

2026 QuiltFest Categories

100 Theme – Artisan

The quilt must relate to the quilt show theme and will be judged as in all other categories. Any construction, technique, and quilting method is acceptable. This quilt may be made by more than one person.

110 Theme - Master

The quilt must relate to the quilt show theme and will be judged as in all other categories. Any construction, technique, and quilting method is acceptable. This quilt may be made by more than one person.

200 First Entry Quilt

The quilt must be the first quilted project entered into a judged show. Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable. The quilt top must be completely done by the entrant; however, quilting may be done by another person.

300 Pieced Quilt, Large – Artisan

The sum of all sides of the quilt is at least 280". The top construction is predominantly pieced by machine or by hand. The quilt may not be made by more than two people.

310 Pieced Quilt, Large - Master

The sum of all sides of the quilt is at least 280". The top construction is predominantly pieced by machine or by hand. The quilt may not be made by more than two people.

400 Pieced Quilt, Medium - Artisan

The sum of all sides of the quilt is between 190" and 279". The top construction is predominantly pieced by machine or by hand. The quilt may not be made by more than two people.

410 Pieced Quilt, Medium - Master

The sum of all sides of the quilt is between 190" and 279". The top construction is predominantly pieced by machine or by hand. The quilt may not be made by more than two people.

500 Pieced Quilt, Small - Artisan

The sum of all sides of the quilt is between 96" and 189". The top construction is predominantly pieced by machine or by hand. The quilt may not be made by more than two people.

510 Pieced Quilt, Small - Master

The sum of all sides of the quilt is between 96" and 189". The top construction is predominantly pieced by machine or by hand. The quilt may not be made by more than two people.

600 Hand Quilted

The quilt may be hand-pieced or machine-pieced, but it must be hand-quilted. Any size is acceptable. It may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

700 Group Quilts (including Block Exchanges)

This category is for groups of quilters who have worked together to create a quilt of any size, construction, and quilting method. A “group” is defined as three (3) or more persons, including the quilter. Kits and Block of the Month constructions are not allowed in this category.

800 Applique

The quilt must be 70% or more appliqued (either hand-stitched or otherwise applied to the surface of another fabric). It may be either hand-quilted or machine-quilted. It may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

900 Wearables and Home Décor

This item is NOT a quilt. It includes clothing, home décor, table runners, bags, etc. It must be made with fabric.

1000 Embroidery

The quilt must display at least 70% embroidery. Some piecing and appliqué are acceptable. May be either hand-embroidered or machine-embroidered. Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable. It may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

1100 Scrappy Quilts

The quilt can be any size. It must consist of at least 60 different fabrics. It may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

1200 Miniature - Artisan

The quilt must be no more than 24” on any side. Any construction, design, and quilting method is acceptable. All aspects of the quilt must be proportionate to full-size quilts. This quilt may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

1210 Miniature - Master

The quilt must be no more than 24” on any side. Any construction, design, and quilting method is acceptable. All aspects of the quilt must be proportionate to full-size quilts. This quilt may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

1300 Original Art Quilts - Artisan

The quilt must be an original design made with artistic intent, utilizing color, design, and construction techniques to create a work that expands beyond the traditional quilt format. Quilts will be judged based on creative design and artistic expression. Workmanship is important, but the design will carry more weight. These creations may include embellishments (buttons, beads, embroidery, hot-fixed crystals, yarn, trim, ribbon, yo-yos, and all types of thread work). Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable. It may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

1310 Original Art Quilts - Master

The quilt must be an original design made with artistic intent, utilizing color, design, and construction techniques to create a work that expands beyond the traditional quilt format. Quilts will be judged based on creative design and artistic expression. Workmanship is important, but the design will carry more weight. These creations may include embellishments (buttons, beads, embroidery, hot-fixed crystals, yarn, trim, ribbon, yo-yos, and all types of thread work). Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable. It may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

1320 Open Art Quilts

This quilt is made from a pattern, class, or kit and is not an original design. The quilt may be any size, and any construction and quilting method is acceptable. It may be made by more than one person and may be professionally quilted. It may be inspired by a commercial pattern or made with a pre-printed panel.

1400 Mixed Techniques - Artisan

The quilt must have a fairly even balance of both piecework and appliqué, along with other techniques used to develop the top's design. It may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

1410 Mixed Techniques - Master

The quilt must have a fairly even balance of both piecework and appliqué, along with other techniques used to develop the top's design. It may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

1500 Special Techniques - Artisan

The quilt must include specific techniques or collaborations used to create the piece, including embroidery, cathedral windows, redwork, wholecloth, crazy quilts, yoyo quilts, panel quilts, home décor, holiday-themed designs, and other design elements. Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable. It may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

1510 Special Techniques - Master

The quilt must include specific techniques or collaborations used to create the piece, including embroidery, cathedral windows, redwork, wholecloth, crazy quilts, yoyo quilts, panel quilts, home décor, holiday-themed designs, and other design elements. Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable. It may not be made by more than two people, including the quilter.

1600 Kits and Block of the Month - Artisan

The quilt must be made from a kit (defined as a purchased pattern with pre-selected fabrics) purchased from a shop, catalog, or magazine. This includes pre-printed wholecloth quilts. Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable.

1610 Kits and Block of the Month - Master

The quilt must be made from a kit (defined as a purchased pattern with pre-selected fabrics) purchased from a shop, catalog, or magazine. This includes pre-printed wholecloth quilts. Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable.

1700 Modern - Artisan

Modern quilts take a novel approach to traditional quilting, including asymmetry, simplicity and minimalism, reinterpretation of traditional blocks, alternative block structures, increased negative space, and improvisational piecing. Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable.

1710 Modern - Master

Modern quilts take a novel approach to traditional quilting, including asymmetry, simplicity and minimalism, reinterpretation of traditional blocks, alternative block structures, increased negative space, and improvisational piecing. Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable.

1800 - Guild Challenge

This is a non-judged category. The quilt must be made from the NBAQG 2025 Pizza Box blocks.

1900 Quilts Made by Youth

This is a non-judged category with participation ribbons only. The quilt must be made by a child under the age of 16. Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable.

2000 Exhibit Quilts

This is a non-judged category. Any size, construction, and quilting method is acceptable. The construction year does not apply.