

ARROWMONT

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND CRAFTS

Medium: Chair Caning

Instructor: Brandy Clements and David Klinger

Dates: November 1-6, 2026

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this workshop, students will dive deep into materials and pattern study while focusing on common types of chair seat weaving. Designed for furniture makers, fiber enthusiasts, and crafters, this all levels workshop explores a variety of natural and manufactured materials. The curriculum covers several key weaving styles: the Rush pattern (using paper, cotton, and grass cords), the Warp & Weft process (as seen on Mid-Century and Mexican folk chairs), and weaving with flat materials like splint reed, shaker tape, or braided cord in various patterns. The class will also introduce the intricacies of caning, including traditional and alternative patterns like the star, honeycomb, and daisy. Furniture makers are welcome to share their designs for assistance, and students will leave with the skills to fashion their own fibers and ideas into a fun and functional woven chair seat or footstool.

WHAT TO BRING

- Review these inspiring videos before class:
- Chair Nerds On Location - 2022 Arrowmont Legacy Week
- Arrowmont Caning Class Promo
- Chair/Stool Frames:
- (optional/encouraged) 2-4 chairs with 4 round rails Best Beginner Chairs for Rush, Splint, and Shaker tape Weaving
- Sources for Chair/Stool Frames:
- Family/Friends
- Resale/thrift stores
- <https://hhperkins.com/products/foot-stool-frames>
- <https://www.countryseat.com/seat-weaving-kits.html>
- Instructor bringing 1-3 footstool per student at \$50 each. (optional purchase) Instructor can supply chair frames (~\$50) under special circumstances (eg. student flying/traveling great distances). We need at least 1 month advance notice to procure chair frames.
- For Furniture Makers:
- (optional) Bring your own designs ready for weaving. Instructors available to discuss design process and troubleshoot issues in advance of class
- For Fiber Fiends:
- (optional) If students want to weave with particular fibers, they are welcome to bring cords, reeds, bark, fibers, upcycled materials - Instructors will bring weaving materials as noted below.
- See example of fiber forum class for inspiration:
- Fiber Forum 2023 Promo

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- NOTE: Students work at different paces so some may be able to complete many projects while others may take their time and focus on one or two. Students also have various levels of attachments with their work and may want to keep each project, while others on a budget or with less attachment may want to remove material and try a new weave on the same frame.

MATERIALS FEES | **\$175.00-\$400.00 Instructors collecting fee from students**

Fees are assessed on an individual class basis and may vary from class to class depending on the amount of materials used and the number of students in the class, this keeps your out-of-pocket costs lower than a typical flat fee. Fees include all provided studio materials as assigned by the Instructor. Material fees are to be paid in the Supply Store no later than midday on the last day of workshop instruction.

Please be advised that the above course description and materials list has been written and approved by the instructor.

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Instructor Contact
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