

[Shoppe Talk with Bex](#)

Hillcreek Yarn Shoppe currently has the privilege of hosting master needlepoint artist **George T. Bacalakis** for a series of upcoming trunk shows. George began needle pointing in first grade in Australia. He attended the United Kingdom's Royal School of Needlework in London, and concentrated on design. He has done custom work for people from all over the world, including Christmas stockings for Kate Middleton! In addition to designing and painting canvases, George is now in Columbia, MO, working on a restoration of chairs from Louis the XIV. His designs are all hand painted on mono canvas and cover numerous functional uses, from piano bench covers to pillows to eyeglass cases and coasters – the possibilities are endless.

Starting Tuesday, April 28th, George Bacalakis will be having bi-monthly trunk shows here at Hillcreek Yarn Shoppe. He will be bringing in a variety of hand-painted canvases from his 8000-piece collection for each show. George will also be available to do custom work, so if you want to have a personalized canvas, bring in your pictures and your ideas and George will come up with a gorgeous custom piece. Free lessons are also being offered, just come to a trunk show and make an appointment!

The first trunk show will be Tuesday, April 28th from 5-7pm, and Wednesday, April 29th from 11am-1pm. Subsequent trunk shows will be the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays and Wednesdays of each month. May 12th & 13th, May 26th & 27th, June 9th & 10th, and June 23rd & 24th. Come take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity while you still can!

[Fiber Art Class Announcement](#)

Bex Olinger, owner of Hillcreek Yarn Shoppe in Columbia, MO, will teach several workshops at Lake Studio for the Arts (16533 N State Hwy 5, Suite 201, Sunrise Beach, MO) on May 15-16, 2015. Bex grew up in her mother's Hillcreek Fiber Studio, so she has learned and mastered a wide range of knowledge in knitting, crochet, weaving, dyeing, etc.



[Beginning Knitting — Friday evening May 15 5:00-8:00 pm](#)

This class is for anyone who has considered whether they might like to learn to knit. Bex will give you basic instruction in how to cast on and do the knit and purl stitches. You will practice forming stitches and become comfortable with knitting a row and turning your work to knit the next row. Bring any medium-weight yarn and US size 7 or 8 needles, or purchase at HYS. \$5 per hr, arrive between 5-7pm.

[Continuous Strand Weaving — Saturday, May 16 8:30-11:30 am](#)

Learn this magical technique for creating triangles or rectangles of woven fabric that can be joined together to make shawls, pouches, rugs, etc. Bex's mother wrote THE book on this method! No measuring, warping, or math needed for this class. Bex will loan the weaving frames used for class. Finish a project in 3 hours! This is a great way to learn more about continuous strand weaving with no initial investment in the loom equipment. (3 hours \$30, materials \$15, can bring your own yarn if you prefer)



[Knitting Beyond the Basics \(25 Things You Need to Know\) — Saturday, May 16 1-4pm](#)

This class is for anyone who can knit & purl — beginner to experienced knitters. We will discuss stitch alignment, when/how to check gauge, adapting patterns, pattern and chart reading, tips for measuring and keeping track. (3 hours \$30, no materials provided, bring a pen & notebook, some smooth medium-weight yarn, US size 7 or 8 needles, or can purchase at HYS. Bring a current project for Q & A)

**Advance enrollment required –
email bexoli@gmail.com or call 573-449-5648**