

# 2023 Quilt Show Rules and Information

## Biennial Quilt Show Information

### I. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Hill Country Quilt Guild's Show are to:

(a) Provide members an opportunity to exhibit their quilts and be judged (optional) for excellence in quilt design and craftsmanship through the presentation of awards based on qualified and impartial judging.

(b) Promote and encourage appreciation of fine quilts/wearables and the art of quilt making.

(c) Educate the public as to the significance and history of quilt making as an art form.

(d) Raise revenue to support the functions of The Guild.

### II. RULES

Exhibitor must comply with all rules or entry will be rejected.

(a) Each entry must be the work of at least one HCQG member and entered in that name. Bee or Group quilts must be entered in the name of only one quilter. Quilts made for the Youth Gallery are exempt from this membership requirement, but must be sponsored by a member.

(b) All entries must be completed, clean and undamaged. Items entered in previous HCQG judged shows are not eligible for entry.

(c) All quilts must be quilted by hand, machine or both. Quilting is defined as a running stitch that passes through top, batting and backing. Tied quilts are acceptable. No quilts framed in wood. No pillows.

(d) Final placement in a category will be at the discretion of the Acquisition Committee with input from the Quilt Show chair, if needed. If a quilt is moved to another category, the quilt maker will be notified. No substitution of quilts after entry deadline.

(e) Entrants may enter a total of 4 quilts for judging, with a limit of 3 per category, plus 3 display-only quilts for a total of 7 quilts per entrant, **space permitting**. An entrant may be an individual, a bee, or a group. Quilts entered as a bee or a group, or entered in the Mini Quilt or other challenges, do not count against an individual entrant's limit of 4 judged-quilts.

(f) Quilts must have been completed within the last 3 years.

(g) Special displays are at the discretion of the Show Steering Committee each biennial year.

(h) Additional quilt challenges may be added to the show by the steering committee, with rules and awards specific to that challenge.

(i) All large and medium quilts must have 4-inch sleeves; small quilts wider than 30" must also have a 4" sleeve. Small quilts less than 30" wide may use a 3" sleeve. Miniatures need at least a 2-inch sleeve. Quilts wider than 90 inches **MUST have split sleeves** (a gap of 2" between sleeves is recommended). Any quilt not adhering to these guidelines will be rejected.

(j) Exhibitor's name must be on the back of the quilt. However, the exhibitor must cover all identification until judging is completed.

(k) Any item meeting the above standards may be offered for sale on a consignment basis through the boutique. The Guild will receive 25% of the sales price.

(l) Entry forms must be completed online and payment received or postmarked no later than 60 days before the date of the show. For each quilt entered, the entrant must submit a non-refundable \$5 entry fee and 2 paper images of the **quilt top**, whether it is finished or not.

(m) Quilts must be delivered on the date and to the place determined by the Steering Committee.

(n) To facilitate a more orderly take down, entries may not be picked up until approximately 1 1/2 hour past closing time on the final day of the show.

### **III. AWARDS**

Our show focuses on overall construction and design. Accordingly, there will be no category differentiating professional quilted work from others since good work is good work and quilts are judged on more than just the quilting. Quilters will be acknowledged on the gallery tags and in the program, but ribbons will be awarded only to the entrant except where Special Awards Ribbons are given.

Judged categories will be numbered 100 to 1800. In all judged categories, a First, Second, and/or Third Place award may be given. In addition, up to 20 percent of the quilts in each category may be given an Honorable Mention. The Judges do not have to give all of these awards, since there may not be quilts in the category that warrant an award. One or two individuals may enter any category except 1600 – Group Quilt.

Special awards will be given as follows:

(a) Best of Show, Large – The Judges are asked to select one large or medium judged-quilt that exhibits the best in visual impact, color, design, workmanship and the execution of all techniques involved. Any quilt receiving a Best of Show distinction will relinquish its 1st place ribbon at judging, and all quilts for that category will be moved up one ribbon place (2nd to 1st, 3rd to 2nd, and Honorable Mention to 3rd).

(b) Best of Show, Small – The Judges are asked to select one small or miniature judged-quilt that exhibits the best in visual impact, color, design, workmanship and the execution of all techniques involved. Any quilt receiving a Best of Show distinction will relinquish its 1st place ribbon at judging, and all quilts for that category will be moved up one ribbon place (2nd to 1st, 3rd to 2nd, and one of the Honorable Mentions to 3rd.).

(c) Viewers' Choice – This award is determined by individual ballots cast by those who attend, one ballot per person.

(d) Pride of the Hill Country – This award is given to a quilt selected by a Hill Country area leader.

(e) Judge's Choice – Each judge may select a favorite quilt according to his/her own criteria. These awards may be chosen from any category, including special exhibits such as Mini Quilt Challenge.

(f) Best Use of Color – The Judges may select one quilt from any category that exhibits outstanding visual impact through the use of color. Category 1400-“Kits and Blocks of the Month” is not eligible for this award.

(g) Best Track Mounted Machine Quilting – The Judges may select one quilt from any category that is quilted by moving a machine over the surface of the quilt.

(h) Best Stationary Machine Quilting – The Judges may select one quilt from any category that is quilted by moving the quilt by hand under a sewing machine during the quilting process.

(i) Best Hand Quilting – The Judges may select one quilt from any category that is quilted by hand-made stitches.

(j) Best Computer Assisted Machine Quilting – The Judges may select one quilt from any category that is quilted using a machine using computer assisted programming.

#### **IV. HANGING THE SHOW**

Within any given category, the quilts will be assigned a number that indicates the category and corresponds to the number assigned to the maker of the quilt. When possible, the quilts will be hung by category.

#### **V. ENTRY SIZE CLASSIFICATIONS**

Large Quilt – Length plus width must be greater than 160 inches, but may not exceed 240 inches. Neither width nor length may exceed 120 inches.

Medium Quilt – Length plus width must be greater than 120 inches, but may not exceed 160 inches. Total width must not exceed 120 inches.

Small Quilt – Length plus width must be at least 24 inches, but may not exceed 120 inches.

Miniature Quilt – Length plus width must be no more than 48 inches. The quilt should appear to be a small version of a full size traditional quilt with **all** of the quilt components reduced in scale. **Accuracy is key.**

#### **VI. CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS**

100 – Theme Quilt: a quilt that is judged heavily on how well it represents the Theme of the Show. Includes all sizes and techniques. The quilt may be the work of any number of persons.

200 – Pieced, Large: Quilts that are 80% or more pieced using patterns and inspiration from existing quilt history. This may include innovative settings and adaptations of traditional and contemporary designs. The quilt must be the work of one or two persons.

300 – Pieced, Medium: Same as category 200.

400 – Pieced, Small: Same as category 200.

500 – Appliqué, Large: Quilts that are 80% or more appliquéd and contain fabric designs cut out of any fabric and stitched or otherwise applied to the surface of another fabric. This may include innovative adaptations of designs. The quilt must be the work of one or two persons.

600 – Appliqué, Medium: Same as category 500.

700 – Appliqué, Small: Same as category 500.

800 – Mixed Techniques: Quilts that integrate both appliqué and pieced techniques. The core of the mixed category includes those quilts that are visually balanced between the techniques. The quilt must be the work of one or two persons. Any size is acceptable.

900 – Art Quilt – Nature: A quilt with images from nature – flowers, plants, animals and landscapes that show artistic design concepts, with emphasis on line, color and design. This category features cutting edge work that is the original design of the maker or a design that is inspired by another art form. If the design is derived from other sources, credit must be given as to the source. Published patterns may not be used. Any construction, embellishments, and techniques are acceptable. The quilt must be the work of one or two persons.

1000 – Art Quilt – Other: A quilt that shows images not found in nature; it may include images of people or graphic design. This category features cutting edge work that is an original design of the maker or a design that is inspired by another art form. If the design is derived from other sources, credit must be given as to the source. Published patterns may not be used. Any construction, embellishments and techniques are acceptable. The quilt must be the work of one or two persons.

1100 – Modern: Quilts that have at least two of the modern quilting design elements: alternate grid work, asymmetry, block or non-block based, graphic colors, cropping, improvisation, minimalism, modern traditionalism, negative space, lack of borders, unusual scale. Any size, construction or technique is acceptable. Published patterns may be used. The quilt must be the work of one or two persons.

1200 – Computer Assisted Quilt: A quilt created using computer stitching software to construct any part of the **quilt top**. Examples are machine embroidery, machine created appliqué and machine created piecing. The quilt must be the work of one or two persons.

1300 – Miniature Quilt: A quilt in which all elements are reduced in scale and appear to be a small version of a full size traditional quilt. Includes all techniques. The quilt must be the work of one or two persons. **Accuracy is key.**

1400 – Kits or Block of the Month Quilts: A quilt made from a kit containing purchased pattern with pre-selected fabrics or a Block of the Month pattern from shops, mail order or magazine that include patterns with pre-selected and/or pre-fused fabrics. The quilt must be the work of one or two persons.

1500 – Group Quilt: A quilt made by 3 or more persons. Includes all sizes and techniques.

1600 – Novice Quilt: Gently judged. This category is created for the quilt makers to exhibit quilts in a less competitive atmosphere. It applies only to the first quilt(s) made by the quilt maker and includes all sizes and techniques. Entry in this category is optional (i.e. the maker may wish his/her quilts to be entered in other categories). Quilt maker may enter up to 4 quilts in this category. If the quilt maker enters this category, he/she may not enter quilts in other categories at this same show). Once a quilter has entered a quilt for the show as a “Novice”, he/she will not be able to enter into that category for future quilt shows. The quilt(s) must be the work of one or two people.

1700 – Other Techniques: May be any size. Entries that do not fit the criteria of other categories; i.e., whole cloth, panels, yo-yos, wearables, crazy quilts, hand embroidered or innovative techniques. The quilt must be the work of one or two persons.

1800 – Youth Gallery: All sizes, all techniques – quilts made by children 16 years old or younger. This category will be gently critiqued. Entrant must be sponsored by a guild member.

## **VII. FOLLOWING THE SHOW**

The quilt Show Chair and Steering Committee must review these rules and guidelines after each show. From their show experiences and a critique form published in the newsletter requesting input from members, revisions may need to be made. Recommended revisions should be presented to the HCQG Board in writing within 4 months of the close of the show.

The Incoming Quilt Show Chair and Steering Committee may make revisions as necessary, except for Entry Size Classifications and Category Descriptions.

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