

For immediate release

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Creative sparks and fiber at FiberCamp

Cold wind or football failure were not felt at FiberCamp Boston. Greeted by the underwater panorama of the public art project, "Something's fishy," FiberCampers entered another world. The first un-conference for and by spinners, knitters, crocheters, felters, and other fiber enthusiasts was held at the Arsenal Center for the Arts in Watertown, MA on January 9th and 10th. Over 60 people participated in 21 different sessions presented during the weekend.

For most, it was their first experience with the un-conference format. In an un-conference, participants request topics, and others volunteer to meet these needs or share their skills. This conversation happens using a wiki prior to and during the event. Susanne Elasasser said, "Being a bit of a control freak, I was really impressed by the way the unconference came together." While un-conferences have become popular in technology and social media circles, not so in the world of wool and stitches.

Whatever the format, attendees took away a positive experience. "I had a blast at Fiber Camp. I was psyched to learn drop spindle spinning...But I learned so much more!" enthused Rachel Gogan of New Hampshire.

For photographer Gale Zucker, "... the creative spark of everyone organizing a day together become something better than the sum of our parts" is the lasting impression.

"I am thrilled that the community came together and made this event a great growing experience. Many were unsure of what to expect, but were happy campers by the end of the weekend." said Guido Stein, president of the Common Cod Fiber Guild, the non profit that put together the un-conference.