

Art Quilters Unlimited

February 2025

President's Letter

Our new Member Directory is here! Check it out on the AQU website under Members Only, I know you will be wowed! When I was clearing out some old AQU files on my computer I stumbled onto the previous photo directory developed by Maura Ross. Time to bring it back! Recent travels have taken me to two boutique hotels: the Pulitzer in Amsterdam and the Casa Monica in St. Augustine. Each hotel features curated art and artifacts that are regionally and historically relevant. The guest experience is visual and immersive. As artists, we positively thrive in this kind of environment. Art "on location" makes us feel connected and energized. Perhaps even more significant is that we specialize in creating it for others.

Our new Member Directory is a bit like art on location. Every time you use it to look up an email address or phone number, you'll see so much more. Thank you to all who contributed photos and artist statements. If you didn't make the debut deadline, no worries—your additions are welcome at any time.

Other big "admin" doings this past month include planning an AQU exhibit at Arts for ACT in September, the annual budget preparation, and annual membership renewal. Membership Co-Chair Marci Mills will have our 2025 membership cards ready for pickup at the February meeting. Hope to see you there! Enjoy this month's newsletter . . . ~Candie Frankel



Alina Rodriguez Rojo

Membership



Good job y'all! I see that many of you have taken advantage of our website to make your renewal. We all appreciated you being a part of AQU. Existing members, please remember to pay your \$45 yearly dues asap! Fees are payable online or by check and giving it to me at the February meeting. I will have our new membership cards at the February meeting, so look for me to get your card. As of now, we have 39 paid members. Please welcome our new members we have signed up in 2024 & 2025: Linda Carey, Helen Ketterman, Carolyn Gora, Lynn Carin, Deborah Gonsell and Janet Vanzile.

New members are welcome to join at any time. Magnetic name tags available online too!

Featured Artist

Alina Rodriguez-Rojo, originally from Cuba and now based in Miami, is a textile artist, educator, and co-founder of the Fiber Artists-Miami Association (FAMA). As an artist and educator she has intersected her 30 years teaching profession to embrace all her passions: textiles, visual arts, curatorial work, arts education.

She draws inspiration from repurposed materials that carry their own stories—garments, fibers, and objects that have been discarded or forgotten. These materials resonate with her because they reflect the resilience of individuals and people, allowing her to explore themes of memory, identity, and transformation.

Rojo's passion lies in leveraging art as a catalyst for dialogue and change, delving into personal and societal issues, and defying conventional boundaries that separate art, craft, and science.

alinarodriguezrojo.com/



What's Happening

AQU Meetings are held at

St. Hilary's Church, 5011 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers | 10:00 - 10:30 Social Time | 10:30 Meeting Begins; Show & Tell

Feb 8, 2025 **Membership meeting.**
Program: Fifteen Edge Finishes with Joyce Grande

March 8, 2025 **AQU's Annual De-stash Sale.**
Membership Meeting & Sale details below. Reserve your table online.

April 12, 2025 **Membership meeting.**
Program: Stained Glass Applique with Bonnie Langenfeld



AQU Workshop

Paula Lenahan
(Fiber) Stained Glass ~ February 15, 2025
10 am to 4 pm
St. Hilary's Episcopal Church



AQU Workshop

Phyllis Cullen
Layered Portraits ~ March 29, 2025
9 am to 4 pm
St. Hilary's Episcopal Church



Start Your Spring Cleaning Early, It's Almost Time for **AQU's De-stash & Art Sale**

AQU members, it's time to unload or stock up at our annual thrift sale. Sell, swap and shop for all things sewing and fiber.

And, you can sell your finished pieces too!

Saturday, March 8, 2025

Set-up begins at 8:15
Membership meeting 9:30 - 9:55
Doors open 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Table fee \$10.00 (pay on website)

Invite your friends too!

Did You Know?

Illustrated hanging instructions are now on the AQU website. Go to Resources in the menu bar scroll down, and click on Fiber Art Hanging Instructions. You can view the pdf onscreen and it is also printable.

2025 What's Ahead



AQU Retreat

Christian Retreat Conference Center
1200 Glory Way Blvd
Bradenton, FL 34212
March 16 - 20, 2025

Special Workshop with Susan Lenz
more info at: artquiltersunlimited.com

Accommodations, double occupancy
Breakfast & dinner
Spacious workroom
~ online registration is open ~

AQU Exhibit

glimmer

*A collection of everyday joy,
inspired by the "little things" that bring
a sense of comfort & joy!*

COCO Gallery, Estero
May 2025

ACSWFL Winners Circle

Sally Dutko, Meriul Easton and Jeri McKay
will represent AQU at the
ACSWFL Winners Circle Exhibit.
Congrats ladies!

Reception: March 6, 2025 5:00 - 7:00
Tribby Center for the Arts
17281 On Par Boulevard
Fort Myers, FL 33908

See more on page 6

AQU Exhibit



fibers
in paradise

Arts for ACT
September 2025

AQU Challenge & Exhibit

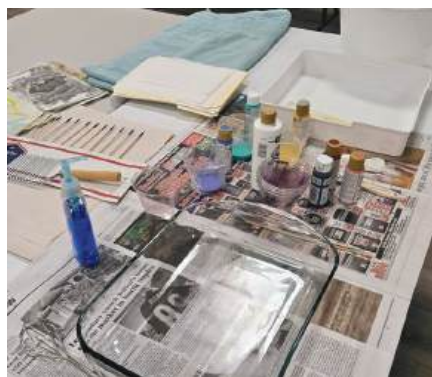
*All
THE
BUZZ*

Tribby Arts Center
May 2026



January Program

Jan Piscitelli delighted us with a fabric printing approach resulting in a wonderful marbling effect. With simple supplies, materials and on-hand tools you can transform plain fabric into something truly fantastic. She also shared the fascinating history of this centuries-old technique - which is believed to have started in Japan. The technique is a great way to experiment with color and pattern and is also for all ages and skill levels.



January Show & Tell



Jeri's collage work.



Lori wearing her denim.



Candie wearing Lisa's creation.



Maura's All the Buzz start.

In Other News

Fall 2024 Workshop

Here are some of the unique pieces created during the Zoom class with Natalya Khorover.

Artists used unconventional materials (single-use plastics) mixed with textiles to create these beautiful works inspired by architecture.



Lisa Gorski



Candie Frankel



Faith Pfalz



Jef Farlow-Dudek

Exhibit Chair

Thank you **Carole Price** for stepping up to assist with the Exhibit Chair responsibilities!

But, she can't do it alone and will need a small army to support each of our group's exhibits.

Candie Delnore, Jan Piscitelli, Lynn Crain, Maura Ross and Candie Frankel have thrown their hats into the ring to lend support. But there is more to be done, please consider lending a hand at bringing one of our many exhibits to life.

ACSWF: Exhibit

ACSWF 60th Anniversary Juried Show

"Time Passages"

Coco Gallery Naples

Reception April 16, 2025

Visit their website for details artcouncilswf.com

ACSWF: Help Wanted

The Art Council is seeking important Board members

*President

*First Vice President

*Second Vice President

*Estero Gallery Director

contact: aqumembers@gmail.com

AQU More to Know

ACSWFL Winners Circle Exhibit

AQU will have three members participating in the ACSWF Winner's Circle show at the Tribby in March—Sally Dutko, Meriul Easton and Jeri McKay. They placed first, second and third respectively in the judged Fiberlicious exhibit at Cape Coral Art Center last September. We're excited for the additional recognition and visibility they will receive. The opening reception is March 6, 2025, 5-7pm hosted by the Tribby Arts Center. Please mark this date on your calendar. We hope to see you there to support our fellow AQU artists.
By Lori Sebastian



"Trying to Fit In" is a playful look at puzzle pieces that don't quite go together. I like to work with abstract shapes and use colorful combinations of fabrics. With different lighting situations, the shapes cast interesting shadows due to the space behind each unit. They can also be hung in various positions. - Sally Dutko

"Natures Beck and Call" reflects the magical time of Autumn. It's filled with vibrant colors that seamlessly blend together. Confetti quilting is the perfect medium to recreate this glorious season. The technique is delightfully simple: fabric scraps sprinkled onto a base fabric creating a lovely scene. Then covered with tulle and quilted, transforming scraps into a piece of beauty! What an innovative way to reduce waste and keep excess fabric out of landfills. -Meriul Easton



"A Felted Sampler" was made by machine felting silk ties, ribbons, yarns and sheer fabrics to add a little sparkle. I wanted it to have the feeling of undulating to make it appear to be moving and feel I achieved that. - Jeri McKay

*You're
Invited*

To be our featured artist!
We'd love to hear your story and learn more about your art.
It's simple: send your bio and images to aqumaura@gmail.com
Don't be shy, inspire others with your amazing art journey.

Your AQU Board

President: Candie Frankel
1st Vice President: Holly Watson
2nd Vice President: Lisa Gorski

Treasurer: Jef Farlow
Secretary: Meriul Easton

Membership: Marci Mills
Retreat: Lisa Gorski
Website: Lisa Gorski
& Candie Frankel

Newsletter & Email: Maura Ross
Facebook: open
Exhibit Chair: open

ArtQuiltersUnlimited.com

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