

## MACON COUNTY YOUNG PRESERVATIONISTS & SOUTH MACON RESIDENTS LEARN NATIVE AMERICAN FINGER WEAVING - SEPT. 2015



On Saturday, October 19, 2015 members of the Macon County Young Preservationists Association (MCYPA) and children and adult guests from South Macon County and Tuskegee connected with the Creek Indian heritage of The Ridge when they participated in an "Introduction to Southeastern Native American Finger Weaving Craft Workshop." The workshop was presented by Ms. Monica Newman Moore from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and was sponsored by The Ridge Macon County Archaeology Project with a 2015 Arts Grant awarded by the Black Belt Community Foundation, Inc...

The ancient Native American craft of twining is a utilitarian art form that is over 9,000 years old. The workshop presenter was Ms. Monica Newman Moore, a living historian from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, who practices the Native American skills of making twined bags and deer toe leggings shakers, for traditional Native American stomp dancing. Ms. Moore is the author of: [Twined Bags: An Historical Finger-Weaving Craft of Native Americans](#). Visit [www.twinedbags.com](http://www.twinedbags.com) for more information.

During the half-day session, Ms. Moore taught participants how to finger weave a bookmark made of yarn. There was a lunch break and the session picked up with the introduction of twining. Participants learned how to make a twined bracelet.

On display were the beautiful twined bags and sashes that Ms. Moore has made over the years.

The overall feedback from workshop participants was. positive. Getting the hang of the finger weaving took a little time for most participants, but crafting the book mark became easier once they were able to see the pattern taking shape.