

2019 Fiber Arts Sale – The Stars Aligned!

The 2019 Weavers' Guild of Boston Annual Fiber Arts Sale and Exhibit took place November 15-17. This year we held the sale in a new location, the Weston Public Library's new maker space, the Weston Art and Innovation Center (AIC). **Back in Weston!**

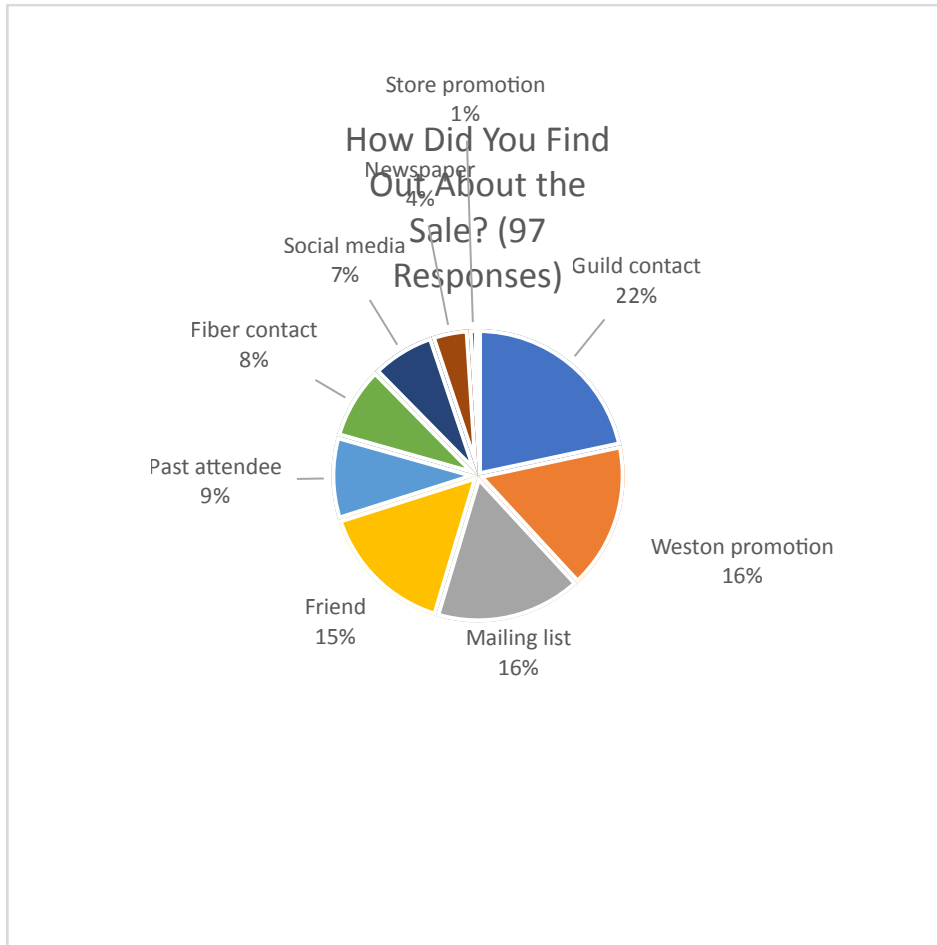
Guild members and the public alike were charmed by the gorgeous array of items in the bright, modern, yet historic, building. We had close to 2000 items (21% increase from 2018) from 45 weavers (28% increase) available for purchase. These were set up in two rooms – one primarily focused on fashion, and the other focused on domestics and various small items. The Guild Challenge Exhibit was set up in the hallway – right near the checkout desk, so many people stopped to inspect our work. The whole setup was beautiful! And, more than 500 people attended the 3-day event!

We had record sales - numbers were far better than we have seen in recent years:

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Gross Sales	\$44,010	\$25,466	\$36,363	\$29,753	\$29,963	\$33,915	\$31,712
Weavers Take	\$34,285	\$20,231	\$29,720	\$24,397	\$24,423	\$27,786	\$25,994
Guild Gross	\$9,731	\$5,238	\$6,643	\$5,466	\$5,540	\$6,129	\$5,718
Rent*	\$800	\$1,200	\$760	\$800	\$800	\$750	\$750
Other Expenses	\$3,780	\$4,134	\$3,859	\$3,280	\$2,891	\$2,535	\$1,984
Net Profit	\$5,951	(\$96)	\$2,024	\$2,185	\$2,649	\$2,844	\$2,844
Weaver count	45	35	41	37	34	40	31
Items submitted	1982	1,652	1,756	1,560	1,566	1,820	1,555
Items sold	828	483	648	471	479	633	544
Avg \$/item	\$53	\$53	\$56	\$63	\$63	\$54	\$58
Avg. units/weaver	\$18	14	16	13	14	16	18

Attendee Survey

Sara White conducted a survey during the sale, asking people about what they thought about the sale and whether they wanted to be added to the mailing list. One question was how they found out about the sale. Here is a summarized breakdown of the responses:



*** Weston Promotion includes:**

- Weston library mailings
- Signs
- Weston Facebook page and calendar
- Weston Town Crier

Plans for Next Year:

The Weston Library / AIC was happy to have us as a tenant this year and would like us to return next year. They've penciled us in for the weekend of their library book sale, November 12-15, 2020. This would give us a setup like this year – the day after the November guild meeting.

However, with the Covid-19 pandemic, 2020 is not an ordinary year. In April 2020 we were under a stay-at-home order with most buildings and businesses closed. The plans for the 2020 sale will depend on when the state returns to normal and will allow congregations of people.

Changes planned for the next sale:

- The Guild Challenge will not be exhibited because the items will be reserved for the 100th Anniversary exhibit at the Charles River Museum of Industry. We may, instead, prepare an alternate "About the Guild" exhibit.
- Longer shift hours – 4.5-hour shifts would mean we only need 2 shifts/day.
- Creating a bag insert item that includes both WGB and Weston AIC information

- Pick Up plans documented on the waiver form; a weaver's boxes will not be given to a different weaver for pick up without written instructions.
- Husband chair for those waiting for shoppers.

Respectfully submitted,

2019 Sale Committee

Nancy Flood

Marnie Smith

Sara White

Caroline Ronten

Beth Guertin