



ARC11 Spring 2025 Workshop Schedule

These workshops are currently planned to take place at The Jackson Wellsprings Goddess Temple in the back meadow, to create a Bee Hive inspired hexagonal shaped 200 sq ft outbuilding.

DATES & COST

- **May 16th-18th** Women's Carpentry, Crafting with Confidence \$400
- **June 13th-15th** Natural Wall Infill Workshop \$400
- **June 27th- 29th** Plaster Workshop - Laying the Foundation \$400
- **July 17-19th** The Elegance of Finish Plasters \$400
- **July 25-27th** Advanced Sculptural Plasters \$400

INSTRUCTOR for all workshops:

Lydia Doleman is a natural builder contractor, artist and carpenter currently building in Southern Oregon. She's been fascinated with building since she stole her sister's Lego's at the age of three. She founded her first natural construction company, Flying Hammer Productions, in Portland in 2003 with a focus on pushing the bounds of affordable and energy efficient housing that educated and empowered communities. In 2023, Earth Dragon Natural Building LLC was born. Earth Dragon is the Chinese translation for 'earthworm', and her intentions as a craft person of all things clay, straw and wood, is to integrate that deep connection with Earth, to healthy soil while instilling the reverence and reflection of place in her work the way earthworms weave a relationship between earth, plants and sky.

Specializing in building and teaching straw and earth-based wall systems, finish carpentry and a relentless enthusiasm for artistic natural finishes, Lydia has aimed to imbue crafted spaces with the sacredness of natural materials in a way that transforms human habitations into artistic, ecological symbols of home and belonging.

Each undertaking is a co-creative process, a dance of light, space, materials, plans, joy, integrity and whimsy. With natural and conventional building experience since 1998, she brings decades of building evolution to the table. You can usually find her in some kind of mud, wrestling straw bales, in the woods with her family, laughing or just flying around by the seat of her pants.

LOCATION: Ashland Oregon

[FILL OUT APPLICATION AT ARC11.org IF INTERESTED!](http://ARC11.org)

May 16-18: Women's Carpentry: Crafting with Confidence

Join us for an empowering and hands-on carpentry workshop designed specifically for women, where creativity meets craftsmanship in a supportive and inclusive environment. Whether you're a complete beginner or have some experience with tools and are looking to expand your knowledge or looking to build your own future home or just fix things around the house, this class is for you! With 2 days filled with hands on (with an evening of overview) education, this class will guide you through the fundamentals of carpentry while we construct the framing of a quaint hexagonal building (do we want to do a description of the project here?).

Over the course of the workshop, you'll learn essential carpentry skills, including:

- How to safely use power tools while building muscle memory and confidence
- Focus on the use of circular saws, cordless drills, impactors, sawzalls and jig saws
- Accurately measuring, cutting, and assembling wood
- Wood selection and appropriate fastener selection
- Problem-solving and design considerations for your own projects

This class emphasizes building confidence and practical skills while fostering a community of women who share a passion for making. You'll leave with a deeper understanding of the craft, and the knowledge to continue creating on your own.

All materials and tools are provided. Saturday and Sunday lunch included. All classes will be held outside rain or shine.

No experience necessary – just bring your curiosity and willingness to learn!

June 13th-15th: Natural Wall Infill Workshop

Join us for a unique hands-on learning experience in filling the Bee Hiven with straw flakes. This is an adaption of traditional straw bale, where in lieu of installing full bales that make for thick walls, we will be installing 'flakes' or partial sections of bales, between wood lath reinforced walls. All the benefits of straw without compromising the square footage of useable space in the building. It's a perfect infill system for small out buildings that don't need or require the super insulating full size bale walls! This is a great opportunity to learn about the many advantages of straw wall systems, the when, why and how to install them and learn the ever-important detailing of how to handle window and door openings, how to frame for straw walls and how to prep for plasters and finish carpentry. Come learn the magic of this low tech, non-toxic, energy efficient, carbon sequestering, inclusive building material.

June 27-29: Plaster workshop: laying a good foundation for finish

Join us for an in depth workshop learning the fundamentals of natural plasters while applying a scratch and brown combo coat over wood lath. This is where traditional application techniques

meet more modern approaches. We will be doing both an earthen plaster and a lime gauged earth plaster over wood lath creating a great opportunity to learn the virtues and appropriate uses of both mixes. No experience necessary

Key topics;

Materials sourcing and mixing

Applications tools and technics

Tending to the details

This workshop will emphasize a collaborative approach towards getting a big project done while learning the techniques to be a good and efficient plasterer.

Participants must purchase tools (one hawk and one trowel is required) Please inquire to get the required and recommended tool list.

Gloves and PPE will be provided as will lunch.

July 17-19th Plaster workshop: the elegance of finish plasters

Join us for an in-depth workshop learning the fundamentals of finish -plasters while applying local plaster materials. We will be exploring the sculptural aspects of both earth and lime plasters as we complete the finish plaster on the WellSprings Bee Hiven natural building project. We will be doing both an earthen interior plaster and a lime exterior plaster. This workshop is for individuals who have some plaster experience.

Key topics;

Materials sourcing and mixing

Applications tools and technics

Tending to the details, details and details!

This workshop will emphasize a collaborative approach towards getting a big project done while learning the techniques to be a good and efficient plasterer.

Participants must have their own finish plaster tools (one hawk and one trowel is required) Please inquire to get the required and recommended tool list.

Gloves and PPE will be provided as will lunch.

July 25-27th Plaster workshop: Sculptural elements

Join us for an in-depth workshop learning the fundamentals of finish plasters while applying local plaster materials. We will be exploring the sculptural aspects of both earth and lime plasters as we complete the finish plaster on the WellSprings Bee Hiven natural building project. We will be doing both an earthen interior plaster and a lime exterior plaster. This workshop is for individuals who have some plaster experience.

Key topics;

Materials sourcing and mixing

Applications tools and technics

Tending to the details, details and details!

This workshop will emphasize a collaborative approach towards getting a big project done while learning the techniques to be a good and efficient plasterer.

Participants must have their own finish plaster tools (one hawk and one trowel is required)
Please inquire to get the required and recommended tool list.

Gloves and PPE will be provided as will lunch.