

AC SOCIETY OF ARTS + CRAFTS

70+ ARTISTS REIMAGINE CLASSIC ACCESSORIES IN “CRAFTBOSTON™ PINS + NEEDLES” A JURIED ONLINE EXHIBITION, RUNNING MARCH 4-APRIL 17

*Exhibition includes retail, entertainment and education events.
Award-winning textile artist Queen Allotey-Pappoe is first-time juror.
CraftBoston among the programs supported by a new City of Boston grant.*

BOSTON -- February 15, 2022 -- The Society of Arts + Crafts launches its 2022 CraftBoston programming with the six-week online exhibition, “CraftBoston: Pins + Needles,” showcasing nearly 80 fine craft artists from New England and across the U.S. who offer twists on classic accessories such as pins, brooches, scarves and other wearables.

“Pins + Needles” debuts Mar. 4, 2022 on the Society’s [CraftBoston](#) website and runs through Apr. 17, 2022.*

The latest in the Society’s popular “CraftBoston Online” programming, “Pins + Needles” features interactive education and entertainment events in which artists share studio visits, host do-it-yourself workshops, and offer engaging demos.



The exhibition includes first-time CraftBoston juror, award-winning fiber artist and Society board member **Queen Allotey-Pappoe** (l.), who brought her extensive design knowledge – as well as her inside perspective on the mechanics of a juried fine craft show – to bear in helping select the artists. Born and raised in Ghana, Allotey-Pappoe studied Fashion Design at Massachusetts College of Art and Design and founded sustainable fashion brand Queen Adeline, which she operates from her Lowell studio.

A former CraftBoston participant, Allotey-Pappoe says she was energized by the “Pins + Needles” exhibitors’ fresh perspectives and talent. “We are coming out of an interesting era, with over two years of everyone trying to find and situate themselves amid upheaval and a new, more online existence,” says Allotey-Pappoe. “The focus of this exhibition, wearable art, is inherently intimate and personal, and my real challenge was to highlight how we can translate this intimacy into the digital world. By now we are so familiar with seeing ourselves on a computer screen, and these artworks can help us ‘show up’ for ourselves by adding joy and vibrancy back to our basic workwear.”



**MEDIA NOTE: URL will be live Mar. 4; previews, images and interviews are available in advance.*

Visitors can view and purchase pieces from all the featured artists -- in a wide range of price points, style, and materials. A sampling of artists participating in "Pins + Needles" includes:

- Evanston, Illinois artist **Xinia Guan**, whose time-intensive, intricate hand folding and fabrication techniques (prev. page) result in exquisitely precise geometric brooches using oxidized sterling silver and 23k gold;
- Renowned jewelry artist **Keith Lewis**, whose work can be seen in the Cooper Hewitt Museum's collection, creates delicate pins using River Birch branches found in his upstate New York backyard, and treated with lacquers and decorated with pearls (r., above);
- Cincinnati artist **Amanda Bergman**, whose jewelry represents the fluid movements of American Sign Language and seeks to bridge the gap between hearing people and deaf culture;
- Winchester, Mass.-based **Lori Magno**, who infuses her passion for sustainability into her artwork, creating wearable pieces from found objects, including reclaimed metals, bottles, and discarded retail packaging; and
- Newton, Mass. artist **Hetty Friedman** (r., below), whose expertly draped shawls and scarves are hand painted in vibrant colors and woven from bamboo, rayon, and Tencel fibers.



Society of Arts + Crafts Executive Director Brigitte Martin says, "Audiences will find traditional and classic wearable art alongside new and unexpected interpretations of the theme, with artists using metal, clay, gemstones, silk and paper to create distinctive, modern pieces."

Full details about "CraftBoston: Pins + Needles" and its education, retail and entertainment events are available at societyofcrafts.org.

UPCOMING CRAFTBOSTON PROGRAMMING

The Society's 2022 CraftBoston roster includes:

- **CraftBoston: Animal Attraction** with animal-inspired artwork in all styles and mediums, and running **May 6 - June 19, 2022**;
- **CraftBoston: Jubilee** which honors the Society's 125th anniversary with celebratory activities that highlight the best of fine craft from **Aug. 19 - Oct. 16, 2022**; and
- New England's premier craft showcase **CraftBoston Holiday Online 2022** returns for another season with a wide selection of wearable art, jewelry, toys, home decor and more for gift-giving, from **Nov. 11, 2022 - Jan. 8, 2023**.

FUNDING UPDATE

CraftBoston is one of the Society of Arts + Crafts programs that will benefit from increased funding granted by the City of Boston's Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture. The Society received two grants for operating support totalling \$13,500 from the Boston Cultural Council and the Reopen Creative Boston initiative.

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ABOUT THE SOCIETY OF ARTS + CRAFTS

Incorporated in 1897, the Society of Arts + Crafts has been at the forefront of the American craft movement, fostering the development, sales, recognition, and education of crafts for more than 100 years. Its mission is to support and celebrate craft makers and their creativity; its vision is to build and sustain a vibrant and diverse community and to shape the future of craft. See the full mission [here](#).

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MEDIA CONTACT: For exhibition details, including interviews with Society representatives and exhibitors, contact Jennifer Astin at ja@jmkpr.com or 424-333-1718. High-res press photos from artists participating in “Pins + Needles” are available [here](#), along with photo credit information.