

General Information

Origami Convention '08 is at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), located on 27th Street between 7th and 8th Avenue, New York City. It is open to OrigamiUSA members only.

The immediate neighborhood is one of industrial lofts, with fast food restaurants and few shops, but excellent access to transportation. There are more extensive shops and restaurants within a five-minute walk.

Mail Registration

Early registration is essential, because FIT requires an early financial commitment from us, and because of the extra strain on our volunteer staff to process late registrations. Our pricing schedule therefore encourages early sign-up. See the Registration Form for details. On-site registration will be available, but at additional cost, and only if you are not attending classes.

We will put our convention forms up on the Internet as soon as they are mailed. If you'd like to complete your forms on our website, www.origami-usa.org, please do so. A secure server is available for on-line registration.

Early registration will make it more likely that you'll get your first choice classes. In order to attend classes, you must obtain tickets during the morning ticketing period. Those who send in

their registration forms early will get to select their classes first during this time. This sequence will be based on postmark date, not date of receipt in the Home-Office, and by lottery within those postmarked the same date.

For fairness to people outside the New York area, however, the first week of postmark dates received will be lotteried together. There are separate lotteries for each convention day (Saturday, Sunday, and Monday). Faxed or Internet forms will be accepted only if you are using a credit card. For faxed or Internet forms, or forms dropped off in the Home-Office, the date received will be considered the postmark date. FedEx, Priority Mail or other special handling is not necessary, and will provide no priority advantage.

People who work (teach and/or volunteer) at least one class period per day attending will have ticketing priority. However, only a limited number of tickets for each class will be available, and teachers/volunteers requesting this priority will also have their forms filled in order based on the ticketing sequence number they received when they mailed in their registration form. In addition, teachers must register by May 25 to receive ticketing priority.

People who work during the morning

ticketing period will not be permitted to obtain their tickets early. There will be people available to bring their selections to the ticketing area, where their forms will be inserted into the correct numerical location. Their tickets will be delivered to them.

You can come to the convention and just hang out in Hospitality if you'd like, and participate in informal teaching. Or, for an additional fee, you can attend classes. You can even come one day and attend classes, and come another without attending classes.

Payment for attendance without classes includes access to all convention areas except classes, plus survival kit. You can add classes at the last minute, on-site, but you will have to pay the difference between the classes and no-classes prices, plus a \$10 per day premium. And remember that your priority number is assigned when you purchase the classes, so if you wait until you arrive at convention, your priority number will be very high.

Non-folding guardians of under-age children may register without charge, as may non-folders who are accompanying a person with special needs. They must complete registration forms, and check the Guardian box. Non-folders who would like to volunteer may register as Staff. They will be able to join us in all areas except classrooms.

If you want to order a 2008 Origami Collection, you'll get a lower price by ordering it with your registration.

First-Timers

Considering attending Origami Convention for the first time? We'll do everything we can to make your experience a memorable one. We'll provide information about New York City and have an orientation session on Friday night.

If you have some general questions, please contact the Home-Office.

Vendors

Vendors of origami objects and materials (other than books and paper) are encouraged to register and sell their handiwork at Origami Convention '08. In order to sell, the vendor must be a member of OrigamiUSA and a paid attendee of the convention, and must pay a fee of \$40 per 6' table per day.

In addition, the vendor must sign a statement (included) agreeing to comply with OrigamiUSA's copyright policy, and also agreeing that the vendor's work sold at the convention will be non-political and suitable for a family audience. If you are unfamiliar with the copyright policy,

please contact the Home-Office for a copy.

FIT has reminded us that they do not permit sales of materials except in the official Sales Areas. If you have books, paper, or special kits for your class, consider consigning them to the Gold Mine. If you have jewelry or other objects to sell, please arrange to rent a table in the Vendor Area.

The hours available for vendor selling will be the same as for The Origami Source.

Access Summary

Current members who are not registered for Origami Convention '08 are welcome to visit The Origami Source or the Exhibition at any time Friday, Saturday or Sunday. Please stop at the first floor Registration Desk in Building C to obtain a temporary nametag for access to those areas only. Remember that you must be registered as an Attendee to enter the Hospitality Area.

Non-members, including family and friends of members, may visit the public areas (Sales and Exhibition) on Saturday or Sunday from 10:30am to 4:30pm only, for a fee of \$3 for adults, free for children under 12. Parents or guardians who require access to the site to pick-up or deliver members must register as Guardians.

Gold Mine/Silent Auction

We'll have books and paper on sale at the Gold Mine, as well as memorabilia, plus contributions from members and businesses. We will also have Raffles of objects and services (but not origami models).

Please consider donating something for the Silent Auction or Gold Mine... everyone can participate and help benefit OrigamiUSA! If you've got extra origami-related stuff clogging your closet, send it in. If not, just get creative. Does your origami group have a tee-shirt you can donate? What about a fabulous piece of wash paper? Can you get a bookstore chain to donate a gift certificate? How about creative folding aids - book holders, or clip-on book lights for late night folding? Help us make this a real success! Please don't send origami models, but just about anything else that's origami-related is fine.

If you have any questions or suggestions, or are unsure about the suitability of your potential contribution, please write to us, and mark your envelope Convention '08 Gold Mine.

Survival Kit

Everyone gets one - lots of paper and a variety of informative materials. Do you have

any (non-commercial) information you would like us to include? Contact Rachel in the Home-Office before the end of May.

Monday Night Dinner

Monday Night Dinner is a wonderful opportunity to meet your favorite origami creators and authors, and your new and old friends, in an intimate and relaxed atmosphere. It will include a carving station with roast turkey with cranberry sauce and sirloin of beef with brown sauce. There will also be seared salmon, pesto lasagna, scalloped potatoes, creamed spinach, saffron rice and a vegetable. Cookies and brownies will be served for dessert, and soda, water, coffee, tea and decaf will be included. Beer and wine will be available at a cash bar.

The cost is \$45 each person, with beer and wine available at a cash bar. Please consider joining us. Tickets are limited.

Volunteering

Many of our attendees tell us that their volunteer experiences are what make the convention most satisfying. If you haven't volunteered before, why not try it this year? It's an opportunity to meet interesting people and see the convention in a whole new light.

We will need help in the weeks prior to the convention preparing survival kits and paper, processing registration forms, etc. On the Friday of the convention, we will need people to help set up. During the convention, we will need people as teachers' aides, monitors in the model menu or exhibition areas, registrars, etc. Directly after the convention, we will need people to clean up. Even one hour will help.

If you will be attending classes, and wish to volunteer during, before or after the convention, please complete the regular registration form, plus the Volunteering information on the tear-off sheet. If you are a non-folder accompanying a folder, and wish to volunteer during the convention, please complete the Guardian/Staff registration form, plus the Volunteering information on the on the lower part of the form. If you volunteer in any way, someone will contact you before the convention to confirm your assignment.

Teaching

Information regarding teaching is included on the tear-off page of the registration form. If you are filling in that section, please make certain you repeat your name and phone number. If you volunteer to teach, someone will contact you

before the convention to confirm what you are teaching, and your requirements.

If you would like to teach, please register as early as possible so that we can plan the class schedule. You must register by May 25th in order to be eligible for special early ticketing priority. Remember that we must have the creators' permission to teach their models, and that diagrams may be distributed only with permission from the diagrammer and creator.

If you have any questions or qualms, write to us, and mark your envelope Convention '08 Teaching.

Model Menu, Real and Virtual

Remember that you will need to send or bring samples of the model you are teaching on Saturday or Sunday to display at the Model Menu. Monday's classes are verbally described in the schedule, and there will also be an informal table to display your models and techniques.

In addition, there will be a Convention Model Preview, or Virtual Model Menu, of the classes to be taught at convention, at <http://www.josephwu.com/gallery2/v/ousa2008/>. We encourage teachers to upload digital photos of their models to this Gallery. Teachers interested in posting pictures to the Convention Model Preview will need to create an account on the gallery web page. Email Thomas Hull (thull@merrimack.edu) or Joseph Wu (query@origami.as) first so that they can send instructions on how to do this and upload model pictures. Remember that not all models will be posted, and that schedule and models to be taught are likely to change.

Saturday Entertainment

We've got lots of ideas for Saturday night's entertainment, including an auction and a special contest. If you have talents you'd like to share with us, please contact Rachel at the Home-Office.

Exhibition

Anyone can exhibit their models at Origami Convention '08, whether a single model or a tabletop, but space must be reserved in advance. If you have models, photos, or other origami-related materials, bring or send them. If you plan on participating in exhibition, fill in the Exhibition portion of the tear-off sheet.

Note the information in the What's New section - if you want to exhibit at the convention, you'll have to volunteer to monitor the area for at least one hour. Please complete

the Volunteer tear-off sheet.

When preparing models for display, please consider their appearance. If you are designing your own display, please include a sketch with your form. Any questions or concerns, please phone Ruthanne Bessman at (608) 257-6372, or E-Mail her at ruthanne@origami-usa.org.

“Sorry I Can’t Attend”

If you can’t come to the convention this year, you can still share the experience. Send for our “Sorry I Can’t Attend” kit, and enjoy a 2008 Origami Collection, convention special T-shirt, button, and survival kit (origami paper of various sizes and types, attendee list, informational handouts, etc.). Retail value is over \$65, but the kit is yours for only \$45, plus \$10 postage and handling in the US. See the form for postage and handling for overseas orders.

Convention Monday

Monday June 30 is a special day at Origami Convention ‘08! It will be a full day of lectures, demonstrations and workshops. Previous topics have included: using origami in education or therapy, teaching origami, reading diagrams, jewelry making, wet folding, backcoating, folding miniatures, greeting cards, photographing origami, flower construction, decorating paper, diagramming, papermaking, preserving models, paper size determination, how to self-publish, developing regional groups, design and creativity.

In addition, we might have sessions on learning or improving the folding skills that will help you to move from simple to intermediate models, or from intermediate to complex. Saturday and Sunday continue to be a mix of models and techniques, but Monday will exclude classes which teach models using traditional origami paper. Individual classes may also require special materials fees.

The specific classes offered will, of course, depend on our volunteer teachers. Convention Monday will be what you make it! If you are interested in teaching or presenting, please fill out the appropriate section of the Teaching tear-off sheet. Someone will call you to discuss your class.

Please note that The Origami Source, Gold Mine, Silent Auction and Exhibition Area will not be open on Monday.

Regional Group Displays

Part of a Regional Group or trying to form one? Bring posters, brochures and hand-outs and

put them in our special Regional Group Area. Note that we are not able to hang anything from the walls of the Great Hall, so any displays should be free-standing.

T-Shirt Reservations

You can order your convention logo t-shirts in advance, and they’ll be waiting for you, size guaranteed, in the store. See our website for a color image of the t-shirt, and order them on the Attendee registration form.

Airplane Contest

Join Bob Stack and T. J. Norvell on Sunday at lunchtime to release your inner Amelia Earhart or Red Baron, and compete with your fellow pilots in the Distance, Accuracy to a Target and Time Aloft categories. Prizes will be given. Note the following rules: each plane must be made from one piece of paper, without cutting or glue, and no weights or tape may be added to the plane.

Convention Pros

Experienced convention attendees know to look for ribbons on name tags to help identify the wearer: First Timers in Yellow, and Board Members and Convention Committee Members in Red. We’re looking for Convention Pros, people who’ve been coming to convention for years, and are willing to help if someone has a question. If you’re interested in being a Convention Pro, please check the appropriate box on the registration form.

Accommodations

We are pleased to be able to offer reasonably priced accommodations at the Convention site, beginning the night of Wednesday, June 25 through the night of Tuesday, July 1. This housing is in basic (bed, dresser, desk) student dormitories and suites, in secure, air-conditioned, elevator buildings right across the street from the Convention building.

Each dormitory room has two single beds, and access to common bathrooms (with private shower stalls). The suites have two bedrooms, each with two single beds, and a private kitchenette and bath. Cooking is allowed, but no utensils are provided. See housing form for cost.

You must provide your own linen: sheets, pillowcase and towels, plus pillow and blanket. If luggage space is tight, this year we will arrange to pre-purchase linen for our members at K-Mart. The cost will be \$25 for a twin size sheet set (fitted sheet, flat sheet and

pillowcase) and towel set (wash cloth, hand towel, bath towel). The cost for a standard size pillow and twin size blanket will be \$20. The cost for all items will be \$45. At the end of the convention you can keep the items, or we will arrange to donate them to a shelter or other worthy facility. Because we must place our order with K-Mart well in advance, no linens may be ordered after June 10.

Coin laundry facilities are available. There are pay telephones on every floor, and lounge areas in each building with television, etc.

FIT has a very strict no-alcohol no-drugs policy for all housing areas. Please respect their rules.

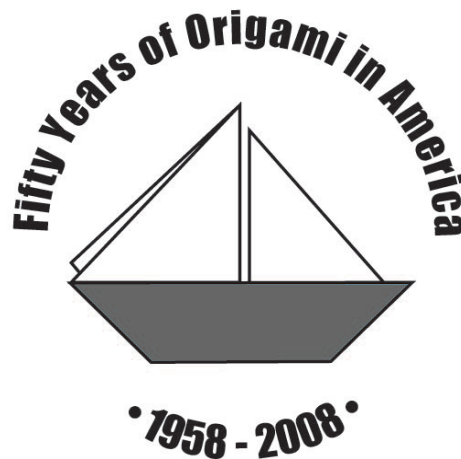
All FIT housing forms must be sent in as early as possible. We will not be able to guarantee housing for forms received after June 6. If you cancel your FIT housing after June 6, we will refund your money only if we can re-rent your room. We make a sizable financial commitment to FIT to secure housing, and late forms substantially increase our costs and volunteer effort requirement. We have therefore added a charge for forms received after May 31 - please see the housing form for details.

If you prefer to stay at a hotel, here are several in the immediate area of FIT: Hotel Pennsylvania, Seventh Ave. at 30th St., 800-223-8585 or 212-736-5000; Ramada

Plaza New Yorker, Eighth Ave. at 34th St., 212-971-0101; Holiday Inn Express, 29th St. between 7th and 8th Aves., 800-315-2621; Affinia Manhattan (formerly Southgate Towers), Seventh Ave. at 31st St., 212-563-1800; or Four Points by Sheraton Manhattan Chelsea, 25th St. at Sixth Ave., 212-627-1888.

FIT Housing is being handled by Martha Winslow-Cole. If you have any questions about accommodations, write to her at 5222 Duck Springs Road, Attalla, AL 35954, or call her at (256) 538-9727. She can also be reached on E-Mail at housing@origami-usa.org.

All forms should be mailed directly to Martha Winslow-Cole, not to the Home-Office. Please make sure that you include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your housing confirmation. Please make sure that you include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your housing confirmation, or a legible email address for an electronic confirmation.



Hours

Friday

Hospitality Area 7pm-12am
 Registration 7-9pm
 1st Timer Orientation 7:30pm
 1st Timer Orientation 8:15pm
 Sales Areas 7-10pm
 Exhibition 7-9:30pm

Saturday

Hospitality 8am-12am
 Registration 8-9:40am
 Class Ticketing 8:45-9:40am
 Opening Remarks 9:40-9:50am
 Classes 10am-12pm, 2-5pm
 Public Access 10:30-4:30pm
 Annual Meeting 5:30-6:30pm
 Entertainment Begins 9pm
 Sales Areas 10am-8:30pm
 Exhibition 10am-8:30pm

Sunday

Hospitality 8:15am-12am
 Registration 8:15-9:40am
 Class Ticketing 8:45-9:40am
 Opening Remarks 9:40-9:50am
 Classes 10am-12pm, 2-5pm
 Public Access 10:30-4:30pm
 Paper Plane Contest 12-1pm
 Sales Areas 10am-6pm
 Exhibition 10am-4pm

Monday

Hospitality 8:30am-6pm
 Registration 8:30-9:40am
 Class Ticketing 8:45-9:40am
 Opening Remarks 9:40-9:50am
 Classes 10am-12pm, 2-5pm
 Dinner 7pm