



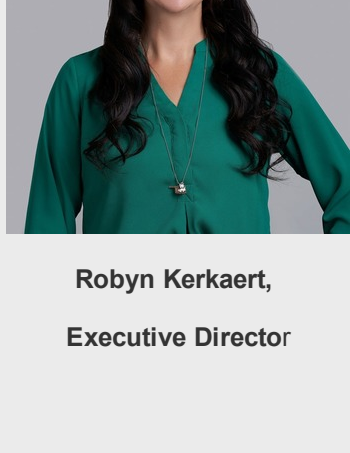
### Our Mission

The Sewing Labs is an inclusive and welcoming community teaching the legacy of sewing for employment, entrepreneurship, and enrichment.

### Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am thrilled to share some exciting updates here at The Sewing Labs. We have recently welcomed a talented instructor to our team, who brings valuable experience and expertise to our organization. Please join me in welcoming Lindsey Ryan to our team! Her contributions will undoubtedly enhance our ability to serve the community. We are actively recruiting and encourage you to consider joining our team. Visit our [careers page](#) to learn more!



Robyn Kerkaert, Executive Director

As our organization continues to evolve, our belief in the power of lifelong learning will guide us and be an integral part of our core values.

To further our growth, we have initiated a strategic planning process, evaluating our current programs and exploring new opportunities. We aim to remain at the forefront of workforce development and community initiatives in Missouri.

Collaboration is key to our success, and we actively seek partnerships with like-minded organizations. By leveraging our collective resources, we can create even greater impact. If you know of any organizations aligned with our mission, please reach out to us. Investing in our staff's professional development is a priority. We are building a comprehensive training program to equip them with the necessary tools and skills to excel in their roles.

Lastly, I want to express deep gratitude to our supporters and donors. Your commitment has allowed us to positively transform lives through educational resources, mentorship programs, and community outreach initiatives.

We are proud of our progress and grateful for your continued support. Together, we can create a brighter future for all.

Warm regards,

**Robyn Kerkaert, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, CCEP, CHPC**



### Coming August 18: Make'n HERStory Gala!

Whether you visit The Sewing Labs daily or just pop in during Open Sew Fridays, you may have noticed a new air of excitement and vigor filling the workshop. Big things have been happening all year — a new director, our partnership with State of Missouri, and a microloan program with the Rotary Club, just to name a few! Capping off our season of growth at TSL is our premiere annual event, Make'n HERStory.

This is a gala created in celebration of makers who channel their creativity into a life and living. Make'n HERStory supports and stands for everything TSL is — entrepreneurship, creativity, community, and learning. For this year's gala, we have an evening of inspirational stories and fun activities, including our first annual Centerpiece Contest!

Not only is this event an opportunity to celebrate entrepreneurship, but it's also a major fundraiser for our organization. Make'n Her Story is our primary source of scholarships and funding for the people at the heart of what we do — **our students**. By purchasing a ticket to the gala, you help The Sewing Labs continue to thrive. Most of the money from the fundraiser goes to our Sewing Salon program and core operations.

If you aren't able to attend the gala, there are plenty of other ways to help. Here are just a few ways:

- Purchase a ticket for another fellow sewist to attend in your stead
- Promote your business at the gala by becoming an event sponsor
- Make a donation of support on our website.
- Participate in our Centerpiece contest
- Donate used items for our Silent Auction

We hope to see you at Make'n HERStory on August 18! We're so appreciative to all of our staff, volunteers, and supporters who have come together to make this celebration happen.

[Purchase Tickets Today!](#)



### What's New?

The Sewing Labs is hiring! We are growing and looking for qualified instructors for industrial machines and guest instructors as well. Do you know someone who is that person? Are you that someone? You can learn more about our open positions by [clicking here!](#)

### Upcoming Events

#### Sew Powerful Purse Workshop

On July 21, use your sewing skills for a good cause with Chris McMullen during this workshop. Learn how to sew a cross-body purse with a free pattern provided by Sew Powerful. The bag you create will go to a schoolgirl in Zambia, where it will be filled with re-usable supplies to enable her to attend school all month and learn. All materials are included. There is an optional fee of \$15. [Click here](#) to join the workshop.

#### Fabric Grab Returns in September

Fabric Grab returns September 23, beginning at 9 a.m. Snatch up extreme bargains on all kinds of fabric, notions, and other sewing supplies while they last! Our selection of fabrics also includes many free items you won't want to miss out on. In addition to selling our fabrics, we'll also be accepting donations. Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates and photos of items!

### Did You Know...?

**Worsted** is a type of medium weight yarn. It consists of firmly twisted thread spun from combed, stapled wool fibers. Although this is a common (and popular) material for countless crocheters, we have to wonder; why the odd name?



The English Village of Worstead

The name's origin can be traced to a picturesque village in England called Worstead. Since the 12th century, this town has been famous for its weaving, particular its heavy cloth it came to be known for, dubbed "worsted."

### Sew What Now?

Does=tension make you tense? The easiest way to remember is this: Higher=tighter, lower=looser. Tension is the balance between needle and bobbin threads. Ideally, they should interloop between the layers of fabric.

If the top is looser, the loops of the needle thread appear on the bottom. If the bobbin is loose (a rarer thing), its loops appear on the top. If the loops on the wrong side are very big, a big adjustment (of something) is needed. If the misplaced loops are small, a small adjustment is needed.

### Corrections

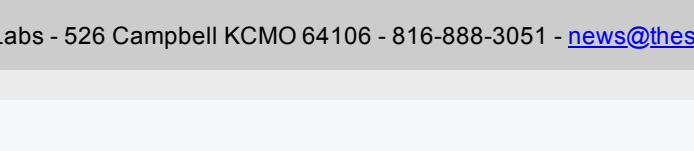
In the June Newsletter, TSL Thread, the article profiling Katie Mabry van Dieren, erroneously stated that her efforts to start a non-profit never came to fruition. This statement is not true. In fact, Mabry van Dieren is the co-founder of Troost Market Collective, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission of providing equitable economic opportunity for creative entrepreneurs, inspiring future generations through innovative partnerships and program.

We sincerely regret the error and apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this has caused.

### Where's My Newsletter?

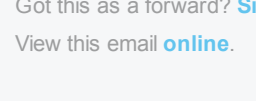
We understand that many of you have had issues where you didn't receive our June newsletter. Please check your junk email box and if it isn't there and you would like us to resend it, please [email us](#) to request your copy. Moving forward, the issue should be corrected and you'll be back to getting ALL your sewing news right on schedule!

[Donate here](#)



The Sewing Labs - 526 Campbell KCMO 64106 - 816-888-3051 - [news@thesewinglabs.org](#)

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove®  
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.  
View this email [online](#).

526 Campbell  
Kansas City, MO | 64106 United States

This email was sent to .  
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.