

A Message from Bonnie



Laura Grimes, Photo by Caleb Buford Creative

October brings a new chapter for The National Quilt Museum, and I am pleased to share what it means for our Museum community. On November 18, 2026, I will transition from Executive Director to Executive Advisor, and Laura Grimes will become our next Executive Director. I look forward to continuing my work with the Museum and supporting Laura as she takes on this role. You can read more about the transition and watch my personal video message below.

This month also brings wonderful reasons to visit and learn. Our new exhibition, **Carrefour Européen du Patchwork: *Avant Garde***, introduces extraordinary quilt art from around the world, while Paula Nadelstern's ongoing ***Master of Symmetry*** continues to invite us into a remarkable world of color and kaleidoscopic design.

For those ready to explore a new technique or build their skills, we welcome Handi Quilter educator Nicholas Turcan for a trunk show on October 20 and longarm quilting classes October 21 through 24. We are also delighted to share the growing reach of our traveling STEAM Trunk and a new ***STEAM in Action photo gallery*** featuring students learning with quilts in their own schools.

Please watch your inbox for our upcoming annual survey and take a few minutes to share your thoughts. Your feedback will help us shape future programs and experiences. Everyone who completes the survey will automatically be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a $100 NQM Gift Certificate.

Thank you for the encouragement, generosity and enthusiasm you bring to the Museum. I am grateful to be part of this community and excited about what we will continue to accomplish together.

Happy Quilting!

Bonnie



Bonnie Schrock
Executive Director
Email Bonnie

Bonnie Schrock Begins a New Chapter at the Museum

Bonnie Schrock's role at The National Quilt Museum is changing, and her commitment to its future continues. Effective November 18, 2026, Bonnie will transition from Executive Director to Executive Advisor, focusing on strategic initiatives. Laura Grimes, currently Director of Development and Special Projects, will become Executive Director and lead the Museum's daily operations.

Since becoming Executive Director in May 2024, Bonnie has helped strengthen the Museum's educational programming, visitor experiences, contributed revenue and community partnerships. The national ***STEAM initiative*** and traveling STEAM Trunk are among the programs developed during her leadership, bringing quilt based learning to students across the country. Her longstanding relationships with supporters and community partners remain an important part of the Museum's future. Bonnie and Laura will work closely together during the transition, supporting continuity and building on the progress made by the Board, staff and Museum community.

Beginning in January 2027, Bonnie will also serve as an ex officio member of the Museum's Board of Directors. In May 2027, she will transition to Director at Large, assuming the full responsibilities of a Board Director.

Laura joined the Museum in May 2026 with experience in nonprofit executive leadership, fundraising, development and arts administration. Her previous roles include Director of Development for Arkansas Hospice Foundation and executive director of a major regional performing arts organization. Since joining the Museum, she has demonstrated leadership, creativity and a commitment to building relationships with staff, supporters and community partners.

In her video message, Bonnie shares more about this next chapter, her confidence in Laura and her continued involvement with The National Quilt

Museum.



Discover Avant Garde

What does it mean to be avant garde in quilt art? Discover how artists from around the world interpret that question in **Carrefour Européen du Patchwork: *Avant Garde***, now on view at The National Quilt Museum.

The 30 quilts on display are finalists from the 2025 Carrefour Européen du Patchwork international contest, presented during the organization's 30th anniversary year. Selected by a panel of three judges for their interpretation of the Avant Garde theme and the quality of their execution, the quilts offer a wide range of approaches to contemporary quiltmaking.

After their debut at the European Patchwork Meeting, the works travel to museums, galleries and quilting events around the world. Their stop at the National Quilt Museum offers an opportunity to explore this international showcase of creativity. On view September 25 through December 1, 2026.



What Are Her Origins?
by Szilvia Kerékgyérté from Hungary.

Explore Carrefour Européen du Patchwork: *Avant Garde*

Step Into Paula Nadelstern's World of Symmetry

Paula Nadelstern: *Master of Symmetry* continues at The National Quilt Museum through December 30, 2026. Inspired by kaleidoscopic imagery, Nadelstern's intricate quilts use color, pattern and detail to create a sense of movement and visual surprise. Take a closer look and discover how symmetry becomes a starting point for extraordinary quilt art.

Explore Paula Nadelstern: *Master of Symmetry*



KALEIDOSCOPIC XLIV: Continue to Continue
by Paula Nadelstern

Get Inspired, Then Get Quilting with Nicholas Turcan



Join The National Quilt Museum for an evening of quilting inspiration! Handi Quilter educator Nicholas Turcan will present a free trunk show on October 20, sharing quilts and ideas to spark your creativity. Attend in the Museum's atrium or tune in from home via Facebook Live.

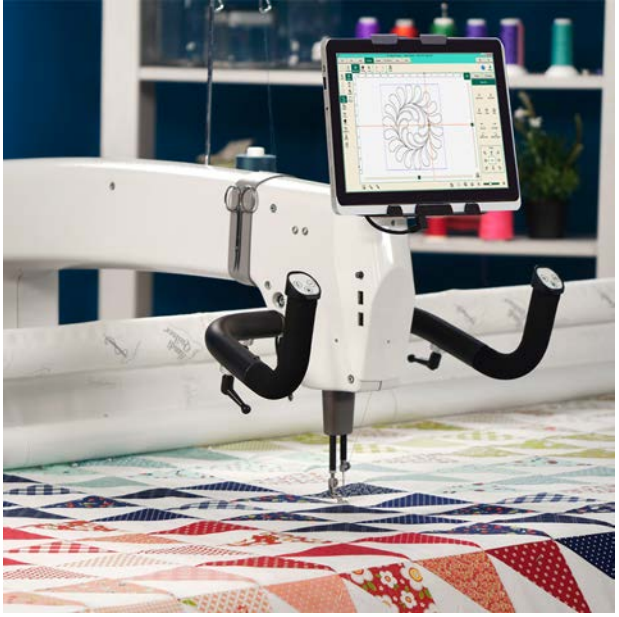
Friends of the Museum are invited to a pre-show reception with refreshments at 5:00 p.m. Not a member yet? Become a Friend of the Museum by clicking **here** to attend the Friends' reception. Doors open to the general public at 5:30 p.m., and the trunk show begins both in person and on Facebook Live at 6:00 p.m. All times are Central Time.

Ready to put that inspiration into practice? Join Nicholas for longarm quilting classes October 21–24. Whether you are considering a longarm machine, trying one for the first time, or looking to expand your skills, you'll find a

welcoming place to learn. All experience levels are welcome, and no longarm experience is required.

In-person participants will learn on HQ Amara machines, exploring quilting basics, free-motion designs, rulers, and more. Choose a two-day session or attend both sessions for the full four-day experience. Virtual options are also available, so you can participate from wherever you quilt!

View Longarm Class Details and Register



Find Gifts for Everyone on Your List

Get a head start on gift giving with The National Quilt Museum Online Gift Shop. From quilt inspired favorites to gifts for everyone on your list, you can browse and shop from the comfort of home.

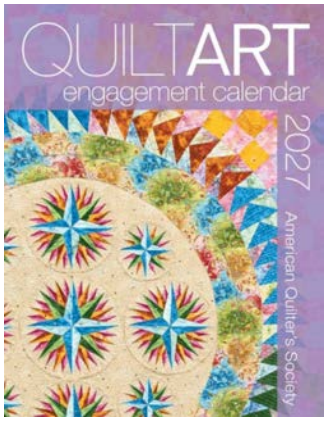
Plan a colorful year ahead with **AQS 2027 Wall Calendars** and the **AQS 2027 Quilt Art Engagement Calendar**. Celebrate the Museum's milestone with an **NQM 35th Anniversary t-shirt or tote**, perfect for a fellow quilt lover or for yourself.

Add a little quilt art to everyday life with our **Collection quilt magnets sale**: buy one and get one 50% off! Choose favorites to give as small gifts or enjoy in your own home.

Explore the Online Gift Shop and find something special for the people on your list.

Shop the NQM Online Gift Shop













Help Shape Your Museum Experience



What interests you most about The National Quilt Museum? What would you like to experience next? Our upcoming annual survey is your opportunity to tell us.

Watch your inbox for a brief survey about your interests, your connection to quilting and the Museum, and the programs and experiences you would like to see in the future. We will ask about Museum visits, classes and workshops, online programming and other ways you enjoy engaging with us. There will also be space to share your own ideas and suggestions.

Whether you visit often, follow us from afar or are planning your first trip, your perspective matters. Please take a few minutes to respond when your survey invitation arrives.

As a thank you, everyone who completes the survey will automatically be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a $100 NQM Gift Certificate. The certificate may be used in The National Quilt Museum Gift Shop, onsite or online, or for a class or workshop.

Look for your annual survey invitation this week!

See STEAM in Action

Quilts are helping students discover math and geometry in a new way. The National Quilt Museum's successful STEAM program has expanded through its traveling STEAM Trunk, bringing quilts and learning materials into classrooms across the country.



Now you can see those discoveries in our new ***STEAM in Action photo gallery***. Explore photos shared by participating schools and see students working with quilt patterns and materials to connect art with classroom learning.



View STEAM in Action

Educators, a few dates remain for the traveling STEAM Trunk. Visit the program page to check availability and request your school's reservation. You can also reserve an in-person STEAM experience at the Museum, where students explore quilts and apply math and geometry concepts together.



Kentucky educators can explore the **Kentucky Arts Council's Arts Miles** transportation grant to help fund a Museum field trip. Eligible schools may request reimbursement based on round trip mileage and driver pay for up to two buses per trip. Review the program guidelines and application timing as you plan your visit.

Reserve a STEAM Trunk or Museum Field Trip
Learn About Kentucky Arts Miles Grants

A Tour with Tula Part 5 of 6

Little Bits, Pixel Bird & Space Dust

Our exclusive tour with Tula Pink continues! Although *Twenty Years of Tula Pink* has recently closed, we're delighted to keep sharing her artist talk with our Museum community.

In Part 5, Tula discusses the making of *Little Bits, Pixel Bird and Space Dust*, offering a closer look at how she brought these quilts to life.



We'll share the final video from Tula's artist talk in our next issue. Stay tuned!

Collection Quilts on View

There is always something new to discover in the Museum's Main Gallery. Our curatorial team has refreshed the display with seven works from the Collection, giving returning visitors new quilts to explore this October.

Newly on view are *Night Bloom* by Jane Blair, *Precipice* by Jan Myers-Newbury, *Champagne Supernova* by Marilyn Badger, *Fear of the Dark* by Mary L. Hackett, *Forest Walk* by Pat Durbin, *Autumn Visits Us* (Hohshuu) by Emiko Toda Loeb, and *Na Pali* by Ruth B. McDowell.



Forest Walk
by Pat Durbin

The following Collection quilts are currently on view:
9.11.2001, Claire Gardner
…and Our Flag Was Still There, Melinda Bula
Big Bang, Gail Garber
Growing Into the Light, Louise Harris
Infinity, Danny Amazonas
Stars & Stripes Sampler, Marianne Fons and Liz Porter

The Honeymooners, Karen Sistek and Nancy Sterett Martin
Tumbling Blocks, Geraldine Warner
Lilies of Autumn, Juanita Yeager
Things Fall Apart, Eleanor McCain
Cityscape, Lucretia Romey
Celebration of Autumn, Karmen Streng
Dreamcatcher, Becky Brown
Soigné, Victoria Findlay Wolfe
Fire on the Water, Judy Dales
New Directions, Judy Mathieson
Night Bloom, Jane Blair
Precipice, Jan Myers-Newbury
Champagne Supernova, Marilyn Badger
Fear of the Dark, Mary L. Hackett
Forest Walk, Pat Durbin
Autumn Visits Us (Hohshuu), Emiko Toda Loeb
Na Pali, Ruth B. McDowell



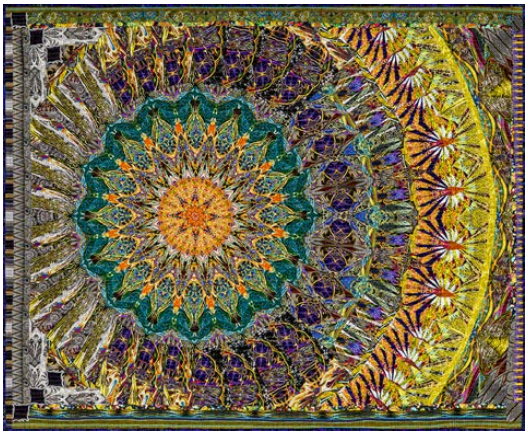
Autumn Visits Us (Hohshuu)
by Emiko Toda Loeb

The Museum's Collection also includes a Miniature Quilt Collection, with a selection of these small-scale works always on display in the galleries. Please note that our curatorial staff may occasionally rotate Collection quilts on display to accommodate visits from Collection artists or scheduled programs.

You can also explore the **Museum's Collection** online and learn more about the quiltmakers. If you have a favorite Collection quilt you would like to see displayed, contact the Museum to inquire about the Collection Quilt Sponsorship Program.

Explore the Museum's Collection

Current Exhibitions



KALEIDOSCOPIC XLIV: Continue to Continue by Paula Nadelstern

Paula Nadelstern: *Master of Symmetry*
Through December 30, 2026
Explore Paula Nadelstern: *Master of Symmetry*



13 by Pamela Studstill

Pigment, Dye, & Thread
September 18, 2026–March 2, 2027
Explore *Pigment, Dye, & Thread*



What Are Her Origins? by Szilvia Kerékgyérté

Carrefour Européen du Patchwork: *Avant-Garde*
September 25 – December 1, 2026
Explore Carrefour Européen du Patchwork: *Avant Garde*

Friends of The Museum

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

We love celebrating our new and renewed members.

Renew Your Membership or Become a Friend.

Nancy Allman
Martha Bartenhagen
Betty Birkenmeier
Rebecca Boust
Rosemary & Lewis Bradley
Gail & James Braeutigam
Debbie Brawner
Cheri Buerschinger
Sue Calhoun
Charles Clark
Debra Cobb
Marilyn Crawford
Laura Kornegay
Margaret Larson
Cassie Levy
Brenda & Morris Luther
Kaisa Mackie
Linda & Richard Mainhart
Michelle Morris
Lisa O'Brien
Karen Phillips
Kathleen & John Samson
Tara Scherner de la Fuente
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Brenda & Roy Davis
Dorothy Davis
Patricia Estes
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Mary Harlow
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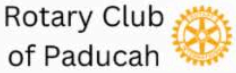



















October 2026

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