

SAQA FLORIDA REGION - NEWSLETTER

Bobbi Baugh ■ Editor ■ Submit news to NewsSaqFla@gmail.com

**Coming
Events**
at a glance

Florida Regional Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, February 10 7pm link to be emailed

TRIO closes at Ormond Memorial Art Museum

Sunday, March 1, 2026

TRIO exhibits at Lighthouse ArtCenter, Tequesta, FL

Opening reception Thurs, April 23 Exhibit through August 1

Virtual Gallery: Submit works Feb 1 - March 1, 2026

ART MEET N GREET - VIRTUAL GATHERING

Friday - Saturday March 13-14, 2026

In-Person Workshop

Wednesday, April 22 9am - 4pm with Lisa Thorpe

2026 Florida Retreat

Friday - Sunday June 12, 13,14

**Welcome
New Members**

Linda Chow	Pod 6	widewaters@aol.com	Estero, FL	33928
Didi Concepcion	Pod 5	didi@didisewsllove.com	Orlando, FL	32812
Kathy Irvine	Pod 4	dznkat@aol.com	Oviedo, FL	32765

Great News! Way to Go!

Melani Brewer is pleased to announce her is work showing in *By Hand - An international Craft Nouveau Competition* January 10 – February 21, 2026 at Blue Gallery, 405 Vernon St. #100, Roseville, California. (916)783-4117 Bluelinearts.org



Melani is also exhibiting in
The Crow Show 2026 (12th Annual Show)
February 20 - April 3 at The Studio Door,
3867 4th Avenue, San Diego, California
(619)255-2867 thestudidoor.com
Public Reception March 21,2026

Ancient Flyaways
(Far Right) *Live Wire Exhibit*



Melani is also exhibiting in the
National League of American Pen
Women Fort Lauderdale Branch
Annual Juried Exhibit, February 2 -
March 9 at the Herb Skolnick
Community Center 800 SW 36th
Ave., Pompano Beach, Florida



Florida Scrub Jay
Midnight in the Garden Of Good and Evil



Congratulations to SAQA-Florida members
whose work has been juried into the SAQA
Global Exhibition: *Pollinators*:

Maggie Dillon - *Velvet Gardeners*

Gabriele DiTota - *Godly Food and Pesky Midges*

Diane Kearney - *Sunday Afternoon in the Garden*

Velvet Gardeners by Maggie Dillon



Congratulations to Ellen Lindner, one of the artists selected by curator Margaret Knepper for the Virtual Gallery *Made it Splash*. This online gallery will be on display February 1. Ellen's accepted work is *Coastal Overlook*.

Bobbi Baugh is pleased to announce her work, *Between Make Believe and Memory*, has been awarded BEST IN SHOW in the all-medium Webster Arts *Fabric of Life* exhibit in Webster Groves, Missouri.



Bobbi is also pleased her work, *From The Place Where We Landed* has been accepted for exhibition in *Fractures and Repair*, a juried all-medium show at Thornback Contemporary Art Gallery in Greenville, SC. The Opening Reception will be held February 6, 2026.



NEWS... from THE EXHIBITION COMMITTEE



The Florida Region Exhibition Committee is especially pleased with the artful and thorough coverage of our exhibit created by the Ormond Memorial Art Museum and Gardens on their website. Please take a look, [HERE](#)

Reminder: Our Florida Region has a beautiful gallery website where you can display your work permanently. The website has a shopping cart system allowing sales. The annual fee for participation is only \$30. Please take a look at the website: [HERE](#) And, if you would like to be a part, please contact Exhibition Committee Chair Bobbi Baugh: exhib.saqa.fl@gmail.com



NEWS... from OUR FLA REGION REPS

from Ellen Simon and Angie Knowles

PHOTO FASCINATION: FABRIC & STITCH COLLAGE
with **Lisa Thorpe** **APRIL 2026**

Registration is now open at [SAQA.com/store](https://saqa.com/store)



SAQA Florida will be hosting Lisa Thorpe, a mixed media artist and educator, for a hands-on workshop on Wednesday, April 22.

Stitch Collage, a 6-hour class. It will take place in Sarasota, at the Sarasota Community Church, from 9 am to 4 pm.

Class cost is \$75 and is limited to 20 students.

Please see the complete information, including the supply list, below. We will send out an email as soon as online registration is available through the SAQA store.



The class will cover digital photo apps, printing on home printer tips and tricks, composition and layout, drawing in free motion, as well as interesting embroidery ideas, like stitching on coins or other found objects and embroidery of stenciled designs. There will be an ink-jet printer for you to print one enhanced photo. Lisa will also have prepared images on cotton sheeting, and silk organza for you to use in your collage. She will demo free motion thread tracing a photograph applied to the back of your work to create a thread drawing on the front. Participants will choose from techniques shown to create a fabric and stitch collage using photos printed in class and/or photos Lisa brings to share.

OUR NEXT REGIONAL MEETING

Our next regional meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10 at 7 pm.

We will be showing a video about the jurying process with our own Kestrel Michaud.

This is a topic that we will be delving into during the Virtual Art Meet & Greet in March.

Watch for the invitation and zoom link closer to the meeting date



Friday evening March 13
7 – 9pm

and

Saturday March 14
10am – 4pm

Our first-ever Virtual Artist Meet & Greet has been created to make a gathering that's accessible to more members across the region. While we've loved our in-person meet & greets, this virtual format allows us to come together in a new way and welcome artists who may not be able to travel.

We have tons of fun and useful information ready for you. You'll learn about jurying, as well as other techniques and concepts. Plus, you'll have fun with an ice breaker activity, the chance to win door prizes, and breakout sessions. You will not only increase your knowledge of art quilt topics, but you'll also get to know your other regional members much better. See the list of presenters in link below. It will be fantastic!

Alongside the Meet & Greet, we'll be hosting a Virtual Showcase, a non-juried opportunity for members to share their work during the event. Submissions for the showcase will open on February 1st, and we encourage everyone to participate. This is a chance to be seen, to celebrate your work, and to support fellow artists across the region.

Cost is \$20. Registration deadline March 1, 2026. [LEARN MORE AND REGISTER HERE](#)

ABOUT THE VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Have you ever wanted to enter an art quilt of yours to a call for entry in Florida? But you did not do it because you:

- Were afraid of the competition?
- Did not want your work to go through the jurying process?
- Did not want to pay an entry fee?
- Did not want to be restricted by size requirements?



This is your chance to enter your art in a Florida regional showcase. No fee, no jury, no size requirements. Just the chance to share your art in a virtual showcase, to premiere at the Art Meet & Greet March 13 and 14.

A showcase is a non-juried exhibit in which all submitted work is accepted, up to the maximum number. This showcase will be online only. (It will be hosted on the TextileArtSAQAFL website.)

Here's the theme: submit a quilt that was inspired by either Quilting Arts magazine or Quilting Arts TV. Your inspiration can be a technique that was featured, a reader's challenge, an exhibit shown, or even an idea from an artist interview.

Since the showcase will be virtual-only there's no need for a sleeve or hanging device. Also, there are no size requirements. Work should be completed in 2024 or later and submitted by the deadline of March 1, 2026. Other virtual venues will be chosen to showcase the work after our March event,

Entry Specifics:

- Each SAQA FL member may enter one art piece (no wearables, tote bags, etc).
- 2D and 3D pieces will be accepted.
- A total of 40 pieces will be accepted, first come – first served.
- SAQA exhibit requirements will be used for image quality and size.
- Those attending the Art Meet and Greet will be invited to briefly speak about their piece.

The entry window is February 1 – March 1, 2026. [ENTER WORKS HERE](#)

News from our Pods

Pod 3N Show of Hands Quilters *from Kay Smith*

January Meeting SHAQ - Hosted by Karol Kusmaul

Attending: Sue Redhead, Gail Cassidy, Doris Hulse, Diane Harris, Dariel Diestelkamp Guest: Chris

Upcoming: SHAQ exhibit *Transformation*. 40" long by 24" to 40" wide

The FL Exhibition Committee is looking for a new theme for FLA only exhibit. Theme to be determined June. Size will be 24" to 60" length and width

One Blood update: Current exhibit is "Artist's Choice"

Feb 10 Geometric

April 4 Organic

Activity: Felt birds

Next meetings: Date Feb. 10, 2026

Host: Gail Cassidy



Pod 3 Sarasota *from Ellen Simon*

Pod 3 Sarasota met on Wednesday January 14. Present: Jill, Trish, Jann, Peg, Lynn, Ellen, Marcia, Maggie, Frieda, Deb and two guests: Tommi, and Linda.

To get the members psyched about the upcoming Virtual Art Meet & Greet and the member showcase, *Inspired by Quilting Arts*, we watched an episode of Quilting Arts TV. Luana Rubin presented some of her favorite quilts from an exhibition, Quilt Canada.

We continued last month's discussion of a Pod quilt exhibit. Ellen and Peg met with the curator at Ovation Hotel and discussed the possibility of displaying our quilts in their gallery space. There were a lot of details to go over and the group agreed that we should move forward on this project.

The theme of show and tell was first art quilts.

Ellen showed a pieced quilt featuring a hand painted Indonesian batik mask. Jann had two quilts, one that incorporated her first pieced blocks and one medallion style. Maggie's first "art quilt" was made in college and included a scarf she knit herself and beads but no quilting. Linda brought a striking yellow and black abstract quilt.

Lynn showed a fabulous quilt made by Carol Taylor that had been auctioned off at a guild meeting. Peg had a recent work, a commission, that was mounted on a frame.

Deb treated us with the quilt she made for *Soul Stories*, which was shown in Houston in 2025. It will be traveling to the New England Quilt Museum and to the show in Birmingham, England.

I think there were a couple of others, but I was too busy oohing and aahing to take notes.

Our next meeting is Wednesday February 11 at 11 am.

Pod 3 St Pete *from Kathy Peel*

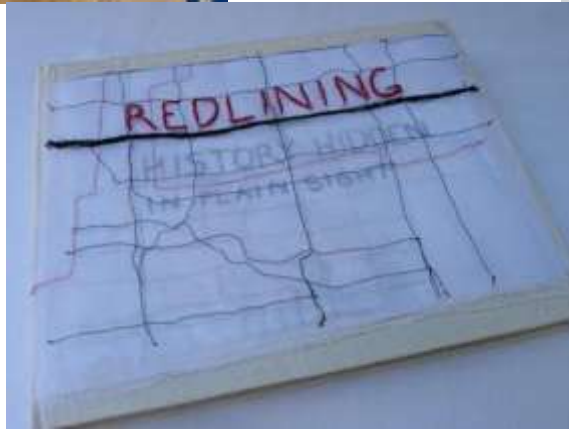
POD 3 St Pete met Tues, Jan 20th at Unity on 1st Ave N, St Pete. We welcomed 2 new members , Jane and Julie, plus one of our snowbirds, Vickie.

Jan inspired us all with some of her fabric and paper books and then we got right to work as Jan led us through the technique of simple book making. We are all inspired with the potential!

The group was reminded about the call for entry for the next SAQA auction...due by Feb 23. Also the lecture and class by Lisa Thorpe later in the spring.

Next meeting will be at Unity on Feb. 17th 10:30. Kay will demo fabric portraits. Kathy will be out of town and Pat will run the meeting.

Pod 3 St. Pete Show N Tell:



Pod 5 *from Anne Jones*

Attendance: Jill Brown, Didi Concepcion, K.C. Grapes, Anne Jones, Margaret Knepper, Anita Krug, Ellen Lindner, Mary Nell Maule, Kestrel Michaud, Bridget Morton, Perlie Petrillo

Welcome everyone. We have a new member, Didi Concepcion.

Kudos : Kestrel Michaud is featured in the Quilting Arts TV episodes 2 and 6. Jill Brown will be vending at the Seaside Piecemakers Show in February. Ellen Lindner and Gabriele DiTota will have a show at the Raleigh ArtSpace. Perlie Petrillo has a piece in the MQG show at Palm Beach Gardens. Anita Krug won ribbons at the Lake County Quilt Guild show. Anne Jones, Sandy Shanker, and Perlie Petrillo have pieces in the *TRIO* exhibit, currently in Ormond Beach through March 1.

Our next meeting will be on March 7. Dij is tagged for the bookshare (Kestrel will be a backup) and Virginia Walton from Pod 8 will be here to demonstrate printing on fabric. Didi and Jill are bringing examples.

The SAQA Spotlight Auction is accepting entries through February 23. This is the auction for small pieces that are 6x8 inches.

Anne Jones will not be at the May 2 pod meeting. Ellen will chair the meeting and K.C. Grapes volunteered for the bookshare.

For the next meeting on March 7, please send Anne a baby picture for the icebreaker. Also, come with your quilting goal or theme for the year. We will also have a swap table at the meeting. To keep it fair, and so we can start the meeting on time, the swap table will only be available during and after the break.

Anne and Ellen Lindner are brainstorming ideas to increase engagement and attendance in the pod meetings, and are looking for ways to reach out to local quilt shops to increase interest in SAQA.

Bookshare: Ellen Lindner presented instructions for blocking quilts. She talked about “friendly quilts,” ones that wave. Blocking only works for quilts using natural fiber batting, like cotton or wool. Pin or tape to a grid with straight lines, stretching as you go. Then, steam using a steamer or iron. Saturate, then leave to dry. Make sure that your fabrics are colorfast. Other people mentioned using tape on the floor, design walls, children’s foam playmats, and laser levelers. See Kestrel’s blog about squaring a quilt using a laser. [Squaring A Quilt With Lasers | Kestrel Michaud](#)

Program: Bridget Morton shared about the Fabric Workshop and Museum in Philadelphia and showed slides from her visit to [The Fabric Workshop and Museum | Contemporary Art Philadelphia](#). It was founded by Marion Boulton Stroud in 1977. Both Will Stokes, Jr. and Faith Ringgold have been artists in residence and have work featured in the museum, including Tar Beach #2. FWM has strong educational programs, including an online curriculum and shop.

Next official meeting is March 7, at the West Melbourne Library at 11 am.

Show-and-Tell: Anita Krug showed a Fiskars cutter attached to a ruler that was helpful to her after her shoulder injury.

Below, L to R: Didi Concepcion—embroidered purse and bag using machine embroidery.

Perlie Petrillo—Showed 3D vessels she is making using Fosshape.

Kestrel Michaud—Kits for the tea party themed retreat. Kestrel is using HotFix for applique.

K.C. Grapes—Kestrel’s Garden, using Kestrel’s scraps.



Ellen Lindner—The Way It Goes.



Pod 8 *from Perlie Petrillo*

The Elliott Museum invites the public to the annual Tour Preview Exhibit for the Martin County Open Studio Tour at the Elliott Museum. This event will feature works by over 20 talented artists from the Martin Artisans Guild, exhibiting a taste of what will be displayed in the full two-day Open Studio Tour on February 21-22.

Reception: February 5, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Tour guides available that night and at the Palm Room Art Gallery. \$5 suggested donation at the door. Martin Artisans Guild www.martinartisansguild.org

Pod 8 will meet on February 6 at PAM's FABRIC NOOK and it will be a really FUN meeting. Send me your baby pictures for our ice breaker. We have a special guest speaker (Cathy Heeter) giving us a CYANOTYPE Demo. I will NOT be jitterbugging anytime soon, but can somewhat walk now with a cane ! – Perlie



Staying Connected

How to send news for the next newsletter issue:

Send to Bobbi Baugh, Editor

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