

Join the AKA for its 60th Birthday Party in Seaside

Seaside is the place to be this September and we are looking forward to celebrating AKA's 60th birthday together. There will be indoor workshops, competitions, and lots of free flying time all day long.

New Host Hotel

The SaltLine is a new hotel built across the street from the Convention Center's parking lot. We have partnered with SaltLine to be our Host Hotel this year. It's conveniently located for grabbing something from your room on your way to the beach to fly kites. The SaltLine has given us a block of rooms with a great room rate.

Book your room at our host hotel: SaltLine, 250 1st Avenue, Seaside, Oregon, by calling 971-601-1082. Tell them you're with the AKA Convention and ask for our discounted rates with our discount code #B505479.

Activities

Every morning, we are planning to have an amazing choice of workshops held in four rooms for two sessions: 9:00-10:15 and 10:30-11:45. We are lucky to have such a generous community of artists who are volunteering time to share their kite passion with convention attendees. All workshops are free to registered attendees only. Most classes don't require any materials, while others offer the option of buying materials at the workshop. (If you want to take a sewing workshop, please note that on your application and tell us if you are bringing your own machine.) As in past years, the sewing workshop room will be open all day, rain or shine. The workshop list is subject to change, and an actual schedule will be provided in the convention program. See the list of workshops below.

Special events are expected to include the following:

- AKA's Annual business Meeting
- The Kitemakers' Competition
- Sport Kite demonstrations
- Peoples Choice Awards
- The Great Kite Auction
- The Kite Art Gallery
- The Awards Banquet
- A Go with the Flow show of art kites to honor the Yellowstone River Parks Association.

Finally, every afternoon we're planning to do lots of flying. In addition to the competitions and mass ascensions, there will be space for show kites and demonstrations. The public will be invited to enjoy the celebration.

Mass Ascensions will be each day at 1 pm.

- Tuesday: Rokkakus and Fighters
- Wednesday: Cellular and Dimensional Kites
- Thursday: Soft and Flexible Kites
- Friday: Sport Kites
- Saturday will be Delta Kites.

Also bring a White Kite for the Memorial Fly on Tuesday Afternoon.

Deadlines & Refunds

If the AKA cancels the Convention, at any time, due to the coronavirus pandemic, all registration fees will be refunded 100%. Early bird discounts end July 8, 2024.

Members cancelling their own registrations **prior to July 10, 2024**, will receive 100% refund. Members cancelling their own registrations between July 11 and August 10, 2024 will receive 50% refund. There will be **no refunds after August 10, 2024** unless the AKA cancels as noted above. (Please note that the AKA has no control over hotel reservations and/or its refund policies. If you cancel your Convention registration, remember to also contact your hotel.)

Can I register now and pay later? **Yes.** You can register for the Convention today but instead of making a payment, hit the "invoice me" tab. You can then pay any time **before July 8, 2024** to receive the early bird discount. Unpaid registrations will automatically be suspended after July 8 and will need to be renewed at the non-discounted registration rate.

PLEASE NOTE: CONVENTION APPAREL MAY ONLY BE ORDERED PRIOR TO JULY 8, 2024.

For more information, call the AKA office 609-755-5483

Workshops at the Convention

Ron Bohart, DYEING FOR A COLOR: This workshop will walk you through the materials, tools, and techniques you will need to successfully hand dye ripstop nylon, with time for questions.

Jon Burkhardt, JUDGING HANDMADE KITES: Two sessions, one before the competitions where participants can meet the judges, find out what they are looking for, and how they determine who wins.

Ken Conrad, MAKE A THREE-BUTTERFLY TRAIN: Lifelike GW Butterfly kites make an eye-catching kite train! Assemble three Tyvek and fiberglass butterflies. (Two sessions.)

Cat Gabrel, MAKING FREE KITES FOR KIDS: Learn how to put on a kite workshop for kids by teaching kids in the Seaside community how make and fly their own kites.

Jim Desrosiers, ANYBODY CAN ENTER THE LOGO COMPETITION! As the designer of this year's convention logo, Jim is sharing tips on how to design your own logo. This is Pechakucha 20X20 style presentation (less than seven minutes) followed up by a question-and-answer period. We'll review past logos and cover the process of designing this year's logo. Your choice of digital or hard copy information package included.

Lindsey Johnson, 3D PRINTING FROM SKETCH TO FLIGHT: Explore the world of digital design and fabrication, and how this amazing technology applies to kitemaking. Learn about different types of design software, printers, their strengths and limitations, the different types of plastics available and how to choose the one to use. During the workshop 3D printers will be set up to print one or more kite-related items. Other items will be on display.

Chuck Jones, MAKE AND TAKE LIGHT-WIND KITE: Chuck Jones is known for his work with traditional materials. This year he will lead workshop participants in making a kite similar to an iFlite using grass leading edges, a bamboo spine, carbon spreader, and produce-bag skins — an almost biodegradable kite. These kites fly great indoors and in light winds. This workshop is not a project for beginners.

Alexa King, TRASH BAG DELTA KITE: No sewing required, this make-and-take Class will not only produce a kite that you can fly indoors or out, it will teach you how to replicate a successful flyer over and over.

T.Z. Lee, IN PURSUIT OF THE AKA MISSION TO EDUCATE PEOPLE ABOUT KITES: Learn how to scout out potential venues for kite displays; budget for all potential costs; negotiate with management to arrange a kite display; hang kites in public and private venues to respect rules and property; arrange kites for maximum visibility and beauty; and yes, educate the public about kites and kiting.

Suzanne Sadow, MARGARET GREGER'S "VIETNAMESE KITE:" Just for fun, experience Suzanne's slightly unusual spin on Margaret Greger's version of this fanciful, easy paper and bamboo favorite!

Russell Schwarz, Chuck Jones, Geoff Bland, KITE DURATION ALOFT WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT: We will present our up-to-date plans for the attempt, scheduled for March 2025. Discussion will include optimal kite designs, site location, and accommodations. We welcome input from the assembled members who have a wealth of kite knowledge. Recruiting for participation is also part of the program.

Phillip Whitaker, A FIRST TIMER'S GUIDE TO THE CONVENTION: Is this your first AKA Convention? This workshop is an opportunity to meet other kitefliers and hear tips to get the most from a convention experience.

MAKING MINIATURE KITES: Make a miniature kite complete with carrying case and flying stick. Kites will be made with tissue paper and nylon spars. All supplies and tools will be provided.

Sewing Workshops: BRING YOUR OWN SEWING MACHINE

The last few years, the AKA Convention hands-on sewing workshops have been a big success. This year there will be a dedicated room for sewing machines available in the mornings for classes and in the afternoons for individuals to work on their own. When not in use, the room will be locked to ensure security. In addition to their machines, attendees should plan to bring accessory tools such as scissors, straightedge, thread, etc.

Most sewing projects will require pre-purchased materials. To facilitate this, members must check the box on the Convention registration form indicating their desire to take one or more sewing classes. If you check this box, by mid-July you will receive an email with a list of materials and the costs (if any) related to each sewing class. Sewing classes are limited in size and registrants will have a reserved spot based on the order of the responses in July. If you have questions regarding sewing classes, email us at aka@aka.kite.org. All members are welcome to attend these classes if they wish to audit the class without a sewing machine.

Robert Brasington, WRAPPED DIAMOND SEWING WORKSHOP: Join Tasmanian kite artist, Robert Brasington, in a two-day class on the Wrapped Diamond, an elemental, simple classic, with a twist. The asymmetric graphics give the platform a unique appearance. The kite head is 850mm (34 inches) high. The twin organza streamers are 4M long. All materials will be supplied. There are four colors in the graphic. A basic appliqué technique is used. Attendees are encouraged to select their own custom colors prior to arrival. Price per single kite will be about \$40 USD.

Brian David, MAKE AND DONATE FRINGE DELTA KITE: Instruction will be provided about how to sew a 42-inch fringe delta kite that will be donated to the Foster Grandparent Fun Fly at the Washing State International Kite Festival in 2025. Once you learn the techniques, you can make three or four more by taking extra kite kits to be finished by you at a later date. There's no shortage of kids needing kites. (Class time: 4 hours.) Link to this YouTube instructional video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFGMQykpYgo>

Mike Dertien, FROM PAPER TO SAIL: While there are a lot of kitemaking plans available from books and the internet, many of these plans assume pre-existing knowledge or experience converting a diagram into cloth. This class will help provide that knowledge with practical guidance on seam allowances, making patterns, cutting fabric, sewing seams, stitch styles, pockets, and more. (This class is for all levels.)

Lindsey Johnson, LEARN TO SEW A FALENA: Join us for a unique workshop experience creating a Falena, a winged ground display inspired by a Kenyan bee. Learn sewing techniques to craft these stunning pieces using laser-cut fabric and organza tails, with 3D printed fittings. All materials provided for \$35.

This is a partial list of workshops being offered at this year's Convention. For a variety of reasons, workshops may be changed, canceled, or replaced without notice. Exact meeting times will be provided in the Convention Program upon arrival.

Thanks to the members of the Convention Committee who have worked hard for the last year to make all this happen.

Register* today at <https://members.kite.org/event-5749873>.