



### **A bit about the history of WWKiP Day:**

World Wide Knit in Public Day was started in 2005 by Danielle Landes. It began as a way for knitters to come together and enjoy each other's company. Knitting is such a solitary act that it's easy to knit alone somewhere and sink into your work without thinking about all the other knitters out there. Neighbors could spend all their lives never knowing that the other knits. This a specific day to get out of your house and go to a local event (with your knitting in tow) just for you and people like you. Who knows you might even bump into your neighbor! Consider this a spark, to ignite a fire; getting all of the closeted knitters out into fresh air.

WWKiP Day is unique, in that it's the largest knitter run event in the world. Each local event is put together by a volunteer or a group of volunteers. They each organize an event because they want to, not because they have to. They bring their own fresh ideas into planning where the event should be held, and what people would like to do. If it weren't for these volunteer hosts, WWKiP Day would still just be an idea.

In the past some people have used this event as a means to show the general public that 'not only grannies knit!' and while that's great and all, we should keep in mind that without those 'grannies' we wouldn't have the wealth of knitting knowledge that we do.

WWKiP Day is really about showing the general public that knitting can be a community activity in a very distinct way. In some places there are many different knitting groups that never interact with each other, on WWKiP Day they come together in one place, making them hard to miss. World Wide Knit in Public Day utilizes the internet, where volunteer hosts are able to sign up, and knitters are able to find local events with ease. There are various online forums where hosts and knitters meet to talk about the plans for their individual events.

## Our numbers; past and present:

In 2005 there were about 25 local events around the world. In 2006 there were about 70 local events. 2007 there were almost 200. In 2008 there were 800 events around the world. In 2009 there were 751 events. You can see how they break down according to country here:

Country	KIP Count		
		Latvia	1
		Liechtenstein	1
Argentina	2	Mexico	4
Australia	31	Netherlands	7
Austria	5	New Zealand	11
Belgium	11	Norway	2
Brazil	1	Poland	5
Bulgaria	1	Portugal	2
Canada	73	Puerto Rico	1
Chile	1	Singapore	1
China	1	South Africa	1
Czech Republic	2	South Korea	1
Denmark	28	Spain	4
Estonia	3	Sweden	26
Finland	24	Switzerland	6
France	10	United Arab Emirates	1
Germany	22	United Kingdom	55
Greece	1	United States	382
Hungary	2	Venezuela	1
Iceland	6	Vietnam	1
Ireland	5	Virtual KIPs	1
Israel	1	<b>Total</b>	<b>751</b>
Italy	6		

WWKiP Day takes place from the second Saturday to the third Sunday of June each year. Originally it only took place on the Second Saturday of June, but it left out a large portion of the people who help make knitting possible for the rest of us; our yarn shop owners, yarn makers, and designers that attend the TNNA conference each year.

## Past coverage of WWKiP Day:

Various newspapers have covered events in many different towns and cities.

WWKiP Day has also been mentioned in a couple of books:

The Crafter Culture Handbook by Amy Spenser; Published by Marion Boyars Publisher Ltd. (February 1, 2007).

Knitalong: Celebrating the Tradition of Knitting Together by Larrisa and Martin Brown; Published by Stewart, Tabori & Chang (March 15, 2008).

WWKiP Day has also found its way onto many knitting podcasts over the years.

## Who we are:



Danielle Landes is a knitter, writer, and photographer. She's been taking art classes since she was 8 years old, both in, and out of regular schools. Danielle has been in charge of the design for the site since its inception.

Steven Landes is a computer programmer. He's been taking apart computers and rebuilding them since he was 12 years old. Steven had a degree in computer programming that has come in very handy in his collaborations with his wife, including the WWKiP Day site. He's in charge of all of the php scripts that make sign ups so easy as well as the creation and maintenance of the database.

When WWKiP Day first began, Danielle and Steven lived in Denver, Colorado, by the second year they were living in Los Angeles, California, in late 2006 the pair moved to Alice Springs, in the Northern Territory of Australia where they lived until late 2008; currently they live in St. Louis Missouri in the United States

## Currently:

We are taking signups for 2010.

One of the interesting features of the site is that it's actually useable year round. In some of our planning meetings we decided that one of the biggest things we wanted to offer knitters was a place where they could announce their weekly meetings and event for free.

The idea was that it would be good to have one central location with a list of the entire local meetings around the world. That way people could get all of the information that they needed; without having to sift through superfluous information; to find a local meeting half way around the world before they go there on vacation. Knitting has the ability to transcend language barriers, so finding a local group in a new place is really a special treat.

When asked by several people if WWKiP Day is exclusive to knitting, we say that it's not; it's open to all fiber crafts. While the origin of the name denotes that it's all about knitting, over the years it has become an inclusive event for all fiber crafts.

## **Contact:**

The WWKiP Day website can be found at [www.wwkipday.com](http://www.wwkipday.com).

We've set up different email addresses for different duties; below you'll find the email address and its functions.

- [admin@wwkipday.com](mailto:admin@wwkipday.com) for the following:

:items to do with the site itself

- [hosting@wwkipday.com](mailto:hosting@wwkipday.com) for the following:

:questions about putting together an event.

:updates to your event (please give your location in your title as well as your name.)

- [press@wwkipday.com](mailto:press@wwkipday.com) for press kits and interviews.

- [general@wwkipday.com](mailto:general@wwkipday.com) for the following:

:anything that doesn't fall into the above categories