The Knitting Retreat For Everyone

Welcome to AffiKNITy retreat! Imagine yourself knitting in a rocker, on a giant wraparound porch, in this spectacular, family-owned, historic resort set on Otsego Lake in Cooperstown, NY. I hope you can join me, and an amazing group of teachers, at Otesaga Resort for AffiKNITy 2027.

I wanted to create a special retreat where every knitter feels welcome. Whether you've been knitting for 2 months or 20 years, whether you're traveling alone or with a group of friends, whether you like to be in class all day or have a ton of free time . . . this is the retreat for you.

Please join me for three days of knitting, laughing, learning, while spending time with like-minded people in this mountain wonderland — Truly HEAVEN!

I hope to see you there! Knit, Learn, Laugh, Repeat

Patty

PattyLyons
knitting teacher | designer | author

April 15 - 18, 2027

Build Your Perfect Retreat

Some knitters want three days of education: that's the **Full Hank**. Some knitters want to take a class and have plenty of hang-out time: that's the **Sampler or Mini Skein**. And THEN there are the new knitters or knitters who just want to brush up their skills but have always dreamed of attending a knitting retreat: for them, the **Gauge Swatch** (with multilevel classes.)

That's why we offer four different class packages.

Choose Your Class Package

Full Hank — 3 classes, one from each guest teacher*
Sampler Pack — 2 classes from two of the guest teachers*
Mini Skein — 1 class from one guest teacher*
Gauge Swatch — 4 mini skill-building sessions

** Full, Sampler &Mini package holders are free to attend any skill-building sessions they like during their free time.*

So Much To Do!

When not in class, there are tons of cozy spots (outdoor fire pit anyone?) to sit and knit.

Enjoy the sprawling grounds and explore all that comes with the resort.

Relax on the grand porch, take a canoe out on the lake, enjoy a round of golf, book a spa appt, take out a bike and enjoy the town.

Located in historic Cooperstown, the resort offers us discounts to the Baseball Hall of Fame and the Clark Sports Center.

What's Included for All:

- Knitting classes with the best teachers around.
- All meals, three drink tickets.
- Mini sessions with Patty, Kate or Lauren.
- All evening events - fashion show, game night, and more!
- Three retreat patterns from our guest teachers
- Fabulous TWO-DAY marketplace with our amazing vendors.
- Epic goodie bag!

Who & Where

Teachers

I'm thrilled to be joined by some of the best in the business.

- Faina Goberstein
- Joji Locatelli
- Mary Jane Mucklestone
- Kate Atherley
- Lauren McElroy

Otesaga Resort

Immerse yourself in historic elegance and charm at our luxury hotel in Cooperstown. Relax on the peaceful shores of Otsego Lake in a refined retreat with unparalleled hospitality. Sit back and enjoy the breathtaking views of the countryside.

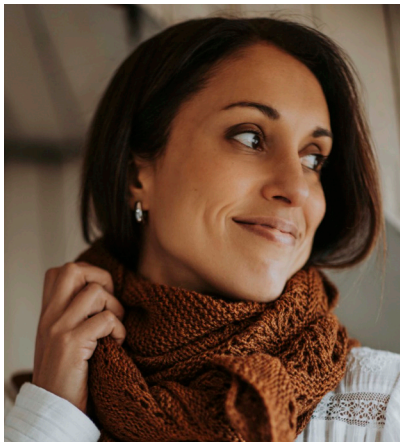
Our group rate extends before and after the retreat, so stay the week! (based on availability)

And, of course, there are tons of cozy spots to hang out and knit!

Your Teachers

Faina Goberstein

Faina Goberstein is a prolific knitwear designer, author, and a professional teacher. She is the coauthor of the bestselling books The Art of Slip Stitch and The Art of Seamless Knitting, and her designs can be found in Vogue Knitting, Rowan Magazine, Interweave Knits, Knit Purl, Knitscene, Twist Collective, and various books. Faina is best known for her elegant and well-fitted classic designs that show off textures that use and combine cables, brioche, and slip-stitch patterns. She is fascinated with many knitting and finishing techniques and loves to share her expertise and excitement with her students. Developing new slip-stitch and brioche patterns for her new designs keeps Faina's love for math and knitting merged. She teaches in person at various venues nationally and abroad as well as online. Visit her website at fgdesignsknits.com.



Joji Locatelli

Joji enjoys living her life in sunny Buenos Aires, while dreaming of visiting the rest of the world armed with knitting needles and yarn. She also thinks life is much sweeter when served with coffee and chocolate!

https://www.jojiknits.com/.

Mary Jane Mucklestone

Mary Jane Mucklestone is happiest when making things — a hand-knitting designer who loves the process as much as the finished piece. With a background in art and textiles, she travels the world studying traditional knitting techniques.

She's the author of six books specializing in colorwork, including the stitch dictionaries 200 Fair Isle Motifs and 150 Scandinavian Motifs, which sit on thousands of bookshelves worldwide. Her Laine Publishing titles, Fair Isle Weekend and Grand Shetland Adventure (co-authored with Gudrun Johnston), are coveted for their stunning photography and knitting patterns that offer a twist on tradition.

When not off teaching, she splits her time between Portland Maine, and Seattle Washington.

MaryJaneMucklestone.com.

Your Host, Special Guests

Patty Lyons (Your Host)

Patty is a nationally recognized knitting teacher and technique expert who is known for teaching the "why" not just the "how" in her pursuit of training the "mindful knitter."

Her designs and knitting skill articles have been published in *Vogue Knitting, Interweave Knits, Knit Purl, Knitter's Magazine, Cast On, Knit Style, Creative Knitting, Twist Collective* and *Modern Daily Knitting* where she writes a monthly knitter's advice column: "Ask Patty."

Patty has been a repeat guest on PBS's Knitting Daily TV and is also known for her lighthearted "feud" with Seth Meyers.

Patty is the author of the best selling *Patty Lyons' Knitting Bag of Tricks & The Official Workbook, and Knitting ER*

pattylyons.com

instagram.com/pattyjlyons

Kate Atherley

Kate is an internationally known knitting author, teacher, and editor. Her latest book, Custom-Fit Hats is her ninth, and the fourth in a series on customizing projects for perfect fit and style; it joins works on shawls, socks, and mittens. She's also the co-founder and publisher of Digits & Threads, an independent, member-supported online magazine about Canadian fibre- and textile arts, crafts and industry. The combination of her university degree in mathematics, professional experience in software development and usability, and training in garment and fashion design give her a unique perspective.

www.kateatherley.com

Lauren McElroy

Lauren is a multidisciplinary artist using storytelling, song, meditation and art to guide people through transformative experiences.

Lauren designs classic, wearable pieces with a touch of spirit. With stitches that invite you to breathe deeper and connect to something deeper as you knit. Every pattern is an invitation to slow down, to reconnect with your creativity and to make something that is not only an heirloom, but an experience that makes you.

Lauren creates with the hope that your knitting becomes a refuge, a ritual, that stitches you back into belonging. Lauren is also a certified meditation teacher, song leader and holder of ritual

https://www.motherofpurl.net/

So Much To Do & See

There's a world of fun, outside the classroom waiting for you at AffiKNITy.

In addition to oohing and aahing over sweaters and knitting by the lake, by the firepit, on the grounds, there's so much to do at the resort.

Book a spa appt, go on a hike, take a canoe ride, visit the Baseball Hall of Fame and more!

The staff is ready to help.

Retreat Overview

Thursday

Time to Get to Know Each Other

We'll kick off our retreat with wine, food,* games, and of course, PRIZES!

We'll go through all the details of the retreat, and you'll feel at home in no time.

*not a full dinner, but a LOT of food!

Friday

Marketplace Preview and Fashion Show

For those not in class, you'll be able to visit the marketplace in the afternoon.

Then, in the evening, it's your time to shine! Show off your finished (or let's be real, sometimes almost finished) knitwear.

Saturday

Marketplace Day #2, Fix it or Frog It - Ask Patty

In the morning we'll have teacher market, sweater try on, and day TWO of the Marketplace!!

The evening brings us together for dinner and fun. . . bring your knitting tragedies (or stories of) and we'll play the game "Fix it or Frog it"

Sunday

Grand Prizes & Raffles

Before we say goodbye, we'll have our morning classes and our farewell lunch.

And of course, we'll have grand prizes!

Classes - Full Hank & Mini Skein

Modern and Exquisite Woven Slip-Stitch patterns

with Faina Goberstein

Add a little bit of color to your project with this fairly new and exciting group of slip-stitch patterns. Learn the basics of working with this group, swatch a few patterns, try some color combinations, and get inspired to create your own stitches. Join us in exchanging ideas on usage of these stitches and how to make any project one of a kind.

Mastering Circular Yokes

with Joji Locatelli

Have you ever dreamed of knitting a circular yoke sweater that fits you just right? One where the neckline sits perfectly, the sleeves feel just how you like them, and the shaping complements your body? In this class, we'll take a closer look at how circular yokes work, how they're constructed, and how you can make them your own.

We'll talk about different yoke shaping options, proportions, and how to adjust them to your taste and fit. And if you've always wanted to design your own sweater, this is your chance!

During this class, you'll learn:

- The structure and construction of circular yoke sweaters
- How to adapt shaping and fit to your preferences
- How to begin designing and knitting your own custom yoke sweater

Saved by the Swatch

with Mary Jane Mucklestone

Spend a colorful afternoon learning how small practice squares—swatches—can make a big difference in the outcome of your colorwork knitting projects. Mary Jane will show you how to use swatching to choose colors, fix tension issues, and plan projects more confidently and successfully. We'll explore four different methods of knitting a colorwork swatch, finding the best method for your future projects. A swatch lays the groundwork for a successful project, testing out color choices, the qualities of different yarns, and achieving gauge. Swatches are the key to making your projects look just as you imagine. They become a resource you will refer to over and over again. Perfect for knitters who are fairly new to colorwork or want to improve their skills, this relaxed workshop will help you feel more confident, creative, and ready to take on colorful projects.

Kate's Skill Builder Sessions

Yarn Substitution
Fri am

Mystified by all these terms - double knitting, worsted, chunky? Unsure whether fingering is a potato or a yarn? Wondering why you should care about whether a wool is superwash or not? How do you go about finding a substitute yarn for a pattern, especially if you're shopping online? This class will explain yarn terminology, and build your knowledge of types of yarns and fibers. We will dive deep into the topic of yarn weights and gauge, giving you foolproof and easy ways to check and get gauge for a pattern – along the way explaining why it matters, when it doesn't, and what to do if you can't get it. We'll also talk about different fibers, helping you make the right choice for your project.

Fearless Finishing - Basic Seams
Friday pm

This is a practical and pragmatic overview of key finishing tasks: blocking, seaming and weaving in ends. The objective is to take the fear out of, and offer simple and manageable solutions

Fearless Finishing - Beyond the Basics
Saturday pm

A dive into more specialized topics, we'll talk about picking up stitches, grafting, making buttonholes, attaching buttons, and the most-feared seaming task: setting in a sleeve. Again, this is all about practical skills with the objecting of making seamed garment patterns seem less daunting!

Make-or-Break Garment Skills
Sunday am

This session is all about addressing the frequently-asked and not-nearly-often-enough-answered questions about garment knitting. We'll review how to read sizing information and confirm what size you want to make; we'll discuss the dreaded topic of yarn and gauge (although I promise I'll be very gentle); and we'll talk about pattern reading and how to deal with complicated and unclear instructions. Bring your garment knitting questions!

Patty & Lauren's Skill Builder Sessions

Ask Patty

Fri pm - Intermediate

Sat pm - The Basics

Come with your knitting questions, stalled project or even projects in the ER. This is your time to ask anything and we'll cover as much as we can in 90 min.

Saturday night we'll keep it going with "Fix it or Frog it" when every attendee will be able to ask "can this patient be saved."

Introduction to Spindle Spinning *

Friday am

Sunday am

If you've ever been curious about how to spin your own yarn for all of your favorite fiber arts, this is the workshop you've been waiting for. Lauren will give us an introduction in how to spin custom yarn from fiber on a drop spindle. In her own practice, Lauren sources and curates her yarn from fleece to wearable art. In this workshop, Lauren will get you started learning how to take roving and spin it into a beautiful skein of hand-spun yarn.

* this is a demo OR hands on class. If you'd like to try your hand at spinning you can purchase roving and spindle for a kit fee on site.

Retreat Schedule

Retreat Overview **(schedule subject to change)**

Thursday, April 15

3:00 – 5:00	Registration		
7:00 – 9:00	Opening Reception		

Friday, April 16

7:30 – 9:00	Breakfast		*8:25 - 8:45 Morning Meditation*
9:00 – 12:00	Full Classes		*10:00 – 11:30 Yarn Substitution*
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch	12:30 - 1:00 pm Styling with JUL	*10:00 – 11:30 Intro to Spindle Spinning*
2:00 – 5:00	Full Classes	1:30 - 5:30 MARKETPLACE PREVIEW	*3:00 – 4:30 Finishing - Basics*
6:00 – 7:00	Dinner		*3:00 – 4:30 Ask Patty: Intermediate*
7:00 – 9:00	Fashion Show		

Saturday, April 17

7:30 – 9:00	Breakfast		*8:25 - 8:45 Morning Meditation*
		9:00 - 12:00 MARKETPLACE	10:00 – 11:30 Teacher Market
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch		
2:00 – 5:00	Full Classes	1:30 - 5:30 MARKETPLACE	*3:00 – 4:30 Finishing - Intermediate*
6:00 – 7:00	Dinner		*3:00 – 4:30 Ask Patty: The Basics*
7:00 – 9:00	Fix it or Frog It		

Sunday, April 18

7:30 – 9:00	Breakfast	*8:25 - 8:45 Morning Meditation*
9:00 – 12:00	Full Class	*10:00 – 11:30 Garment Skills*
12:00 – 1:30	Lunch	*10:00 – 11:30 Intro to Spindle Spinning*
1:30 pm	Raffles and Goodbyes :(	

Registering

When you apply, you will be asked to decide between Full Hank, Sampler Pack, Mini Skein, Gauge Swatch, or Wool Winder (non-knitting companion) and pick your class times — Be sure to review the schedule and make your decisions before you apply. You can also sign up a second registrant if you are traveling with a friend.

You will also be asked for dietary restrictions and payment preference (deposit or full payment) as well as to agree to the COVID policy.

You will be notified in 72 hrs after applying if you are in or on the wait list. If you are in, you will have 24 hrs to complete payment.

Cancellation Policy

If you cancel before February 18, 2027, and you have paid in full, you will receive a full refund minus the $450 deposit. No refund will be issued after February 18, 2027, unless your spot can be filled. If your spot is filled, you will receive a full refund minus the $450 deposit.

Fees

A $450 non-refundable deposit will be due at registration, and the balance will be due on Feb 18, 2027.

All packages include: all meals, 3 drink tickets, any lectures and mini sessions, evening events, fashion show, goodie bag, 3 retreat patterns.

Full Hank (best savings): **$1295** — 3 full classes, one from each guest teacher. Can also attend any Skill Builders.

Sampler Pack: **$1225** — 2 full classes. Can also attend any Skill Builders.

Mini Skein: **$1135** — 1 full class. Can also attend any Skill Builders.

Gauge Swatch **$1045** — 4 one-hour Skill Builder sessions.

Wool Winder (non-knitting companion) **$850** — all meals, drink tickets, evening events, event discounts, and marketplace.

Otesaga Resort: Hotel Reservation

Once your registration is confirmed, you'll receive a housing code and phone number to book housing. Make sure to book your room quickly as the block does fill up. Ask for the AffiKNITy group rate. If you are looking for a room share, be sure to post a message on the AffiKNITy room share board on my Ravelry group or Facebook group.

The retreat registration fee does not include housing so knitters can choose from room types AND choose if they'd like to share with a friend (to split expenses!)

Make sure you book your room quickly as there are a set number of each room type. Rooms start at $249 * Accommodation rates do not include 6% Lodging Tax, 8% Sales Taxes

Getting There

Closest to the Albany Airport. Lots of knitters will be renting cars, and some come from New York and others from Boston. If you are looking for a ride share, post a message on the AffiKNITy ride share board on my Ravelry group or Facebook group.

Follow the AffiKNITy fun at: