



## Welcome new members

Pod 2 Shirley Lohman	<a href="mailto:shirleydlohman@gmail.com">shirleydlohman@gmail.com</a>	Fernandina Beach FL	32034
Pod 3S Cheryl Szykowski	<a href="mailto:quiltingheirlooms@gmail.com">quiltingheirlooms@gmail.com</a>	North Port FL	34291

## EVENTS AND DEADLINES - SAQA FLORIDA REGION

*at a glance!*

ZOOM MEETING - MEMBERS' MTG FOR FLORIDA

Sunday, Dec 8 2024 at 2PM (See Rep News)

ZOOM MEETING - for SAQA-FL ONLINE GALLERY

Tues, Dec 10 2024 at 7PM (See Exhibition News)

"AWAKENING" NEXT EXHIBIT

Jan 10 - March 14, 2025 at Elliott Museum Stuart, FL

ARTIST MEET 'N GREET

Sat, February 8, 2025 at Elliott Museum Stuart, FL

2025 SAQA GLOBAL CONFERENCE

April 3- 6, 2025 St. Pete FL

"TRIO" APPLICATION DEADLINE

July 31, 2025

## Great News! Way to Go!

**Linda Hoffmeister** is thrilled to announce *Hasta Manana Ed Top* won Award of Merit at the annual Beaux Arts of Central Florida. The stunning exhibit is at the Art League of Daytona Beach Florida and will be hanging until December 11, 2024.





**Karol Kusmaul** is hugely humbled and delighted to have been awarded First Place in the “Threading the Needle” exhibition at Webber Gallery - College of Central Florida in Ocala. The work, titled *Mugshot*, was inspired by the theme of Shame, and was made for the international group Cloth in Common.



**Bobbi Baugh** was pleased to receive the Award of Merit from the judges at the Fall Festival of the Arts DeLand in November. The judges’ decisions were based on the body of work exhibited. The Festival featured over 150 artists working in all mediums.

**Perlie Petrillo** is pleased to announce her work, *ALBATROSS*, won a third-place award at the Environmental Learning Center in Wabasso, Florida. She incorporated felting, painting, and stitching.



Perlie is also proud she took 1<sup>st</sup>-place in 3D at Vero Beach Art Club! (above, left)



**The Dirty Dozen Fiber Artists**, who meet monthly in Melbourne, Florida, have a collection of art quilts on display at the Brevard County Government Center (Building C). The exhibit is entitled “Playlist” with each quilt depicting the artist’s interpretation of a song. This exhibit is part of the Brevard Cultural Alliance’s Art in Public Places Program.

Joan Engel  
*Graceland*



The members of DDFA are also members of SAQA. Those represented in the exhibit include Jill Brown, Gabriele DiTota, Joan Engel, Linda Geiger, Anne Kobus, Dij Pacarro, Phyllis Petrillo, Sandy Shenker. The exhibit runs through early 2025 and is viewable during regular business hours. The Government Center is located at 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way in Viera, Florida.



Anne Kobus *Set Fire to the Rain*

Linda Geiger *Broken Glass*



**The Backus Museum in Fort Pierce** is pleased to host the SAQA Global Exhibition “**StitchPunk**” in its galleries November 22, 2024 - January 5, 2025. The exhibition focuses on the funky combinations possible when the imagination joins and embroiders past, present, and future in decidedly unconventional ways. Learn more at their online listing: <https://www.backusmuseum.org/2024-2025> .

SAQA-Florida members included in this exhibit are **Anne Jones, MaryLynne Izzo, and Kestrel Michaud.**

There will be an opening reception on Friday, December 6, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

## NEWS... from OUR FLA REGION REPS



### Cultivating Gratitude in Uncertain Times

As the world turns and we face challenges that shake us to our core, I find myself returning to a simple, yet profound practice: an attitude of gratitude. It's not always easy, especially when disappointment looms large—as it does for me now. Reflecting on the recent elections, I've been grappling with feelings of sadness and loss, sensing that many chose fear and division over love and inclusion.

Yet, in this heaviness, gratitude remains a guiding light. It reminds me to focus on the things that inspire hope—the small acts of kindness, the communities that continue to embrace openness, and the enduring belief in love as a force for change. Gratitude doesn't dismiss pain but helps me see the beauty that persists in the world, even in its imperfections.

This week, I invite you to join me in a moment of gratitude, no matter what challenges you're facing. Let's cherish the spaces of connection and inclusion we've built and use them as a foundation to grow even stronger. Together, we can create a world where love truly leads the way. --- Angie



**December Zoom Meeting: Don't miss the next chance to get-together  
with all SAQA-FL members**

**Join Zoom Meeting Sunday, December 8, 2024 2PM EST**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88163045889?pwd=V2lXeTJEa0xEb0NyMlVVRT0dTSTVpQT09>



**When:** February 8, 2025

**Where:** Elliott Museum, Stuart, FL

**What:** A fun filled day of art, learning and camaraderie.

This event will include a docent-led viewing of “Awakening,” an artist panel on Creative Courage, an exhibit of small quilts from the “Dirty Dozen Fiber Artists”, Show & Tell, door prizes and more! Don't miss it! Lunch will be available for purchase.

Everything you need to know is online. [FULL DETAILS](#)

**Spots are filling up! Only a few free spots available.**  
**Later registration will cost \$14.**



*Mother and Child, Mother and Child, by Sue Robinson. Part of the “Awakening” exhibit.*

## NEWS... from the EXHIBITION COMMITTEE

for questions: *Bobbi Baugh, Committee Chair* [exhib.saqf.fl@gmail.com](mailto:exhib.saqf.fl@gmail.com)

**ONE YEAR FROM NOW...** The jurying will be complete. The artwork will be on its way to display for **three months** in Ormond Memorial Museum followed by an exhibit of **four months** at Lighthouse ArtCenter. Don't miss the chance to be part of **TRIO**

### TRIO COUNTDOWN: 8 MONTHS LEFT TO CREATE WORK AND SUBMIT...

**TRIO.** The TRIO of states (Florida – Georgia – South Carolina) will present a collaborative exhibit that incorporates the concept of threes or a trio in any creative way. Artwork submissions are due **July 31, 2025**. The exhibit will travel throughout 2026 – 2027. The prospectus is LIVE on the SAQA website now. Take a look... and start creating! [PROSPECTUS HERE](#)



#### ***Want to be part of SAQA-Florida's online gallery?***

In December of 2023 the Exhibition Committee launched an online virtual gallery. There are approximately 20 artists. Fee is \$30 annually. Each artist gets a full page and the chance to show 5 or more artworks. Lots of Social media promotion. "How-To" instructions provided.

We will meet via zoom on Tuesday, December 10 via zoom to talk about our first year and make plans for the future. All SAQA-FL members are welcomed to be a part of the gallery. If you would like to join the zoom meeting, please contact Bobbi Baugh at [exhib.saqf.fl@gmail.com](mailto:exhib.saqf.fl@gmail.com)

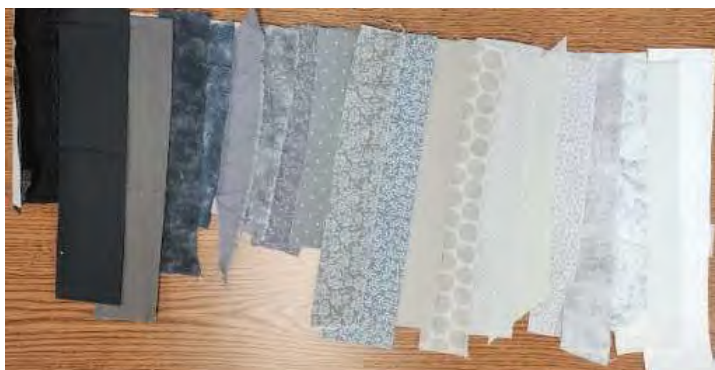
## News from our Pods

### **Pod 2** *from Christina Flores*

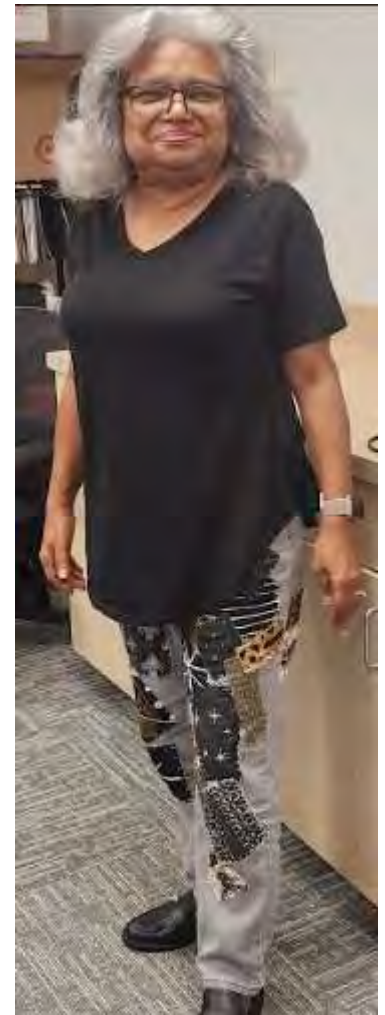
We had a very special guest this month. Billie McCray is a self-taught artist that is inspired by her surroundings and embraces traditions of her ancestors. She uses repurposed and recycled materials. Billie was recently featured at the Cummer Museum and has been asked to exhibit her art again in 2026.

Ellen Nepustil dropped for a visit, and we had a wonderful time..

We finished our color theory program by making a grayscale to understand value.







Above Left: 3-D work by Christina Flores (from Betty Busby class)  
Above Ctr: Collage by Diane Rabideau-Wise  
Right: Juanelle Marsh shows her way cool updated pants.

Below:

Left: Ellen Nepustil shows a handbag

Center: Emma Fleischer's *Inner Child*

Right: Emma Fleischer's Mandala artwork





Right: Quilt by Erica Dodge, a panel challenge

Below: Laura Hemke beach-inspired work



Billie McRae and samples of her work



## **Pod 3N** Show of Hands Art Quilts *from Diane Powers Harris*

This month's meeting was hosted by Dariel and started at 1pm. Attending were Doris, Kat, Sharon, Gail, Karol, and Diane.

Kat spoke about her cross-country trip where she and her husband visited various quilt museums. They both enjoyed the displays at Visions, Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum as well as Arches, Bryce, the International Quilt Museum in Lincoln NE where Victoria Findlay Wolfe's "Option Expedition"

exhibit was on display. Additionally, they checked out the National Quilt Museum in Paducah KY; the High Museum in Atlanta, which among other exhibits, was showing “Patterns in Abstraction: Black Quilts from the High’s Collection (Gee’s Bend quilts).

Our next exhibit, “Red” will be on display at One Blood Donor Center from early December until early February 2025.

We worked on finishing the final details on the Conference bags. There are 220 finished bags made for the Conference Kat will make 30 more bags for a grand total of 250! Members donated to help offset Kat’s expenses. Doris and Dariel will meet with Kat to finish the project.

Kat asked us, and we agreed, to have an “internal challenge” to make a 12” x 12” quilt inspired by the post card shown in pictures. It will be due at our January 2025 meeting. While it would be nice, it doesn’t need to be finished, it can be in progress. See inspiration Postcard Image below.

Kat also asked us to bring exhibit ideas to the December meeting for the Sewing Expo 2026 exhibit.



(Above Left) The postcard to inspire the challenge artworks. (Right) Work by Doris that includes sun printing and enhancing with Inktense blocks.

(Left) Conference Bags. Almost done!





*Beauty Everywhere*  
by Dariel Diestelkamp



Work by Karol Kusmaul. (Left) *Peace* created using acrylic paint  
(Right) *Not my People* is a collaboration with Karol's son. It can be seen in the upcoming Cloth in Common exhibit, "Change of Mind."

### **Pod 3 St Pete** *from Ellen Nepustil and Kathy Peel*

Several announcements regarding the Meet and Greet in Stuart and the conference in April. Ellen shared her visit to the Jacksonville pod to meet Billie McCray, a local artist. A discussion about the opening reception for the show in Ocala at the Webber Gallery was also shared.

Thank you, Pat, for showing us how to create our own stencils with sheer fabric and mod podge.

A reminder for our opening reception this Friday, Nov 22 was shared, at the UU Church in Clearwater. Address is 2470 Nursery Rd, Clearwater, FL 33764. Show is now up and hanging until Jan 8th, 2025. If you wish to visit the show, please email [artxham@yahoo.com](mailto:artxham@yahoo.com) to make an appointment, or to confirm that the church is open.

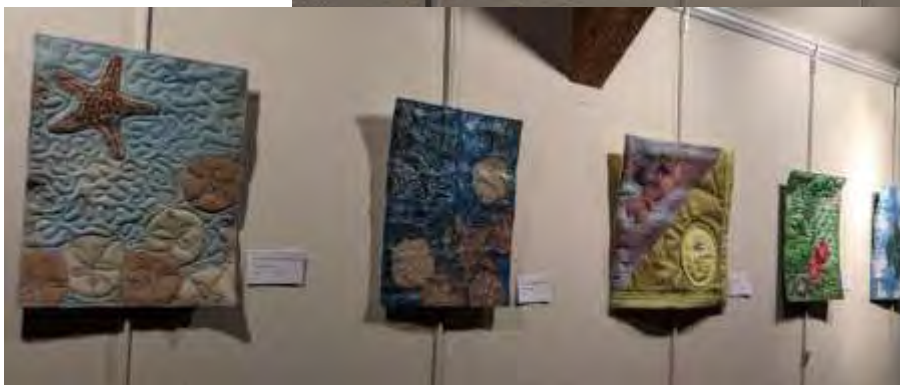
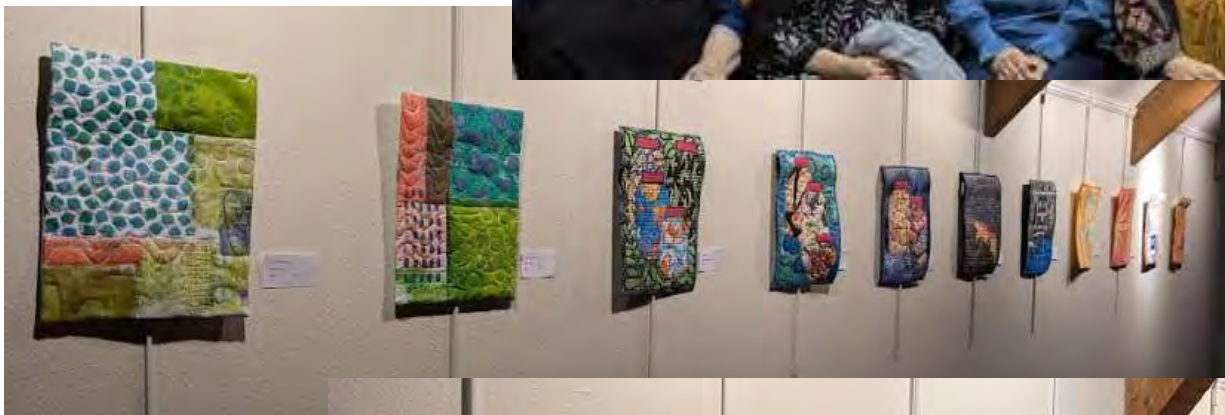
Next meeting is December 17th at Lucy's house. A separate email will be sent with details and to coordinate food.

Pod 3 St Pete has a show currently hanging at the Unitarian Universalists church in Clearwater through Jan 8th. 2470 Nursery Road, email Mary Ann at [artxham@yahoo.com](mailto:artxham@yahoo.com) to schedule an appointment, or attend a Sunday service, to see the show.

For the first 6 months of 2024, members were sharing different ways of incorporating paints, markers, dyes, and inks into our work at each meeting. After a few months, one of the members (Ellen) issued a challenge to her fellow artists. The "challenge" was to use three or more of the different

techniques. Additionally, the artwork was to be a fixed size of 11 by 14 inches, and in a portrait orientation, and to be finished by October. Ellen then found the Octagon Gallery at the UU church to display the work. The members that accepted the challenge are Alice Pickett, Angie Knowles, Carol Hess, Elizabeth Neily, Ellen Nepustil, Jan Hillmer, Janice Kreuzinger, Katherine Horne, Kathleen Peel, Lucy Snyder, Pat Grice, Pauline Salzman, Sarah Butz.

Images from Opening Night.  
(Angie, Carol and Sarah are the three not in the photo.)





## Pod 5 *from Anne Jones*

Pod 5 met at Kestrel Michaud's house November 9 for our annual potluck and photo session. Kestrel and her father, professional photographer Bob Michaud, photographed the member's quilts.

Much of the discussion centered on the postcard project for next year's SAQA convention.

Ellen demonstrated her slat hanging method. She uses D rings attached with silk or linen medical tape, 1 on one long side and 2 on the other. This enables the quilt to be hung from 1 or 2 hangers. She uses 6" stiff stabilizer at the top of her quilt.

Pod 5's next meeting will be January 11, 2025 at the West Melbourne Library at 11 AM.

**Hey SAQA FL! Thank you all so much for contributing to our postcard project for attendees at the SAQA Global Conference in St. Pete next year. We have reached our goal because you all stepped up. I'm sure the recipients will really appreciate them.**

**Pod 7** *from Cindy Ambler* Pod 7 met in person Nov. 18. Meena demonstrated how she uses her die cut machine to cut and emboss metal soda cans (and other sources) to make embellishments for art quilts and other things. She also showed using fusible backed fabric in the machine and even tulle. She had a library of examples using all kinds of materials. Another crayon in the tool box for us. Thank you, Meena. Next meeting will be by Zoom on Dec. 16.



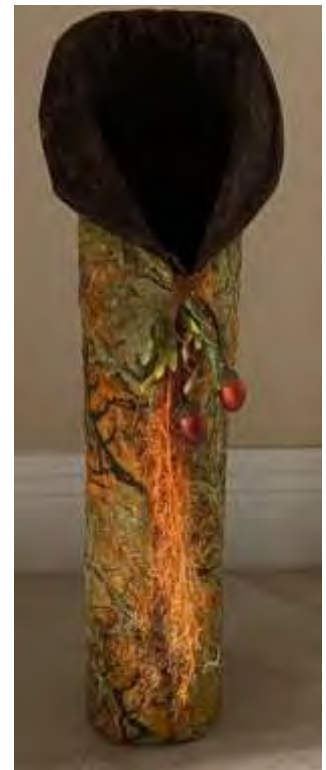


**Pod 8** from *Perlie Petrillo*

Perlie Petrillo has had three pieces accepted into the show, "Hot Off the Press" at the Bailey Gallery in Hobe Sound. Opening is December 6, 5-7:00 PM.



Pod 8 rocks! Nancy Lalacci took 1st place at the Jupiter Lighthouse Art show for her quilt, *Florida Scrub Jays*, and Cathy Parker - *Focal Spot* and Perlie Petrillo - *Nature's Architecture* won honorable mention.



Cathy Parker's awesome vessel from Betty Busby's class at Aya studio!





(Left) Virginia Walton's fabulous quilt from an Irene Roderick's class.



(Right) Nina Nicolas created this quilt and it is hand stitched. Beautiful work!!

Joan Rhue Smith created this self-portrait quilt with symbols of people and dates in her life. All hand stitched! She and Nina just returned from Gee's Bend.

Several members of pod 8 will be in the Fabulous Fiber Art show at the Center of Spiritual Care in Vero Beach on 01/03/25. The show is featuring the Vero Beach Art Club members and teachers. You don't want to miss this unique opportunity!



# Staying Connected

How to send news for the next newsletter issue:

Send to Bobbi Baugh, Editor  
NewsSaqaFla@gmail.com



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Co-Rep Florida Region  
[nvstgo@me.com](mailto:nvstgo@me.com)



Angie Knowles  
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## Florida Region Online resources

Our Florida Regional information website is:

<https://saqafl.com/>

Our Florida Artist Gallery Website is:

[www.gallerytextileartsaqafl.com/](http://www.gallerytextileartsaqafl.com/)

Our Guide to Putting together an exhibit,  
side-by-side comparison of kinds of exhibits, is here:

<https://saqafl.com/index.php/resources/>



**“You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.”**

Maya Angelou

*Creativity is the ability to connect with the world around you,  
to find beauty in the ordinary, and to express that connection  
in a way that brings peace to yourself and others.*