BIG Thank you!

By: Caitlin Sollee

On behalf of everyone at LLH, I would like to extend an extra big thank you to one of our many thoughtful neighbors, Robbie Merrick. As I'm sure you are aware, the grounds here are thick with old trees; one of the things that makes our setting so beautiful, until the time of year when the leaves litter the property so much that we are up to our ankles in them!

This fall marks the 25th year that Robbie Merrick has thoughtfully come down the hill with his rake, leaf blower and tarps in hand and works single-handedly to remove all the leaves on the property. This is only one of the many things that the Merricks have done for us over the years and we want to extend our sincere gratitude for all of your help.

Volunteer Spotlight on Kathy McWilliams and Debbie Striegel

By: Caitlin Sollee

Most every Thursday, Kathy McWilliams and Debbie Striegel are busy weaving items for our gift shop. Sometimes they may be found weaving in Tophouse Cabin, other times in their individual studios at home. Kathy lives 30+ miles south of the Loomhouse, and Debbie lives 30+miles north. As Debbie put it, "I would never have met my weaving friend [if not for] the Little Loomhouse." By the spring of 2013, each woman discovered the Little Loomhouse after developing an interest in weaving. Kathy took a weaving crash course at the Woolery, and Debbie had completed the Loomhouse's Weaving Basics course with master weaver Sally Moss. Initially, they spent a lot of their volunteer time tending to neglected tasks in the studio such as; sorting donations, cleaning and organizing (tasks that they still help with to this day). However, before long, the focus of their Thursday afternoons became weaving and getting a good laugh out of sharing their mistakes with one another and with Stephanie Brown (director at that time and master weaver) who shared encouraging words and advice, along with a laugh.

Both Kathy and Debbie feel that the tool that served them best in their process of learning the craft of weaving was their time spent at the Little Loomhouse with each other. Because they both started weaving at around the same time, they could, "share, encourage, challenge and learn from each other's mistakes and successes." as Kathy put it.

Today, Kathy and Debbie collaborate with each other and make some of our most popular hand woven items; Kathy weaves our beautiful kitchen towels, and Debbie weaves coordinating washcloths. Other items they make for us include; placemat sets, table runners, inkle woven bookmarks and rag rugs. Kathy and

Debbie are integral parts to keeping the wheels turning around here, and we are all so blessed and thankful to have them around. Please come in and check out their wonderful handiwork in our gift shop. We would also like to thank Kathy's husband, David, for his work fixing many of our floor looms and other old miscellaneous gadgets.

Debbie weaving on an 1840's floor loom



4th Annual Holiday In The Woods

By: Caitlin Sollee and Michelle Amos

On the evening of November 5th we hosted the 4th Annual Holiday in the Woods Bazaar and it was a smashing success! The Little Loomhouse team was busy all night and we greeted a lot of new faces.

This year we included several new vendors in addition to many returning ones. One veteran participant, Wompa Stompa Farm, will be partnering with the Little Loomhouse to host an Alpaca Fiber Needle Felting class in December at LLH. During this workshop, participants will create hand felted ornaments for the holidays.

Making this year's Bazaar even more special was the addition of live music. Visitors and shoppers were entertained by both the Juggernaut Jug Band and the acoustic band Long Play. Music added a festive atmosphere and we plan to make this component an annual feature.

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Ila DeZam at her Wompa Stompa Farm Booth in Tophouse Cabin

Hours:
Wed-Fri 10:00-2:00
Sat 11:00-4:00

Please Note:
Because we are operated by a volunteer staff, we ask that you contact us in advance to ensure that someone is here to greet you.

L E A R N

EXPERIENCE

C R E A T E

P R E S E R V E

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH IN MARCH

The Loomhouse will be celebrating Women's History month the entire month of March this year with events every weekend and a month long art exhibit that will kick off the first Saturday in March. We will have an interactive section during the exhibit where we will ask the public to create art in honor of a women that has inspired them in their lives. We will have a booth at the Women of the World 2017 celebration at Iroquois Library on March 4th and we will honor our own Loomhouse Women Stefanie Buzan and Rosemary McCandless for their work to restore the Fenley Cemetery with a Highway marker Dedication Celebration for the Fenley Cemetery on March 24th from 5:30pm-8:30pm. We are hoping to get in a lecture and a performance piece in March as well. Please keep an eye on our website for further details.

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We want to thank several people and organizations for making this event possible. DeSales High School let us use their parking facilities for the evening, Louisville Metro provided a bus and driver giving free shuttle service for our patrons. Our Board of Directors all pitched in to bring food, work in the gift shop, clean, and generally do whatever needed to be done.

For those of you who have not yet attended the event mark your calendar's for next year. This is a free annual event featuring art, music, and food where local artists display and sell their work. It is always held the first Saturday in November.

Upcoming Events

Please visit our website and click on the event title for more information:

Dec 2016

DATE/TIME

12/24/2016
All Day

EVENT

Happy Holiday Season -Closed for Christmas Eve
The Little Loomhouse, Louisville KY

12/26/2016 - 12/30/2016
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Winter Camp part II -full/half and one day
The Little Loomhouse, Louisville KY

Jan 2017

DATE/TIME

01/07/2017
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

EVENT

Drop-In Weaving, ages 6 and up
The Little Loomhouse, Louisville KY

01/14/2017
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Lecture Series: River City Breakdown: African American Music in Louisville
The Little Loomhouse, Louisville KY

01/21/2017
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Intro to Weaving
The Little Loomhouse, Louisville KY

01/21/2017
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Intro to Spinning
The Little Loomhouse, Louisville KY

01/28/2017
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Drop-In Weaving, ages 6 and up
The Little Loomhouse, Louisville KY

Feb 2017

DATE/TIME

02/18/2017
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

EVENT

We Love Loomhouse Volunteers! Appreciation Celebration and Stairway Reveal
The Little Loomhouse, Louisville KY

02/25/2017
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Intro to Weaving
The Little Loomhouse, Louisville KY

02/25/2017
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Intro to Spinning
The Little Loomhouse, Louisville KY

We love our volunteers! Save the Date so We Can Show Our Appreciation!

By: Leslie Clements

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the HEART!

Thank you to all the volunteers that have shown love to the Little Loomhouse throughout our 77-year history. Now let us show YOU a little love! All past, present, and future Little Loomhouse volunteers are invited to our appreciation celebration on Saturday, February 18 from Noon - 4 PM at the Little Loomhouse.

While you're here, enjoy a sweet treat and a glass of Lou Tate's famous lemonaid as you check out our beautiful new natural stone stairway path, made possible by a generous grant from the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels and the incredible design and skill of landscape architect Phil Bevins. Have a Loomhouse volunteer you'd like to commemorate? It's not too late to purchase a customized memorial plaque to fund our preservation projects at the Little Loomhouse, including the railway for our new stairs. Call or visit the Little Loomhouse to learn more. Thank you for your support!

Kroger Community Rewards

You can now help support The Little Loomhouse through the Kroger Community Rewards Program. Please follow the instructions below:

1. Visit **www.kroger.com/communityrewards**
2. Scroll down to find your location and click "Enroll Now"
3. Sign in to your account or create an account
4. Find and select our organization - **The Little Loomhouse is #14073** - and click "Save"

You'll start earning rewards for us right away on qualifying purchases made using your Kroger Plus Card!

Learn more at **www.kroger.com/communityrewards** and thank you for your support!

P R E S E R V E

Restoration and Preservation Update:

Thank you to the Kentucky Colonels:

On September 22, 2016 President and Vice President of the Lou Tate Foundation, respectively Sara Reyna-Byler and Melissa Amos-Jones, accepted a grant from the Kentucky Colonels to begin restoration of the stairs between the cabins at the Loomhouse. The stair project began in early October 2016 and wrapped up early November 2016. Landscape Architect Phil Blevins served as the architect and designer for the earlier 2015 retaining wall and for the stair rail memorial project. He created natural stone steps that match our retaining wall and replace the old railroad ties and gravel steps that lead from the parking lot to Esta cabin and new steps between Wisteria cabin and Top House. The old steps between the Esta and Wisteria cabins will remain until bids are taken and money is raised to replace the boards on the outside of the Wisteria cabin and porch leading into the cabin.

The Little Loomhouse is continuing to raise funds to pay for both the \$1,500 not covered by the grant, and additional cabin restoration projects. We are offering memorial plaques starting at \$150 to help fund the new handrails and ongoing restoration projects.

Melissa Amos-Jones
Restoration and
Preservation Chair

Please consider supporting our ongoing preservation efforts by donating to our Stair Rail Memorial. In return you'll receive a memorail plaque permanently placed on our railing.

Please see page 6 for the donation form or contact us for more information: (502) 367-4792.
littleloomhouse.org



Thank you for Supporting the Little Loomhouse during Give Local Louisville

By: Leslie Clements

You made our day!

On September 15, The Little Loomhouse took part in Give Local Louisville, a 24 hour online charitable giving campaign and our community's biggest day of local giving. Your generous donations totaled \$2,220 that day, enabling us to fulfill our mission to continue Lou Tate's legacy, educating students of all ages about the history of weaving and textile arts through diverse programs, residencies and community partnerships, all while preserving our historic landmark cabins.

More than \$4 Million was raised by generous donors like YOU for hundreds of Louisville-area nonprofit organizations during Give Local Louisville, making our community a better, more vital place to live.

Thanks to all that support the Little Loomhouse and our mission through memberships, volunteerism, advocacy, and by participating in our many educational experiences. You make a difference!



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littleloomhouse.org 



A Nonprofit Arts Organization
supported by The Lou Tate Foundation

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For more information on tours,
upcoming shows and class
schedules, visit littleloomhouse.org
or facebook.com/littleloomhouse.

The Little Loomhouse Stair Rail Memorial Plaque Donation Form

Thank you for supporting the Little Loomhouse Stair Rail Memorial. Your donation will help to complete the railing and in return, you'll receive a memorial plaque permanently placed on the railing. The plaque will include your name, donor level, and a small message or dedication.

Donor Name _____

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Phone Number _____ **Email** _____

Select your donor level: ☐ Top House (\$500) ☐ Wisteria (\$300) ☐ Esta (\$150)

The name as you would like it to appear on the plaque: _____

Your message on plaque (25 characters or less): _____

If you prefer to pay by credit card, please call us and we'll arrange for a secure transaction.