

2024 BLQS Judges' Bios.

Lois Kindley

Candidate of the NACQJ Program

She is a veteran fiber artist and has a passion for quiltmaking. She has been sharing the love of quilting for over 40 years. She has been active in the quilting world, lecturing, designing patterns, and teaching children, adults, and even inmates quilting. After a considerable amount of success, she has become a highly awarded quilter, having pieces exhibited in national shows and longarming for others who have competed at that level as well. Her heart longs to positively encourage quilters! She desires to share her love of quilting and see others succeed. She knows entrants have worked very hard to complete their tops and are willing to have them judged. She aims to inspire you to continue creating and entering quilts into competitions. After all, it's a great way to spark the creativity of others!

Judging Philosophy: She strives to award excellence in design, workmanship, and creativity. She desires to give positive feedback to quilters so that they're encouraged to continue in our shared love of quilting.

It's her honor to serve as one of your judges. She is thankful for this opportunity.

Shawn Sickle

Quilting was something that Shawn Sickle admired from afar while she was busy raising a family and running a business. Her mother was an avid quilter, and they would regularly go to quilt shows over the years. Then in 2010, the opportunity came to make a quilt for her first granddaughter and the rest is history, as they say. That first quilt sparked an interest that has since blossomed into a passion. In 2018 she was introduced to longarm quilting which expanded her repertoire and catapulted the progression into quilt judging. Since becoming a candidate of the National Association of Certified Quilt Judges (NACQJ) in 2022 Shawn is actively judging and working in shows throughout the country. In 2023 she was a finalist in the Cherrywood Fabric Challenge and the Hoffman Fabric Challenge, as well as being juried into a Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA) exhibit. Shawn is driven to pursue a judging certification through the NACQJ to share her passion for the craft as well as empower and encourage fellow quilters.