



June ushers in summer, and with it, we're celebrating the addition of new quilts, new talent, and new quilting inspiration. In the May issue of *Threads*, we previewed the four new Collection quilts generously donated by the American Quilter's Society. In this issue, we're sharing details about these Best of Class winners from AQS QuiltWeek Paducah 2026.

Speaking of new, we're excited to welcome a new staff member to The National Quilt Museum—someone you're going to love. Laura Grimes is our new Director of Development and Special Projects, and she brings a special talent for professional storytelling. We can't wait for Laura to help us share the fascinating stories of our 700+ Collection quilts and the quilters who created them. Read on to learn more about Laura.

Another exciting new arrival is a six-part video series featuring the ever-popular Tula Pink. In this issue of *Threads*, we feature part one of the series and learn how Tula's inspiration begins with an old-fashioned writing instrument and a plain sheet of paper.

We also have a brand-new raffle featuring a spectacular baby quilt masterfully designed and quilted by Janet Stone. I highly recommend that you visit the museum this summer to see Janet's exhibition [*And Now I Know My ABCs!*](#) It's the first time her entire alphabet quilt series has been exhibited together.

And if you need more reasons to visit, I'll give you six: Tula Pink's [*Twenty Years of Tula Pink*](#), Latifah Saafir's [*It Was All a Dream*](#), winning quilts from [*New Quilts From an Old Favorite: Food*](#), the world's greatest Collection quilts, a gift shop brimming with things quilters love, and free tins of [*Royal Dansk® cookies*](#) on National Sewing Machine Day!

Happy quilting!

Bonnie



Bonnie Schrock
Executive Director
[Email Bonnie](#)

Five Remarkable New Quilts Join The National Quilt Museum Collection

The National Quilt Museum's newest acquisitions include four Purchase Award winners from AQS QuiltWeek Paducah 2026. These extraordinary works were generously donated by the American Quilter's Society, while the fifth quilt was donated by Collection artist, friend, and longtime museum supporter Laurie Tigner.

With these additions, the Museum's Collection now exceeds 700 quilts, each telling a unique story of artistry, creativity, and innovation. In this issue of *Threads*, we are delighted to introduce the five newest quilts to join the Collection and share the stories behind their creation.

Laurie Tigner
Rapid City, South Dakota
Peacock Hoedown, 2025

Laurie Tigner's vibrant *Peacock Hoedown* joins the Collection as her second quilt represented in the Museum. Laurie shared, "On this quilt, I set out to make a blue quilt and wanted to use my very favorite fabrics from my fabric stash. It made for a very bright center!"

Her first quilt in the Collection, *A February's Dream of Spring*, won the Bernina of America Best of Show Award at AQS QuiltWeek Paducah 2025. An accomplished artist with experience in painting, stained glass, pottery, and other creative pursuits, Laurie brings a rich artistic perspective to her quilting. Read more about Laurie and the creative journey behind both of her quilts in the Collection [here](#).



Peacock Hoedown

Molly Hamilton-McNally and YanGe Gong

Coto de Caza, California

East Meets West, 2025

Created by Chinese-American educator Molly Hamilton-McNally and her student, YanGe Gong, *East Meets West* earned the Handi Quilter Best Movable Machine Workmanship Award at AQS QuiltWeek Paducah 2026.

This remarkable collaboration blends two artistic perspectives through an original design inspired by traditional paper-piecing methods. The result is a visually stunning quilt that celebrates both innovation and tradition.

Molly has two additional quilts in the Museum's Collection, including *Midnight Frolic*, a quilt she says "opened up a whole new world" for her and made her feel that she was "living the American dream." Explore more of Molly's work and discover the stories behind her quilts [here](#).



East Meets West

Junko Fujiwara

Chiba, Japan

Beautiful Village (Lake District), 2024

Winner of the Best Hand Workmanship Award, *Beautiful Village (Lake District)* showcases the extraordinary craftsmanship of Junko Fujiwara of Chiba, Japan.

Junko reflected on the project, saying, "I have been quilting for 35 years now. This project took nearly four years from design to completion. It was fun thinking about which animals to put in the natural environment."

The quilt is a masterful combination of hand appliqué, hand piecing, hand quilting, and hand embroidery. Click [here](#) and explore this intricate work, take time to discover the many delightful details woven throughout the landscape.



Beautiful Village (Lake District)

Karen Kay Buckley
Carlisle, Pennsylvania
Color My World, 2025

Karen Kay Buckley's *Color My World* captured the prestigious Bernina of America Best of Show Award at AQS QuiltWeek Paducah 2026 and marks her third quilt in the Museum's Collection.

Karen explained the inspiration behind the quilt:

"This quilt started with the Bluebird block as a teaching project, and then I wondered if I could create a larger quilt using this concept. Each block contains a critter—an insect, animal, or bird. Some are hidden and others are obvious. After finishing the blocks, I designed the center and planned to include all the critters, but I could not find the right place for one of them. Can you figure out which one is missing from the center?"

View *Color My World* [here](#) in Catalogit, and enjoy the challenge of finding the hidden creatures and identifying the one that did not make it into the center design. You can also explore Karen's other quilts in the Collection, including *Fiesta Mexico* and *Majestic Mosaic*, co-created by Renae Haddadin.



Color My World

Antari Foster
Aylesbury, England
Stellar, 2025

Stellar received the WonderFil Specialty Threads Best Miniature Quilt Award at AQS QuiltWeek Paducah 2026 and is Antari Foster's first quilt to enter The National Quilt Museum Collection.

Antari, who began her quilting journey in 2020, said "I made *Stellar* to improve on my foundation paper piecing and appliqué skills on a smaller scale. Designing every single aspect of this quilt required a lot of thought and this has been the most technically challenging quilt I've made to date. One of the many challenges I faced was that my first attempts at the Mariner's Compasses were ever so slightly inaccurate, but resulted in all of them growing in size and the larger ones were all wavy and didn't lie flat. I binned them all and started over! Perseverance did its trick and the



Stellar

end result was exactly how I had envisaged it.”
See Antari’s success up close in [CatalogIt](#).
Double-click on the image to enlarge it on your screen.

Explore More of the Collection

These five exceptional quilts represent the artistry, dedication, and creativity that continue to define contemporary quilting. We invite you to explore these newest acquisitions and discover even more treasures within the Museum’s Collection.

Be sure to [watch our short video](#) demonstrating how to access and explore the Collection through CatalogIt, where hundreds of remarkable quilts and their stories await.

New Janet Stone, *I Woolly Love Ewe* Baby Quilt Raffle

Join us for the NQM Summer Raffle and support the work of The National Quilt Museum. With your ticket, you’ll have the chance to win Janet Stone’s charming baby quilt, *I Woolly Love Ewe*, created in 2007 and featured in Fons & Porter’s *Love of Quilting* magazine. This one-of-a-kind quilt measures 44.5 x 44.5 inches and is beautifully machine-pieced, machine-appliquéd, and machine-quilted.

Tickets are just \$10 each, and every ticket purchased helps support The National Quilt Museum, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring today’s quilters and inspiring future quilters. Raffle ticket sales end on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. CT. The drawing will be held the following day, Tuesday, September 15, at 3:00 p.m. CT. Don’t miss your chance to give and win.

[Purchase raffle tickets here.](#)



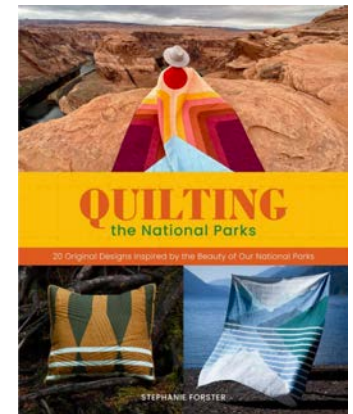
**Thoughtful Finds for Friends, Family,
and Fellow Quilters**

Summer brings graduations, visits from grandchildren, and thoughtful drop-offs from friendly neighbors fresh from the garden. It's the perfect time to stock your gift closet with unique treasures from The National Quilt Museum Gift Shop.

Looking for affordable and memorable gift ideas? Here are some wonderful summer-inspired selections that won't break the bank!



["Star Struck" Tee](#) - Back in stock!
[NQM 35 Years Tee & Tote](#)
[Grandparent & Grandchild Pen Pal Kit](#)
[Quilted Pink Tulip Tote](#)
[Between The Blooms Puzzle](#)
[Quilting The National Parks Book](#)
[Strawberry Button Pack](#)



Expand Your Skills at The National Quilt Museum



Latifah Saafir Workshop
Exploring Clamshells
July 23-25

[Learn more and register here.](#)



Sandra Lee Chandler
Quilted Blazer Class
Saturday, August 22, 2026
[Learn more and register here.](#)



Paula Nadelstern Workshop

The Full Kaleidoscope: Sixty Thirty Plus Sunstar©

October 1-3, 2026

[Learn more and register here.](#)

Meet Laura Grimes, Director of Development and Special Projects

Please join us in welcoming [Laura Grimes](#), who will lead The National Quilt Museum's donor engagement efforts and special programs.

For the past four years, Laura has served as Director of Outreach & Development at the Arkansas Hospice Foundation in Little Rock, Arkansas, leading statewide development initiatives and serving as the foundation's "Chief Storyteller." In that role, she created meaningful experiences for patients and highlighted the stories of their lives.

Before joining the foundation, Laura served as executive director of a nonprofit arts organization. She also brings extensive experience in marketing, branding, and large-scale event planning.

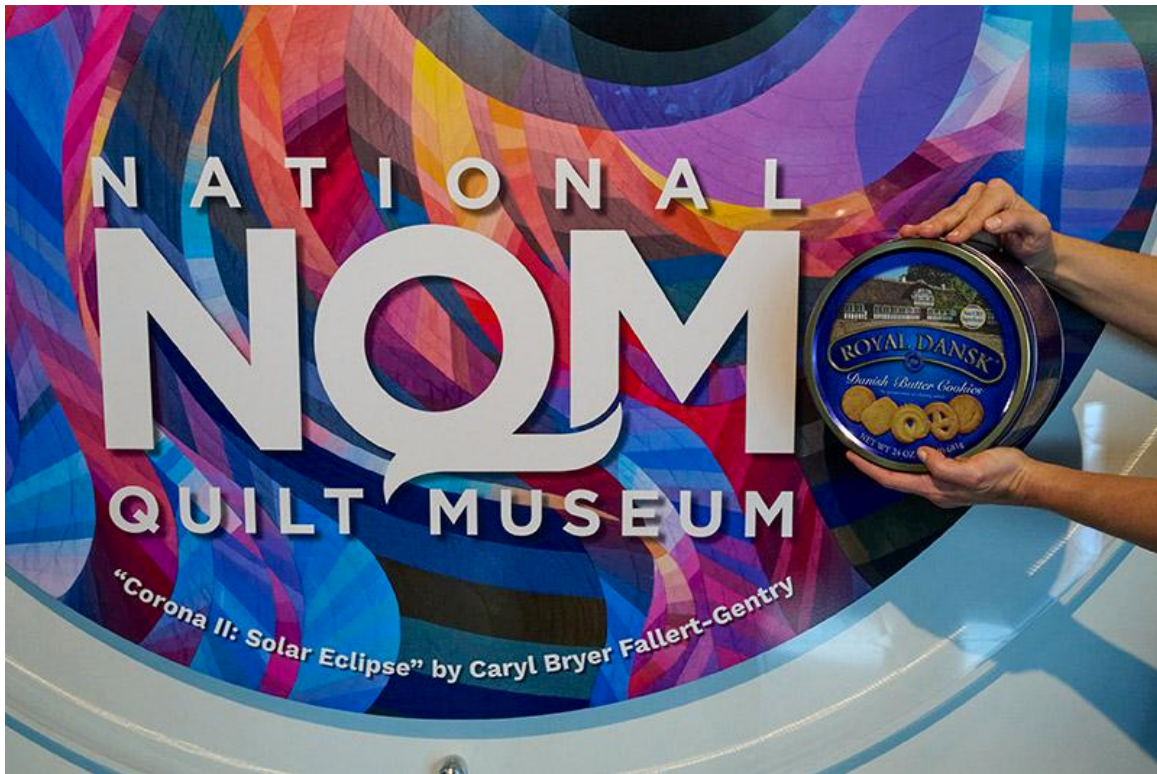
At The National Quilt Museum, every quilt in our Collection tells a unique story. We are thrilled to welcome a new voice who will help us advance the museum through philanthropy and memorable experiences.

Thank you for helping us welcome Laura to The National Quilt Museum.



Laura Grimes, Director of
Development and Special
Projects

Celebrate National Sewing Machine Day – June 13, 2026



Join The National Quilt Museum in celebrating National Sewing Machine Day on June 13, 2026. The first 200 visitors with paid admission (or Friends of the Museum members) will receive a complimentary full-size tin of [**Royal Dansk®**](#) Danish Butter Cookies, courtesy of Royal Dansk, the sponsor of our current exhibition, [***New Quilts From An Old Favorite: Food***](#).

This day is especially meaningful to the Museum because founder Meredith Schroeder and Collection quilter Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry helped transform the quilting industry through machine quilting.

In 1989, Fallert-Gentry's quilt *Corona II: Solar Eclipse*, created on a Bernina 1030 sewing machine, won Best of Show at the American Quilter's Society Quilt Show in Paducah. It was the first machine-quilted entry to receive the prestigious award, a groundbreaking decision championed by Schroeder despite its controversy.

The award helped establish machine quilting as a respected art form and sparked innovations that continue to influence quilting and sewing machine technology today. Fallert-Gentry's *Corona II: Solar Eclipse* was later recognized as one of the **100 Best Quilts of the 20th Century**, cementing its place in quilting history.

We're delighted to share Tula Pink's sold-out Gallery Talk from AQS QuiltWeek Paducah 2026. In Part One, Tula guides us through three quilts from her current exhibition, [*Twenty Years of Tula Pink*](#), and offers a behind-the-scenes look at how each piece begins with a pencil and a sheet of paper.

Her full gallery talk was too good not to share, so we'll bring you the series between now and when Tula's exhibition ends on September 15, 2026. Each video spotlights three quilts from the exhibition and the creative thinking behind them.

We hope this new video series inspires you to experience the exhibition in person before it closes. Admission is free for Friends of the Museum and one guest. [Plan your visit here.](#)



Current Exhibitions



*New Quilts from an Old Favorite:
Food*



March 6 – July 28, 2026

One Dog Night by Latifah Saafir

Latifah Saafir: *It Was All A Dream*

March 6 – July 28, 2026



Muttons & Buttons & Pearls, Oh My!
by Janet Stone

Janet Stone: *And Now I Know My ABCs!*

March 27 – September 22, 2026



Rattled by Tula Pink

Tula Pink: *Twenty Years of Tula Pink*

April 3 – September 15, 2026

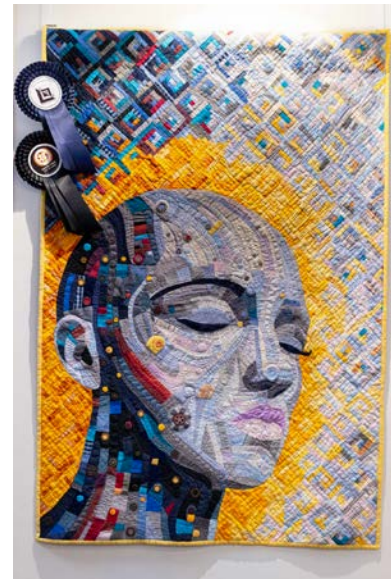
Upcoming Exhibitions



KALEIDOSCOPIC XLIV: Continue to Continue by Paula Nadelstern

Paula Nadelstern: *Master of Symmetry*

July 31 – December 30, 2026



What Are Her Origins? by Szilvia Kerékgyártó

**Carrefour Européen du Patchwork:
*Avant-Garde***

September 25 – December 1, 2026

NQM Collection Quilts Currently on Exhibition

The following quilts are currently on display from [The National Quilt Museum's Collection](#). Please note that our curatorial staff may occasionally rotate Collection quilts on display to accommodate visits from Collection artists or scheduled programs.

If you have a favorite Collection quilt you would like to see displayed, please inquire about the museum's Collection Quilt Sponsorship Program by contacting [Bonnie Schrock](#).

Just a reminder: 2027 will be "The Year of the Collection," with exhibitions, programs, and events showcasing the museum's Collection. We'll continue to share more details as they become available about this exciting year ahead.

A special thank-you to all our donors and supporters who helped make the viewing of our [Collection online](#) possible.

9.11.2001 by Claire Gardner
A February's Dream of Spring by Laurie Tigner
...And (Dot, Dot, Dot) by Gail Stepanek & Jan Hutchison
...and Our Flag Was Still There by Melinda Bula
Celebration #2 by Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry
Beautiful Village (Lake District) by Junko Fujiwara
Color My World by Karen Kay Buckley
East Meets West by Molly Hamilton-McNally and YanGe Gong
ElaTed by Ted Storm
Escape from Circle City by Sylvia Pickell
Hollyhocks by Velda Newman
Infinity by Danny Amazonas
Into the Sunshine by Joyce Hite & Patricia Hechler
Pattern Fusion No. 18, Motherboard 9 by Arturo Alonzo Sandoval
Peacock Hoedown by Laurie Tigner
Saffron Splendor by Pat Holly
Spice of Life by Linda M. Roy
Stars & Stripes Sampler by Marianne Fons and Liz Porter
The Mountain and the Magic: Night Lights by Judi Warren Blaydon
The Value of Gears by Judith Phelps
Tree of Life: Spring by Jane Sassaman



The Value of Gears by Judith Phelps



Hollyhocks by Velda Newman



Saffron Splendor by Pat Holly

Friends of The Museum

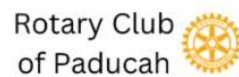
Thank you to everyone who renewed a Friend of the Museum membership in May or became a new member. Your support makes our exhibitions, programs, and events possible.

We love celebrating our new and renewed members. [Click this link](#) to renew your membership or become a new Friend of the Museum.

Kim Baker
Greg Barrett
Kayla Butler
Lynda & Randolph Case
Susan Charley
Teresa Concannon
Janet Copeland
Mayna Craggs
Bob Curtis
Patricia Davis
Floencia Defferrari
Maryann Dorn
Nancy Duff
Elizabeth Edwards
Jeffrey Edwards
Nancy Eisenhauer
Nancy & Ken Eisenmenger
Leah Farrar-White
Debbie Ferguson
Annette Frymark
Anne Gallo
Jodi Gosse
Diane Guevara
Nancy Gunn
Nancy Guthrie
Rose Marie Hackett
Faith Hammel
Dr. Cena Harmon

Jincy Hayes
Laurie Kern
Sue & Al Lake
Nancy & John Malvin
Nancy Mattson
Janice Meyer
Kathleen Motsegood
Deborah Moyes
Starr Nielsen
Jill Owens-Brick
Patricia Pleuger
Peggy Renard
Judith Reppell
Becky Richesin
Kelley Royer-Marek
Randa Scanlon
Brenda Smith-Salamat & Shahriar
Salamat
Maureen Supple
Christopher Thornock
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Thank You to Our Sponsors!



June 2026

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