

# MAAP

## MASTER ARTIST APPRENTICE PROGRAM FY2024



**DOUG LOWMAN**  
CHAIR CANING, FIBER/TEXTILE  
SEAT WEAVING



**Doug Lowman** is a fiber artist who specializes in the seat weaving of chairs and rockers. Chair caning has a rich craft tradition in the Appalachian region. He also enjoys stained glass work and the weaving of textiles. In addition to cane work, Doug weaves chairs and stools with flat reed and rush. In the early 1990's, he caned his first rocking chair. This rocker was a vintage rocker that he carried out of the Hillsville Flea Market in several pieces. Encouraged by his success with this rocker restoration and after retiring from Eastman Chemical Company as a research chemist, Doug became serious about this craft as he explored refurbishing other chairs and rockers.

While researching the internet, Doug found several beautiful handwoven cane patterns which lead him to refurbish more antique pieces. His finds in flea markets, yard sales, and antique malls are turned into beautiful chairs and rockers using classic Appalachian patterns, such as Daisies and Buttons, Daisy Chain, Double Victoria, Spider Weave, Star of David, Honeycomb and Lace as well as self-designed patterns. Today, Doug uses these lovely cane patterns to rejuvenate antique rockers and chairs into treasured family heirlooms. His work has been exhibited in Tennessee, Arkansas, North Carolina and Ohio. Doug received Best of Show recognition at the Summer Craft 2017 Exhibition in Tennessee.

In addition to the restorations, Doug offers classes in chair caning for those interested in learning this time-honored craft. He has taught locally and at Washington College Academy and Arrowmont. Through teaching these classes, he has experienced the joy of watching new

students struggle and succeed to learn the art of the handwoven caning craft.

Doug lives with his wife, Deborah, on their farm in Telford, TN. In addition to chair caning, Doug and his wife also weave and work in wood to create exquisite weaving tools including boat shuttles out of native and exotic hardwoods. Doug is a member of The SeatWeavers' Guild, Inc (currently its President), Tennessee Craft-Northeast Chapter, Overmountain Weavers Guild and Handweavers Guild of America, Inc.