



Fall colors are so bright and beautiful. It is only fitting that our October exhibitions mirror nature's vibrant autumn canvas. The SAQA *Primal Forces: Fire* exhibition exemplifies the use of dynamic colors, intricate patterns, and innovative techniques to capture the essence of fire.

Our Gee's Bend exhibition, *Whiles I Yet Live: Matriarchy and Generational Exchange*, presents more than 20 distinctive quilts known for their bold, abstract, improvisational geometric designs and colors. On October 10th, we will open a new exhibition, *A Curious Modern Quilter* by Charles Cameron, who is known for his use of bright colors and color value, while combining precision and whimsy.

We had a fantastic Quilt Documentation Days in September, documenting more than 100 quilts! We're excited to share some highlights with you. We will be announcing a free Webinar later this month, featuring historical insights from Quilt Documentation Days by certified quilt appraiser Vickie Coleman of Bluegrass Quilt Appraisal. One of my favorites was a quilt from the Civil War era.

Everything we do is made possible by our generous donors and supporters. This month, we are particularly grateful to Paducah Bank for renewing its \$10,000 sponsorship and to our newest sponsor, AARP Kentucky.

Last but not least, we're giving away a beautiful quilt in our Fall Sweepstakes. Read on for details on how to enter this free sweepstakes (no purchase necessary), sponsored by AARP Kentucky.

Happy Quilting!

Bonnie



Bonnie Schrock
Executive Director
Email Bonnie

Our Featured Fall Collection Quilt Image Lilies of Autumn by Juantia Gibson Yeager from Louisville, Kentucky

"Because I consider myself an artist, I want those who see my work to feel my joy and sense my happiness. To a lesser degree, I want people to see my love of cloth and my respect for the traditional quilts that covered our beds long before they graced our walls."
- *Juanita Gibson Yeager*



Lilies of Autumn by Juantia
Gibson Yeager

SAQA Primal Forces: Fire Exhibition Now - December 2, 2025

This exhibition explores fire as a symbol of renewal, power, and transformation, tying into the themes of climate change, deforestation, and the rebirth that comes after devastation. The quilts featured in *Primal Force: Fire* converse with the viewer through a thoughtful narrative conducive to the dazzling display of color.

SAQA stands for Studio Art Quilt Associates. The organization's mission is to promote the art quilt: "a creative visual work that is layered and stitched or that references this form of layered structure." The quilt *Ring of Fire* by Diana S. Fox is just one of the many quilts in the SAQA *Primal Forces: Fire* exhibition that demonstrates the vision of Juror Nnenna Okore, an artist-researcher-teacher, who uses artistic practice, pedagogy, and social engagement to address ecological issues.

This is the third and final component of SAQA's elemental series, premiering at The National Quilt Museum. Previous exhibitions included *Primal Forces: Earth* and *Primal Forces: Wind*.

[Learn more about the exhibition and Juror Nnenna Okore.](#)

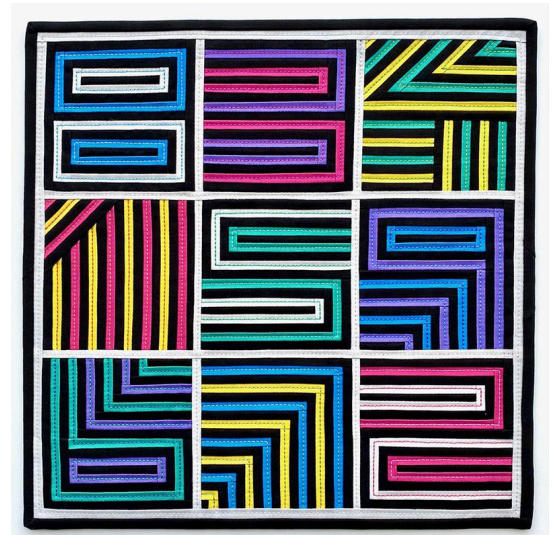


Ring of Fire by Diana S. Fox

Charles Cameron: *A Curious Modern Quilter* October 10, 2025 – March 24, 2026

Charles Cameron, a North Carolina-based Modern Quilter, is an Engineer by training and vocation, while tending toward creative endeavors to maintain balance. His daughters' playful experimentation and inquisitive approach toward learning are the models for his curious approach.

Charles's work explores the use of bright colors, color value, and a mixture of precision and whimsy to reinvent traditional quilt patterns and designs. He is excited by setting rules for color placement and constructing blocks in an efficient, assembly-line fashion; then trimming blocks with a 'wonky' tilt and relying on his eyes' intuition to place the



Sudoku by Charles Cameron

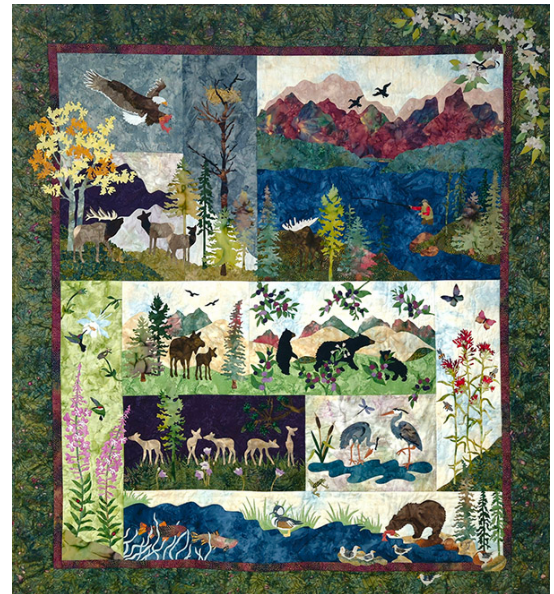
finished pieces in a way that maximizes impact.

His quilts have been published in *Curated Quilts*, a quarterly journal of and for modern quilters, and have been juried into QuiltCon, the world's largest modern quilt show. His "Sudoku" quilt was awarded first place in the Small Quilts Category at QuiltCon 2022. Charles loves to share his work. He has written and published quilt patterns of his own design, delivered lectures to guilds, hosted trunk shows, and conducted workshops across the country. [See more of the quilts featured in A Curious Modern Quilter exhibition here.](#)

Enter For a Chance to Win

You could win this stunning outdoors-themed quilt, *At Home in the Woods*, in The National Quilt Museum's Fall Sweepstakes sponsored by our newest sponsor AARP Kentucky. Complete the entry form at the link below for your chance to win. No purchase necessary.

Designed by McKenna Ryan, *At Home in the Woods* was made and quilted by Lori Marvel in 2000 and donated by Martha Martyn. The quilt features eleven vignettes of appliquéd scenery, showcasing a variety of plants and people enjoying the beauty of nature. Made with Batik fabrics, the quilt measures 62" x 69." The techniques Lori Marvel used to create *At Home in the Woods* were raw-edged machine appliqué, machine piecing, and machine quilting.



At Home in the Woods by
McKenna Ryan

[Enter For a Chance to Win Here](#)

October is Arts & Humanities Month in Kentucky

Governor Beshear has proclaimed October as Arts and Humanities Month in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The National Quilt Museum is proud to be part of Kentucky's arts community. We are delighted to welcome visitors of all ages, seven days a week, including most holidays. This year, we have worked especially hard to introduce the art of quilting to student audiences through our

Memories From Quilt Documentation Days

This photo is from Quilt Documentation Days on September 12 and 13, when we documented more than 100 quilts. Please watch for upcoming details on our social media sites about a Webinar later this month featuring certified appraiser Vickie Coleman of Bluegrass Quilt Appraisal, who will discuss some of the treasured quilt secrets that she and her team uncovered.

The Quilt Documentation Days project was funded in part through an America250KY Grant, made possible by the Kentucky Arts Council and the Kentucky Historical Society.



Submit Your Entry for “New Quilts From An Old Favorite”

Entries for the 2026 New Quilts From An Old Favorite competition and exhibition are now being accepted through January 14, 2026. The theme is “Food,” and the quilt must be about food in some recognizable way and include an interpretation of a traditional block pattern of your choosing. All quilts must be original designs.

To see past winners, read more about the competition, view entry rules, and download the contest brochure, [click here](#).

Collection Quilt Highlight

Totem by Gabrielle Swain was made in 2003 in Watauga, Texas. It measures 50" x 62". The materials used are cotton, colored pencils, pen and ink, and perle cotton thread. The techniques Gabrielle used included machine piecing, hand reverse appliqué, direct appliqué, hand embroidery, and hand quilting.

"*Totem* is the ninth in a series of leaf quilts. They are a response to my relationships with nature and how separate our lives are from the world in which we live. My current work is a continuing study of nature. The quilts, which range from abstract to representational, offer the viewer another perspective on our environment. How does living in our culture separate us from where we came? Working through the techniques I have chosen allows me the freedom of a slower, more thoughtful life in a time when external influences demand most of our attention." - Gabrielle Swain



Totem by Gabrielle Swain

Friends of The Museum

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

Would you like your name to be in our next newsletter? [Click this link](#) to renew your membership or become a new Friend of the Museum.

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Lucy Visceglia
Pamela Wheat
Gail Williamson
Donna & Robert Worden
Christine Wynne

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions



Celebration #2 by Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry

Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry: *A Life In Color*

Now – October 7, 2025



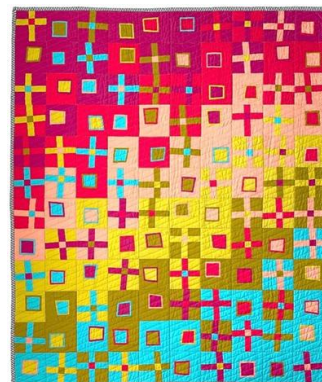
Marlene Bennett Jones, *Medallion*, 2002
Photo Credit: Stephen Pitkin, Pitkin Studio
Courtesy of Souls Grown Deep Foundation
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Whiles I Yet Live: Matriarchy and Generational Exchange in Gee's Bend

Now – December 28, 2025



Forest on Fire by Birgitta Jadenfelt



Crooked Crosses by Charles Cameron

**SAQA Primal Forces: Fire
Exhibition**

Now - December 2, 2025



Flags of Our Fathers Designed and
quilted by Kris Vierra

**Quilts of Valor: Countdown To
America250**
October 10, 2025 – December 30,
2025

**Charles Cameron: A Curious
Modern Quilter**

October 10, 2025 – March 24, 2026



Serenity by Molly Hamilton-McNally

**The National Quilt Museum
Collection**
Ongoing

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October 2025

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