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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Handweavers Guild of America Announces Scholarship Recipients for 2011: Jennifer Fraley and Catria Gunter

March 24, 2012—The Handweavers Guild of America, (HGA), Inc., a not-for-profit fiber arts organization dedicated to encouraging excellence, inspiring creativity, and preserving fiber traditions through education, introduces the Dendel and HGA Scholarship recipients for the 2011-12 academic year.

Jennifer Fraley, the 2011 Dendel Scholarship recipient, became interested in weaving during her first semester at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) in New York. Her weaving instructor and mentor, Professor Nomi Dale Kleinman, provides her inspiration using a language made up of math, yarns, and creativity. While Fraley's interest is primarily weaving, she is eager to experiment with other textile techniques, such as lacework and embroidery. Fraley's latest works, based on cheese molds, illustrate her unique method of researching new concepts. In order to fully understand her topic, she immerses herself by experiencing the subject with all of her senses. She then uses the emotive quality of these experiences to aid her in selecting yarns, colors, and weave structures in order to recreate that inspiration. Fraley is working toward her BFA in Textile/Surface Design at FIT.

Catria Gunter, the 2011 HGA Scholarship recipient, was introduced to sewing and knitting by her mother when she was young. She is most drawn to processes and materials and derives most of her inspiration from nature. In her freshman year of college, she was introduced to weaving by Warren Seelig and continues to be mentored by Mi-Kyoung Lee. When a subject interests her, she creates quick sketches and proceeds to experiment with a number of techniques and ideas before embarking on the final piece. She views this process as more important than the end result. Currently, Gunter incorporates her knowledge of weaving into off-loom surfaces and structures, using natural and found materials. She is working toward her BFA at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Established in 1995 the Dendel Scholarship, funded by gifts from Gerald and the late Ester Dendel, is administered by HGA to support a student or students, in the study of handweaving and related fiber arts at an accredited institution in the United States or Canada. The HGA Scholarship Fund is dedicated to furthering education in the fields of handweaving and related fiber arts, including training for research, textile history, and conservation. Students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs in accredited schools in the United States and Canada are eligible for the HGA Scholarship, which applies toward tuition.

The Fall 2011 issue of *Shuttle Spindle & Dyepot*, HGA's award-winning magazine published quarterly, contains a feature article about the 2011-12 recipients which includes color photographs of their work. For more information about HGA's scholarship and grant opportunities, visit <www.weavespindye.org> or mail HGA Scholarship & Grant Opportunities, 1255 Buford Highway, Suite 211, Suwanee, GA 30024.

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