



2026 Quilt Categories & Definitions

Master Division

If the following statement is true, *past or present*, you **MUST** enter the Master Division: Quilt Maker has been awarded a Best of Show or First place ribbon in any juried or judged regional or national show or festival (i.e. AQS, International, Mid-Atlantic, QuiltCon, Great WI Quilt Show, Kansas City Regional Quilt Festival, etc.). A quilt maker **not** identified as a Master may still choose to enter the Master Division.

_____ *Pieced Quilt* - Predominantly pieced or patchwork assembly. Machine or hand quilted.

_____ *Applique Quilt* - Predominantly Applique assembly and may be any type applique to include raw edge, needle turn, reverse, etc. Machine or hand quilted.

_____ *Mixed Technique Quilt* – Quilt is created using 2 or more different techniques where it's not defined as predominantly pieced or applique. Special or innovative techniques may be used in quilt creation. Machine or hand quilted.

_____ *Art or Pictorial Quilt* – Perimeter (all four sides) must not exceed 240". Quilt was constructed using original design (no pattern), **any** techniques, and must consist of 3 layers (top, batting, backing). If you used a trademarked or copyrighted pattern, it is not an original. If a photo is used as inspiration, credit must be given to photographer, if known.

_____ *Modern Quilt* - Quilt is inspired by modern design, having but not limited to the use of bold colors in solids and prints that read as solid, high contrast, improvisational piecing, minimalism, maximalism, or negative space. The use of Kaffe and small or bold wild prints do not on their own qualify as Modern.

Artisan Division

If the following statement is true, *past or present*, you may enter under the Artisan Division. The Quilt Maker has NOT been awarded Best of Show or First place ribbon in any juried or judged regional or national quilt show or festival (examples listed above).

_____ *Applique Quilt* - Predominantly Applique assembly and may be any type applique to include raw edge, needle turn, reverse, etc. Machine or hand quilted.

_____ *Art or Pictorial Quilt* - Perimeter (all four sides) must not exceed 240". Art quilt is an original design (no pattern). Pictorial quilt may be an original design but using a pattern is acceptable. Quilt may be constructed using **any** technique, and must consist of 3 layers (top, batting, backing). If a photo is used as inspiration, credit must be given to photographer, if known.

_____ *Miniature Quilt* - Perimeter (all four sides) must not exceed 96"; the maximum size of one side of the quilt is 24" with a maximum block size of 4". Entries must be in a scale proportioned to the size of a full-size quilt. A miniature quilt is by definition the miniaturization (reduced or scaled down) design of a full-size quilt. By accurately reducing the size of the quilt blocks and components, the quilter produces an exact replica of a full-size quilt. In a photo a miniature quilt should not be distinguishable from a large quilt. Any quilting technique is acceptable.

_____ *Mixed Techniques Quilt* - Quilt is created using 2 or more different techniques where it's not defined as predominantly pieced or applique. Special or innovative techniques may be used in quilt creation. Machine or hand quilted.

_____ *Modern Quilt* - Quilt is inspired by modern design, having but not limited to the use of bold colors in solids and prints that read as solid, high contrast, improvisational piecing, minimalism, maximalism, or negative space. The use of Kaffe and small or bold wild prints do not on their own qualify as Modern.

_____ *Scrap Quilt* - Quilt must include no fewer than 70 fabrics. Machine or hand quilted.

Pieced Quilts - Predominantly pieced or patchwork assembly. Machine or hand quilted. To qualify as a one-person quilt, one person did all the work, piecing, quilting, etc. Do not enter a quilt professionally quilted by someone else in any of the one person categories:

_____ Large Quilt – One Person – Perimeter (all four sides) must be at least 240” or greater.

_____ Large Quilt – Two or More Persons – Perimeter (all four sides) must be at least 240” or greater.

_____ Small Quilt – One Person – Perimeter (all four sides) must be 239” or less.

_____ Small Quilt – Two or More Persons – Perimeter (all four sides) must be 239” or less.

New for 2026

_____ Rookie Wall – Open to OPQG members who have three or less years quilting experience. This is a non-judged category.

_____ Special Exhibit Framed Art – Perimeter (all four sides) must not exceed 150”. The Framed Art category embraces artistic expression using mixed media, with the main element as fiber. These pieces will display on a wall as art. This should be a creative visual work in the layered format of top, batting, and backing. This is a non-judged category.

Non-Judged

_____ *Education-based Quilts* – Open to OPQG members who participated in guild education classes and/or workshops between October 2024 and February 2026. Size of projects based on class pattern. A list of classes and workshops follows. If your class/workshop is not in this list, enter it in Other.

___ Christmas Gift Bag

___ Quilted Art Panel

___ Luggage Tags

___ Four Patch Posy

___ Pillow Bliss

___ Potato Chip Block

___ Binding with Sandy Gard

___ Lone Star Quilt with Courtenay Hughes

___ Youth Quilting with Lorelai Keucker

___ Four in One (4 Hexagon Blocks) with Kelly Ashton

___ Barn Quilting with Turnstyle Studio

___ Other _____

Youth

_____ *Youth Ages 7 – 12* - Perimeter (all four sides) must be between 80” - 144”. Quilt must be made when the creator is between 7 – 12 years of age. Quilt must be constructed entirely by the entrant; no adult assistance with the physical work of creating the quilt is allowed but verbal assistance or instruction is allowed. A hanging sleeve **is not** required for these entries.

_____ *Youth Ages 13 – 18* - Perimeter (all four sides) must be between 80” – 248”. Quilt must be made when the creator is between 13 - 18 years of age. Quilt must be constructed entirely by the entrant; no adult assistance with the physical work of creating the quilt is allowed but verbal assistance or instruction is allowed. A hanging sleeve **is** required for these entries.

Challenges

_____ Quilt Challenge – Quilted Wearable

- The Quilted Wearable Challenge invites you to design and create an overgarment incorporating a quilted fabric. It could be a quilted jacket, coat, vest, poncho, etc.
- The garment can be an original design or pattern of choice, though original designs are encouraged.

- Your garment body (fabric) must be in the quilted format, consisting of three layers: top, middle, and back.
- The garment can be a repurposed vintage quilt top or quilt.
- Insert a loop in the back collar seam when creating the garment (for hanging, see how-to on website).
- During the 2026 Quilt Show, guests will vote on their favorite Quilted Wearable Challenge entry. The Quilted Wearable Challenge Award will be given to the creator of the guests' favorite Quilted Wearable Challenge entry.

Quilt Challenge – Route 66

- Create a quilt that is a tribute to the Route 66 – Also known as the Mother Road, Route 66 was one of the first national highways. Consider the route, the cities, countryside, automobiles, businesses, tourist destinations, gas stations, signs, and the movement of goods and people along this stretch of road. Maybe a favorite memory from a Route 66 landmark will give inspiration as you design your Route 66 Challenge quilt.
- The design must be an original.
- The finished Route 66 Challenge must be 20 inches by 20 inches.
- During the 2026 Quilt Show, guests will vote on their favorite Route 66 Challenge entry. The Route 66 Challenge Award will be given to the creator of the guests' favorite Route 66 Challenge Quilt.

Quilt Challenge - America's Beauty Challenge

- In commemoration of the 250th anniversary of our country, we celebrate the land of the free and all its beauty. This theme is open to your interpretation of America's Beauty and our freedom: Scenery, Patriotism, Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.
- You may use a pattern or create an original design, but no kits are allowed.
- The finished entry can be any size or shape, but the perimeter is not to exceed 180".
- During the 2026 Quilt Show, guests will vote on their favorite America's Beauty Challenge entry. The America's Beauty Challenge Award will be given to the creator of the guests' favorite America's Beauty Challenge Quilt.

AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

CATEGORY PLACEMENT – 1st place: \$125; 2nd place: \$100; 3rd place: \$75 for all categories except Youth. Youth placement is as follows: 1st place: \$50; 2nd place: \$30; 3rd place: \$20.

BEST OF SHOW – \$500 will be awarded in *both* the Master and Artisan Divisions. The Judge will choose one quilt exhibiting a high standard of excellence on the basis of visual impact, color, design, workmanship and execution of all techniques involved. The Best of Show will be chosen from the 1st place winners in the judged categories. Quilts in the category that the Best of Show is chosen from will move up in placement as designated by the Judge.

BEST MACHINE QUILTING - \$200 – The Judge will choose the quilt that is the best example of machine quilting based on workmanship quality and quilting design. This quilt can be from any judged category and may have been quilted on any kind of machine. If chosen from the top three quilts in its category, quilts in that category will move up in placement as designated by the Judge.

BEST HAND QUILTING - \$200 – The Judge will choose the quilt that is the best example of hand quilting based on stitch quality and quilting design. This quilt can be from any judged category. If chosen from the top three quilts in its category, quilts in that category will move up in placement as designated by the Judge.

JUDGE'S CHOICE - \$150 – The Judge will choose a quilt for this award from any judged category. If chosen from the top three quilts in its category, quilts in that category will move up in placement as designated by the Judge.

VIEWER'S CHOICE - \$150 – Voted on by show attendees from any judged category.

CHALLENGE QUILTS – Each Challenge quilt category will be voted on by show attendees. The prize for the winner of each Challenge is an Aurifil 12 spool thread set.