

# COMMUNITY ARTS

## Lee McLeron: Needle Arts



Lee McLeron working in traditional Japanese embroidery

For over 40 years, Lee McLeron has been a needlework artist. Earning her BA in Accounting and Management from the University of Buffalo, Lee supplemented her education through being successful in business. She became certified as a Needlework Judge and Teacher, owing to her early education with her Scottish grandmother in darning, tating and needlework, which evolved into a lifelong passion. In the early 1960s, she studied for nine years with a Master Teacher from the Royal School of Needlework in London, England, before moving to Spokane, WA where she taught

embroidery and was involved in several area guilds from 1970 through 2010. Lee has exhibited her work internationally, and in recent years has had work in permanent collections at the John C. Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, and the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts.

### ARTIST STATEMENT

*I am a fiber artist and my medium is needlework. Historically, needlework played an important role in the education of young women in England, America and other parts of the world through the creation of samplers. These stitched pieces featured the alphabet, followed intricate patterns and required perseverance and self-discipline to create. These qualities in turn assisted young women to develop the skills necessary to manage their households as they matured into adults.*

*Continual practice and experimentation over many years by many fiber artists has led to fine needlework becoming a polished artform. I am proud to share this artistic genre with a larger audience.*



Detail from a piece using silk and metallic threads