



Sponsorship through weaversbazaar.

For the last 6 years weaversbazaar has invited people and organisations to apply for support under our annual sponsorship scheme. We are pleased to launch our 2019 scheme. The primary aims of our sponsorship schemes are to

- engage a community in actively participating in weaving,
- support the development of novice weavers, or
- actively and practically bring weaving to a new group of people

The resources we have are modest and mainly take the form of equipment, guidance and/or yarn.

Over the years our sponsorship has enabled activities such as Guild workshops, the use of tapestry weaving as therapy for vulnerable individuals, community tapestry weaving projects and tapestry weaving activities as part of wider social events.

This year we have a few ideas for anyone considering setting up a project in keeping with our aim of promoting community-based or shared weaving activities.

- Heritage Open Days (HODs) are a great structure under which to bringing tapestry weaving to a wider audience. HODs aim to explore under-represented histories, stories and heritage including crafts and will take place from 13th to 22nd September 2019. Each year over 2000 people organise their own event with help from HOD <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/organising> and from the National Trust who also participate <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/heritage-open-days-2018>. They can be planned in collaboration with National Trust properties as well as other business and historic sites across the UK. Alternatively, they can be held in the homes or studios of individuals or in community spaces. The kinds of activities people organise are Guided tours, Opening studios, Talks, Info flyers, Quizzes, Exhibitions, Skill demonstrations (could include Tapestry weaving, Macramé, weaving or other textile art). As an example last year Irene Evison organised a weaving drop-in session by teaming up with a local organisation taking part. The help the HOD community provides is free publicity materials and public liability insurance, guidance on the phone or via email, networking events to meet the team and swap ideas and experiences with other organisers and more.
- Pop-up Tapestry Weaving Galleries with hands-on opportunities to weave (perhaps in empty shops or community centres)
- Shared weaving projects within communities such as villages, prisons, care homes and refuges
- Pass-it forward skills sharing workshops,
- Setting up village looms or
- If you are a teacher running a weaving session in your school

The kind of support we can give to any project includes yarn, loan equipment, guidance sheets on weaving and setting up frames for participants to take away or designs that could be woven. We would also help you promote your event.

Of course you may well have your own project in mind. So do let us know if you have a project in mind and would like our support. Download the weaversbazaar application and get it to us before the end of December 2018.