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My guild is a general fiber arts guild with members interested in a variety of various fiber pursuits. Because of the challenge of making my MAFA presentation interesting to those other than weavers I took a more general approach to my presentation. I talked not only about the weaving structure that I learned, but also about my entire MAFA experience, as well as some weaving basics.

I began my presentation with a short talk about how I came to receive my stipend and the apprehension I had about attending a workshop taught by weaving all-star, Sharon Alderman. Being new to the weaving scene I was very concerned that I wouldn't be able to keep up. I needn't have worried, Sharon was amazing, and the community of weavers was all too eager to lend me a hand anytime I needed one.

I took a class on Color & Weave; a structure I had attempted once before with little success, to say I was excited to get it right was an understatement. The class surpassed all my expectations. I now have working knowledge of the structure and the mechanics of how it creates the intricate patterns. I can even plan my own designs and work out the threading and treadling to go with my ideas.

In my lecture I explained to my guild about the structure of plain weave and the wonder of color & weave that creates complex designs within the ease of plain weave set up. I brought my copious notes from Sharon's class and explained what a drawdown was and how they work and showed examples the various drawdowns that we did in class. I offered any of the weavers interested in a more detailed explanations on color & weave drawdowns private instruction. I passed around the samples I wove in my class and explained the dark-light set up of the warp and weft and explained how it created the designs. I also borrowed a few books on color and weave and passed those around as well. I concluded my little presentation with a question and answer period; I was impressed with the thoughtful questions I got from some of our non-weavers.

MAFA was a truly amazing experience. The skills and knowledge that I gained not only from my instructor, but from the weavers around me was incredible. Seeing the creations of other weavers in the fashion show was inspiring. I hope that I was able convey the amazingness of the experience when gave my presentation. Being a part of a guild, around people that speak your language has its own special joys, but the wonder of a whole conference full of your people a priceless experience.