



## **Crochet Guild of America**

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Diane Hudson Atkinson, Exec. Producer  
Oprah Winfrey Show  
1058 W. Washington  
Chicago, IL 60607

Dear Oprah,

Crochet is passion! Catherine Leslie, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Kent State University Fashion School has turned her passion into her profession! She believes in the enduring legacy of needle arts in women's culture and the success of her Needle Arts Workshop each semester exemplifies this belief. Filled to capacity, thirty students in each class learn to crochet, along with other types of needle arts. In her doctoral dissertation, Dr. Leslie explored issues of identity, needlework and consumer behavior. Her research surrounds the meaning of making clothing and textiles in people's lives, as well as the significance of the objects themselves as material culture. Guest teachers from the Crochet Guild provided the crochet component this Fall Semester and many student comments like the following, confirm that they have felt a stir of new passion: "It's funny how at first I was so wrapped up in the technique that I was thinking about every little thing...how to hold the hook, the yarn, which hand I should use for what and suddenly I realized I wasn't 'thinking' anymore, just 'doing' and the process became a natural motion."

Oprah, we want to teach you how to crochet a scarf and we will auction it off and donate the proceeds to your Angel Network! We want to serve you in the way we know best, by being creative with yarn and we'll send a Crochet Guild teacher to be your personal crochet coach!! You can also learn a lot from our website:

<http://www.crochet.org/lessons/lesson.html>

Thanks a Hank, Oprah!

Gwen Blakley Kinsler  
Enc: scarf